

simultaneous SC/H phase measurements, waveform, vector or combination displays, 3-D vector display, 20 programmable memories, automatic measurement of CCIR (473, 567, 569, and 624) parameters, measurement cursors, remote control.

PDG-418/P production/post-production vision mixer – 18 inputs, multilevel effects systems; linear keying upstream and downstream; key memory, optional border generator for downstream key, 24 wipe patterns with modifiers, programmable effects transition with 100-event memory, optional RGB chroma keyer, and serial editor interface.

BTG-100/P handheld EBU color bar generator – textbook-perfect EBU color bars, 20-character programmable source ID with memory, lightweight – only 13 oz. (.37 kg), DC-powered with 4 AA batteries, sturdy molded carrying case.

APM-200/P audio program monitor-monitor stereo audio signal – balanced or unbalanced, input mode switching (L + R, L – R, stereo, reversed stereo, L monaural, R monaural), two 5½-in. speakers; 10-

segment bar graph meter displays, magnetic shielding, 1¼-in. rack-mountable.

Vinten Broadcast Ltd.D49
Western Way, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk,
IP33 3TB, U.K.

0284-752121 FAX: 0284-750560

Contact: Mike Martin, Sales Director

New products from Vinten will include the new Heavy Duty Tripod Range, supporting up to 250 lbs. with new torque-safe clamping; also the new Pro-Ped lightweight pedestal and a new range of Vision ENG and EFP lightweight tripods and pan-and-tilt heads. New additions to the Microswift Robotic Range include disc storage and CCU control.

Vistek Electronics, Ltd.D55
Unit C, Wessex Road

Bourne End, Bucks, SL8 5DT, U.K.

44-628-531-221 FAX: 44-628-530-980

Contact: P. Randall, Asst. Director,
Marketing

New digital post-production vision switcher, digital decoder, vector VMC standards converter, A/D converters, D/A converters, serializers/deserializers, picture monitors (color and monochrome), serial digital routing switchers, and analog routing switchers.

Weircliffe International Ltd. (A Paltex International Co.)D28

St. Andrews Road., Exwick

Exter, Devon EX4 2AG, U.K.

44 392 72132 FAX: 44 392 413511

Contact: Andy Smith, Sales Manager

Weircliffe will exhibit examples of its new shielded degaussers, targeted at the new EC directive on electromagnetic compatibility (89/336 EC). Both manual and conveyor-fed devices will be shown with the largest degausser available from the company, the BTE 406 manufacturing plant unit. Making its first IBC appearance will be the BTE 101 multimedia fully automatic shielded degausser, handling Beta SP, MII, D-3, D-2, S-VHS, and U-matic.

SMPTE Takes Part in NAB Convention

April 13–16, 1992

The Society was represented with a booth at the 70th Annual Convention of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), held at the Las Vegas Convention Center April 13–16, 1992. Many visitors stopped by to inquire about the Society and its work. The booth featured brochures and a videotape on the upcoming 134th Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit, to be held in Toronto November 9–13, 1992. Interest ran high, and a number of people expressed the desire to participate in the exhibit. Several attendees also requested author forms, with an eye toward presenting papers in the technical sessions. Visitors were very responsive to the Society's growing involvement in multimedia integration – the linking of computers, video, film, and audio.

At the convention 54 new members were welcomed to the Society's ranks, while 50 who were already members took the opportunity to renew. In a special promotion, new members received a free copy of the Society's special publication, *Milestones in Motion Picture and TV*

Technology – The SMPTE Anniversary Collection. It was noted that interest in the SMPTE standards subscriptions service was at an all-time high.

Society Activities

Representing the Society from Headquarters were Executive Director Lynette Robinson, *Journal* Editor/Publisher Jeffrey Friedman, Director of Engineering Sherwin (Si) Becker, Marketing/Exhibits Manager Alan Ehrlich, and Staff Engineer Mark Hyman. Many officers and governors of the Society also attended. In an attempt to take advantage of this gathering of the Society's principals, several meetings were held during the convention. Participating were the Executive Committee, Nominating Committee, Financial Advisory Committee, and Exhibitors Advisory Committee.

Several companies expressed interest in becoming Sustaining Members of the Society. The minimum cost of becoming one

of these corporate sponsors is \$500, which pays the difference between the member and nonmember price for one exhibit booth at a Society conference. In addition, Sustaining Members receive several advantages, including a 200-word paragraph in the annual *SMPTE Directory for Members*, listing each month on the inside back cover of the *Journal*, a plaque from the Society, special logo, and others. Companies interested in obtaining further information about Sustaining Membership or conference events should contact Alan Ehrlich at (914) 761-1100.

Six engineering groups also held meetings during NAB. The Study Group on High Quality Image Compression is completing an overview of digital image compression, to be presented by the end of the year. The first meeting of the Working Group on Advanced Television Studio Systems Designs met with the objective of identifying, examining, and developing solutions to the problems in the practical implementation of ATV. The Working Group on Serial HDTV Interfaces is fo-

ocusing on issues that include data structure, encoding/decoding, error-correction techniques, and system configuration and integrity. Also meeting at NAB were the Working Group on Editing Procedures, the Working Group on Digital Pictures,

and the Working Group on Manufacturers Edge Code.

Other Conference Events

Attendance at the conference set a registration record at 52,704 – up nearly 3%

over last year. Several “firsts” marked NAB '92: the Law and Regulation Conference, Futures Summit, a separate radio/audio exhibit, TVB '92, European Broadcasting Union Day, Society of Broadcast Engineers Day, and others. International registrations were up 20% from last year, to a record 8,651. A special business center operated for international attendees.

Former U.S. President Ronald Reagan accepted NAB's Distinguished Service Award, in a ceremony that received front-page attention when he was interrupted by a man protesting nuclear weapons testing in Nevada. Following this incident, Reagan resumed his address. In other NAB '92 events, the following were recognized with awards: James McKinney, for TV Engineering Achievement; Robert Hammett and Edward Edison, for Radio Engineering Achievement; Denise Shoblom, Belva Brissett Award; Wally Jorgenson, Grover Cobb Award; Bill Schrank, Mal Belville Award; Larry King, Hall of Fame (Radio); and *Star Trek*, Hall of Fame (TV).

Fifteen members of Congress took part in a special program of Government Relations sessions focused on cable/teleco, legislative, and regulatory issues. It also provided an inside look at Congress from the perspective of key committee staffers. Panelists also discussed such matters as the future of telephone company entry into audio and video programming, DAB, taxes and fees, ownership rules, and advertising revenues.

A special HDTV World Conference was also held during NAB '92. Robert Hopkins, executive director of the ATSC, explained the underlying characteristics of the digital HDTV systems during a tutorial designed for a wide range of technical expertise. Other participants in the program included Yutaka Tanaka, NHK; Carl Eilers, Zenith Electronics Corp.; Robert Rast, American Television Alliance, a partnership of General Instrument Corp. and MIT; Glenn Reitmeier, David Sarnoff Research Center; and Jae Lim, MIT. A highlight of the convention was the live HDTV transmission by General Instrument Corp., using the DigiCipher to transmit a quarter-mile from the Last Vegas Convention Center to the Hilton Center.

The Broadcast Engineering Conference was also held at NAB '92. It featured two days of technical presentations on digital technology. Also at NAB, the Electronic Industries Association (EIA) announced plans for setting standards for digital radio in the U.S. At the end of the session, plans were to meet the EIA's schedule for hardware delivery by April 1993.

These were but a few of the highlights of the conference. At the close of the conference, many visitors were already looking forward to attending the NAB next year.

— Joyce R. Hurwitz



Overview of exhibit at NAB, with SMPTE booth at center.



Part of the exhibit floor.



The SMPTE booth at NAB welcomed visitors.