CLAIMS

1. Method for controlling the content of a video stream containing a plurality of images F_1, .., F_n on a low-rate transmission link in a device comprising an input video buffer , followed by a predictive video coder whose output is connected to an output video buffer, the output video buffer being connected to a radio buffer of known capacity that is located before transmission, on said low-rate transmission link, of the compressed images that are in the radio buffer, characterized in that it comprises at least the following steps:

   - Estimating, in the output video buffer, a parameter P(Tr) associated with the occupancy level Tr of the radio buffer, and modifying the content of the input video buffer as follows:

   - If the parameter P(Tr) associated with the estimated occupancy level Tr meets a predefined threshold, then transmitting the images contained in the input video buffer to the video coder on a rolling basis,

   - If the estimated parameter does not meet the predefined threshold, then modifying the content of the input video buffer by replacing the image Fi+1 to be compressed with one image of the input video buffer so as to adapt said content to the occupancy level Tr of the radio buffer without modifying the number of images of the video stream.

2. Method according to Claim 1, characterized in that the value of the occupancy level Tr is estimated in real time, and this value is compared with a predefined occupancy level threshold value.

3. Method according to either of Claims 1 and 2, characterized in that the variation in the occupancy level Tr is estimated over a given time interval, and the content of the input video buffer is modified if the variation in the occupancy level Tr is continuous and exceeds a threshold value.

4. Method according to one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the content of the input buffer is modified by replacing, one or more times, an image to be coded with a previously coded image from the images present in the input video buffer.

5. Method according to one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the quality of the image present in the buffer is checked and the current image is replaced using an image whose contours are sharpest.

6. Method according to one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the current image in the input video buffer is replaced using an image containing information useful for rendering in the decoder, such as an image containing critical information in the selected images in the video input buffer.

7. Method according to one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the image buffer is used by regularly compressing the different images in order to avoid a transmission outage.

8. Method according to one of Claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the quantization step of the video coder is modified for a replaced image in the buffer.

9. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the content of a video stream in a radio system before transmission to the communication system is controlled.

10. System for controlling the content of a video stream within a device comprising a camera, a video coder taking, at input, images from an input video buffer, and generating compressed images in accordance with a predictive model for an output video buffer, said output video buffer transmitting these compressed images to a radio buffer, characterized in that:

    - The output video buffer is configured so as to quantize the number of packets from the compressed images and to transmit it to a video stream control device,

    - The video stream control device is configured so as to estimate a parameter P(Tr) associated with the occupancy level Tr of the radio buffer and to send an order to the input video buffer so that this modifies the images to be transmitted if the estimated associated parameter does not meet a predefined threshold by performing the steps of the method according to Claim 1.

11. System according to Claim 10, characterized in that the input video buffer comprises an image selection filter in order to select the images having information useful for rendering in the decoder.