

LineupNX 2 release note 20_005

Remote Rundowns with LineupNX

All your offices—local, remote and on-location—can access the lineup and copy

LineupNX users can now take advantage of affordable cloud sync computing services and make rundowns, scripts, teleprompter copy, item spreadsheets, and research notes, available to all staff with an internet connection, whether they are across town or across the ocean.

All you need is a cloud sync service account

Because LineupNX files are compact and there is no large database to maintain (each rundown is a mini-database on its own), they are quickly uploaded to and downloaded from the cloud server. All that is required is an account with a cloud and file sync service (like *Dropbox*) for the newsroom that can be shared with remote locations and staff.

The steps below are for *Dropbox* but you can try other cloud-sync services like *Tonido* or *SugarSync* as well (though we have not tested them and the procedures may be slightly different).

Step by step

At the station

1. Install the *Dropbox* client for the newsroom (downloaded from www.dropbox.com). Choose a custom location for the *Dropbox* folder on on the fileserver you intend to use (or are already using) for LineupNX files on the network.
2. If you are installing LineupNX from the CD Rom select network files option and when prompted for a location, navigate to the *Dropbox* folder you have just created. The LineupNX installer will create the full LineupNX file structure within your *Dropbox* folder and will copy sample files to it as well.
3. If you have already installed the LineupNX file system move the folder called LineuNX into the *Dropbox* folder.
4. Next point each workstation on your newsroom network to the LineupNX folder that is now under the *Dropbox* folder (making sure it is **shared** with all newsroom staff who need access to LineupNX files).
 - a. Login as Admin and select **Window > Administration > Set / reset network path**

On location

1. For each remote computer install the *Dropbox* client. You can use the default location for *Dropbox* or define a custom one. It does not matter. Be sure you use the Newsroom's account to set it up.

2. If you have already setup *Dropbox* with LineupNX at the newsroom, all the rundown files and folders will be copied automatically into the folder location you have selected for *Dropbox* (as long as the computer is connected to the internet).
3. On each remote computer point the LineupNX network path to the LineupNX folder that you will now find in the local *Dropbox* folder (just as in step 4 above).
 - a. Note that when doing this LineupNX will warn you that you are setting a the network location to a local computer. Confirm that this is what you want to do.

You are done. Now the remote installation of LineupNX has access to all the rundown material, notes, spreadsheets, scripts and intros. Any intros written at the remote location will appear within seconds in the main newsroom.

Ways remote running can help you

- Reporters in the field can access rundowns and information from any Internet WiFi connection anywhere on their laptops.
- Bureau offices in other locations are always up to date and can feed into the rundown directly, monitor item status and so on.
- For broadcast and journalism instructors, LineupNX can be run from home with direct access to student work.
- Keep a backup of everything in case of a server failure in your newsroom. In fact you can even use this as a failsafe by having a separate computer designated as a backup in the newsroom and putting the cloud sync system on it too. If your main server crashes, you can just change the network path to connect with the backup location.

Some limitations to be aware of

- File sync services are quite fast, especially with the small files LineupNX produces, but in order to keep remote rundowns up-to-date the LineupNX Network refresh time must be set to a number larger than 0 seconds in *Preferences and options*. LineupNX has two built-in update modes. The network messaging system only works in the newsroom but is very fast. The network refresh system works anywhere but is usually slower (depending on the refresh rate set).
- This remote system is not intended for video or audio files or graphics that are linked to an item in the lineup. Those links will appear in the remote rundown but will not be active.
- When an Editor has logged-in and opened a rundown, subsequent logins by reporters and others normally use the File menu and select the current rundown directly. **This will not work at remote locations.** The entry on the remote computer's file menu will not point to the correct file and folder. The remote user will have to navigate from the **File > File Open lineup** menu to the correct lineup and load it.
- **If your remote installations run WindowsXP with LineupNX 2.0.0.79 or earlier**, you will have to edit the LineupNX network file path in the computer registry. This is because LineupNX stores the path in the following format: \\\"computername\"\\path to folder\\lineupNX. Unfortunately,

WindowsXP cannot understand its own name only the names of other computers. You have to change the computer name to the drive letter instead.

Example:

Change \\mhanzat\all users\shared documents\dropbox\lineupnx

to c:\all users\shared documents\dropbox\lineupnx

You will find the key in HKEY Local machine, software, baobab productions, lineupnx. The registry key is called "netPath". Note that editing the registry should only be done by a qualified IT person.

If you have upgraded to **LineupNX 2.0.0.80** or higher, you do not need to worry about this on WindowsXP as we have made an adjustment for this difficulty.