

# New Products

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**Widescreen, HDTV-ready receivers** were announced by Thomson Consumer Electronics, 600 N. Sherman Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46201-2598. The ProScan and RCA receivers, which will be available in late 1992, will feature a large 34-in. screen size and will be capable of providing images in both 16×9 and 4×3 picture size. Designed as HDTV-ready monitors, the products will deliver picture resolution that is nearly twice what today's NTSC signal delivers to the home.

**A PC-based broadcast automation system** was unveiled by Columbine Systems, Inc., 1707 Cole Blvd., Golden, CO 80401-3296. The Master Control Automation System has the capability to control the operations of any size broadcast or cable television station. The product offers significant benefits to a TV station: it delivers a cleaner on-air look, enables stations to redeploy staff, and provides an automatic reconciliation to the station's traffic log. It also minimizes black space during a station's program day, thus enabling the sale of more advertising spots. The system takes the daily schedule from the traffic system, fully automates the airing of all scheduled events, and returns the actual as-run schedule to the traffic system for closed-loop reconciliation. The unit performs jobs with a minimum of operator intervention and provides an uninterrupted flow of information between master control, traffic, and videotape operations.

**Horizontal and vertical drive outputs** were added to the TSG 1001 programmable test signal generator, it was announced by Tektronix Television Systems, Howard Vollum Industrial Park, P.O. Box 500, Beaverton, OR 97077-0001. The no-cost enhancement comprises new software and hardware. The software, Release 2.3 of the SDP1000 signal development program, includes signal drive libraries for most HDTV signal formats and for the 525 and 625-line component digital formats. Drive signals for any other format can still be user-defined with the SDP 1000, a PC-based software tool for the development of custom test signals. The new hardware supports the software update and is transparent to the user.

The company also announced the **2711 Spectrum Analyzer**, which incorporates

many of the features of the 2712 Spectrum Analyzer. TV line and field triggering are standard in the 2711, as are built-in measurement functions for carrier-to-noise, occupied bandwidth, signal search, and FM deviation. To aid signal monitoring and identification, audio demodulation and a headphone jack are also included. The product comes with a variety of options; a video demodulator permits viewing of any video line as well as rasterized TV images in NTSC, PAL, or SECAM standards. The demodulator's video and sync invert functions make it compatible with C-band and Ku-band downconverted satellite signals. Other options include a built-in frequency counter, a 1405 TV sideband adapter interface, and an inverter/battery pack.



Alta Group Centaurus SSR still store system

**The Centaurus SSR still store system with integrated effects** was created by Alta Group, Inc., 535 Race St., Suite 230, San Jose, CA 95126. The unit features 179 fields/85 frames removable hard-drive storage and a four-input video switcher with effects. In addition, there are several options for high-capacity on-line storage up to 1689 fields or 844 frames. Stills may be recalled direct-to-air by entering a still number. The system also prompts the user in building a random list of stills and effects to be played back in sequence. The stills may be presented on either or both of the two switcher buses. The product's numeric displays clearly identify the still appearing on each bus. Product features include independent matte generators, selectable automatic transition rates, and a variety of wipes including digital effects such as pushes, pulls, splits, and posterization.

**A simple, remote control system** has been introduced by A. F. Associates, 100 Stonehurst Ct., Northvale, NJ 07647-2487. The Radamec EPO is a pan-bar input system (PBIS) that enables direct control of a miniature-type 421 pan/tilt head from a specially developed fluid head equipped with standard pan-bar controls. The head



Radamec EPO pan-bar input system

mimics any movement of the PBIS head, thus allowing the cameraman to control a remote head via an interface that is both comfortable and familiar. Control is available through a single multicore cable from the PBIS head to the remote pan/tilt head located up to 200 ft away. The system may be powered from 120-V AC or special high-capacity batteries.



Fujinon handheld lens

**The A14×8.5EVM lens** for 2/3-in. cameras has been unveiled by Fujinon Inc., 10 High Point Dr., Wayne, NJ 07470. The product weighs only 2.8 lb, is the first to offer a five-position servo grip, and is the only standard handheld lens that focuses down to 0.65 m. The user can quickly adjust the angle of the grip from 3 to 17° to provide the most comfortable position. The product allows the user to adjust zoom speed in five steps from 7 to 1 sec, wide angle to telephoto. A contoured servo housing fits the hand perfectly and allows focusing from infinity to MOD without losing finger contact with the lens barrel. The grip band around the lens has been designed to reduce wrist strain and ensure positive finger contact even when the lens barrel is wet. The lens has a maximum aperture of  $f/1.7$  from 8.5 to 103 mm and  $f/2.0$  to 119 mm, and focuses down to 2.6 ft. Standard features include macro capability, a built-in 2× extender, weatherized construction, and servo zoom.