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MARIO AWARDS

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It's zero degrees and snowing. The transmitter needs to be checked. And it was your day off.

Good Times Return to Glitter Gulch

NAB2004 sparks optimism after some tough years

by Deborah D. McAdams

LAS VEGAS

t's a good sign for business when company executives are too busy to talk to a reporter. Traffic on the show floor at NAB2004 was such that a few executives had to apologize and excuse themselves in the midst of a hard-won booth visit, bccause potential paying customers beckoned.

Jackson Ki hara and Hiro Tanour of For-A were in consumt demand on opening day, as a steady stream of people moved through their booth asking questions about For-A's products. In between directing traffic and explaining technology, Tanoue noted two rends in For-A products that were reflected across the floor-people want more functionality in a smaller space.

'The number one thinking is compact," Tanoue said.

To that end there were tiny HD cameras on the floor, pocket- and pen-sized signal monitors, scaleddown coaxial cable, diminutive audio naixers, miniature camera lights, hard drives and even master controllers.

Perhaps nowhere was the effort to squeeze more stuff into less space more evident than in the category of codecs.

More than anything an FCC GLITTER, PAGE 12

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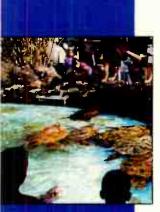
World Radio History





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Infocomm Preview



STAR Awards



NAB Technology Roundup

NEWS

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Craig Johnston

COLUMN: Cameras

NAME:



The biggest camera news at last year's NAB was in the form of prototypes and promises. If this year lacked its predecessor's number of show-stopping announcements, NAB2004 made it up on promises delivered.

There seemed...Page 60

NAME:

Bob Kovacs

COLUMN: Cable, Fiber &

Networks

It's a shame that "glamorous" and "necessary" are, by and large, mutually exclusive; the things that we "need" are frequently not the things that we "want." So it is with cable, fiber and networking vendors, who know that while we may dream of HDTV...Page 74

World Radio History

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

NAME:

Jay Ankeney

COLUMN: **Editing**



The booths at NAB2004 were loaded with edit systems capable of tackling high definition post production, but for the most part it was an evolutionary rather than revolutionary step into handling the massive requirements of HD. Look for significant inroads from Apple...Page 91



FROM THE EDITOR

A Wild and Wonderful Show

omments overheard on the show floor at NAB2004:

"We did more business in the first two days of the show than in all four days last year."

"People really seem to be ready to buy HD gear."

"You want HOW much for that hottled water?"

Comments not overheard on the show floor:

"The crowds are down but the quality of the attendees is better."

"HDV is a fad, it will never succeed."

"Hmmmm... SU3039 is here so there's SU3040, right next to it."

In recent years, the word "cautious optimism" has been bandied about a lot at NAB, as if nobody was quite sure whether business was picking up; and nobody wanted to admit that business was just plain bad.

But this year the optimism was real, and people seemed to want to finally get down to business. And there's plenty to be optimistic about.

The promise of IT was everywhere

on the show floor. Competing tapeless formats introduced by Sony and Panasonic last year are deliverable this year and, while there's still some trepidation about committing to one or the other, stations are seriously looking at these new IT-based technologies as a way to improve efficiencies.

HDV was another bright star on the horizon, with major vendors adding new editing and acquisition gear to the format family. It will be interesting to see if it will positively affect the burgeoning HD news market.

Another enduring image of the show was the emergence of the laptop as an important piece of gear in the broadcast industry. Everything from integrating Apple's Final Cut Pro HD with DVCPRO and ingesting and editing material from Panasonic's P2 and Sony's optical disk format, increasingly powerful FireWire-enabled laptops are becoming a mainstay in the production environment.

By the time you read this, your feet will have recovered and you've probably even had time to sort out all those business cards you gathered at the show. But how could you have possibly seen all there was to see at NAB? That's why we're here. We've gathered all the news and gear information that made headlines at the show (and then some). Take your time to check all the news in the following pages; we'll be following it up with even more product news in early June. Enjoy!

Several months ago, TV Technology conducted its first webinar on the introduction of IT-based technology in the broadcast plant. Response was so overwhelming that we're following it up with another webinar session on IT in broadcast on June 30 at noon, EDT. The event is free and easy to access; visit http://www.tvtechnology.com/webinar2.com.

Tom Butts
Editor
thutts@imaspub.com

LETTERS

Send to Editor, TV Technology at e-mail tvtech@lmaspub.com

It's Still Indecent

Dear Editor:

Regarding Frank Beacham's "The Death of Live Television" (April 21), Janet Jackson's planned and staged stripping off of her top showing a pasty on her nipple with children watching during the Super Bowl is and was an indecent act.

It was indecent not because her partially bare breast was shown, but under the context of the song being sung and the inappropriate actions of Justin Timberlake toward a woman in public during family viewing hours.

Janet Jackson's pasty bare breast is not the type of programming I wanted my 11 year old grandson to watch during half-time.

Please don't think for a moment I want to trample the First Amendment. If Ms. Jackson would have committed her planned act of indecency on HBO, "Saturday Night Live" or "Howard Stern" late at night, when children are supposed to be in bed, neither I nor the other 200,000 enraged parents in the USA would give a flip. But there must be a point of decency and civility in this world for our children or anarchy will reign and that is also not acceptable.

CBS should have had a time delay on all of the "live" programming, as was required decades ago on all "live" programming (how quickly we forget) to protect the viewers and listeners from these types of obscenities during family viewing times.

Keith Houser Dallas

Milk the Cow

Dear Editor:

I totally agree with Frank Beacham's assessment of the local TV scene ("A 'What-if' Proposition for Local Broadcast Stations, March 26, 2004). TV was far more adventurous in the 1950s when the technology was very creaky. Given the fact that the elephant in the bedroom is the high cost of syndicated programming, consolidating operations and other heroic engineering feats is barely spit in the ocean.

Metro market stations rarely took on the task of providing coverage via translators and ceded the carriage job to cable. PBS stations were usually the only exception. Aside from providing yesterday's headlines to the illiterate, stations can't claim to do much in the way of local programming. The one exception is when they carry and stay with a breaking story; that's where they shine. I'm still waiting for a news director to tear up the news, sports, weather mantra that was laid down in 1955.

Before I retired, I worked on a number of ventures with cable companies and got to know them pretty well. Loss of must-carry would reduce a TV station to salvage value. The game plan of GMs is pretty much what it's been from the beginning: "Milk the cow." if it exists, I'm not aware of a Plan B.

Roy Trumbull California State University Hayward, Calif.



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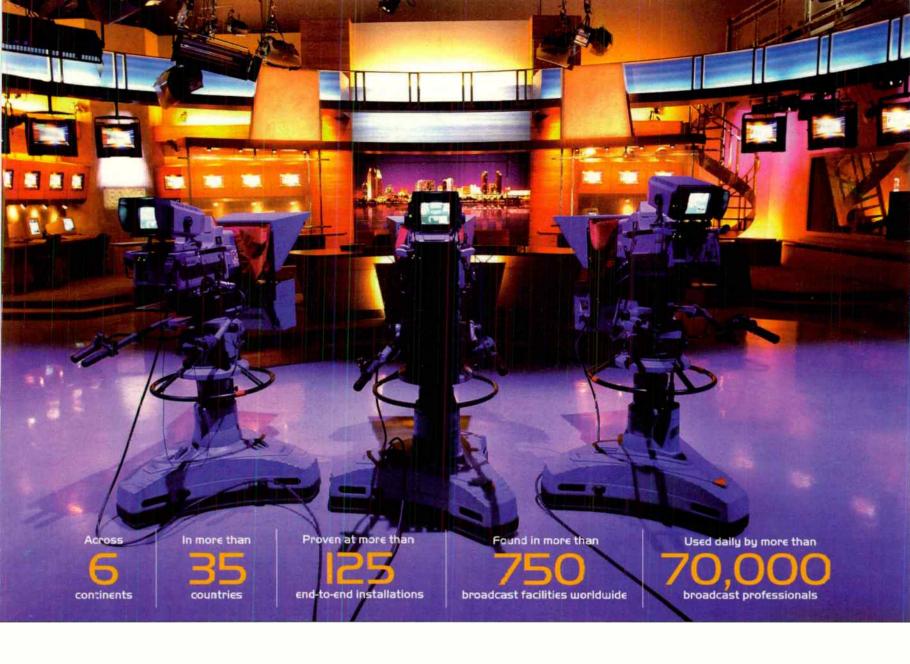
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Infocomm 2004 Hits Atlanta June 5-11

Record number of exhibitors sign up for this year's show

by Claudia Kienzle

ATLANTA

s communication becomes more visually driven, the audio-visual technology exhibited at InfoComm is increasingly vital to a wide range of applications, including marketing, education, retail promotions, theme park attractions, digital cinema, and worship.

To communicate information more effectively to groups, more media professionals are turning to the latest in display, projection, video conferencing, and streaming media systems, and striving to understand how to use cameras, lighting, sound, and IP networks to better advantage.

"Creating powerful visual presentations is not only an exciting and dynamic business; it's a burgeoning market. And InfoComm is growing right along with it," said Dr. Randal A. Lemke, executive director of the International Communications Industries Association, Inc. (ICIA), in Fairfax, Va., which founded and hosts this high-profile annual event.

InfoComm 2004 will be held at the Georgia World Congress Center, in Atlanta, Ga., with the conference scheduled for June 5-11, and the

exhibition June 9-11.

Attesting to the success and impact of InfoComm, Dr. Lemke said, "Last year, over 22,000 people visited InfoComm from over 50 countries. We had 561 exhibits, which broke a record. And this year, we'll have 630 exhibitors, with the show floor completely sold out. Of that number, 160 exhibitors are new to the show. And of all the trade shows in the U.S., InfoComm is rated in the 'top 75."

YEARN TO LEARN

InfoComm 2004 will feature 300 seminars on a range of topics. For those interested in digital cinema and HDTV, there's an all-day event set for June 8 called "Beyond the Cineplex: A Forum on Digital Cinema's Impact on Pro AV."

Among the featured experts offering market analysis will be Randall Dark, founder of HD Vision Studios who will present "High Definition in Business;" Loren Nielsen, founder of Entertainment Technology Consultants talking about "3D in Theme Parks;" and Matt Peterson, president of Scenic Wonders Inc., who will present "Exclusive Plan-to-Purchase Survey Results."

The Lighting and Staging Pavilion,



InfoComm 2004 will feature 630 exhibitors, 160 of them new to the show.

new to this year's show, will feature lighting design for staged corporate events, corporate video productions, and Webcasting. For those especially interested in using the Internet to distribute video, InfoComm 2004 will offer the Streaming Media Pavilion featuring products and services for Webcasting, streaming HD or DVD quality video and distributing marketing presentations via the Internet.

Many vendors will conduct seminars as well as exhibiting products. For instance, Extron Electronics will present "Understanding Video Bandwidth," and Sonic Foundry will tackle "Designing Next Generation Presentation Facilities," both on June 9 at 10:30 a m

Tandberg will offer several seminaron networking and streaming media; Samsung will discuss "Advanced Display Technologies" (June 10 at 8 a.m.); and Texas Instruments is offering a "DLP Technology Overview" (June 10 at 10:30 a.m.).

While many vendors will be speaking about the convergence between IT and AV, the InfoComm show itself is a testament to this important trend.

InfoComm 2004: Thousands of Hot Products on Hand

"Of the \$50 billion audio-visual communications services and products business worldwide, \$20 billion is spent here in the U.S., with the remainder split between Europe and Asia," said Dr. Randal Lemke, executive director of the ICIA, which hosts the event. "Every year, many vendors plan their new product introductions around InfoComm."

One major vendor introducing a new marketing strategy is Thomson Broadcast and Media Solutions. Through its new "Digital Affordability Initiative," Thomson is offering affordable high-end broadcast production.



Panasonic will feature its PT-LB10 series projectors at the show.

"We're extending this same highquality production technology that has been enhancing the broadcast experience into three adjacent markets—presentations; distance learning and telecommunications; and broadcast education," said Scott Murray, director of market development for Thomson in Nevada City, Calif.

At Booth 533, Thomson will provide an overview of the solutions targeting these markets. On display will be the KayakDD-1 production switcher and the KayakDD-2 2 M/E digital video production switcher and Kayak HD production switcher.

Also on display, the M-Series iVDR, (Intelligent Video Disk Recorder), with simultaneous record and playout.

Following the acquisition of the video division of Parkervision (announced in February), Thomson will also be showing two Parkervision products—

the CameraMan robotic camera system and WebSTATION Internet media streaming solution, both of which will now be offered under the Grass Valley brand.

"For years, we have used this technology to produce our own high-impact presentations to show at events like NAB and IBC," Murray said. "Now. customers in the corporate, industrial, education, and government markets will have affordable access to these same capabilities for their presentations."

Christie Digital Systems Inc. will unveil its new Christie Roadie 25K projector. Christie's announcement marks the launch of their latest line of DLP-based, 2K-resolution, high brightness digital, networkable projectors.

Utilizing 3-chip DLP technology, the Christie Roadie 25K features 2K-resolution, with a 1500:1 contrast ratio, and 25,000 ANSI lumens.

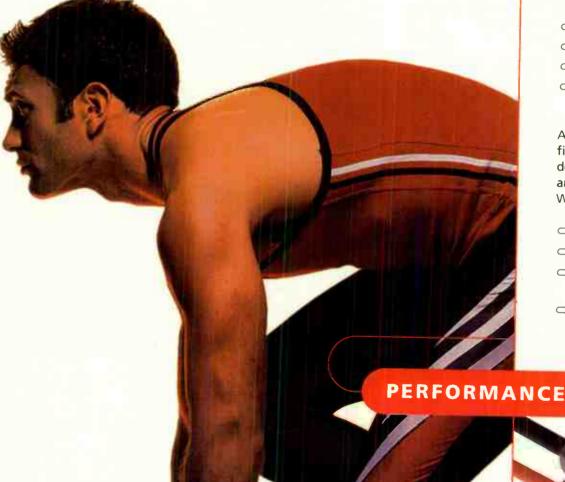
Panasonic Broadcast & Television Systems will show three projectors, including the PT-DW7000U, 3-chip DLP projector featuring high-contrast, widescreen HD resolution for large venues. Equipped with Texas Instrument's DLP chips and optical technologies, the PT-DW7000U produces a display with a contrast ratio of 3000:1.

Panasonic will also show the PT-LB10 projector family, including the wireless, 2000-lumens PT-LB10N fU; the 2000 lumens PT-LB10U; and the 1600 lumens PT-LB10VU—all of which offer XGA resolution and a h gh brightness and contrast ratio of 500 1.

Also on display at Panasonic's booth is the PT-D5500U and PT-D5500UL one-chip mid-to-large venue DLP projectors, with a contrast ratio of 1000:1 and images in 1024x768 XGA resolution.

Lastly, in the InfoComm 2004 "Display Gallery," a free exhibit in Hall A, people will be able to experience the impact and quality of a variety of display screens, including Plasma's, LCDs, and HDTVs, paired with different projectors; enhanced by Surround Sound—targeting such applications as Digital Cinema, multimedia-enabled boardrooms, college classrooms, museums, churches, retail, and even home theater.





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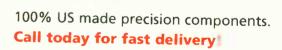
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DVR's Impact, Formats to Grow

But NAB panelists differ on route

by Gary Arlen Special to TV Technology

NAB convention sessions nor exhibitors trying to sell set-top storage devices could agree on whether to call the products "DVRs" or "PVRs" (as in Digital Video Recorders or Personal Video Recorders) or simply "Media Centers."

Nor would the experts concur about DVRs' affect on broadcasting, which so far has greeted TiVo and its disruptive brethren with pained complaints about "ad-skipping" and video-on-demand competition.

Nonetheless, one of the speakers on the ambitiously titled session "2004: Year of the PVR" contrarily predicted way for more consumers to experiment with the new DVR equipment that will burst into the marketplace—at more affordable prices—during the coming holiday season, Morgan adds.

DIFFERING APPROACHES

Morgan's DiMA (Digital Media and Advertising) Group has been working with advertisers, networks and equipment makers to develop common formats so that "telescoped" and "banked" commercials stored on DVRs, can be accessed on any of the devices coming to market

Other panelists during the DVR session agreed that technical consistency is vital, but their presentations underscored the differing directions they are taking.

agree on some terms or technologies, they all acknowledged the inevitability of DVRs on viewing patterns.

"Some people in the value chain still have their heads in the sand," Hume said—acknowledging that he means broadcasters who continue to fret and fight about the DVR juggernaut.

DVR development worked its way into an array of other NAB venues, including an invitation-only half-day session on Wednesday, April 21, run by the DiMA Group. The "Interactive Digital Advertising" ("IDiA") seminar

tent. Canepa acknowledged that tools such as DVRs shift the power to viewers, and he urged media companies to maintain their role—or find new roles—in the evolving process.

Earlier in the week, at a session on "Profitable Partnerships Broadcast, Cable and Telco," NBC Vice President Glenn Reitmeier voiced similar advice, urging that "broadcasters need to think like start-ups," avoiding an "us-versus-them attitude" and looking for opportunities through new devices such as DVRs.

Recorded List World Cup Soccer Save: Until Erased Tille Date Time Length ER Thu 10/19 6.00pm thr 0min Friends Thu 10/12 8:11pm 19min World Cup Soccer Sat 10/9 6.00pm 2hr 30min Right From Birth Tue 10/10 10:00pm 1hr 10min Rugrats Tue 11/15 7:33pm 25min Edit or Play Future Recordings Preferences

Scientific-Atlanta's DVR-equipped box

"Some people in the [DVR] value chain still have their heads in the sand."

-Adam Hume, BBC Futurologist

that the "tipping point" for DVR implementation will come at "4:36 p.m. eastern daylight time on May 30, 2005—give or take one hour."

Tom Morgan, a principal of the DiMA Group LLC, conceded that his time frame was developed with "tongue planted firmly in cheek."

"The date is not that important," Morgan confessed. "The critical issue is the confluence of factors within a year or so" that will lead to the DVR boom. He offered five reasons to support the DVR blossom date during mid-2005.

"Ten percent of U.S. homes will have a DVR by then," Morgan said, up from about four percent today. "Most will be provided by cable or satellite companies."

Morgan expects "100 percent of digital cable households will have VOD service" by next spring, which will tie into DVR usage. He also expects that Nielsen "will start measuring for viewership via DVRs in its overnights" and that "DirecTV will be fully driven by News Corp.," which has a very aggressive DVR agenda, as Morgan pointed out.

Those four reasons alone will spur advertisers and media companies to accelerate their DVR strategies.

Morgan's fifth factor is more ambiguous. He contends that in the period after the 2004 Olympics and election year ad frenzy, media companies will struggle to find programs and direction. That situation will pave the

For example, Simon Parnall, director of advanced technologies for the TV Platforms Division of NDS Ltd., spoke on behalf of the TV Anytime Forum. Parnall described the latest update of the ETSI-1 technical specification, published by the European Telecom-munications Standards Institute. The Phase One specification, developed by the TV Anytime Forum, covers details about how to search, select and "rightfully use" content on personal storage systems, such as DVRs.

TV Anytime Forum, which had a sizeable suite in the Las Vegas Convention Center to showcase its technical standards and formats and recruit allies, is focusing on meta-tagging standards for advertising, Parnall said. The goal is to add features to customized commercials that will make them more valuable to advertisers when customers store and retrieve messages from their DVRs.

"What you don't want to do is start tagging shows and ads with a variety of proprietary solutions," Morgan said.

Indeed, the concept of "interoperability" permeated the DVR session. Adam Hume a BBC "futurologist" (who also chairs the TV Anytime Forum Working Group on Business Models) and Ted Malone, a TiVo vice president, joined the chorus of panelists extolling the value of interoperable technology amidst the competitive rush into the nascent DVR market.

Although the speakers could not

sought to help advertising planners prepare for the uptake in DVR usage.

Prof. Duane Varan, director of the Interactive Television Research Institute, based at Murdoch University near Perth, Australia, shared results of DVR and related interactive advertising studies that he has conducted in Europe, Asia and the U.S.

AMPLIFICATION EFFECT

Among his findings was the impact of interactive commercials. A single exposure to an interactive commercial generates the same awareness as three exposures to conventional passive ads, Varan said. But he also cautioned about an "amplification effect" in which viewers have "raised expectations" for their experiences with interactive commercials, according to Varan's research.

Elsewhere on NAB's official program at a session on "On-Demand Computing for Entertainment and Broadcasting," IBM Vice President Steve Canepa characterized the emerging digital landscape as one that empowers the media value chain to "create, manage and distribute" con-

As the debate about terminology, technology and timing played out in NAB conference sessions, a number of DVR developers showed their latest systems on the show floor or in private suites. NDS Ltd., the News Corpowned technology company, hinted quietly at new implementations of its XTV ("eXtended Television") DVR products, possibly for use on DirecTV, which is now a News Corp. operating subsidiary.

Avtrex Inc., a Silicon Valley software firm, demonstrated personalized interfaces and navigation tools for its advanced DVR systems, seeking partnerships with media and technology companies.

Companies such as SeaChange International and Scientific-Atlanta showcased their DVR and VOD integration solutions and Microsoft's booth featured the company's multiple approaches to DVR and VOD storage and access.

The steady onslaught of DVRs was popping up throughout NAB's venues—despite the lack of technical or financial agreements, or possibly because of such disarray.





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Global DTV Transition Discussed

Different strokes for different countries

by Andrew Morris

oth successful and failed launches of digital terrestrial television were discussed at an NAB Broadcast Engineering Conference session where the NAB's Graham Jones told attendees, "We can learn from the mistakes and successes of these rollouts."

Chaired by Jones, the session, titled "Digital Television Transition Worldwide," focused on digital terrestrial television rollouts in Japan, the United Kingdom and Spain.

Aldo Cugnini, AGC Systems, offered an overview of the digital transition in many countries throughout the world. In addition to discussing the United Kingdom and Spain, Cugnini reported on progress in China, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Canada, Mexico, Argentina, Chile, Brazil and Australia.

"Lessons learned," Cugnini said, "are that free services are most likely to succeed. Pay services must be able to compete with other pay services. It is important to emphasize the digital service and not the transition itself."

Adrian Corcoran of BBC Technology discussed the failure of the pay TV British digital broadcast terrestrial rollout. Ultimately renamed iTV Digital, this venture failed because "consumers were confused and didn't understand the difference between digital reception from cable, satellite and terrestrial broadcast."

Corcoran added, "There were reception problems and the business model was flawed. Consumers perceived this service as poor value for the money.

Resurrected as Freeview, this nowfree service seems to be well on its way to success. Freeview changed the modulation scheme (from 64 QAM to 16 QAM) in order to provide better coverage with a more robust signal at the expense of transmitting fewer channels. It is now second in size only to satellite as a digital platform in the United Kingdom.

Hiroshi Asami of Japan's Post and Telecommunications office discussed the rollout of digital terrestrial television in Japan.

VALUE-ADDED

Asami explained that satellite is currently the dominant technology for the transmission of digital programming. In order to foster digital terrestrial television (DTTV), the government has "assigned 6 MHz channels for incumbent broadcasters," Asami said

"There will be a simulcast of analog

programming but with more values," Asami added. The added value will Barcelona explained the failure of

Alex Mestre Molins of Retevisi-n in

"Lessons learned are that free services are most likely to succeed. Pay services must be able to compete with other pay services." -Aldo Cugnini, AGC Systems

come in the form of HDTV, multicasting and datacasting. Similarly, DTTV will offer different and added value as compared to digital satellite programming."

Spain's initial digital terrestrial broadcast initiative and the projected success of a new digital terrestrial television service.

Similar to the U.K., Spain's initial

failed service was a pay TV venture. "It could not compete with satellite," Mestre Molins said.

Mestre Molins offered a recipe for success for a Spanish digital terrestrial television service

"It is important to secure a critical mass at the European level," Mestre Molins said, "Public broadcasters should be assigned as DTTV leaders and we should reinvest the spectrum to provide new interactive, high definition and portable, mobile services."

The session offered lessons for broadcasters in any country on the issues that must be faced in order to successfully rollout digital te restrial broadcast. Lessons learned include the need to provide consumers with added value and to clearly communicate the nature and the value of DITV. ©2004, NAB

Glitter

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

chairman may proclaim, the attention given codecs at this year's NAB show is a definitive milepost in the DTV transition. First of all, when folks are blithely tossing off the term "codec" and uttering nary a "wave," certainly the top of the transition bell curve is near. Second, by the very nature of what codecs do, it suggests that demand for hi-def material is expected to take off.

HD EXPECTATIONS

Apple signaled its expectation by adding Panasonic's HD codec to its Final Cut Pro HD editing software. Avid also weighed in with DNxHD, a variable codec designed for the editing process that reduces the storage capacity necessary for HD material

At least two companies, Modulus Video and Envivio showed gear with AVC, the next-generation MPEG codec that's said to be twice as efficient as MPEG-2. QuVis brought its ASIC Digital Mastering Codec, designed to support ATSC-quality HD video at 5-10 Mbps. Broadcast International heralded CodecSys, a video distribution management system that instantly switches to the most efficient codec, reducing HD transfer data rates to as low as 3 Mbps.

Anticipation of a hotter market for hi-def gear was also apparent in cameras, where lipstick cams, longrange lenses, and super slow-motion models were all introduced in HD versions.

Elsewhere, there were HD radio transmitters, HD mobile encoders, HD delay gear and of course, the KUSA-TV HD chopper at the MRC

For all the indications that the peak of the digital transition is near, there are as many indications that analog technology is not going gently into that good night. Chyron introduced an upconverter to make HD graphics out of SD files, which are still easier and quicker to manipulate. Broadcast Pix added analog capability into its self-contained production systems. Also, many switcher dealers on the floor showed units with interchangeable HD and SD matrix boards, allowing customers to buy a chassis that can be upgraded as the need arises. The lingering presence of analog was also quite pronounced among the companies making transmitters, which still exclusively provide signals to anywhere from 20 million to 80 million television sets.

A GOOD TIME HAD

One observation made by many on the show floor was that attendance, particularly by the international contingent, was up over last year, when the show coincided with the launch of the war in Iraq and the SARS outbreak. This year, with world events being comparatively orderly, attendance increased by nearly 10 percent over last year to around 98,000.

Feedback from exhibitors was predominately positive. Michael Wellesley-Wesley, president and CEO of Chyron in Melville, N.Y. said it was the best show for his company in several years. Pete Challinger, vice president of Quartz Electronics in Nevada City, Calif. came away with a stash of productdevelopment information.

"The show went really well or us with strong positive reactions to the new products," Challinger said "We got more ideas for signal processing technology modules than we can handle right now. Everyone had something they'd like and many were good ideas."

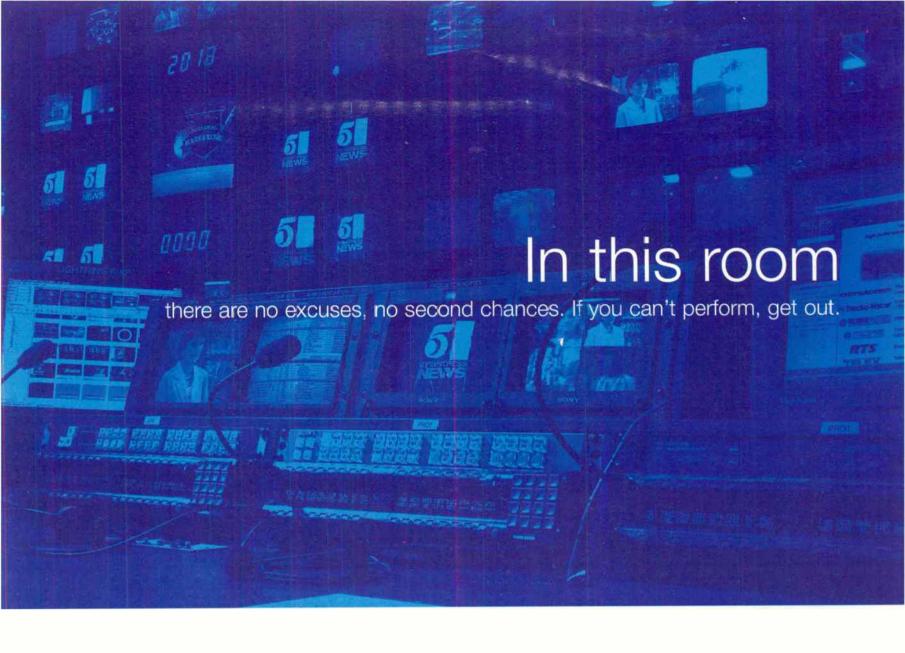
Pesa also generated its share of suggestions with its photonic switcher demonstration.

"I'm hearing more and more about requirements for this product, and the overall direction in the industry," said Bob McAlpine, sen or vice president, sales & marketing Pesa, also in Melville.

Joe Turbolski, director of marketing for Thales in Southwick, Mass., reported that his company "had all the right prospects visit our booth "

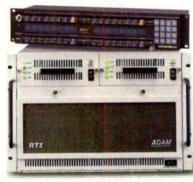
As anyone who goes to the NAB show knows, it involves far nore than spending a few days in the Las Vegas Convention Center, dreaning of a foot massage. In a way, the lat lady never sings. The event is a yearround affair that generates sales, new technology and new demands to the point that vendors can never rest, as the president of Panasonic Broadcast TV Systems in Secausus, N.J., John Baisley can attest.

From my perspective, the show went very well," Baisley said. "But, ultimately it is the customer who will decide how successful the show was for Panasonic."













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Thales Broadens Into Multimedia

Company rolls out new products in U.S. market

by John Merli

hales may have made an international name for itself by building transmitters, but the digital era is necessitating a much-welcomed expansion into many other forms of product—most of them notably targeting the transport of digital content over a variety of platforms, ranging from traditional analog to broadband Internet IP.

"We are very much a company in transition," said Thales chairman and CEO Jerry Chase at NAB2004. "But transmitters still remain our core business." Chase said that Thales today does business across six companies head-quartered in five nations, and currently has product in some 170 countries. Both product and 62,000 worldwide employees—generated more than \$10 billion in 2003.

NEW TO THE U.S.

Thales announced several new products being introduced to the U.S. market and on display at its NAB2004 booth,

including SmartVision TV—which Chase said already has a track record in France to successfully manage a complete system of transporting live, multimedia or ondemand content over high-speed broad-



Thales Chairman and CEO Jerry Chase

band networks. Chase said SmartVision TV allows end-users the various options of VOD (basic free and subscription), Personal Video Recording, e-commerce and Web services including e-mail.

Chase is high on his company's new Crystal Logo Inserter, which was also introduced in Las Vegas. This DTV tool uses MPEG-2 compressed video, which, among others things, allows

"We are very much a company in transition, but transmitters still remain our core business."

Jerry Chase, ThalesChairman and CEO

producers to skip the sometimesexpensive decoding/re-encoding process. Not being required to use this decoding step often means no generated artifacts to deal with later, as well as preserving the integrity of the original video signals. Designed to make logo insertions simpler and more costeffective, The Thales product works across both multi-logo (multi-ch unnel) platforms and HD, Chase said.

For transmitters, Thales estimated that about 25 to 30 percent of its sales remain in the analog category. Also, a variety of factors, including global economics, "has produced a recent resurgence in analog transmitter purchases," Chase said.

Among its transmitter product introductions was the MSDC-IOT, a part of the firm's DCX Paragon Product line, which is now available in the United States in digital and analog formats. The MSDC-IOT supports oil and water cooling.

NAB shows, of course, are not without their politics—or perhaps more to the point, political correctness. Each member of the media attending the French firm's briefing received a bottle of wine—a white chardonnay from California. © ©2004, NAB

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Mark Schaefer, Director of Engineering WFLA-TV

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Peter Larson, Vice President Broadcast Sports Technology

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Matthew J. Siegel Director of Photography







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Thales Angenieux Outlines Advances

The past 12 months have been a particularly productive period for Thales Angenieux with the opening of a new optical factory in France and the introduction of a new line of box lenses.

The company's booth at NAB was enhanced by the debut of a new 70 HD OB/Sports lens that expands its

new OB/Sports family of lenses to six. The Digital 70 delivers a focal range of 9.5 to 665mm (22 to 1330 with a 2X extender) and an aperture of f/2.2.

The company also introduced a new 26X

HD/High Resolution (HR) lens for the ENG/EFP market. The 26X 7.8A1F Tele Super Zoom lens provides an extended focal range to provide news and sports field production crews with extended coverage capabilities.

Other telephoto lenses in the product line cover 10X, 12X, 15X, 40X focal ranges, which can all be controlled via RS232 and feature selectable zoom/focus sensitivity adjustments along with a unique antibreathing feature that maintains field of view while focusing. The new digital ENG/EFP lenses can interface with any controller for remote operation,

according to Chris Beauparlant. U.S. sales manager for Thales Angenieux.

"They are ideally suited for use with camera robotics systems, jibs, weatherproof systems and in fixed camera locations," Beauparlant said. "As camera robotics systems and the rend towards remote broadcasting continues to gain popularity, we believe this fur-

ther increases the value of Thales Angenieux ENG and EFP lens s."

The company also featured its Optimo 35mm and HD lenses including a new 17-80mm T2.2 Wide Angle Zoom version for 35mm.

The company's new \$9.1 million factory in Saint Héand, France s one of the most advanced optical plants in the world, said Denis Levaillant general manager of Thales Angenieux.

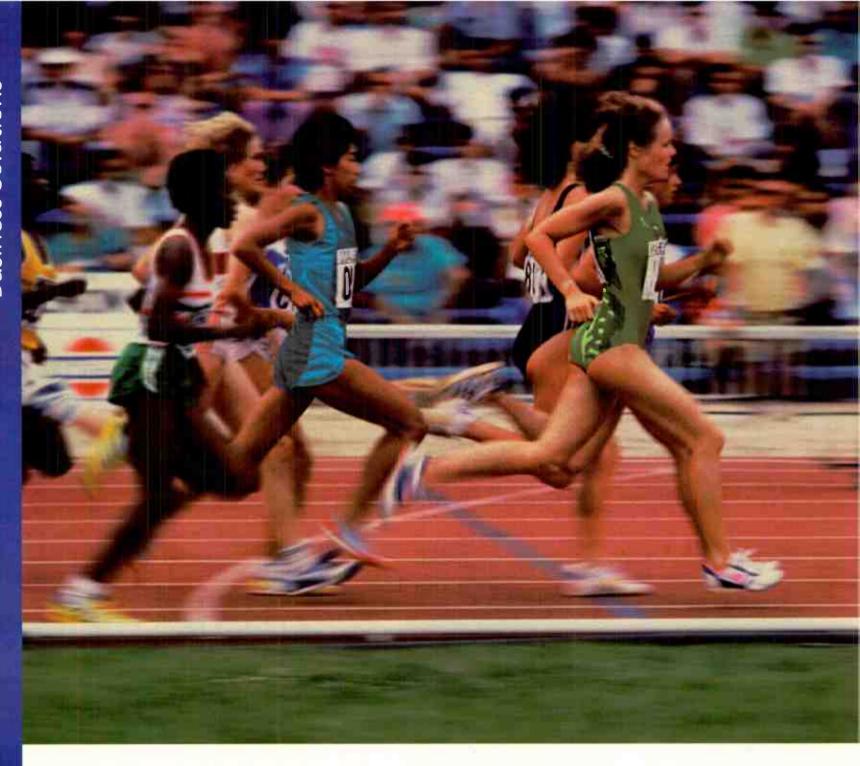
Thales Angenieux's

new 26X HD lens

targets ENG/EFP

"This new factory is not only a way to be more competitive on the broadcast market in terms of product and price, it is also the place where we build our future," he said.

Among the new processes Thales Angenieux has developed is a "Sol Gel" process for high-performance optical coating, which allows the lensmaker to cost efficiently cout big dimensions of glass, Le vaillant said.



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Congressmen Debate Broadcast Issues

Pharmaceutical ad spending causing concern

by Leslie Stimson

Senate touched on everything from the Ferree plan to satellite radio during the "Congressional Breakfast" sponsored by Bank of America Securities at NAB2004.

Turning to the Ferree Plan, the proposal by FCC Media Bureau Chief Ken Ferree to factor cable subscribers into the 85-percent audience reach threshold that triggers the end of analog TV, Sen. Conrad Burns (R-Mont.) of the Senate Communications subcommittee called it "a step backwards. We will continue to put pressure on the FCC."

Rep. Joe Barton (R-Texas), new chair of the House Commerce Committee signaled his position on must-carry by stating that he was not a big fan.

"We haven't decided what we're going to do yet," he said.

The subject of putting limits on pharmaceutical ad spending, which became a welcome windfall for broadcasters just as the Internet economy was caving in, was also discussed. Rep. Michael Bilirakis(R-Fla.) said the pharmaceutical industry is spending about \$3 billion a year in advertising, but that it was driving up the cost of prescriptions and wreaking havoc for physicians.

"There is no immediate action in the Senate," he said. "It probably won't happen this year."

Switching to radio, Rep. Greg Walden of Oregon, a co-sponsor of HR 4026, the bill to forbid satellite radio from inserting local programming into their terrestrial repeater system, said the measure would help local radio stop losing market share to the sateasters.

Rep. Fred Upton (R-Mich.)said letters written to the satellite radio companies by previous House Commerce Committee Chairman Rep. Billy Tauzin of Louisiana have gone unanswered as far as he knew.

"This legislation puts them on

notice. This is a shot across the bow," Upton said.

Burns called the issue, "the tip of the iceberg." He was optimistic when the agreement and the commission's intent when it authorized satellite radio

"Someone's not holding to their

"Right now, the cable and DBS folks

don't have to play by the rules that you do. I think that's fair."

—Rep. Joe Barton, chairman,

House Commerce Committee

he heard about the agreement between NAB and XM Satellite Radio to codify language in the final FCC rules governing satellite radio repeaters that they not be used for local programming.

Now both XM and Sirius are beaming local traffic/weather channels nationwide and NAB opposes the practice, saying it violates the spirit of

word." Burns said.

Barton cautioned broadcasters about the measure, saying he doesn't think it will pass this year.

"Satellite radio is here and it's going to be here. This is something you guys are going to have to work out. Don't expect this bill to just sail through," he said.

DEBATE, PAGE 33

Leitch Goes Hunting

by Bob Kovacs

eitch Technology, the Canadabased manufacturer of a broad range of television products, expanded its portfolio with the acquisition of test equipment specialist Videotek.

The deal was completed shortly after being announced at NAB2004. Leitch President and CEO Tim Thorsteinson said Videotek test and measureproducts, ment notably waveform monitors torscopes and rasterwaveform displays, would still be sold under the Videotek name.

Similarities between the companies' product lines drove the deal.

Tim Thorsteinson

"The Videotek test and measurement product line sells to the same customers as our products and uses the same technology," Thorsteinson said.

Videotek makes a variety of other products, including switchers, color correctors and distribution amplifiers, which will be marketed under the Leitch name in the future. The acquisition price was \$18 million, which leaves money in Leitch's coffers for future acquisitions, Thorsteinson said.

"We will always be looking for complementary acquisitions," he

added.

Like many companies in the television equipment industry, Leitch has gone through a down cycle but sees stronger business in 2004. Thorsteinson said that the company had 10 percent sales growth in the first quarter of this year.



On the product side of Leitch's announcements, the company showed several new HD products.

Leitch expanded its routing switcher line with the release of the Panacea Clean Switch, which is available in sizes from 8x8 to 32x32. The Nexio server line grows this year to include the NX4000MTS MPEG transport stream server, which supports multiple compression formats in both SD and HD resolutions.





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Sony HD Targets Multiple Markets

Company demonstrated HDV prototypes for entry-level systems

by Susan Ashworth

ith its eyes more squarely focused on the HD market than perhaps ever before, Sony showed up at NAB2004 to demonstrate how the technology can be used to improve workflow and cut costs for broadcast, production, digital cinema and film.

As a prime example, this year the equipment giant placed a new lower-cost high-definition format in front of NAB attendees.

Dubbed HDV, this entry-level system is a professional HD acquisition and post production system aimed at entry-level producers and videographers. While not announcing shipping dates or anticipated costs, Sony showed a prototype HDV camcorder that can record 1080i high-definition video

BIG BUZZ

The company also introduced a new entry-level HD camcorder, the HDW-730S, designed for videographers looking to migrate to high definition, a theme echoed across the show floor that seemed to illustrate how HD is finally becoming a high-end option for even the common woman.

Along those same lines, the company also complemented its line of HD acquisition products with a small but money-saving high-definition accessory: an HD triax converter that allows users to choose to connect with triax or

fiber with the HDC-900 Series cameras when on location.

News also swirled around the much-discussed XDCAM line of products. Sony's IT-centric professional disc system solution, included DVCAM camcorders, a mobile deck for editing, an editing recorder and a compact ingest deck. Future solutions may include a dual-layer disc that would double the 23.3 GB space available on current discs.

Avid also announced it would work with Sony to provide support for XDCAM. The collaborative development will enable high-speed importation and native editing of proxy A/V data in Avid nonlinear editing systems. Other new XDCAM products included XDCAM logging software.

Other new products from Sony included the MVS-8000A multiformat production switcher, which delivers many of the same features as its predecessor but in half the rack space and with 25-percent less power consumption

And while much talk was centered on the new options for HD broadcasting, Sony was cognizant of the role consumers play in the industry's future success.

"It's an exciting time to be part of the industry, but consumers' expectations have changed" when it comes to HD technology, said Tim Baxter, senior vice president of marketing for the Home Entertainment Division.

Baxter discussed some of the 35

new HDTV and HD-ready solutions available as part of Sony's 2004 HDTV lineup.

"They want flat-panel TVs, they want to design the television into the living room ... and women are now playing a more vital role [in consumer electronics purchases]," he said. "This is the year we all have to be screaming the benefits of HD."

As part of its focus on the content

side of the equation, the company has partnered with several broadcasters on HD projects, including CBS for the Super Bowl and NBC for the upcoming 2004 Olympics.

"We want to create HD enthusiasts," Baxter said. "We need them to demand creation in the marketplace. We need them to drive the market the way DVD drove the home theater market five years ago."
©2004, NAB

Scarcella: HD is 'Here and Now'

Sony's new president John Scarcella took over the leadership of the company's Broadcast and Professional Solutions Division in January. Scarcella has a long rich history with Sony, having served in positions in both consumer and professional divisions. He sat down with TV Technology editor Tom Butts just prior to NAB to discuss the company's current push to HD and IT.

TV Technology: What are your goals as president of Sony's Broadcast and Business Solutions Division?

Scarcella: We want to get back to the dominant position we had enjoyed for so many years. Even though we've had a commanding position in certain product categories, we want to make more of a statement in the broadcast production world by strengthening certain parts of the production chain.

TV Technology:

What parts are you referring to?

Scarcella: If you look at our lineup,

we hadn't done as well in nonlinear edit-

ing as we think we should have. And this year, I believe we've reclaimed the

throne in the switcher market. I don't

know if it was due to marketing or per-

haps not recognizing that perhaps the

world was going to move as quickly as

TV Technology: How have the orga-

nizational changes that have taken place

at Sony over the last six months affected

it did to a nonlinear world.

the company's business?



Sony's John Scarcella

TV Technology: What kind of response are you getting from broadcasters on your NAB theme, "Ride the HD Wave?"

Scarcella: I think broadcasters have come to the realization that HD is here and now and are wondering how Sony is going to play in the HD field. Interestingly enough, I've seen more and more broadcasters at the Consumer Electronics Show in recent years because they're also very interested in what their programming is playing on. At Sony we've done a pretty good job at having an end to end HD strategy both from

the consumer monitor side as well as technology that allows you to acquire produce and edit. Boadcasters are also interested in workflow innovation, and that is where our XDCAM come into play.

TV Technology:

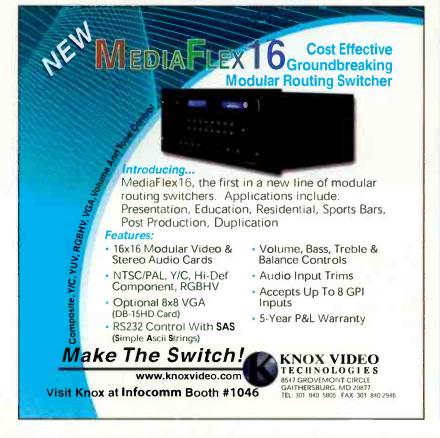
How did the sile of

Sony's Systems Integration division las year affect how Sony approaches SI now?

Scarcella: The sale has been very very positive for us. In the past it was difficult for SIs to sell and market Sony products when they knew we were competing with them. I think now we will be able to deal much better with key integrators. In fact, we in ited them to our pre-NAB training this year and it was very well received. Sales into the SI class of trade are up for us this year.

TV Technology: Does Sony have any plans to introduce a solid state num-ory card type acquisition format on the professional broadcast market?

Scarcella: I never want to rule anything out completely and we cer amly have the expertise but it is not in our plans right now. I just think that XDCAM as a solution for broadcasters will prove to be far better.



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CEA's Chief Urges Broadcasters to Act

Shapiro calls multicasting a 'get-rich-quick' scheme

by Susan Ashworth

ary Shapiro issued a few stern words of warning for broadcasters during the Broadcast Engineering Conference (BEC) keynote opening address at NAB2004, suggesting broadcasters make some quick,

reminded broadcasters, that he suggested they heartily endorse 11 years ago when Shapiro gave the guest keynote speech at the 1993 NAB convention. He offered a quick look back at that speech in 1993, touching on the eight suggestions he then made to the industry. Some were a

viously, he said.

To counter broadcasting's newest challenges, Shapiro then offered a new set of plans for 2004.

In addition to urging broadcasters to shift to HDTV quickly, he suggested

Particularly for radio, Shapiro suggested the industry rush to support local HD Radio. "Satellite will continue to grow. Radio broadcasters need to claim their share," he said.

Of radio's digital transition Shapiro



CEA chief, Gary Shapiro, delivered the opening keynote address at NAB2004.

"We're in the middle of a revolution,

and, as we look back,
we're going to realize HD is a huge
shift, shaping not only
technology but society itself."

—Gary Shapiro, CEA president and CEO

smart choices as they continue to navigate the tricky waters of the HD rollout.

"We're in the middle of a revolution, and, as we look back, we're going to realize HD is a huge shift, shaping not only technology but society itself," said Shapiro, president and CEO of the Consumer Electronics Association. "Digital is your destiny, but your complacency could make HD your swan song."

DOWN THE HD PATH

Shapiro was referring to the sometimes-sluggish rollout of both HDTV and digital radio, which has allowed satellite and cable television, as well as satellite radio, to encroach on the territory of traditional broadcasting.

HD was a path, he gently

bit off—think of the promised adoption of an AM stereo standard—while others hit the mark, such as a call to establish closed captioning and a suggestion to rally around high-definition television.

Now, however, Shapiro said, "broadcasting is much worse off," pointing to a drop in over-the-air television viewership, the encroaching success of satellite and cable, and competition from the Internet

For radio, Shapiro warned of ongoing challenges from CD, MP3 and video technologies in cars, as well as the growing success of satellite radio services.

"Today's broadcast media is challenged" in a way they haven't been pre-

television broadcasters be cautious of anything but HD, alluding to multicasting and extra services, which he called "get-rich-quick schemes."

DRIVING THE TRANSITION

"HDTV is driving this transition," he said. "While it's more appropriate for a noncommercial model like PBS, I think consumers want true HDTV."

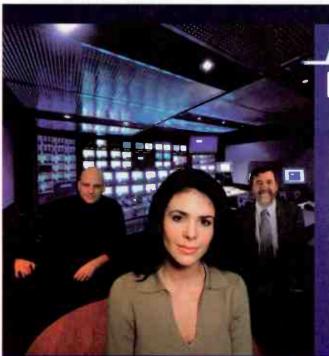
Shapiro also pushed broadcasters to promote over-the-air broadcasting more heartily, focus on HDTV surround sound, and recognize encroaching media competitors such as broadband and wireless.

said, "radio has a small window of opportunity to do this. iBiquty has a business model that will work."

If broadcasters remain complacent and ignore HD radio as they did RDS when it was first introduced, he said, "radio will continue to lose market share."

He also pushed the industry to protect consumers' home recording rights and to fight for the First Amendment rights of broadcasters.

By not taking these steps, he said, 11 years from now, "this room will be very small and we will become a paid industry. Remove your shackles and stand up for your rights."
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FCC Chairman Tackles Broadcast Issues

Powell defends Ferree's 85-percent effort

by Leslie Stimson

CC Chairman Michael Powell and ABC News host Sam Donaldson kept up a lively banter at NAB3004's "FCC Chairman's Breakfast," sponsored by A.G. Edwards & Sons.

Indecency dominated the discussion between the two, now in their fourth year appearing as a duo before the NAB crowd.

Donaldson, reminding Powell of his well-known free-market leanings, suggested the chairman had bowed to public pressure.

"And now all of a sudden, there are these huge fines," Donsaldson said. "Why?"

Powell said it was a misconception that the FCC has only recently begun to focus on indecency enforcement. He conceded the fines have grown, and the commission has begun fining stations per indecent utterance, rather than per program.

"The increase in enforcement is in response to public complaints," Powell said. The agency received 14,000 indecency complaints in 2002; 250,000 in 2003 and so far in 2004, the number is nearly 540,000.

The agency is trying to be faster in resolving such cases, Powell said. But, as he did after NAB's Responsible Programming Summit, Powell reiterated that it is better for broadcasters to control what's on their airwaves than to have government step in with a mandate.

"You do not want the government to write a 'Red Book' of what you can say and not say," stressed the chairman.

Broadcasters question whether indecency statues should apply to cable and satellite as well. When asked his views on the issue, Powell said, "I think the government should be conservative about regulating content for anybody."

He stressed that Congress needs to get involved in the issue, rather than having an unelected set of commissioners deciding it.

The TV analog spectrum giveback was also a big topic of discussion.

Just before the show, FCC Media Bureau Chief Ken Ferree detailed a proposal to reach the 85-percent TV audience threshold that triggers the analog giveback. Powell said his plan two years ago to move the DTV transition forward led to the push for mandatory digital tuners for TV sets.

The commission has concerns about the 85 percent threshold, Powell said.

"The law is muddy about what is the end," and how is the agency supposed to know whether every household, which has three to four TVs, has purchased a digital TV set, he asked rhetorically.

It is right for the Media Bureau to discuss how the 85-percent threshold is reached, Powell said, although he added a caveat that the Ferree plan "is not the final word."

As for when the TV analog spectrum giveback actually begins, Powell said, "Forget 2006. The law is when they get to 85 percent."

"If all we do is wait until all house-holds—all three and four TVs—are digital... we're waiting for 50 years and that's unacceptable."

No one knows what to do about converting the remaining 15 percent of households that have analog-only overthe-air TVs, he said. Whether Congress could subsidize converter boxes for those households should be a part of the discussion, believes Powell. "All that should be in play."

He cautioned broadcasters to remain nimble and be open to change as delivery systems grow to rival broadcasting in the future. He's been watching the



FCC Chairman Michael Powell being ever-so-lightly grilled by Sam Donaldson.

rise of personal telecommunications, and uses his sons as an example of kids who want their personalized devices with them at all times.

"My kids look for mobility," he said.
"They want their things to go with
them. You're going to have a problem if
WiFi matches what broadcasting gives
to people."

He said a lot of industries want the spectrum broadcasters now have. As a

spectrum manager, he has to balance the needs of all industries when it comes to allocation, he said.

All of this is why the DTV transition is important said Powell.

"There has to be a plan, or the other things will happen to you—fees or the government will yank it back."

"This is a warning... I see the Ferree plan as a way to foster dialogue," he said. ■ ©2004, NAB

Omneon Struts its Stuff

Adds HD in any format

by Deborah D. McAdams

Sometimes the public relations folks hit one out of the park. And so it was, at the Fashion Show Mall at NAB2004, when Omneon's handlers let the customers do the talking.

"We had a ridiculous RFP" (request for proposal), said Alan Popkin, director of technical operations and TV engineering at KLCS-TV in Los Angeles, "Thirty-six pages of technical specifications for the server."

Popkin ushered KLCS-TV from a tape-based operation to a fully automated facility feeding approximately 1,000 schools in the Los Angeles County School District. The Omneon server was the only one that fit the bill, he said.

MODULAR & SCALABLE

Using Omneon, KLCS-TV could move multiple file forms. Because the server is modular and scalable, it's capable of handling DVCPRO, ASI, DV50 and other formats.

"We really believe it was something not seen on the planet before," Popkin said. Omneon expanded the capabilities of its servers this year with the addition of DVCPRO HD compatibility. The enhancement makes the Omneon the first media server capable of "supporting all leading HD formats simultaneously," according to the company.

Others who testified on Omneon's behalf included Andre Mendez, chief technology integration officer for PBS, and Marcus Obedia, executive vice president of the Discovery TV Center in Miami.

Obedia said the center was launched as a server-based facility seven years ago, and has since expanded to handle 18 services using Omneon servers.

Mendez, the guru behind PBS's new server-based distribution model, said Omneon provided the closest match to the network's technological vision.

Larry Kaplan, executive chairman of Omneon, appearing on the Fashion Show Mall runway in well-tailored pinstripes, white shirt and red tie, pulled in passers-by with a perfectly executed intonation of the Kmart mantra: "Attention shoppers!"

Kaplan then proceeded to thank Omneon's supporters and tick off the list of the company's accomplishments, including the fact that the 300-foot or so video displays stretching across the front of Fashion Show Mall were being fed by Omneon servers.

BRING IT ON

Omneon's business doubled in 2003, edging out two major competitors in market share, Kaplan said. The BBC, which tested its first Omneon server for Wimbledon in 2001, is now taking delivery of its 30th system, he said. Omneon currently has installations in 27 countries and recently opened an office in Tokyo.

Omneon is also jumping full-tilt onto the Material Exchange Format train with native support for the universal file wrapper. All Omneon Spectrum media servers will support MXF similarly to QuickTime, said Geoff Stedman, vice president of marketing for Omneon. Free upgrades will be made available to current Spectrum owners, he said.

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Panasonic Pushes HD Desktop Editing

P2 wins \$1.2 million order from Time Warner's NY1

by Deborah D. McAdams

he big news from Panasonic at NAB2004 this year was not that its P2 serial-digital card format had legs, but that hi-def content captured in the company's DVCPRO HD format could be downloaded to a desktop or laptop via FireWire and edited with a new HD version of Apple's Final Cut Pro software. The FireWire/Final Cui Pro initiative, dubbed "HD Access," puts Panasonic VariCams in a healthy position in the arena of hi-def, end-to-end production, something that once seemed as far away as the end of a cab line at NAB.

"It wasn't many years ago that you would have snickered had I said television shows would be shot with

Panasonic cameras," said John Baisley, president of Panasonic Broadcast to the journalists assembled for Panasonic's press conference at the Aladdin Hotel

Now, nearly every week, Panasonic announces a movie, documentary or TV series being shot with VariCam, including Fox's "Arrested Development" and Mark Burnett's "The Casino.

The increasing adoption of VariCam led Panasonic to take up the cause of editing, because HD post production was still complicated and costly, said Stuart English, Panasonic Broadcast vice president of marketing.

"Despite its application in Hollywood," English posed, "how do you edit VariCam material affordably?"

Hence, the introduction of the AJ-HD1200A. The heart of HD Access, the AJ-HD1200A is the industry's first HD production VTR with FireWire interface. The portable VTR supports 1080i and 720p, handles 24 and 60 fps material and costs around \$25,000

Combined with a Final Cut Pro HDequipped Apple PowerMac G4 or G5. English said, a fully outfitted HD editing suite with more than 100 hours of 24 fps HD online storage could be had for less than \$50,000.

The VTR's portability makes it compatible with field editing, which Apple also supports with a laptop version of Final Cut Pro HD.

Waving a DVD, English said that it could hold about 12 minutes of HD VariCam material. Then, pulling out a

PDA-sized hard drive, he said it would hold two-and-a-half hours of VariCam footage.

Panasonic has received a \$1.2 million order from Time Warner's Manhattan new network, NY1, for P2 camcorders. Nineteen Media General stations are converting to P2, as are 15 Liberty Corp. stations, Sinclair's WNYO-TV in Buffalo, VOOM's HDNews and Scripps Howard's WEWS-TV.

P2 will also be used to capture more than 300 hours of the Summer Olympic Games in Athens, said Yoshihiko Yamada, vice president of Panasonic AV Networks. DVCPro HD P2 equipment will be on the market in time for the 2006 Olympic Games.

■ ©2004, NAB

Connecting Electronic News Gathering and Information Technology

by Tom Butts

One year after introducing its version of a tapeless professional broadcast production system, Panasonic's P2 line of products is ready to ship, said Panasonic Broadcast president John Baisley.

The solid state memory cardbased system, which includes three DVCPRO camcorders (referred to as 'camputers'), card drive, recorder and 2 GB and 4 GB memory cards was the main focus at Panasonic's booth this year and represents a major cornerstone of the division's future ING (IT-based newsgathering) strategy for broadcasters.

THE CAMPUTERS

"We've dubbed it the 'camputer' because it takes the best of the traditional functions of today's ENG camera

with the latest advancements in the IT seen the transformation from film to world," Baisley said. "Broadcasters have memory that still digital cameras have



Panasonic's John Baisley

brought to consumer photography, and the broadcast industry has quickly grasped the possibilities of a parallel transformation that the P2 media-less system would bring to video.

"I think users have also grasped the transformation that nonlinear acquisition can bring as a critical part of the high-speed IT-centric news system.

The rapid development of the P2 system, with a ready-for-delivery date approximately one year after its in roduction, was a particular note of accomplishment in Baisley's opinion.

"The new DVCPRO P2 products are really the pinnacle of innovation in broadcasting," Baisley said. It's taken us only one year to bring the P2 product from concept to delivery, and I think that's quite remarkable."

Broadcasters have reacted favorably to P2, Baisley said. "They ELECTRONIC NEWS, PAGE 30

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STAR 2004 COMMITTEE

Tom Butts, Bob Kovacs, Deborah McAdams, Susan Ashworth, Craig Johnston, Mary Gruszka, Jay Ankeney, Walter Schoenknecht, Tim Carroll and Karl Paulsen



Brickhouse Video

Paul Hiorns managing director of Brickhouse Video accepts the STAR for its 1 FU Neptune dual-channel SDI synchronizer. The unit can be configured as two independent thannels or as an intelligent switch that selects input based on the operator's criteria.



Accom

Douglas George (I) Accom staff engineer and Douglas Johnson, product development, accept the STAR award for the Accom APR ClipStore, an uncompressed SD recording system for on-air playback of video, key, audio and graphics.



Broadcast International

(I-r) Dan Mabey, director, business operations division, Robert Chipman, vice pres dent, sales and marketing and Randy Turner, director and CFO for Broadcast International accept the STAR for CodecSys, a multiple codec system that switches between the most efficient codecs, packing the best-quality viceo into the least number of bits.



Anton-Bauer

Shinichi Minowa, vice president of marketing and development, Anton-Bauer, accepts the STAR for the Anton/Bauer Dionic 160 battery. With real-time capacity display, the battery runs a typical 25 W camcorder for three hours, and can be mixed and matched to charge with other Anton/Bauer batteries.



Broadcast Pix

Ken Swanton, president of Broadcast Pix accepts the STAR for its self-contained control room, now with analog as well as digital capabilities. The studio-in-a-workstation enables switching, title creation and generation and Broll device control via digital disk recorder.



Avid

David Krall, Avid president/CEO accepts the STAR for its new DNxHD codec, which enables hi-def post production with the same bandwidth as standard definition files and features a source code that is licensable for free from the Avid Web site (www.avid.com).



Calred

Henry Goodman, Calrec sales manager for Asia and Europe, accepts the award for Calrec's Hydra Gigabit Ethernet Networking. Hydra provides a network for sharing of I/O resources and control data between Calrec mixing consoles. By using Hydra, a facility can avoid costly hard-wiring, patching and distribution of shared audio signals to each console.



Band Pro / Weinberger

(I-r) Ingo Kaske (Weinberger), Gerhard Baier of Band Pro and Kay Mackenneth, cinematographer (off-camera), accept the STAR for the Weinberger Cine SpeedCam HD slow-motion camera, an HD high-speed digital camera with widescreen HD video capture from 1,000 to 4,000 fps.



Canon

Gordon Tubbs, assistant director of Canon's Broadcast and Communications Division accepts the STAR award for the DIGISUPER 22x compact studio HD lens, intended for portable cameras. Equipped with the company's rotary encoder servo system, the 22xs has a maximum zoom speed of .5 seconds and focus of 1.5 seconds.



BlackMagic Design

Grant Petty, BlackMagic Design CEO, accepts the STAR award for DeckLink HD Pro, a 12-bit HDTV dual-link 4:4:4 capture and playback card that combines Dual Link HD I/O with SD.



Canopus

Robert Sharp, general manager of the Canopus Sales & Marketing Division accepts the STAR for the HQ Codec, which provides variable bitrate compression for the Edius HD NLE system to balance file size with image complexity. Luminance sampling and chroma subsampling are scaled based on each individual frame's content for maximum picture quality.



Coptervision

Sarita Spiwak, president and CEO of Cooptervision accepts the STAR award for the Coptervision CVG-A flying camera, an aerial motion control camera system that features GPS-based flight control with autopilot and 3D waypoint navigation.



JVC

Larry Librach, assistant vice president of business development for JVC Broadcast & Entertainment accepts the STAR award for the JVC DM-JV600 MPEG encoder, which has the ability to offer HD remotes using existing SD microwave or satellite uplinks. With the DM-JV600U HD encoder, it becomes possible to relay HD live shots from the field to the station using live trucks and helicopters.



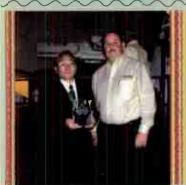
Evertz

Joe Cirincione, senior western U.S. sales manager for Evertz accepts the STAR award for the Evertz ECAS-HD, an HD camera fiber adapter that provides uncompressed HD, two-way audio and video feeds, and even has a local FireWire DV25 port for making a reference recording on a VCR or hard disk recorder.



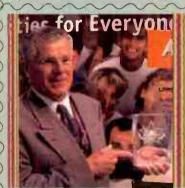
Kodak

Peter Postma, systems engineer, Kodak Image and Technology Center, (I), and Mitchell Bogdanowicz, senior research associate accept the STAR for Kodak's Look Manager System, an appearance simulation program for cinematographers. The hybrid technology incorporated in the system enables cinematographers to create, communicate and manage film looks from preproduction through post production.



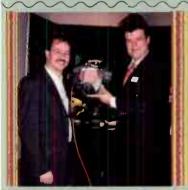
Fujinon

Kazumichi Tsuchiya, (I) senior executive officer and general manager of Fujinon's TV Lens Department and Jown Newton, vice president of Broadcast and Communications Products accept the STAR for the Precision Focus Assist System for HD production, which addresses focus issues stemming from the format's shallow depth of focus and lack of size and resolution in camera viewfinders.



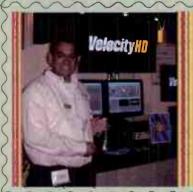
Larcan

David Hale, vice president of sales at Larcan accepts the STAR award for the Larcan 8-VSB Regen Transcoder, which uses Zenith's DTV receiver technology to process a station's digital signal, regenerate the data stream and supply both analog and digital outputs for retransmission on a translator.



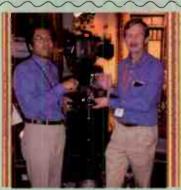
Thomson Grass Valley

Marcel Koutstall (I) sen or product manager and Jan Eveleens, business unit manager for Thomson Grass Valley accept the STAR award for the Grass Valley LDK 6200 HD SloMo camera, based on the company's existing LDK 6200 and using Grass Valley 9.2-megapixel image sensors to provide native resolution at all HD formats.



Leitch

Mike Nann, product mnager, Leitch Professional Post Production, accepts the STAR for the Leitch Velocity HD, a format-flexible nonlinear editing system that features Altitude hardware for online playback of two HD video streams and two dynamic graphics streams



lkegami

Naoki Kashimura (I) and Alan Keil of Ikegami accept the STAR for the !kegami HDK-75EX camera, which features new IT CCDs offering improved vertical smear characteristics and is switchable between progressive and interlaced modes.



Miranda

Pascal Carrieres, Miranda HDTV R&D team leader, accepts the STAR award for the Imaging Series XVP-801i HD/SD Universal Video and Audio Processor Modules. The XVP modules adapt incoming audio/video feeds to suit a station's infrastructure and integrate functions such as proc-amp, A-to-D conversion, frame delay and embedding/de-embedding with track swapping.



Jadoo

(I-r) Robert Noble, sales manager, N.A.; Barbara Van Fleet, senior marketing associate; Larry Bawden, president and CEO; Ken Pearson, COO and Lee Arikara, vice president of sales and marketing at Jadoo accept the STAR for Jadoo's NABII fuel cell technology, which produces electricity by combining hydrogen and oxygen over a platinum catalyst, enabling a camera to eperate three times longer than with traditional battery systems.



Nucomm

John Dulany (I) director of international sales and Gordon Peters, regional sales representative for Nucomm accept the STAR for the Nucomm Primus Microwave System, which enables three simultaneous video programs in a 12 MHz channel using existing 2 GHz analog radios.



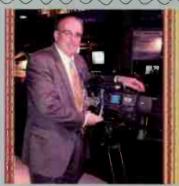
Orad

(I-r) Christopher Moskva, project leader, Broadcast Graphics, Avi Sharir, Orad president and CEO and Andrew Wojdala, head of R&D, Broadcast Graphics & Visual Stimulation for Orad Hi-Tec Systems accept the STAR for 3Designer, which works with the company's CyberGraphics 2D/3D on-air system and features an intuitive interface with lots of familiar controls and terminology.



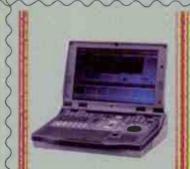
Sigma Electronics

George Smith (I) director of engineering, and Nigel Spratling, Sigma president accept the STAR award for Sigma's OctaStream, which handles audio in eight-channel-wide groups and features two modules that help solve lip sync and audio quality issues through the company's DATC technology.



Panasonic

Panasonic Broadcast President John Baisley accepts the STAR for the Panasonic P2 solid-state recording format. The P2 system features no moving parts, and records video onto solid-state memory cards, eliminating the chance for shock or vibration that can disrupt the recording process.



Sony

Sony's "Anycast' theme is brought to life with its new Anycast content creation system, a portable production system that combines a six-input video switcher, six chainel audio mixer, special effects generator, a preview and program video monitor, robotic control and an encoder and server to haidle webcasting and streaming.



Panavision

lain Neil, CTO and executive vice president of R&D and Optics for Panavision accepts the STAR for the Panavision 300x zoom lens, offering features such as continuous zoom and focusing through zoom; optical breathing control at short focal lengths; and low distortion over zoom and focus ranges.



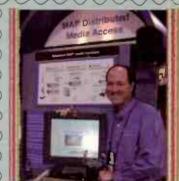
Spencer Technology

Paul Lines, Spencer president, accepts the STAR for Spencer Technology's Video Hoster. The system frees hosts of live talk shows from predetermined scripts or the need to communicate with an off-camera director by enabling the host to select clips and stills from a purpose-built touchscre in



PESA Systems (with partner Glimmerglass)

Miguel Sánchez Moraga, president and CEO of Pesa, (I) and Bob McAlpine, senior vice president of sales and marketing for PESA Systems accept the STAR for the 64x64 XD Photonic "any definition" routing switcher powered by Glimmerglass chips. The 64x64 HD system is a fiber optic photonic switcher that integrates Glimmerglass' Brilliance microphonics technology with PESA's 3500PRO control system.



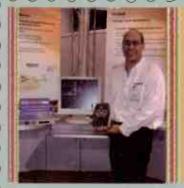
Telestream

Dan Castles, president and CEO of Telestream, accepts the STAR award for the Telestream MAPone system, a wireless IP transmission application that improves to neto-air by enabling journalists to transmit news stories directly from ENG laptops.



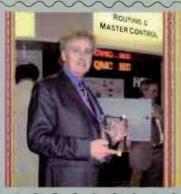
Pixelmetrix

TV Technology's Bob Kovacs presents the STAR to Pixelmetrix President Danny Wilson for the Pixelmetrix HD/SD Delay and Time Shift, enabling the user via a user-selectable A/V delay to preview live content before it hits the airwaves. The system transfers active picture area including all embedded audio and ancillary data from input to output.



Triveni/Terayon

Mark Corl, director, Triveni Systems & Architecture accepts the STAR for the Triveni ANDES HD system. The Advanced Network Distribution Enhancement System combines Terayon's BP5100-HD broadcast platform with Triveni's SkyScraper data distribution and GuideBuilder equipment for content delivery and management.



Quartz

Pete Challinger, vice president of marketing for Quartz accepts a STAR award for the company's new Xenon HD/SD multi-format router, which incorporates keyers and mixers internally as daughter cards, integrates with current MC switchers, offers swapping of embedded AES and channel shuffling as well as future internal MCR branding and switching in a single box.



Wohler

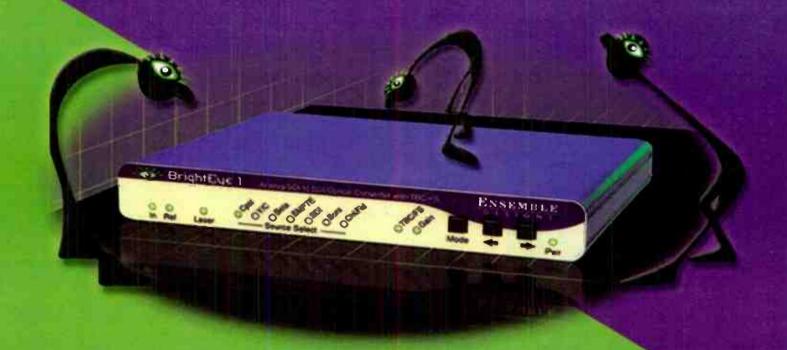
Carl Dempsey, vice president and Cian de Buitleir, marketing manager for Worler accept the STAR for the AMP2-E8MDA Dolby E Audio Monitor, a 2U rack-mounted unit that features a self-powered speaker system, eight 53-segment level meters and functions as both an audio monitor and converter.



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World Radio History

Chyron Generates HD Graphics

Company gets back to its core basics

by Deborah D. McAdams

hyron is taking a whole new approach to generating HD graphics. Instead of focusing on creating graphics in hi-def from the get-go, the company is rolling out the C-Mix HD, a mixer that upconverts SD graphics for HD output.

"People have bought a lot of character generators in the last two years that they're not going to replace," said Rich Hajdu, Chyron's vice president of sales and marketing at the company's NAB2004 breakfast press

was WRAL in Raleigh, N.C.

NEW DIRECTION

"They wanted to convert their HD Duets to SD Duets," he said. Because of the complications involved in doing whiz-bang graphics with current HD technology, the folks at the Raleigh station decided they would upconvert for HD, which Hajdu said would be the likely direction of the market, at least for the next few years.

The C-Mix HD can take up to four video and key input pairs and a background layer, combine them in

any order for both compositing and blending, and output them in either SD or upconverted HD. The C-Mix HD is expected to ship by June, with a base price of around \$20,000.

Hajdu recalled how, in 1998, Chyron and the rest of the industry focused on HD, "and it was a complete bust."

The landscape is finally changing. More people

are buying HD sets, so Chyron expects the broadcast market to embrace native HD graphics eventually. The company's HyperX multiformat SD/HD character generator reflects that philosophy as well as the transitory period. The \$45,000 base-

priced HyperX can be deployed as SD-only or HD-only, or with simultaneous SD/HD capability. HD cards can also be added later, Hajdu said.

In addition to the C-Mix and HyperX, Chyron is introducing Clyps HD, a hi-def clip server with a builtin keyer and 1.3 TB of storage. Chyron is also launching its second generation of MOS newsroom software, enhanced with image replacement and full preview capabilities.

Hajdu and Chyron president and CEO, Michael Wellesley-Wesley both noted that the company is buckling down to focus on its core competency—broadcast graphics. Wellesley-Wesley said the \$15 million in proceeds from the sale of Pro-Bel last November repaid the company's bank debt, and between that and the rescheduling of Chyron's subordinated debt, the company is able to put money that formerly went toward interest payments into research and development. The House of Chyron, Hajdu said, is ready to rock n' roll.

"It ain't your father's Chyron," he said. ■ ©2004, NAB



Chyron CEO Michael Wellesley-Wesley

conference at the Orleans Hotel. Over a lavish spread of fresh fruit, fried eggs and the requisite breakfast meats, Hadju went on to describe how Chyron had anticipated hefty mid-market demand for graphics upconversion. Case in point, he said,

Electronic News

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

clearly see the day to day savings," he said. "By finally connecting ENG acquisition with the IT world, we're offering broadcasters substantial workflow improvements, overall operating efficiencies and significant savings in ownership costs."

HD IN THE CARDS

And is there an HD future for P2? Baisley said that P2 is ready for HD production now, but that the high storage demand is the only issue standing in the way. "One of the benefits of P2 and its open architecture is that there's a clear migration path to being able to do HD on P2," Baisley said. "We can do it today, it's just a question of the capacity of the cards."

While P2 was a main focus for

Panasonic at NAB this year, the rapid growth of HD production also marks a key opportunity for the company. Baisley is a firm believer that, with HD program production in full bloom, hi-def news is also on the horizon

"Many broadcasters who first thought they would never do news in HD are now thinking about how to do news in HD," Baisley said. "We're hearing more and more about that."

Regarding the state of the industry since the last NAB show, Baisley said business has "improved, but not dramatically." As for Panasonic, the company is ahead of the curve.

"In the last two years, we've seen strong double-digit growth across the board, and we've had growth in every one of our major product categories, from production equipment to DVCPRO to projectors to plasma to box-convertible cameras," he said.

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Avid Spreads HD Across The Line

Codec allows post-production movement of HD at SD data rates

by Jay Ankeney

he big announcement from Avid Technologies at NAB2004 was Avid DNxHD encoding technology that spreads high-definition post capabilities across the Avid editing line, including the Avid Xpress Pro, NewsCutter XP, Avid Media Composer Adrenaline, NewsCutter Adrenaline FX and Avid DS Nitris systems.

"I think the tremendous breakthrough of DNxHD encoding will be that it delivers mastering quality HD at SD data rates," said David Krall president and CEO of Avid Technology Inc. "This means high definition is now a format that everyone can work with. Our NAB2004 introduction of DNxHD is delivering on the promise of last year's Avid DNA [Digital Nonlinear Accelerator] breakthrough."

FREE SOURCE CODE

DNxHD is a 10-bit encoding technology that enables collaborative HD post production with the same storage bandwidth as SD files. Better yet, the source code for Avid DNxHD will be

available free from the Avid Web site to any third-party software developer working on any platform.

At the press event, Avid demonstrated that the improved DNA lets

Media Composer Adrenaline version 1.5 work with 11 streams of uncompressed SD video on Windows-based systems—nine on Power-Macs—and they also showed three simultaneous streams of real-time HD, which will be available later this year.

The new version 7.5 software for Avid DS Nitris can create digital intermediates in the 2k and 4k range, along with extensive new workflow and compositing

capabilities thanks to DNxHD technology. It is fully compatible with the Media Composer Adrenaline systems.

For cost-efficient DV post, Avid also introduced the Avid Xpress Studio content-creation suite of products, integrating Avid Xpress Pro software for video editing, Avid Pro Tools LE for audio production, Avid 3-D for

animation, Avid FX for titling and compositing based on Boris Red technology, and the Avid DVD Sonic tool for DVD authoring.

In addition, the new Avid Xpress



The masses gathered at Avid's booth.

Pro version 4.5 software for both Windows and Mac will support Windows Media Player 9 and MXF files. They also demonstrated a future release that will enable editing of HDV MPEG and DVCPRO HD formats, as well as supporting the Avid DNxHD encoding technology.

The Avid Broadcast Division also

debuted AirSpeed, the first software codec-based video ingest and broadcast playback server intended to streamline the news production workflow. AirSpeed provides full interoper-

"This means high
definition is now a
format that everyone
can work with."

—David Krall, president and CEO of Avid

ability with the Avid Unity for News family of media network solutions as well as Avid's nonlinear edit systems.

And Softimage presented the new Softimage | XSI version 4.0 for 3D content creation. Version 4.0 will be available in three configurations: XSI Advanced, XSI Essentials, and the new entry level XSI Foundation. ■

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Debate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

He compared satellite radio to satellite TV when it began, that it is not a big part of the market now but may grow. He urged broadcasters to work with satcasters on the issue.

The indecency discussion was

mainly linked with radio in the panelists' minds. NAB Joint Board Chair and Citadel CEO, Phil Lombardo, who was also the moderator of the panel, said NAB would form



Rep. Greg Walden

"I'm a small market broadcaster. As an affiliate, I believe the program provider should be held

—Rep. Greg Walden of Oregon

responsible."

a task force shortly on the issue, following the association's recent Responsible Programming Summit.

Upton said his indecency bill, which he noted was authored "before the 'wardrobe malfunction' of 2004," raised the fines for indecent programming. The Senate bill is tougher, the panelists agreed, including provisions affecting media ownership and protecting affiliates from being fined for indecent material carried in network programming.

Rep. Greg Walden (R-Ore.), a member of the House Telecom/Internet Subcommittee bridled at the Senate's indecency bill.

"I'm a small market broadcaster," he said. "As an affiliate, I believe the program provider should be held responsible."

Regulators need to consider three things when levying fines against broadcasters, he said.

"Look at the size of the company. Look at the viability of the company, and look at where the program is originating," he said.

The House passed Upton's bill and he said the Senate was close to passing its bill; both measures would then go to a conference committee to iron out differences. The President supports the House version, Upton said.

Burns, who said he didn't "know

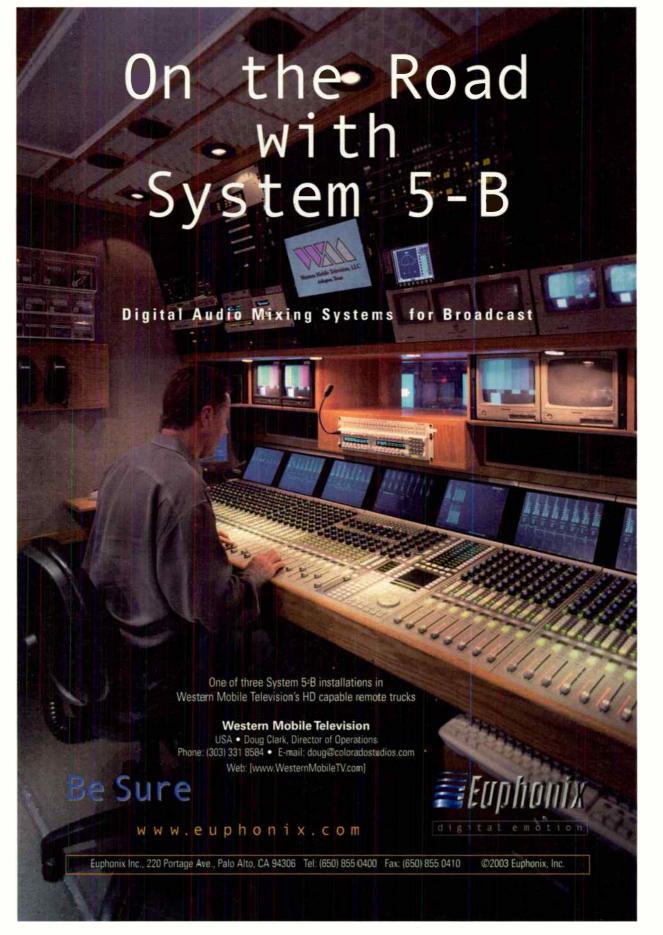
anyone as far removed from mainstream America as the creative community," predicted the Senate would act on its indecency measure within two weeks.

Barton said he recently met with cable industry representatives about indecency.

"Right now, the cable and DBS folks don't have to play by the rules that you do," Barton told his audience of mostly broadcasters, "I think that's fair."

Cable is going to develop a policy to police themselves, he said, but predicted failure for self-policing policies in general. He predicted Congress would craft legislation so that the same indecency rules that apply to broadcasters would apply to cable also.

- Deborah D. McAdams contributed to this story. ©2004, NAB



Grass Valley Pitches HD SloMo

Company also aligns with Apple on news editing

by Bob Kovacs

rass Valley, the television production equipment arm of Thomson Broadcast and Multimedia Solutions, announced at NAB the debut of a high-definition, slowmotion camera based on the company's existing LDK 6000.

The LDK 6200 HD Super SloMo uses Grass Valley 9.2-megapixel image sensors to provide native resolution at all HD formats, driving the technology at double speed for 2x slow-motion capability. The new camera will have triax and fiber-optic options, and is compatible with many accessories used by the standard-speed LDK 6000.

"We saw that there was a missing link for HD production—a real-time, slow-motion camera," said Jan Eveleens, the general manager for the Grass Valley camera business unit. "[The LDK 6200 HD] is the world's first high-definition, slow-motion camera."

Eveleens said the first major event to use the new SloMo camera would be the UFEA Euro2004 soccer championship in Europe. It will also receive extensive use at the 2004 Olympics in Athens.

The LDK 6200 HD can be switched on-the-fly between slow-motion and standard operation, and the camera outputs HD-SDI. Although the camera's data requirements mean that it will have about 10 percent less cable reach than a similar LDK 6000 when using triax, it still accommodates cable runs up to 1,800 meters.

To record the LDK 6200 HD, the

double-speed data is recorded on an EVS HD-XT digital disk recorder. Grass Valley said that several U.S. networks are planning to use the new slow-motion camera for HD football broadcasts this fall.

APPLE PIE

In a bid to move to the head of the class, Apple Computer and ThomsonGrass Valley announced the development of a news and production system integrating Apple Final Cut Pro 4 into Grass Valley server technology.

"A reporter can sit at a Final Cut Pro workstation... and a Grass Valley plug-in will let you see the media, work with it on the timeline and publish it to the system," said Mike Cronk, vice president and general manager for Thomson Grass Valley's servers and digital news production division

The folks at Apple were pleased to have an opportunity to place the popular Final Cut Pro NLE software into the workday world of television newsrooms.

THE SECONDARY OF THE SE

Marc Valentin, president, Thomson Broadcast & Media Solutions

The resulting system means newsrooms can be equipped with Apple PowerMac G5 workstations running Final Cut Pro 4, sharing DV25 and DV50 video with Grass Valley Profile servers and newsroom systems. "We're excited that the combination [of Grass Valley and Apple] really cuts the cost of networked editing," said Rob Schoeben, vice president of application product marketing for Apple Computer. "We're looking forward to moving our standalone platform to the next level."

The combined technologies were not just targeted at newsrooms—a ve sion of the system was designed for collaborative production, editing and program finishing. The companies expect to deliver the system by fall 2004.

Extending the limits of technology while maintaining or lowering cost has been a major effort. Among the other new products that the company displayed at NAB2004 were a Profile

"We saw that there

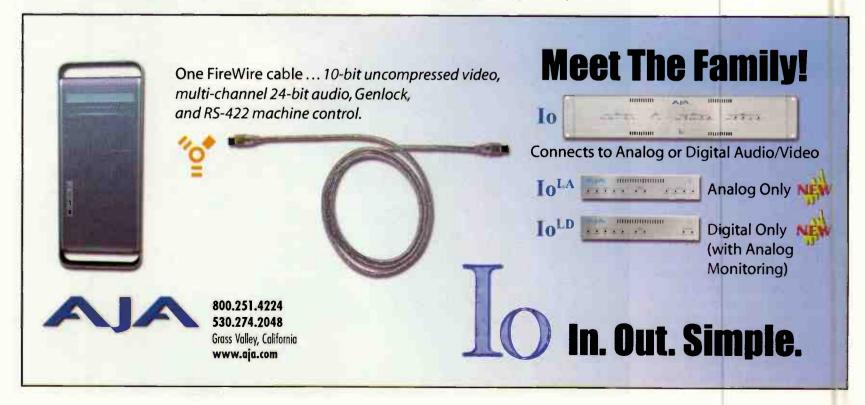
was a missing link for HD production

—a real-time, slow-motion camera."

—Jan Eveleens, general manager,

Grass Valley cameras

server with 2 GB of storage and Fibre Channel connectivity for 40 percent less than the previous model and NewsEdit Unplugged, a system to provide a wireless news editing network using 802.11b/g technology.
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HDV Now Ready to Edit at NAB2004

Vendors introduce low-cost HD gear

by Carl Mrozek

the time for HDV is now" was the concensus of visitors to JVC's HDV-dominated booth at NAB2004. "The response to HDV and to our new products was sheer exuberance," said JVC spokesman Dave Walton. "It's no longer a question of whether HDV is a viable alternative to much more expensive HD options. For producers and broadcasters who visited us the big question was 'when will the new HDV gear be ready."

PRODUCTION

Unfortunately, the answer was not what they wanted to hear, "We're not sure yet when the camcorder and studio deck will be ready, but the standalone camera, with new 2/3-inch CMOS chips should be ready in July," Walton added. "We're hoping that the exuberance over HDV at NAB will help us move up delivery. However, we also want to be sure that the new gear will meet the needs of broadcasters, producers and filmmakers alike and that it will accelerate the transition to HD production."

Perhaps the most anticipated HDV product was JVC's full-sized HDV camcorder using the new generation of 2/3-inch CMOS CCDs by Rockwell Scientific. It can record in 720p, 480p and 480i, with 24p and 1080i capability. A new studio deck will play, record and output all the variations of HDV, plus DV, and will be competitively priced, Walton added. Ready now was a portable HDV player/recorder, the CU-VH1with a built-in encoder, FireWire Connectivity, LCD monitor, priced at \$2,000.

Not to be left in the starting gate, Sony also fired its opening salvo in the battle for what could be a substantial market for HDV products. Sony showcased a model of its new 1/3-inch CCD HDV camcorder. While details were sketchy, one certainty is that it will scan



Sony's HDV prototype

1080i, natively, and also output DV (480i). It may closely resemble popular

DVCAM camcorders like the PD-150 with its flip-out monitor and 48 kHz audio with XLR jacks, etc. The final feature set will be determined with the help of customer feedback from NAB, according to Bob Ott, Sony's VP of marketing for professional video products.

"We have a long track record making popular pro camcorders and decks and want to get it right rather than rushing to market," he said. "It's a question of how many and which features we can include and still keep the price under \$7K."

Sony also showed an HDV/ DV edit deck in development and as well as an optional HDV-HD/SDI converter, codeveloped with Miranda Technologies, for lossless dubbing of HDV to HDCAM. However, none of their HDV gear is slated for delivery this year.

"With 450,000-plus DVCAM units sold we're concerned about legacy," Ott said. "We want an affordable path to HDV that is compatible with the large base of DV and DVCAM products in use."

HDV, PAGE 38

JVC Democratizes Hi-Def

by Craig Johnston

t is the most exciting NAB I've been involved with," said JVC Professional Products National Marketing Communication Manager Dave Walton in his opening remarks at the company's annual press luncheon

"We are opening the doors to the entire industry—and that means from

the very lowest end to the very highest end—to the concept of affordable high definition," he said.

Walton explained that he wasn't just referring to the content-creation industry.

"We are opening the doors to really everyone in America to be able to see high definition," he said. "[Until now], it's something that's been relegated to the very elite because of the very proprietary ideas that other manufacturers have had. We are democratizing the whole concept."

JVC's initiatives toward affordable high defini-

JVC also upgraded the single-chip high-definition ENG/EFP style camcorder it showed last year to a 3-chip model sporting CMOS imagers. It features built-in MPEC-2 encoding.



JVC's DM-JV600 encoder

tion put action behind Walton's words. Through the company's use of MPEG-2 HD compression in all of its HD products, it allows stations to save money on processing, asset management and archiving.

LEGACY ADAPTER

Calling it the solution to the last link of high-definition news production, JVC introduced its affordable DM-JV600 high-definition MPEG-2 encoder, which allows high-definition live and taped news video to be JVC, PAGE 40

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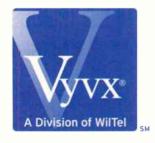


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HDV

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 36

With identical data rates (25 Mbps) between HDV and DV, computers and hard drives are expected to handle HDV footage without reformatting. However, to ensure that HDV adopters can edit their footage on familiar desktop platforms, Sony has been working with leading software developers like

Avid, Canopus and Pinnacle Systems to develop desktop editing solutions for HDV. At NAB, its partners demonstrated their respective approaches to editing long GOP MPEG-2 at Sony's HDV display.

JVC dedicated a hefty portion of its booth to desktop and other HDV solutions developed with a long list of partners. One of the first, ULead Systems showed its second generation of HDV software within its Media Studio Pro7 video editing/ DVD authoring software. Ulead's plug-in enables native capture, multi-stream editing and output of HDV, plus device control. CineForm also introduced second generation HDV software. Aspect HD 2.2 includes Adobe Premiere Pro, Encore DVD and Audition. It is a software-based pipeline with real-time editing of HDV with Premiere Pro on a fast PC. Also new, Connect HD, uses Sony's Vegas

software to edit the same AVI files

Frame-accurate editing of HDV, in native MPEG-2 is now possible with software by Mediaware of Australia. EditXpress uses "third generation frame-accurate MPEG-2 HD and SD technology for fast, efficient native MPEG-2 editing. There is no format transcoding, hence no loss of quality when editing," according to Mediaware VP David Keightley.

Pinnacle Systems demonstrated native HDV editing for the PC and the Mac. With Liquid Editing for Workgroups, HDV remains in MPEG- 2, precluding video degradation.on standard PCs. With CinéWave 4.6, multiple streams of HD can be edited on the Mac and then output in HD and SD simultaneously, at full quality.

Heuris, the first to enable HDV editing on the Mac, released Pro Indie HD Toolkit and Indie HD Toolkit. The former features MPEG Power Professional DTV-HD MPEG-2 encoding software, the XtoHD player utility and XtractorHDV import utility, which extracts video and audio from HDV tapes into Final Cut Pro via FireWire.

Also for the Mac, Lumiere Media targets small-budget filmmakers using Final Cut Pro. Lumiere HD enables real-time HDV editing without rendering the timeline. HDV is converted to MPI.G-2 friendly files for offline editing and later is conformed into an HD master.

BOXX Technologies unveiled a turnkey solution for real-time HDV editing using Cineform's (Applied Magic) Aspect HD and Adobe Premiere Pro, Encore DVD and Audition for a one box, HDV editing solution. Similarly, MacroSystem Digital Video unveiled Casablanca Solitaire with one-button backup and plenty of memory for fast editing of native MPEG-2.on a PC, targeting its global school and event videography market.

BitCentral demonstrated HDV cditing for broadcasters. Quality is maintained by keeping the MPEG-2 video files in native HD while editing with any of several NLE codecs. The edited MPEG-2 files are fed to broadcasters. via satellite or the Internet using MediaPipe, without transcoding.

THE PAYOFF

The take home message from NAB2004 was clearly that there are now plenty of options for editing HDV on the desktop at different price points. If JVC, Sony and other manufacturers make good on the new cameras, decks and peripherals promised at NAB, producers and broadcasters should have an ample toolset with which to plumb the potential of this new HD format to fulfill its potential of democratizing HD production by making it affordable to the masses vs. the elite few



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HDTV Production Hits the Desktop

Advanced codecs expand HD possibilities

by Scott Fybush

Video content producers now have nearly million reasons to begin creating programming in high-definition: That's how many HD sets and monitors have reached showroom floors.

"We've really broken through the chicken-and-egg problem," said David Trescot, senior director of Adobe Systems, at an NAB2004 Super Session entitled "The Hi-Def Desktop."

Microsoft's general manager for Windows Media, Dave Fester, said compression technologies are keeping pace with the demand for highdefinition solutions.

CODECS FOR HD

Fester said Microsoft's WMV high-definition format, part of its Windows Media 9 family, offers three times the compression efficiency of MPEG-2, allowing 720p or 1080i HD video streaming in as lit-

"This is
the biggest
single change
to hit
our industry,
ever."
—David Trescot,
senior director
of Adobe Systems

Even though consumers may by picking up HD sets more for the cool factor of having a plasma rather than to get hi-def programming, there will soon be a heightened expectation for high-def content to fill those screens.

"This is the biggest single change to hit our industry, ever," Trescot said

PLENTY OF CHOICES

That transition brings with it plenty of choices, Trescot said. Among the most critical is the question of compressed versus uncompressed video.

While uncompressed video may sound attractive at first, Trescott said it carries a huge price in the storage space and computing power it requires.

For many high-definition production applications, it is common to spend far more on storage than on the actual computer system.



Adobe's David Trescot

tle as 5 to 8 Mbps of bandwidth.

The company hopes Windows Media 9 will become an industry standard. VOOM direct-to-home satellite service is adopting Windows Media 9, allowing it to increase its channel lineup from 30 to 60 HDTV channels in the same amount of bandwidth.

DO IT ON A DESKTOP

Scott Bryant of the STEAM production house showed how high-def desktop video is allowing his firm to produce complicated, effects-laden productions in real time.

Fester also demonstrated some of the new features of Adobe's latest versions of After Effects and Premiere, including a "close source overlay" cloning function that will make it easier to add or remove people or objects from high-definition video.

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Local Broadcaster Responds to FCC

GM reminds commission of broadcast contributions

by Deborah D. McAdams

uring the NAB2004 Regulatory Face-Off, a local broadcaster stood before four FCC commissioners and asked them to be more aware of how their actions affected his business.

"Every time you attack local broadcasters, you attack our ability to make money and serve the community," said Steve Baboulis, vice president and general manager of WNYT-TV in Albany, N Y

Baboulis was responding to an earlier discussion among the commissioners about establishing a minimum number of hours that broadcasters would have to devote to public interest programming, and about cracking down on indecency.

Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy said that with the exception of children's programming, such a statute would be a "high constitutional hurdle."

FIVE-MINUTE STUMPS

Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein displayed less ambiguity, rhetorically asking broadcasters if it was too much to ask of them to give five minutes to political candidates in the month leading up to elections.

Baboulis said that whenever he offered free airtime to candidates, "only about 25 percent said yes." His experience was that incumbents would rather leave well enough alone.

The commissioners covered several issues during the panel, including indecency, multicasting, cable content regulation, localism and the 85-percent solution that would count downconverted cable carriage of broadcast signals toward the analog shut-off threshold.

On the 85-percent formula proposed by the FCC Media Bureau, Abernathy said it was still very much in the idea stage.

"We haven't even been briefed yet," she said, "but I'm glad to have the dialogue. The idea of starting to think about how we get there is a good thing," she said.

Commissioner Michael Copps wondered how downconverting a digital broadcast signal for analog cable subscribers would advance the ultimate goal of the digital transition, i.e., get-



Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy

ting a digital signal to households.

Commissioner Kevin Martin repeatedly said multicast must-carry should be resolved before the commission considered how to do the 85-percent calculation.

"The question of whether the broadcaster can get those multicast signals carried is going to drive business models," he said. "I think consumers may actually prefer multiple outlets of programming. We need to clarify what those carriage rights are."

Copps indicated that he, too, was open to multicast must-carry.

"A must-carry properly conceived can be a boon to diversity and a boon to localism,' he said.

LICENSE LOSS

Regarding indecency, moderator John Cochran, a correspondent for ABC News, asked if a station could lose its license for violating the FCC's current standards.

All four of the commissioners said yes, as did panelist Michael Gallagher, acting assistant secretary for the National Telecommunications Information Administration's Communication and Information division.

Baboulis, the broadcaster from Albany, subsequently asked the commissioners to bear in mind the difference between broadcast, cable networks and radio.

Abernathy responded that much of the indecency problem now involved radio. Copps said broadcasters needed to keep reminding regulators of the specific community services they provide.
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World Radio History

Euphonix Max Air Tour Stops At NAB2004

Rolling demonstration nets new customers

By Bob Kovacs

The Euphonix Max Air Tour truck rolled into the company's NAB2004 booth, looking none the worse for wear after logging 50,000 miles over the past 18 months.

A 96-input Max Air console anchored the technology in the truck, which features products from a variety of television equipment manufacturers. The rolling exhibition of the Max Air digital audio console has been a success for the company.

"It was the best thing we've ever done," said Andrew Wild, vice president of marketing for Euphonix. "It has been so good that we bought the truck."

The company plans to continue scheduling visits around North America for the next several months.

Wild credits the Max Air Tour truck for several recent sales to broadcasters, including six consoles to CNN, two to WOFL-TV and two to the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission.

To simplify training of Euphonix Max Air operators, the company now has a 70-minute interactive DVD. Shot at Tribune Studios in Hollywood, the video includes 38 chapters and covers the main operational features of the mixer.

The company recently had other major sales not related to the Max Air Tour, including eight Euphonix System 5 consoles to the Shaw Brothers' Hong Kong Movie City. The facility, one of the largest film post production studios in the world, will use the System 5 mixers for everything from ADR/Foley work to a 400-seat dubbing theater.

Another recent success for Euphonix is the sale of a System 5 and a Max Air to the Sydney Opera House in Australia.

After getting requests from several



Andrew Wild, vice president of marketing for Euphonix

users at the high end of television production, Euphonix developed two versions of its broadcast System 5-B

"It has been so
good that we
bought the truck."

— Andrew Wild,
vice president

of marketing, Euphonix

console. System 5-B will remain the model targeted at typical broadcast require-

ments, with 96 input channels, 24 mix busses and 24 group/clean feeds.
For more demanding live-to-air,

live-to-tape and post production requirements, Euphonix announced the System 5-BP, which can hardle up to 310 inputs. The System 5-BP also includes automation to support both complex live mixes and post production. ©2004, NAB

Broadcaster Goes After Cable

Emmis chief unveils plan for Digital Antenna System

by Scott Fybush

f Emmis Communications Chairman and CEO Jeff Smulyan has his way, the rooftops of America will once again bloom with TV antennas—all tuned to a broadcaster-provided multichannel video service offering an alternative to cable at a fraction of the price.

Smulyan unveiled the "Digital Antenna System" at NAB2004, asking fellow broadcasters to join him in pooling their digital TV spectrum to provide bandwidth for the system.

"The television industry has allowed a third party to take our BROADCASTER, PAGE 50

"Our signals have value and we want to get paid."

– Jeff Smulyan, chairman and CEO, Emmis



Jeff Smulyan, chairman and CEO of Emmis Communications

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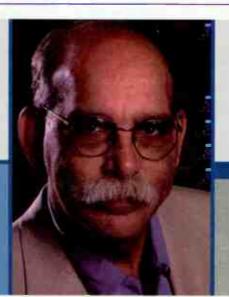
Alan Popkin

Director of TV Engineering and Technical Operations
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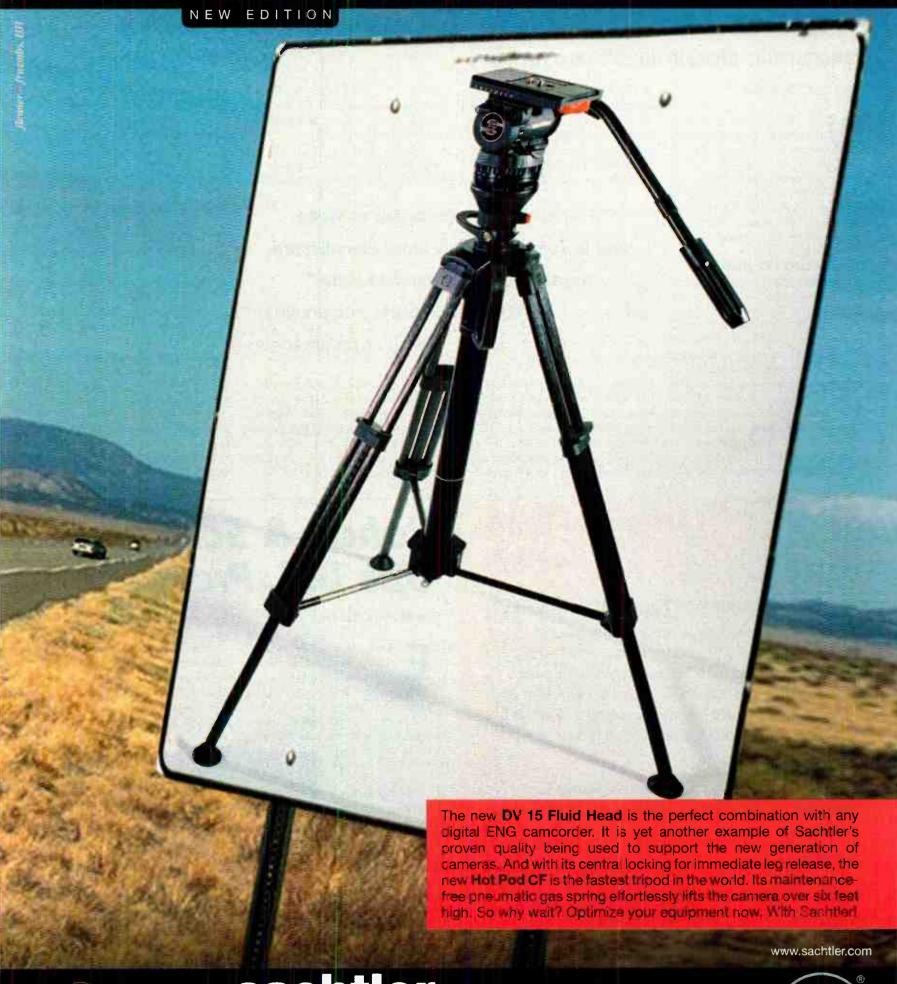
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set your ideas in motion!

Wohler Debuts New Dolby E Products

Panoramadty division unveils new monitors

by Mary C. Gruszka

ohler Technologies announced the introduction of two new Dolby E audio monitors at NAB2004

The monitors, AMP2-E8MDA and AMP2-E8MDA/DSP, now provide full decoding of either Dolby E or Dolby Digital, presented as discrete AES/EBU connections on the rear panel.

DUAL FORMAT AUDIO

"This is something that hasn't been done before," said Carl J. Dempsey, vice president Wohler Technologies. "Before this Dolby would only license us to output two channels at one time, but our customers were asking to have all the outputs available. It's taken a long time to get here, but this is the first product outside of Dolby that provides this capability. Our unit doesn't do everything that the Dolby unit does, but it does provide access to the Dolby E stream."

The 2RU monitors accept Dolby E

and Dolby Digital as direct inputs as well as embedded in either an HD-SDI or SD-SDI stream. Both units employ Wohler's new dual-format technology that provides for both HD-SDI and SD-SDI inputs on the same connectors.

With the AMP2-E8MDA/DSP,

for use by a Windows-based GUI running on a connected PC. The GUI provides not only monitoring but control of the parameters.

John E. Hartwell, a consultant who helped develop this product with Wohler, explained that metadata under automation control, through the Wohler unit at the same time the program is played out, thus providing metadata correction on the fly.

"This means you don't have to reingest the material if something is wrong with the metadata," Hartwell said

"Now audio is as important as video,

and in some instances more complicated because of multichannel sound."

-Carl J. Dempsey, vice president

Wohler Technologies

Wohler Technologies ventured into the world of control. This data stream processor monitors and displays 15 Dolby metadata parameters on the front panel of the unit (one parameter at a time) and also outputs the data stream on an Ethernet port

authoring is often inaccurate. In a typical application, the AMP2-E8MDA/DSP would be used for quality control during the ingest process of program content, and to develop a metadata correction file. That file could then be later played back,

MONITORS UNVEILED

Dempsey also announced a new RM series of Panoramadty rack-mounted LCD video monitors. The RM series offers two composite video inputs per screen with optional SDI, tricolor tally lights.

The RM-2440 provides four 4-inch 4:3 LCDs in a 2RU chassis, and the RM-3358 provides three 5.8-inch 16:9 LCDs that can also handle 4:3, in a 3RU frame. Also introduced, the MON8-1 with eight 1.8-inch LCD screens for checking multiple feecs.

As Dempsey said, "Now audio is as important as video, and in some instances more complicated because of multichannel sound."



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Rohde & Schwarz Ups U.S. Presence

by Mary C. Gruszka

nhancing its commitment to the U.S. and Canadian markets, test equipment and transmitter manufacturer Rohde & Schwarz announced that as of June 1, 2004, the company will assume direct responsibility for the sales and serv-

ice of all its products in North America.

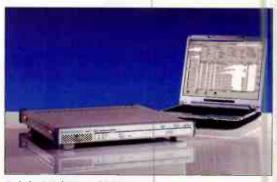
"We've been working on this for the past two and a half years, and we now have all the resources in place," said John A. Pannucci, president and CEO of Rohde & Schwarz.

Previously Rohde & Schwarz test and

measurement products were distributed and serviced in the U.S. and Canada by Tektronix. But in 2003, Rohde & Schwarz took ownership from Tektronix of all service and calibration functions in the U.S. including acquiring the Tektronix service department and personnel. The new

service facility, including a 24/7 call center, is in Columbia, Md.

The company also introduced a number of new products to "meet the complex needs of digital broadcasting," said Thomas W. Christenson, national sales manager, Broadcast Test and Measurement.



Rohde & Schwarz' DVM-50

NEW DVM ADDITIONS

Two new MPEG-2 monitoring and analysis products join the compan's DVM family. The DVM-400 is a big brother to the established DVM-100, with more options and capabilities. The self-contained unit includes an

ROHDE & SCHWARZ, PAGE 48

Scalable Performance.



High performance and flexibility for MPEG2 transport stream analysis.

The new DVM family of MPEG 2 instruments lets you know exactly what's going on, with powerful analysis capabilities. It gives you:

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The DVM 100/120 monitoring system



The single/dual-stream DVM 50



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Quantel Moves eQ into the Newsroom

Company announces new compatibility alliances

by Mark Hallinger

uantel officials at NAB2004 said that the company's generationQ range of products is in use, upgrading, winning customers and expanding into new niches.

Company Chairman Richard Taylor noted that the company's early decision to focus on multi-resolution HD products was paying dividends in 2004.

eQ post system would have a full HD-RGB option alongside its existing HD-YUV capability.

This latter move reflects a new emphasis on quality in mainstream HD production and coincides with a market shift towards 4:4:4 image handling, said Quantel Post Production Business Manager Steve Owen.

"eQ users can choose the most appropriate format for each job rather than being forced down one sophisticated custom transitions.

NEW COMPATIBLES

In other news, the company announced its collaboration with Harris Corp.'s broadcast division to ensure compatibility between tem and with Sony's XDCAM system at the companies' respective booths.

The company also announced a sale of no less than 12 generationQ HD editing systems to Seattle-based creative design and post facility Flying Spot and the use of an eQ sys-



Ouantel's Oedit

"Six years ago HD was little more than a

dream, and now it's a reality."

-Richard Taylor, Quantel chairman

"Six years ago HD was little more than a dream, and now it's a reality," he said

Taylor said this was obvious when walking into any consumer electronics store in the U.S., where a significant part of display space is now devoted to HD receivers, receivers that need HD programming.

ADDING HD TO GENQ

Against this backdrop Quantel recently released Vers. 2 software for generationQ, and announced that its

path or the other by the technology," he said.

The company also announced the expansion of its broadcast range with QEdit, a software-only editor designed to fill the middle ground between QEdit Pro and eQ on the high-end, and the company's browselevel products for journalists.

QEdit is designed to run on a standard PC to lower the cost of multiseat news operations, but is capable of both basic editing needs such as wipes and dissolves as well as more

generationQ newsrooms and Harris' automation softwares

As for how genertionQ will fit into the evolving next-gen acquisition world, Quantel demonstrated its products with Panasonic's P2 sys-

tem for ARRI MEDIA's Tornado digital ultra slo-mo capture and playoack system, which provides images at up to 1000 fps that are enhanced within the eQ and then versioned to any output standard.
©2004, NAB

Rohde & Schwarz

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 46

embedded Windows XP computer, an integral TFT color screen and a keypad. Depending on options outfitted, the DVM-400 can generate, record, replay and analyze MPEG-2 signals, up to 20 streams, as well as perform deep analysis and data broadcast analysis.

For a low-cost MPEG-2 monitoring solution, Rohde & Schwarz developed the DVM-50, which monitors one or two streams, depending on options. The DVM-50 needs to connect to a Windows XP computer, but it offers the same types of analyses as the rest of the DVM family.

To provide the test signals required for the emerging digital transmission methods, Rohde & Schwarz debuted a new test transmitter, the SFU. The SFU supports new standards, DVB-S2, DVB-H (for handheld devices) and DMB-T (TDS-OFDM, being developed in China), as well as more established standards.

The unit provides a variety of transmission parameters plus settable error simulation signals that manulacturers of set-top boxes, receivers, TV sets and chips employ for product development and quality control

For audio, Rohde & Schwarz introduced the compact UPV for a full complement of analog and digital measurements. Features include a wide bandwidth of 250 kHz, comprehensive FFT analysis covering up to 256k points and a sampling rate up to 192 kbps for digital audio. Analog dynamic range is 140 dB and for digital, greater than 170 dB.

The UPV comes equipped with an integrated PC and TFT color monitor, LAN interface, four USB connectors and slots for additional interfaces like 125.

Also on the roster of new products is an adaptive equalizer option, the NX7000 ADE, for Rohde & Schwarz's SV700 exciter for digital TV transmitters. The ADE system automatically calculates the values required for phase and amplitude correction, but correction is performed only if distortion exceeds predefined tolerance limits. © ©2004, NAB



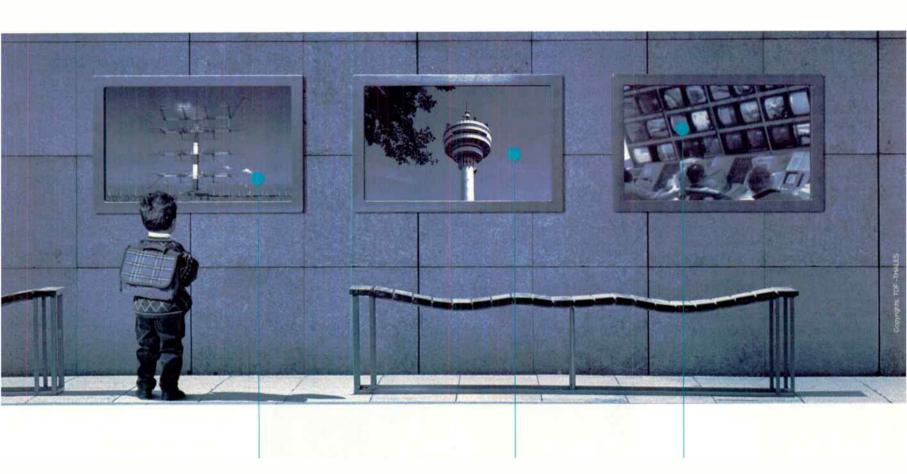
Introducing the new 8.4" diagonal ERG HDM-EV80D HD monitor with extremely accurate color. Its HD innovations include four inputs and one output, which allow it to be used with multiple cameras. The monitor's DC output and cost effectiveness make it ideal for rack mounting while its compact, rugged design and low power consumption make it perfect for location shooting. No matter how you use it, the monitor will capture your imagination. For more information, simply call or visit our website: erg-ventures.com, contact@erg-ventures.com, U.S.: +1-949-263-1630, Japan: +81-3-3760-8161

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Thales' experience and innovation in transport stream management is allowing multimedia providers to optimize their bandwidth investment and offer the latest in interactive and customized services. Our digital solutions comply with all open standards for DTV, cable and satellite distribution networks.

www.thales-bm.com

Broadcaster

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 44

product and profit from it," Smulyan said

The Digital Antenna System, he said, would allow broadcasters to take back some of the revenue stream now owned by cable without spending much additional money on infrastructure

START-UP COSTS

"We don't have to launch a satellite for \$400 million," Smulyan said. "Our industry has already paid \$4 billion for building out the digital infrastructure."

Smulyan estimated that the startup

cost to the industry for launching the Digital Antenna System would be in the \$500 million to \$700 million range over three to five years.

Smulyan cited a survey that found 27 percent of American consumers would be interested in a service that offered 30 "must-have" cable channels and local high-definition broadcasts at \$25 a month if the receiver

box cost them \$99.

If broadcasters gave away the boxes for free, Smulyan said, interest in the service climbed to 49 percent of Americans.

Smulyan said the service would need only 10 percent market penetration to succeed, though—a figure he said would be easily met from consumers eager for a less expensive alternative to cable and satelline.

"We don't have to

launch a satellite for \$400 million," Smulyan said. "Our industry has already paid \$4 billion for building out the digital infrastructure."

> -Emmis chief Jeff Smulvan

Even if broadcasters pay full retail rates for the cable networks they carry on their additional spectrum. Smulyan said the business model predicts \$4 billion to \$6 billion in revenues five years after launch, with profit margins "in the high teens or low twenties."

COME TOGETHER

For the service to work, however, Smulyan said the broadcasting industry must dome together as a whole in its support.

Broadcast groups including Barrington Broadcasting Co, Citadel Communications Co., Clear Channel, E.W. Scripps Co., Fisher Broadcasting, Media General, Meredith. NexStar Broadcasting Group, Prime Cities Broadcasting, Raycom Media and Sunbelt Communications joined Emmis for the launch announcement.

"Our goal is that 100 percent of this business is owned by 100 percent of the broadcasters in this industry," Smulyan said.

A secondary goal of the broadcast challenge to cable is to demonstrate to cable and satellite providers that broadcasters deserve compensation for carriage of their signals.

"Our signals have value and we want to get paid," Smulyan said. 🔳 ©2004, NAB

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The Azden 1000 Receiver can be purchased integrated into the Anton Bauer® "Gold Mount" (1000URX/AB), or the IDX "V" Mount (1000UDX/VM) for use with any V-Mount battery system, for easy and secure mounting to your camera. Designed specifically for broadcast ENG, the 1000 is a true diversity system with 2 complete front ends, and offers 121 user-selectable UHF channels in the 723-735MHz range.

Here's what Buck McNeely, of the TV Show "THE OUTDOORSMAN WITH BUCK MCNEELY" has to say about the 1000:

"My choice of wireless microphones is the AZDEN 1000 series. I can mount up to 2 receivers in line between the camera body and the battery on the gold mount adapter and it's powered by the attached battery with little noticeable extra drain. We have hundreds of channel options and appreciate the clear reception and range these Azden units deliver."

Craig Caples of Caples Productions in Las Vegas says

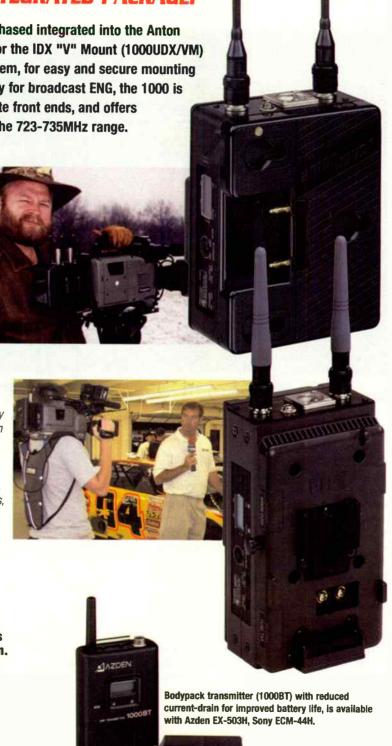
'When shooting at the LasVegas Motor Speedway and televising UNLV games at Sam Boyd Stadium we use the Azden 1000 series, the Anton Bauer® unit and both the 1000BT beltpack and 1000XT plug-in transmitter. We've used it for about 2 years in almost every condition and environment, getting a strong clear signal, without any problems. including on the ski slopes of Utah. Caples Productions is proud to use Azden."

> Azden has been selected by both Ikegami and Panasonic for their "Slot-In" cameras (model 1000URX-Si).

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Next-Gen Ads: More Interactivity

RealNets founder predicts ubiquity of digital media

by Alan R. Peterson

n 1994, RealNetworks founder Rob Glaser proclaimed that, "Digital media would be everywhere. Every consumer electronic product would be an IP device and all audio and video would be digitally delivered." to be," he said

Viewers are already involved in such shows as "American Idol," where they are able to vote by phone or online in real time for their favorite performers. In turn, advertisers like Coca-Cola and Ford use their equity in the show to promote their own products and use it across

tipped it to the amused audience and said, "As they say in Vegas, 'it's noon somewhere!"

Levinsohn called it "protecting the core business and the advertisers." Fox Sports worked with Sprint and Major League Baseball to create instant polls and contests where viewers can use their Sprint wireless

last fall on NBC. When the viewer clicked on an "attract icon," it opened a short pet quiz, then linked to a Purina site for additional information. Another TV spot allowed the viewer to click for a free bag of dog food or puppy food; the interactive message rode atop the main commercial.



"Programming must reach people

where they are, not where they used to be."

—RealNetworks founder Rob Glaser

Ten years later, with the realization of that vision comes the challenge of delivering advertising messages to those consumers—a topic thoroughly covered in the NAB2004 Super Session "Next Generation Advertising," hosted by Ben Mendelsohn of the Interactive Television Alliance (ITA) and moderated by Allison Dollar, also of the ITA.

Keynote speaker Glaser was joined by an executive panel consisting of William Corbin, vice president of interactive production, A&E television networks; Phil Bienert, manager of e-business for Volvo; Olivier Gers, senior vice president of FremantleMedia Licensing; Ross Levinsohn, senior vice president of FoxSports.com; Maureen Posey, group media director of Nestlé Purina; and Dennis Quinn, executive vice president of business development for Turner Network Sales.

all their advertising.

Glaser used an example where RealNetwork's "Rhapsody" music service is advertising free music downloads on 12-packs of Heineken beer. To punctuate his point, Glaser popped open a can of Heineken,

A SONG FOR A BEER

phones to participate in "virtual manager" games.

"Sprint sponsors online, on the phones and on TV," Levinsohn said. "It nedges against the loss of the consumer across multiple platforms."

Posey's example used an interactive in-show enhanced program during the National Dog Show, televised

Levinsohn calls next-generation advertising a "seismic shift in TV," and realizes that very few consumers today will continue to be passive television viewers.

"Nobody can sit for five minutes in front of TV without thinking they have to be doing three other things," he said. ■ ©2004, NAB

THE PC THING

Glaser set the tone of the session by defining the trends seen in consumers today and challenges faced by advertisers—notably, how to use interactive media to reach consumers where they are, and how to think beyond more than just television.

"The 'PC thing' will become the television thing," he said, "and the early adopters will be the ones to reap the benefits."

Glaser noted how television viewers are not as passive as they once were, that they might have the TV on while they are surfing the Web or using a cell phone.

"Programming must reach people where they are, not where they used

Encoda Links with Arkemedia

Company makes inroads in European markets

by John Merli

apping off the release of several new products and co-op deals at NAB2004, Encoda Systems announced its intent to acquire a majority interest in Arkemedia Technologies, a British digital asset management (DAM) company. Both companies have been working together on common end-to-end solution projects for many months.

Steven L'Heureux, president of Encoda's Automation Solutions division, said the deal would allow future customers to work even more efficiently on integrated solutions, with an emphasis on workflow. This will be especially beneficial, he said, considering the ongoing transition to a mostly digital scenario. Some of the demonstrations at Encoda Systems' booth this year were "geared to improving a broadcaster's workflow efficiency for future digital activity featuring synchronized automation and traffic, including live updates."

Encoda also announced that its D-

Series Vers. 4 Automation Solution with Linux Vers. 2.6 was recently chosen for a new transmission center and its standard network operations center by BskyB, Europe's predominant satellite automation systems—to feed PSIP data using the PMCP protocol to several different brands of generators. PMCP has been endorsed by the Advanced Television Systems Committee.

"[BSKyB] is a very important

acceptance for us."

—Encoda President Steven L'Heureux

TV provider.

"This is a very important acceptance for us," L'Heureux said. A similar announcement was made recently regarding Encoda and SkyPerfecTV Japan. (Encoda's Japanese distributor is Itochu Cable Systems Corp.)

L'Heureux also said Encoda has moved for full adoption of the Programming Metadata Communications Protocol (PMCP), which allows broadcast systems—such as listing services, program management, traffic and

Encoda also provided details at its booth on its recently announced next evolution of MART, a data management and reporting scheme that enables users to access core business data from a single station or party, or stations within a specific group, and review information at various levels of granularity. What makes some of Encoda's latest products stand out from the crowd, asserted L'Heureux, is the ability to control and monitor facilities remotely, using local area network interfaces. © ©2004, NAB

Miranda Revamps With Mobile in Mind

Exec expects advent of HDTV golden age

by Mark Baechtel

t Miranda's NAB2004 press conference, the company's Senior Vice President for Product Development, Michel Proulx, pegged the company's remarkable sales over the last six months and its introduction of 17 new products in the last year to two things.

"The first thing was our understanding of who the HD 'early adopters' were," he said. "And the second thing was a game our product development team played a while back, where the magic question was 'Will it fit on a truck?"

Proulx explained: Miranda's analysis had indicated that the real driver for growth in HD content hasn't been FCC regulations, but the demand for special-

"These new sales
are about
conversion."
—Michel Proulx,
senior vice president,
Miranda

ized HD content that has been coming from subscribers to niche sports-andentertainment channels on the menus of cable and satellite providers.

"These people accounted for the highest percentage of HD demand," Proulx said. "So we concluded that in order to be successful in a market where HD demand was going to be driven first by special interests, we were going to have to provide products that made it easier to get out there and harvest content for these venues."

This conclusion led to the aforementioned product development game show in Miranda's Montreal headquarters. Simply put, Proulx and company concluded that, if the product would not be useful on an ENG trailer, it was not going to put Miranda on the crest of the building wave. This led the company to revamp its product line to aid the gatherers, creators and distributors the sort of content the market is hungry for.

Providing sales of Miranda's upcon-

verter as his measure, Proulx presented a convincing case that his conclusions were right: Sales went from less than 50 units in 2000 to more than 250 in the last quarter of 2003 alone. Sales so far this year stand at more than 400.

"The way we see it, our early sales were just for those interested in compliance," Proulx said. "These new sales are about conversion. Now that cable and satellite are highly motivated to carry HD content, I think broadcast TV is going to

follow suit. It will be the advent of HDTV's golden years."

Taking pride of place among the 17 new HD-oriented products in M.randa's line is its XVP-801i interface card, a one-card solution to the conversion needs of stations trying to juggle the multiple demands of stations that want help in stepping across the cusp that separates the SD and HD worlds. The card will accept any kind of input and convert it for either HD or SD use. ©2004, NAB

Ridge, Holt Address RTNDA

Both stress importance of journalism

by Kelly Brooks

Secretary of the Department of Homeland Defense Tom Ridge took the stage at RTNDA's opening session at NAB2004 to acknowledge and praise the cooperative relationship between the media and the Department of Homeland Security in getting important information to the public in a timely manner.

"Every single day since Sept. 11, 2001, you, [the media] have kept America informed about this century's greatest threat. America has listened, and learned about international terrorism from you," he said. "We have sent the terrorists a clear and simple message: You are not freedom fighters. You are murderers. And on this issue, the world has come together. And as the eyes and ears of democracy, [the media] often find [themselves] on the front line of the fight," he said.

PLAN AND PREPARE

Ridge spoke on the difficulties in simultaneously taking appropriate safety measures while relaying pertinent information to the public without causing hysteria, asking, "How do we inform the public without alarming them? [The terrorists] plan and prepare and so must we. And at this time, obviously we do not have specific threat information around [upcoming events, such as the dedication of the World War II memorial or the Summer Olympics].

"But ladies and gentlemen," he said, "we do have our common sense. We don't need to change the threat level to make us safer and more secure. With so many symbolic [events] in the next few months, we must be aggressive. Special attention will be given to areas of concern such as rail and airline security, hazardous materials, chemical facilities and protection of the electric grid.

"The bottom line is that homeland security is not about one department. It's not about one level of government, or just one organization. It's a national call to action, a philosophy of shared responsibility, shared accountability and shared leadership. The terrorist threat is directed at an entire nation. Only an entire nation, working in close cooperation can deter the threat."

Also speaking at the event was

anchorman Lester Holt, the host of MSNBC's "Lester Holt Live" and a substitute host on NBC's "Today Show." He encouraged the media to convey the exhilaration of grassroots reporting to bright-eyed journalists who only have eyes for the desks of celebrity anchorpersons such as Katie Couric or Barbara Walters.

MENTORS ARE KEY

"How many times have we seen rising young stars in this business crash because no one was mentoring them or correcting them, simply criticizing them. Are we nurturing them, sharing our experiences? Mentorship and those willing to be mentors are the keys to building the maturity levels demanded in our newsroom today. No one should be allowed to fail due to false expectations," said Holt. "Not a month goes by where someone will come into my office wanting to talk about getting into the business, and very often the conversation starts 1ke this: 'I want to be an anchor. I want to be the next Katie Couric. Very lew come into my office and say, 'I wan to be a reporter."

He added that the only way he could obtain a full-time position at the radio station that gave him his first job was if he was willing to report the news.

"The first time I came running out to a police station in a mobile unit, with my tape recorder and walk etalkie, I was hooked, hooked on being a reporter—being there, being the first to know it and the first to tell it."

Holt encouraged his fellow journalists to remind themselves of that initial excitement and energy, and combine it with their industry experience to guide young reporters. "If you love the game, love it enough to raise the bar, and help the next generation over that bar," he said.

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World Radio History

Oprah Honored in NAB Opener

HP chief urges broadcasters to define medium's character

by Deborah D. McAdams

The first female co-anchor at WLAC in Nashville pulled in a standing ovation from the crowd assembled at the Hilton for the official opening of NAB2004. The woman now universally known as Oprah was about to receive the 2004 NAB Distinguished Service Award. Winfrey was 19 years old when she got the job at WLAC, and so distinc-

was also paying attention to young Winfrey, and called her in for an interview. She went in determined not to relive her previous experience.

"I said to Dennis, 'you know that I'm black. That's not gonna change,'" Winfrey related. Then lowering her voice to intone Swanson, she repeated his dry response: "I'm looking at you."

She proceeded to tell Swanson that she had a weight problem, and that she'd had it all her life.

rated syndicated talk show in television history.

Winfrey was introduced by Carly Fiorina, chairman and CEO of Hewlett-Packard, who delivered the opening keynote, extolling broadcasters to

perceptions about the world. She urged broadcasters to continue their tradition of community service and implored them not to abandon positive, uplifting storytelling.

"I have always thought broaucasters

have been at their best when they help people sit back and think reflectively," she said.

Fiorina praised Eddie Fritts, president and EO of NAB, for his solid leadership in broadcasting over the last 24 years.

"In an industry full of famous voices, none is stronger than Eddie Fritts," she said.

Fritts preceded Fiorina on the dais, asking those assembled to imagine a country void of local information services, and then to imagine the introduction of free TV and radio into such an environment.

"If this new technology called broadcasting came along today," he said, "it would be hailed as a miracle."

Fritts pointed out that broadcasters contribute more than \$9.9 billion a year for charities, local disaster relef and public service announcements, including Amber Alerts that helped recover 150 kidnapped children. He said that in light of broadcasting's contributions, it was "mystifying" that the FCC had not taken action on must-carly of all multicast signals.

"I call on the FCC to break down the cable industry's digital dem," he said, "and let the free broadcast signals flow."

Fritts said he has a "message to [Comcast CEO] Brian Roberts and leaders of the cable cartel: Tear down that wall. Stop blocking consumer access to the best TV pictures the world has ever seen."

The NAB president called the infamous Janet Jackson incident at this year's Super Bowl "unfortunate". However, he said had a similar incident occurred on cable or satellite TV, "it would have been greeted with a collective shrug" by the public and policymakers.

"Why? asked Fritts. "Because 'wardrobe malfunctions' are part of the cable and satellite landscape Monday through Friday, 24-7." ■ ©20℃4, NAB



going to say anything about it."

—WLS-TV GM Dennis Swanson, when his new employee, Oprah Winfrey,

told him she had a weight problem.

tive was her work that she caught the attention of some Baltimore station executives, who ultimately recruited her. There, she soon came under pressure to alter her appearance.

"They wanted me to change my nose and change my hair," recalled Winfrey, who was less than amenable to such suggestions.

Meanwhile, in Chicago, Dennis Swanson, general manager of WLS-TV,

"He said, 'so have I. Nobody around here is going to say anything about it," Winfrey said.

Winfrey said the award represented one of a handful of "full-circle moments" in her life. As a youngster growing up in Mississippi who saw women and African American role models begin to emerge in television, she wondered if she could do what they did. Years later, she has the highest-

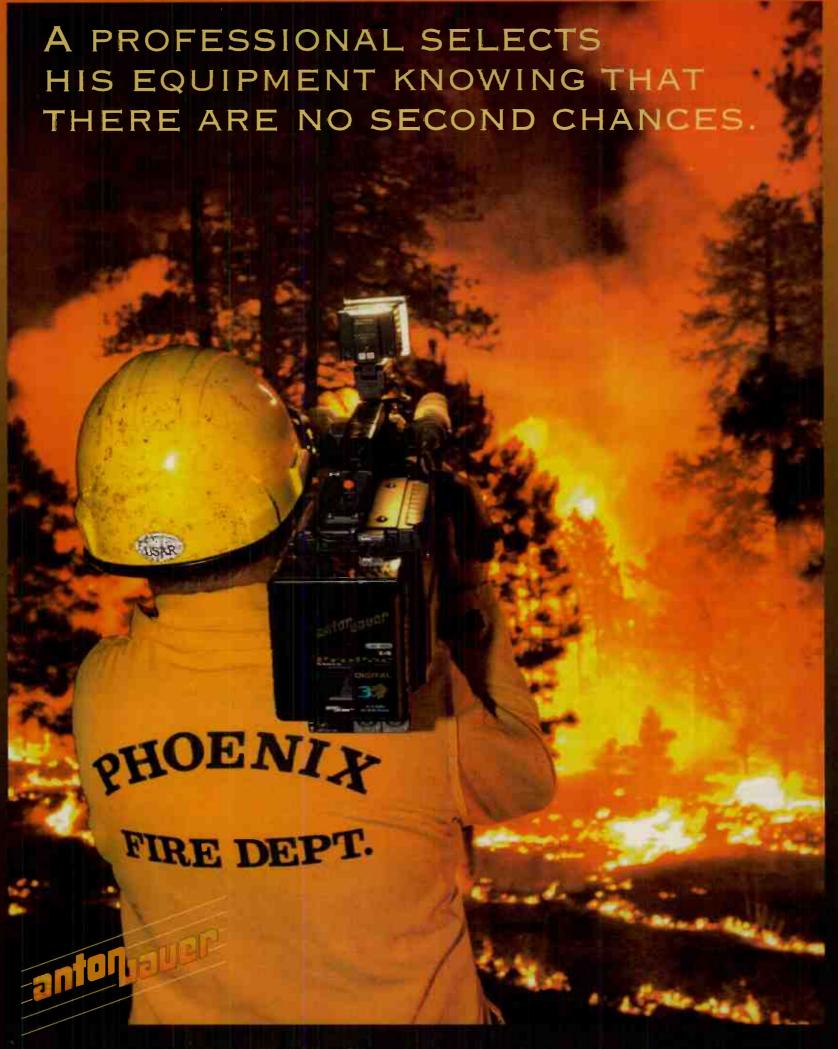


Oprah accepts the NAB2004 Distinguished Service Award at the conference's opening ceremony.

"define the character" of their medium.

No one is in a better position to communicate globally than broadcasters, Fiorina said, and more than ever before, television images are forming people's





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Pinnacle Advances Tapeless HD Workflows

HD version of Liquid editing software introduced

by Geoff Poister

innacle Systems' latest round of product releases advanced its goal of providing tapeless, networked editing environments for SD and HD.

For the news industry, Pinnacle is going tapeless by incorporating Panasonic's P2 solid-state storage cards and Sony's XDCam format into its Vortex news systems. Time Warner Cable's NY1 has already adopted the system.

At its NAB2004 press conference, Pinnacle announced that its Palladium-based Vortex networked news systems with Liquid Blue editing is now on air at the new CNN production facility at Time Warner Center in New York.

"This marks a significant step in their transition to an all digital, tapeless production environment. The Pinnacle systems will provide feed recording, editing and control room playback—and will be integrated to playback and archive systems in Atlanta," Gordon Castle, senior vice president CNN Technology said.

Central to the system is Pinnacle's Palladium 5000 shared storage system, which provides about 4 TB for on-air quality and proxy video. Media is available within five seconds of the start of ingest, for review and editing—even while the ingest process is ongoing.

Signifying a full commitment to the HD format, Ajay Chopra, Pinnacle Systems' founder and president of the Broadcast and Professional Division, announced a full line of HD products.

"Pinnacle believes that HD is a requirement, not an option, for its customers," said Chopra. "Pinnacle is eliminating the cost and technical obstacles that have slowed the move to HD."

HD PRODUCTS

Part of this thrust is represented by Liquid HD, the HD version of the current Pinnacle Liquid editing platform. It has a scaleable architecture from low-bandwidth HDV to uncompressed HD. Pinnacle's extensive experience with MPEG-2 IBP editing technology assures high-quality HD when compression is required.

For networking HD, compression is a requirement and Pinnacle's IBP technology allows high quality at low bandwidth. Pinnacle claims that at 50 Mbps IBP encoding, HD is virtually indistinguish-

able from uncompressed video.

All Pinnacle Liquid editing systems and Editing for Workgroup systems will be HD-enabled.

Pinnacle also announced the release of Deko3000, which combines 3D modeling and animation with real-time data and image integration. It is also upgradeable to HD resolutions.

Pinnacle has continued its move into

the NLE arena with the release of CinéWave 4.6 for the Apple PowerMac.

The new version offers real-time multistream DVCPRO HD editing with simultaneous monitoring on SD and HD monitors. In addition, CinéWave will support capture and transcode of popular HD formats and frame rates to DV100 from most Legacy HD decks.

OmniBus Targets Local TV

Scalable controller also introduced

by Mary C. Gruszka

argeting "call-letter TV stations,"
OmniBus Systems Inc.
announced the availability of its
new TX>Play transmission automation system at NAB2004.

Based on OmniBus' G3 technology, TX>Play is an entry-level object-based modular content delivery system.

"TX>Play is scalable and flexible," said lan Fletcher, chief technology officer and cofounder of OmniBus Systems. "The user interface looks simple, but behind it is a powerful automation engine."

TX>Play supports content ingest to video servers, and provides playlist editing and schedule import features. The system's content metadata and schedule management tools facilitate various levels of integration with business systems.

"The perception in the market among call letter stations is that they can't afford a premier product like OmniBus," said Mike Oldham, CEO of OmniBus Systems. "But we've re-engineered our pricing to make it affordable to local stations. We can do this because the underlying technology gives us more flexibility. A station can buy only the components it

needs, and can add more later."

Dave Polyard, vice presient of sales and marketing, predicted that with the availability of TV>Play OmniBus Systems will be installed in call-letter stations by this time next year.

"Local stations see value in what OmniBus can produce," he said.

"A station can buy
only the components
it needs, and can
add more later."

—Mike Oldham, CEO,

OmniBus Systems

OmniBus also announced the release of G3 Control, which provides device access, operation and management over distributed networks. G3 Control consists of three elements: G3 Desktop, G3 Routing, and G3 Machine Control.

"This new technology offers unparalleled flexibility. It's a revolutionary way of thinking about designing systems," said Fletcher. "The G3 architecture consists of building blocks that can be highly customizable to provide focused solutions without having to write custom code."

In other news, OmniBus reported significant global growth with key clients in the Americas, Europe, and Asia.

"Our Q1 revenue was up 35 percent over the same quarter in 2003," said Oldham. "The investment by our owner of \$12.5 million demonstrates confidence in what we are doing, and they want us to expand faster."

Major projects include ACE for PBS and a consortium of leading technology suppliers, the consolidation of playout operations at Crawford Communications, a new content management infrastructure at NOB in the Netherlands and the BBC's new Broadcast Centre in West London.

All of these projects involved OmniBus integrating its systems with those from third-party vendors.

"We have a good relationship with other vendors," said Polyard. "We ouch everything they do." ■ ©2004 NAB



Deliver More Content

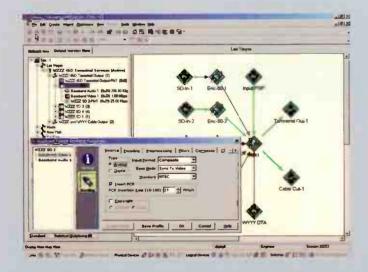
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- Supports a wide range of redundancy designs and automatically reprovisions the infrastructure, ensuring the highest levels of service reliability and availability.
- Permits centralized and distributed service management.





Harmonic

You may not have noticed that nine normally comes between eight and ten. Now would someone kindly mention that to the NAB?

Yeesh! It's tough enough covering 100 square miles of exhibits in four days and wading through 100,000 Applets hogging the Apple booth without having to deal with NAB's booth numbers.

You think I jest? Here, in order, leaving nothing out, are the booth numbers you would have passed walking east to west in the South Hali: SU9117, SU9019, SU9122, SU9123, SU9025, SU9036, SU9029, SU9031, SU8834, SU0130

The SU part of each number is to ensure that it's unreadable on the gigantic NAB-supplied maps. Methinks putting 9019 between 9117 and 9112 or 8834 between 9031 and 9139 is to get one in the mood for figuring out what's going on in the minds of ... Well, here's an award-winning example:

'PAN'-TASTIC

Most folks seem more interested in the latest cameras than in what they sit on. Not me. I don't know how you can use Panavision's 300x7 lens without a very stable, very supportive mount. Chapman and Vinten both came out with base-shrunken versions of their pedestals. That's pretty handy in a crowded studio, but it ain't going to help with that humongous heavy new lens, and I'd be concerned about even Fujinon's new precision focus version of their 101x on it.

The precision focus lens is hot stuff, but it costs more and ain't as sensitive as the pre-precision version. The smaller-base peds are great ideas, but they don't have the same payload as the bigger-base ones. That makes sense. But then there's Vinten's Vector 900, quite possibly the best pan head ever.

It's got a bigger payload than the Vector 700. It's smaller and lighter. It's got a greater tilt range (an astounding +/- 90 degrees!). It costs less. In every possible way, it is better than the already terrific Vector 700. But Vinten is continuing to sell the bigger, heavier, less-capable Vector 700, for more than the Vector 900. And booth SU8834 comes between SU9031 and SU9139. Now do you understand? Me, neither. But I love the Vector 900 regardless.

APPLE OF NELLIE'S EYE

Okay, so you buy a Vector 900 and stick it on a tripod and discover that it and the camera operator are both too low. Since roughly Day One of moving-image photography (and probably even before that) the solution has involved apple boxes.

A cinematographer told me once how an improved apple box (with the carry hole moved closer to the edge so two could be picked up with one hand) was rejected by moviemakers for being too scary, adding something about a set being the most expensive place to do R&D. You don't want your production to fail because you brought the wrong kind of apple box.

Well, sure! What if the closer-to-the-edge hole made the wood break? I'd be scared, too. But not of the Valise Pro from Fuji Television in Japan, the first completely redesigned apple box.

Yes, it's exactly the right size, but it folds, so it takes up less room in a grip truck. It's made of aluminum, so it weighs less. It's got non-skid, quiet rubber on top. It's got leveling legs and a built-in level. It's got dents for those legs on top for safer stacking and locks on each side for safer (rock-solid) platforming. It's even got strap slots for tying down tripods (or talent).

Wow! The ideal apple box! Who knew?

SKY'S THE LIMIT

So maybe you need to light the talent sitting on a stool on the high platform made from Valise Pro apple boxes. There surely were a lot of fluorescent lamps at

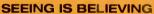
11th Annual

the show. There was a 150-LED camera-mounted array from LitePanels. And there were still a bunch of incandescent and discharge lights. But ARRIS Sky Panel 21 is something else.

It uses an Osram Planon lamp, which is, methinks, something originally made to be an LCD panel backlight. The bulb is roughly 19x15 inches and almost as thin as this magazine. By the time ARRI puts it in a frame with a ballast and supports, it's still only two inches thick. It lights instantly with full output. Methinks it works kind of like a bright, single-pixel plasma displaybeautiful soft light without melting the talent.

"But, Mario, hasn't this been around already?"

Yes, indeed it has. You could see something similar at the Licht-Technik booth. But there it was just 5600K. Maybe there's an application or two for an outdoor softlight like this, but I'd sure rather use it in a studio setting, and there we like to be 3200K, which is what ARRI offered this year—with a CRI better than 90! Yes!



Did I just mention shooting outdoors? I can't see much use for a 3200K ARRI Sky Panel there, but there surely is a lighting-related problem.

Sony is justifiably proud of the LCD screens on some of their notebook computers, but have you ever tried to look at them in direct sunlight? Yeesh! Methinks Panasonic has a better computer display for that purpose, but I ain't being paid to discuss laptops.

I'm being paid (please!) to talk about TV technology, and it uses LCDs, too. They've had motion-rendition issues (which are getting better) and contrast issues (which are getting better). There are viewing-angle issues, which Sony's new Luma series seems to have licked completely. But then there are those sunbeams.

Sony's Luma monitors looked good in their booth. They'd probably look good in a control room. Out in the Las Vegas noonday sun? Hah!

Then there's IMP Electronics. Their Hummingbird LCD monitors have good motion, contrast, and viewing angles. They looked great in their booth and in direct noonday sunlight, right on the screen.

I don't expect you to believe me. I had a hard time believing my own eyes. But if you think you'd like a portable, multistandard LCD monitor (6.5-, 10.4, or 15-inch) if only it looked good in direct sunlight, all I can say is that you'd better bring your checkbook to the demo. Wow!

PHANTOM SLO-MO

Let me see. I've done mounts, platforms, lights, and

Mario

viewfinders (or at least monitors), and I ve mentioned lenses. I guess I've danced around it about as much as I can. It's time to get to cameras.

They surely did run the gamut at NAB 2004, from Discreet Surveillance Technology's wireless color camera built into a pennth penwrites, too) to Luma's HD lipstick to diretta's digital cinematography camera that uses a hand crank for overcranking and undercranking I am not making this up.

In the spirit of NAB's crazy booth numbers, Sony announced publicly that they were showing a 1080/60p camera secretly. 1080/60p makes some sense to me; a public announcement of a secret doesn't, but then, I couldn't fig re out NAB's booth-numbering scheme.

Anyhow, Grass Valley said hey've finally provided the missing link in HDTV: an HD slo-mo camera That probably came as a surprise to Il eg imi, which was also showing an HD le mo camera. Both of them do what they can from shooting at 120 images a second.

Over at BandPro, the Cine Spe dCam was grabbing 1024-line pix at a the us and frames per second. And at Mir n la's booth, Vision Research was grabling full HD at a housand frames per example ond (SD at up to 6,000).

My eyes don't work that fast, but the pictures played back at normal speed from the Vision Research Ph. nom v9.0 were just drop-dead gory ecus. But, when you record a thousard ps, you'd better be danged sure bout when you press RECORD.

WHEN PIXELS GO BAD

The Vision Research can le as use imaging chips. So do the Une SpeedCam, Ikegami, and Grass Valley.

This much is certain about imaging chips: They have defective pixels. These days, that's no big deal. The cameras have "defective pixel repair" circuity—basically memories that note where the bad pixels are and substitute averages of the surrounding pixels.

That is to say, it's no big deal when you pull a new camera out of the box. But, over time, more pixe s go bad. Now it's a little bigger deal as you identify the bad pixels and stick them into the memory. And then 1 to re pixels go bad.

In a two-megapixe! three-chip HD camera, then a e six million pixels that can go bad, and the memory air it that big. At some point, you have to choose between a lit pixel in the upper right or a lit pixel in the lower left. Or you can go to Lucke's Camera Service.

Their Pixel Repair Service is about as simple as can be. They add more memory and, thereby, "fix" the never bad pixels. It's one whole heck of a lot cheaper than 1 ay-



Awards

2004

ZUCHNOLOGY

ing a new camera or even a new optical block. Hooray for Ameri an ingenuity!

IN THE CITI

Hooris, too, for the inscrutable (who wants to be scruted?) folks in Taiwan at Shining Technology. Panasonic's big hit at the show—this year and last—is/wis P2 F2 lets you record DV-quality signals on a FCMCIA card for instant editing in a computer

Well, Shining Technology's CutiDISK DV lets you record DV-quality signals for instant editing in a computer, too, and you don't need to use a P2 camera (but you can, if you want to'. As a matter of fact despite the name, CitiDISK DV supports not just DV but also AVI and MOV files.

P2 captures up to 18 minutes on a 4 GB card; CitiDISK captures up to 80 GB—that's 20 P2 cards worth—a full six hours! P2 cards pop into a PCMCIA slot. CitiDISK DV pops into a FireWire connection.

F2 allows pre-scene loop recording; so coes CitiD/SK DV. The latter also automatically detects signal format and offers last-scene quick review in view finders.

I value the subsistence wages that my editor doles out to me, so I ain't going to mention the cost of a P2 card. Ninety minutes worth of CitiDISK DV (the same capacity as five 4-GB P2 cards) goes for 5599 to \$6-9, depending on the features you want.

P2 does have no moving parts. I don't think I'll be breaking any confidences in revealing that CitiDISK DV has a rotating disk drive. You tick.

HD GRAPHICS FOR A SONG

CitiDISK EV surely wasn't the only camera disk recorder at the show. Sony, of course, showed its XDCAM with blue-laser optical-disk recording

Sony's theme was "Ride the HD Wave" But XDCAM, like DVCAM, and a bunch of other Sony products, was SD-only; maybe Sony's SD products like to ride the HD

Wave too.

Anyhow, it wasn't big news to hear that some station was apprading from SD to HD. On the other hand, Chyron announced that WRAL, the pioneering digital station, was trading in its HD graphics gear for SD.

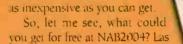
They're doing it on account of the SD gear being more flexible than the HD. And they can get away with it thanks to Chyron's C-MD. HD.

C-Mix HD is a four-part (video and key) plus background-layer mixer allowing compositing and blending. It works great with Chyron's Lyric software, but it'll live with anyone's XML app. And here's the key (so to speak): it's got a built-in HD upconverter.

Shoot HD. Record HD. But do your graphics in SD and upconvert. It surely saves money and trouble. And it's under \$20k.

FREE MXF

Now, then, two awardees ago, I was proclaiming something with only three figures in its price tag, and I just said something with five figures was a money saver. Its tough to say what's inexpensive: 520,000 is pretty low for a house; 5599 is an awful lot for a copy of a newspaper. But, when it comes to cheap, there's one thing



everyone can agree on. Free is

Vegas water from a water fountain, rum-cordial chocolates from B&rH Photo. Assorted pens, candies the occasional light-up ball.

Then there was **Snell & Wilco**x. Some folks called 2004 the year of HDTV. To me, it looked more like the year of MXF.

What's MXF? How do you use it? How will yourcomputer deal with it? How much is this going to cost?

The last one's pretty easy, thanks to Snell & Wilcox. Their MXF Desktop player and MXF Express software toolkit were (and are) free! That signatus. Complimentary, No charge, And (be still my heart!) they actually support these giveaways!

To the grand tradition of Tektronix chroma-resolution charts, Fujinon backfocus charts, and Panasonic's Var cam training, please welcome Snell & Wilcox's free MXF software! Wahoo!

KEEPING IT CLEAN

Note to Our Beloved Commish: The last word in the previous paragraph is not, nor was interded to be, obscene, indecent, prurient, or anything else that a devout minister wouldn't be willing to say to a mixed

audence in c h u r c h .
You've got to be careful these

day Or i it ju t business?

Transmitter sales slowed down? Our Beloved Commish creates digital TV broadcasting. Camera purchases lagging? Michael Powell comes up with his

"voluntary" plan for HDTV. Video delays in a slump? Raise the ind xency fines!

It seemed to work. Leitch was touting its "SafeFeed" Janet-Jackson delay at the show Evertz, Pixelworks, and others had their own versions of "wardrobe malfunction" equipment. But there's a problem: What if someone forgets to hit the Dump button? It happened to a commentator at a non-com-

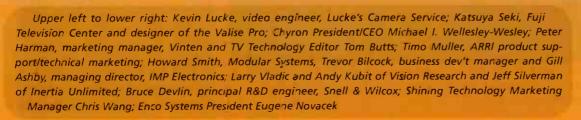
mercial station who submitted her remarks in advance, and she got fired.

So Enco's Guardien does it for you. It I stens to what's being said, compares it to a dictionary of no-nos, and bloops what's offensive. Really! It learns as it goes and is context sensitive, so Nick at Nite's TV Land doesn't have to worry about emitting "The BLOOP Van BLOOP Show, co-starring Mary Tyler Moore." What's it cost? Less than the current fine for one incident, that's for sure.

I could go on, but Roman Moronie, a character in the 1984 family movie "Johnny Dangerously," did it so eloquently that I'll give him the last word. Giving credit where it's due, this was lifted from the Internet Movie Database, which lifted it from the movie

"I would like to direct this to the distinguished members of the panel: You lousy corksuckers. You have violated my farging rights. Dis somanumbatching country was founded so that the libernes of common patriotic citizens like me could not be taken away by a bunch of fargin iceholes like yourselves."

Mario Orazio is the pseudonym of a well-known television engineer who wishes to remain anonymous. You can email him at Mario_Orazio@imaspub.com



TECHNOLOGY ROUNDUP

A review of selected gear on display at NAB2004 Part I

PRODUCT REVIEW

BY CRAIG JOHNSTON

The biggest camera news at last year's NAB was in the form of prototypes and promises. If this year lacked its predecessor's number of show-stopping announcements, NAB2004 made it up on promises delivered. There seemed to be two new video camera initiatives this year: one is to make HD video production more affordable, and the other is to develop digital-cinema cameras that more closely mimic the image quality of their film brethren.

Panasonic Broadcast surprised the broadcast world last year with its decision to skip DVD media and move directly from videotape to memory-based media camcorders. At this year's show, Panasonic fleshed out its P2 system with a dedicated P2 nonlinear editor and a more finished P2 camcorder, as well as customer announcements.

The company also coined a new acronym: ING, which stands for IT News Gathering.

Panasonic's P2 media consists of four ganged Secure Digital (SD) media chips on a credit card-sized rectangle

CAMERAS

and there is general agreement that its advantages include the ability to hot-swap recording media, data rates to high-definition and beyond, and very low power usage.

Questions remain regarding the high cost of media, which is hundreds of dollars for around 20 minutes of recording time. Panasonic is banking on broadcasters treating the media, which can be re-used thousands of times, as a capital, one-time expense.

The company introduced a standard-definition DVCPRO50 camcorder, the AJ-SDC905, which features three 2/3-inch CCDs and an IEEE-1394 (FireWire) port. The camera has a 12-bit DSP and 16:9/4:3 switchable aspect ratio, and the unit is part of Panasonic's initiative to make DVCPRO50 the main SD production standard.

Panasonic also debuted an ultra low-light convertible camera and complementary accessories to strengthen its line-up of remotely controllable, multipurpose cameras. The new Panasonic cameras are the AW-E650 1/2-inch, three-CCD and AW-E350 1/3-inch, three-CCD models.

In the electronic cinema area, Panasonic's AJ-HDC27 VariCam HD cinema camera is finding lots of work. The company added some new tools for it this year, including the AJ-GBX27 HD gamma corrector, designed to

adjust the VariCam's HD-SDI output to match the tone graduations of an HD display monitor.

Sony Electronics started down a different path last year, choosing optical disk recording on its newest camcorders. This 1T-based video production equipment now includes the PFD23 disc media, PDW-530/P and PDW-510/P disc camcorders, the PDW-3000, PDW-1500 and PDW-1 disc recorders and the PDZ-1 proxy browsing software. The company also announced interoperability between the XDCAM recorded disks and Avid's nonlinear editing systems.

Also in Sony's booth was a new entry-level HD camcorder, the HDW-730S. It features three 2/3-inch IT CCDs (1,920 x 1,080) yielding 1,000 TV-line horizontal resolution and a sensitivity of f10 @ 2000lx. The camcorder also features power consumption of 33W.

Another new camera in Sony's booth was the HDC-X300, an HD POV camera featuring three 1.5 megapixel power HAD, 1/2-inch CCDs. The camera achieves 1,080 lines at 59.94i, 50i, 24p, 25p, and 30p and still-picture mode and it lowers the cost of an HD camera to the \$15,000 range.

The company also introduced a 14-bit A/D standard-definition studio camera, the BVP-E30 SD.

In the accessory area, Sony and other HD outside broadcast camera makers have found resistance from remote van vendors to pulling new fiber optic cable into sports and entertainment venues already cabled with triax. So Sony showed a new HD triax converter that enables a choice of connectivity with triax or optical fiber systems on location.

Ikegami attacked on the affordable HD front with its HDK-75EX

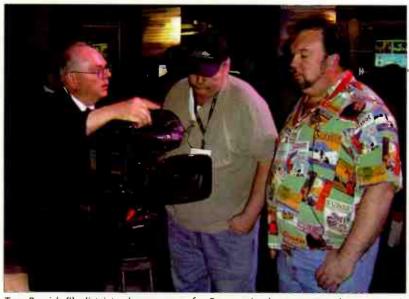
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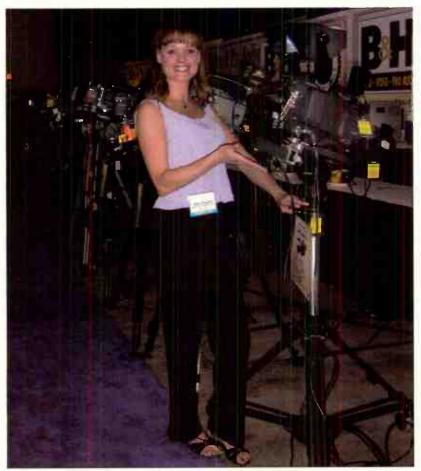
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Monitors	94
Transmission	96
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Coming in Part II

Graphics
Storage/Recording
Asset Management
Satellite/ENG • Routers &
Switchers • Automation



Tom Parrish (I), district sales manager for Panasonic, demonstrates the company's P2 camcorder for Gene Cordes of Creative Alternatives (c) and Craig Raisner of Present Productions.



Mary Sullivan of B&H Electronics shows off a Sony DXC-D50 WSL camera. Behind her is B&H's extensive line of broadcast cameras and tripods.



Grass Valley's new LDK 6200 HD Super SloMo camera

camera head and CCU, and built-in up- and down-converters, allowing the CU- 3300 CCU to provide any format SDI including 1080i, 480i, 575i, 720p or 480p. The camera features a selfdiagnosis system and a 12-bit A/D converter that consumes little power.

And Hitachi returned with its CR-D10 DVD camera recorder, first introduced at NAB2002. The recorder section features direct docking to the company's Z-3000 and Z-4000 digital

processing professional video cameras, and can write to DVD-RAM and DVD-R optical disks. It also sports an LCD monitor and power for wireless microphone receivers.

Thomson Grass Valley's new camera entry this year was touted by the company as delivering the last major missing link in HD production: slow motion. To fill the gap, the company introduced the Grass Valley LDK 6200 CAMERAS, PAGE 64

Newsrooms Still Using Tape Will Get Left In The Digital Dirt

New Open-Architecture Design Provides First NEWSFLOW Affordable, All Digital Tapeless Newsroom



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The Video Technics NewsFlow product is a reliable integrated system that delivered as advertised, with outstanding support as an added plus." Allen Finne, Director of Engineering for KLRT







www.newsflow.tv

Cameras

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 63

HD Super SloMo digital camera, which will premier at sporting events this summer including the Euro 2004 Soccer Championship in Portugal and the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens.

Thomson Grass Valley's LDK 6000 mk II Worldcam has found a lot of acceptance with mobile truck operators because of its HD format agility. The Worldcam was upgraded for NAB with an option to allow the camera to deliver higher quality back to the broadcast center through the use of fiber optic cable. (It was originally capable of triax transmission only.) Key to extending the range of triax is the Thomson Grass Valley triax repeater, also debuted at the show.

For-A also moved forward in the slow-motion video camera front by showing three variable frame-rate cameras at NAB2004. The VFC-2000, shown as a preliminary model, can capture full frames of SD video at a 2,000 frames per second rate and split frames at up to 32,000 frames per second. It records to the camera's own

memory and comes standard with onesecond of recording time, expandable to four seconds with optional additional memory.

AltaSens is a new name to the professional video camera business, but then so was Rockwell Scientific, the CMOS imaging sensor maker that spun AltaSens off shortly before NAB2004 to handle the CMOS sensor business.

AltaSens introduced its new ProCamHD 3560 CMOS sensor, with a 2.1 megapixel (1,936 x 1,086) capture area providing 60 frames-per-second progressive, 120 fps interlaced at 150 MHz at full HD resolution. The new sensor allows the selection of a 12-bit data rate at 150 MHz or 24-bits at 75 MHz, and color sub-sampling to achieve lower resolution images (and higher frame rates) while maintaining the same optical size.

Several camera makers interviewed by this author expressed real excitement with the availability of this new CMOS sensor, saying that it puts the new technology closer to, if not on, par with the incumbent CCD sensors.

Arriflex, long a name in film cameras, showed its D-20 camera demonstrator. Arri and the Fraunhofer



Chris Ridzon of Sights 2 See Television tries out the HDC-910 HD high-definition camera in the Sony booth.

Institute for Integrated Circuits in Erlangen, Germany, developed a camera that features a single six-megapixel CMOS sensor with an image area identical to a 35mm film camera. This allows use of existing cinema lenses and the removal of a beam splitter, which permits better lens designs and the elimination of errors introduced by a beam splitter.

Dalsa had shown a similar single-imager concept camera at NAB2003. This year they returned with a "beta" version, and have slated November as the roll-out date for a production model. It will rely on an eight-megapixel CCD imager being fabricated at the company's own plant in Bromont, Quebec. Target exposure latitude for the imager is 12-stops.

Laird Telemedia demonstrated its EdgeCam, a ruggedized, 480-line camera designed for extreme conditions. The EdgeCam was showcased in a Helmet Camera System, featuring lightweight aircraft aluminum mounts that the company said is indestructible and carries a lifetime warranty. It uses a steel tube-style color camera with a Sony precision CCD image pickup device. The mount also features a built-in clear lens cover to protect from bugs, mud and other debris, requires no modification to the helmet, and has been tested to speeds in excess of 180 mph.

Link Research added a reverse video feature to its LinkXP wireless camera equipment. The new version is called LinkXPR, and shows the cameraman a return picture from the production truck or studio. Link Research has included reverse video in its LinkXP camera-back range, which docks onto a broadcast camera via a standard BVV5 Sony interface.

Band Pro Film & Digital announced a marketing agreement with Sony that allows Band Pro world-

wide rights to market a customized "Powered By Band Pro" HDW-F900 HDCAM high-definition camcorder. Band Pro's camcorder features a beefed up handle usable for low-slung shots, reinforced viewfinder hardware, and a mount for a conventional matte box. Other advancements are now being engineered.

The company also brought a super slow-motion HD camera to the floor, the Cine Speedcam, which utilizes 35mm cine lenses. With its CMOS imager, the camera delivers true widescreen HD (1,536 by 1,024 pixels) video capture at frame rates up to 1,000 frames-per-second, and up to 4,000 fps at SD resolution. Images are captured as uncompressed tiffs in RAM installed in the camera, then downloaded to a PC for processing and replay.

16X9 brought back the Sim F-900 time-frame intervalometer, built to work with the Sony CineAlta 24p HDW-F900's single-frame record feature. It is a specialty device designed to allow recording time-lapse intervals between four seconds (the minimum allowed by the HDW-F900) and up to 18 hours. It requires no modification to the CineAlta camera.

Clarity Image showed its Varispeed Controller, designed to allow video raphers using a Panasonic VariCam to program the frame rate of the camera. The Varispeed controller makes he VariCam capable of user-defined ramp times, smooth real-time frame-rate changes, and can also handle camera start and stop.

WolfVision added to its line of presentation stand camera systems with the VZ-9, which features a built-in LCD preview monitor, lightfield or slides, mounted turntable and Ethernet port. The camera used in the VZ-9 produces progressive-scan images.



THE BEST FOR BOTH WORLDS

The worlds of film and video, that is.

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PRODUCT REVIEW





By Mary Gruszka

The latest developments in audio at NAB2004 featured networked audio, expanded features for audio consoles in the mid- and lower-price ranges, a wider range of small portable mixers, new disk-based recorders, plus new software for digital editing tools to enhance the creative process. Also evident on the exhibit floor were all sorts of processing gear-IP and ISDN audio, mic pre-amps, A/D and D/A converters, limiters/compressors and more.

CONSOLES & AUDIO MIXERS

AMS Neve showed the DFC Gemini digital mixing system featuring the WavTrak display of audio track data by channel. The company also demonstrated new features for its Libra Live Series II digital broadcast console, including networked Encore Automation allowing configurations and surface settings to be shared across network and I/O resource sharing between multiple studios.

Calrec's Hydra audio network made its NAB debut. The Hydra is an advanced networking and mic pre-amp system that enables I/O resources to be shared throughout the range of Calrec digital consoles.

Calrec also demonstrated its Alpha, Sigma, and Zeta 100 consoles with a new set of features designed for NBC's coverage of the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. New software includes input gain linking of inputs 1 and 2, automatic camera-led cross-fading and a reengineered front end for faster boot up and access. A revised metering selection offers more choice of signals with different types of meter on the same signal, metering of any external input and up to three stereo phase meters.

Dan Dugan Sound Design show-cased its Model D-3 automatic mixing controller. This eight-channel processor patches into the digital insert points of a digital mixing console, detects which mics are receiving input, and makes fast cross-fades. The unit's voice-controlled crossfades track unscripted dialog.

Digigram debuted the miXart 8 ES

multichannel sound card as the newest product in the company's EtherSound line. The sound card features 8/8 Ethersound I/Os and 8/8 analog I/Os including four microphone preamps with phantom power. Analog and network inputs may be mixed on the card and routed to analog or network outputs. The core of the system, the miXart 8, supports simultaneous recording and playback plus audio effects, metering, mixing, routing, and real-time processing. Options include MPEG encoding/decoding, sample rate conversion, and delay.

New mixer software for **Euphonix**'s System 5-B broadcast digital mixing system was unveiled at its booth. With the new software, the console supports up to 96 channels using a single DSP mixer core, and includes 24 mix buses,

24 group/clean feeds, and 16 IFF/aux sends. The new System 5-B also includes a dedicated mix-minus bus with single button press N-1 mix-minus outputs and talkback from each channel.

A second model, the System 5-BP supports up to 310 channels, includes mix automation and a number of different mixer software packages for the customer to select combinations of buses and channels.

Euphonix also parked its Max Air Broadcast Tour vehicle at its booth. After NAB, the tour heads east, reaching Chicago in mid-June and New York at the end of July. This specially commissioned truck is outlitted with a 96-channel Max Air digital audio mixing system set up to simulate a local TV station digital audio control room.

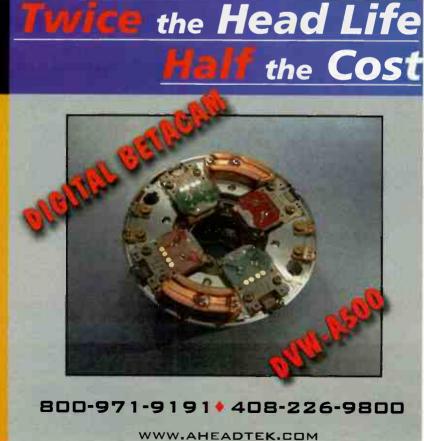


Tony Langley of Euphonix (r) explains a feature of the Euphonix Max Air console to Jared Hall of JaredHall.com

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- Betacam SP
- Betacam SX
- ★1" Type C
- * 3/4" U-Matic
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- * Pro VHS/SVHS



To aid in training, Euphonix published a 70-minute training video on DVD for the Max Air. The video includes 38 chapters covering all the main operational topics of the Max Air and also includes an 18-minute guided tour of the main console features and basic operational concepts.

Harrison introduced the new MPC4-D film mix console that features TFT screens above all the faders displaying a waveform-envelope display. As audio is passed through the channel from source machines, the IKIS computer system generates a waveform for each input and stores it in synchronized memory.

Harrison developed a number of new features for its Generation-3 TVDSL on-air broadcast console. Assigning talent or other sources to their respective mix minus feeds also assigns them to the Producer's Bus. Talent faders, when down, feed this special mono bus that could then feed a listen key on the producer's intercom or a separate loudspeaker.

Level Dependent EQ allows two different curves to be applied separately to a problem sound source. The two EQ settings switch when a predeter-

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Audio

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mined level threshold is reached.

SuperLooper provides 20 seconds of 40-bit digital audio recording to capture the sound from a person speaking into a microphone that can then be used to optimize that input channel.

Finally, the Generation-3 TVDSL console features a satellite management system, called Party Line for setup of complex communications requirements during multiple satellite feeds.

Henry Engineering debuted the StudioDrive PC audio mixer, a stereo on-the-air and production mixer that fits in the drive bay of any PC. It features six inputs (mic + five line ins), and includes both On-Air and Soundcard outputs. The unit also includes a built-in mix-minus output, a built-in telephone coupler, plus a monitor system with automatic muting and a headphone jack.

Tascam is now distributing Kamesan's line of mixers in the U.S. These mixers are geared for electronic news-gathering, independent filmmaking, commercial advertising and television production. Included are the KST-2000 and KS-342 mixers and the MoniCough.

The KST-2000 is a small three-channel mixer. The KS-342 features a pair of expansion modules, four mic inputs, and comprehensive monitoring. The MoniCough is a stand-alone microphone preamp, talkback/headphone monitor system and mute switch for commentary applications.

Mackie unveiled its latest digital recording console, the dXb.400. Features include dual touch-screen interface, 96 kHz operation (optional to 192 kHz), on-hoard automation and DSP, 25 100mm Penny+Giles optical faders, fully configurable I/O card cage and a FireWire I/O card option for streaming to/from desktop or laptop computers. The mixer is compatible with select VST plug-ins and integrates Mackie Control Universal functionality for controlling Pro Tools, Logic and

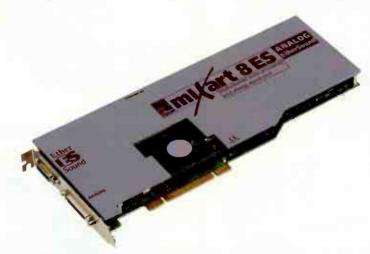
other popular audio software applications. The dXb.400 ships with a Universal Audio UAD-1 Powered Plugins Card pre-loaded, providing instant access to popular plug-ins like the Teletronix LA-2A and 1176LN compressors. The unit will be available in third quarter this year.

Mackie also introduced Onyx, a new family of FireWire-capable analog consoles. Three small-format mixers make up the Onyx line.

The Onyx 1220 is a 12-channel (four

unbalanced line level audio sources to feed a balanced (or unbalanced) audio output. The front panel features two gold-plated phono jacks, intended for mono or stereo consumer level sources. The inputs are combined and balanced through transformers configured to reject induced hum. The line-level output is provided on the front panel barrier block for connection to a 10 kohm or higher input impedance line-level

RDL also exhibited the RU-MX4



Digigram's miXart 8 ES multichannel sound card is part of the company's Ethersound product line.

mic/line inputs and eight line inputs) mixer with two buses and a three-band Perkins EQ with sweepable midrange. The Onyx 1620 is a 16-channel (eight mic/line inputs and four stereo line inputs) mixer with two buses and a four-band Perkins EQ with dual sweepable midrange. The Onyx 1640 is a 16channel (16 mono mic/line inputs) mixer with four buses and a four-band Perkins EQ with dual sweepable midrange. The Onyx 1640 also includes a rotatable I/O pod that can be configured for rack or desktop use.

Each Onyx mixer includes an upgrade slot for an optional FireWire

Radio Design Labs (RDL) showed the TX-J2 for the passive mixing of two mixer in the compact RDL RACK-UP one-third rack space chassis. The mixer features four input channels, each with an XLR microphone input with selectable phantom power, and with an unbalanced phono jack line input. Each input channel has its own dual-LED VU meter above the associated front panel level control. The output stage has one balanced output that may be set to microphone or line level, plus an unbalanced phono jack line out. Mixing capability can be expanded by connecting the unbalanced output of one RU-MX4 to the direct input of another RU-MX4. Twelve inputs are possible with three mixers mounted in a single rack space. An LED arc VU/peak meter monitors the final mix.

A soft-knee compressor may be applied to the output via a rear panel switch. The RU-MK4T shares all of the features of the RU-MX4 and has a transformer balanced output. An optional rear panel security cover protects the rear panel settings when the mixer is used in portable applications.

Sennheiser Electronic Corp. showcased the InnovaSON Sy80 console. which features a brand new control surface, new software, and a unique new technology that allows us rs to define the function of any fader on the console. InnovaSON's Sy80 features 80 inputs, 80 outputs, 80 faders, and 48 mix busses housed in a new chassis weighing less than 176 pounds 180 kg). Combined with a new version of the company's real-time console software manager, Sensoft 8, and a new DSP module built around the latest SHARC digital signal processors, the Sy80 offers greater mixing capabilities.

Sensoft 8 software introduces two new and very important features-XFAD (patent pending) technology and the Fader Configuration System-that allow users to define the function of each and every fader on the console surface. For example, faders configured to control mix busses may be designated as mono, stereo or LCR, auxiliary or matrix masters, audio subgroups, or VCA group masters. A virtually unlimited number of VCA groups may be created.

The Sy80 system also incorpo ates Mix Box, a local audio rack that is remote-controlled from the control surface. Mounted in a separate flight case or conveniently located in the control room or remote vehicle, Mix Box allows outboard equipment to be directly connected to the console LO.

InnovaSON introduced an upgrade to the lightweight and compact 5y40 digital live mixing console. The new Sensoft 8.1 software package adds new features that include InnovaSON's Xfad (expanded fader) mode for inputs and buses, as well as free assignment of

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VCAs and freely configurable fader layouts. Groups, auxiliary buses, and master buses may be separately configured as mono, stereo, LCR and LCR+M. Matrix assignments offer direct input routing, and the monitor bus supports three output circuits. The automation features have been enhanced with the addition of MIDI program change, MIDI timecode, crossfade, mute control, and fader start functionality.

With the upgrade to Sensoft 8.1, the Sy40, Compact or new InnovaSON Sy40-8 digital console will have 48 input channels and 26 output mix buses, plus an additional two monitor buses. As a stand-alone console, the Sy40-8 may be fitted with a mix of audio I/O cards with a choice of seven modules to custom tailor the system for any application. In combination with the optional digital Stage Box, 48 active inputs may be selected from a possible 72 mic/line inputs with 26 buses from a possible 48 outputs, maximizing the system's mixing power.

Solid State Logic (SSL) introduced new features for its C100 digital broadcast console. The new v1.5 software includes new security features-a DSP redundancy system and control surface management. For the latter, an operator can reconfigure the control surface via a GUI without interrupting the audio. In addition, a new remote bay option allows the console to be split across two control surfaces. Enhanced networking and integration including third party router integration allows information interchange between an external router and the console's builtin router.

The SSL C200 console also received an update, with v.2.0 software. Features include more channels, support for 44.1 kHz, 88.2 kHz, and pullup/pull-down sample frequencies, UltiPan automated spatial positioning and flexible output busing options.

The Vista 8 large-frame live broad-cast console was introduced at **Studer**'s booth. The Vista 8 is a development in the Studer Vistonics range, combining the automation capabilities of the Vista 7 and the on-air ergonomics of the Vista 6. Vista 8 features a completely redesigned central control bay housing 12 faders and a Vistonics TFT screen, with direct access to up to 52 output signals.

Wheatstone exhibited its D-9TV digital television console targeted to mid-market stations. Powered by the Wheatstone Bridge Engine, the D-9TV can access and send unlimited sources and feeds throughout an infrastructure of control surfaces. The console can direct any source to any fader and is equipped with integral dynamics/EQ functions with full event recall. Other features include multiple mix-minus clean feeds, individual channel Bus-Minus outputs and 5.1 digital surround sound.

Yamaha showed the DME64N and DME24N consoles as well as the PM5D and PM5D-RH. The PM5D includes 48 XLR analog mono inputs and balanced TRS insert I/O's with manual mic preamps based on the circuitry found in the Yamaha DM2000, plus an additional four stereo line level inputs. The PM5D can accommodate a total of 130 input connections (48 channel inputs, four stereo inputs, five two-TR ins plus four Mini-YGDAI slots), and can handle up to 64 inputs simultaneously.

The PM5D-RH includes 48 XLR

analog mono inputs with recallable mic preamps derived from the head amplifier design of the Yamaha PM5000, with four stereo inputs that will accept mic level signals.

DIGITAL AUDIO WORKSTATIONS

AMS Neve demonstrated its new generation AudioFile technology along with its new DFC Gemini mixer. The system accepts files from a variety of other workstations including ProTools.

Digidesign debuted the ICON Integrated Console Environment featuring a new D-Control tactile work surface, Pro ToolsΩHD Accel system as the core DSP engine, and modular HD audio interfaces for analog and digital I/O. ICON consolidates the recording,

Virtual Studio Runner featureset, an option to its QDC-XT engine preciding mailbox in and out, and support for QDC-based systems that have MediaLink node access. OMF, AIFF, AES31, MP3 and WAV files can be placed in the studio inbox and, once entered, automatically converted for use in the QDC environment. Once in the QDC environment, files can be automatically converted and sent to registered contacts in the Studio Runner menu.

Fairlight also introduced the QDC-XT engine for its Dream fam ly of workstations. The new QDC-XT doubles the number of tracks in the disk recorder in the Dream workstations, bringing the track count to 96. In acdition, configurations of up to 192 th in-



InnovaSon introduced the Sensoft 8.1 upgrade to its Sy40 digital live mixing console.

editing, processing, and mixing functions that can be instantly reconfig-

Fairlight debuted a number of digital editing products including the new

nels of fully automated digital mixing and up to 72 mix busses are now supported for Constellation and StationPlus DAWs. Other features





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include an increased size for the EDL and a total file size capacity increase.

Version 3.2 software for Fairlight's Dream Series platform was demonstrated, providing enhanced automation, patching and routing, transport control and processing capability. A new patching/routing screen provides GUI support for patch I/O and buss assignments. An enhanced undo/redo allows the disk recorder to locate the transport to the time position for the event being undone or redone. Another new feature allows the jog/shuttle to be limited to speeds slower than play speed and the ability to lock a region as safe to prevent alteration.

Also introduced for the Dream Series was the Plug-in Manager 6 for VST plug-ins, MIDI support for the plug-in manager, and AV transfer support for DAR file exchange.

RAPID, or Remote Application Program Interface for Dream, offers an accessible open operating system for automation, disk recording, editing,



Tascam's 2488 audio production workstation

plug-ins, SFX, video, and other elements to be stored and controlled from one place in the studio.

The Fairlight Pyxis-Pro and Pyxis-ADR are software platforms that evolved from last year's merger between AV Media and Fairlight.

The Pyxis-Pro PCI card provides support for Blackmagic Design's

DeckLink Extreme hardware via the Pyxis platform, replacing the recommended ASUS card in Pyxis. The corresponding software includes the necessary drivers to enable genlock of audio to video output as well as a range of professional I/Os such as SDI, balanced analog, and SPDIF.

Pyxix-ADR can be used with languages and characters other than English. The ADR process has the ability to add text dialog to the required take and displayed in a dialog box along with the picture. External machines are notified of the in and out points for the required take. If connected to a Dream workstation, it will automatically enter record on armed tracks once a take has been engaged.

Mackie introduced a new monitor switching, source selection and communications box for DAW-based studios known as the Big Knob Studio Command System. Big Knob features a large volume knob that provides easy access for precise level adjustments. Also included are three buttons for quick switching between three sets of studio monitors, a built-in Talkback microphone, Input Source Select for up to four different stereo sources, dual headphone outputs with an independent headphone mix bus, as well as Mono, Mute and Dim switches.

A host of rear-panel connections include a dedicated DAW mix input as well as three independent two-track stereo inputs, each with variable gain control as well as +4 dB and -10dB selection buttons. Three two-track stereo outputs also provide +4 dB and -10 dB selection buttons. Other connections include a DAW Phones Mix Input, a Phono preamp input, outputs for up to three sets of control-room monitors as well as one set of in-studio monitors and a Talkback Foot Switch input.

SADiE launched the PCM-H64, a new large scale multitrack DAW for post and music applications. At the heart of the system is the newly developed SADiE TNG3 processor card. Each card is capable of the editing, equalization, control of dynamics, and mixing into full surround of up to 64 channels of 48 kHz/24-bit audio, or up to 16 channels at 192 kHz/24-bit. As with the entire SADiE Series 5 range, all editing and processing is performed in realtime. The SADiE PCM-H64 system is fully modular, both in terms of processing power and input/output capabilities

The hardware is supported by the new SADiE v.5.3 software which features true multitrack editing edit group selection, interface to the Yamaha mixer range, 9-pin slave functionality, improved AVI video support (including direct editing of the video stream, and specialized hardware solutions), and full compliance with AAF v.1.2, including the Edit Protocol with greatly improved import capabilities from a variety of other applications.

SRS Labs announced the availability of SRS Circle Surround encoding software plug-in for Digidesigns Pro Tools workstations. The new product features an SRS Circle Surround encoder and decoder for monitoring surround mixes.

Solid State Logic (SSL) introduced the AWS 900 analog workstation system. Features include combined console and DAW controller, SSL's SuperAnalogue mic preamps and signal processing, monitoring up to 5.1 surround, direct control of DAW recording, editing and mixing, signal routing, direct control of plug-in settings, integral color TFT display, and motorized faders.

Signal routing, inputs/outputs, monitoring and signal processing are all permanently available on the console. Motorized faders provide conventional audio level control as well as controlling the recording and replay levels in the DAW.

Tascam introduced the 2488, a 24track/24-bit production workstation with 36 mixer channels. Three-band EQ is provided for all 24 channels, plus the eight inputs and tone generator channel. Three aux sends-one for each mixer channel except for the effects return-send to a loop effect with effects-like reverb and delay or external devices. Up to eight dynamics processors can be used while recording or mixing, and an additional stereo compressor is dedicated to the stereo output. The 2488 can master and burn a CD using the built-in CD-RW drive, or transfer the track to a computer using the high-speed USB 2.0 connec-

Tascam also unveiled the US-2+00 DAW controller featuring 25 touch-sensitive 100mm moving faders. Each of the 24 channels has an assignable encoder with an LED ring that shows

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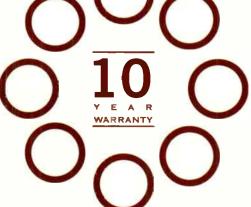




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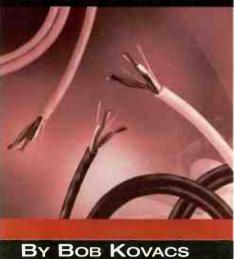
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PRODUCT REVIEW

CABLE, FIBER & NETWORKS



It's a shame that "glamorous" and "necessary" are, by and large, mutually exclusive; the things that we "need" are frequently not the things that we "want." So it is with cable, fiber and networking vendors, who know that while we may dream of HDTV, editing systems and high-powered transmitters, it is cable, fiber-optic components and networks that enable those more glamorous tools. There were many interesting things to see with respect to cable, fiber-optic components and networks at NAB2004, as companies design new ways to move signals around facilities, between buildings and across geographic barriers.

Belden was up to its usual tricks this year, as sleight-of-hand artist Dick Stoner entertained crowds and touted the company's products as he cunningly manipulated decks of cards. Fortunately, the new products did not get caught in the shuffle.

Topping the list of introductions from Belden is its Brilliance 179DT "DigiTruck" coax, a thin 75-Ohm cable that weighs 60 percent less and uses 40 percent less space than mini RG-59. Brilliance 179DT conforms to the RG-179 cable standard and is sweep-tested to 3 GHz. The new cable's shield can be left bonded to the insulation for termination in one-piece connectors or removed for use in complex multipiece connectors.

Belden also featured its Belcoil packaging concept, which places cable in a dense package that is easy to pay out for ease of installation. There is no spool or box to deal with once the installation is done; the only thing remaining after the cable is gone is the Belcoil plastic wrapper.

Walking the tightrope between thinand-lightweight and thick-and-sturdy, Gepco International showed two remote hybrid fiber-optic cables for proponents of either style. For the thinand-lightweight crowd, the company displayed its HDC920 9.2 mm SMPTE 311M hybrid cable for high-definition video cameras. Featuring two singlemode fibers and six copper conductors, HDC920 also has an overall copper shield and a central steel wire for strength.

If a 9.2 mm cable is too fragile for your applications, Gepco also showed its 12 mm heavy-duty SMPTE 311M hybrid cable for high-definition video cameras. The HDC120 has the same two single-mode fibers and four copper conductors, as well as an overall copper braid and central steel strengthening wire.

For both kinds of hybrid-fiber cables, Gepco introduced a hybrid-fiber component distribution box and related connectors. The distribution

box is available in both portable and rackmount versions, and has two ST optical connectors as well as other con-

nectors for power and audio. The rackmount version of the distribution box uses a five-pin AMP connector for quicker integration into a system.

Gepco also introduced a new version of its audio cable, the 61801EZ, which now comes in 20 colors to simplify organizing audio feeds in complex facilities. Some of the new colors sound quite tasty, including "lime green" and "plum."

The other news from Gepco is that the company is now providing test documentation with every reel of its high-definition video coax cable. Each reel will now ship with a cer-

tification that it has been sweep tested out to 3 GHz.

Flexibility was the point at the



Steve Robinson (r) of Serial Scene listens as Alan Lambshead of Evertz discusses the features of the Evertz ECAS-HD camera adapter.



Luke Land (I), Peter Young (c) and Rian Altschul watch closely as Dick Stoner performs a card trick at the Belden booth.

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Canare booth. The company has a popular line of flexible coaxial cables in both small and standard (8281-equivalent) sizes. Available in a variety of colors (including chromakey blue!), the Canare coax line boasts much greater flexibility than standard RG-59 and RG-6 cables, and all are compatible with SDI video.

For terminating its coaxial cable, Canare showed its true 75-Ohm BNC connectors. Although many BNC connectors used in video applications are actually 50-Ohm connectors designed for RF connections, the Canare BCP-C4B is a true 75-Ohm product that maximizes bandwidth and minimizes reflections and standing waves.

Canare also showed off its new digital video patch panels, which are suitable for SD and HD applications. Available in 1 RU, 2 RU and 4 RU sizes, Canare's 75-Ohm digital video patchbays are available in densities up to 26 jacks wide.

New fiber-optic cables in many vari-



Javier Juarez of Clark Wire & Cable gets tangled up in his work.

eties were the talk of the Clark Wire and Cable booth. The company had SMPTE 311M hybrid cable ranging in size from 7.5mm to 10.3mm in diameter, with different outer jackets to meet the needs of different applications. The Clark Wire family of fiber-optic cables includes products for signal distribution and breakout, and there are even versions that are for tactical military applications.

Elsewhere in the Clark booth were the company's popular analog and digital video and audio cables, as well as heavy-duty power cords. Many of these were on reels and ready to be used in the field.

Wireworks marked NAB2004 by celebrating the company's 30th anniversary. The company showed its line of custom cable solutions and manufactured cables, including the MusiLux microphone cable and InstaLux installation cables. Both these latter cables come in a wide variety of quickly for ease of installation.

The company's mainstays are its audio snake products and these liberally decorated the booth, including the Wireworks MultiBoxes, MultiRacks and MultiTrunks. This last product line is a multiconductor cable available in standard lengths up to 250 feet, with

colors and both can be stripped each end terminated by a multipin connector.

> A less-well-known name exhibiting cable at NAB2004 was the VTG Broadcast Group, a manufacturer of bulk cable as well as a producer of custom cabling solutions. Unveiled in the company's booth was its A/V bulk cable that is intended for ENG and remote

applications. With six coaxial cables and four twisted-pairs, VTG A/V cable can be permanently installed in venues or unwound on location as needed. VTG supplies the portable A/V Snake manufactured from its A/V cable, premounted on a reel and ready to use.

If you cable to convert your system CABLE, PAGE 76

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Cable

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from analog audio to digital, VTG introduced its AES/EBU cable to meet that need. The company's AES/EBU cable is available with up to 16 pairs, with polyethylene insulation for the individual strands and an overall shield and PVC jacket.

CONNECTORS

All these cables need connectors and there were several companies at NAB2004 to meet this need. One was Switchcraft, which had a slew of new connectors to meet the changing requirements of today's video and audio.

Highlighting the company's booth was a display of its EH Series, which includes connectors for IEEE-1394 (FireWire), USB, RJ45 (Category-6), 9-pin D, 15-pin high-density (VGA) D, as well as the common audio and video connectors. The EH connectors are also offered in patch panels, so that you can now get USB, FireWire and VGA patch panels from Switchcraft.

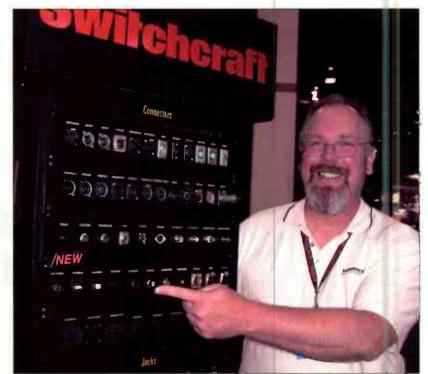
Also new from Switchcraft are its

programmable audio patchbays that let you select the normal setting from a front-panel screw adjustment. With a quick twist of a flat-blade tweaker screwdriver, you can set Switchcraft EZ Norm patch jacks for full-, non-, or half-normal operation.

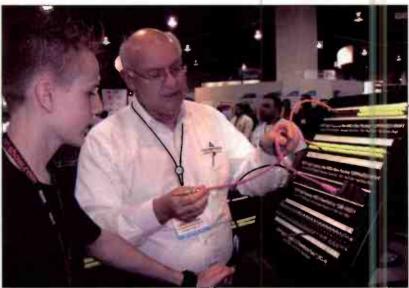
Neutrik has a reputation for innovation when it comes to audio connectors and this year the company showed a new version of the Speakon Combo jack, which combines both a 1/4-inch phone jack with a female XLR connector. The new connector is called the NLJ2MD-V and is rated for 30 Amps through the Speakon (XLR) connection and 15 Amps through the 1/4-inch TS connection. The new Speakon Combo connector fits into the same mounting hole as the popular Neutrik NL4MD-V Speakon connector.

Neutrik also displayed its new line of 1/4-inch phone plugs, which have a slim overall diameter of 14.5mm and are available in either nickel or goldplated versions. This new connector, called the C+ series, has both TS (mono) and TRS (stereo) versions and features a "chuck-style" strain relief.

Exhibiting in the Techni-Tool booth was **Pomona Electronics**, which has a



Jim Hoffman of Switchcraft points to the company's new EH series of connectors including FireWire, USB, Ethernet and S-Video.



Tim Wolfer (I) of Andrews University listens as Glen Towater explains the benefits of Trompeter patch cords and panels.

broad line of audio and video connectors. The company spotlighted its digital-ready BNC connectors for applications such as uncompressed HD video. In addition, Pomona displayed its range of professional audio connectors, which includes chassis- and cablemount XLR and 1/4-inch models.

Patchbays was the show at Audio Accessories. Although you could expect the company to show its extensive line of audio patch panels and cords, you would also have found video patchbays in its booth.

Audio Accessories has both Bantam (0.174-inch) and Long-Frame (1/4-inch) varieties of audio patchbays, which are in turn available with a range of termination and normal options. For example, the company's Shorti Quick-Switch audio patchbays are available for either Bantam or Long-Frame models, all with quickly con-

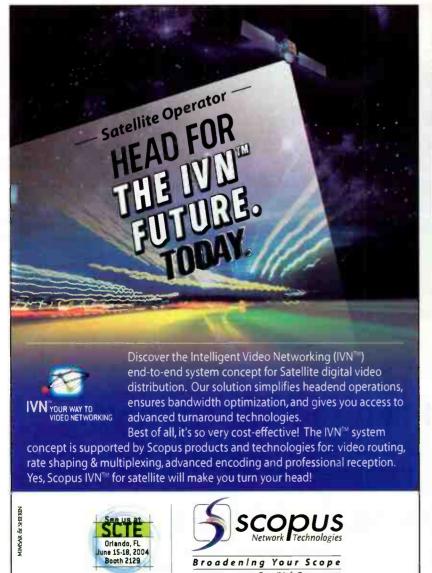
nected EDAC fittings and the ability to change normals on-the-fly.

On the video side, Audio Accessories supplies 1 RU and 2 RU patch frames that fit Canare, Trompeter, Kings and ADC video jacks. Jacks from different manufacturers can be mixed and matched on a single patch frame.

For complex control applications, Audio Accessories also has an RS-422 patchbay.

Connector and patch panel specialist Trompeter hit the exhibition floor with its new enhanced HD-read video patch jacks. Fitting into the company's established line of patchbay frames, the new jacks use a forked actuator to provide multiple points of contact to improve signal flow and eliminate points of failure.

These improved patch jacks, desig-CABLE, PAGE 121



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Audio

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 72

the current value or doubles as a signal meter. A full transport section is also included for DAW control, as well as a new IF-FW/DM that adds 24 inputs and outputs from a computer DAW to the company's DM-24 Digital Mixer. The IF-FW/DM expansion card follows the same design as the ADAT, AES/EBU, TDIF and analog expansion cards for the DM-24. Features include



Azden's 511 DRH true diversity UHF receiver

joystick for surround panning. The US-2400, co-developed with Sane-Wave, provides a professional mixing console feel to DAW recording soft-ware.

In addition, Tascam exhibited the

24-channel input and 24-channel output when used with the DM-24, 16-channel input and output when used at 88.1 kHz or 96 kHz sample rates with the DM-24, MIDI Input and Output for use with DAW software,

support for ASIO, MME, WDM and Apple Core Audio standards, two FireWire jacks, and Mac OS X and Windows XP compatibility.

MICROPHONES & ACCESSORIES

AKG introduced the C 414 family of microphones that include the C 414B-XLS and C414B-XL II. Features include a wide cardioid pattern added to the cardioid, hypercardioid, figure eight and omni patterns, higher sensitivity (+6 dB) than previous C 414 models, three pre-attenuation pads, three high pass filters, low noise and wide dynamic range, and an elastic capsule shock mount system.

AKG also exhibited its Discreet Acoustics Compact Series (DAC) of goosneck mics. DAC models CGN 321E and CGN 521E are cardioids; CGN 323D and CGN 523E are hypercardioids, and CHM 21 is a hanging cardioid

AKG also unveiled new mic stands, the KM256/80 with tripod base, the



The EV RE-92 is an electret cardioid mic that can be supplied in various versions.

KM260/80 with heavy cast-iron base, and the KM260/85 light weight round base.

Audio-Technica exhibited the AT8^C7 Line + Gradient concenser microphone. The new AT897 is a short shotgun microphone with a Line + Gradient polar putern that provides ound rejection from the sides and rear of the m c. The mic can operate on an internal battery (A) or phantom power (6-48 V, 2 mA) and includes an integral low-frequency roll-off switch and a foam windscreen and stand adapter.

The company also introduced its new AT898 Submin ature Cardioid Condense lavalier microphone that is 5 mm in diamete. The subminiature ca dioid element is enclosed in a rugged, low-profile hous-

ing with internal construction designed to minimize noise from han lling, clothing, and wind. The microphone



plugs into the included AT8537 power module, which features battery/phantom power operation, switchable low-frequency roll-off switch, and an integral XLR3M connector supplying a low-impedance balanced output. The extensive accessory kit includes three single and two double interchangeable mounts, clothing clip, viper clip, magnetic clip, and two open-pore foam windscreens.

Audio-Technica also offered an additional frequency band, the 540-565 MHz frequency range (TV channels 25-30), for its UHF wireless microphone systems and accessories, including the Artist Elite Wireless Series and 3000 Series UHF Wireless Systems.

Audio-Technica's 5000 and 4000 Series Artist Elite Wireless Systems and its 3000 Series True Diversity Wireless Systems now come standard with 200 selectable UHF channels in each of two available frequency bands, the 540-565 MHz range (TV Channels 25-30) and 655-680 MHz range (TV Channels 44-49). The newly available 500 MHz frequency range is Audio-Technica's C-band, with corresponding "C" product designations; the 600 MHz frequency range is A-T's D-band, which is tagged with "D" in product designations.

Azden Corp. introduced the portable 2-channel FMX-20, an allmetal, battery-operated field mixer that can be attached to a camera or worn on a belt. Also new at the Azden booth was the SGM-1000 shotgun microphone which combines wide frequency response with low noise and phantom power.

The company also introduced a new addition to the 1000 Series UHF system. Offering 121 digitally selectable UHF frequencies (723 to 735 MHz), the 1000URX/VM receiver is housed in an IDX battery case that makes it compatible with the Sony V-Mount system. In addition the 511DRH true diversity UHF receiver was also launched at the show. The AC-powered unit features 63 user-selectable UHF frequencies in the 794 to 806 MHz band and features twin LED indicators that show antenna reception and signal strength as well as LED indicators for audio signal strength.

Beyerdynamic displayed its range of mics for broadcast and video production as well as wireless mic systems.

Clockaudio showcased its CS series of boundary layer microphones. The CS2 is a dual element boundary layer condenser with a half-cardioid polar pattern. The CS3 microphone has the same characteristics as the CS2 but with the addition of a third element.

Also shown was the C420 dual podium mic, with a separate output for each mic.

DPA Microphones launched its

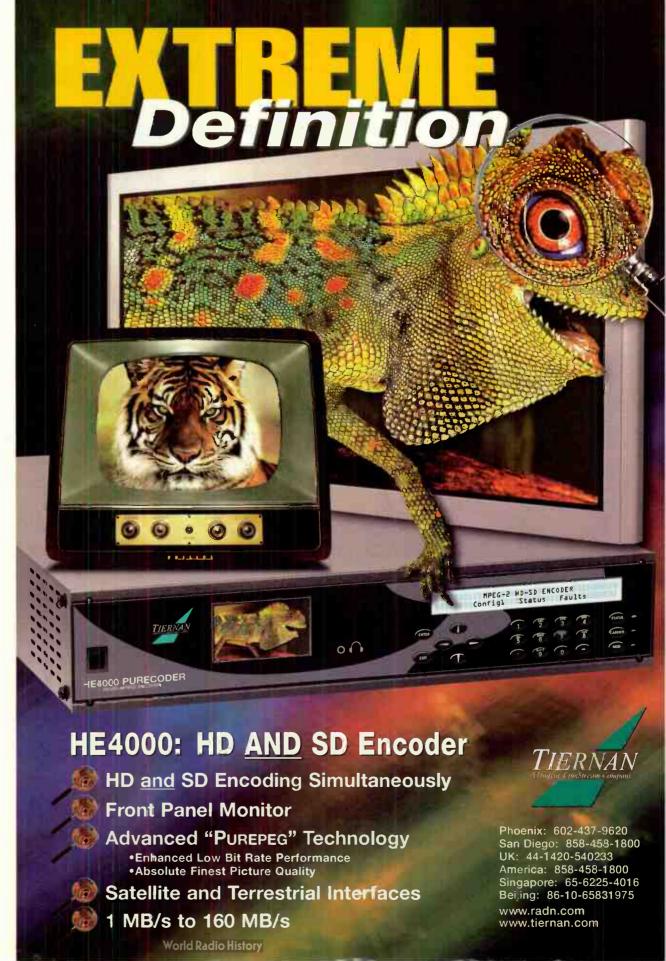
first-ever cardioid headband microphone, the DPA 4088. The capsule is a pre-polarized lirst order pressure gradient transducer, hidden in a small and lightweight housing with dimensions just slightly larger than its omni capsules. The bass response is designed for optimal linearity at 2-3 cm distance from the sound source.

The mechanical design is based on the company's 4066 headband microphone. The headband mount is exactly the same; the boom however is 3 cm longer to match the need for placement at the corner of the mouth.

DPA Microphones also unveiled the WINDPAC, an ultra-lightweight weatherproof solution for location record-

ing. Wind and water resistant and simple to operate, the WINDPAC weighs in at 9 ounces. The collapsible zeppelin-shaped windshield is made from a fabric which blocks wind noise in gusts of up to 70 mph while allowing accurate sound reproduction and audio transparency.

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Audio

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 79

EV (Electro-Voice) introduced the new RE92 microphone family that comprises three models: the RE92L wired lavalier, the RE92Tx wireless cardioid electret condenser lavalier, and the RE92H and RE92HW hanging style/choir microphone.

The RE92L is the hardwired counterpart of the Tx version, and its 4-ft. cable is terminated into an in-line amplifier with XLR output. The ampfeatures a 12 dB/octave switch-able high-pass filter for rolling off low frequency noise, and provides a transformer-less differential output. Accessories include a two-stage mic windscreen, both single and dual mic tie clips, an amp housing belt clip, and a zippered gig-bag.

EV debuted the PolarChoice Desktop, a freestanding podium style microphone. Its on/off switch can be programmed for either push-to-mute, push-to-talk, or latching on/off operation, and its blue LED displays microphone status. Like all Electro-Voice PolarChoice microphones, the PC Desktop polar pattern is selectable with a choice of omni, cardioid, super-car-

dioid and hyper-cardioid.

Also new from Electro-Voice was the RE-2 UHF wireless microphone, which automatically checks for a clear channel before assigning transmit and receive frequencies. The RE-2 also features EV's "virtually compression-free" companding for quiet operation.

Lectrosonics introduced its modular 1RU Venue receiver. The modular configuration allows up to six receivers to share the resources of a common chassis, including an antenna, DSP and computer interface. Antenna loopthrough connections permit stacking of multiple units to expand multichannel operations.

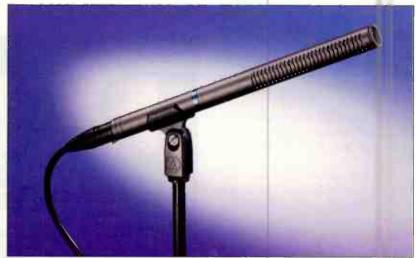
Mackie introduced the Onyx 800R rack-mount eight-channel mic preamp. The 1U unit features simultaneous analog and 24-bit/192kHz digital connectivity via ADAT Lightpipe, AES/EBU and S/PDIE The front panel provides access to features such as selectable mic/line inputs per channel, and two instrument input jacks.

Schoeps demonstrated how its CCM4Vlg cardioid and CCM 8Lg figure-eight microphones can be mounted and wired to the DMS-Splitter to capture surround sound. Another approach to surround sound recording is the Surround Microphone System by

Bruck with the KFM 360 sphere microphone, two CCM 8Lg compact figure-eights along with the DSP-4 KFM 360 processor unit with built-in A/D and D/A converters.

Sennheiser showcased its new MKH 418S compact M-S stereo shot-

combined with a newly designed figure-of-eight side capsule system. Midside (M-S) stereo allows the adjustment of stereo imaging through the use of an independent dual-capsule system. The independent capsule outputs of the MKH 418S support variable marrixing



Audio-Technica's AT897 condenser microphone

gun microphone designed to withstand harsh outdoor conditions. A cost-effective model, the MKH 418S M-S stereo shotgun incorporates a mid capsule from the industry standard MKH 416, capabilities and multi-functional use in post-production. The output connector is a standard five-pin XLR male and the microphone is powered via -8-Volt phantom supplied to each capsue.



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Neumann USA launched a new broadcast line of microphones with the BCM 104. The K 104 large-diaphragm condenser capsule used in the BCM 104 has a cardioid directional pattern with switchable proximity effect compensation, introducing a high-pass filter that reduces frequencies below 100Hz by 12 dB/octave. A second, preattenuation switch allows the sensitivity to be reduced by 14 dB to optimize performance for circuits designed for dynamic microphones. Both switches are internally mounted within the microphone housing. The K 104 capsule offers a flat frequency response up to 3kHz, while higher frequencies have a maximum increased presence of 2 dB. The BCM 104 amplifier has a linear operation down to 20 Hz. The BCM 104 microphone head grille twists off easily for quick cleaning, and is outfitted with an elastic mount to guard against structure-borne noise.

Neumann USA introduced the TLM 127, a mid-price, large diaphragm, multipattern condenser microphone. As delivered, the TLM 127 includes a wooden box and EA1 elastic suspension, and offers switching options including a choice of cardioid or omnidirectional pattern, plus a 14 dB preattenuation and high-pass filter. A

power supply option provides an upgrade for the TLM 127 to support a choice of five directional patterns—cardioid, hyper-cardioid, wide-angle cardioid, omni-directional, and figure-eight—all selectable by remote control via standard XLR mic cabling.

Making news at the Telex booth was the company's BTR-1 encrypted digital wireless intercom system, which provides wideband, full-duplex communications. The BTR-1 employs ClearScan to automatically check for interference-free channels. As technology adjusts, the encryption algorithm in the BTR-1 can be updated to the latest protection.

Zaxcom exhibited the Stereoline digital wireless microphone system designed for ENG. The transmitter, powered by internal AA batteries or external 12 VDC, has two microphone inputs. A single Zaxcom Stereoline wireless system can take the place of two separate transmitters and receivers. This unit is also available with clothing noise reduction software. Other transmitter choices include the Goldline, Spy II, Handheld and MMT. All Zaxcom Digital Wireless transmitters are remote controlled via complimentary software the end user can install in any standard Windows CE based palm

computer.

RECORDERS

HHB introduced new software for its PDR2000 Portadrive eight-track location audio recorder at NAB 2004. The Portadrive Version 1.2 operating system software upgrade adds enhanced interoperability with other systems, including Digidesign Pro Tools V5 format support, plus simultaneous recording to an external disc, enhanced metadata support, Ethernet data transfer, and many other new features. Pro Tools V5 format support in the new v1.2 software allows Portadrive to record directly in Pro Tools V5 format (PT5). This allows direct import of Portadrive sessions into Pro Tools V5 and above systems without the need for manual import. SDII Audio file support in the software upgrade additionally allows Portadrive to record using the SDII file format for increased interoperability with earlier Pro Tools and Avid editing systems.

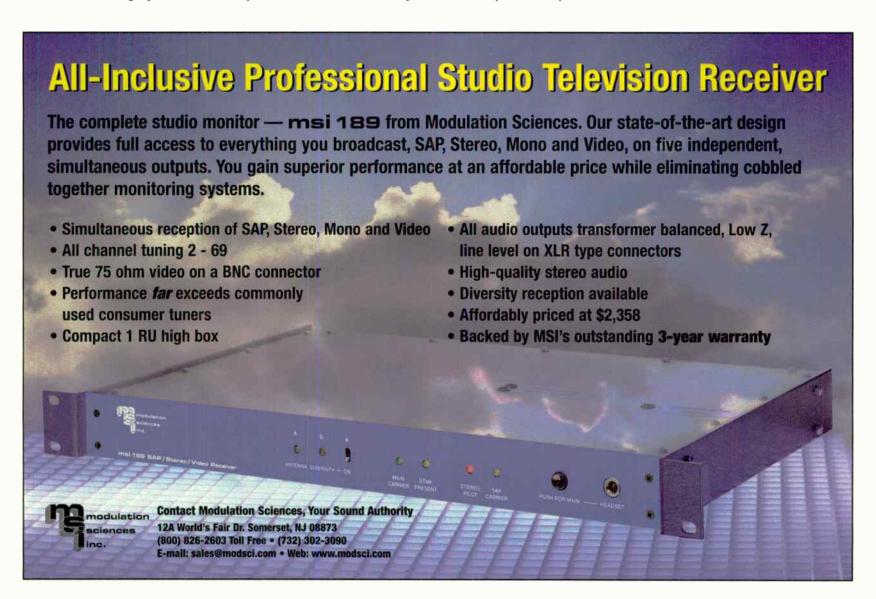
Enhanced metadata support in Portadrives v1.2 software issue adds front panel editing of slate, take, and notes in addition to existing top panel support, as well as full editing of those functions before and after recording. Notes may additionally be edited dur-

ing recording. The release also adds front panel circle/uncircle functionality plus front panel PS2 keyboard text entry. New Ethernet data transfer support permits drag and drop data transfer between Portadrive and Windows or Macintosh machines. HFS Disk format support has been added in v1.2, allowing Portadrive to format, write to and read from Mac-based HFS formatted disks.

HHB also introduced a USB2.0/FireWire docking station for Portadrive. This device accepts the Portadrive's removable HD caddy via a slot in the front panel to deliver fast file transfer with Mac and PC-based post-production systems. The PDRDSUF docking station features a universal power supply for operation anywhere in the world, and comes complete with both USB and FireWire cables for connecting to any DAW.

Sound Devices introduced the high resolution two-track 722 and four track 744T recorders, which write and play audio files with bit depths of 24 or 16 bit, with sample rates from 44.1 to 96 kHz, including pull-up sample rates. The 7-Series writes industry-standard .wav, .bwf, and .mp3 audio files to hard drive or Compact Flash.

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PRODUCT REVIEW

CAMERA SUPPORT



By Craig Johnston

From the front to the back of the NAB2004 exhibit halls, camera support equipment makers reported good customer traffic and brisk business this year. For their expended shoe leather and aching feet, convention attendees found creative solutions to the challenges of videography in the field and studio.

ROBOTICS & MOTION CONTROL

Vinten and Radamec officially merged, and booth personnel were sporting Vinten Radamec Broadcast Robotics pins. Company officials were quick to deliver the message that they will continue to support the many installed systems of both lines, that they will continue to develop new products and features for each line, and will develop joint products when it makes sense.

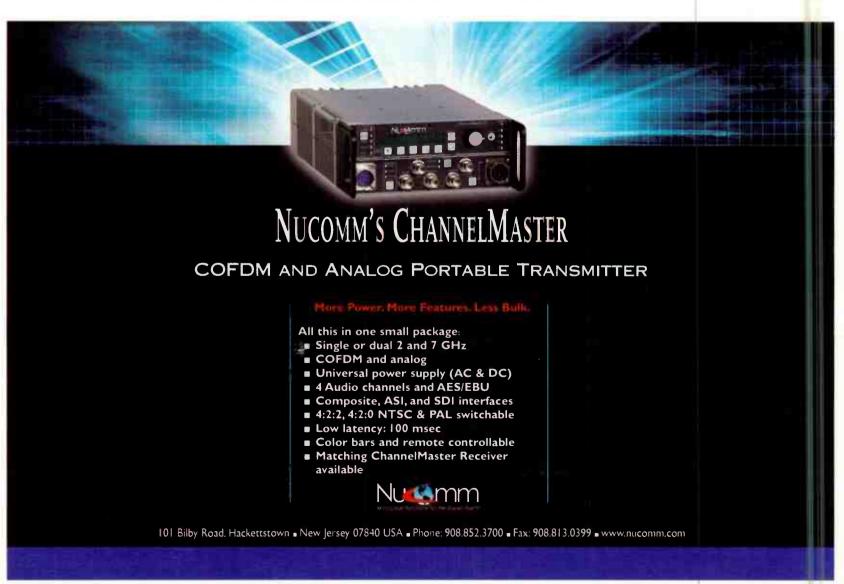
Vinten introduced its Series 200 scaleable Control System, and showed an eye-tracking software feature, still in the concept stage, that would slave the robotic pan/tilt head to a newscaster's eyes.

Radamec re-introduced its Linux-based touch control panel with a robotic digital Key Frame Control Mode that memorizes the camera's position and orientation as the operator moves it, allowing robotically controlled cameras to achieve creative shots.

Telemetrics Inc. added several new robotic systems, including the PT-LP-S3 Pan/Tilt Head with a weatherproof housing to allow outdoor cameras to be integrated with the studio automation system; and the high-speed PT-BD



Elisabetta Cartoni, managing director for Cartoni, poses with the company's e-Sensor pan/tilt head.



Point-of-View Pan/Tilt Head.

ParkerVision Inc. is in the process of closing the sale of its broadcast division to Thomson Grass Valley. Combining the ParkerVision automated studio software and pan/tilt systems with TGVs high-end hardware is aimed at moving ParkerVision into larger station and network applications.

Cartoni S.P.A. showed off its MO-SYS LAMBDA motion control camera support head, designed to marry Cartoni's Lambda pan/tilt head and Motion Systems Technology Ltd.'s servo drives and remote control system.

Centurfax Ltd. demonstrated its Blue.i Studio Navigator, a tracking and positioning system for studio equipment, especially robotic cameras and those utilizing Virtual Reality sets.

Frezzi Energy Systems premiered its new FPT-15 Pan/Tilt Head and Advanced Controller System, which can support up to a 15-pound camera and has onboard memory storage of 255 accurate presets. Frezzi also introduced the Stable-Cam Suport System for Mini-DVs.

Hitachi Denshi America Ltd. introduced two new members of its EagleT Pan/Tilt product line, including the fiber-optic indoor Eagle PT101FO pan/tilt head and the Eagle Command Module, an integrated Eagle pan/tilt control unit available in an SDI as well as an analog version.

Innovision Optics debuted its Mini Shuttle HD compact remote-controlled camera platform designed to carry popular broadcast cameras. The unit travels along customized straight or curved track, and comes with pan/tilt head and controller with eight preset memory positions.

Manfrotto, which exhibited in the Bogen Imaging booth, showed its line of LANC Remote Control equipment, introducing the 521 Series for advanced amateur videographers who use Mini DV and Hi8 cameras, and the 523 Series designed for professional videographers.

Mark Roberts Motion Control debuted its Ulti-Head, a low-cost motion control pan/tilt remote head designed for studio or location use.

Shotoku Inc. brought its VR Tracking System featuring real-time camera-positional signals of the X, Y and Z (height) locations on virtual reality software. This VR tracking capability is built into the company's TP-70VR pedestal (four-stage) and TP-66VR pedestal (three-stage).

TRIPODS AND PEDESTALS

American Grip Inc. introduced the SideWinder 150 portable studio pedestal, a crank-powered pedestal column with folding legs and a payload capacity of 150 pounds.

Cambo Video & Broadcasting Products B.V. premiered a new fold-up camera pedestal system, featuring a gas and spring-powered pedestal capable of carrying a load of up to 66 pounds, including the pan/tilt head.

Cartoni S.P.A. showcased its Cartoni e-Sensor pan/tilt head, which encodes the precise pan/tilt position of the fluid head to allow it to communicate with virtual set software and virtual sports broadcast effects, such as football's first-and-ten line.

Chapman/Leonard showed its line of LENCIN camera pedestals, including the new LENCIN Compact, featuring an enclosed base and a column friction brake. The Compact can hold

the column at any height and can be wheeled through a 30-inch door.

Davis & Sanford displayed the Provista air lift hydraulic tripod that supports cameras up to 25 pounds and features a three-section tripod of black anodized aluminum, a double-strut top leg section for extra stability,

CAMERA SUPPORT, PAGE 84



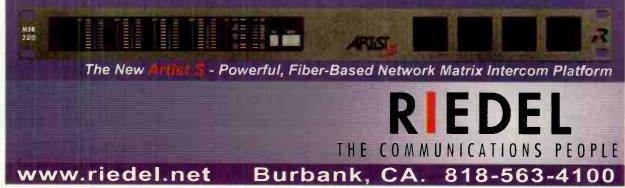
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Camera Support

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 83

and a geared 11-inch air-cushioned centerpost with a 3/8-16 stud that accepts most professional pan/tilt heads.

which have been upgraded to carbonfiber construction for weight and for non-absorbsion of cold.

Libec USA debuted its LS-22 tripod and pan/tilt head system for DV cameras, featuring an advanced fluid head equipped with two-position

Manfrotto addressed the challenge of using one tripod for a variety of different cameras with its Manfrotto 519 Fluid Video Head, which has interchangeable counter-balance springs, one to handle cameras from two to 11 pounds, a second for cameras 12 to 23 pounds.

OConnor Engineering, a division of Sachtler, showcased its OConnor 50-200 Ultimate series digital fluid camera head, capable of counterbalancing a 200-pound camera throughout its +/- 90-degree tilt range.

Sachtler GmbH debuted its DV 1 tripod and pan/tilt head, a support system for MiniDV camcorders weighing from one to more than four pounds, and featuring two-step horizontal and vertical-damping to enable steady panning and tilting.

Shotoku Inc. exhibited a new 3-staged TP-66 Studio Pedestal, along with its standby 4-stage TP-70 Studio Pedestal and Crescent pan/tilt head.

Spider Support Systems introduced its Spider Pod v.2.0, which creates a two-foot high platform for the camera tripod and a separate two-foot high platform for the videographers, isolating the camera from the operator's movement.

Vinten addressed concerns of remote van operators with the new Vector 900 pan/tilt head, which handles a nearly 200-pound payload, tilts to 90 degrees with a 100-pound payload, weighs 20 percent less than its predecessor, and features an LCD multifunction display with a counterbalance readout, a permanent 24-hour clock and a stop watch.



Miller's SOLO VJ tripod

Diawa Broadcast Tripods, formerly represented in the U.S. by C.S.I., are now being handled by Slik. The display featured the 508QF and 507QF tripods and pan/tilt heads aimed at the educational market.

DuoPod Monopods showcased the DuoPod Pro, combining the advantages of a tripod with those of a monopod.

Gitzo showed its array of monopods and microphone fishpoles,

counterbalance system to handle both standard and front-heavy cameras up to 8.8 pounds.

Miller Camera Support, LLC displayed its SOLO VJ tripod for 10- to 40-pound camcorders. The spreaderless design allows the height to be varied from 8.7 to 74 inches. Miller's Arrow 30 is a fully featured ball leveling fluid head for 10- to 30-pound DV and ENG camcorders.

In the Bogen Imaging booth,

CRANES, JIM ARMS & DOLLIES

Allen Osborne Associates Inc. presented its A4-30 Stand Alone, a four-leg pneumatic mast that can go up to 30 feet and hold a 50-pound top load.

Boom Audio/Video featured its Cool Cam portable camera boom arm for MiniDV or broadcast camera, which can be body-worn or ripod-mounted. Its length can be varied from three to 13 feet, and features a motorized pan/tilt head and full camera and lens control.

Cambo Video & Broadcasting Products B.V. showed a low-cost Artes Video Boom System, using 30-inch modular sections to allow the jib arm to be erected to a variety of lengths up to nearly eight feet from the fulcrum.

Camera Track demonstrated an economical model of its doly and track which includes the car with moving head and 10 feet of track. The system comes with a leveling bubble and 10 leveling bolts. A motorized car for the system is in the works.

CamMate Systems featured its Dutch Head option this year. The 360-degree rotation option will acapt to older models of the CamMate ji arms.

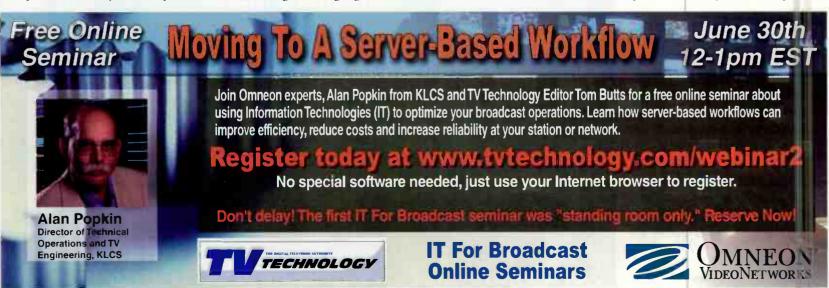
Dykortech Ltd. displayed its Advanta-jib portable camera j b, featuring its own built-in, manual y controlled remote fluid head. From pan/tilt handles at the operator end, the pan/tilt head can be controlled up to 10 feet out on the arm.

Egripment, which last year showed a small-scale model of a teles oping crane in development, had a working model of the Xtreme T12 in its both this year. It can reach a height of 44 feet with an arm capable of on-ar telescoping moves from a length of 16- to 33-feet.

Glidecam Industries Inc. displayed its Glidecam Vista Head, an affordable and versatile full range remote-control camera pan/tilt head, designed for use on the compan's line of jib-arms.

Isaia & Company feature: Grip Factory Munich's GF-9 Crane System, incorporating 5- and 3-foot sections that can be erected in variable Engths up to a height of 33 feet.

J.L. Fisher showed its new fluid damped beam control for dollies, which allows more precision when raising or lowering the beam, and also provides an adjustable stop to the





Robert Low (I) of OConnor, demonstrates the OSTT66 tripod to Harv Voris of Visions Computer Graphics.

speed of the beam movement can be duplicated on subsequent takes.

Matthews Studio Equipment premiered its MAT TOWERCAM, a remote-controlled telescoping camera column that gives smooth, silent operation moving the camera from 4.5 to 15

Microdolly Hollywood introduced the Model 2 Power Head, a wire-driven camera head that operates in silence and will run underwater. upgraded model now has presets to aid operators in doing repetitive shots.

Panther GmbH showed its new Classic dolly, slotted between the company's top-ofthe-line Evolution dolly and its predecessor the Super Panther III. It features a CPU-controlled center column and pivoting wheel arms.

Porta-Jib introduced

a new leveling system for its FlexTrak dolly track system that utilizes lengths of solid rubber hose for a dolly track.

Technocrane debuted its Techno 15 telescoping crane, which gives a 50-percent extension in reach at speeds of up to 1.5 meters-per-second in and out during a shot. Its integral remote read has unlimited rotations for pan/tilt.

VFGadgets.com demonstrated its Warrendolly, a portable dolly that weighs 40 pounds and fits in a 50-by-7-inch travel tube. It assembles in seconds with no tools and sports Swiss bearings for a smooth ride and comes with 11 feet of track.

Videopart showed several camera and accessory mounting devices designed to eliminate parallax errors and address safety issues due to unstable camera fastening plates on cranes and other mountings.

STABILIZERS

ABC Products displayed its camera stabilizer line, including the HandyMan DV stabilizer for lighter weight DV camcorders, featuring two independently working spring arms for shock absorbsion and variable arm tension.

DvRigPro presented its shoulder-

mounted support system for MiniDV cameras, designed for stability and offering 180-degree of tilt on the vertical axis. The unit's spring-loaded central support rod helps stabilize the camera while taking the weight off of the arms of the operator.

EASYRIG Camera Support demonstrated its EASYRIG2 stabilizer, now in several sizes to give camera operators speed and mobility with a stable, smooth camera move. EASYRIG accepts loads from 13 to 35 pounds and folds into a carrying bag.

Glidecam Industries Inc. debuted its Glidecam V-35, a body-mounted stabilization system designed to carry camera payloads from 10 to 25 pounds A companion L7-Pro, daylight viewable, 16:9/4:3, NTSC/PAL autoread, LCD monitor was designed for Glidecam's stabilizers.

Hollywood Lite introduced Pro Lite, a new line of stabilizing platforms for cameras weighing from 6 to 12 pounds. The Pro Lite features a friction-free gimbal, adjustable length post and 5.6-inch NTSC/PAL monitor.

MK-V unveiled its Nexus System, a stabilizer designed to offer maximum stability with the lightest of cameras.

CAMERA SUPPORT, PAGE 86

SAVE BUNDLE MULTI CHANNEL DIGITAL MASTER CONTROL Now that your DTV transmitter is on the air, you're probably looking into multicasting. Our NV5128-MC is the only fully featured master

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Masters in Digital Audio, Pioneers in HDTV

Camera Support

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 85

Sachtler GmbH debuted its SDI-HD version of the Artemis camera stabilizer system, touted as the world's only stabilizing system with a 1.5 GHz video line that enables direct SDI/RGB HD monitor connection and offers camera operators high-resolution monitoring of their work.

Tiffen introduced three new Steadicam camera-stabilizing systems, including the Flyer, designed to bring hi-end features to a mass-produced, affordable product. It sports a 30-inch lifting range and a 4 to 15-pound camera payload.

VariZoom showed off its new FlowPod, a monopod camera stabilizer for Panasonic MiniDV cameras.

Walter KlassenFX displayed an array of Steadicam harnesses, including the Walter Light, a redesign of

earlier harnesses that results in lighter weight with the same strength and support.

CAMERA MONITORS

Abakus Scientific Limited featured its Abakus Eyepiece Extender, designed to increase the comfort and efficiency of operating cameras mounted on tripods, dollies or other mounts

Laird Telemedia showcased its Waveshot Wireless Video Monitoring System, a lightweight cameramounted transmitter that sends a video image up to 100 feet to any pocket-sized or regular TV with a UHF tuner and antenna.

Microdolly Hollywood presented a pair of glasses with a small video monitor on one side to give a boom operator the ability to see what the camera is shooting without being tied to a fixed monitor. The glasses have a set of bellows to shield the monitor from bright sunlight.

NEBTEK featured its NEB XL Series 16:9/4:3 and NTSC/PAL switchable color monitor designed to mount directly onto a Canon XL-1 camcorder.

VFGadgets.com displayed its AvalonRF TX630 wireless A/V 2.4 GHz Ttransmitter with optional twoway talk-back or SMPTE time stamp. The unit features a broadcast transmission range of just under one mile, and non-broadcast range up to four miles.

INTERCOMS

Clear-Com featured its CellCom digital wireless intercom, which allows placement of several cellular base stations in various rooms and hallways to allow the headset wearers to ommunicate as they move through a facility. Efforts to license U.S. operating frequencies are underway.

Drake Electronics Ltd. demon-

strated its FreeSpeak digital, license-free wireless intercom system that supports 35 to 50 operators per cell, and allows users to speak with selected individuals or groups, and to freely roam between cells and systems.

JK Audio displayed its ComPack, a universal telecom interface for intercoms with a three-pin XLR belipack jack that allows it to be plugged in to a ClearCom or RTS partyline system, and connected to any PBX, analog phone line or cell phone.

Kroma Telecom S.A. presented its DECT Wireless Intercom System WIRCOM TW7000, which utilizes the digital enhanced cordless telephony standard in a 4-by-4 matrix. The system includes a base station and belt-packs.

Riedel Communications introduced the Artist-S, an intercommatrix system designed for small-scale, mobile or large intercom applications. Each 1 RU matrix provides 32 intercom ports expandable up to 512 ports and is capable of routing analog and AES3 audio and TCP/IP data as an Ethernet hub.

Systems Wireless showed off its HME PRO 850 frequency ag le RF wireless intercom system opera ing in the UHF band. Frequencies can be selected in 25 kHz increments over each 18 MHz operational band, providing 720 transmit and 720 eceive frequencies.

Telex Communications demonstrated its flexible RTS Cronus Digital DSP Intercom, a 32-port digital matrix intercom based upon an advanced DSP architecture. Up to four of the Cronus units can be networked into a single 128 port matrix.

TELEPROMPTERS

Audio Video Design Inc. showed an upgrade of its EasyReaderPRC teleprompting software with an editor screen run-order managemen tool that allows drop-and-drag script shuffling prior to entering scroll mode. It also allows text editing without interrupting scrolling.

BarberTech Video Products ntroduced its EZ Laptop Scroll Nount teleprompter system, which utilizes the laptop's screen as the script source. The system's software handles the image flip so that the screlling script appears correct in the mirror for the talent.

BDL Autoscript introduced a new wireless scroll control designed for the "wandering" presenter at the show. The UK-based company also showed a new ActiveX controller which enables a prompter to be managed



Jeff Iverson of Unisys tries out the Cambo V-15 video crane. The Canon camera in the foreground is at the end of the crane.



and scrolled from any newsroom client as well as updates to its +WinPlus+ prompting software with many new facility and newsroom interfaces. In addition, the new Autoscript TFT 20-inch teleprompter was shown.

CPC Computer Prompting and Captioning addressed HD production by introducing its CPC-2000 software, which outputs both teleprompter text for the talent to read and closed captions in HD. The company has also acquired the Mac-based CCaption software line.

Listec Video added the Model ST-2015SA Stand-Alone Solo Series—teleprompters mounted on their own rolling tripods.

Highlighting the new offerings from Mirror Image was its OS-160 Outsider teleprompter, featuring a high-bright LCD panel and a 20-by-18-inch mirror. The OS-160 takes inputs from both SVGA and composite sources.

Prompter People used innovative design and the dropping cost of LCDs to present an affordable array of teleprompters, including the MiniDV Prompter, a lightweight 9-inch unit that can be used hand-held or with a camera on a tripod.

ProPrompter brought its ProPrompter PocketPC Package, which includes a camera-mounted mirror system for broadcast or DV cameras, PocketPC, ProPrompter software and attendant cabling.

QTV (a division of Autocue) debuted its FDP-7 LCD TelePrompter, utilizing a 7-inch, lightweight LCD screen that is much brighter than its 6-inch predecessor. It is designed to work with the newest generation of portable cameras and lightweight support equipment.

SRI-Prompter System showed an "old-is-new" style teleprompter, featuring a video camera shooting printed page scripts for display on the prompter screen rather than using a laptop to generate scrolling video.

Tekskil Industries answered the



David McBean (I) of the CVM Communications Group listens as Sophie Roberts explains the Mark Roberts Ulti-Head motion control pan/tilt camera head.

challenge of wider lenses used with HD cameras by widening the beam splitter on its new HDTV High-Light LCD Prompting Series, which also features integrated air monitors.

Telescript rolled out its new FPS-180 Flt Panel LCD Teleprompter, with an 18-inch flat panel screen designed for studios and large venues. The company also added MOS protocol to its TeleScript PRO News prompting software, allowing it to interface with systems like ENPS and iNews.

BAGS, CASES & CARTS

ATS Communications demonstrated the Rock 'n Roller Multicart, a light-weight, heavy-duty equipment moving vehicle. It can be set up in any of nine configurations and is telescopic in length.

Case Supplier brought samples of the 12 lines of protective shipping containers it handles, including fabricated, roto molded and vacuum formed, injection molded, blow molded, fiber and aluminum cases. Case Supplier also handles soft bags and pouches.

CineBags unveiled its new Production Field Case CB-01, which offers users four removable user configurable inside pouches and 22 individual compartments to keep the camera and production accessories organized.

IDX System Technology entered the equipment bag arena with its IDX-UPB Universal Production Bag, featuring four removable and user-configurable padded inside pouches and see-thru mesh pockets for finding small accessories. It is waterproof with rubber backing construction and has a removable interior for easy cleaning.

Impact Case and Container introduced its aluminum cases to the NAB floor, combining a strong exterior and foam padded interior. One ICC model is designed to offer the maximum size allowed for shipping via UPS.

KATA Ltd. has incorporated Thermo-Shield-Technology into its equipment bag line. TST features a thermo-formed protective rib-shape construction of the outside layer of

the cases, offering padding and protection while maintaining the light-weight characteristics of the bags.

Petrol designed a contoured cover for video cameras called CamWrap, which protects against bumps, jolts, and rain, while offering easy accessibility to camera functions. Three oversized transparent windows offer convenient viewing of displays on both sides of the camera

PortaBrace/K & H Products Ltd. added the DV Organizer 2 to its line of soft-sided equipment carrying cases. It can be ordered with custom cradles for various popular DV cameras, has configurable pockets inside, and is stackable.

MISCELLANEOUS

Cablecam International showed its high-speed Traveling High Line System designed to give close-up views in the middle of sports stadiums and deliver camera swoops in motion pictures. The rentable system is capable of moving the camera at speeds as fast as 40 mph.

Lastolite introduced the Ezybalance, a color and exposure balance card featuring one side with a pure white surface for colorbalancing a DV camera, the other side with an 18-percent gray surface for setting an accurate exposure.

Noga showed its HOLDIT Variable Arm System, a one-touch articulated arm system designed for mounting accessories to cameras and stands.

Photoflex Inc. premiered its FlexDrop2 reversible chroma-key blue and green backdrops for use in digital photography as well as video and film. The backdrop is 5-by-7-feet, with double-riveted steel frames.

Rip-Tie showed a solution for the camera crewman who needs to carry several cables for quick deployment, the CableCarrier, which attaches to a belt loop or tool belt.

Videopart Inc. showed an array of camera mounting plates designed to allow the camera to be more securely fastened to a tripod or crane arm. ■

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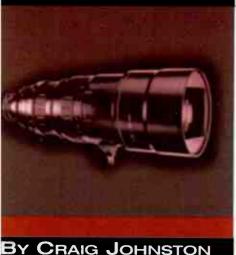
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NEWSROOM



TELESTREAM

LENSES



It's usually difficult to decide which lens maker to lead off with in an NAB wrap-up article, but a company rolling out its first video camera lens made the choice easy by introducing a product that triples the previous greatest zoom range.

Panavision's 300x HD lens with compound zoom is a meter-long 7mm to 2,100mm lens that the company thinks will find application not only in the sports and entertainment remote market, but with the military and homeland security forces as well.

The company's goal, four years ago, was to design an HD lens with a zoom range of more than 100. Conventional lens design kept putting up roadblocks, which led Panavision's engineers to the compound zoom breakthrough, described as a zoom within a zoom within a zoom. Once they had that, the 300x zoom range became practicable.

The compound zoom design allows the 300x lens to be slimmed down to 85 lbs., and the patent-pending technology may also lead to high-quality zooms being built into small form-factor video cameras, maybe even those in cell phones.

Fujinon rolled out a number of new lenses, but first thing to mention is a lens feature, the Fujinon Precision Focus Assist system. Because of HD's shallow depth-of-focus and the lack of size and resolu-

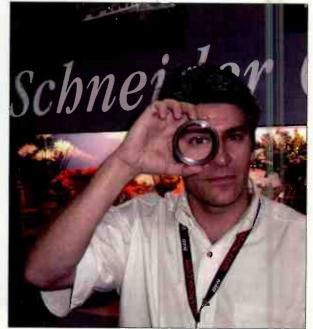
tion of viewfinders, lens buyers can opt for this built-in feature. Precision Focus Assist is not an auto focus system, but a focus assist that allows the operator to select an area of the frame to remain in crisp focus. It can be used manually by watching an inthe-eyepiece indicator, or allow a servo motor to continually adjust focus.

Another Fujinon introduction is the first HD lens designed for remote control applications, the

Has 18x7.6MD. Intended for use in sports remotes and robotic studios, the lens is stripped of its zoom rocker switch and 2x extender, making it economical for an HD zoom.

In the cine lens category, the company introduced a 10mm member of its prime lens family, and the HAc18x7.6 to its Compact C series of cine-style HD zoom lenses.

Canon has observed the increasing use of ENG-type cameras on manned and robotic pedestals in TV studios and decided to develop a box-style HD studio lens specifically for portable cameras. The result is the DigiSuper 23xs, yielding a focal length of 7.3mm to 161mm, with a 2x extender on top of that.



Glenn Diener of Schneider Optics takes a hard look through a Century Optics +2 achromatic diopter.

and precision.

In the HD electronic cine arena, Canon introduced six new prime lenses, a new HJ8x5.5B KLL-SC cine zoom lens, and an anamorph clens converter for the 2/3-inch HD mage size format, designed to make possible for a cine video HD camera to deliver a 2.35:1 aspect ratio (CinemaScope) image to the screen.

Thales Angenieux exhibited its new line of digital ENG/EFP lenses, including the new Digital 26x7.8AlF high definition (HD) and high resolution (HR) Tele Super Zoom Lenses. It joins a family of zooms including 10x, 12x, 15x and 40x focal ranges, and offers RS-232 control. The HR version utilizes technology intro-

duced last year in its Optimo film lens

The company also showcased its box type lenses, including the 70x HD OB/Sports Lens, which features a unique Advanced Display System (ADS) to enable the user to monitor lens settings and adjust digital features quickly.

Zeiss has set a high standard for

cine style HD lenses that has kent the firm from making a zoom lens for that market—at least until no v. At the Band Pro booth, the company lifted the curtain off the Carl Zeiss DigiZoom 6-24mm T1.9 lens. Zeiss engineers explained that the relatively short 4x zoom range gives electronic cinematographers the ability to perform zooms where required while

LENSES, PAGE 90





Canon's DigiSuper 23xs zoom lens

The company also debuted four new ENG/EFP zoom lenses, including what it calls the widest-angle portable telephoto lens ever produced for SDTV, the J22ex7.6B IRS-DIASD. It is the first in Canon's new e-IFxs broadcast lens series, and is equipped with an informational LCD display with control paddle, which allows users to customize the enhanced digital functions with ease

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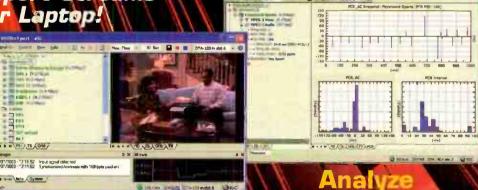
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World Radio History

Lenses

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 88

not sacrificing on image quality. The zoom's color characteristics match those of Zeiss' DigiPrime lenses, and it takes the same industry-standard zoom, focus and iris gears.

Innovision Optics specializes in tubular-shaped probe lenses for those trick shots where the lens passes through a hole. The company added a 45-degree angle attachment to its HD Probe lens, joining the Straight and 90-degree Periscope versions. The HD Probe lens offers a choice of five high-resolution prime optics.

The company also showed the Series 6000DV lens system, a narrow diameter endoscopic lens system which allows the lens to go through

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small openings like a donut hole. Users can choose from an array of objective prime lenses in 45- or 90degree view, in popular mounts including B4.

Abakus Scientific Limited showed off its wide-angle specialty lenses, including the Stadium Lens, which yields a horizontal angle of view greater than 180-degrees, and a diagonal angle of view of 210 degrees. Also on display was its High Definition Arena Lens, yielding a horizontal angle of view greater than 120-degrees and a diagonal angle of view of 140-degrees.

Cavision brought its extensive range of attachment lens adapters and converters for extending the range of zoom and fixed-focus lenses. The company has product lines for broadcast, industrial, DV and micro camera lenses. The company also showed its line of matt boxes, including a new one incorporating a shoulder mount for a Sony MiniDV camcorder.

Century Optics (a Schneider Optics division) took the wraps off its 2X HR tele-converter, which fits 27-37mm front-thread camcorders like Sony PDX10, TRV950, PC 120 and the Canon Elura/Optura. It is a high-resolution converter that instantly doubles focal length range in telephoto direction.

Lee Filters introduced a new Soft Focus glass camera filter, designed to offer a touch of soft diffusion for portrait work. The new filter works with the Lee system of filter holders and hoods

Schneider Optics unveiled its Digicon Filter, designed for lowering highlights and raising black levels, allowing digital cameras to capture a more dynamic range without loss of resolution. The Digicon is available in 6.6 x 6.6-, 4 x 5.65- and 4 x 4inch sizes.

Slik Broadcast showed an extensive line of Hoya multicoated optical glass filters.

Tiffen demonstrated its Glimmer Glass filters, designed to take edge and lines off a face without sacrificing sharpness. The company also showed its Smoke filter, which can eliminate the need for a smoke machine to achieve a smoky image.

Chrosziel introduced a new matte box with interchangeable filterstages that fits any lens up to a 4.5mm focal length zoom lens or 5mm Canon or Fujinon prime lens. It has a wideangle housing covering both 16:9/4:3 (CLWAH-F4.8) aspect ratio and includes a French flag, mounting blocks and pivot mechanism for use of side wings.

Formatt displayed its FM-500 Matte Box, manufactured from tough aviation grade aluminum. It is a



Fujinon's HA13x4.5BRD-S28K wide angle lens features the company's new patented Precision Focus Assist system.



Panavision's new 300x HD lens is targeted to sports and entertainment but could also find application in military and homeland security.

lightweight, inexpensive way of shading lenses on cameras with internal focus lenses, and comes with a sunshade and an adjustable and removable French flag.

The company also showed a new generation of glass filters, manufactured using water-white Schott optical glass that is precision polished and ground.

Petroff Matte Boxes showed its universal MiniDV camera-base adapter for its matte boxes designed to fit most popular lenses for video and film production. The matte box comes in 4 x 4- 4 x 5- and 5 x 5-inch sizes, and accommodates three filter

VFGadgets.com demonstrated its Red Eye wide-angle, non-zoomthrough camera lens attachment. It fits over the end of the camera lens, weighs less than 3.5 oz., and increases lens angle by 30 percent. Models are available to fit a range of DV camcorders.

Abel Cine Tech showed a pair of servo motors for video and film cameras. The Digital Servo Motor M26VE is compatible with digital lens control systems. The M21VP Power Dwarf is a small, vertically ori ned lens servo motor. Neither servo motor requires tools for installat on.

ProSource/BMI unveiled the new Z-10 Zoom Controller from Vocas, which features zoom position memory that allows user-defined wid and tele points to be set anywhere v thin the zoom range, and Zoom Position Feedback to provide a digital display of zoom position. The Z-10 is compatible with all servo-driven professional and broadcast lenses rom Angenieux, Canon and Fujinon.

The company also introduced the new MB-350 wide-angle matte box (SHADE FX) from Vocas. The u it is designed for lenses wider han 5.0mm and features a four-stage lilter system that incorporates two independently rotatable filter trays and two non-rotatable, horizontally oriented 4 x 5.6 filter trays.

VariZoom displayed its Pro Series focus and zoom controls, including models for broadcast cameras as well as MiniDV and Hi-8 camcorders.

EDITING

The booths at NAB2004 were loaded with edit systems capable of tackling high definition post production, but for the most part it was an evolutionary rather than revolutionary step into handling the massive requirements of HD. Look for significant inroads from Apple editing and HDV acquisition. Here are the highlights of the editing innovations seen on the floor of the big show.

Designed to replace its venerable Axial 3000 for the same price, the Axial/MX Universal-format online edit system from Accom supports all types of uncompressed SD and HD editing along with 8 channels of AES audio in a smaller 2 RU chassis. Its Live Video option lets you cut between 5 live streams of either SD or HD video.

With its new Premiere Pro vers. 1.5 software for Windows XP, in addition to editing most HD resolutions, Adobe is giving editors a new interface and more real-time editing tools including Bézier keyframe effect controls, advanced color correction, a sophisticated titler, improved audio mixing and direct-to-DVD output. Premier Pro 1.5's Project Manager also improves data management by excluding unused clips, preview files and conformed audio files.

One of the most interesting turnkey edit systems running Adobe Premiere Pro software came from 1 Beyond whose HD Pro workstation offers affordable 10-bit uncompressed HD editing as well as HDV, SD and DV. With 1 Beyond's built-in removable Raid 3 storage system called HotRock, the cost of holding uncompressed HD comes down to just \$3.90 per GB.

Apple upped the ante from last year's release of Final Cut Pro 4 by debuting Final Cut Pro HD, capable of real-time camera-native DVCPRO HD over FireWire as well as DV and SD. Its Digital Cinema Desktop feature lets you monitor SD and HD on an Apple Cinema Display. Costing the same as FCP 4, the upgrade to Final Cut Pro HD is free. Apple also announced a suite of software packages including Motion to animate titles and graphics, Shake 3.5 for visual effects, and DVD Studio Pro 3 for high quality HD to MPEG-2 encoding. Another eagerly awaited Apple announcement was Xsan, a 64-bit cluster file system on Mac OS X for scalable high bandwidth collaborative access to centralized

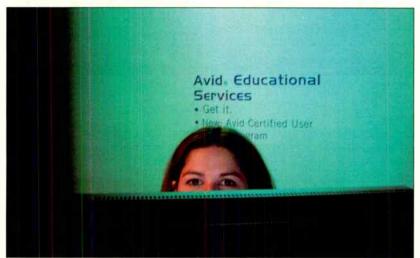
shared storage.

Over in its suite at the Hilton, Applied Magic displayed its new turnkey system. HD Cinema, for editing up to four streams of HDV. HD Cinema features keyframeable color adjustment and over 30 parameter-controllable transitions

Offering collaborative HD post production utilizing the same storage bandwidth as SD files, Avid Technology, Inc. has given its line of NLE's from Xpress Pro to DS Nitris the new DNxHD encoding technology—and made the DNxHD source code licensable free of charge on their Web

site. They also announced a new Version 7.5 software for the Avid DS Nitris system (due this summer), giving it real time 2K capabilities. For DV editing, Avid released the Xpress Studio Suite of five software applications including Xpress Pro editing software, Pro Tools LE for audio, Avid 3D featuring animation and effects from the Softimage|XSI software, Avid FX for titling and compositing, and Avid DVD by Sonic that allows DVDs to be edited without re-authoring.

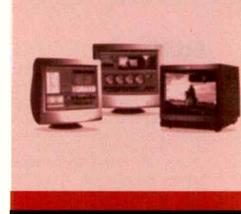
With its new HD [pro] RT, BOXX Technologies is providing real-time HD editing featuring CineForm's



Cheryl Panepinto of Avid worked to spread the word about the company's training and education services.



Bernard Lamborelle (L) of Matrox explains a feature of the company's HD graphics system to Marshall Johnson of the LDS Church.



BY JAY ANKENEY

Prospect HD plug-in running in Adobe

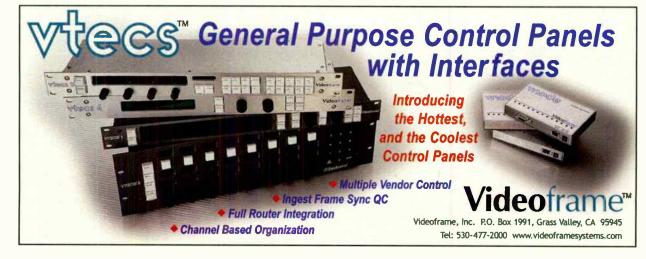
Premiere Pro on Windows XP. BOXX also previewed GoBOXX, a luggable mobile workstation empowering HDV editing in the field.

The new EDIUS HD system from Canopus includes its EDIUS Pro software for real-time HD editing along with both the Canopus HD and itsvariable HQ codec and the HDRX-E1 SDI I/O card. The company's MediaEdge2 network-based video distribution system now supports MPEG-4 video, and it announced that V2.0 of Canopus' ProCoder software can automate even the encoding of large projects with the help of a new Wizard interface.

One of the most successful plug-ins for editing the new HDV format on Adobe's Premiere Pro software is CineForm's Aspect HD, now in V2.2, that includes performance enhancements to the HDLink, CineForm's capture utility for HDV camcorders. Even more impressive, they showed off Prospect HD, a software package that can present up to three 1080p streams simultaneously.

Within an exhibit emphasizing its data-centric "Connect" theme, Discreet presented V.6.0 for its smoke NLE, now on IBM's Intellistation running Linux as well as SGI workstations. Its flint visual effects system now benefits from V8.5 software for real-time paint and motion graphics with the Nvidial Quadro FX3000G graphics card and DVS video I/O.

EDITING, PAGE 92



Editing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 91

Discreet also announced it will support Apple's Final Cut Pro XML interchange format in upcoming versions of its editing and effects products.

Clipster from DVS Digital Video Systems was seen with its new DVS PCI-X bus capture card for real-time dual stream editing up to 2K (2,048 X 1,556) now with real-time color correction. Clipster also now offers real-time pan and scan and can be conformed to a Virtual Network for playback from SAN storage in real time based on a CMX 3600-style EDL.

The new DV-7DL standalone edit system from **Edirol** now provides what they call a "nonstop editing environment" by constantly looping clips for effect and title additions. A new split screen display lets you reposition images within a frame, and a unique manual switcher mode lets you physically effect between video streams with a contextually tactile feel.

The new V3.4 software for Editware's hybrid Fastrack editing controller offers an improved linear mode on its SE model with an intuitive record track display that graphically represents the master tape on its



Jim Barclay of Accom strikes a pose with the company's new AxialIMX editing system.

timeline. Fastrack also now has assignable shortcut keys on either the screen menu or the keyboard.

Calling it a "format flexible" nonlinear editor (1080i, 1080PsF and 720p), the new VelocityHD from Leitch combines its new Altitude hardware platform with an enhanced version of the Velocity software interface. Its clever eyecons video thumbnails of each clip on the timeline is now joined by waveform displays on the audio tracks that update while scrubbing. The VelocityQ 2 X 4, a lower cost model of their flagship standard definition NLE, was seen on its Quatrus platform. Now that Leitch has acquired Videotek, Inc., we can expect to see even more emphasis on testing and standards measurements in its editing products.

With a nifty new QuadCanı feature

on MacroSystem Digital Video's Casablanca line of all-in-one video editing systems you can now cut between up to four ISO cameras using the keyboard, mouse or Wacom pen and tablet. Its premiere Casab anca Solitaire system with dual 1 GB drives can edit HDV and then burn the result onto a built-in DVD, and their whole line now features backg ound rendering.

New software V3.0 is shipping for Media 100's 844/X NLE, providing an advanced keyer that combines all of the GenesisEngine's processing power into one pipeline for separate spill suppression, matte erode and blur control. The system also now boasts a 3D DVE for XYZ plane rotation with perspectives. Its new Media 100 HD on a Macin-tosh G5 platform leverages the Genesis-Engine on an Xraid array for uncompressed SD and HD editing, and media from legacy Media 100i systems can be imported directly onto the Media 100 HD timeline without re-digitizing.

Reporting a 40-percent increase in seats worldwide last year, Pinnacle Sys-tems announced that later this year its whole line of Pinnacle Liquid editing systems will receive real-time multistream HD editing, including uncompressed HD, HDV, as well as its





Apple released an HD version of Final Cut Pro.

own HD Elite, a 50-Mbps MPEG format. They also released CinéWave V4.5 that can now fully display Final Cut Pro's RT Extreme offline video, and previewed Vers. 4.6 which will give CinéWave simultaneous HD and SD video out for Panasonic's DVCPRO HD format. Now supporting P2 media, Pinnacle edit systems are also enabling Time Warner Cable's NY1 news operation to become completely tapeless from acquisition through playout.

After the release of V2.0 software, Quantel claims its generationQ family of post products is "past its adolescence". With a new tree structure in its GUI, Vers. 2 provides faster integration with QEffects and affords its mastering system, eQ, the option of full HD-RGB while the top end iQ can handle 4K resolutions in hardware. Joining the P2 Alliance, Quantel's new QEdit software package can now cut from tapeless media feeding its output to a full generationQ broadcast production system.

With its new Vers. 7.0 software due out in July, Sony's XPRI nonlinear editors will access real-time multicam cutting capabilities from up to nine cameras. A nifty "Virtual TD" feature loads live cut points directly onto the timeline for subsequent trimming, and its SAN storage has been expanded to eight real-time HD seats. Sony's low-cost Vegas5 software handles SD, HD and the new HDV format and can now, finally, create a CMX-style time-code based EDL.

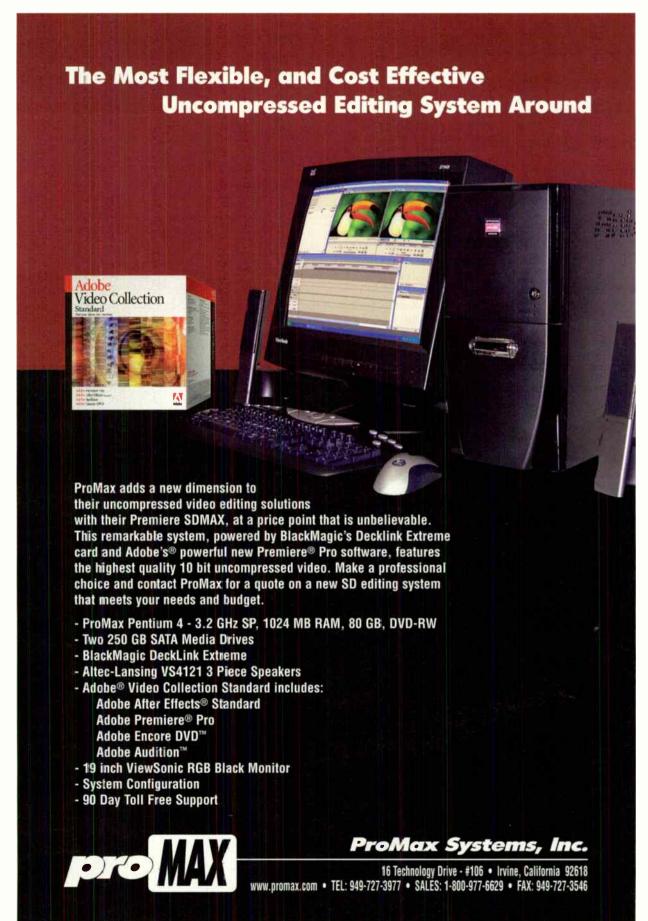
Apple's Final Cut Pro editing software (4.0 and higher) has now been integrated into **Thomson**'s Grass Valley brand Digital News Production (DNP) line, allowing stories rough cut on the NewsEdit system to be polshed with Apple's more sophisticated finishing capabilities. Thomson and Apple are combining Final Cut Pro HD with the Grass Valley M-Series iVDR "intelligent video digital recorder," a removable media technology designed to replace VTRs. In

addition, the NewsEdit LT Vers. 5.0 laptop editor, now with access to Panasonic's P2 and Sony's XDCAM storage, is being packaged with the Telestream MAPone application, enabling low data rate WiFi transmission to send stories back to the studio over phone lines or Internet access points.

Another HDV editing option is Ulead's HD plug-in for its MediaStudio Pro 7 software with FireWire I/O. Ulead also spotlighted its new DVD Workshop 2 for dragand-drop ease in DVD authoring with multiple subtitle and audio tracks.

Finally, all editors should note that at NAB2004 the AAF (Advanced

Authoring Format) Association released its finalized edit protocol providing reliable interchange of video and audio content along with its associated metadata between different manufacturer's equipment. If widely adopted, the AAF edit protocol should facilitate greater interoperability between edit systems. ■



MONITORS



BY KELLY BROOKS

Monitors on display
at NAB2004 confirmed
two things: most major
monitor display
manufacturers are no
longer producing new
CRTs, and SDI inputs are
a must-have feature.

MAKE ROOM FOR HD

Ikegami straddled the technology fence with both CRT and LCD models, including the HTM-1907 flat 19-inch and the HTM-2070 20-inch HDTV/SDTV multi-format color, high-resolution CRT monitors with optional SDI modules. The company's new LCD monitors, the 22-inch HLM-2200 and 17-inch HLM-1700R, also made their debut.

The HDM-EV80HD 8.4-inch LCD monitor for HDTVs and SDTVs introduced by ERG Ventures offered an active 1,024x768 resolution LCD and a display of 16.7 million colors through 8 bits per RGB. The company also showcased the HDM-EV80D's gamma correction function, which lightens an image when ordinary monitoring cannot properly display darkness. ERG's 6-inch HDM-EV35D HD also was on display.

Avitech debuted a module for its Media Command Center (MCC) virtual monitor wall system that handles four simultaneous inputs ranging from composite video to HD-SDI, with an output resolution from 800x600 to 1,600x1,200. The company's Cosmos control system with a GUI for configuration and editing of the MCC also was featured.

Continuing the trend of multi-input units was Marshall Electronics with



Robin Richards of Sony likes the company's new LMD-320W LCD monitor.

its portable 6.5-inch HD/SD LCD monitor for widescreen applications. The V-R65P-HD features standard inputs with active loopthrough on each connection for HD SDI/SDI and composite video with PAL/NTSC recognition. The company's V-R18P and V-R18PSD were also introduced at the show, each offering eight 1.8-inch LCD color TFT displays in 1 RU of space. The BV-R18P-SDI is intended for use with digital signals, and the display face of both models can be tilted up to 90 degrees.

Wohler Technologies' video division, Panoramadtv, launched its RM

Series of rackmounted LCD video monitors, offering two composite video inputs per screen and an optional module providing an SDI input channel with a reclocked SDI video output and a converted composite video output. In addition to its new RM series, Panoramadtv also featured the MON8-1 LCD video monitor, with eight 1.8-inch LCD screens, a composite video input, loop-through output and termination switches in 1 RU.

MOMENT IN THE SUN

A standout among the monitors,



and making its international debut, was the Hummingbird sunlight-viewable series from IMP Electronics. Available in 6.4-, 10.4- and 15-inch sizes, with resolutions of 640x480, 800x600 and 1,024x768, respectively, the monitors feature LCD panels modified to eliminate glare by way of a precision lens bonded to the front of the assembly.

Also touting sunlight visibility were the 5-, 6.4- and 7-inch NebXL series of TFT/LCD monitors from Nebtek, featuring anti-reflective screens for outdoor viewing. The Neb 50XL is intended for use with the Canon XL camera series, and includes NTSC/PAL auto-switching, with coaxial DC input, stereo mini-jack and two feet of RCA cable to the camera's video output. The Neb 70XL, a modified Panasonic TC7-WMS1, is 16:9/3:4 switchable.

With I/O functionality of up to 72 inputs displayed per output, and the addition of VistaLink (SNMP) support, the 6 RU, 15-slot framed MVP multivideo display processor from Evertz distinguished itself from the number of monitors exhibited at NAB2004. As the user's signal monitoring and display needs increase, a display package with 8, 16 or 24 video inputs can be upgraded to include computer input and audio input modules, as well as multi-display output modules.

Glidecam Industries presented three of its model L7-Pro, weighing 1.8 pounds. Featuring a 16:9/4:3 switchable TFT active matrix and daylight-viewable color display, the unit works as a remote viewing monitor on the base platform of the Glidecam's V-16, V-20 or Gold Series professional camera stabilizers.

Pro-Bel showed its Vutrix VX line of TFT monitors, ranging from 15- to 40-inches and sharing the Pixel-to-Pixel common electronics processing system, which posts incoming video streams from SDI. Pro-Bel also showed a 40-inch widescreen TFT with a 500-candela display, native 1,280x768 and integrated VuWall software, and its VDSI distribution system.

Motorola Broadband showcased HD plasma display monitors by Moxell Technology, including 42-inch 16:9 flat panels with advanced digital video scaling technologies.

Data Check presented a combined test instrument/monitor as well as a 17-inch multi-format HDTV LCD monitor at the show. The Model 21170 features HD-SD input, processes practically all HD and SD formats, front panel on screen controls, 5-plus years LCD backlight, adjustable vertical tilt and multiple computer interfaces as well as HS/SD and HD/SDI large-screen video monitors.

Sony expanded its new Luma series of professional LCD monitors with two models optimized for full-motion video



Shauna Sudbury of Nebtek is happy to embrace the company's monitor product line.

in broadcast and post-production. The 32-inch widescreen 16:9 LMD-320W featured high brightness and contrast and improved black reproduction; the 21-inch 4:3 LMD-210 is intended for production, research and industrial markets. Both monitors accommodate SD and HD analog and digital signals, and will be available in July.

Sony of Canada unveiled its LocationFree portable broadband LCD TV system, featuring a 12.1-inch touchscreen monitor and using dualband wireless transmission technology.

PICTURE PERFECT

Spain-based Kroma Telecom exhibited its triple five-inch TFT monitor with high view angles, vibrant color range and low picture delay. It includes 12 inputs; two analog and two digital per each screen. The company also showed TFT monitors from its LM50XX series in 9-, 15- and 18-inch models.

TV One Broadcast Sales showed the LM-1042R, a dual 10.4-inch LCD monitor in a 19-inch rack-mount case. The company also presented its array of LM Series Professional LCD monitors, available in standard 19-inch rack-mount configurations.

Ward-Beck offered triple and quad versions of its A/V monitor system. VMS33 features three high-resolution (960x234) LCD displays, 28-segment stereo VU/PPM meters and five-segment correlation meters in a 3 RU panel, while the VMS44 has four 480x234 displays, VU/PPM meters and five-segment correlation meters in a 2 RU panel.

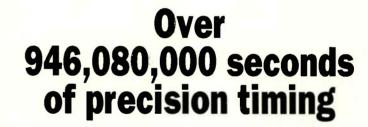
Astro Systems displayed the portable WM-3004 6-inch HD/SD waveform and vectorscope monitor, as well as lightweight portable HD/SD LCD monitors, the 6-inch DM-3005 and DM-3000B, and the 10-inch DM-3303C. All models tout a sharp viewing angle and easily accessible front-panel functions.

Transvideo displayed its 6-inch Cinemonitor III and the 6-inch Rainbow II professional LCD monitor that operates just like the original 5-inch Rainbow. The new version accepts NTSC and PAL, and has a wider viewing angle and optimized performance in full sun.

Several new monitors debuted in the JVC booth, including the TM-H150CGU, a 14-inch upgradeable, high-resolution NTSC/ PAL monitor

with more than 750 lines of horizontal resolution, a built-in slot for optional component and SDI input cards, professional features, including blue check, color off, underscan and more. IVC also introduced the DT-V1710CGU/DT-V1910CGU HDTV monitors that are switchable from HD to SC with three expansion slots that can accommodate any combination of input cards. The monitors also offer audio monitoring features that display the audio levels from the audio embedded in the SDI and HD SDI on the screen, generating audio level meters that move back and forth with the sound

New rack mounted LCD monitors were introduced from Tote Vision. The LCD 641 series 6.4-inch LCD-641D and LCD-641-V monitors are PC-compatible and include up/down and left/right image reverse and an on/off key to easily toggle between composite, S-Video and PC modes. The company also introduced the 7.9-inch active matrix LCD-800N and LCD-800D color LCD monitors featuring mirror image picture control and remote control capability. ■





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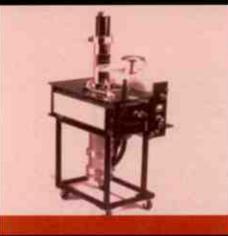
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TRANSMISSION



By Bob Kovacs

There was a lot of heavy metal on the floor of the NAB2004, enough to keep the massive convention center from blowing away in the occasionally gusty desert winds.

The heavy metal took the form of large transmitters in several varieties, heavy enough that some were fitted with massive grappling loops on top to simplify loading and shipping.

Manufacturers were clearly gearing up for a return to high-power, after a brief dalliance by broadcasters with low-power transmitters to fulfill their DTV obligation.

Harris had two large transmitters on the floor demonstrating this "bigger is better" theme, with its top-of-the-line PowerCD, a high-power UHF DTV unit that features the company's eCDI network monitoring and control system. The 35 kW PowerCD works with e2v's depressed-collector IOT, which boosts

the transmitter's efficiency for substantial savings in monthly power costs. The PowerCD transmitter in Harris' display was sold to WLWT in Cincinnati.

Right next to the PowerCD was the Atlas Analogue, Harris' latest solid-state UHF transmitter for NTSC broadcasting. The Atlas Analogue uses liquid-cooled LDMOS FET broadband power amplifier modules that simplify channel changing and ease the transition to digital transmission.

Both solid-state and tube amplifiers from Harris are compatible with the company's eCDI control and monitoring system, which makes it possible to use the Internet to view the transmitter's operating parameters and make adjustments.

Ai, the transmitter brand of Acrodyne, had a spacious booth that it used to highlight the continuing reign of analog television transmission. Topping the news from Ai was that its Quantum line of IOT transmitters can now use the depressed-collector ESCIOT from e2v for analog service, resulting in significant electricity savings compared to other UHF transmitter technologies. Of course, the Quantum can also serve as a DTV transmitter, using either standard IOTs or the energy-saving ESCIOT.

The buzz in the Ai booth is that a 240 kW analog Quantum with the ESCIOT is saving a station up to \$200,000 in electricity costs per year, enough to pay for the entire transmitter in four years. And a switch to digital involves swapping a card in the transmitter's encoder.

Ai also displayed medium-power solid-state transmitters from Rohde & Schwarz, part of a marketing arrangement that lets Ai sell Rohde & Schwarz in the U.S. and gives the German manufacturer access to Ai's high-power transmitters for European customers.

Both solid-state and tube-based transmitters were featured at the **Axcera** booth, with the top-of-the-line UHF Visionary DT being shown with both L-3 and e2v MSDC IOTs for high-



Rich Schwartz of Axcera demonstrates the GUI on the new Innovator HX transmitter to Karl Merenda of Incospec Communications.

power DTV broadcasting. A Visionary DT with an L-3 CEA-130D MSDC 1OT was installed immediately after NAB2004 at WLPB-DT in Baton Rouge, La., which decided to go with the Visionary DT because of the transmitter's ability to work with a variety of output tubes.

Also new in the Axcera booth was the Innovator HX high-power solid-state VHF transmitter that features the company's programmable control system that monitors and adjusts the HX with standard, off-the-shelf components. The Innovator HX uses the latest MOSFET high-gain power amplifiers that can be driven directly from the transmitter's frequency-agile exciter.

Keeping in mind the thousands of UHF TV translators in operation, Axcera introduced a frequency-agile DTV translator/booster based on the company's Innovator LX low-power transmitter line. And on the subject of translators, Axcera also showed its latest refinement of its single-channel distributed translator system for DTV that uses a synchronized network of small transmitters to cover a wide area.

FIRST ON-THE-AIR

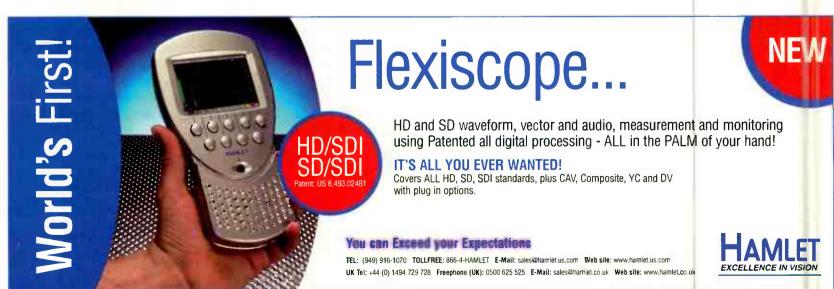
More heavy metal made the trip to Las Vegas from Thales Broadcast, the transmitter arm of the international conglomerate. Carrying the most weight was the company's high-power UHF DCX Paragon, which is available with any manufacturer's IOT and can be used for either analog or digital broadcasting.

The DCX Paragon was the first transmitter to go on-air using an MSDC IOT and the unit features Soft Arc technology that eliminates the need for a crowbar protection circuit, adding to the unit's efficiency. The transmitter supports both water and oil cooling technologies.

The new ADAPT IV excite also added... um, excitement to the Thiles booth. Featuring the company's digital adaptive precorrection and a rontpanel interface, the ADAPT IV can correct for distortions caused by RF combiners, will accept either ASI or SMPTE 310M inputs and supports future E-VSB and synchronized transmitter standards.

Also featured at the Thales booth was the company's Optimum-CA solid-state common-mode VHF transmitter.

Over in the Larcan booth, the company was focused on its new Eclipse analog solid-state UHF transmitter that operates in a range of power outputs up to 40 kW. Using broadband amplifiers, the Eclipse does not require tuning, and its touchscreen GUI provides



a simple way to monitor the transmitter's operation. An Eclipse puts 20 kW of output power onto less than 25 square feet of space.

Larcan also introduced its new 8VSB Regen Transcoder, a device that provides a simple means of distributing a TV station's DTV signal through its translator network, providing both analog and regenerated digital output for the local low-power transmitter. The 8VSB Regen Transcoder features the latest Zenith receive technology to enable solid reception of the DTV signal.

Rohde & Schwarz brought its medium-power solid-state transmitters to NAB2004 but the biggest RF news in its booth was its NX7000 adaptive digital equalizer (ADE) software that works with the company's popular SV700 ATSC exciter. The ADE software compensates for linear and nonlinear transmitter distortion by precorrecting the exciter to automatically optimize the output signal. Existing transmitters using the company's SV700 exciter can be upgraded to the NX7000 ADE software.

The other big transmitter announcement from Rohde & Schwarz was that the company will directly market its broadcast products in the U.S., while at the same time maintain its OEM status with Ai for domestic distribution.

Superior Broadcast was showing its new common-mode solid-state transmitter available in power ratings up to 6 kW. Built up from 700-W commonmode modules operating at reduced power for long life, the transmitter is frequency-agile and works for either analog or digital operation.

Superior was also showing its television slot antenna for digital or analog broadcasting up to 120 kW.

When low-power DTV became an option a couple of years ago, KTech Telecommunications made a name for itself with its low-cost, low-power transmitter. KTech showed the current version of its low-power DTV transmitter and also displayed its Xtreme-3000 series 8VSB on-channel booster for translator applications. The Xtreme maintains the carrier's phase coherence and produces an output of either 1 W or 10 W.

Components for solid-state transmitters were on display at the Pineapple Technology booth, including the company's VHF and UHF cards and modules. The company also has a 5 kW solid-state UHF transmitter that can be used for either analog or digital broadcasting, depending on the exciter.

Astre Systems displayed its Digitalplus high-power IOT UHF transmitter. Featuring L-3's constant efficiency amplifier (CEA) IOT, the Digitalplus has a large LCD touchscreen to control all the transmitter's operating

Over in the "radio hall" was Armstrong Transmitter, which has a

variety of solid-state analog and digital television transmitters from 2 W to 16 kW. The SCT-132UB is a 1 kW UHF transmitter that be used for either analog or digital transmission, and it consumes just 15 RU. The unit features group-delay and linearity precorrection, as well as LDMOS technology for optimum linearity.

COMPONENTS

The cooling war is... er, heating up in the high-power IOT and MSDC IOT business. There are two cooling systems for the multistage depressed collector (MSDC) IOTs that are now storming the market: water-cooled and oil-cooled.

At the moment, oil and water do not mix well, at least at tube vendors-

some companies manufacture only water-cooled depressed-collector IOTs while others produce only oil-cooled models. No company produces both.

L-3 Communications is one of the oil-cooled tube manufacturers—its recently developed constant efficiency amplifier (CEA) IOT was the first TRANSMISSION, PAGE 100



K2 IOT and K3 MSDC IOT's from

EASE OF USE

No IOT system is easier to tune and maintain than the Eimac K2 and K3 MSDC IOT amplifiers.

K2 tube replacement and maintenance can be handled by one person without removing the cavity assembly from the cabinet.

RELIABILITY

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- low pressure, low flow rate operation.

K3 three stage MSDC design simplifies the power supply requirements.

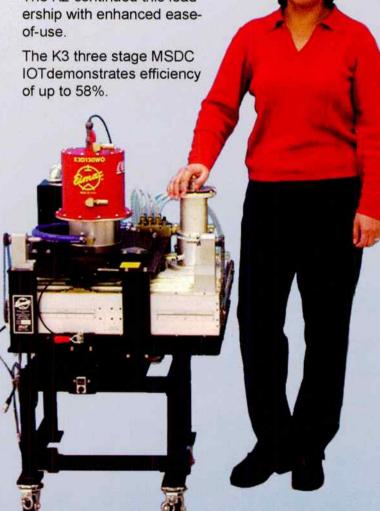
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Eimac IOT's have documented lifetimes of up to 70,000 hours or more.

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Eimac's Klystode IOT pioneered high efficiency UHF-TV power amplifiers.

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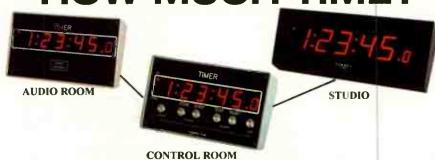
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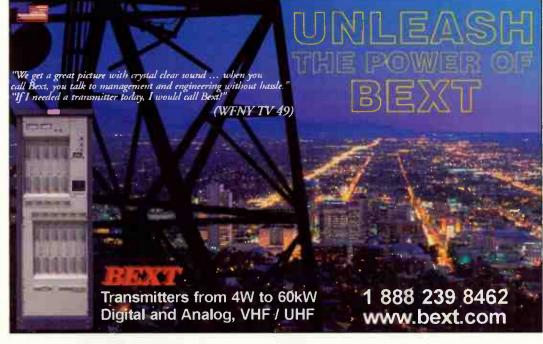
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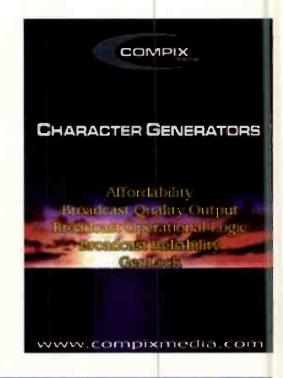


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The Video Processor/Noise Reducer Model VP100 with the VIP engine provides the same noise reduction as the Model VP10. In addition it provides means to correct color phase and chroma gain, Y/C delay errors, differential gain, HF response and video level. At \$1995 it is a great buy.

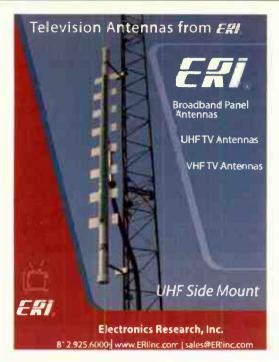
The NTSC Color Corrector Model VP900A is now available with the VIP engine. The Color Corrector permits control of chroma gain and phase, plus fully independent adjustment of R, G, B levels and pedestals. Priced at \$1995 with the VIP engine, or at \$1250 without VIP.

For the ultimate in compression quality and efficiency we are offering the Model VP3000 Pre-Compression Processor. Based on the teachings from 5 different Patents, it provides superior luminance/chrominance separation, linear color demodulation, VIP technology at 12 bit accuracy, multidimensional correlation filtering for impulse noise and dropouts removal, analog and digital input and output interfaces. Priced from

Other VIP products include the VP50 Ghost Buster, the VP700 Color Decoder, the HQ and the VP1000 Picture Quality Restorers; the SDI-10 Digital Noise Reducer.

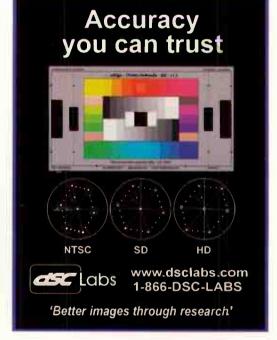
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PRODUCTS SERVICES











Transmission

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 97

depressed-collector IOT to be on-air and remains one of the most installed MSDC tubes. The CEA promises power amplifier efficiencies in the 60 percent range, making it perhaps the most efficient of the depressed-collector IOTs. L-3 showed its CEA tube, as well as its standard IOT.

Also in oil-cooled territory is the **CPI-Eimac** K2D130W, a standard IOT boasting an output of 31 kW in DTV operation. The company showed its K3D130W, a three-stage MSDC IOT with DTV output power of 32 kW and compatibile with both DTV and analog broadcasting.

Thales Components actually has an air-cooled IOT, the TH 730, which has a power output of 10 kW in DTV applications. However, the highlight of the company's booth was its new water-cooled TH 770 E CD and TH 792 CD, both depressed collector IOTs.

The TH 770 has been a mainstay in the company's IOT line and this year it received an ion pump to improve internal vacuum. This and other improvements resulted in the new designation of TH 770 E—"E" for "enhanced." The TH 770 E CD is the depressed-collec-

tor version of the standard IOT for greater efficiency, with the same 25 kW DTV output power. The new IOTs atop Thales' line are the TH 792 and TH 792 CD, the standard and depressed collector versions of the company's highest-power tubes.

Thales also showed a revised trolley that supports the company's IOTs, featuring a very compact water-to-water heat exchanger that keeps the tube's internal coolant separate from the external cooling loop. This maintains the quality of the water circulating around the tube for a longer time, the company said.

e2v technologies' water-cooled depressed collector IOTs made quite a... um, splash, with their cost saving performance in analog as well as digital applications. Although most of the talk has been how depressed collector tubes work efficiently for DTV broadcasting, e2v and Ai showed that there is also considerable savings from using the energy-saving collector IOT (ESCIOT) in analog operation.

The company also showed its "build-up" D2100 series IOTs, as well as its D3100 plug-in IOTs.

ANTENNAS

It was a veritable jungle-gym of antennas at NAB2004, with every



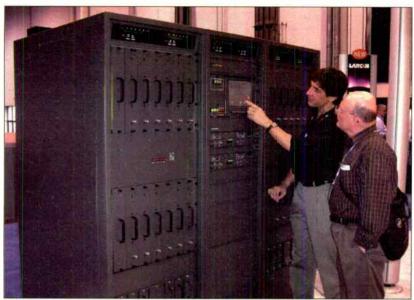
Buzz Miklos of L-3 poses with the company's Constant Efficiency Amplifier (CEA) MSDC IOT, an oil-cooled tube that promises efficiency as high as 60 percent.

shape, size and capability of antenna represented.

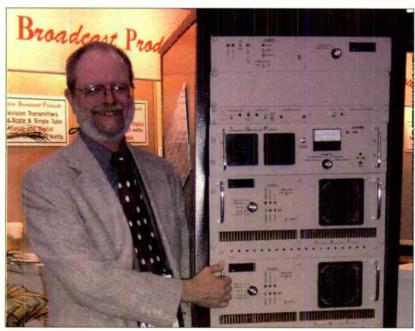
ERI, which recently acquired the broadcast antenna division of Andrew, had an interesting display showing the company's tower and antenna expertise. In the booth was a model of a tower standing some 20 feet tall, topped by a candelabra with panel, slot and batwing antennas.

Highlighting the display at the Dielectric booth was the company's





John Tremblay (I) of Larcan steps through the features of the company's new Eclipse 20 kW UHF solid-state transmitter.



Jim Malloy of Superior Transmitter has a firm grip on the company's new 3.5 kW solid-state UHF transmitter.

new wideband TFL pylon high-power UHF antenna. With a bandwidth of 180 MHz for multichannel operations and high power handling, the TFU has a variety of patterns and options.

Dielectric also showed its new foamfilled FLEXLine transmission line, which is available in sizes up to 1-5/8 inches.

New from RFS was its Super Turnstile UHF antenna, which is available in four-bay increments up to 16 bays. With a circular azimuth pattern, the Super Turnstile from RFS supports up to 20 kW input. RFS also featured its new fully radomed UHF panel antenna and a waveguide combiner for multichannel UHF applications.

As the supplier of the low-band VHF DTV antenna on the Hancock Building in Chicago, Jampro has considerable experience with antennas in unusual locations. At NAB2004, the company displayed its line of low- and high-power antennas, including the JAT

batwing model that is used for WBBM-DT in Chicago.

The company also has slot and panel antennas for UHF applications, as well as its JTC spiral antenna for both UHF and VHF frequencies. This last model consists of a supporting pole around which stainless-steel spirals are wound at specific pitch angles. The array acts as a traveling-wave antenna and it produces an omnidirectional azimuth pattern. Electrical beam tilt and null fill are standard with the Jampro JTC.

Kathrein-Scala has a very wide range of both receive and transmit antennas, and many were on display in the company's booth. On the broadcast side, the company showed its UHF Paraslot antenna for low- to medium-power applications. The Paraslot is available in single- and multichannel versions, and has options for null fill and beam tilt.

For higher power, Kathrein-Scala

TRANSMISSION, PAGE 102

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Transmission

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 101

showed its Superturnstile antenna, which has an input power of 5 kW.

A combined UHF/VHF antenna with a radome and dual input was featured at the SWR booth. Stuffing the company's Clarion UHF and dipole panel VHF antenna into the same structure, the combined assembly is ideal for stations that have both VHF and UHF channel assignments.

On its own, the Clarion from SWR is

available in power ratings up to 240 kW.

For high-power UHF broadcasting, Propagation Systems Inc. (PSI) showed its USH series of waveguide slot antennas. The USH is available in top- or side-mount versions and has options for beam tilt and null fill. A large selection of patterns is available and the antenna can accept up to 240 kW.

Also on display was the PSI USM series of UHF antennas that are designed for DTV broadcasting.

A dummy load is a critical part of the RF signal path at most TV stations. At

NAB2004, Altronic Research displayed its line of RF dummy loads, including airand water-cooled models.

For UHF DTV applications, the company focused on its Omegaline 6700 HDTV series of aircooled RF coaxial load resisters, the biggest of which can dissipate 15 kW. The 6700 HDTV series are rated up to 1 GHz. The company has a range of other loads suitable for UHF and VHF frequencies.



lt's been a strange couple of years in the tower business, as familiar names seemed to disappear only to reappear at NAB2004.

One of the pleasant surprises was the booth occupied by Stainless and Doty-Moore, back from their recent absorption into SpectraSite. Returning as separate but related companies,

Doty-Moore will provide construction, engineering, maintenance and modifications for towers, while Stainless will manufacture towers and related components.

Allied Tower was at the show to promote its line of solid-rod towers, which is available in both guyed and self-supporting versions. For broadcast applications, Allied showed its "knockdown" guyed towers that can be built to heights above 1,000 feet. Each tower is custom built to the customer's needs from bolted sections, and has a climbing ladder and cable runs inside the tower's structure. The company also has a welded guyed tower for broadcast applications where a shorter tower is needed.

If you need a tower but aren't interested in developing, engineering and maintaining it, you could contact **American Tower**. At NAB2004, the company used its background in broadcasting to explain how it could provide tower services for DTV and other broadcast applications.

As mentioned earlier, **ERI** had a model of one of its tall towers, complete with tri-cornered candelabra, in its booth in the Central Hall. ERI not only manufactures the tower components, it does the site preparation, construction and antenna installation.

Kline Tower, a division of Dielectric, was featured in the Dielectric



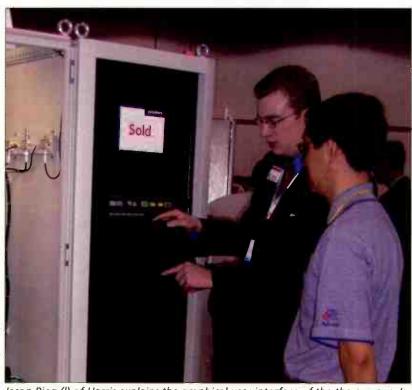
David Edmiston, Jr., of SWR poses with the company's dual-feed stacked-aperture UHF/VHF antenna assumbly.

booth. With its antenna and transmission line connections, Kline can handle a turnkey tower and antenna installation from site preparation to proof-of-performance testing. As the manufacturer of the world's tallest tower, Kline specializes in tall towers.

Fresh from its recent acquisition of Rohn Tower, Radian Communication was at the show to highlight its tower design, manufacture, construction, repair and project-managemen services. The company can supply both self-supporting and guyed towers, and even has experience in tower esthetics if you need something that looks a little out of the ordinary.

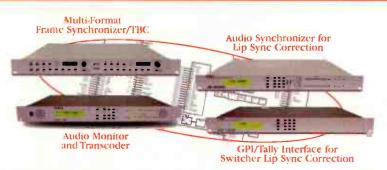
Another long-standing name in the tower industry was also at the show: Richland Tower. Richland's boc h featured an elegant model of one of its tall towers with a candelabra a tenna structure on top, all stabilized by lacy guy wires. In addition to designing and building tall towers, Richlard provides tower facility operation and management services, and can provide leasing arrangements to help manage costs.

Just like previous years, NA 2004 provided a cornucopia of products for broadcasters. In fact, things like transmitters, antennas and towers are the very essence of broadcasting—without them, broadcasters would not be casting very broadly at all.



Jason Rieg (I) of Harris explains the graphical user interface of the the company's PowerCD ESCIOT UHF transmitter to Yul Lem of CTV Television.

Keeping Video and Audio In Sync



The DG-1200 interprets up to 12 GPI and tally signals from a production switcher with internal DVEs and generates steering pulses for AD-3100 tracking delays. Any time DVEs are on-air, appropriate delays are automatically added to the audio path. Automatic pitch correction in the AD-3100 allows rapid delay change without unwanted artifacts.

Other products include: multi-format frame synchronizers, audio delays, audio monitoring and sample rate converters.

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TEST & MEASUREMENT

Maintaining signal quality is of such importance that NAB2004 dedicated an entire session of the **Broadcast Engineering Conference to Quality** Control for DTV. On the exhibit floor. attendees saw QC in action for audio, video, MPEG, video over IP, and RF. A growing trend in monitoring systems was the ability to install probes at critical points in the signal path and monitor the signal and system components through

Astro Systems released the new portable WM-300M HD/SD waveform monitor and vectorscope, with peaking

network-controlled

architecture.

feature useful for camera setup, as well as a four-in-one display function which shows the waveform, vectorscope, image and sound information at the same time.

Audemat Aztec showcased its Goldeneagle Analog TV, designed as an off air monitoring system with remote control capabilities. From one antenna, the system monitors automatically, in real time, the quality and continuity of up to 40 TV programs and notifies the

relevant person of any problem by sending an alarm.

Axion exhibited the SIM10, SDI distribution amplifier with signal integrity monitoring. Useful for generating monitor wall displays, the unit generates a monitor output that shows reported errors and indicates several metadata values plus audio levels.

Danish manufacturer **DK-Audio** introduced several new products at NAB2004, including the PTO660M, a



Chris Poulain (I), Sophie Lion-Poulain (c) and Nicholas Boulay of Audemat-Aztec pose with the company's new Goldeneagle TV off-air monitoring system.

PRODUCT REVIEW

By Mary C. Gruszka

multitrack meter for up to 32 channels; the DK-Audio PTO660M master stereo display; the MSD600M-INPUT-HD/O HDTV de-embedder module for the MSD600M++, PTO600M and PTO660M. For the U.S. market, DK-Audio unveiled the MSD600M-Input/2 and the MSD600M-Output/2 modules for the MSD600M, PTO600M, and PTO660M. DK-Audio also launched a memote sensing platform for its modular MSD600M family of audio meters.

Dolby Labs showcased the new LM100 remote software application that provides the ability to log short- and long-term speech loudness values in real time, while storing the loudness history data for later analysis.

TEST & MEASUREMENT, PAGE 104

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Test & Measurement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 103

Dorrough exhibited its range of loudness meters including the digital 12-AES.

Hamlet unveiled the Flexiscope, a prototype palintop waveform monitor with an integral 3.8-inch TFT XVGA display that shows the picture in 4:3 or 16:9. Audio can be monitored on the internal speaker or via headphones. Hamlet's half-rack LCD Scope 292WVA is an HD waveform monitor and vectorscope, and it also had its U.S. debut

Horita introduced the "Pocket PA" PC-based wireless logging system that allows users in a video or film shoot environment to capture time code and record a quick note or comment associate with the time. The logging system consists of an off-the-shelf commercially available Pocket PC with built-in Bluetooth wireless technology, the Horita "PDA-LOG" logging program and the Horita LTC-Bluetooth wireless transmitter, which transmits the SMPTE time code from the source, such as a TV camera, to the Pocket PC.

Horita also showed its TCC-100 Time Code Comparator and the "Script Kit" PA Logging Clipboard plus software that combines the Horita PTR portable LCD time code reader and WTS100M wireless time code system into a field logging system.

K-Will demonstrated its Video DNA products for the first time in the U.S.

audio at the macro block level, in real-time.

Leader Instruments introduced the LV 5750 multiformat SDI monitor with a color XGA (1024x768) LCD screen. Standard modes include waveform,



Walter King (I) of KOMO-TV watches as Jewel Pinkstaff demonstrates the Hamlet Digi Scope rasterized test & measurement system.

Video DNA is a patented three-layer noise weighting technology that uses proprietary algorithms to monitor and measure digital video and audio quality, as well as perform error detection and measurement of compressed and uncompressed MPEG-2 video and

vector, audio, picture and status monitoring. SDI inputs support auto detection of multiple standards, formats and frame rates. The LV 5750 is equipped with a standard tripod.

Magni showed its full line of test equipment at NAB2004, including the

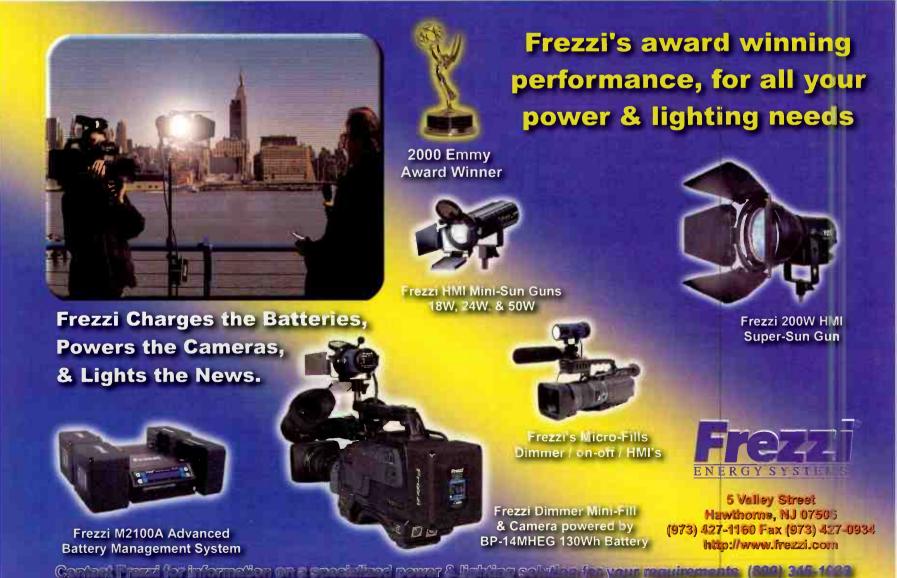
AVM-510A-T automated video monitor and SDM-560M SD/composite monitor with measurements.

Modulation Sciences exhibited production models of its Spidervision surround sound visualization monitor, which images the entire sound field, delivering a unique picture of the direction and amplitude (vector) of the dominant sound sources.

OmniTek unveiled v. 3 software for its PC-based digital video test and measurement platform. v. 3 is a single desktop application enabling the user to mix and match from a range of test and measurement functions. OmniTek also launched an advanced option for its PC-based digital video test and measurement platform, and introduced.

Rohde & Schwarz debuted a new compact audio analyzer, the UPV. The analyzer handles digital sampling rates up to 192 kHz, and is capable of performing multiple measurements with the results presented as graphics. The unit is equipped with an integrated PC and monitor and includes LAN and USB connections. Additional audio interfaces like 12S, can be installed.

RTW unveiled the Surround Control 30900, eight-channel surround display device with analyzer and monitoring controller. The unit includes a 1/3 and



World Radio History



Thomas Loichinger (I) of Rohde & Schwarz explains the company's Adaptive Digital Equalization to John Spaugy of BAE Systems.

1/6 octave spectrum analyzer, an integrated sound-level meter, a microphone pre-amplifier and a noise signal generator. A compatible microphone is also available.

SyntheSys Research demonstrated the BitAlyzer HD292 HD-SDI test system, which operates at a serial data rate of 1.485 Gbps and supports various frame rates. SyntheSys Research also showed the BitAlyzer MVA3000 multiformat (HD, SD, or ASI) video analyzer with automatic standards and format detection, eye diagram, FFT jitter spectrum, waveform, vectorscope and picture displays and more.

Tektronix introduced the WFMNLE, a software waveform monitor plug-in for the Avid Media Composer Adrenaline, Avid Xpress Pro, Media Composer, and Symphony nonlinear editing systems. Tektronix demonstrated the new, faster multiformat capability of its VM5000 automated video signal analyzer, and added H.264 and WMV9 to its AD953A MPEG test system.

Television Systems Ltd (TSL) exhibited its range of audio metering and monitoring products. TSL has improved its representation in the U.S. with new local sales and sales support.

Torpey Time showcased its vast line of digital master clocks, including the CLK-50, designed for installations needing an inexpensive, compact and accurate Master Clock. Also on hand was the STW-12 for newscasts, STW-5 and STW5R Master Timers, STW-8 and STW-10 special purpose countdown timers and the Model STW-9R up/down timer.

As Videotek celebrated its 30th anniversary this year, the company introduced new products at NAB2004, including the Videotek VTM-440 HD/SD on-screen monitor that supports all popular HD and SD signal formats with auto-detect capability, and the DL-850HD digital legalizer which makes HD SDI legalized to HD, SD (525/625) color space and/or encoded (NTSC or PAL).

The big news from Videotek is that Leitch Technology acquired the company just as NAB2004 began. Tim Thorsteinson, president and CEO of Leitch, said that Videotek test and measurement products would retain the Videotek brand name, while the company's other products would be brought under the Leitch brand.

Ward-Beck Systems exhibited its SLM series of loudness meters, portable desktop units that display the average (VU) and peak content of an audio signal simultaneously.

Wohler Technologies introduced the AMP2-E8MDA Dolby E audio monitor and converter with discrete outputs. The 2 RU unit included a self-powered loudspeaker system and eight 53-segment level meters. Wohler also debuted the AMP2-E8MDA/DSP with data stream processor. Along with the features of the AMP2-E8MDA, the DSP version allows modification of Dolby metadata to match the audio delivered without having to re-author the entire audio program.

MPEG

Acterna introduced the DTS-330 digital broadcast test platform that offers multiple combinations of MPEG-2 (DVB and ATSC) transport stream generation, capture, stream creation and analysis The company also introduced enhancements to its DTS product line of MPEG analyzers, and is now shipping QAM RF interfaces for the DTS MPEG-200 transport-stream analyzer.

Pixelmetrix unveiled its DigiCipher-II interface module for DVStation as well as a set of three QAM interface modules. The QAM modules provide real-time RF monitoring of key RF performance parameters for most international markets.

Pixelmetrix also introduced the ConsolidatorPlus management and reporting control system for DVStation. ConsolidatorPlus utilizes SNMP connectivity built-in to every DVStation to manage a large number of devices. Collecting and consolidating measure-

ments, telemetry and alarms from a network of DVStation monitors, Windows-based ConsolidatorPlus presents users with a graphical display of operational status.

Pixelmetrix and Omnitek teamed up to produce Quality Auditor for monitoring and analyzing digital video, embedded audio and metadata. The combination of Pixelmetrix' picture quality analysis software with OmniTek's PC-based solution provides real-time evaluation of video compression quality for every frame, with individual alarms able to be set for each component. Applications include both ingest and playout.

Finally, Pixelmetrix announced support for the new standard for digital program insertion (DPI)—ANSI/SCTE 35 2001. Version 4.0 of the standard DVStation software displays and decodes DPI messages, and the software comes as part of a no-charge upgrade for DVStation.

Rohde & Schwarz added to its DVM family of MPEG analyzers with the introduction of two products at NAB2004

The DVM50 is the lower-cost model designed to monitor one or (option-

ally) two MPEG-2 transport streams, with data rates up to 214 Mbps. The DVM50 offers most of the functionality of the existing R&S DVM100, but requires an external PC. The analyzer monitors standard parameters of the first, second and third priority defined by the TR 101 290 Measurement Guidelines, plus other parameters such as data rates, alterations in the transport stream, conditional access information and specific parameters of single-frequency networks. The unit also performs analyses of PCR jitter, table contents, and packet headers.

At the other end of the spectrum, Rohde & Schwarz introduced the DVM400 MPEG-2 analyzer with built-in PC. This compact unit has three slots for plug-in boards. With a broad-band recorder and generator board installed in the first slot and a fast MPEG-2 analyzer board in the second, up to four transport streams can be simultaneously monitored. If both boards are combined, further features become available; for example, a recorded signal can be sent directly to the analyzer.

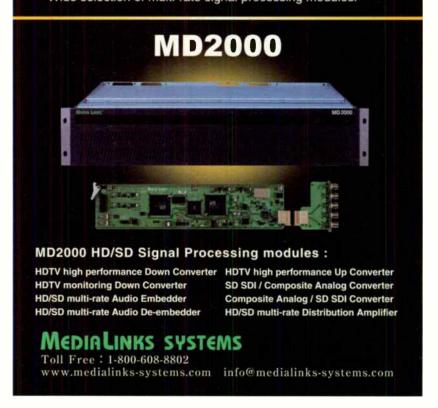
The other big news from Rohde & TEST & MEASUREMENT, PAGE 106

Introducing the MD2000 2RU MEDIA LINKS HD Digital Processing System.

With 8 high quality, low cost modules to choose from and 20 available slots the MD2000 is the most versatile compact HD/SD signal processing system available.

Features:

- · Easy maintenance hot swappable architecture.
- · SNMP management and monitoring.
- · High quality up and down conversion.
- · Wide selection of multi-rate signal processing modules.



Test & Measurement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 105

Schwarz is that the company is now responsible for its sales, maintenance and support in the U.S., and no longer has a marketing agreement with Tektronix.

Snell & Wilcox demonstrated its Mosalina automated video quality-control technology as part of its Comet open-standards ingest system.

Thales showcased its new Digital Program Insertion (DPI) monitor that checks the quality of the received signal on up to eight transport streams. Key features include SCTE35 detailed analysis, high-level views of cue-tone activity, Web-based monitoring, MPEG monitoring including TR101290 priority 1 and bitrate monitoring, SNMP agent for integration into a network management system, and long-term logs of cue tones.

Thales also demonstrated its line of MPEG-2 monitors and analyzers including the Granite monitor, Mercury analyzer, Cobalt data broadcast analyzer, Cobalt MHP real-time analyzer, Copper video streaming analyzer and Garnet handheld MPEG-2 analyzer.

Triveni Digital debuted the next generation of its real-time DTV transport stream monitor and analyzer family, the StreamScope MT-30. Retaining all the features of the company's MT-25, the MT-30 provides a new in-depth RF monitoring feature that analyzes the strength and quality of an 8VSB signal. The MT-30 can receive and remotely supervise multiple concurrent sources

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from diverse physical locations. A visualization station can be configured to monitor the multiple systems over an Intranet or Internet connection. StreamScope MT-30 can display HD and SD audio and video programs in all ATSC, DVB, and SCTE formats.

IneoQuest Technologies introduced Argus, a real-time, remote streaming-video monitor that checks content in an IP network. Argus allows users to inspect video-over-IP, including viewing the actual program content, from remote Argus units

through the network back channel. Argus is an extension of the IneoQuest Singulus product line and supports SNMP v.2 for remote monitoring of streaming networks and integration with other network management tools. Argus provides the same monitoring features as Singulus, but at a reduced cost.

IneoQuest also unveiled Aspectus, a portable MPEG-2 decoder/monitor device. Aspectus can connect to two MPEG-2 transport streams for visual monitoring on a high-resolution, seven-inch, LCD display. Picture impairments such as blockiness, noise and freeze frames can be detected. Aspectus can be used with the IneoQuest Singulus G1-T as an interface into a Gigabit network.

Sencore introduced the TSM 1770 ATSC/DVB transport stream monitor. The TSM 1770 also provides the ability to view the Electronic Program Guide (EPG), is capable of capturing and recording 256 MB of content on-the-fly or by a configured event trigger, and features extensive error logging capabilities for future analyzing needs. It can be operated, controlled and configured locally or remotely over a Web interface.

DE

Sencore debuted the IRD 3381 8VSB receiver decoder. The unit can tune to any UHF/VHF or CATV channel and provides a lock status of the receiver to indicate that a good signal is received. The input level indication is adjustable and also provides an alarm when the signal is too low. The IRD 3381 also provides information about the decoded video and audio that can be used to verify that the decoded video is being delivered as expected. Video and audio bitrate, native aspect ratio of the incoming video and other useful information is displayed.

Sencore also unveiled the IRD 3385 that allows the user to install only the types of inputs required. Input types that can be chosen include 8VSB, QPSK, 8PSK, 64/256 QAM, SMPTE-310M, and DVB/ASI with either 60 Mbps or 120 Mbps. Output choices



Larry Melling (I) of Tektronix describes the new WVR-611A rasterized waveform/vector display to Michael Kern of Walt Disney.

include SMPTE-310M, DVB-ASI, RGB, YPbPr, NTSC and HD-SDI. For digital audio, Dolby AC-3 or PCM is standard, with an optional Dolby E output. The unit provides two audio processors to individually select audio PIDs and also includes closed-captioning capabilities.

The company also howed the SLM 1456 handheld signal level meter with all-channel tuning from 5 to 870 MHz. The unit performs both analog and digital signal measurements, along with signal-leakage testing and ingress testing.

Rohde & Schwarz unveiled a new test transmitter for digital transmission, the SFU. The unit features the new transmission standards DVB-H for handhelds and DMB-T (TDS-OFDM) being developed in China, as well as the current range of standards. The SFU can generate a wide range of internal measurement signals and transmission parameters including signals with defined errors to simulate transmission problems. As an option, bit error rate (BER) can be added for all modulation modes.

Videotek introduced the DDM-800 Quad 8VSB frequency agile demodulator. The base unit is capable of receiving HD and SD 8VSB DTV signals and converting them to standard DVB-ASI output format. The front-panel display of the unit indicates current channel number and either signal-to-noise ratio or bit error rate associated with the signal inputs.

Z Technology introduced the AV1010 commercial ATSC/DTV receiver for high-quality TV translator or cable headend reception. The unit is commercially packaged with added hardware, cooling and signal-output conditioning for greater reliability than a consumer set-top box. The AV1010 includes front-panel programming with IR lockout and automatic recovery after a power failure. The unit receives ATSC/DTV signals from Channels 2 to 69 and converts any of 18 ATSC formats automatically to a selected line/field rate. An optional SMPTE 259M SD-SDI output is also available.

Z Technology also exhibited its new DM1010W professional 8VSB digital television demodulator. The unit is outfitted with an RF front-end

designed for instrumentation performance. Several DTV metrics can be monitored using a Windows-based application on an attached PC. These can be displayed and analyzed as they are sampled, or can be recorded over time to provide trends analysis.

Demonstrated

at the Z Technology booth was the R-507 portable and programmable field-strength meter. Using the supplied Windows Swept Spectrum application, the R-507 can display signal strength vs. frequency on a PC screen for any 5-, 10- or 20-MHz band between 5 and 1000 MHz. High-speed streaming is available with an option that provides signal strength vs. time information to capture signals present for as little as 5 ms, typical of intermittent signals.

Also at Z Technology was the DSS5800 automatic drive test system with 8VSB decoding.

GENERATORS & CHARTS

Burst Electronics demonstrated its line of color pattern generators, video generators, logo inserters, converter products and loss of signal detectors.

New for NAB2004 was the DG-3 color pattern generator, at a lower cost than the company's PG-3. Unlike the PG-3, which is field programmable, the patterns in the DG-3 are factory programmed, which safeguards the patterns.

For NAB2004 attendees who were thinking small, Panoramad v (the video-product division of Wohler Technologies) showed its Pen al-SDI, a shirt-pocket digital video sign a generator. The PenPal-SDI includes 26 10-bit test signals, including color bars, black, statrcase, solid fields and pluge.

Esser Test Charts exhibited is HD Set Kit of test charts. Included y ere the TE 232 log grey scale chart, TE 233 color chart with 24 colors and four skin tones, and the TE 234 color graduation chart.

Tentel displayed its DV CPRO mechanical test kit as well as new test fixtures for DVCPRO VCRs. Test fixtures include chassis adapter mounting plates (CAMP) and a five-piece toolkit (CHAT) to provide help for changing the cleaning roller and spring, changing the video head, removing cut washers and to help remove and re-install the fragile flat head cables.

Also shown were Betacam test instruments and information about Tentel's DVCPRO and Betacam training classes.

SIGNAL PROCESSING

NAB 2004 saw a great many companies offering products to take video and correct it, time it, encode or decode it, make it digital or make it analog.

ABE Elettronica introduced its SD MPEG-2 encoder and multiplexer, featuring up to four analog or digital audio/video inputs and transport stream output.

Adtec Digital launched its new Edje-3000 transport stream multiplexer and digital media router, designed for DTV, satellite and cable systems. The unit aggregates MPEG-2 transport streams from DVB-ASI inputs and IP data services, and is capable of providing support for ASI, SMPTE 310M and IP transport.

A new version of the popular Kona capture cards was introduced at the AJA Video booth. Kona 2 is a new dual rate HD/SD 133 MHz PCI-X capture card that supports uncompressed 10 bit SDI, HD-SDI and dual link 4:4:4 HD at both 10 and 12 bits and also features 8 channel AES audio, HD/SD component analog video output and broadcast quality HD/SD hardware up/down conversion.

AJA also announced two new software upgrades for its Io product line, offering RGB V-out support for popular compositing and graphics applications and the Io Control Panel OS X software, turning it into an "anything in, anything out frame synchronizer."

Analog Way showcased its HD Scan, a computer-to-HDTV scan converter that allows conversion of workstation, PC or Mac graphics up to 1,600 x 1,200 pixels into HD video in real time.

Astro Systems unveiled its SC-2055 multiformat converter, capable of driving up to eight input/output inter-

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face options and supporting resolutions up to 2,560 x 1,580 pixels. With assorted modules it supports HD-SDI, NTSC/PAL, RGB/YPbPr, DVI, audio and HDMI.

Aurora Video Systems released its PipeHD video capture and editing card at NAB2004. This addition to the Aurora Pipe product family allows users to take advantage of the RT Extreme capabilities within Final Cut Pro, while providing the option to work in either high definition or standard definition.

Axon Digital Design showed off its new HDW10, an HD/SDI-to-VGA converter for the Synapse modular range. The unit features multistandard inputs (HD/SDI and SD/SDI) and multiresolution pixel outputs, ranging up to 1,920 x 1,200 pixels.

Several new HD products were introduced from Blackmagic Design, including DeckLink HD Pro, a Dual Link HDTV 4:4:4 12 bit SDI capture card with built in multi-standard analog video monitoring. The Australian company also showcased HDLink, which connects post production quality SDI video directly to any supported DVI-D based LCD computer monitor for true HDTV resolution video monitoring.

Brick House Video introduced Neptune, a compact dual-SDI frame synchronizer, developed for use in a wide range of studio, edit suite, OB and transmission environments. It consists of two independent SDI framestore synchronizers in a 1 RU chassis.

Broadcast International debuted its CodecSys, a multicodec system that employs real-time artificial intelligence to manage libraries of standard and specialized codecs. The system dynamically changes codec settings on the fly and on a frame-by-frame basis, to optimize video and audio compression for video-on-demand, videoconferencing and live broadcast.

Canopus Corp. lifted the curtain off MediaEdge2, the latest version of its

network-based video distribution system. It supports MPEG-1, MPEG-2 and MPEG-4, and provides a multichannel, multilocation video delivery solution using standard TCP/IP networks and display devices.

CaptionMax demonstrated its new HD captioning system, proficient in 708 requirements and software conversion capabilities.

Chromatec showed off its LipSync 1 stereo analog audio delay synchronizer for resynchronizing audio with video. The unit is designed for constant sync corrections in fixed installations or location use, and features up to 2,700 ms of delay (81 NTSC frames).

Cobalt Digital introduced its HD8022, a low-cost, high-quality



Allison Parks of Cobalt Digital shows off the new HD8022 format converter

up/down/cross converter. It features dual-rate digital inputs, dual-rate digital outputs, as well as both analog HD and SD outputs. The unit incorporates embedded audio pass-through with delay correction.

Crystal Vision showed off its COCO Controller, a dedicated 1 RU control panel for up to eight COCO



By Craig Johnston

color correctors and legalizers. The cards allow adjustment of hue, chroma gain, RGB gain and pedestal, YUV gain and pedestal, luminance and chrominance timing, and horizontal and vertical cropping.

Color enhancement experts da Vinci debuted its Resolve software-based color correctors at the show. The product line includes the Resolve FX, Resolve DI and Resolve RT configurations, optimized for use in visual effects, digital intermediate and real-time 2K processing applications. The company also demonstrated its Nucleas and Server Interface Option software with SGI visual workstations.

Delta Digital Video introduced its 4400 Series A/V encoders/decoders, featuring MPEG-4 video compression, stereo audio, bi-directional audio and data Ethernet IP T-1/E-1. The units can be powered by AC or 12/28/48 VDC.

Doremi Labs spotlighted its new Orca MPEG-2 HD encoder PCI card, designed to encode HD video at rates up to 200 Mbps. Orca provides a choice of encoding parameters such as GOP structure, 4:2:0 and 4:2:2 encoding profiles, and compression bit rate.

DVEO, which is the new broadcast division of Computer Modules, premiered its HD Maestro, capable of encoding MPEG-2 streams at 50 Mbps at HD resolutions. The HD Maestro offers numerous expansion options and

SIGNAL PROCESSING, PAGE 110

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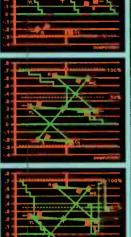




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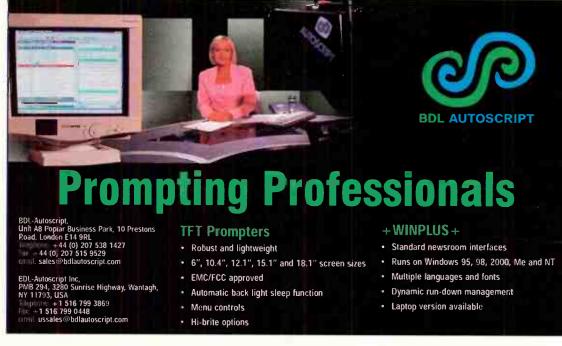
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PRODUCTS & SERVICES











The new MB-350 wide angle mattebox from Vocas features two independently rotating filter trays and one non-rotatable horizontal tray. It can accept an additional 4x5.6" filter in the hood for a total of four stages! This fourth stage can also be used with a variety 4:3 or 16:9 mattes.

For lenses wider than 5.0mm the mattebox can use a 45x45" rotatable filter or one 4x4 non-rotatable filter and two

horizontal filters. The patented internal eyebrow system allows the user to adjust the matte or mask to the zoom position of the lens. The MB-350 can be used as a clip-on mattebox or may require the MBS-100 support and bars adapter for use with standard 15mm rails.

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Signal Processing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 107

supports encoding of the major ATSC resolutions.

DVS Digital Video unveiled its Centaurus PCI-X bus capture card for SD, HD and 2K, for OEM and systems integrators. This PCI-X board has been designed for handling uncompressed SD, HD and 2K video streams, and supports all popular formats, color spaces, frame rates and resolutions up to 2,048 x 1,556 pixels.

ENCO Systems showcased its new Guardien automated profanity elimination and spoken word logging system at the show. Guardien can be used as a traditional broadcast delay, automated or a combination of the two. The company also introduced enCaption, a real-time, automated speaker independent speech recognition based closed-captioning system.

Envivio introduced its 4Caster Broadcast 4500 Series MPEG-4 real-time MPEG-4/H.264 encoder for media transport. It accepts inputs of SDI, IEEE-1394, S-Video, composite and component analog, as well as analog unbalanced and balanced audio and AES/EBU digital.

Ensemble Designs demonstrated its Avenue 7500 HD frame synchronizer and proc amp with optional eight-channel audio processing. This module is compatible with any HD format, and is capable of introducing delay and controlling color and other characteristics of the video.

ESE, timecode and master clock specialists, unveiled its PC-471PCI

timecode interface card. It takes exact time from a master clock and synchronizes a PC to that time so that its timecode generation is correct. It reads ESE, SMPTE or EBU timecode.

Evertz marched out its 7710XC-HD high-definition cross-converter, providing conversion between HD formats. It features one reclocked HD serial input and two reformatted serial digital outputs.

For-A introduced its DCC-70HS HD and SD color correction system, offering 14-bit, 4:4:4 component signal processing circuitry and the ability to control black, white and gamma levels individually or as a group.

FortelDTV presented its FS-516 A/V synchronizer, a single-board solution for transcoding, synchronizing and processing a variety of source types, including NTSC, PAL or SDI with ana-

sets, digital comb filter, gen-lock and dual channels. A 1 RU rack-mountable chassis is available.

IPV Limited unveiled Its SVPClcard, a dual-channel, SDI input, MPEG-1 and MPEG-2 encoder PCI card with external LTC timecode input. The product compliments IPV's SpectreView Shadow Browse technology and can also be used as a stardalone encoder.



Deirdre Smith of Zandar poses in front of a monitor wall created with the company's Fusion Pro multi-image processors.

Eyeheight added the canaletto line to its product mix. The canaletto color corrector provides 10-bit processing for color correction and one panel can control up to six canaletto channels, allowing overall luminance, chroma gain and black level adjustments as well as gamut legalization.

Florical Systems debuted its MediaTrans Plus, designed for economical delivery of video and audio signals between two locations using MPEG-4 technology.

log, AES, embedded or Dolby audio.

Harmonic introduced its DiviCom MV 100 standard-definition encoder, featuring MPEG-2 encoding and support for next-generation codecs such MPEG-4/AVC and Windows Media 9.

Hotronic demonstrated its model ATS51 (NTSC or PAL) full-bandwidth TBC/frame synchronizer. It features front-panel adjustment, proc amp pre-

JVC Professional Products demonstrated its DM-JV600 HD MPEG-2 encoder, which allows HD content to be transmitted over existing microwive channels. In concert with Broadcast Microwave, JVC transmited bi-directional HD content across the exhibit hall on a single microwave channel.

Keywest Technology introduced its LogoSTAR II logo generator, available in analog and SDI. LogoSTAR II features moving logo capability, non-inear digital video effects and an enhanced graphical user interface.

Laird Telemedia spotlighted its Inertia LTM-6000C DV media converter, which not only offers bi-directional DV-to-analog conversion but also SDI, component, Y/C and composite video conversion between formats independent of DV.

Leitch Technology demonstrated its DPS-575 digital processing synch ronizer, an all-in-one system offering maximum functionality and flexibility in 1 RU. It boasts digital noise reduction, bi-directional analog-to-digital transcoding, linear keying, SDI audio embedding/de-embedding and time-base correction.

Ligos Corp. premiered its MediaRig Encoder, a PC-based real-time MPE 3-2 encoding system, including software for encoding and management with a PCI I/O board. The product can be casally updated as new technologies become available.

Link Electronics introduced a 2000 Series signal processing line and showcased the Multi-Flex 2000 mounting



frame, which holds four modules and features a small LCD video monitor display on its face. The company announced that 14 new cards will be available in the 2000 series.

LINX Electronics showcased its new TVLinx automated PSIP solution, which was developed in collaboration with Liberty Corp., a station group with 15 network affiliates. TVLinx was demonstrated in the Crispin booth interoperating with Crispin automation and a standalone demonstration of the technology was shown in the Tandberg booth.

Two new products from its MCP-601 line of scan converters were demonstrated in Magni Systems' booth. The MCP-601-A targets customers working in analog Composite or Component video environments, while the MCP-601-D is for use in converting VGA graphics to serial digital format.

Marshall Electronics demonstrated its BC-0301-10 precision digital-to-analog module. It can be configured for a variety of applications, features two simultaneous composite video and S-Video conversions, and comes with a built-in colorbar generator.

Media Links presented its MD2000, a 2 RU HDTV modular processing system that includes a high-quality upconverter, downconverter, D/A, A/D, distribution amplifier and audio mux and demux modules.

Miranda Technologies launched its Imaging Series XVP-801i HD/SD universal video and audio processor, a single module offering up-, down- and cross-format conversion, as well as HD/SD signal processing, frame synchronization, and 16-channel audio processing. It accepts SD and HD at either 1080i or 720p, and simultaneously outputs SD and HD, at either 720p or 1080i.

Modulus Video debuted its AVE-SD video encoder for H.264/MPEG-4 AVC, a real-time, standard-definition encoder working at full resolution, supporting Main Profile@Level 3 at up

to three times the bandwidth efficiency of MPEG-

Network Electronics created a new housing for its signal processing ConQuer and flashlink card: the N-Box. Four N-Boxes can be mounted on a 1 RU shelf to accommodate applications requiring multiple N-Boxes, and they can also be stacked upon each other using desktop brackets.

nVision launched its 4000 Series, including the SD4230 analog-to-digital converter for component and composite analog video, with 10-bit conversion and a built-in frame synchronizer. It features four outputs, automatic line-rate selection between NTSC and PAL and separate reference inputs for each format.

Optibase demonstrated its VideoPlex HD decoding board, which offers playlist support for back-to-back seamless playback. It supports MPEG-2 MP@HL video decoding covering all 18 ATSC formats, and has the ability to choose mapping or allocation tables from MPTS files.

PatchAmp put the spotlight on its multirate wide-band digital DA, featuring automatic reclocking and cable equalization for SMPTE 292M, SMPTE 344M and SMPTE 259M. It supports data rates of 143, 177, 270, 360, 540, 1483.5,1485 Mbps, with single 1 x 9 or dual 1 x 4 operation.

Peak Communications launched its EMC7002 encoder module, providing a compliant MPEG-2 transport stream supporting multiprofile and multilevel video, low encoding delay and MPEG-1 Layer 2 audio.

Pixel Instruments brought its DG-1200, designed to correct lip-sync errors introduced by production



Link Electronics' Bob Henson (I) demonstrates the 2000 series to Mark Ireton of St. Louis University.

switchers with internal DVEs. The product interprets pre-programmed GPI and/or tally outputs from the switcher and generates delay control pulses to control up to five Pixel Instruments AD-3100 audio synchronizers, automatically eliminating the lip-sync errors.

Pixelmetrix Corp. launched its DVShift-HD delay unit that provides a profanity delay for SD- or HD-SDI signals. The system supports all SD and HD formats and has an intuitive Web interface.

Pro-Bel showed its ICON modular products for digital and analog signal processing. The card-frame system supports any combination of ICON's extensive card types, and separate slots for the optional Cosmos controller permit remote configuration and status monitoring of the ICON cards.

Radyne ComStream debuted its SE4000 DVB MPEG-2 encoder for mobile broadcast applications as well as network and cable head-end use. It

features modulated 70 and 140 MHz IF and L-band outputs to directly connect to low-cost upconverters, and an L-band monitor port with F-connector attaches directly into an IRD.

Ross Video showed a couple of additions to its GearLite compact terminal equipment line: the DAC-9213 multidefinition digital-to-analog converter and the SRA-9201 multidefinition reclocking DA. Also new from Ross Video was the ADC-8035 dual-analog composite-to-SDI decoder and the ADC-9033 universal analog-to-SDI decoder that accepts standard-definition composite, component or Y/C analog input.

Scopus launched its Codico E-9000 UniversalEncoder, which is compatible with MPEG-4, Windows Media 9 (WM9), SD and HD encoding formats. The UniversalEncoder provides broadcasters with a migration path from MPEG-2 to new compression algorithms, and supports both SD and HD with various compression schemes on the same platform.

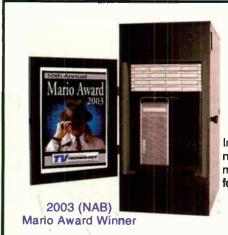
Sigma Electronics debuted its DV5515 HD/SD frame synchronizer, featuring built-in embedded audio management and delay compensation. It is designed to keep audio and SD/HD video in perfect time.

Skymicro exhibited the Merlin2003 DV and MPEG-2 recorder and dual-stream decoder board. The half-size PC1 card is designed for broadcast, video distribution, authoring and nonlinear editing, and is compatible with previous Merlin models.

Snell & Wilcox added 17 products to its IQ modular broadcast infrastructure line, including converters, synchronizers, distribution amplifiers, routers and audio modules—all capable of operating in either standard-definition or high-definition resolutions. The company also introduced HDTV converters.

Tandberg Television introduced its Intelligent Compression Engine (ICE), a platform for MPEG-4 part 10 and

SIGNAL PROCESSING, PAGE 112



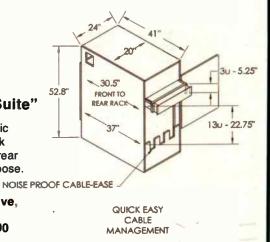


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Signal Processing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 111

Windows Media 9 series encoding. The ICE card is included in Tandberg's new EN5930 MPEG-4 part 10 video encoder and the EN5920 Windows Media 9 encoder, both also launched at the show.

Teleste Video Networks demonstrated its BLUEbox platform for compressed digital video, audio and data, which provides a standards-based MPEG-2 video networking solution for customers in education, healthcare, broadcast, homeland security, and other corporate and enterprise campus settings.

Telestream unveiled its MAPone system, an IP transmission application to transmit news stories from the field to the station over IP networks, including WiFi. It is designed to improve time-to-air by enabling journalists to transmit news stories directly from ENG laptops, and is combined with the company's FlipFactory product back at the station.

Teranex showcased its Volare 220 video processing and multiformat converter, offering format conversion (SD and HD), MPEG artifact removal, noise and grain reduction in a 2 RU formfactor. Its future-proof design permits updates as requirements change.

The ISIS Group unveiled its SC-108 eight-signal converter, which delivers analog video-to-digital broad-cast-quality conversion from composite NTSC or PAL to SDI. It features eight independently configurable channels housed in a 1 RU frame.

Thomson Broadcast offered a range of signal-processing products, from the multi- and single-function Kameleon and Gecko lines to the Newton Ethernet-based modular control system and NetCentral software for SNMP-based remote monitoring.

Triveni Digital unveiled its GuideBuilder family of PSIP and DVB-

SI generation systems that support the distribution of SCTE 35 digital cue tones and network program information to allow networks and their affiliates to synchronize splicing between

rates up to 80 Mbps. The compact, one-half length form-factor board includes audio support for AAC, AC-3, MPEG and Dolby digital, as well as VTR machine control.



Robert Tibbs of Teranex (c) explains the Volare converter to Adam Garza (l) and Mark Dunham, both from KXAN-TV in Austin, Texas.

local and national programming.

Tut Systems debuted three new Astria content processor platforms: the Astria CP 100, 200 and 400. They are a range of small form-factor platforms designed for deploying IP-based digital video transport networks.

TV One added new features to its C2-770 universal video scaler and introduced the C2-775-IP universal video processor, its SDI-capable cousin. The upgrades to the 770 include the ability to stack and save preset parameters.

VBrick Systems introduced its new VBXcast MPEG-4 encoder for streaming and Webcasting live events over LANs or the Internet. A server can support up to 120 viewing sessions and is capable of both multicasting and unicasting.

Vela demonstrated its CineView HD LE decoder, designed to enable frameaccurate playback of 4:2:0 in both SD and HD profiles and supporting data VideoBank debuted its Multi-Channel Encode System, featuring desktop browser control of MPEG encoding of a single video feed or hundreds of video feeds simultaneously. The device is designed for capturing multiple live-video sources, indexing the content and securely storing the content in an archive.

Video International introduced the Sync Pro 10, designed for audio/video synchronization. The unit has 10-bit video processing, SDI audio handling and the ability to embed, extract and listen to the audio associated with the video.

Videoframe rolled out its new VF1000, a flexible remote control system that can control the Terayon BP5100 ASI Splicer from any distance. The company also introduced two new economical VTECS control panels as well as three new Interface Series VNODES, designed to interface with

the GVG TEN-XL router, Snell & Wilcox RollNet devices and Sne.l's SwitchPak switcher.

Videotek showed a new DL-850 HD HD serial digital legalizer for HD-SDI to HD, SD-RGB and composite color space. It features an HD gamut error monitoring option.

ViewCast introduced its Osprey-300 capture, kontrol and edit card for streaming video applications. The Osprey-300 alds the features of a stindard IEEE-1394 card to become a DV capture card with control capability and OHCl compliancy for a range of popular applications.

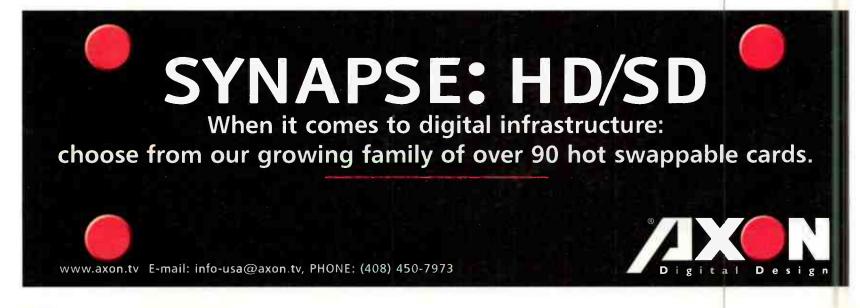
Vistek, with a family of more than 100 signal processing cards for its modular system, added some new members this year, including the V6402 HD frame synchronizer and the V6404 HD downconverter. Also joining the Vistek line was the V6406 HD upconverter.

Vitek Multimedia premiered its TwinPEG Pro MPEG encoder, featuring SD1 and YUV inputs, AES/EBU and embedded audio in SD1, dual encoding supporting MPEG-1, MPEG-2 and MPEG-4, and transport stream as well as program stream.

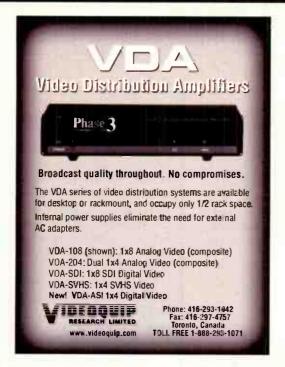
Xintekvideo presented its SDI-900MX color corrector/video processor for video serial digital data. The unit provides simultaneous and independent correction of red, blue and green grins and pedestal, luminance gamma correction, brightness and frequency resporse.

YEM International demonstra ed its SRC1080 HDTV scan rate converter on a PCl card, which converts a 1,920 x 1,080 DVl signal into an 1080i HD-SDl signal.

Zander Technologies added new features and options to its FusionPro high-resolution display processor. They include support for HDTV in the form of dual channel HD-SDI input processor cards, and new user interfaces to improve control, configuration and maintenance of a virtual monitor wall.



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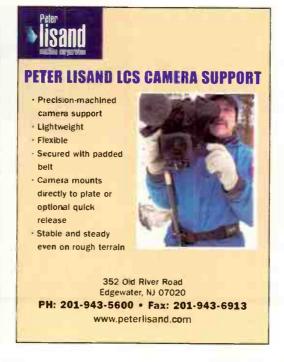
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TECHNICAL FURNITURE

Forecast Consoles' new MasterRail furniture system creates an infinite number of potential layouts and design configurations for custom and modular technical furniture.

The system incorporates precision laser-fabricated parts and third-party accessories into a pre-engineered steel frame superstructure with a proprietary aluminum extrusion serving as the "spine" of the console. All devices mount universally anywhere along the rail and are completely independent of each other and the rest of the structure, allowing the consoles to be completely reconfigured, re-purposed and re-used quickly, easily and inexpensively. A variety of finished materials can be applied to the framework to achieve any desired look or style. For more information, contact Forecast Consoles at 631-253-9000 or visit www. forecast-consoles.com.

PATCH JACK

Trompeter's newly enhanced J314 Series dual patchjacks are available as individual units or loaded into panels.

The J314 Series includes the J314W and J314WT (terminated and non-terminated versions) jacks as well as a smaller J314MW and J314MWT jacks for the miniWECo plug standard.

The enhanced J314 Series is designed with a forked actuator to enable multiple contact points for robust normal-thru interconnection in high non-conducive particulate environments. The robust 75 ohm design offers extended bandwidth of 1MHz to 3GHz with return loss performance of 20dB @ 2.2 GHz in the normal-through condition. The design of the J314 Series is lighter and constructed with fewer moving parts than other designs on the market.

For more information, contact Trompeter at 805-497-6400 or visit www.trompeter.com.



TEST EQUIPMENT

The VP21S from K-Will Corporation is designed for equipment manufacturers and production studios to perform objective evaluation of standard definition (SD) video in real-time, utilizing double-stimulus monitoring. The system is especially valuable for codec evaluation, quality-assurance (QA) verification and TV broadcast system performance measurements.

The VP21S can also be used for debugging encoder/decoder operations, quality evaluation of broadcast systems, automatic dubbing, DVD authoring and DVD prayback.

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Audio

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 81

Its on-board battery is a standard Sony-compatible L- or M-type Lithium Ion cell. The 722 and 744T easily interconnect with Windows and Mac OS computers for audio data transfer and backup.

Tascam unveiled the CD-RW750 CD recorder, a budget-minded rack-mountable CD recorder, with unbalanced I/O and S/PDIF digital I/O in optical and coax formats. It has a RAM buffer for skip-free playback, 24-bit A/D and D/A converters and a digital fade in and fade out from 3 to 30 seconds. Its monitor section allows it to be used as a stand-alone A/D converter or sample rate converter without the need to place a blank disc in the tray.

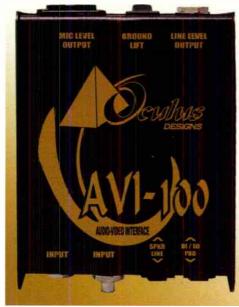
Zaxcom Inc. showed its next generation of Deva multi-track location audio recorders, the Deva V. Up to 10 tracks can be recorded at sample rates up to 192 KHz. Features include a color touch screen interface, eight analog microphone or line inputs with 48V phantom power, 15 seconds of pre-record, simultaneous multi-disk recording, FireWire interface port, an internal 80 gigabyte hard drive and full support of metadata entry without external hardware. Optional accessories shown include an Internal DVD-R option, Deva Flash Drive and Deva Mix-8 Fader Pack.

Replacing the Cameo II LRC is the Zaxcom Deva Mix-12, a control surface that integrates directly with the Deva IV and V and features a QWERTY keyboard to allow metadata to be entered. Its 16 inputs and 18 outputs perform 192 KHz mixing and monitoring utilizing the Mix-12.

Also introduced was the Deva Mix-8, a compact fader panel for the Deva IV & V hard disk recorders.

Zaxcom also unveiled the Deva Flash Drive for use with the new Deva hard disk recorders. The Flash Disk uses up to six compact flash cards currently holding up to 36 gigabytes of audio. Compact flash memory is supplied by the end user, four cards are fixed and two cards are removable. This Deva Flash Drive can replace the hard drive in the Deva IV, Deva V and Deva Fusion. When used in the Deva Fusion, the drive can produce two transcription-recording outputs. These Compact flash cards can be made with time coded Broadcast WAV or MP3 files.

The Deva Fusion "fuses" a mixer, recorder and a stereo RF transmitter into a single unit. Features include four mic/line inputs mixed to six outputs, high pass filter, compressor, delay, 140 dB input dynamic range and a four-channel auto mixer. On the Deva Fusion, audio can be recorded to a hard drive or Deva Flash Drive. Fusion can also output files directly to an



The AVI-100 from Oculus Designs is a portable interface to connect consumer equipment to pro audio systems.

external FireWire compatible DVD drive without the use of external computers.

SIGNAL PROCESSORS

Dolby unveiled the Dolby Digital Plus technology, an enhancement to Dolby Digital that is designed to meet four qualifications of a next-generation broadcast audio codec, namely, backward compatibility, spectral efficiency, cast savings. and compatibility with future formats. On April 2, the ATSC elevated Dolby Digital Plus (Enhanced AC-3) to Candidate Status as part of its work on next-generation broadcast and transport systems.

Eventide announced a 40-second version of its delay unit, the BD500.

The BD500 is Eventide's fourth generation broadcast profanity delay that features configurable delay and dump functions. Included is the company's Sneeze function which prevents throat clearing and coughing from going out over the air as well as the Rebuild function which seamlsessly rebuilds the delay buffer after a portion of the audio has been removed.

Harris introduced the NeuStar DTV sound surround system that delivers 5.1 sound by automatically converting audio into surround sound regardless of format. The process can transport audio over an existing stereo backbone and play it back as surround sound at the receiver.

Linear Acoustic was in the Sigma Electronics booth this

year showing its OCTi-MAX 5.1 DTV audio processor along with the new upMAX 2251 5.1 channel surround-field synthesizer. The OCTiMAX 5.1 protects against loudness shifts due to missing or incorrect metadata, while the new upMAX 2251 helps create and maintain 5.1 channel audio from two channel sources.

Oculus Designs, a division of VTG Holdings introduced the Oculus AVI-100, an audio/video interface that gives technicians a variety of input/output options. The AVI-100 can be used with audio or video recorders, classroom smart boards, projectors, portable public address systems, phonographs, tape players, etc. The AVI-100 takes virtually any type of input and converts it to

balanced mic level output.

Orban/CRL rolled in its Mobile Broadcast Laboratory, Support Vehicle, and Listening Booth to the NAB2004 show floor and introduced new products

For TV, the Optimod-FM 2300 is the newest generation of Optimod products that now offers new ITU 412 multiplex power density control and provides built-in Ethernet support. Key new features include stereo enhancement, built-in Ethernet and RS232 serial connectivity, full-featured remote control through any Windows 2000 or XP PC, standard AES/EBU digital input/output, Orban's patented "Half-Cosine Interpolation" composite limiter, and a multiplex power controller for countries required to meet the ITU-R BS412 standard. The 2300 uses Orban's latest-generation dual-band technology with window gating. This technology allows the AGC to correct gain riding errors quickly without increasing the density of material that is already well controlled in level.

Solid State Logic (SSL) displayed the Xlogic line of 19-inch rack-mounted outboard signal processing units. Products shown were the Xlogic 5.1 Compressor, Xlogic SuperAnalogue Mic Amp, Xlogic Channel, and the Xlogic G Series Stereo Compressor.

The Xlogic Multichannel Compressor features a circular "Max" display that shows which channel is contributing the most to the side chain, plus separate trim controls for the different channels, and dual stereo mode.

The Xlogic Channel includes SuperAnalogue pre-amp with mic, line AUDIO, PAGE 116



Audio

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 115

or instrument inputs and switched gain; twin-curve dynamics; high and low pass filters; and G series and E series "Twin-Curve" EQ—4-band parametric EQ, with variable Q on both mid bands and shelving/bell high and low bands.

SRS Labs introduced the CSE-07D digital encoder and its companion the CSD-07D digital decoder. The DSP-based units provide the ability to encode and decode up to 6.1 channels of discrete digital program material for transmission over any consumer stereo medium.

Symetrix debuted the AirTools 6200 Digital Voice Processor. A dualchannel unit, the 6200 provides two discrete audio pathways capable of processing microphone or line-level sources, independently or as a stereo pair. Combination jacks on the inputs accept XLR or 1/4-inch TRS connectors. Audio signals are converted to 24-bit 48 kHz digital immediately after passing through the analog preamp stage. From there, the user can define the types and order of processing to be applied. All parameters are accessible via front panel controls, or a software application on the user's Windows PC. Control of the 6200 is available via RS-232/485, USB or Ethernet. The 6200 offers onboard processing with functions that include filtering, downward expansion, deessing, parametric equalization and compression.

Symetrix showcased the 6100 Broadcast Audio Profanity Delay at NAB2004. The 6100 is a 24-bit digital delay unit designed for live broadcast that prevents profanity or unwanted com-



SSL introduced its AWS 900 analog workstation at NAB.

ments from reaching the airwaves. As the program begins, the 6100 gradually and unobtrusively delays, or "stretches out," the program until up to 20 seconds of full-bandwidth stereo audio is stored in memory. Users prevent offensive material from broadcasting by dumping the 6100's buffer. After the "dump profanity" button has been pressed, the 6100 automatically begins to stretch (time expand) the program audio again.

Symetrix also showed its 322 DSP Engine that houses a 24-bit Motorola DSP and high quality 24-bit A/D and D/A converters. Its front panel display features system status LEDs to indicate selected preset, clipping, signal presence, bypass, communications and power. Audio Workplace control data streams through a front panel RS-232 port, leaving the 322's chassis tamperproof. Audio signal VO connections are rear panel Euroblock terminal strips. Additional connections include two remote pot inputs, which can control

volume or up to four internal parameters, contact closures for remote preset selection, and an RS-485 port for control of multiple units. Up to 16 Symetrix 322's may be daisy-chained using their RS-485 ports. Non-volatile flash RAM stores all presets.

LOUDSPEAKERS

Data Check showcased its model 22020 12-channel dual-speaker monitor that operates either independently or in conjunction with any combination of the company's video monitors.

Television Systems Ltd (TSL) introduced the SLS-1P to the U.S. market at NAB2004. The 1RU unit SLS-1P is a self-powered loudspeaker unit that can be rack-mounted or used free-standing. The launch model features one stereo pair of analog inputs, head-phone output volume control and a power indicator. Further models are currently under development.

Genelec demonstrated a number of

its powered loudspeaker products.

For surround sound monitoring, the 1029.LSE PowerPak system consists of five Genelec 1029A two-way bi-amplified active monitors, one Genelec 706 JA LSE Series Active Subwoofer, and a Genelec Acousti/Tape frequency/wavelength measuring tape. In addition, a Genelec 1029.LSE PowerPak setup guide is included for speaker placement, wiring, and fine tuning.

The 7060A LSE employs Genelec's proprietary Laminar Spiral Enclosure (LSE) technology. In addition, the 7060A incorporates Genelec's new 6.1 bass management system which has six signal input and output channels, plus a discrete I FE signal input with a selectable 85/120 Hz low-pass filter and a summed signal output. The bass management system splits the six main channel input signals into low and high frequency components, ac urately dividing the input signal between the subwoofer and main speakers.

Tapco by Mackie exhibited a new family of active studio monitors. The 5inch Tapco S.5, introduced last September at the PLASA show in London, now has a new larger sibling, the eightinch Tapco S.8. The Tapco S.5 and S.8 are compact, two-way, bi-amplified monitors that feature dual highprecision internal amplifiers that deliver a total of 120 watts RMS (60 watts each for both the woofer and the tweeter). Both incorporate the same one-it ch waveguide-loaded silk-dome tweeter. Rear panel controls on the S•5 and S•8 allow for acoustic tailoring with low-frequency boost and high-frequency cut/boost switches. Inputs include 1/4inch TRS/XLR balanced and RCA unbalanced.

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As expected, much of the power source talk of the show was about the Jadoo Power Systems NAB-II hydrogen fuel cell power for portable cameras. The battery-brick shaped Power Converter attaches to the back of a camera or camcorder like a conventional battery. The Power Converter has a hole to accept interchangeable Fuel Cartridges-2.5-inch diameter, 4.5-inch long cylinders that hold the hydrogen.

A Refill Station, connected to a compressed hydrogen bottle, can recharge four Fuel Cartridges at once in an hour, and the Cartridges can be hot swapped in and out of the Power Converter to supply continuous power. The company estimates one Fuel Cartridge holds the amount of power of three conventional brick batteries.

Anton/Bauer Inc. premiered a gorilla of a camera battery this year with the Dionic 160, which can handle loads up to 140 W, about three times that of most lithium ion batteries. It can run a typical ENG camera for well over five hours and handle on camera lights.

Frezzi Energy Systems

took the cover off its Frezzi Advanced 130 W-h On-Board Ni-MH battery for the high drawing HD cameras. When two of the 130 W-h batteries are teamed through the company's dual brick adapter, they can be used to power an HMI 200 W light.

IDX System
Technology Inc.
introduced peripherals that fit
between its batteries and the camera,
including an

upgraded A-E2DT-V-Mount Camera Adapter with 2-pin Power Tap, designed to provide V-Mount compatible cameras with a 2-pin Power Tap connector for use with on-board lights. Another such accessory, the Uniplex A-UWR Wireless Receiver Adapter, sported a new mounting bracket to rear-mount a wireless receiver on cameras using an IDX P-V or P-VS V-Mount mounting plate.

PAG USA presented its Power Circle Li-lon Batteries, economical Li-lon ENG batteries in capacities of 95 and 65 W-h. Both incorporate a micro-driven coulemetric capacity indicator, called the PAG Power Circle, which displays charge status in percentage. The company also showcased its Freelancer Charger, an all-chemistry, two-channel, ultra-compact charger for location use.

Phylion Battery Company of China showcased an entire line of



Mike Jones (c) of Arri, explains the company's lights to Jeff Weiss (l) and John Ahrens.



David Mazur of Mazur Lighting discusses colors with Linda Roberts Mills of Cotech at the Cotech booth.

NP, AN, BP and PK series video camera batteries and chargers at this NAB. The company specializes in Lithium-ion battery technology, with designers from the Chinese Academy of Science.

VFGadgets.com rolled out its WhiteLightning block power battery pack, containing two 14-Volt, 7Ah packs, which can be operated as a single 28-Volt, 7 A-h battery or as two 14-Volt, 7 A-h batteries. The batteries have an LED bar graph to indicate remaining battery capacity.

LIGHTING

Airstar Space Lighting launched its Infinity lighting balloon system, which allows light balloon modules to be zipped together in an infinite number of configurations. The modules can be filled with helium if they need to float.

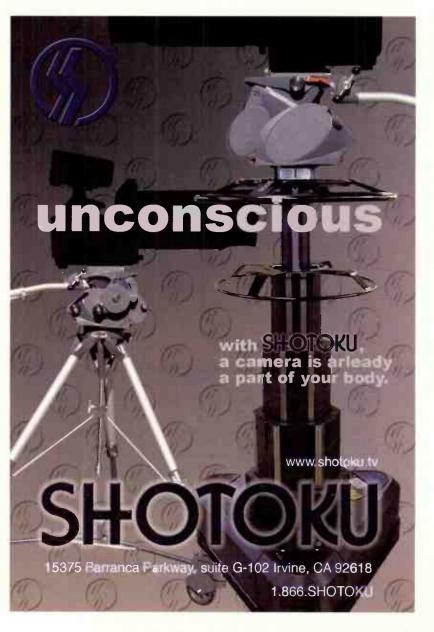
Anton/Bauer introduced a UL Dimmer accessory for its UltraLight on-camera lighting line-up. The unit allows the output of any UltraLight to be controlled from 0 to 100 percent output, and a memory function lets the user pre-set a high and low

By Craig Johnston

output for instant adjustment to existing lighting conditions.

Arri introduced its new Sky Panel, a daylight-balanced soft-light based on Osram's flat Planon source. The Sky Panel measures approximately 14 x 17 inches, is just 2 inches thick and can be docked with other Sky Panels. The result is a fixture that can be built into a large panel array to produce broad light that looks like daylight, without color correction.

Arri also showed its Studio Cool line of fluorescent studio lights, LIGHTING, PAGE 118



Lighting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 117

including two new models: Studio Cool 2 and Studio Cool 2+2. In addition, the company also introduced two tungsten fixtures for flood- and cyc-lighting applications, the Flood 1250 and Cyc 1250.

Balcar SA showed that fluorescent source lights can be more than soft lighting with its Balcar Spotflux 2 and 4, fluorescent fixtures, which can be used to create shadows and generally increase contrast. For lighting over longer distances, the company presented the Balcar Powerflux for production studios with highgrid systems, either as main light, fill light or cyclorama light.

Barger-Baglite displayed its GT-6, a six-bulb fixture, which fills the Quariz Chimera front screen with only one of its six individually switched lamps burning. It can operate on 15-Amp home outlets and needs no speed-ring.

Bowens introduced its new StudioLite range of fluorescent lighting, using economical and long la ting 55 W lamps in various choices of light output and color temperature. The company rolled out the fourlamp SL 455 and the eight-lamp SL

Brightline showed up with two redesigned lighting fixtures. It has doubled the number of fluorescent tubes in its CycSeries fixtures, which offers twice the amount of light from the same sized fixture. And it rolled out its Series Two fixtures, which feature twice the amount of blue tubes to solve the problem of not enough blue light on the cyc.

Bron Kobold debuted its DW 800, an all-weather 800 W focusable Openface or PAR HMI fixture featuring easy access for lamp change with bayonet reflector mount, and utilizes the Bron Kobold EWB 400-575-800 All-Weather electronic ballast.

Coemar showcased its Fiera Pars, moving lightling fixtures built into lightweight and compact plastic housings.

Cotech introduced itself to the U.S. market with hundreds of gel colors. The company featured a Pro-Filter Lighting Kit, which includes a dozen 10.5 x 12-inch sheets of fil-

Chimera unveiled its Octaplus Banks, including the 7-foot, 6-foot and the 3-foot Octaplus, a standalone eight-sided bank. Chimera Octaplus Banks are compatible with strobes and continuous light sources.

Cool-lux premiered its SL3000 a combination softlight/broadlight fixture for mounting on a camera or on a stand. It utilizes a double-ended 78mm length lamp, and can be powered from 12, 13.2 or 14.4 VDC, or by 120 or 240 VAC using different lamps

Dedotec USA Inc. unveiled ts Dedolight DLH200D 200-W HMI light head, which sports a 20:1 focusing range. Both AC and battery ballasts are available, as well as projection attachments.

DeSisti Lighting showed its CD fresnel lighting fixtures using the new Philips Ceramic ST HR bulbs that use one-quarter the power (and produce one-quarter the heat) of the same light-output halogen lamos they replace. The company also d splayed its power-limiting 1.2K and 2.5K ballasts.

Electronic Theatre Controls (ETC) displayed the Source Four Revolution moving light system for theaters. The fixtures are modular to allow the addition of iris, static wheel, rotating wheel and shutter modules. The fixture's lens allows a LIGHTING, PAGE 120

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MARKETPLACE

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EQUIPMENT RACK

Winsted has added nine new sizes to its Pro Series II line of vertical equipment racks and the entire line has also been granted UL approval.

The models are all-welded with mar-resistant black finishes for strength and long service life. All have leg levelers as well as corner uprights, independent lift-off side panels and open pedestals to facilitate wire management. In addition, all Pro Series II models have larger upright frames for improved load carrying capacity.

Winsted makes a wide range of other equipment racks, as well as consoles, cabinets, shelves and other technical furniture. The company offers off-the-shelf and custom-designed products.

For more information, contact Winsted at 800-447-2257 or visit www.winsted.com.

BROADCAST SERVER

SGI Media Server for broadcast supports the most popular broadcast digital formats and handles operations such as multichannel ingest and playout under automation control. The system is well suited for any traditional broadcast application, including acquisition, play-to-air, commercial insertion and server-based news editing. SGI Media Server for broadcast is compatible with the company's CXFS SAN storage infrastructure and supports up to eight standard-definition MPEG-2 video channels, with up to eight audio channels per video channel. Compression rates of up to 50 Mbps provide flexibility in the choice of picture quality and editing flexibility. Optional networking connections include Gigabit Ethernet and ATM.

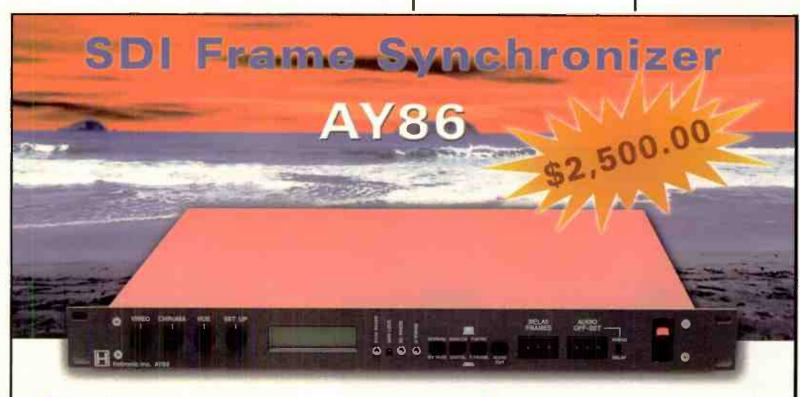
For more information, contact SGI at 800-800-7441 or visit www.sgi.com.



SHAKE ELIMINATOR

The new For-A IVS-700HS helps take the shake, rattle and roll out of SD and HD video images shot with too much vibration or from a long distance with a telephoto lens. Supporting HD and 525/60, 625/50 signals, the IVS-700HS features 10-bit processing and image enhancement circuitry that stabilizes images that are recorded with shaking images. The unit will also work with live images, such as those from aircraft or polemounted cameras. The compact 1 RU IVS-700HS has composite, component and SDI inputs and outputs. Built-in embedded audio features are standard, providing a delay function of three frames that is compatible with blurriness correction de ay of the IVS-700HS. For more information, contact For-A at 714-894-3311 or visit www.for-a.com.





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Lighting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 118

16-36-degree zoom capability, and it has a patented mechanism designed to make its motors run silently.

SMALLER, LIGHTER

Element Labs premiered its Versa Tile, an edge-lit LED tile capable of RGB color mixing to create a wide spectrum of colors. The 5-by-5 or 10-by-10 tiles can be used to create color-changing backgrounds, and since each Versa Tile represents one pixel on the screen of a PC or Mac, content can be created using any graphics program or adapted from available stock imagery.

Frezzi Energy Systems added a new line of smaller quartz and HMI lights tailored for smaller cameras. The professional line of ultra-small fixtures included the Standard (on/off) and Dimmer Control Micro-Fills, and the HMI Micro-Sun Gun. The lights can be configured with all of the commonly requested connectors.

LightPanels introduced its new LitePanel family of daylight balanced lighting systems, employing efficient LED technology to produce a soft and projected light. The LitePanel has a compact head that can easily mount on the camera, and offers flicker-free, 5600K output of 80 foot-candles at two feet. It is three times more efficient than a conventional tungsten camera light.

Kino Flo added LED fixtures to its line of fluorescent lights this year with its Koloris DMX system. The fixtures are capable of producing 1.6 million colors at low power-consumption and low-heat levels.

K5600 introduced its BlackJack 400 W, a compact daylight balanced focusable Fresnel instrument offering the ability to project large patterns and Gobos. K5600 also debuted newsroom and small studios lights. Its 800 W Joker-Bug was shown working on special DC power-packs with K 5600's own DC ballast.

KW/2 Lighting Products introduced a line of "Smart Lights," designed to allow converting of standard fixtures to analog, voltage, or DMX dimming by switching out the modular ballast housing at the back of the light. This allows the lights to change with dimming needs.

Lee Filters unveiled its Frosted Color Glass dichroic filters, designed to fit Mole Richardson's MR16 fixtures. The filters come in 12 tints, and are designed to reduce halation and soften the light beam, while converting it to daylight color balance.

Licht-Technik Vertriebs GmbH showed off its Mini Bag-o-Light super soft light accessories, designed to fit a variety of lamps but optimized for the Arri Mini Sun and several Arri Par fixtures. The inflatable white bags offer very diffuse lighting and are designed for use shooting complex reflective surfaces, such as the exterior of an automobile.

New fluorescent lighting products highlighted Lowel Light's booth. The e-studio line of non-dimmable studio fluorescent fixtures offer an efficient light source in tungsten or





PAG introduced its 95 W-h Li-lon battery and Freelancer Charger at the show.

daylight temperatures. Three models were introduced, housing two, four or six T-55 W lamps, with a collection of control accessories and a unique stand or lighting grid mounting system based on Lowel's Caselite products.

Matthews Studio Equipment launched its Max Menace Arm, a roll-around light stand with built-in arm that allows light fixtures up to 175 pounds to be suspended horizontally up to 9 feet from the stand (88 pounds up to 17 feet), or at any angle upward to as high as 24 feet. It can also dip down to a negative 15 feet below the surface.

Mole-Richardson unveiled a

monster of a light, its Type 6801 12/18K Daylight Fresnel, updating the Mole's previous big fresnel with a redesigned ventilation system that increases reliability and bulb life. The design also achieves nearly no spill light. The company also showcased its Molescent Biax light fixtures, which come in five sizes.

PAG USA introduced its Paglight L24, a compact and portable 250-W location light modeled after PAG's on-board camera light. The fixture is mounted on a detachable power base that incorporates a flying lead terminated with a XLR-4 connector which can be used to power the light from a 24V Pagbelt IC2 battery belt.

Photoflex showcased its HalfDome2, which pro-

duces a focused highlight while maintaining overall softness. It has a small profile making it easy to shoot over when used as a foreground light, and its baffles keep it from spilling light when used as a fill. It features Photoflex's proprietary silver lining.

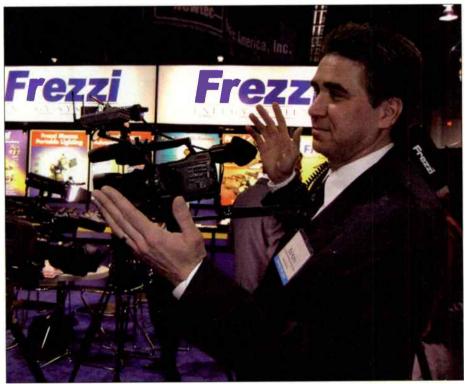
Sachtler trotted out the conpany's first PAR light fixtures, a 200-W and 400-W HMI. Sachtler also introduced its Pilot system to fully automate its Luminair studio light fixture functions, including focus, pan and tilt as well as barndoor operation.

Strand Lighting introduced its new HMI 575 W daylight fresnel fixture, featuring an internal ballast to eliminate the difficulty of dragging the ballast along with the light during location changes. The company also showed Ceramic Dishcharge lamp based fixtures.

Tokina Company brought its Fluorescent Light Banks to the show. The company offers models utilizing linear tube types as well as spiral tube types, and offers cool illumination with minimal dissipation of heat.

Videssence took on field production with the introduction of the Baby Base, an 84-W instrument featuring intense light output from a lightweight, 9 x 5 x 6-inch housing, with an adjustable, lockable mounting yoke. The Baby Base uses two 42-W Triple Tube high-color rendering fluorescent lamps, with an integral dimming control provided for the 0-10 Analog Dimming option.

Westcott Co. added a new Victo Broadcast kit to their Scrim Jim modular diffusion and 72 x 72-inch large Scrim Jim frame along with several scrim nets, clamps and grip heads.



Ed Kuhn of Frezzi Energy Systems shows off the company's new Stable Cam camera support and power system. The battery on the shoulder mount helps balance the camera.

Cable

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 76

nated the J314 series, are a true 75-Ohm design and boast a frequency response of 1 MHz to 3 GHz. The J314 series jacks are also lighter and have fewer moving parts than most other patch jacks, which also help to eliminate possible failures and make the product more desirable for weight-sensitive applications.

Trompeter also showed its highly regarded video connectors, including its line of 75-Ohm BNC fittings.

Programmable audio patch jacks were the news at the ADC booth. The company announced a new Pro Patch programmable product that uses a WECO-compliant Bantam jack and a DIP switch to quickly change normals and grounds.

The programmable Pro Patch is a high-density panel that is 48 jacks wide. It is the only programmable Bantam jack audio patching system that passes stringent military specifications for vibration and environmental conditions.

Also new from ADC were new reversible ProAx triax connectors for connecting cameras to production trucks. In addition, the company showed a new normalled-through optical patch panel.

Programmable audio patch panels were the featured item at the **Bittree** booth. The company's 489 Series boasts the ability to change the normaling and grounding of individual circuits by switching the shunt arrangement under the panel's designation strips.

The process is easy: Simply remove the two strips, rearrange the vertical (normaling) and horizontal (grounding) shunts, and your patching system is reconfigured. The 489 Series is available in 1.5 and 2 RU enclosed chassis and a jack configuration of 2x24, with a variety of other options. The 489 patch panel is AES/EBU compliant, using balanced 110-Ohm internal wiring.

Bittree also has a variety of video and component patch panels. New this year is the company's five-wire RGBHV component patching system, which is available in both WECO and mini-WECO versions.

HIGH IN FIBER

Telecast Fiber Systems was at the show with its new Mamba family of fiber-optic connection products. Mamba combines patchbays, media converters and fiber-optic components into an integrated system to connect control rooms, trucks, venues and other production facilities.

Mamba uses familiar mini-WECO and Bantam jacks and patchbays to

interconnect with a fiber-optic system, resulting in a package that is smaller and lighter than coaxial cable. The system can be used with SDI, HD-SDI, AES/EBU digital audio and analog audio.

At NAB2004, Telecast announced that it was now shipping its DiamondBack II video multiplexer that can transport eight broadcast-quality analog video signals—each with two audio channels—over fiber-optic cable. The DiamondBack II also can accommodate a ninth input for audio, intercom and data signals.

As professional camcorders are getting smaller, it makes sense for things that attach to such camcorders to get smaller, too. Therefore, Camplex Corporation introduced the PRO-X1, a coax/triax camera adapter for "prosumer" camcorders and cameras.

Using the PRO-X1, most popular small digital camcorders can be operated from as far away as 3,000 feet for live, remote applications including multicamera shoots. The system works with either standard coaxial cable or with triax, and return video, audio, intercom and tally signals are provided back to the camera.

In addition to the new PRO-X1, Camplex also showed its CP-601 and CP-301B analog coax camera connection systems.

Another company looking at increasing the convenience of using fiber for remote camera operation is Telemetrics, which displayed its new HFT-BS and HFT-CA hybrid fiber/triax adapter. Working with HD cameras, the system connects the camera to a triax adapter, which is in turn con-

nected back to the studio or production truck using one single-mode fiber.

Many vendors showed their products for fiber optic interconnection, which provide the ability to send broadcast-quality video and audio as far as 50 miles in a single run. These systems are ideal for studio-transmitter links (STLs), inter-building connections, venue cabling and any location where the signal must travel more than 500 feet or so.



Todd Harrington of Gepco points out the new hybrid-fiber distribution box.

Miranda Technologies exhibited the FIO-18x1 family of fiber-optic modules, part of the company's Densité series. FIO-18x1 modules fit in a Miranda Densité 2 RU frame and offer SDI-to-fiber and fiber-to-SDI modules for SD and HD, as well as compressed bit-streams, and support any data rate from 5 Mbps to 1.5 Gbps.

The modules provide reclocked SDI

video from 143 Mbps to 1.5 Gbps. FIO-18x1 series modules are available in 11 different configurations, and can provide single- or dual-fiber bidirectional video.

Another company featuring its fiberoptic products at NAB2004 was Network Electronics. New in the company's fiber-optic line is the N-Box, a compact single-card housing for its flashlink series of modules. The N-Box can hold any flashlink card except for the company's DWDM module.

In addition to a new housing, Network debuted its flashlink CWDM-16, a single-fiber 16-channel CWDM multiplexer that works with the company's video, audio and data modules. Also introduced were the AVA-MUX and DMUX modules for analog video and audio to fiber conversion.

Opticomm had a new logo this year, as well as several new fiber-optic products. Topping the list is the Multiverse platform, which uses the company's Multiple Division Multiplexing (MDM) series of multiplexers to get up to 144 channels of analog or digital video down a single fiber

The company focused on both quality and security, at the same time packing as many signals as it could onto a single fiber to maximize efficiency. As a result, the Multiverse platform can send anything up to HD signals for as far as 40 miles, while claiming that the signal can't be tapped without immediate detection. The system can be used to simultaneously send 64 HD-SDI signals down a single fiber.

Other new products from



Cable

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 121

Opticomm include 8- and 10-bit digital video/audio modules in its FDV series. The FDV-1000 is a 10-bit fiber module that can provide simplex or full-duplex video with 24-bit audio, leaving a slice of bandwidth for data and control signals.

Incorporating fiber-optic modules into its production equipment is one of the ways that **Grass Valley** uses to stay competitive. At NAB2004, the company showed its tiny fiber-optic modules that fit into the Kameleon line of acquisition, production, storage and playback products.

With the new fiber modules, the output of a Grass Valley HD switcher can be directly fed to a control room or master control switch that is several kilometers away, without the need for any intermediary equipment. About the size of a pack of chewing gum, these fiber-optic modules slide into pockets on the rear of the Kameleon products.

Gefen makes a variety of "black box" devices that can be used to send a wide range of signals down commonly used Category-5 computer networking cable, including such signals as USB, FireWire and HDTV. For example, the company's EXT-HDTV-141 is an HDTV repeater that extends the length of any HD DVI signal for up to 150 feet, whicl maintaining 480p, 720p and 1080i resolution.

Another of these interesting conversion/extension devices shown in the company's booth was the EXT-FW-141

FireWire repeater, which can be used to extend FireWire devices for as far as 250 feet, using standard FireWire cables. The box can even be remotely powered if you use six-pin FireWire cables; imagine having that bank of noisy drives located in another room for some editing peace and quiet!

Video-over-IP was bubbling in the consciousness of many NAB attendees and one of the companies providing production in this area is Path 1, a supplier of IP routers for broadcast applications. The company's new Chameleon vidXwan is a multiport, bidirectional real-time IP router that can distribute live MPEG-2 video in both SD and HD formats.

Using fiber networks, the vidXwan incorporates standards-based encapsulation and forward error correction to support the ProMPEG code-of-practice for live broadcast applications. The Chameleon vidXwan can transmit and receive up to four output and input feeds simultaneously.

NETWORKS

There's a bigger picture when it comes to transporting signals and several companies exhibiting at NAB2004 were there to talk about how then can deliver your content around the continent and across the planet. With a web of fiber-optic circuits supported by geosynchronous satellites, these companies deliver video from war zones and catastrophes, large sporting events and coronations.

Probably the best-known name in the U.S. is **Vyvx**, a division of communications giant **WilTel**. Vyvx has a footprint that reaches more than 11,000 television and radio stations and the company transmits more than 12 million video minutes per year.

At NAB2004, Vyvx promoted its new HD VenueNet service, which is used to backhaul HD sporting events from venues to broadcasters. The latest addition to the HD VenueNet family is the San Diego Padres baseball team, which is now able to provide Cox

Communications in San Diego with HD feeds from its home field, as well as away games in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Phoenix and Denver.

Vyvx also announced that it can now provide MPEG-2 service at up to 18 Mbps to locations in Canada and the U.K., including Calgary, Edmonton, Montreal, Toronto,

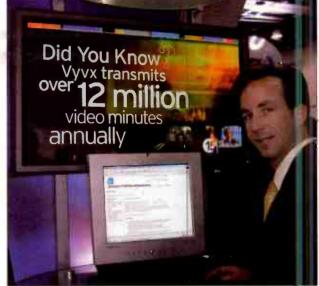
Vancouver and London. For the U.K., the new service offers full PAL pass-through for seemless handling of international broadcast standards.

Sports are also on the mind of Inteslat, which is now carrying the international feeds for Major League Baseball (MLB). As many as 40 MLB games per week will be carried internationally on Intelsat and the package also includes the annual All-Star Game. Going in the reverse direction, Intelsat was the carrier for this year's centennial Le Tour de France bicycle race.

Shortly before NAB2004, Intelsat announced that it had completed its acquisition of the North American satellites and related customer contracts of Loral Space & Communications. The purchase added full coverage of North America to Intelsat's reach and expanded its customer base in broadcasting and cable television.

Another major player in international and domestic signal transport is BT Broadcast Services. At NAB2004, the company announced that it was launching the industry's first global end-to-end HD networking capability. BT Broadcast has its own trucks that it can roll into sports and entertainment venues, which are then connected to the company's network of international fiber pathways and satellite teleports.

For news backhaul, BT Broadcast announced Mediarelay, a partnership with **Pathfire** to enable international transfer of prerecorded segments for news and entertainment programs. Also announced at the show was a partnership with Media.net to create an international network for sharing media for video and television productions. This partnership will provide a secure channel for filmmakers in London to use special effects from a Los Angeles-based company, for example.



Derek Smith, vice president of Vyvx, demonstrates the company's new HD VenueNet high-definition services.

Pathfire, the popular service for news feeds and backhaul in North America, announced the release of Version 3.0 of its Digital Media Gateway (DMG). Pathfire's DMG connects broadcast facilities with content providers, enabling them to access and manage content from their desktops

Enhancements to DMG include the

Enhancements to DMG include the release of Browser DMG for News which allows broadcasters to access the same Pathfire-delivered news content using a standard Internet brow-er. The company also said that it would release its new version of VNR Master Locator by the end of the year. Vers on 3.0 of VNR Master Locator will let news producers access VNR (video news release) and related material from various suppliers.

The big news for PanAmSat at NAB2004 was its sale by the DirecTV Group to Kohlberg Kravits Roberts & Co., for a reported \$4.3 billion. As part of the transaction, DirecTV agreed to enhance certain agreements between itself and PanAmSat, in order to assure continuity of services for its Hughes Network Systems and DirecTV Latin America subsidiaries.

The company also celebrated its 20th anniversary at NAB2004, announcing new HD "anywhere-to-anywhere" services. Some of the content providers already signed up for PanAmSat's HD services are ESPN HD, HBO HD, HDNet, HDNet Movies, Cinemax HD, STARZ! HD TNT HD, Bravo HD+, Encore HD and The WB HD.

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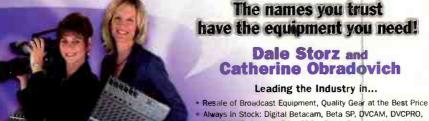
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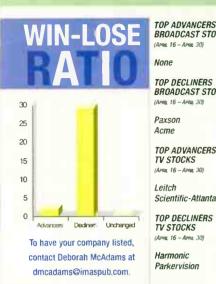
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	. Compix Media			Modulation Sciences		20	Group/National Mobile TV	www.vsa.tv
	. Comprompter				www.network-electronics.com/us	63	. Video Technics	
				. Noren Products				www.videoframesystems.com
	. Compuvideo Test Instruments .			. Nucomm, Inc.			Videoquip Research	
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	. Digidata Controls Inc.			Omneon Video Networks				
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TV TECHSTOCK INDEX





1 1 16	CII STOOKS	, as 01	April	30
Company Name	52-Week Range	Apr. 16	Apr. 30	% Change
Avid	26.14 - 59.77	50.63	47.66	-5.87%
Belden	11.65 - 22.87	17.82	17.49	-1.85%
Ciprico	4.35 - 7.21	4.91	4.71	-4.07%
Harmonic	3.18 - 13.75	8.62	6.58	-23.67%
Harris	27.40 - 51.19	48	45.05	-6.15%
Leitch	N/A	5.07	5.26	3.75%
LSI Logic	4.50 - 12. 90	8.85	7.44	-15.93%
ParkerVision	5.25 - 12.30	5.87	4.78	-18.57%
Pinnacle	6.60 - 13.80	8.95	7.88	-11.96%
S-A	15.34 - 38.59	31.56	32.39	2.63%
SeaChange	7.42 - 21.88	13.45	11.62	-13.61%
Storage Tech	21.96 - 31.12	27.04	26.27	-2.85%
Tektronix	18.00 - 34.89	31.86	29.6	-7.09%

COMPANY FOCUS

Political Ads Fuel Broadcasters' Q1

healthy increase in Q1 political advertising in key battleground states helped fill the revenue coffers of two major broadcast groups while a third group struggled to keep costs in line.

Paxson Communications, the nation's largest station group reported a Q1 loss of \$48.68 million (89 cents per share), based on revenue of \$83.58 million in the quarter ending March 31. This compares to a loss of \$185,000 (35 cents per share) on revenue of \$82.67 million for the same quarter a year ago.

The company blamed the higher loss on several factors including a \$6.29 million extinguishment of debt and \$14.37 million paid as dividends on mandatory redeemable preferred stock. Paxson CFO Richard Garcia said he expects operating costs to rise in the second quarter due partly to an increase in DTV buildout expenditures.

Sinclair Broadcast Group reported \$158.3 million in net broadcast revenues, a 4 percent

increase compared to the same period a year ago. The Baltimore-based station group cut its net losses to \$2.3 million (3 cents per diluted share), down from \$3.9 million (5 cents per diluted share) in Q1 2003.

Sinclair executives noted that the quarter got off to a slow start due to severe weather on the east coast and late political ad spending but said that a late surge in automotive and presidential election ad spending became more robust as the quarter progressed. The company expects to invest \$27 million over the next several years in transmitter, building and tower projects.

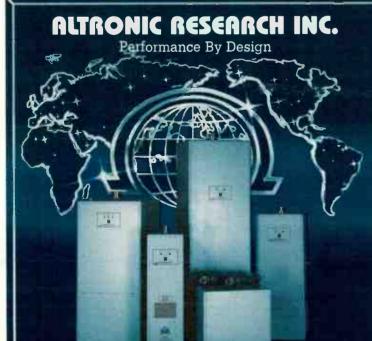
Granite Broadcasting posted \$26 million in net revenue in Q1, a 5.4 percent increase over the same period last year.

"Net revenue was positively impacted by an incremental \$1.1 million of political advertising, the vast majority of which was generated in just three of the six states in which we provide local news: California, Illinois and Minnesota," said Granite COO John Deushane.

—Tom Butts

Broadcast Stocks as of April 30

Company Name	52-Week Range	Apr. 16	Apr. 30	% Change
Acme	6.68 - 10.21	7.59	6.72	-11.46%
Belo	21.62 - 29.90	28.68	28.46	-0.77%
Emm is	18.00 - 28.65	24.16	23.32	-3.48%
Entravision	8.00 - 11.88	9.5	9.13	-3.89%
Fisher	43.95 - 52.50	51.45	50.4	-2.04%
Granite	1.33 - 3.70	1.7	1.6	-5.88%
Gray	10.55 - 16.22	15.37	14.82	-3.58%
Hearst Argyle	22.08 - 29. <mark>25</mark>	27.25	26.25	-3.67%
Nexstar	26.00 - 31.10	12.5	12.31	-1.52%
Lin TV	10.63 - 14.50	23.44	22.49	-4.05%
Paxson	20.23 - 27.49	3.6	3	-16.67%
Sinclair	2.60 - 6.9 <mark>9</mark>	13.31	12.36	-7.149
Liberty	9.63 - 15.43	47.46	44.9	-5.39%
Univision	40.46 - 51.79	34.94	33.85	-3.129
Young	27.19 - 40.05	18.22	17.7	-2.85%
Tribune	44.28 - 53.00	49.28	47.88	-2.84%
Meredith	41.59 - 53.47	51.57	50.94	-1.22%
EW Scripps	80.75 - 109.30	108.56	105.55	-2.779



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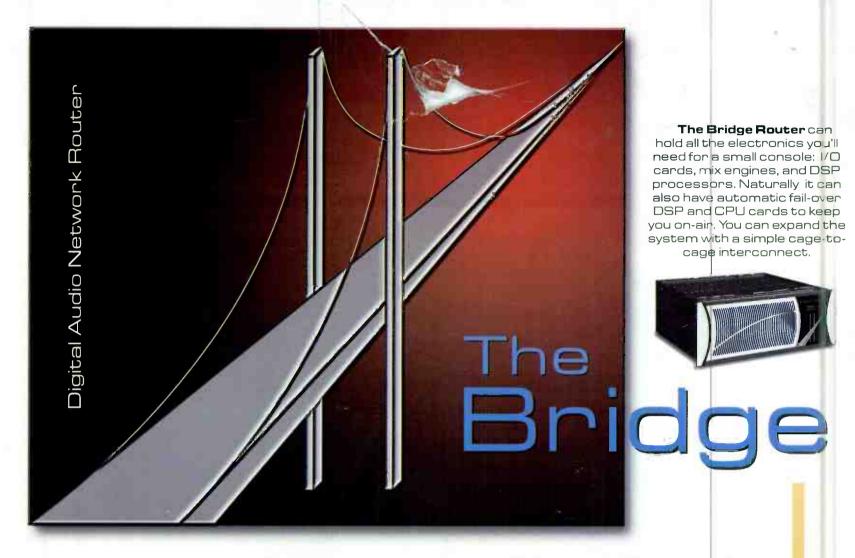
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