TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

The technical director (or “tech director” or “TD”) is responsible for switching all of the video elements for the newscast through the Broadcast Pix switcher. The tech director listens to the director and takes the correct video source on the switcher when cued. The tech director also sets up OTS graphics and anchor lower third CG graphics, chroma keys, and other effects. All tech directors must be fully trained on the Broadcast Pix switcher before they can run the switcher for a live broadcast.

BEFORE THE SHOW

1. Import all videos and graphics from the server onto the switcher. If any are incorrectly formatted, inform the producer.

2. When the rundown is set, make sure that the videos and graphics are in the correct order on the switcher. Once the rundown is set for certain, it is safe to only put the left or right OTS graphics in the final show depending on which graphic is going to be used, even though both left and right will be available in the switcher.

3. During the run-through, listen to the director’s cues and switch the show as if it is live.

DURING THE SHOW

1. Follow the director’s cues and take each source on cue.

2. When the director says “Standby __________,” that means that you need to get that video source (whether it is a camera or a video) in preview. When the director says “Take __________,” that is when you switch that source from preview to program. The director may say “Roll video” instead of “Take video” to indicate that it is time to play a video. Take and lose OTS graphics and anchor name CGs as the director calls.
3. Follow along with the rundown to know where the show is and to be able to anticipate what the director is going to call for next.

4. Fade up from black at the beginning of the show and down to black at the end of the show.

**AFTER THE SHOW**

1. Debrief with the cast and crew.

2. Close the show in Broadcast Pix.