SOU COMMUNICATIONS

Volume 39 Number 2

February 25, 1993



AUDIO IN ASIA, PART 2

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We continue the audio tour of Asia with our `Iike Klasco. This month Mike t

Seoul and offers personal obn the city, the country, and the 28 ess.

CHURCH OF THE FUTURE

Sunshine Ministries has been instrumental in bringing Christian music to Western Michigan since the church opened five years ago. Initially, however,

THIS ISSUE

A hockey arena needed flexibility, ease of use, and clear sound. Mavri, Inc. designed and installed a completely new system for the Student Development Complex of Michigan Technological University.

The 124th ASA Meeting

New Orleans hosted this fall's gathering of the Acoustical Society of America. Myriad technical specialties were covered from acoustical oceanography to musical acoustics, by diverse sources such as MIT and NASA. 16

• This is a Test

The automated remote testing of teleconferencing facilities is an important recent development caused by the increased employing of facilities and the resulting failure of certain components. 54

the sound system was less than optimum for musical reproduction. In came Ascom, who has been able to take the church to new heights in sound. affordably. 38

OST-TECHNOLOGY ER

ch audio business frequently operates hnology" business. Some suggestions ion on bringing about business tech-18 new era.

PERFORMANCE SERIES

he Performance Series[™] 3680 Sound Reinforcement Console is the result of ongoing research by Peavey to meet the rigid requirements of today's sound engineers. Many technological advancements have been included with this new console, but we have also kept in mind the most needed and most often used features that are common to virtually every sound reinforcement application.

The totally modular concept, coupled with performance, function, features, and exceptional specifications, has offered to the sound engineer a console that is "tailor made"... and affordable!

ULTRA LOW-NOISE DESIGN

The input stage is discrete and contains the lowest noise transistors that are currently available. The signal-to-noise spec of the Performance Series 3680 input stage has approached the theoretical limit at -133 dB while maintaining 60 dB of gain.

DIFFERENTIAL SIGNAL ROUTING

All bus signals are differential to eliminate crosstalk and annoying ground conduction.

GOLD PLATED INTERCONNECTS

Gold plated connection contacts are used throughout for lowest noise and maximum reliability. The highest degree of signal integrity is maintained with all signal interconnects to provide "low-noise" operation.

K SOCKETS

All ICs are individually socketed for ease of service as opposed to ICs that are soldered directly to the circuit board.

INPUT CHANNEL FLEXIBILITY

-Now available in 24 and 36 channel versions, channel options are unlimited for the future and for special applications requiring more than 36 channels.

ELECTRONICALLY BALANCED INPUTS

New electronically balanced input circuit offers 100 dB of common mode rejection, allowing the console to operate in most any environment without interference.



PREMIUM FADERS

Rails are center ground and highly polished to match perfectly with nylon bushings for a silky smooth feel. The shaft is offset to prevent dust and debris from entering the fader mechanism.

ENGINEERED.... SOUND REINFORCEMENT CONSOLES

Series 3680



MONOCOQUE CHASSIS CONSTRUCTION

A unique monocoque chassis construction has been selected for maximum rigidity and resistance to "flexing" of the chassis mainframe. This super-strong chassis design minimizes electronic problems due to the mechanical "bending" of the console chassis during transportation, set-up, and tear-down.



EXTERNAL POWER SUPPLY Rugged external power supply mounts in standard 19" rack and occupies only two vertical rack spaces.



TOTALLY MODULAR CONCEPT

The Performance Series 3680 is a totally modular mixer from the standpoint of numbers of channels, and because channels may be removed separately. Each channel stands alone from the input to the 100mm fader. Removing the channel module also removes the entire array of input jacks and all patch points for that particular channel. From a service standpoint, the channel may be easily checked out on the bench or outboard from the main mixer housing since the input patch panel is part of the channel module.



ARCHITECTURAL ACOUSTICS

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By Wendy J. Duch

This Grand Rapids church has been in the forefront of Christian music and has gone through a major redo to provide quality on a budget. The piecemeal installation process has taken time, but has been well worth it for church and contractor alike.

44 THE MICHIGAN TECH ICE ARENA

By Keith Clark

The ice arena at Michigan Tech's sound system had to overcome trouble spots, peculiarities and even hockey pucks in the bass bins. Many "quick fix" solutions were tried but it new an overhaul to fix this troublesome room.

54 TELECONFERENCE TESTING

By Bradley Basnett

A method to check on the "health" of corporate audio teleconferencing systems was devised in order to avoid potential failure through constant use. For ease of use, an automated remote system was created at a centralized location.

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Eclipse.

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NEWSLETTER

MUSIC & SOUND AWARDS PRESENTED

The Seventh Annual Music & Sound Awards, sponsored by Testa Communications and The Music & Sound Retailer magazines, was held during the NAMM show in January at the Pacific Ballroom of the Anaheim Hilton. Among the winners, chosen by the readers of The Music & Sound Retailer, are (for innovative product): QSC MXa Series amp; Peavey Mini Monitor II system; Mackie CR-1602 automation board; Alesis ADAT; Samson UR-5; DigiTech RP-1, Peavey Lighting Solutions Rhythmlite. Charlie Eaton was chosen rep of the year. Most Effective Dealers included Manny's/Audio Techniques and Hermes Music (sound reinforcement), Gand Music & Sound and Daddy's Junky Music (recording related products), and Washington Music Center and Hermes Music for lighting equipment. Skip's Music and House of Guitars both won for Promotion of the Year and for Music Education Program of the Year.

The Music and Sound Awards are presented each year during the Winter NAMM show.

RIGGING SEMINARS PLANNED

Two three-day rigging seminars have been announced by Dr. Randy Davidson and Harry Donovan. The first will be held at the Ramada Inn-Dunwoody in Atlanta, March 23 through 25. The second will be March 30 through April 1 at the Holiday Inn-Harbor Blvd. in Anaheim, California. The Rigging seminars will include safety issues, factors and methods: liability, risk, and limitation of liability; OSHA regulations; strength and inspection of rigging equipment; theory and practice; engineering principles; vectors; and arena and auditorium rigging equipment. For information, contact Rigging Seminars, 12370 W. Co. Rd., 100 N., Norman, IN 47264. Phone 812-995-8212.

CES "OPTIMISTIC" ABOUT 1993 SALES

The 1993 International Winter Consumer Electronics Show was held in January in Las Vegas and totaled an attendance of 78,503 and 1,630 exhibitors over 912,906 net square feet. The Home Theater/Custom Installation areas showed a growth in exhibitors of 33 percent. The high end audio product area grew four percent. During the show Las Vegas became the first city with 10 radio stations permanently broadcasting with the RBDS signal. RBDS (Radio Broadcast Data System) was standardized shortly before the show and RBDS products were shown by Denon among others.

NAB DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The National Association of Broadcasters has announced that Dick Clark will receive the 1993 Distinguished Service Award on April 19 during the opening ceremony of NAB's annual convention in Las Vegas. Other DSA winners include former President Ronald Reagan.

SPARS CONFERENCE PLANNED

The Society of Professional Audio Recording Services (SPARS) will host a weekend technical conference and interface with leading manufacturers of digital audio workstations on May 15 and 16 at the Hudson Theatre in New York City. Manufacturers initially slated to give presentations and offer hands-on demonstrations are: Akai, ARAS-Sadie, Avid, Digidesign, Digital FX-Waveframe, Fairlight ESP, Otari, Roland Pro Audio/Video, Siemens AMS, Solid State Logic, Sonic Solutions, Studer/Dyaxis II, and Spectral Systems.

HDTV AT INAUGURATION

The Advanced Television Research Consortium and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers jointly presented a demonstration of Advanced Digital HDTV during the "Salute to Children" presidential inaugural event at Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. The demonstration featured an original video production, "Child's Play," produced in Advanced Digital HDTV and narrated by Ahmad Rashad. Members of the ATRC include NBC, North American Philips, the David Sarnoff Research Center, Thomson Consumer Electronics, and Compression Labs.

NEWSLETTER

SANDERS TO SHARP

W. Paul Sanders has joined the LCD Products Group at Sharp Electronics Corporation as national sales manager for industrial products. He manages sales of LCD video and data projection systems, as well as direct view monitor products. He was previously executive vice president at Photo and Sound Company.

HARRIS AWARDED CONTRACT

Harris Corporation has been awarded a \$3.5 million contract to modernize the Federal Emergency Management Agency's existing Private Automatic Branch Exchange system. Under the terms of the contract, Harris Electronic Systems Division in Palm Bay, Florida will design, develop and integrate the agency's telecommunications equipment. The new switch will add voice conferencing capabilities. Lewis Kling, vice president/general manager of HESD, said, "The telecommunications system will provide FEMA with significantly improved DCWS user services to include voice, data and compressed video."

COMPACT POWER LISTING

Compact Power Company has announced that it has received both UL and CSA listings for its DS-300 Series Commercial Sound Power Amplifiers. Units are available from stock.

CCTMA PROGRAM DEEMED SUCCESSFUL

The Closed Circuit Television Manufacturers Association, a division of the Electronic Industries Association, sponsored its First Annual CCTV Technical Seminars in November in New Orleans. The educational program with concurrent sessions oriented toward end-users and dealer/designers attracted over 100 industry professionals. Sixteen speakers from CCTMA member companies addressed the attendees on topics such as video theory, lighting, coaxial cable, wireless video transmission, fiber optics, switching, multiplexing, time laps recorders, and system integration.

Based on participants' reactions, the CCTV Technical Seminars will be held again in the fall of 1993 and every fall thereafter in different host cities.

OTARI AND FMT AUDIO OPEN DEMO FACILITY

Otari Corporation in conjunction with FMT Audio has announced the opening of a demonstration facility to provide a hands-on environment of Otari Audio Post-Production Systems. Clients will be able to operate Otari's new DE-24 editing system, which was developed with Todd-AO/Glen Glenn Sound. The demo facility also provides prospective buyers with access to Otari's ProDisk-464 digital audio workstation, the Series 54 mixing console, and selected Otari machines. The facility is in Los Angeles.

JOINT DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

IBM and Laser-Pacific Media Corporation have announced an agreement for the joint development of an MPEG digital compression application using IBM's Power Visualization System. In announcing the relationship, Armando Garcia, IBM's Director of Visualization Systems, stressed that "this will combine IBM Research's leading role in compression technology and its numerous contributions to the MPEG standards with Laser-Pacific's expertise in creating innovative facilities for high-quality, large-volume electronic image and sound processing. Targeted to be fully operational in mid-1993, the compression operation will be based at a new facility near Laser-Pacific's Hollywood headquarters. In the joint development effort, IBM and Laser-Pacific seek to solve the technical and operational challenges of creating an efficient, high quality approach that will facilitate the emerging technologies of video on demand, CD-based full motion video, and other digitally Being born into a famous family is no free ride. Standards are high. Expectations are great.

SHURE

So when Shure unveiled its L Series Wireless Microphones a few years ago, we knew they had to be better than good. They were. In fact, the L Series has emerged as one of the

They were. In fact, the L Series has emerged as one of the most affordable, trouble-free lines in the business. One that includes nearly every kind of wireless – from hand-held to lavalier

to instrument systems – with both diversity and non-diversity receivers.

The all-new, L11 body-pack transmitter is a prime example. With its compact surface mount construction, the L11 is the smallest unit in its class. Battery life is 40 to 50% greater. And its crystal clear output signal lets you operate more systems simultaneously



THE SHURE WIRELESS

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Of course, the L11's reliability is a given. After all, we have a family reputation to uphold.

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POWER

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

NSCA Expo Coming Up

A press release issued by the National Sound and Communications Association hit our desk today offering preliminary information on the NSCA Expo coming up. The relevant dates are April second through fourth. The place is Orlando. The venue is the Orange County Convention Center.

The press release states the objective of Expo as "Greater Contractor Profitability," an objective we can all support. Per Haugen, the Expo Chairman, says, "Everything at the Expo and Conference is aimed at that one goal." Haugen goes on to say that although the economic situation seems to be getting a little better, "we're still not out of the major slump. The surviving contractors will be those who are best prepared for lean times and slow growth. The survivors will be managed by skillful leaders committed to keeping up with new technologies."

Any comments out there?

Approximately 400 exhibitors are expected at this year's Expo. Social events will include the Contractor's Caper sponsored by independent rep companies, and the West Penn Wire party on Saturday evening. Discount tickets to Disney World are being offered through NSCA.

The Clarion and Peabody hotels are "co-headquarter" hotels and are next to and across the street respectively from the Convention Center. Free shuttle buses will run from the Orlando Marriott and Quality Inn Plaza to the Convention Center.

Educational seminars and courses will again be offered. Basic and Advanced Sales and Estimating courses are being offered two days before the Expo floor opens as are MATV and CCTV courses. Certificates of completion are issued to those attending. In addition, more than 100 hours of seminars will be conducted during the NSCA Expo, including four tracks — sales, management, audio and specialty.



The annual NSCA meeting will take place at 8 am on April 2nd. The keynote address will be delivered by Colonel Charles W. Scott, the former Iranian hostage. The title of his speech is "Responding to Adversity," which seems like a gross understatement considering his experience of 444 days as a hostage in Iran. NSCA says, "The techniques that Colonel Scott mastered in an Iranian prison can help us manage our stress — whether we're raising a family or trying to succeed as a contractor."

During the Expo you can again learn via television. Testa Communications will be producing NSCA-TV news, the daily news program at NSCA. The program is transmitted to convention hotel rooms and to monitors on the exhibit floor. We're beginning to collect information now on what will be hot and new at NSCA, and we'll impart that information to you via television and in our post-show issues of Sound & Communications. Our reporters will be in and around the show, and we'll be informing you as things happen. We'll see you at NSCA.

Best regards,

horrin

Judith Morrison Editor in Chief



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Small Wonder

ASHLY was founded in 1972 with the stated goal of producing professional audio equipment that would set new standards for sonic excellence and reliability. The Company originally manufactured large mixing consoles with on-board signal processing for touring sound systems. Later, the consoles' built -in processing components were offered as separate rack-mounted units. The initial product line consisted of limiter/compressors, parametric equalizers, and a full selection of electronic crossovers. ASHLY added power amplifiers to its product offerings during the late 70's, and soon gained a solid reputation for the amps'

60 WATTS PER CHANNEL INTO 4 OHMS

- 45 WATTS PER CHANNEL INTO 8 OHMS
- 120 WATTS BRIDGED-MONO INTO 8 OHMS
- SWITCHABLE STEREO, MONO, BRIDGING MODES
- INPUT SENSITIVITY
 SELECT SWITCH
- 1/4" PHONE JACKS AND BARRIER STRIP INPUTS
- CLASS A FRONT END
- TOROIDAL TRANSFORMER
- TURN ON DELAY
- INSTANTANEOUS TURN-OFF
- INDEPENDENT THERMAL
- PROTECTION
- STEREO HEAOPHONE JACK
- CONVECTION CODLED

outstanding sonic performance and incredible reliability. Building on this background of success and technological innovation, ASHLY has set out to expand its amplifier product line to encompass new markets. The new model SRA-120 professional stereo amplifier has been developed toward this goal, and offers superior sonic quality, rugged construction, and many useful features in a single rack space chassis. The compact SRA-120 is suitable for full-range applications, such as small control room monitor systems or as an ideal headphone distribution amp. With its excellent signal bandwidth, the SRA-120 is also well-suited for driving the highend of a bi-amplification sound system setup.

The amplifier will deliver 60 watts per channel into 4 ohms stereo. 45 watts per channel into 8 ohms stereo, or 120 watts total into 8 ohms mono-bridged. Its design is based on "Class A" voltage amplifier stages with a complementary bipolar output section for low distortion and excellent overload behavior. Features include turn-on delay circuitry and instantaneous turn-off to eliminate any transients to the speaker. Each channel will also independently turn off its output if an overheated condition occurs.

This model also features rear panel switches to select between two choices of input sensitivity, stereo or mono operation, or normal or bridged mode. Rear panel input connections may be made via 1/4" balanced phone jacks or barrier strips with ground lift provision. Level attenuators for each channel are provided on the front panel, along with a stereo headphone jack. Status L.E.D.'s on each channel include signal present, clip alert, and "protect-mode" indication.

The SRA-120 is approximately 10" deep and weighs in at under 20 pounds, yet has performance characteristics and features typically found only in larger, more costly competitors. All Ashly amplifiers are covered under the company's exclusive Five Year Worry-Free Warranty program, offered at no extra cost to the user.

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SRA-120

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4dBU balanced TAPE

RETURNS, switchable

to-10dBV unbalanced.

Balanced MIC, balanced LINE IN,

& CH. INSERT on every channel.

PHASE invert, DIRECTOUT

All channels have Mackie's renowned discrete, wide bandwidth MIC PREAMP circuit for ultra-high headroom & low noise. All mic inputs have +48V phantom power with switches in groups of eight channels.

4-BAND EQ with "Expensive British Console Sound. Includes TRUE PARAMETRIC HI-MID, swept LO MID, shelving HI & LO plus 18dB/oct hi pass (lo cut) filter at 75Hz.

MIX-B/MONITOR section on each channel effectively doubles number of Inputs during mixdown

IF WE МДС **OUR NEW**

Optional METER BRIDGE

Built-in, test-instrument grade, ultra-low radiation POWER SUPPLY with toroidal transfomer and external heatsink

Two TAPE OUTPUT SUBMASTER jacks per bus (total of 16). Balanced or unbalanced.

6 AUX SENDS with Solo and Solo LED.

MIX B/MONITOR section can be assigned to L/R Mix or used as direct out.

6 STEREO AUX **RETURNS** with 20dB gain. 1& 2 are pannable; all have Solo and can be used in stereo or mono



SECTIONS can be used totally independently of each other with source selection between Control Room & any combination of Aux 1, Aux 2, Mix-B or External source. Solo allows control room to hear what musicians are hearing in their headphones.

TWO SEPARATE HEADPHONE

SPEAKER section with separate Control Room & Studio levels. Source selection between L/R mix, Mix-B, Tape & External. Can be switched to Mono TALKBACK

with assia

toal Tape outs AUX 1. AUX 2 or Phones.

-40 to +10 bar graph LED DISPLAYS for each submix channel & Solo/Main (with +28dB CLIP LEDs).

ALTHOUGH there are 8 buses, 16 tape outs are created by a second set of output jacks.

Built-in talkback MIC. Conventional faders are overscreened with a second layer of resistive material in an attempt to create a logarithmic taper. Our PRECIŠION NETWORK FADERS are single-layer screened with both the primary linear resistive elements and also a complex extra element to create a true logarithmic curve as

found in' ultraexpensive console ? faders (blue graph a line).

+10 +5 0 -5 -10 -15 -20 -30 -40 50-100 attenuation

HANKS TO ADVANCES in

component technology and quality, our ability to buy parts in large quantities – and a lot of fanatical Mackie engineering – you can "have it all" without hocking the proverbial farm.

BECAUSE WE SPECIALIZE IN MIXERS (and because

we're probably a little crazy), we began the design of these consoles by first asking ourselves, "What is it that makes the finest British consoles perform the way they do? — And how much of that can we duplicate (using modern materials and methods) on far less expensive boards?"

B TE OLDE ENGLISH

SOUNDE. For example, older Neve consoles have much wider-band mid EQ than lower priced consoles - it really has an effect on overall sound quality. So we incorporated the same capabilities on our new 8-Bus Series (along with our trademark low noise and high headroom). This also enabled us to add the flexibility of a variable "Q" control for true parametric Hi Mid EQ. It was an expensive proposition, but well worth it in terms of sound quality. We also wanted the same kind of true logarithmic

HADN'T THREATENED TO HIT GREG UPSIDE THE HEAD WITH A RANCID SALMON, PROBABLY STILL BE ADDING FEATURES TO 32,24 & 16-CHANNEL 8-BUS CONSOLES.

24 channels just ^{\$}3995! Finally, the "quality gulf" between ^{\$}20,000+ imported consoles and more affordable boards has been eliminated. No longer must budget considerations force you into compromise over questionable sound quality, poor EQ, hard-to-use layouts or unreliable mechanical designs. Only Mackie Designs could spawn values like these!

Full SUB-MASTER and MASTER inserts Rugged STEEL CHASSIS. SEALED rotary potentiometers resist dust and liquids. Two independently assignable HEAD-PHONE monitoring sections plus separate TALKBACK and SPEAKER sections DIMENSIONS (HXWXD): 16 8, 6 x 26.7 x 28 24 8,6"x 35.5" x 28 32 8,6" x 44.3" x 28"

Retrofit FULL-FADER/MUTING AUTOMATION available in the future. * Meter bridge additional. Equally low prices for the 16-8 (*3395) and the 32–8 (*4795). Neve is a trademark of Neve, a ners Company

BESTOF THE CR-1604. Though we

designed these consoles from the ground up, they have the sonic quality that's contributed to our smaller mixers' success. For example, our acclaimed discrete mic preamps that deliver – 129dBm É.I.N. at 0.005% THD with a 300K bandwidth, yet can handle +14dBU inputs without a pad. The consoles' working S/N is 90dBu with 116dB internal headroom. Bottom line: For hard disk recording, ADAT or DAT, you've found your board. OPTIMIZED FOR PA AND

RECORDING. Along with elaborate monitor capabilities, balanced XLR main outputs and 18dB/oct. hi pass filters, you get non-flexing steel construction, fiberglass thruhole plated, horizontal circuit boards that minimize impact damage, gold-plated interconnects, sealed rotary pots and a built-in power supply. You won't find more rugged, compact PA boards anywhere.

READ ALL ABOUT IT. This ad can't possibly tell the whole story of the design innovations we've packed into these consoles. Call us right now tollfree for a comprehensive 8page brochure, the name of your nearest Mackie 8-Bus Dealer ... maybe even info on the type of salmon that we threatened Greg with.

In-line FLIP reverses tape and mic/line inputs. Incredibly nifty feature but hard to explain in an ad so read our brochure to appreciate it. AUX SENDS 1-2. PRE button selects pre-fader/post EQ or post. fader/post.EQ. AUX 3-4/5-6. SHIFT changes 3-4 to 5-6. SOURCE selects signal source of AUX 3-4/5-6 from ch. strip to ch. Mix B/Monitor send so you can build an effects mix to assign to phones during tracking. True 3-control parametric HI MID EQ with ultra-wide 500-18k frequency sweep range. Bandwidth can be adjusted from a very wide 3-octave width to a very

> LO MIDEQ with ultrawide 45Hz-3K sweep, 15dB boost/cut.

narrow 1/2-octave width. 15dB boost/cut.

±15dB shelving HI (12kHZ) & LO (BOHz) EQ.

Multi-purpose 18dB/oct. LOCUT filter @75Hz. Cleans up "mix mud," creates a "neo-peaking" bass control, cuts PA rumble, etc.

MIX-B (Monitor) section with pan, level & source. Functions as independent monitor section, extra stereo Aux send during mixdown or doubles number of inputs during mixdown.

Mix-B SPLIT EQ assigns HI&LOEQ to Mix-B.

Constant power, buffered PAN pot for rock-solid panning.

Selectable SOLO with CHANNEL METERING not only allows soloing in full stereo perspective but also displays soloed channel operating level on master L/R meters so input trims can be adjusted for optimum levela

At last! HIGHLY ACCURATE 100mm FADERS on an affordable console! (See explanation at left)

32

taper found only on mega-expensive faders instead of the commonly-used, less accurate "D" taper. So we commisioned a totally new custom 100-mm fader with the same taper as the most expensive British faders, yet at a fraction of the cost.

DOUBLE THE INPUTS & MORE. Each channel has In-line monitoring that effectively doubles the number of inputs (48 on our 24-8, for example). We also added features we personally find useful such as dual independent headphone systems and separate MIX-B monitor section with Split EQ. The consoles' internal -10dBV to +4dBU level conversion allows use with semi-pro tape decks without the inherent noise penalty found in semi-pro mixers that operate at 10dBV internal levels.

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THE SESSIONS OF THE 124TH ACOUSTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA MEETING

By Neil Shaw

The 124th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America was held in New Orleans at the Fairmont Hotel from 31 October to 4 November 1992.

Over 79 technical sessions, with 770 papers, in 14 different technical specialties, were given. There were also 13 technical committee and standards committee meetings. The diverse technical specialties covered acoustical oceanography, animal bioacoustics, architectural acoustics, bioresponse to vibration, engineering acoustics, musical acoustics, noise, physical acoustics, psychological acoustics, physiological acoustics, speech communication, structural acoustics and vibration, underwater acoustics and education in acoustics. Papers at these sessions provided participants with information regarding "leading edge" advances in techniques, understanding and processes in the field of acoustics. Many of these will soon be affecting the sound and communications industry in the form of new products, better products and more effective products.

The sessions on virtual environment were sponsored by various technical committees. This joint sponsorship allowed the interdisciplinary quality of this subject to be explored. There

Neil Shaw is a partner at Menlo Scientific Acoustics.

were four sessions jointly sponsored by the technical committees on architectural acoustics, psychological acoustics and physiological acoustics, one session sponsored by architectural acoustics and psychological acoustics, and one session sponsored by architectural acoustics and musical acoustics. These sessions included papers that discussed the design of sound systems for the technology and development of devices that also simulate the touch and feel (haptic sense) of an object. Papers also discussed simulators of room acoustics and the simulation, or "auralization," of rooms, as well as techniques for simulation of the motion of sounds using the laws of mechanics.

AN EXAMPLE OF A VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT IS A FLIGHT SIMULATOR. AN EXAMPLE OF A TELEOPERATOR ENVIRONMENT IS ARTHROSCOPIC SURGERY.

The session on The Auditory Channel — Synthesizing Acoustic Objects included a paper from the MIT Virtual Environment and Teleoperator Research Consortium. This paper provided an overview of the field and what the important research problems and application areas associated with virtual environments are. Note that a virtual environment is when you are experiencing and are proactive/reactive to computer controlled stimuli; a teleoperator environment is when you are experiencing and are proactive/reactive to real stimuli. An example of a virtual environment is a flight simulator. An example of a teleoperator environment is arthroscopic surgery.

There were also papers from the NASA/Ames Research Center that discussed integration of virtual acoustic systems, and the spatial information they provide, into an integrated information system with visual displays. One feature would be the offloading of information from the visual channel to the auditory channel, for example, in a spacecraft. This would enable the visual channel to carry less information and unclutter the visual display.

The session on Computer Modelling in Room Acoustics presented papers from Menlo Scientific, The Technical University of Denmark, Altec Lansing Corp., Chalmers University of Technology, The Telaske Group and RPG Diffusor Systems. These papers described the current efforts in modelling acoustic spaces using personal computers and the problems that still exist. One of these is how to handle the reflection of a sound wave from a surface; How much is specular? How much is diffraction? How much is diffused?

There was a demonstration session — Computer Modelling and Virtual Environments — which included equipment and system demonstrations and poster presentations. This session included demonstrations by The Acoustics Laboratory from the Technical University, the Room Acoustics Group of the Chalmers University of Technology, Altec Lansing, Bose Corporation, the Music and Cognition Group of the MIT Media Lab, the Biomedical Department of Boston University and Crystal River Engineering. This was a well attended and appreciated session, and there were long lines to try the simulations. The Crystal River demonstration, which seemed especially popular, consisted of a hood with stereo visual display and binaural headphones. The visual and audio displays moved as you did since you also wore a transducer that measured if vou turned.

The session on Auralization and Architectural considerations was concerned with the computational aspects for and the verification of accuracy of audible simulation — auralization systems, as well as computational models, wave-front synthesis, early reflection perception and localization problems and solutions.

A session titled The Haptic Channel discussed the problems, and progress made, in dealing with the sense of touch in a virtual environment. An example is how you provide feedback to a haptic glove so that you know how strong you are grasping a virtual guitar? Neural mechanisms and their impact on implementation, kinesthetic acuity in humans (especially fingers), design of haptic interfaces and haptic illusions in human perception of "virtual items" were presented.

The final session dealing with virtual environments concerned itself with multichannel considerations. One paper in this session, from the Adaptive Systems Branch of the Naval Research and Development Laboratory in San Diego, discussed the experiences gained in multichannel telerobotic systems and use of these experiences as background in the design of virtual environments. The Naval Postgraduate (continued on page 64) It's Small... It's Quiet... And It'll Never "Turn" On You.

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THEORY AND APPLICATION

THE POST-TECHNOLOGY AUDIO DEALER

By Steven J. Orfield

The consumer and professional audio fields have always been entangled in an interesting contradiction. While the products of the field are often "high tech" in their design (and/or in their marketing), there has been little predictable about technology in the business of the field itself.

Much like the retail grocery environment before the entry of the big chains, the audio dealer business is, on the whole, a ma and pa business in a number of ways.

Three issues in particular suggest that audio dealerships are generally "pre-technology" companies:

• There are no major groups of audio dealers operating under similar business practices in the United States (marketing and engineering).

• Dealers have no high-level, preformulated engineering practice.

• Dealers do not sell a "product," but rather sell a custom process of design and products.

• Dealers have no consistent, high quality marketing support; the quality

Steven J. Orfield is the President of Orfield Associates Inc. in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



Control Room Demo Set-Up.

of the effort is determined by the individual salesman.

As a result of this lack of formal structure and practice in the audio field, the audio salesman has burdens much greater than a salesman in a post-technology industry (computers, office machines, copiers, etc.). While these higher-tech companies place the burden of sales on the sales staff with great expectations of success, the audio dealer typically places a specific and greater set of burdens on its sales staff:

1. Perform the marketing task.

2. Perform the programming task (determine what is needed).

3. Perform the pre-engineering (and possibly engineering) task.

4. Perform the budgeting task (what is to be spent).

5. Prepare a quotation and develop a presentation to "sell" the project.

6. Supervise or inspect the installation and interface with the client after the sale.

Of these tasks, only three are generally associated with high-technology sales, and these are pro-gramming (number 2), budgeting (number 4) and sales (number 5).

Thus, in the audio-dealer field, the success of the organization is to a large degree dependent upon assuming that each of the salesmen are, in and of themselves, profit centers which will succeed or fail by their own devices (independent of the organization and training of the firm).

With this dealer industry background in mind, there has long been a need for formalization and organization of the audio dealer field into a "post-technology business," and this article describes our efforts to standardize dealer design and

"It's no longer necessary to sacrifice musical fidelity for vocal intelligibility."

Kenton Forsythe, Vice President of Engineering, EAW



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n world tours and in permanent installations, for chart-topping rock bands and renowned symphonies, Virtual Array[™] Technology has set new standards of musical fidelity from New York to Tokyo. Now Kenton Forsythe has used VA[™] design principles to develop a new set of highperformance tools for engineered sound systems. This new approach merges the predictability and intelligibility of constant directivity horns with the superior definition and output of VA[™] touring systems. It's a combination that has already turned several acoustical nightmares into dream projects.

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Eastern Acoustic Works, Inc. One Main Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588 (800) 992-5013 = (508) 234-6158 = Fax (508) 234-8251 Circle 212 on Reader Response Card marketing practice to achieve this goal.

BACKGROUND

In 1984, Orfield Associates, as an acoustical, A-V and lighting consulting firm, began providing audio (and later video) dealer support services, and these services covered a broad variety of activities:

- Sound system design.
- Dealer technical training.
- Product selection assistance.
- Preliminary site testing on projects.

• Standardized preformatted designs and budgeting procedures for sound systems design.

This initial work was solicited by audio dealers based on the view that they needed either assistance with sound system design and room acoustics or alternately, they needed a consultant to "protect" them from other consultants' specifications and attendant risks of bidding on and taking responsibility for work which they had not originated.

Elemental in this dealer interest was the fact that the dealer was a partial

IF THE PROJECT DID NOT WORK OUT, THE DEALER COULD BE BLAMED FOR SYSTEM DESIGN (EVEN IF HE WAS ONLY A BIDDER).

player in the typical project and yet his risk was not limited; if the project did not work out, the dealer could be blamed for system design (even if he was only a bidder) and could also be blamed for degradation in system performance due to the problems of complex or inadequate room acoustical performance. Also involved in the dealers' interest was the idea of using outside resources for design and testing, and thereby limited equipment investment, technical training needs and salesmen's "engineering" time.

In our early work with audio dealers, there was a clear distinction between the quality of system installation and the quality of system performance. Even if the dealer was only responsible for the installation, he was often blamed for the lack of system performance. Thus, our early response to this dilemma was on two fronts. On one hand, we provided the dealer with assistance in developing disclaimers for responsibility when he had not, in fact, executed the dealer in deter-

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mining the appropriate room acoustics and audio design solutions to insure success on projects which were undertaken and designed by the dealer himself.

Although these services were often helpful, the problem of the audio dealership underlying these issues quickly became apparent, and this related to the cost of doing business. In order to compete on a project successfully, the dealer had to perform a "preliminary design," had to assemble a quotation and had to promote that solution to the client. If the project in question was a \$10,000 project, the dealer might spend \$1,000 - \$2,000 in time and effort (in speculative services) in chasing the project. If the dealer was 50-percent successful in receiving contracts based on his proposals, his net cost of marketing might range from 20-30 percent of total sales. If his success was less, there was increasing reason to believe that the risk (speculation versus results) was too great.

IN ORDER TO COMPETE ON A PROJECT SUCCESSFULLY, THE DEALER HAD TO PERFORM A "PRELIMINARY DESIGN," HAD TO ASSEMBLE A QUOTATION AND HAD TO PROMOTE THAT SOLUTION TO THE CLIENT.

Unlike the salesman in a "post-technology" product field, the salesman in the pro-audio field was faced with operating a multifaceted business on his own to achieve success, and the effort on the average project was often a high cost risk with no assurance of success. As a corollary, when a dealership lost a good salesman, there was no continuation in the methods and skills of his replacement. The new man would hopefully be as good or better, but he would always be different in his knowledge base, his product interests and in his methods. This lack of continuity provided the interesting result that when personnel moved from one firm to another, the customer base would often move with the employee, as that was were he would find predictability and continuity.

Additionally, the new dealer hiring the salesman from the old firm would often attempt to gain access to the lines of the old dealer, as this was the knowledge and specification base of his new employee. As this typical new employee event played out, often the person in the poorest position of con-



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trol was the previous dealer, as there was little he could do to easily resolve this crisis. His dealership was not more than an assemblage of his personnel, and its stability was based on the stability of his employee base.

In summary, the very issues which made the dealer business costly and difficult to operate made it hard to retain stability within the dealer business; thus, there was clear need for a new paradigm, what we refer to as the "post-technology" dealer.

THE NEW DEALERSHIP CONCEPT

Orfield Associates worked on the concept of this new dealer type for over a year, discussing it with a number of dealer organizations across the country who were already clients. This included the old Audio Group Franchise. Muzak and a number of nationally established multi-dealer networks. This was due to our preliminary belief that this type of structure could best be established under the umbrella of a large dealer distribution network. What we failed to find, partially due to the recession, was an aggressiveness on the part of dealer organizations to undertake a change in the industry without a very large base of dealers receiving those benefits.

On a second look, an alternative became apparent in considering the large non-exclusive dealer base of many large audio manufacturers. Many manufacturers in the past developed some type of dealer support network, based on engineering software and training, and the advantage of this approach was the large number of

MANUFACTURERS WHO PROVIDE SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT SERVICES HAVE SEEN CLEAR EXPANSION OF THEIR MARKETS BASED ON THE CONCEPT OF EASING THE AUDIO DEALER'S BURDEN OF DESIGN.

dealers who could be quickly incorporated. Additionally, manufacturers who provide significant support services have seen clear expansion of their markets based on the concept of easing the audio dealer's burden of design. If these past efforts have had any clear limitation, it has been that the

dealer still had a complex set of tools and software.

Even with better tools, the sales process was still essentially a custom process, and substantial time and effort was required by the dealer before a project could be quoted. Also, there has been an unwelcome effort on the part of many of these supporting

THE BEST OF THE EFFORTS OF MANUFACTURERS TO ASSIST PRO-AUDIO DEALERS HAS BEEN QUITE LIMITED.

manufacturers to force the dealer to use their products. (Over the past five years, my own firm has been told by two of these manufacturers that we would not be allowed to purchase their design software unless we could insure reasonable quantities of specification of their product.) As a result, the best of the efforts of manufacturers to assist pro-audio dealers has been quite limited.

In contrast to these past efforts, our concept was intended to provide the dealership with a set of choices to become increasingly independent of the current limits on the audio dealer.

Specifically, these objectives were outlined:

• Dramatically reduce the need for engineering support prior to the quotation of an A-V system.

• Standardize engineering practice via the use of specific training, manuals and cookbooks of solutions.

• Standardize software in use by all dealers, including engineering and marketing software.

• Standardize the sales and marketing training process via the use of specific training, manuals and sales aids.

• Provide off-site assistance to those dealers who desire it, via an engineering support staff, newsletters for dealer distribution to their clients, and other technical and market assistance.





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• Certify dealers who participate in training and who work with the support staff.

A POST-TECHNOLOGY DEALER SYSTEM

Having worked through these issues over a number of years with a large number of dealers, I began to open a discussion of this new paradigm with a client of mine from previous efforts, Gerry Tschetter of Yamaha Professional Audio. Our initial views on this new dealer type were quickly quite parallel, and after a number of months of discussion, a project to develop this dealer process was defined and underway. The project outlined a joint development process, with Orfield Associates defining the overall program and developing the engineering tools and manuals, and Yamaha (with the assistance of Ken Barasch) developing the specific market support process and marketing manuals.

This dealer development program is being initially aimed at dealers selling projects in the \$5,000-\$20,000 range, and our first national ADD (Audio Dealer Design) seminar was held at Orfield Associates labs from November 16th to 18th and was instructed by Gerry Tschetter and Rick Pierson. The first day was an introductory "Audio Basics" course for newer initiates to the field, the second day was spent on audio engineering and acoustics in

> ALL OF THE PRESENTATION MATERIAL WAS PREPARED IN AN ALDUS PERSUASION FORMAT AND PRESENTED, ALONG WITH LIVE ANALYZER MEASUREMENTS, LIVE ON A REAR-SCREEN-VIDEO COMPUTER INTERFACE.

audio, and the third day was entirely dedicated to issues of marketing audio services. All of the presentation material was prepared in an Aldus Persuasion format and presented, along with live analyzer measurements, live on a rear-screen-video computer interface; a notebook was developed for handout, and notes from this Persuasion presentation were provided supporting the video images. Finally, a full notebook of completed typical designs (a design "cookbook") was handed out.

To avoid the usual technical training process, the Orfield lab was prepared with a full stereo and mono Yamaha sound system installation, as well as mixing and simulation systems. Thus, the seminar shifted between technical discussion and perceptual demonstrations of the same issues either live or simulated via Yamaha processing systems.

The intent of this program over the next year is to train and certify dealers who will then be capable of selling and installing predesigned "System Products" or who can depend upon consulting support for any other type of audio or A-V system design, based on 800-number support lines, training and design software support, computerized AutoCAD translation and support, and consulting assistance related to audio and acoustics.

We expect that this program will be a model for the industry and the first of a new generation of programs to support the audio dealer who is committed to becoming a post-technology dealer in a pretechnology industry. This program has just been formally introduced at the NAMM show in January with Gerry Tschetter of Yamaha Pro Audio and myself in attendance.

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*In case you were reading to fast, we wanted to remind you that this ad is about UHF, not VHF wireless. As long as you are reading our ad this closely, we thought we'd tell you who they are: Yukinaga Koike, Doug Bryant. Takao Horiuchi, Susumu Tamura. tdbx is a registered trademark of Carillon Industries.

AUDIO IN ASIA, PART TWO – A LOOK AT KOREA

By Mike Klasco

A topic I have found to be popular at dinner parties is the insider's view of audio in Asia, and in these pages I have told of my experiences in Japan: Who builds what for whom and so on.

Well, I am not going to give away too many big secrets, but over the years many readers have asked me about Menlo Scientific, my consulting company. What do I do for a living, what is my connection with Asia, what products did I design, and so on? I will try to answer a few of these questions while telling some stories about my experiences and personal observations while working in Asia.

I first started working with Japanese audio companies when I owned GLI, a disco equipment manufacturer in New York, my home town. In the late 1970s, GLI's less expensive mixers were produced in Japan. Later GLI was acquired by Variable Speech Control (VSC), a technology licensing concern with a working relationship with many of the large Japanese companies. After I moved to the West Coast I occasionally consulted for VSC and had the opportunity to pick up a number of international clients from these contacts.

But my first connection with Korea was pure chance. I was at the NSCA

Mike Klasco is the Technical Editor of Sound & Communications magazine.



Main Olympic Stadium: large enough for a baseball and football game to be held at the same time.

convention at Las Vegas in 1983. Back then, the NSCA was only a side show to the EIA Distributors show, although both shows were held together. Through the Korean affiliate of the EIA, the Korean government subsidized a small group of booths at the show. I wandered into this area and saw a compression driver ring radiator ("bullet") tweeter my company had been buying from England. The tweeter had given us lots of trouble. I asked the person at the booth (who turned out to be the company president) how much the tweeter cost and was told \$10. I examined it closely and it appeared to be identical to what I was buying for \$40. I mentioned that the tweeter had five serious problems. After some discussion the fellow conceded that it had three problems. I reviewed what I understood to be the problems and the solutions I would like to try. The response was to invite me to Korea to resolve the problems.

SOUND CONTRACTING IN KOREA

Church sound systems are a major business in Korea. The population is about 40,000,000 with half the people located in Seoul, the capital. About 15 percent of the population is Christian and there are over 25,000 churches. A few small companies manufacture product lines specifically for church sound systems. Although not casually apparent, shamanism (a general belief in the spirit world) is very strong here.

Korea is a big supplier to many countries with whom the U.S. does very little trade, such as Turkey, India, Libya and others. During one my first visits to Korea I was helping upgrade the performance of an inexpensive compression driver. By coincidence, a major customer for the part, from Istanbul, was visiting the factory. He proudly stated that his firm bought 20,000 of these devices per year. I was surprised and commented that there must be many clubs and discos in Turkey. His shock and dismay that he was dealing with a heathen were instantaneous — as he replied that the compression drivers were used for Islamic prayer call!

Small and medium-sized meeting and convention centers are another big chunk of commercial sound, with multi-language translation systems (usually Philips) being an integral part of these designs.

Clubs and discos are everywhere in the big cities of Korea. A hotel cannot be rated Four-Star without a club! Most clubs are located in the basement. The "regulation" Korean style club has a dance floor and lots of seating. The fanciest clubs also have live entertainment, including bands and dancers. Design of the sound systems in Korea, like anywhere else, varies greatly. Sometimes the equipment is piled high on the dance floor, while

IN KOREA THE DOMESTIC INSTALLERS JUST DO NOT WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN ACOUSTICS.

other installations are elegant without any visible loudspeakers.

Koreans are really into Karaoke. You can find many bars with laserkaraoke systems (laserdisc plus projection TV), which have been mostly Pioneer and Nikkodo products from Japan, but more recently Samsung, the large Korean firm, has introduced laserdisc models. Karaoke sound systems are as common in Korea as jukeboxes used to be in the U.S.



The Han river cuts through Seoul. in 1985, the entire length of the riverside was developed into recreation areas. Sightseeing boats cruise the river.

In Korea the domestic installers just do not want to get involved in acoustics. Architects feel they have more important priorities than to pander to my "theoretical" objections. In the end, the sound contractor gets into trouble, as the facility managers consistently blame the sound system rather than the intrinsic acoustical problems of the space. All of this makes me feel just like I was at home!

Many large jobs are awarded to U.S. contracting companies, which then use a local contractor as a partner. Lottie World is an example of this approach. Lottie is a very large corporation that owns department stores, hotels, food brands, and is a major audio manufacturer. A little bit of history is that they started out as a chewing gum manufacturer (and that is still a major part of their business). Lottie builds hi-fi equipment for a number of Japanese audio companies on an OEM basis and until recently was the Pioneer licensee ("Lottie — Pioneer") for the Korean domestic market. Lottie also has a complete line of commercial sound equipment. Lottie also has built an enormous theme park right next to its flagship hotel and department store/shopping mall. For a closer look at what is inside the theme park (from a sound contractor's perspective), Sound & Communications has an installation article in the works from one my associates who recently found himself working on the Korean equivalent of Disney's Pirates of Penzance ride at Lottie World.

My own experiences have been mostly with projects entirely designed and installed in Korea. For years I consulted with Je-il Electronics, which had been one of Korea's largest sound contractors. Korea was occupied by Japan for many decades and it is easy to see many elements of Japan in Korea. Je-il patterned itself after the large Japanese contractors and built its own amplifiers, limiters, mixing boards and speaker systems. The amplifiers were clones of BGWs, the mixing boards were based on the British Studiocraft, and the speakers were JBL-ish. The drivers themselves were from Sammi, a large Korean company I also worked with.

Je-il was located on the outskirts of Seoul. According to the post office, they were in Buchan, a city near Seoul, but the capital of Seoul had expanded so as to make the beginning and end of each municipality indistinguishable. I found that the only way to tell was by phone — the phone system in Buchan was terrible, along with the

THE OFFICIAL STORY IS THAT THIS WAS JUST TOO EARLY TO ATTEMPT TO PRODUCE WORLD CLASS CONSUMER ELECTRONICS IN KOREA.

water supply. The water was pure enough (the water for Seoul comes from the snow caps from the surrounding mountains — sort of Evian-on-tap), but supply was erratic.

Inkel is another big manufacturer/installer. Mostly, I have come across their installations in hotels. Inkel has an interesting heritage, the factory having started out as Electro-Voice Korea in the 1960s. The official story is that this was just too early to attempt to produce world class consumer electronics in Korea and E-V eventually pulled out. The infrastructure was not developed enough - the capacitors, semiconductors, even the circuit boards at the time were below grade. International Korea Electronics ("Inkel") was formed to take over the factory and later produced hi-fi receivers for Sherwood, eventually taking over the U.S. company. Inkel still has a good relationship with E-V and is their distributor in Korea.

Another version of this story is that E-V had the factory built without properly treating for spirits, and the factory became haunted. Workers kept seeing spirits and did not want to work there.

THE MANUFACTURING SOPHISTICATION HAD FINALLY REACHED THE THRESHOLD OF WORLD-CLASS QUALITY, YET COSTS WERE LOW.

When Inkel took over they brought in an expert Shaman to have the problem spooks removed. Before you laugh at

SOUNDSPHERE SPEAKERS KEEP NEWSDAY PRESSES ROLLING...

The Newsday corporate offices and printing plant are in a large building in Melville, N.Y. It contains the largest color offset operation in the country with ten printing presses. While they operate at the highest efficiency, the collation and inserting operations could not be stopped quickly when problems were encountered. The insert machines could not be turned off resulting in improperly collated newspapers.

After trying flashing lights, buzzers and various horn speakers, a Soundsphere #2212-1 model was tested and five more were installed in the extremely noisy inserting operations room.

Patrick O'Hanlon, Production Maintenance Electrical General Foreman at the site states, "The area in question is a high density noise area and communication is difficult. When Bernie Lory of Craftsman Sound talked about Soundsphere speakers in airport terminals, I knew it was the system for us. The even distribution allowed us to maintain a volume level that would not be overbearing, to permit quick quality control adjustments in the insert area and to still be heard in remote corners of the room."

The installer, Bernie Lory has also put two Soundsphere #2212-2 speakers in the stacker area to improve the efficiency of that portion of the operation. He is planning to use more Soundsphere loudspeakers at this site to solve other operational problems.





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the Koreans' superstitions, try to remember the last time you saw a 13th floor in a building, walked under a ladder, or petted a black cat.

For a brief period in the late 1980s Inkel became an important OEM supplier of mixers and amplifiers for a half dozen U.S. hi-fi and commercial sound companies (AB Systems, SAE, Adcom, to mention a few). Inkel was not exactly subtle in their OEM business, with the SAE brand being sold in Korea as SAE/Inkel. One of their export managers left the company and set up the brand "Senior" in the U.S. which was a popular paging amplifier company. This period, just before the 1988 Olympic Games, was Korea's brief moment in the sun. The manufacturing sophistication had finally reached the threshold of world-class quality, yet costs were low.

Inkel was not the only guy making

money...so was I. Sammi, the Korean speaker factory that I represented in the U.S., was producing reasonable quality products at terrific prices. Just as the business started to

OF COURSE MANY COMMERCIAL SOUND EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS IN KOREA DO NOT DO INSTALLATIONS, AND MANY SOUND INSTALLERS DO NOT BUILD ELECTRONICS.

take off, the combination of unions, politics, the Olympic Games, spiraling inflation, along with rapidly climbing salaries and prices put an end to much of Korea's export business.

Today many Korean brand products that are sold internationally are no longer built in Korea, but rather in less developed areas: the Hyundai Elantra is built in Canada, even many of Sammi's speakers (Korea's largest speaker company) are assembled at Stanford Acoustics, their Danville, Kentucky operation. Sammi has also just taken over Allison Acoustics, a popular U.S. hi-fi speaker company. The Korean engineers working there marvel at the low pricing of homes and the friendly natives. Sadly, I am only half kidding. My firm helps source and qualify vendors for a number of U.S. companies, and there are still quite a few viable suppliers with good pricing and performance in Korea.



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Of course many commercial sound equipment manufacturers in Korea do not do installations, and many sound installers do not build electronics. Most of the firms that build commercial sound equipment do not even market these products in Korea. For example, Dae Sung builds mic mixers for Radio Shack and cheap disco mixers for three of the lower end disco



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There was a period of time when I practically lived at the Olympic Park area where the sports arenas were located. Today it is a large recreation area surrounded by high-rise apartments. During its construction it was swarming with anti-terrorist troops.

> mixer companies in the U.S. While the Radio Shack unit is clean and simple, the disco mixers are designed as "knobs per dollar" products and are rat's nests of wiring inside. The digital sampler is really a solid state TAD (Telephone Answering Device) chip with about 40 dB S/N ratio. I can not really blame these products on Dae Sung, as they also build a top class

WORKING IN KOREA PROVIDED ME WITH A FEW FANTASTIC ENGINEERING EXPERIENCES.

mixer for a Belgian firm (that is labeled "Made in Belgium"!). Although the fellows who build Bogen's mixers do so on an exclusive basis, they are not quiet about it and display these products at Korean trade shows.

Speaking of trade shows, KES (Korean Electronic Show) is the big exposition for consumer electronics in Korea and takes place in October, I was quite impressed with this year's show, with high definition television, TVs with built-in satellite receivers, prototype Mini-Disc and DCC machines, and tons of karaoke systems on display. The International Broadcast & Audio Equipment show is toward the end of June. The Monthly Journal of Audio is the one Korean magazine that covers high end audio and pro sound. Each issue is about 225 pages and has articles about design technique, influential audio designs from the past, interviews with engineers, and many ads.

MIKE'S BIG AUDIO ADVENTURES IN KOREA

Aside from the usual sound system consulting jobs, working in Korea provided me with a few fantastic engineering experiences. One of these projects was a was a feasibility study for the high-intensity sound system at the DMZ (de-militarized zone) between

Circle 254 Reader Response Card World Radio History North and South Korea. About five miles of rocky terrain separate the two adversaries. Unlike the Czechs and Slovaks or the Serbs and Croatians, the northern and southern Korean groups are culturally the same, except for the political realities. They have found a very civilized way to express the differences in their positions they yell at each other through high output sound systems. It is my hope that Korea will someday be able to export this concept to Ireland. Lebanon and Yugoslavia.

Usually during the night, one of the many semi-portable high-intensity sound systems sitting on flat-bed trucks will be transported into the DMZ "no-man's-land" area so as to get it closer to the North Korean bunkers. Offers of higher pay in the South



Electronics Show shortly after the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games.

Korean army, a bonus for showing up with a tank or two, and other banter is the usual fare. The logistics of projecting intelligible speech five miles are formidable. Air absorption of the

top-end response, temperature gradients, and the inverse square law conspires to confound effective communications. For example, during the day the ground absorbs heat so at night



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when the air is cold, the ground is radiating heat energy that must be accounted for when the speakers are aimed. This error can be significant. Of course, just the opposite occurs in the morning when the South Koreans provide their wake-up call for the North.

I found a lot of useful info on long distance sound projection from studies by LTV Altec (now Ling) on air modulation speakers that were (and are still) used for foghorn voice warning by the U.S. Coast Guard. Projecting sound five miles is a "breeze" for these monster transducers! One of these installations, at Pt. Reves, is an afternoon's drive from my house in Northern California. Still another one of these air modulation speaker systems is used just south of my house by Lockheed for destructive noise testing of aerospace applications. If Lockheed and the U.S. Coast Guard ever coordinate their activities, all of North California can have stereo background music!

Aside from air modulation speakers, we evaluated the various very large



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format compression drivers and even prototyped a few ourselves. All this development has not gone to waste as these same compression drivers are now made in Kentucky by Stanford Acoustics, the U.S. affiliate of the Korean speaker company that originally made the drivers and are marketed by Federal Signal, the world's largest siren/voice warning company. The large format compression driver research ended up helping win another OEM parts supply contract from the manufacturer of the highest output (4-inch horn exit) driver.

My other Korean audio adventure was working on the sound systems for the 1988 Seoul Olympic games. This project started with the building of half-a-dozen sports areas for the 1986 Asian Games. After computer simulations and construction and installation. testing of these sound systems was very exciting. During these years the South Koreans were more than concerned that the North Koreans would attempt to disrupt the Games, perhaps blowing up the facilities that I was working on. What worried me more was all the very young anti-terrorist troops with machine guns who were all over the place. Each morning I would practice looking not-North Korean (this was not so tough as my grandparents were run out of Romania). Happily, all the events came off without a hitch.

Unfortunately, the sound installer for the games, Je-il Electronics has not fared so well over the years. When I first came to Korea in the early 1980s it cost about \$3 for an upscale cab ride from the airport to the opposite end of the city. Keep in mind that Seoul has a population about the combined size of New York and Chicago put together. A stay at a "domestic" hotel, which would be an immaculate small room with rug, comfortable bed, color TV. U.S. style bathroom, air conditioning, would cost about \$12 per night. By the way, most hotels would also offer the traditional Korean style room with a large pillow-bed on a heated floor.

You could take a friend out to dinner with style with a total tab of \$4. A young worker on the production line made about 30 cents per hour. All workers could read and write Korean. School in Korea is six days a week (actually a half day on Saturday). English is taught every day from the earliest grade on up. I guess many Koreans have been told that their "English is very good" to the point of this remark being a joke. During a large and rather serious meeting in Korea, an old Korean gentleman turned to me and commented "I have been listening to you talk, and I must say that your English is very good." Of course everybody broke up over this



"Your best bet is the Jumbo Mount from Peerless," he told me.

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and the mood of the discussions was lightened.

Especially during the late 1980s the standard of living and inflation climbed rapidly. The same taxi ride now takes the equivalent of a \$10 bill just to get the cab to stop. As cabs ride by, candidate riders vell "double!" (I will pay you double the meter) in order to entice the cab driver to stop and let them in. I think this must be due to a mistake by the Korean government in bringing New York cab drivers to train Korean cab drivers (this is only my theory)! In any case, the same trip from the airport is now going to cost you closer to \$20, your hotel bill in Seoul will be from \$70 to \$140 a night (even more downtown), and dinner for two will be at least \$20 and more likely double. Seoul, Korea is pretty much as



expensive as New York or any other big U.S. city. Workers on the production line make a few bucks an hour, the same as workers in most industrial Mike Klasco at a speaker basket factory in 1985.

cities in the U.S. Unions are now big in Korea.

To avoid the expenses of the capital many companies have set up affiliates

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and subsidiaries in the countryside. Inland, many farmers work part-time in factories when not planting and harvesting their crops. If this seems foreign to you, you will be surprised that this is exactly how one of the biggest U.S. speaker companies, Eminence (located in Kentucky), operates.

I think the most appealing locations for a company in Korea are in Pusan. This is the big port city on the Southern tip of the country. The weather is the best here — it never snows, while Seoul's weather is reminiscent of Chicago's most of the year. The entire city is spread out near Paradise Beach, a large resort area on the ocean. The backdrop for the city is a ridge of snowcapped mountains. On a clear day you can see a few islands off the coast of Japan. An express train runs from Seoul, which is at the northern end of the country, directly to Pusan. The cost is about \$20, about one tenth of a similar trip in Japan. You can also fly, flight time being about 40 minutes and cost about \$35. Whether you fly or take the train, almost all seats are taken on weekends.

Driving is impossible now that everyone has a car and nobody has learned to drive yet! The ride takes about five hours and is a great way to get a cross-sectional view of the country. It seems that every inch of the country is a factory, home, or under cultivation.

So I started to tell you about Je-il Electronics, the sound contractor that did not survive Korea's lightning transition from being a third world country. As you know, in sound contracting you often bid jobs for installations that will not be completed for years. With salaries doubling and tripling in Korea, it was impossible to conservatively predict costs yet bid competitively. Especially at the onset of Korea's intense growth, the spiraling increases in salaries and materials were unforeseeable. Ie-il bid and won too many long term jobs and simply could not survive. Sadly, Korea does not have the same type of bankruptcy laws as the U.S. and when you go under, you are charged with fraud. Inevitability, the president or owner goes to iail as punishment. Ouch!

Next month I will take you to Taiwan, the land of a million people, five million lead-breathing motor scooters and 200 speaker factories. ■

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Sunshine Ministries

A Vision of Future Sound in Western Michigan

BY WENDY J. DUCH

here is a rapidly expanding market for all genres of Christian music in Western Michigan. In former President Ford's hometown of Grand Rapids, Sunshine Ministries has become instrumental in bringing major Christian musical groups to the area. Located on East Beltline Drive, the church first opened its doors for public worship about five years ago. When starting out, the church followed a primarily voice-oriented worship format. They had no way of knowing that within a few short years, theirs would become an extremely musical church.

A voice-quality horn and bass bin multiple cluster system had originally been installed in the church's 2,300seat sanctuary by Ascom, Inc. of Grand Rapids. The contract had originally been given to another, lower-bid installer, but Ascom was brought in by the customer who reported dissatisfaction with the first contractor. The fanshaped, single floor sanctuary requires wide dispersion angles for uniform room coverage. The multiple cluster system worked well for this purpose. Powered by seven Altec Lansing 9444-A amplifiers, it employed 14 small-format HP-series Electro-Voice horns and three Altec low-end bins with 515 drivers. When installed, the system was well suited for its intended use. The church was a satisfied customer. And that might have been the end of it.

Wendy J. Duch is a freelance audio writer who currently resides in East Lansing, Michigan.



Sunshine Ministries' 2,300-seat sanctuary.

Then Sunshine hired Randy Umfleet as Director of Fine Arts, and everything changed.

Suddenly, there was an abundance of song in Sunshine's sanctuary. Although the church owned a very nice electronic organ, they wanted additional options. They wanted to be able to run instruments through the house PA, along with prerecorded instrumental tracks and amplified vocals. Most importantly, they wanted to bring major Christian recording artists into the church for special concerts. First, they tried modifying the existing system to fit their expanded needs.

What Sunshine needed, however, was a vision — a plan for the future. In quest of the realization of this vision, they brought in Texas-based acoustical design consultant Bob Adams, formerly of the Joiner-Rose Group. Together, the church and designer inked out a clear vision that reflected future, as well as present, needs.

This sound system renovation project was then bid on by a number of installers, including Ascom. For what the church proposed to do, bids came in at a scope of \$218,000. This was unfortunately too great a financial burden for the church to handle all at once. However, Ascom had developed a healthy working relationship with the client in years past, and it was only natural for them to meet with church administrators in an effort to work out a solution to Sunshine's dilemma.

In the meantime, the church had stopped using the multiple cluster system. Instead, they were renting a
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triamplified system that gave them the fidelity they were looking for. But the speaker stacks, set to either side of the stage, lacked the widespread dispersion characteristics needed for uniform room coverage. With this in mind. Ascom took the initiative to break Adams' design down into affordable phases of installation. Although this approach considerably slows down project completion, in the end Sunshine will own the system they wanted to begin with at a cost relative to what they were already paying out in monthly rental fees. Needless to say, church administrators really liked this idea

The initial installation was completed a year ago. This was the most critical phase of installation, from a performance standpoint. The original cluster system was removed, so that two concentric rings of Electro-Voice DeltaMax loudspeakers could be flown over the sanctuary in their place. The DeltaMax speakers are supplemented on the extreme low end by a pair of E-V MTL-4 manifold subwoofers placed in the front of the sanctuary.

The inner ring of loudspeakers consists of seven DeltaMax DML 1122APFs, powered on the low end by the original Altec 9444 A amplifiers, and on the high end by new Altec 9442-A amplifiers. The outer ring is designed to fly eight E-V FR 200s, powered by additional 9442-As, but the church found that it could not afford the additional cost at that time. Instead of compromising on a cheaper and less efficient alternative, they decided to hold off on purchasing enough speakers to fill out the outer ring, and to fly two FR 200s over the mix position on the outer ring to give the console operator a better idea of the overall SPL in the sanctuary.

If the full outer ring were in place, all loudspeakers would be flown at an angle of 45 degrees. Since this is not the case, existing speakers have been tilted at a more gradual angle of 25

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degrees. This shallow angle helps cover the back rows of sanctuary seating, but is a temporary solution at best. In order to achieve a uniform room coverage of ±3dB SPL, the outer ring would have to be completed.

Adams' design called for a pair of E-V MTL-4 manifold subwoofers to be fitted underneath the stage. These subs contain four 18-inch drivers per cabinet. Each cabinet is driven separately by an E-V AP 2300 power amplifier. An APX-2 electronic crossover unit is used to drive the subs at a crossover frequency of 90 Hz. Ascom systems engineers were a bit concerned about putting something that powerful underneath the stage. So they placed the subs in front of where they were to be installed, and ran some tests. According to Ascom's Senior Systems Engineer Dave Spoelhof, the results were fairly obnoxious. As an alternative, they decided to fly the subs in the same coves where the organ subwoofers were located, to either side of the stage. Here, they are out of sight, yet do the job of filling out the extreme low end of the house system. Spoelhof jokes that "... when we start to rattle the HVAC duct work, we know we're getting a pretty good SPL level!," and laughs.

While working out the details for Sunshine's initial phase of installation, Ascom arranged for several of its clients — including representatives from Sunshine Ministries — to visit Willow Creek, a 4-5,000-seat church in Illinois where an L-R L-R stereo cabinet system had recently been installed. Until then. Sunshine had not even considered stereo to be an option. Once they had experienced the difference, however, they decided to have Ascom design essentially the same type of L-R L-R stereo response into their new DeltaMax system. Spoelhof has found that when setting this array up for an odd number of loudspeakers flown in a concentric ring, that the odd speaker blends into the stereo mix without noticeable detection.

Sunshine Ministries is well on its way to the realization of their sound



The Sunshine Ministries renovation included a stereo inner ring with two booth spot speakers.

vision, thanks to the willingness of Ascom representatives to work out an affordable solution with them. Future installation phases will include completing the outer ring of loudspeakers. There is some debate at this point whether it is better to drive this outer ring using E-V DML 1122APFs with a passive crossover in place of the FR200s, or to go with some other type of cabinet altogether. Eventually, the church will purchase a Yamaha PM 3000 or PM 4000 40-channel mixing console to replace the two 24-channel boards that are still in current use. New patch bays will be installed in the control booth and an array of new signal processing components will be added to the system. Although it will still be sometime before this project reaches actual completion, Sunshine Ministries continues to be a satisfied customer.



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Michigan Tech Ice Arena

A New System for Diverse Needs is Established on the Michigan Campus

BY KEITH CLARK

he Student Development Complex (SDC) Ice Arena, located on the campus of Michigan Technological University (MTU) in Houghton, Michigan, serves a wide variety of needs.

Home to the MTU Huskies of the Western Collegiate Hockey Association, the 4,200-seat facility is also the site of many local, regional and state high school hockey games. In addition, it's used for physical education classes, intramural ice hockey, figure skating, recreational skating as well as the renowned MTU Summer Hockey Development Center. It's also host to commencement exercises and largescale speeches and presentations.

MTU, one of the foremost technical schools in the United States, commissioned construction of the building in the early 1970s. Almost from the beginning, there had been dissatisfaction with the facility's audio system, although it was not fully replaced until this year. Some attempts were made over the years by students and faculty to rectify the audio/acoustic problems, but no long-term solutions were effected.

Keith Clark is the President of Priority Communications of South Bend, Indiana.



The 34 clusters surrounding the seating areas are each made up of two Community RS-220 speakers. The clusters are spread 25½ feet apart and suspended from a steel grid along the ceiling that runs around the entire room.

In Spring 1991, however, the university contracted Mavri, Inc. of Jenison, Michigan to design and install a completely new system. Mavri subsequently retained Media Design Consultants of Byron Center, Michigan to provide independent mapping and proving of the new system. Relying upon thorough research and their extensive experience with installations of this type, Mavri installed a system that has received rave reviews from both the university and attendees of various events.

HOCKEY PUCKS IN THE BASS BINS?

The former system had featured a two-cluster design. One cluster was suspended above the main scoreboard

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at "center ice," and was used primarily for sound reinforcement at hockey games. A secondary cluster, suspended near one end of the rectangular arena, was used for applications such as commencement.

In-depth TEF analysis of the entire arena was performed while the old system was still in use. Using this initial data, the installation team was able to map out trouble spots and other peculiarities of the room, which measures about 250 feet long by 150 feet wide. Main seating runs along each long side of the rectangle, while temporary bleachers can be erected at one end. The other end does not have provisions for seating. The flat ceiling, supported by a network of steel girders, reaches about 60 feet above the main floor. The concept of the original system was to employ a central cluster that took advantage of the room's natural reverberance in order to produce a good level of sound. While this principle has worked effectively at other venues, it just wasn't performing at an acceptable level.

"From what we can surmise, it became a contest among the hockey players to try and shoot pucks into the cabinets."

One interesting development as the old system was coming down: several

hockey pucks were discovered in the bass bins! "From what we can surmise, it became a contest among the hockey players to try and shoot pucks into the cabinets," says Mavri project engineer Max Krueger. "Judging from the number of pucks that came out of those bins, the players evidently became pretty good at hitting their target. This also might have been a contributing factor to the system's poor performance."

With the new system, Mavri determined that instead of a central cluster system, they would utilize a twopronged attack. The ice/main floor would receive primary sound reinforcement from two Soundsphere 2212-2 speaker systems that each would cover one-half of the surface. Seating areas would be covered by a total of 34 two-speaker clusters.



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World Radio History

With their two 12-inch speakers pushing into baffles, the Soundsphere speakers effectively eliminate all direct sound, cancelling early reflections.

This principle comes in very handy where reverberation is a major threat, providing a smooth pattern that is especially ideal on a flat surface like the ice.

The 34 clusters surrounding the seating areas are each made up of two Community RS-220 speakers. The clusters, spread 25 ½ feet apart, are suspended from a steel grid along the ceiling that runs around the entire room directly above the edge of the ice where the seating sections start.

The EASE dispersion program was employed to map out the location of the clusters. The program is highly accurate in mapping out dispersion angles, and it helps in correlating the 'hot spots' of a venue. A little luck was also involved in the determination of cluster hanging points.

Mavri wanted the clusters to have the most support possible, and it happened that the steel grid is reinforced every 25 ½ feet. According to their research, these supported areas turned out to be the optimum places for hanging the clusters. Therefore, they were able to place the clusters exactly where they needed to go without extra reinforcement of the grid.

Mavri wanted the clusters to have the most support possible, and it happened that the steel grid is reinforced every 25½ feet.

In the clusters, one of the speakers is aimed at a downward angle to cover the lower seating levels, while the other speaker is aimed at a more outward angle toward the back wall about 60 feet away, providing coverage to the upper seating levels. The clusters provide such good coverage that support speakers aren't required.

Extensive TEF analysis was again applied during aiming and final system testing. Measurements were taken from more than 150 spots throughout the arena. Using pink noise and other source material, SPL levels were taken at a relative center of 75 dB. How well does it work?

The installation team had desired to create a "wall of sound," which has definitely been accomplished. There are variances of no more than ± 3 dB at any given spot, with the variance in the majority of the arena significantly less than that.



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Walkways, locker rooms and other areas outside the main arena are covered by a 70-volt distributed system. No matter where someone might be within the arena, he is able to hear what is going on very clearly.

COMPUTER CONTROL

Because Michigan Tech is an advanced technological university, students and faculty are highly computer literate. They fully realize the advantages and benefits of using computers.

This philosophy makes the use of Crown's computer-controlled IQ System a natural.





The ice/main floor receives primary sound reinforcement from two Soundsphere 2212-2 speaker systems (above) that each cover one-half of the surface.

for this is its graphic orientation. You can actually build a graphic representation of the entire system on a single screen."

The IQ System allows for control of a variety of functions, including useraccess and power levels, as well as on/off and level control of specific components and clusters.

Walkways, locker rooms and other areas outside the main arena are covered by a 70-volt distributed system.

One of the most valuable functions, however, is the IQ System's ability to store up to eight system presets, allowing the system to be programmed to meet the specialized needs of an event. When the operator specifies a preset, the entire audio system is automatically configured with the most effective levels and combination of components. Mavri programmed a variety of presets, including those for hockey games, hockey pre-game shows and

IQ Macintosh version 1.4 software controls the arena's 20 Crown Com-Tech 400 (CT-400) amplifiers via IQ-P.I.P. modules from a single computer screen located in the audio control booth. IQ PC software is also installed.

systems hung on each side of the scoreboard.

The Soundshere

although not currently in use. It may, however, be used for future expansion of the IQ System.

"The Macintosh system is easier for most people to use, operate and understand," Krueger says. "The reason



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announcements, general skating, commencement and speaking events, and several others.

The IQ System is also used for system diagnostics. When there is a problem, such as an area not receiving coverage, the configuration is called up on the computer screen, allowing the operator to immediately determine the extent of the problem and its source. Most of the time, it can be fixed with a couple of computer commands.

To help arena officials operate the system correctly and efficiently, Mavri supplied a concise manual that provides clear, easy-to-follow instructions. The manual covers everything from general operating procedures to selecting a specific preset to shutting off the entire system after an event. The bottom line: The Zamboni driver maintaining the ice can handle complete system on/off capability without assistance.

A TOA SAORI System is employed in conjunction with IQ. Using the AUX port of the IQ-P.I.P.'s, the IQ System software controls equalizer, delay and notch filter presets. To avoid potential groundloops, Mavri chose to opto-isolate the IQ and SAORI Systems, with

The bottom line: The Zamboni driver maintaining the ice can handle complete system on/off capability without assistance.

the SAORI allowing the match of equalization to any IQ System presets.

The SAORI mainframe includes a liquid crystal display for monitoring EQ settings. Another IQ feature provides the ability to lock the SAORI settings - they can't be changed unless the IQ System is unlocked via a special access code.



The ice arena as set up for commencement exercises.

Mavri had previously employed the IQ System/TOA SAORI combination with great success at the Kellogg Arena, a large, multipurpose arena in Kalamazoo, Michigan. This combination has also been employed in other notable venues like the Seattle Kingdome, where it was installed by Proshow USA of Redmond, Washington.

CUSTOMIZED RACKS

Amplifiers and most electronic components are rack-mounted and kept in a small room on the main level of the arena. Because the room interior can be viewed by the public, custom racks were designed and assembled to present a clean, "high-tech" look.

The room has white walls and gray floor tiles, so Mavri constructed the racks from wood and then covered them with medium gray Formica. The Com-Tech amps and other components largely have black face plates

The racks were pre-loaded and then rolled into the room where they were placed on blocks that provide added stability.

that blend in nicely with the color scheme of the room and racks. When they were complete, the racks were pre-loaded and then rolled into the



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room where they were placed on blocks that provide added stability. The racks also include jumpers that run to a common ground source.

This room also features four plugs that tie into the building's Emergency Paging System (EPS). The main mixing, a RackMax II 16 channel model, some signal processing gear and two Crown CT-400 amplifiers provide sound to the two Soundsphere speakers upon activation of the EPS. It was a university requirement to make sure that sound is provided to the building, no matter the situation.

The mixing console, along with a Carver CD player and cassette deck, are housed in the main audio booth, while a variety of microphones, both wired and wireless, are available for use.





The electronic components are housed in custom racks.

Because the room interior can be viewed by the public, custom racks were designed and assembled to present a clean, "high-tech" look.

CONCLUSIONS

"One thing that might be of some surprise is the fact that this new system, even with its state-of-the-art computer control devices, cost less than just the clusters for the old system," Krueger says.

Comments about the system have been highly complimentary. The university has expressed its complete satisfaction with all facets of the system. And in fact, Mavri received a letter from a grateful season-ticket holder, stating that for the first time, he can actually hear everything clearly.



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Testing Teleconferencing

A Method for the Automated Remote Testing of Facilities

BY BRADLEY BASNETT

xpectations for performance of teleconference facilities have grown in tandem with recent usage increases. By acquiring quality devices and deploying them in conducive acoustic environments, a network of effective meeting tools is created. However, various components of the teleconference system are subject to potential failure through heavy daily use and unforeseen operational faults.

To prevent customers from encountering failed or problematic devices, a method to check on the "health" of corporate audio teleconference systems was devised. The method involves a daily comprehensive electroacoustic test from a centralized location.

The implementation of the method incorporates available audio test tools, PC software, and advanced telephony devices. The method and test station are described fully below.

TEST METHODOLOGY

A teleconference system is a specialized audio device. There are several components not normally found in the traditional audio path.

The components of a typical teleconference system are as follows:

• Transmit path. Microphone(s), preamp, mixer (if more than one mi-

crophone), acoustic processor (echo canceller and/or echo suppressor or voice switch), further signal processing (EQ, AGC circuitry), and telephone network interface.

• Receive path. Telephone network interface, AGC circuit, taps for the acoustic processor, amplifier and loudspeaker(s).

A simple way of determining the operational "health" of any audio system is to perform a frequency response measurement from system in-

The acoustic processing circuitry, essential for stable system operation, is a problem for a test system.

put to output. Driving the teleconference system input (receive) with a test signal, and measuring the amplitude of the output (transmit) frequency response provides a status of the system.

The acoustic processing circuitry, essential for stable system operation, is a problem for a test system. The main function of the acoustic processor is to prevent signals arriving at the receive port from reaching the transmit port. To overcome this roadblock, some control device is required. The acoustic processor of the system under test must be momentarily disabled by the control device. Once this roadblock is removed, a traditional audio test (*i.e.*, frequency response) may be applied with some confidence.

A comparison of the system's current measured frequency response with a reference response would point to any performance flaws or system failure. A failure would typically appear as a dramatic level drop or a radically different frequency response when compared to the reference.

For the test system to be cost effective, it should be connected to the telephone network and therefore be capable of testing many teleconference systems. The test apparatus must be capable of running in an automated fashion before working hours.

Based on the requirements above, a test system was defined as follows:

Requirements for a remote audio teleconference test system.

• The audio link between the test station and the teleconference system under test should be via a switched eight wire circuit (i.e., E&M, Type II, with two pair for audio and two pair for signalling). This is one type used in dedicated circuits for audio conferencing and telephone company trunking. For test purposes, it basically provides a separate transmit and receive path to and from the test station. For conference calls, these types of circuits ensure high echo return loss, allow signalling, and eliminate the degradation of telephone hybrids. Normal analog voice lines may also be used but would

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Bradley Basnett is a specialist in the Teleconferencing Department of Bell-Northern Research in Ottawa, Ontario.

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require additional circuitry to separate the transmit and receive paths, and introduce the effects of multiple telephone hybrids.

• The teleconference system should be outfitted with some simple control device capable of preparing the teleconference system for the test. The operating mode of the teleconference system shall be switched from normal to test and back. This control device must be capable of receiving action commands via the switched telephone network.

• A sophisticated telephone controller is required at the test station to establish and supervise the telephone



Figure 2. Flow Chart Describing Teleconference Test System Operation.

connections for the control and the audio test portions.

• The electroacoustic measurement device must be capable of generating and analyzing a test signal. It should also be relatively immune to potential noise interference and have post processing capabilities.

TEST STATION IMPLEMENTATION

From the requirements, a test system was constructed using commercially available hardware and software. Some customized software was also required to control the telephone system. Notably, very little programming was involved due to the sophistication of the "bought" packages. (A block diagram of the test system hardware is shown in Figure 1. A flow chart showing the actions of the implemented test system is shown in Figure 2.)

A personal computer is the core of the test system. To automate the setup and test tasking, a software package replaces an operator typing keystrokes at specific times and in particular order. The keystrokes call batch files that launch other commercial software packages (acoustic test, telephony control) that in turn control hardware devices (PC cards, telephones). Macros within these programs are also launched by the keystroke processor. The batch files and macros are inde-

A test system was

A test system was constructed using commercially available hardware and software.

pendent entities and can therefore be easily updated and reused as new systems and situations arise.

I have divided the test system into subsystems and describe each of them





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DJ Times Magazine



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below. Most components, except the telephone subsystem, would likely be in the arsenal of most audio companies.

Scheduler. Capable of issuing keystrokes at specific times in a certain order. Commercially available memory resident software for the PC (*i.e.* AutoMite).

Electroacoustic Test Subsystem. This subsystem generates a test signal, measures the impulse response of the teleconference system and calculates the frequency response. It compares the current result with a reference and prints the results of the comparison. DRA's MLSSA system is used. (Details of the electroacoustic test are presented later in this article.)

Teleconference Unit Control Subsystem. Commands are generated by the telephone subsystem, and routed via the telephone network to a DTMF (dual tone multi-frequency) decoding device. This control device operates relays that prepare the teleconference system for testing.

Essentially the echo cancelling circuitry is disabled with a dry contact closure so that the test signal may pass through the teleconference system and re-appear at the transmit output.

Telephony Control Subsystem. This controls all telephony functions of the test station. The hardware is comprised of a Digita! Key System Unit (popular with small businesses), associated telephone set, and a PC interface card to enable custom PC software to control and monitor most of the functions of the telephone. This subsystem handles the initiation and supervision of calls that:

• connect the teleconference system under test to the Electroacoustic Test Subsystem via the telephony network.

• connect with and issue commands to the Teleconference Unit Control

The echo cancelling circuitry is disabled with a dry contact closure.

Subsystem.

• disconnect all of the above telephone connections at the appropriate times.

MEASUREMENTS

This method uses the measurement of frequency response to determine the operational "health" of a teleconference system. The measurement path is shown in Figure 3.

The implemented measurement procedure is listed below:

• A 16383-point maximum-length sequence (MLS) with a bandwidth of 5 kHz is fed from the MLSSA card to the "receive" port of the teleconference system under test via the switched telephone network.

• The test signal passes though the audio teleconference system, and reappears at the transmit output. The signal returns to the test station on the other pair of the audio circuit via the telephone network.

• The loudspeaker/room impulse response, encompassing the whole



teleconference system, is then measured. In this instance, the teleconference microphone serves as the measurement microphone.

(The measurement path also includes the telephone network. Therefore, the effects of the network will appear in the results. However, the effect on the measurement is usually only one of band limiting.)

• A 2048 point FFT (Fast Fourier Transform) is then performed on the impulse response. The result of the FFT is the amplitude of the frequency response. It is then compared with the reference frequency response. Statistics provide information on the similarity of the two curves (*i.e.* relative level shift). The results are then printed. Obviously, a well matching curve proves that the path through the system under test is operating as designed. A poor match indicates trouble and must be investigated.

TEST RESULTS

Figure 4 shows the results of two months of testing on one room equipped with a testable teleconference system. The results show two failures. The failures were minor; both were caused by brief power interruptions and only required that the teleconference system be reset.

The average difference in level, shown in Figure 4, is only one of the

statistics available. However, it is a good indicator of system status. The shape of the curve, as compared to the reference, is also scrutinized for potential problems.

Figure 5 shows the results of a comparison of a measurement with a reference curve having close agreement (pass). The irregularity of the current measured frequency response is caused by the interference effects of room boundaries. Figure 6 shows one in poor agreement with the reference (failure).





Figure 5. Results of Comparison of Measured Frequency Response with Reference (PASS).



Figure 6. Results of Comparison of Measured Frequency Response with Reference (FAILURE).

EXPECTATIONS FOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN REFERENCE AND MEASURED VALUES

In this particular case, the loudspeaker volume control of the teleconference system may be adjusted by the user. Therefore some variability in the measured level is expected.

The curve is examined to see that it

has a proper profile and a level that is within the predefined range. Currently, this portion is done by visual inspection of the frequency response curve, but may soon be automated.

SPIN OFF FROM TEST ROUTINE: FAX TESTER

During the test station project, another application was developed. This one uses the same test station, but in



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Wakes-Up & Begins E	xecuting Keystrokes
DOS Batch File Prepa Electroacoustic Tea MLSSA Macro	ares the 👘 it System & Launches
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MLSSA Captures F (like storage scop)	AX Handshake Tones
	2
MLSSA Performs FF1 Waveform	on Snepshot of
	-
Compares Room Freq Reference Curve and Calculations	vency Response with Performs Statistics
Disconnect Telephon Test System and FAX	y Connection Between I machine

Figure 7. Flow Chart Describing FAX Test.

a slightly different way. It checks FAX machines. It checks their "health" by calling them up and "listening" to the handshake tones that they generate. Essentially, the electroacoustic test subsystem acts as a digital storage scope. Next, it calculates the frequency response and then compares the current measurement to a reference curve. Again, the result is printed and reviewed to find errors (machine unplugged, phone line unplugged, FAX machine defective). The test algorithm is shown in Figure 7.

FUTURE

As videoconference systems become more ubiquitous and relied upon for important business communications, some form of remote testing will be required. The method described here may provide the basis for the audio portion of remote videoconference system testing.

SUMMARY

This article has reviewed the development of an automated test station that measures the frequency response of teleconference systems remotely for quality assurance purposes. The test station has proved useful during field trial and with further refinement will be expanded to provide more comprehensive testing of current and future teleconference facilities.

[Acknowledgment: The author would like to thank the Information Technology Division, Bell-Northern Research for support of this work. He would also like to thank John Lighthall for encouraging and actively supporting this project.]

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TRADE SHOWS

(Continued from page 17)

School in Monterey presented a paper regarding the software required for the computer generation of virtual environments. Other papers discussed the dimensions of synthetic experience, telepresence, and simulator sickness.

The session on Chaos in Music featured a paper by Dr. Manfred Schroeder of Bell Labs that discussed chaos in musical instruments, and showed how it can cause turbulenc in woodwinds and malfunctions of the vocal cords. Chaos here means that these systems have fundamentally unpredictable properties even though the mathematical equations describing them have no random or unpredictable elements. Another paper, presented by a mathematician from Rice University, entitled "Fractal Waveforms and Cellular Dynamics," was basically a performance art piece, in which the equations describing

THE EQUATIONS DESCRIBING FRUIT FLY POPULATIONS WERE USED TO CONTROL A YAMAHA SYNTHESIZER THAT PROVIDED MUSIC.

fruit fly populations were used to generate a visual display that showed

the growth and propagation of fly populations, and to control a Yamaha synthesizer that provided music. This performance was better than described.

Twenty-five years ago there was more commonality of acoustical developments between the Audio Engineering Society and the Acoustical Society of America. The new technologies of virtual environments, especially auralization, provides a great potential for commonality between the AES and the ASA, with the audio industry the beneficiary.

(There will be a special workshop dealing with Auralization at the 1993 AES convention.)

For more information of the Acoustical Society of America, contact Ms. Elaine Moran at 516-576-2360.



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NEWS FROM AROUND THE INDUSTRY

U.S. Sound Acquired; Tannoy in Calgary

Carver Acquires U.S. Sound

Carver Corporation has announced that it has acquired the assets of U.S. Sound, Inc. U.S. Sound designs and manufactures speaker components and markets and installs high-intelligibility sound systems.

"The acquisition of U.S. Sound technologies combined with our leading edge professional amplifier expertise should give Carver Corporation a strong presence in the professional sound reinforcement system market," stated Tom Graham, Carver's president and CEO. "Our early focus will be directed toward marketing sound reinforcement systems for use in major arenas and stadiums, both in the U.S. and Europe," added Mr. Graham.

The purchase price included \$1 million in cash, 20 percent of the outstanding shares of USS Corporation, the new subsidiary company, and earn-out payments over several years of up to 10 percent of the net revenue on sales of systems using U.S. Sound technology.

Tannoy Has Culture

Tannoy Contractor Series components were used at the Calgary Chinese Cultural Center.

The physical space that the Cultural Center occupies has dimensions similar to a basketball arena.

The sound problems that accompany a large, open space were dealt with by the Tannoy Contractor Series components, explains Mike MacLeod, a designer with the Calgary Sales Division of William F. White, Ltd., the theatrical design group that designed and supervised the renovation.

"We mounted three Tannoy CPA-15's arrayed in a central cluster, and two more CPA-15's in a left-right proscenium pair," MacLeod says of the \$100,000 sound installation.

Miller and Meder Sign Agreement

Gary E. Miller announced the formation of GEM Electronics, Inc. to exclusively import products manufactured by Meder Electronic GmbH of Singen, Germany and service the North American market. The product line includes reed relays and sensors for applications in the telecommunications, test and measure-ment and security alarm industries.

Formerly the director of product and market development for Coto Wabash, Miller says that he selected Meder to represent because of their ability to respond to customer needs worldwide, in terms of research and development. production, distribution and quality assurance.



Gary E. Miller

RCI and the Pageant of Peace

RCI Sound Systems was contracted for the 3rd consecutive year to provide full audio reinforcement and holiday music for the annual Pageant of Peace. The event, held on the grounds of the Ellipse directly across from the White House in Washington D.C., marked the start of the Christmas Season and ran from December 10 through January 3rd. Special



(L to R) William M. Pagett, director marketing & sales, Switchcraft, Inc., David Simmonds, president, A. C. Simmonds & Sons, Ltd., Keith A. Bandolik, president, Switchcraft, Inc.

holiday music provided by the AEI Music Network was played throughout the Ellipse area each day from 10:00 am until midnight, with a variety of live entertainment by performers from across the country. RCI Sound Systems was entirely responsible for all audio reproduction for the month long event, including all stage audio, the perimeter systems covering the grounds, and all holiday music reproduction.

Shen Milsom & Wilke In Hong Kong

Shen Milsom & Wilke Inc. has opened a branch office in Hong Kong. Ward Sellars, an audio/ video engineer with over 12 years experience in Hong Kong, will run the office. Sellars was previously involved in television studio design, three large sound systems for horse racing track, and an audio/video system for the Hong Kong Government's Executive Council Chambers.

Sellars is assisted by an acoustician, two electrical engineers with backgrounds in video systems and computer- controlled audio systems, and office support staff. There is also a full-time telecommunications engineer/ manager. The office is equipped with a Novell Network running AutoCAD V.12, an E size (AO) H-P DesignJet Plotter, high speed modem's for Wide Area Networking through to the head office in New York, and Bruel & Kjaer Acoustical measuring instruments.

REP NEWS

Switchcraft Appoints Canadian Rep

Switchcraft, Inc., has announced the appointment of A.C. Simmonds & Sons, Ltd., as its Canadian stocking distributor. A.C. Simmonds & Sons represents many North American and European passive component manufacturers offering complete services, as well as packaging and value added facilities where needed.

World Arts Reps Bag End

World Arts of North Hollywood, CA, has signed an agreement with Bag End Loudspeaker Systems to represent the loudspeaker systems manufacturer for international markets. The announcement was made jointly by John Vitale, sales manager for Bag End. and Martin Miranda. president of World Arts. "Interest in Bag End has been growing in international markets, especiallyin England, Western Europe, and the Orient," says Vitale. "We felt the time had come to put a formal marketing structure in place for those markets. Martin has an outstanding reputation in the music industry worldwide, so he and World Arts fit our needs perfectly," he continued.



Billboard Music Awards show

Xenotech Lights Awards

Xenotech, Inc., provided 11 automated lighting devices for last year's Billboard Music Awards, held in December. The annual event, honoring the music industry's best selling recording artists, was televised live on the Fox Network.

Bob Dickinson, lighting director for the Third Annual Billboard Music Awards, chose Xenotech to provide six automated 7,000watt Britelight lighting devices, and five automated 2,000-watt Britelights. These were used during most of the evening's musical performances, including songs by Genesis, Guns and Roses, Travis Tritt, Richard Marx and Boyz II Men

SMT Name Change

Syncopated Marketing Technologies, who represents Bag End in the Mid-Atlantic region, has changed its name to Mid-Atlantic Marketing, according to a recent announcement by Lenny Robinson, president of the firm. "Our new name, Mid-Atlantic Marketing, describes more accu-

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The Accupoint 1000 Laser Pointer

rately who we are and what we do," Robinson says.

Accupoint 1000

Laser Arts has announced the Accupoint 1000, a remote-controlled graphics laser pointer for use in auditoriums, classrooms, and learning centers.

Instead of either front or rear projection applications, the system consists of a stationary laser projection unit operated from a joystick remote control mounted at the speaker's podium. The joystick allows the user to move the pointer image to any location on the screen. In addition, several different graphic pointer images can be selected for different types of emphasis.

The Accupoint provides its graphics capability. The Laser Arts product allows the presenter to select four different orientations of arrows, plus a circle, a square, horizontal and vertical lines, a star, and cross hairs. In addition, the size of the circle and square and length of the lines can be adjusted by the user.

Accupoint is priced at \$6,875.00 retail. This price includes the projector unit, helium-neon laser, joystick remote control unit, and cables. Each system is covered by full one year parts and labor warranty.

Peavey Receives National Literacy Award

Peavey Electronics Corporation was recognized as a recipient of the National Literacy Honors Award. Hartley and Melia Peavey accepted the award from President and Mrs. Bush recently, in the East Room at the White House. Peavey was recognized for its involvement with the Job Skills Education Program that provides basic skills training for Peavey Employees.

Intelligent Automation

CM AUTOmation started delivering the MX-816 and FX-100 Automation Control Console, a turnkey interactive intelligent automation system. The FX-100 in conjunction with the MX-816 creates a control system for automated mixing. The eight channel FX-100 has built-in expandability and 100 millimeter linear faders to send audio volume messages and a mute/solo switch for track muting. The FX-100 can be phantom powered from the MIDI input or output jacks, simplifying cabling.



The FX-100 and MX-816 Automated Control Console

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> Circle 219.on Reader Response Card World Radio History





(L to R)Alan White, Yes, Jim Keltner, West L.A. Music salesperson Cathy Curtiss and Reek Havok, president of Drastik Plastik at West L.A. Music's Music Expo

West LA Music Expo

West L.A. Music recently presented it's sixth annual Music Expo. Thousands of musicians, producers, composers and educators attended the two day event at the L.A Airport Hilton.

The Music Expo featured a variety of items from the latest computer products to major brand guitars, amps, drums, keyboards, recording equipment, sound systems and accessories. Professional product demonstrations and seminars took place throughout the Expo, and guests were encouraged to try out the equipment on display.

Celebrities and musicians added excitement at Music Expo '92. Among the guests who attended were Tommy Lee of Motley Crue, Alan White and Trevor Rabin of Yes, Mark Schulman of Foreigner, Nick Menza from MegaDeath, Bruce Kulik and Eric Singer of Kiss, Rudy Sarzo of Whitesnake, Neil Peart from Rush, Steve Stevens and California Angels' pitcher Mark Langston.

Highlights of the show included rock and roll demonstrations by Marshall clinician Nick Bowcott, and Bruce Kulik from Kiss. Nick presented several 15 minute medleys demonstrating the sound and versatility of Marshall's new rack mount JMP-1 MIDI preamp. Kiss drummer, Eric Singer, was on hand in the Pearl exhibit for the unveiling of Pearl's drum kit, the Export Pro. In an impromptu question and answer session, Eric discussed Pearl gear and his personal touring kit. Guitar superstars Steve Stevens, Tracii Guns and Darren Householder helped introduce Washburn's new MG 104 and MG 94 guitars. Trevor Rabin of Yes presented a seminar on Digidesign's ProTools, multitrack recording and editing system for Macintosh. The presentation included a step-bystep demonstration on how he uses ProTools for recording and editing in his personal project studio.

Other features of the Expo include the introduction of: Korg's new Wavestation SR: Roland's IV-880 sound module, GR-1 guitar synthesizer, AX-1 remote midi keyboard controller, TDE-7 percussion system, the BOSS DS-D30 Dr. Synth, and the DJ-70 sampling workstation; Yamaha's SY 85 synthesizer, the PSR-SQ 16 advanced portable keyboard, and the TG 500 rack mount tone generator. Ibenez premiered the JS6 Joe Satriani 3-D body guitar with a new non-locking tremolo design and DOD/Digitech demonstrated the new RP-1 and PCM-10 effects gear.

Jeron Appoints New Rep

Jeron Electronic Systems, Inc. has appointed Jeff Kingston and Kingston Sales Corporation of Indianapolis, Indiana as the sales representative for the Indiana and Western Kentucky territories.

Sound Lab Software From Techron; TOA's F-505 Loudspeaker



Techron Releases New Software

Techron's Sound Lab-PC version 1.3 has been released for shipment. Using 3-D waterfall displays and a Noise Level Analysis (NLA) module, Sound Lab-PC provides TEF 20 users with displays ranging from 2 to 36 curves which can be viewed from left, right, front or back perspectives.

The software provides continuous Leq information during a measurement and displays Leq, Ln. and Lmean values, even if a measurement is interrupted before completion. Fractional percentile values are also available, along with the ability to calculate the Ln that corresponds to a given dB level. Other new features include NLA cursors, AutoRepeat mode, Combine Files feature, and muting. Data values are displayed at the NLA cursors while the Leq value is shown between the cursors.

Circle 1 on Reader Response Card



TOA's F-505

The F-505 loudspeaker from TOA Electronics has a frequency response of 70 Hz to 20 kHz, can handle figures of 80 watts RMS and 240 watts continuous program, with a sensitivity at 93 dB. Drivers in the F-505 start with a single 8-inch woofer. At 3 kHz, frequencies are directed to a constant directivity horn coupled to a compression driver for smooth coverage in a 60 degree by 40 degree nominal pattern.

Measuring 11 inches wide by 18 inches high and 9 inches deep, the F-505 weighs 16.5 lbs. The input panel is equipped with two ¼-inch phone jacks and a pair of push-in terminals. A built in protective circuit is provided to safeguard from excessive input levels. With a suggested retail price of \$558, the F-505 is available either in ivory or gray.

Optional accessories include mounting racks. For applications requiring additional low frequency response, the F-605 loudspeaker is also available. Outfitted with a larger 12-inch woofer, it has a retail price of \$958. *Circle 2 on Reader Response Card*

B&K Precision DC Power

A 3 to 14 volt, high current DC bench power supply with regulation and low ripple is now available from B&K Precision. Model 1686 is designed to output 12A maximum at 13.8V DC. The 1686 provides simultaneous monitoring of voltage and current output. Voltage is continuously adjust- able over the 3 to 14 volt output range.

The 1686 has reverse polarity protection from an external DC source, overload protection, short circuit protection and current limiting.

Plus and minus outputs are isolated, so either polarity may be floated or grounded. Two Model 1686 supplies can be connected in parallel to double the current output, or in a series to double voltage output.

Circle 3 on Reader Response Card

¹/₂-inch CCD Video Camera

Elmo Mfg. Corp. has introduced an "economy priced" version of its SE360 high resolution, low light ¹/₂-inch CCD monochrome video camera. The new SE360S features the performance of 500 TV (H) and low light sensitivity of 0.15 lux at f-1.4. It is available in 24VAC, CS mount and incorporates line lock with a S/N ratio greater than 46 dB. *Circle 4 on Reader Response Card*



Philips Enhanced Telephone

Philips Home Services International has announced the introduction of the Philips Enhanced Telephone. The Philips ET is a screen-enhanced phone that offers visual features and Text Telephone capabilities.

Philips has integrated a fiveinch, tilt-up LCD screen, a slide out keyboard, and an auto-answer modem. The phone also has an auxiliary port for connecting standard printers and other peripheral devices. It comes with a built-in standard memory card, making it possible for users to add new software applications as they become available.

Circle 5 on Reader Response Card



Circle 279 on Reader Response Card



Marquee 8000 and Marquee 9000 Projectors

Electrohome Ltd. has introduced the Marquee 8000 and Marquee 9000 projectors. The Marquee 8000 has three 8-inch electromagnetic focus CRT's and has a horizontal scanning capability of up to 130 kHz. The Marquee 9000 features three 9-inch electromagnetic focus CRT's and also has a horizontal scanning capability of up to 130 kHz. These new projectors generate images directly from a user's computer or video equipment. Each projector has a capacity of 54 sources, with the use of optional decoders and interfaces. Users can control projector software functions through a variety of devices: a built in keypad; an optional remote wired keypad; a high-frequency infrared remote that comes standard with



drive standalone or networked projectors through RS-232; or a reduced-function presenter's remote. The Marquee projection systems accommodate a variety of screen sizes. The 8000 produces images with a diagonal range of 6-25 feet; the 9000 images range from 8-25 feet.

each unit; an external PC that can

The Marquee 8000 offers 1,350 x 1,100 ANSI pixels and the Marquee 9000, 1,500 x 1,200 ANSI pixels, with accessibility of 2,500 x 2,000 pixels. Their brightness measures are 900 lumens peak, or 175 ANSI lumens for the Marquee 8000, and 1,200 lumens peak, or 250 ANSI lumens for the Marquee 8000. The Marquee 8000 has a bandwidth of 100 MHz; bandwidth of the Marquee 9000 is 120 MHz.

Both projectors can be ceilingor table-mounted for front or rearscreen projection. They measure $17 \times 28 \times 32$ inches.

Circle 6 on Reader Response Card



Hello Dolly

AAMP of America has introduced a portable cable dolly. The dolly is designed for transporting and dispensing 500-foot or 1,000foot rolls of wire. A spring-loaded brake system prevents backlashing of cable and release of unwanted amounts of wire. The dolly is American made using heavy duty steel and comes with ball bearing wheels. The unit weighs approximately 10 pounds. *Circle 7 on Reader Response Card*

Quality Technologies Optical Switches

Quality Technologies has introduced a new series of optical switches, the QVA Series, the QVB Series, the QVB Series with Wire Termination, the QRB1113/ 1114 Reflective Optical Switch, the QRB113/1134 Reflective Optical Switch with Wire Transmission.

These switches consist of an infrared LED and an NPN phototransistor. The phototransistor



detects the presence of light from the LED until the light is blocked by a mechanical object. These switches use a design to prevent dust accumulation in the optical path. The design also allows easy cleaning should particles become attached to the surface.

The QRB113/114 Reflective Optical Switch uses infrared light in a reflective mode to detect objects in close proximity. Optically reflective switches are useful for sensing paper or other non-contact applications. Both the QRB1113 and the QRB1114 offer output currents with min/max limits.

Quality Technologies has also introduced the QED522 and QED523. The QED522 offers output power minimum of 0.15 mW/ 10 while the QED523 offers output power minimum of 0.20mW/10. *Circle 8 on Reader Response Card*

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Cable Dereeling Box

A new dereeling box has been introduced by Montrose Products Company. It accommodates a wide range of cables. Constructed with plastic hubs inside the box to accommodate standard spools, this box eliminates the twisting and kinking of plenum cable associated with reel-less boxes. Allowing installers to pull cable from one or several boxes simultaneously, the Montrose Dereeling box is stackable and can be filled with a full range of cable including Thin-New Coax, Type 3 and Type 9 plenum, Type 9 PVCX, UTP single cable in category 4 and 5 shielded and unshielded, and UTP Siamese cable. The Montrose Dereeling Box is a packaging benefit offered with their line of installing cabling. Circle 9 on Reader Response Card

Tannoy Adds To DMT Series

Tannoy has enhanced its line of Monitor Series DMT studio reference loudspeakers, from System 8 NFM through System 215 DMt. Tannoy has also added the new System 6 NFM DMT Dual Concentric loudspeaker to the Monitor Series, replacing the discrete component System 2 DMT. Also of significance is the addition of a DMT crossover to the entire series.

The System 8 NFM, System 10 DMT and the new System 6 NFM use a new HF tulip waveguide for improved definition. The waveguide's 4:1 compression ratio provides lower second harmonic distortion and improved symmetrical dispersion across the horizontal and vertical axis. The System 8 NFM and System 10 DMT are also equipped with a new high-power copper-clad aluminum voice coil.

The System 6 NFM through System 12 DMT loudspeakers use newly developed cones, thicker at the apex and thinner at the edge. The cones are terminated with a nitrile rubber surround attached in a two part molding process.

Circle 10 on Reader Response Card



DM-7100 Digital Multimeter

A.W. Sperry Instruments, Inc. has announced the introduction of its new, 3 ¾ digit, Dual Display Digital Multimeter, the DM-7100.

The DM-7100 features 19 functions on 29 ranges including capacitance, frequency, continuity, analog bar graph display, min/max function, timer, autohold, diode test, transistor HFE, simultaneous display of volts and frequency, and auto off. It comes complete with test leads, batteries fuses and operating instructions for \$149.95.

Circle 11 on Reader Response Card

LITERATURE

Self Help; Accessories Catalog

Prompt Publications Self Help Manuals

Prompt Publications recently released four self- help reference books and a radio nostalgia series. Semiconductor Cross Reference Data Book is four cross references in one, showing replacement from NTE, ECG, TCE, and Radio Shack. The volume contains over 475,000 part numbers, type numbers, and other identifying numbers, from the U.S., Europe, and the Far East. The Phone Book: Money Saving Guide to Installing or Replacing Telephone Equipment in Your Home or Business provides instructions explaining how to install phone systems, Prompt Publications introduced two volumes. written by Mark Waller, dealing with the relationship between

electricity and computers. Surges. Sags and Spikes is written for personal computer users concerned about protecting their computer equipment from the electronic environment. Managing the Computer Power Environment: A Guide to Clean Power for Electronic Systems provides background in electrical technology and computers to data processing specialists, field engineers, technicians, and computer network professionals. Radios of the Baby Boom Era is a reference to classic radios of the post-World War II years with nearly 35000 photographs. The six volume set includes photos of popular radio models from 1946 to 1960, indexes containing information about models, vacuum tubes, and tube substitutions, and troubleshooting aids to help restore old radios to operating condition. *Circle 12 on Reader Response Card*



Pomona's New Test Accessories Catalog

Pomona Electronics new, 142page 1993/1994 Catalog of Electronic Test Accessories introduces several new DMM test accessory products and an expanded line of oscilloscope probe kits. Twelve categories are presented with an index that includes the company's selection of jumpers and cables, boxes, plugs, and jacks, connectors, adapters, single-point test clips and static control devices.

Circle 13 on Reader Response Card

LEAP Version 4.5 with New Manuals

Included with the new LEAP manuals is the release of Version 4.5, with features requested by LEAP users added. The reference manual contains 19 chapters of 502 pages written by the creator of the program describing graphs, menus, commands, and their operation. *Circle 14 on Reader Response Card*

SOUNDSPHERE SPEAKERS LOOK & SOUND CHOSEN BY CUB FOODS STORE CHAIN

While Soundsphere Loudspeakers have been utilized in Cub Foods stores in Eden Prairie, Cottage Grove, Bloomington and Plymouth, Minnesota, the most recent installation has been at the newest 120,000 sq.ft. store in Apple Valley. Twenty-five Soundsphere #110A speakers with transformers tapped at 75 watts were installed to gain quality music and voice page.

Craig Streich, the Store Manager, takes advantage of the music quality and added efficiency of clear voice page when reassigning workers to various tasks in the expansive store.

Scott Miller, Manager of Pro Sound at Muzak of Minneapolis, notes that the Cub Foods executives selected parchment-colored #110 Soundspheres to meld with the ceiling color and felt that the shape and color were highly compatible with the contemporary interior design esthetic.





Blumberg at Nakamichi

Blumberg at Nakamichi

Robert S. Blumberg has been appointed to the position of

senior vice president, sales and marketing of Nakamichi America Corporation. Blumberg has over 15 years experience in the field, and for the past twelve he has



Blumberg

Product Manager Phi Technologies has recently

Phi Technologies Adds

placed Danny Grimes in the position of product manager for the Nagra Film, Video and Professional Audio Products.

Grimes has been an employee of Nagra USA for years, most recently as the independent sales representative on the West Coast.

His responsibilities will include expanding the market for the Nagra IV-S TC and T-Audio product lines, and the introduction of the Nagra-D digital audio field recorder.

Burke Named Senior VP

Dennis Burke has been named senior vice president of Team Concepts Holdings, Ltd., Hong Kong.

He will coordinate the activities of Team Concepts three U.S. subsidiaries: Fox Electronics and Technology, Inc.; Integ, Inc.; and Rave Engineering Corp. Burke was formerly president of the Cobra Electronics Group of Chicago-based Dynascan Corporation.

McLagan Joins QSC

Greg McLagan has joined QSC Audio Products, Inc. as the western regional sales manager. McLagan will be responsible for sales of the company's full line of professional power amplifiers and computer control systems for the professional audio, music, motion picture, contractor and affiliated markets, in the western U.S.

Prior to joining QSC McLagan was national sales manager at University Sound, Sylmar, CA.

Digital F/X Expands Sales Organization

Digital F/X announced an expansion of its sales and service force by more than 200 percent.

Appointed to key positions were Sheila Ross, director of video products, West; and Marty Frange, director of video products, East.

Ross joined Digital F/X in 1987 and now has sales responsibility for the Composium and IMPACT lines in the western United States, British Columbia and Mexico.

Frange started with Microtime in 1989 and joined Digital F/X when the companies merged in 1992. He will be responsible for the same lines as Ross, but on the eastern United States, Toronto and the Caribbean.

Wissmann Joins Lowell

Tim Wissman has joined Lowell

Manufacturing Company, as design engineer.

The St. Louis, Missouri company manufactures commercial sound products.

Promotions at Ferrofluidics

Ferrofluidics Corp. has appointed Jan R. Kirk as president of the Systems Group and Alvan F. Chorney as president of the Components Group. Kirk, previously the company's CFO and COO of International Operations, will focus on expanding the company's domestic and European markets, coordinating the company's alliance with Fuji Seiki, Inc., and managing the relationships with Israeli and Japanese licensees.

Chorney will be responsible for expanding the market for Ferrofluidics sealing systems technology, developing new applications and markets for the company's fluid bearing technologies, and expanding the U.S. sales group.

Jeron Electronics Appoints Sales Manager

Jeron Electronics Systems, Inc. has announced the appointment of Roger M. Carroll to the position of national sales manager, Communications Division.

Carroll has 21 years of experience in the industry and is the former marketing manager of IRP, Professional Sound Products. He will be responsible for the marketing and sales of Jeron's communications systems nationwide.

Feldman's Territory Increased

Symco Inc. is increasing Burt Feldman's territory to include Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey.

Tom O'Hanlon will cover New York City, Long Island and the 914 area code of New York State.

CALENDAR Upcoming Events

served as the Nakamichi New En-

gland area representative.

FEBRUARY

ComNet: Washington, D.C. Contact: (508) 879-6700. February 1-4.

Image World: San Jose, California. Contact: (800) 800-5474. February 1-5.

Association for Research in Otolaryngology: St. Petersburg Beach, Florida. Contact: (515) 243-1558. February 7-11.

ISCWest: Anaheim, California. Contact (708) 390-2462. February 16-18.

National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA): Albuquerque, New Mexico, Contact: (515) 243-1558. February 18-20.

MARCH

National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM): Frankfurt, Germany. Contact: (619) 438-8001. March 3-7.

Audio Engineering Society (AES): Berlin, Germany. Contact: (212) 661-8528. March 16-19.

Image World — The Government Show: Washington, D.C. Contact: (914) 328-9157. March 17-19.

United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT): Wichita, Kansas. Contact: (203) 325-5020. March 17-20. Fiberoptic Splicing and Termination Workshop: Washington, D.C. Contact: (508) 347-8192. March 22-26.

Rigging Seminar (Syn-Aud-Con): Atlanta, Georgia. Contact: (812) 995-8212. March 23-25.

Fiberoptic Splicing and Termination Workshop: Dallas, Texas. Contact: (508) 347-8192.

March 29-April 2.

InterMedia: San Jose, California. Contact: (203) 352-8243. March 30-April 1.

Rigging Seminar (Syn-Aud-Con): Anaheim, California. Contact: (812) 995-8212. March 30-April 1.

APRIL

National Sound and Communications Association (NSCA): Orlando, Florida. Contact: (800) 446-NSCA. April 2-4.

National Association of Broadcasters (NAB): Las Vegas, Nevada. Contact: (202) 429-5300. April 18-22.

MAY

Fiberoptic Splicing and Termination Workshop: Washington, D.C. Contact: (508) 347-8192. May 10-14.

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FREE INFORMATION Use the Reader Service Card opposite page 22. Just circle the RS# of products that interest you. Detach, and Mail!

"While every care is taken to ensure that these listings are accurate and complete, Sound & Communications does not accept responsibility for omissions or errors."

MARKETPLACE

HELP WANTED

REGIONAL SALES MANAGER

Bogen Communications, Inc. a 60 year old leader in institutional and commercial sound, telephone paging, and now business communications is currently seeking an aggressive individual to be our eastern regional engineered sound systems sales manager.

Responsibilities include: account training and motivation, working closely with architects and engineers, tracking account activities, input to product development, and continual competitive analysis.

Qualifications for this position are: commercial and institutional sound industry sales experience, an electronics background, low voltage contractor level sales experience, capable of extensive territory travel.

In addition to working with an aggressive company and product line, Bogen provides a competitive compensation and benefits package.

If you're willing to work hard, meet the above description, and thrive on winning, send or fax your resume and salary history in confidence to: Thomas G. Parker

Thomas G. Parker National Sales Manager Engineered Systems Ogen Communications, Inc. 50 Spring Street Ramsey, NJ 07446 FAX: 1-800-999-9016

A-V/Sound Systems Engineer/Installer

Well established South Florida sound, video & A-V systems contractors and pro-audio dealers looking for top notch individual to lead installations and field engineer high caliber projects such as convention centers; meeting facilities; hotel & boardroom systems; churches; schools; airport projects; hospitals and government facilities. Individual to be able to read plans, manage installation personnel team(s), and solve technical problems. Salary and benefits commensurate with abilities.

Contact: Rod Sintow at PROFESSIONAL SOUND SERVICES, INC. Tel: 305-891-2206



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SENIOR DESIGN ENGINEER

with strong technical background wanted to handle international projects from estimating, design and specification, to quotation and proposal. 5-7 years in audio and video contract design, sales support and project management, system design and engineering required. B.S. Engineering or equivalent work experience. 3 years experience with AutoCAD or equivalent CAD system. To apply for positions: Send current resume with references to P.O. Box 20469, Seattle, WA 98102

PRODUCTION SYSTEMS ENGINEER

for international A/V company. Minimum 3 years design experience in RF, audio, video, and A/V control design plus experience with AMX programming, CAD, video design and computer display. Position requires estimating, design, and project management.

To apply for position: Send current resume with references to P.O. Box 20469, Seattle, WA 98102

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SURVEY METHODOLOGY

- **1** The sampling pool for the survey consists of sound and communications contractors from Sound & Communications' subscription list. Only contractors within the United States and Canada are called.
- 2. In a telephone survey, contractors/installers selected at random are asked to identity what brand they used for various products in installations completed in the past six months and those in progress. A different type of installation is highlighted each month.
- 3. On completion of the survey, results are tabulated and the product brands are ranked on a scale from one to three, with number one having the most votes. Separate rankings are made for installations occurring in the past six months and for those in progress.
- **4** An asterisk (*) denotes a tie for that ranking.

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The other guys missed the bus. Actually, 2 of them.

Why settle for a simple 16 channel stereo mixer, when you can have the 1642 4 bus mixer for \$1099.

Or if 8 or 12 channels are enough, you'll find most of the same features on the 822 and 1222 stereo mixers, starting as low as \$429.

With four similar discrete outputs (Sub1, Sub 2, Left and Right), the 1642 may be used as a 16x4 for recording, or, by assigning the subs to the L/R outputs, as a 16x2x2 for sound reinforcement. Each channel of the 1642 has a 3-band EQ "Also available as 822RM and 1222RM rack mount versions at the same prices.

with Adaptive-Q circuits for a contoured response that adds clarity to the highs and warmth without "boomy-ness" to the lows.

The 822 and 1222 models are offered in two versions, designated XL (table top) or RM (for rack mounting). Each comes with phantom power, 3 bands of EQ, 1 monitor and 2 effects sends,

World Radio History

and monitor & headphone outputs. We're so confident that you'll love our new mixers that we'll back them with a two year warranty. So if you want some great mixers with low

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Array Series. Designed To Impress Everyone Who Has Heard It All Before.

The competition to produce the "ultimate" sound reinforcement system is fierce. Each new system design brings claims of having *achieved perfection* or touts *this is the one*. Yet, in time, you can expect the very same manufacturers to introduce new models claiming to have further *perfected perfection* or that their *unortbodox* technology has rewritten the laws of physics. Sound familiar? So how do you impress everyone who has heard it all before? Simple.

JBL engineers have drawn upon proven advancements in loudspeaker design and state-of-the art digital electronics to create Array Series: a comprehensive sound reinforcement system concept with performance second to none. Developed as dedicated array elements, Array Series systems can be easily configured to fill any venue with seamless coverage from a deceivingly small package.

Such performance could only be achieved by designing the exact transducers required for the job. The Array Series is the first professional loudspeaker system to use neodymium magnets. The LF transducer's unique motor structure topology also includes proven Vented Gap Cooling (VGC[™]) and a deep copper-sleeved gap to significantly reduce distortion and power compression.

The 38 mm (1 1/2 in) exit HF compression driver also uses a neodymium magnet structure, a Coherent Wave[™] phasing plug and damped titanium diaphragm. The result is effortless and reliable high frequency output with outstanding accuracy. A 45° Optimized Aperture Flat-Front Bi-Radial[®] horn assures proper matching and summing of multiple Array Series systems.

The 13 ply hardwood enclosure has 45° sidewalls to match the horn coverage in arrays, and is reinforced with integral steel attachment hardware, designed to interface with S.A.F.E.[™] flying hardware for quick and secure cluster assembly.

Pictured above, Array Series installation

at the Grand Palace, Branson, Missouri.

System functions, such as crossover filter points, transducer acoustic center alignment, system equalization and protective limiting are achieved totally in the digital domain by the ES52000 Digital Controller. The ES52000 employs Finite Impulse Response (FIR) filters for zero phase shift and requires no amplifier output sensing cables, so you can expand your system by adding Array Series loudspeakers without having to add additional controllers.

The sum of these parts is Array Series: a complete system providing extremely high power handling, very high sound pressure levels with full dynamic range, low distortion and unmatched fidelity. Truly a system capable of impressing *anyone who has heard it all before*.

Call or write for detailed specifications. Or, for more *immediate* response, you can get current product information on Array Series, the ES52000 Digital Controller and all JBL Professional products, *VIA FAX* by calling (818) 895-8190.



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