EBU Technology & Innovation and Technical Committee Progress Report 2026

By Brian Wynne

2026 brought substantial changes to the Technical Committee and the Technology & Innovation (T&I) department, including vision, mission, thematic orientation, structure, and leadership. Key thematic elements were identified as modernizing media production, building secure IP and cloud-based infrastructure, and keeping public service content easy to find, access, and trust. AI is now a core theme along the value chain, including a focus on sovereign European clouds and AI technologies. Content provenance (C2PA), cybersecurity (through the new Security4Media association), and spectrum access for Members (including 5G broadcast) complete the picture. Open standards and shared architectures, such as the Dynamic Media Facility and the Media eXchange Layer, are developed in close cooperation with other organizations, such as the Advanced Media Workflow Association (AMWA), and have already had a wide impact on the media sector.

This report summarizes the changes and main results. More information: tech.ebu.ch

Technical Committee and Groups

A new Technical Committee was elected on 18 June 2026 at the 32nd Technical Assembly in Barcelona, hosted by Radiotelevisión Española (RTVE). Brian Wynne (Raidió Teilifís Éireann [RTÉ]) is Chair, succeeding Michael Eberhard (ARD/Südwestrundfunk [SWR]) Simon Tuff (BBC) and Sasha Schwoll (SWR/ARD) are vice-chairs. The 13 members serve a two-year term. The priorities of the restructured groups were presented at the T&I Summit. The following groups were established:

- **Strategic Programme Media Production and Transformation** (Chair: Stephan Heimbecher, ARD/SWR). Provides practical guidance to Members on modernizing production and workflows, including change management and new services. Expert activities cover video, audio, C2PA, newsroom transformation, sustainability, accessibility and multiformat production.
- **Strategic Programme Infrastructure and Media Cyber Security** (Chair: Phil Tudor, BBC). Covers the move to IP and cloud-based production, and the cybersecurity of connected, software-defined infrastructure. Six subgroups address Dynamic Media Facility, Media Cyber Security, Enterprise Architectures, Media Data Spaces, New Broadcast Buildings and the Live IP ST 2110 User Community.
- **Strategic Programme Connect** (Chair: Massimiliano Babbucci, RSI [Radiotelevisione svizzera (Swiss Italian-language public broadcasting service].). Focuses on distribution architectures and audience-facing platforms, so that public service content remains easy to find, access and trust. Six subgroups cover broadband distribution, connected cars and devices, mobile technologies and standards, Products Kaizen, recommenders, and TV platforms.
- **Focus Group AI Accelerator** (Chairs: Stefan Kollinger, ORF; Kemal Görgülü, Arte). Acts as a think tank and working group on AI selection, evaluation, and deployment. An AI Sandbox was launched in 2026. Four time-bounded study items are running: Local Inference Strategy, Open Weight Strategy, Agentic Coding and Enterprise Enablement, and AI for Video Post-Editing. At IBC 2026, AiDitor was showcased: AI middleware for editorial workflows on a sovereign European cloud, developed with Germany's Association of Public Broadcasting Corporations (ARD), Austria's public broadcaster ORF, and STACKIT. The groups also work on metadata such as European Broadcasting Union (EBU) Core.
- **Focus Group Future Spectrum** (Chair: David Hemingway, BBC). Works to protect EBU Members' access to Ultra High Frequency (UHF) spectrum for Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) and Programme Making and Special Events (PMSE), C-band and Ku-band satellite spectrum, and Very High Frequency (VHF) spectrum for Frequency Modulation (FM) and Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) through World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) processes, the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), and the International Telecommunication Union Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) include coordinating EBU positions for World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-27), developing first positions on WRC-31 items, and advising EBU Legal and Policy, including on the future use of UHF in the EU context. Four subgroups cover DTT promotion and monitoring, electromagnetic compatibility, programmaking and special events, and terrestrial sharing and planning. 5G production is also a key activity. The PMSE is also part of the EBU's Future Spectrum programme.

1545-0279/26©2026SMPTE



Wireless PMSE applications, including microphones, in-ear monitors, camera links and intercom systems, are essential for EBU Members: they allow operational flexibility at reduced cost while maintaining the highest production quality. These applications require radio spectrum and operate across a range of frequency bands.

- **Focus Group Cloud Strategy** (Chair: Malte Blumberg, ARD/SWR). Aims to build a shared cloud ecosystem for European public service media, with freedom of choice as the guiding principle and tangible operational advantage as the target for 2028. Activities in 2026 included Members' meetings, dialogues with Amazon Web Services (AWS), STACKIT, and Google Cloud, a Cloud Infrastructure Services Providers in Europe (CISPE) session on cloud sovereignty, and an IBC presentation. The Open Live Production Cloud subgroup works on a shared, co-owned live production capability as open source. A study on the European cloud-based media ecosystem was delivered and presented in several panels at IBC.

Examples of Key Developments and Achievements:

Dynamic Media Facility and Media eXchange Layers

Version 2 of the Dynamic Media Facility (DMF) Reference Architecture was published in April 2026 and treats orchestration as a cross-cutting function. Wider coordination takes place in the AMWA/EBU Joint Task Force on DMF.

The Media eXchange Layer (MXL) is an open-source project established with North American Broadcasters Association (NABA), hosted by the Linux Foundation and with major input from CBC/Radio-Canada. MXL exchanges video, audio, and data through shared memory inside the processing cluster, and complements ST 2110 between hardware. MXL won the Content Creation category of the IBC 2026 Innovation Awards.

Content Provenance and Awards

The EBU and CBC/Radio-Canada jointly won an NAB Technology Innovation Award for a C2PA-enabled video player. The player combines the C2PA Trust List with the IPTC Origin Verified News Publisher framework. At IBC 2026, C2PA in media workflows was demonstrated with WDR, CBC/Radio-Canada, and other partners.

Security4Media

A new association, Security4Media (S4M), has been formed, comparable to DVB, HbbTV and 5G-MAG. It brings together vendors, media organizations, and other parties on media cybersecurity, content provenance, and sovereign cloud and AI. More information: https://security4media.org

EBU T&I Products

The EBU department has further developed several products that are also deployed by the EBU Members. These include Peach, a Recommender; Eurovox, a universal translation toolbox; and the flagship product NEO, a conversational AI agent designed to explore news content (optimized for news content and able to generate insightful responses for users).

New Leadership

Annsofi Eriksson became EBU's Chief Technology Officer on 1 October 2026, joining from Sveriges Radio Sweden. She succeeds Antonio Arcidiacono, who led the T&I team for more than eight years. She previously served as Vice Chair of the Technical Committee and as a board member of Security4Media.

Collaboration with SMPTE

EBU Technology & Innovation, the Technical Committee, and its subgroups have a long-standing, fruitful, and close collaboration with SMPTE, a world-leading media technology association. This collaboration spans standards development, engineering, and educational activities. EBU staff and Members have different roles in this collaboration, ranging from taking leadership positions, joint activities in shaping conferences such as the Media Technology Summit, and in concrete work such as SMPTE ST 2110, the AI in Media Study Group, and C2PA in MXF.

About the Author



Brian Wynne leads technology infrastructure at RTÉ and chairs the EBU Technical Committee, advancing public service media innovation and collaboration.

A contribution received from the author for the 2026 Progress Report.
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DOI: 10.5594/JMI.2026/UHTK7903
Date of publication: 15 November 2026