Live Video Streaming: a New Medium in Real-Time Viewing by Rose Ector

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Making a video has now become as common as making oneâ€™s own blog or website. If you search the internet and type in a few words with the word â€œvideoâ€• at the end, your search engine will show you a long line-up of videos. Video uploading serves a wide range of purposes, from marketing to education all the way to entertainment. Currently, there are many ways you can upload your video to the internet, but a recent addition to the roster is live streaming.

Simply put, a streaming video is a video that plays at the same time data is received by the computer via the internet. Thus, â€œliveâ€• streaming is a video that represents actual events in real time. Itâ€™s different from downloadable internet videos in that the streaming video begins to play once the compressed data arrives. This eliminates the possibility of acquiring viruses that may accompany downloadable videos.

However, the main disadvantage with live streaming is that since the video plays while the data arrives, video flow can be interrupted by slow or unstable connection. To compensate, the video may pause and restart as it attempts to â€œbufferâ€• the streaming data. Another critical difference from downloadable videos is that streaming videos are not â€œstoredâ€• in a userâ€™s computer, but rather re in the internet for as long as the host site decides to keep the video posted.

Streaming videos requires a special player. These players are readily available for download from sites like RealNetwork and Microsoft. Because the video data needs to be decompressed in order to be played, streaming video players use a program called codec specifically for this purpose. There are currently a slew of popular host websites that pepper the internet, each featuring millions of streaming videos.

To handle streaming media, a software program called streaming platform is used. It means that the media is constantly delivered via internet connection to the program, which is then played for the viewer. It is helpful to know that some streaming media players are designed to work only with specific systems, while other can handle multiple systems.

Through video hosting streaming videos that deliver news, advertisements, educational and personal videos have become more accessible to internet users. The manner of delivering data in video streaming makes it possible now to broadcast news via the internet. In fact, many news channels now have live streams of their newscasts in specific websites.

The advent of live video streaming has changed the way videos are viewed and accessed by web-users, and as such, is a valuable tool in disseminating information. You can learn more about live streaming on wisegeek.com.

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