

# TF1

“TF1 plus Unified:  
streaming *par excellence*.”

▶ most-watched  
domestic network  
in France



 Unified Streaming

# For over twelve years, TF1 - the most-watched domestic TV network in France - has worked with Unified Streaming.

Today the broadcaster still relies on Unified's core portfolio to power their VOD offerings.

## Some history there

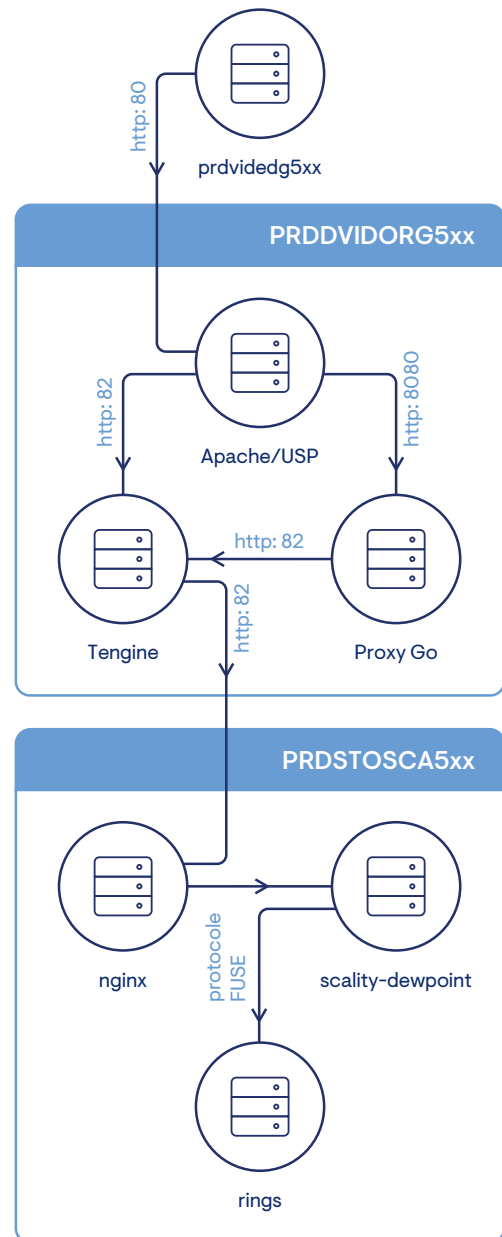
In 2011, TF1 chose Unified Streaming to provide streaming tech for their WAT (We Are Talented) service, a since discontinued, user-generated content offering.

Storage space was at a premium back then. Unified Streaming was one of the few solutions that could store one version of TF1's content, plus do on-the-fly packaging.

TF1 has grown considerably and evolved since 2011. The company has deployed new formats (DASH); added common encryption; and changed its use case. Throughout it all, TF1 has remained a steadfast customer of Unified Streaming.

In 2020, with Unified products embedded, TF1 deployed their workflow on-prem in their datacenter. See the schema on the right.

(For reference purposes, "prddvidg5xx," "Proxy Go," "Tengine," "scality-dewpoint," and "rings" are server names linked to TF1's naming policy back then. The part in the diagram labeled "nginx" refers to an Nginx web server. And "Apache/USP" refers to Unified Streaming's platform, *naturellement*.)



# TF1

## TF1 today

Currently TF1 is a streaming service that offers live video, replay, and VOD (video on demand). They've done a number of RFPs (requests for proposals) to challenge Unified Streaming's solutions. But each time, Unified won.

Unified Streaming's products fulfill all of TF1's technical requirements. According to TF1, Unified's portfolio is reliable and cost effective, too.

The latest, ongoing project TF1 engineers have been working on is delivering their content in HLS CMAF (or HLS fMP4) on all devices. Integral to the project is Unified Streaming's core portfolio of products.

As far as TF1's FAST channel setup goes, the company uses an in-house component that generates playlists. The chunks (segments or parts of a video file) are then served from their VOD origin, which is based on Unified Origin.

All the while, Unified technology helps reduce complexity in the generation of HLS playlists and DASH manifests for their VOD packaging.

## The setup now

To power their current video-on-demand workflows, TF1 relies on two core products of Unified Streaming, Unified Origin and Unified Packager.

Between the encoder and the CDN (content delivery network) sit Origin and Packager. First up in the conveyor belt that is content preparation, the encoder does what it's designed to do: it encodes the video. Simple.

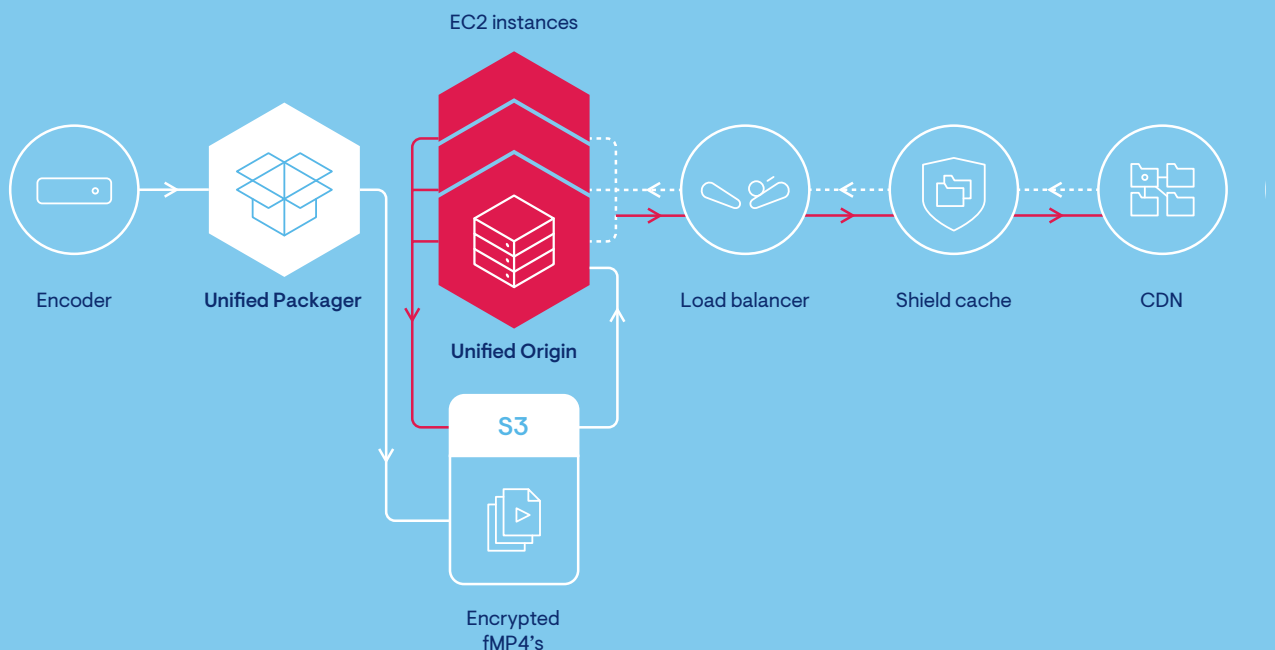
The encoder then sends the video on, in MP4 files, to Unified Packager, which then packages them in fragmented mp4 files (.ismv). These fMP4 files, now encrypted, move to an S3 (Amazon Simple Storage Services) bucket for storing and streaming the content. (Or "for harboring and telling the masses timeless stories," if you're more of a romantic.)

Unified Origin can then pull these fMP4's, and format them as MPEG-DASH or HLS files on the fly.

This is how playback goes. The CDN (protected by a shield cache layer) contacts Unified Origin, which fetches the files from the S3 bucket.

The stress of file requests coming from the CDN can be substantial. So a load balancer, slotted right between the Origin and the shield cache layer, manages it.

Though hidden, this process enables 30 million unique viewers per month throughout France to stream programs broadcast by TF1. Seamlessly.



## ► Why Unified Streaming?

One of the reasons TF1 uses Unified software is that they can pre-package and store content only once and then deliver it in all formats. Unified Streaming's suite of solutions are a single component that is easy to deploy, reliable, easy to scale and offers all the necessary features for any modern VOD service.

Asked why the company depends on Unified Streaming's products, a representative from

► **TF1 said: "The main reason we use Unified Streaming is reliability. We have to touch the software only once a year. To renew the license. And to upgrade to the new version."**

► **"Because I've witnessed TF1's depth of knowledge and knowhow, I consider it a compliment to have delivered to them for such a long time. I also enjoy TF1 challenging us on the technical level, because it's clear they've done their homework. They have really put our engineers to the test, making both our product - and their experience - better," said Pepijn Tijhuis, Global Account Manager at Unified Streaming.**

### About TF1

Since the creation of the core channel "La Une" nearly half a century ago, TF1's unique place in the daily lives of French men and women has been undisputed. When people want to understand what's going on in the news or are looking for entertainment, they turn to TF1's channels first.

Now TF1 are expanding their digital footprint, with a clear ambition: to establish themselves as the go-to free-to-air destination for news and family entertainment by developing France's leading free streaming platform: TF1+.

### About Unified Streaming

Unified Streaming is a creator of world-class streaming technologies and an authority in defining industry-advancing standards and specifications.

Founded in 2012 and headquartered in Amsterdam, Unified Streaming leads the new wave of content aggregation, providing tools for dynamic and static packaging, capture, and enhanced playlist technology. With dependable and stable software, Unified Streaming helps customers solve complex streaming challenges.

Unified's streaming solutions are deployed not just to unlock creative new ways for customers to personalize, protect, and repurpose content, but also to create value.

With over 140 broadcasters, telcos, streaming platforms, content creators, and ecosystem partners worldwide, Unified Streaming produces software under the hood of the largest and best-known streaming platforms and services. Every day, customers count on the company to enable delivery of outstanding personalized experiences to their viewers, on any internet-connected device, anywhere in the world.

► [www.unified-streaming.com](http://www.unified-streaming.com)



# Unified Origin

Stream any format