

News

A Call for Papers has been issued for the Annual International Workshop of HDTV and the Evolution of Television. The workshop will be held at the Grand Hotel in Taipei, Taiwan, November 15 to 17, 1995. Submissions are sought on the following subjects: program content generation, storage and archiving, protection of copyright, user identification, coding and multiplexing, delivery, receiver technology, technical aspects of delivery services, technologies supporting interactivity, and emerging technologies. Anyone interested in presenting a paper should send a two-page abstract, by April 30, 1995, to Frances Su, Chiao Tung University, Center for Professional Advancements, 1001 Ta Hsuah Rd., Hsinchu, Taiwan, Fax: +886-35-72-14-31.

Sony Electronics, Inc., has announced that it will unveil a digital end-to-end television system architecture at the 1995 National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) convention this April in Las Vegas. The comprehensive approach integrates a high-

speed digital video network with a distributed server architecture and hybrid storage technology. It incorporates digital field acquisition, rapid data transfer into a plant's disk-based input server, workstations for nonlinear editing, shared access to audio/video files, and a storage approach using both disk and tape.

JVC Professional Products has announced new appointments in its marketing and product development departments.

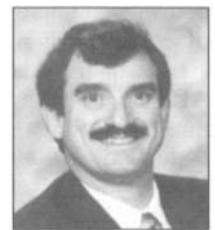
Jerry Cohen, formerly manager of JVC's camera and teleproduction products, will now serve as product marketing manager. In this position he will manage marketing activities that include supervision of product managers, coordination of product advertising campaigns, market research and planning, and dealer relations.

Neil Neubert will assume the role of manager of advanced technologies. The former product manager of VCRs will now oversee the research and development of new technologies and products.

Thomas M. Jordan has been appointed vice-president of sales and marketing for Leitch, Inc. Prior to joining Leitch, Jordan spent 12 years in the Tektronix Television Division; he has also held positions in the broadcast divisions at RCA, Harris, and General Electric.



Michael Guess has been named product manager of Dynatech Video Group's Production Business Unit, which includes Alpha Image, Quanta, Color Graphics, EMC, and Cable Products. His key responsibilities will be to coordinate, oversee, and target opportunities related to the production, post-production, and broadcasting industries.



Section Meetings

Detroit, November 8, 1994 — Twenty-six members and guests attended the November meeting, held at WJBK-TV. Speaker Tom Stefani presented a tutorial on computer-based on-line editing and animation output, in which he made the point that keeping knowledgeable about current trends in desktop video editing is very difficult because of the large number of systems becoming available. He added that all of these systems are on different computer platforms, each with its own complex software. Difficulties continue because new features are always being added to the software, and the integration of third-party software creates further problems. Stefani concluded the meeting with detailed descriptions of some of the available systems. After the question-and-answer period, there was a demonstration of Pinnacle's Alladin Media printer, a black box partial editing system minus the controller which, through a cable, plugs into a PC. — Harold Miller (Secretary/Treasurer), Harold Miller Associates

Florida/Caribbean, November 9, 1994 — Donald J. Lenihan, BTS-Broadcast Television Systems, presented an informative discussion on digital disk recording

for the 23 members and guests who attended the November meeting, held at WESH-TV, Orlando, Fla. Where videotape recorders had previously been the only alternative for long recordings or access to large quantities of material, Lenihan asserted that "BTS now moves a generation beyond by combining the best of VTRs, disk recorders, and the newest high-speed data technology" into a new product called Media Pool. Media Pool is a multichannel video server using arrays of 10-Gbyte hard drives for a maximum of 420 Gbytes of storage; this provides up to 160 hours of uncompressed tapeless video and audio recording that is completely lossless. It was constructed with RAID level 3 architecture, "hot swappable" hard drives, and a solid mechanical design. — Charles L. Carter III (Secretary/Treasurer), Westinghouse E-O Systems

Hollywood, September 13, 1994 — Approximately 150 people were on hand for the September meeting, held at the Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum. David Richards, Action Capture, began the meeting with a discussion of the need to standardize an increased area of film scanned for television and decrease the

overscan in receivers. Tak Miyagishima, Panavision, presented illustrations of the ground glass markings developed for the 16:9 film frame now being used for television by Warner Brothers and Universal. David Kenig, Panavision, showed a similar ground glass design being used for the Super 16 format that is now becoming more popular for TV origination.

In his presentation, Tim DeLuca, Universal Studios, showed two video clips from the television series "Law and Order," which is shot in 35mm film. The first clip was the standard 4:3 transfer that is being broadcast in today's market. The second clip showed the same scene, but in a letterboxed 16:9 transfer intended for widescreen television; this version had additional picture content at the sides.

A "behind the camera" perspective came from Randy Robinson, Society of Operating Cameramen, who made the point that the combination 16:9/4:3 frame being used is not working. The main problem is the additional width of the 16:9 frame, which in practical use is often not protected due to time constraints and set design. Robinson advocated a common top and sidelines approach for the two aspect ratios, in which the bottom of the