

ative, and technical executives, the weekend forum will include sessions covering cases for Digital TV Multiplex Broadcasting versus SDTV Broadcasting. A luncheon will also be held featuring industry professionals presenting lectures on current television issues.

Technical Exhibition

The Technical Exhibition will run from June 11 to 15. Manufacturers will present their latest innovative technologies, products, and systems.

For further information regarding the 21st Montreux International Symposium, contact P.O. Box 1451, Rue du Theatre 5, CH-1820 Montreux, tel: +41 21 963 32 20, fax: +41 21 963 88 51. For exhibition information, contact tel: +41 21 963 52 08, fax: +41 21 963 5209, e-mail: vanhoorn@symposia.ch.

Evertz Appoints Distributors in Brazil and Australia

In an effort to strengthen marketing activities, Evertz Microsystems, Ltd., has appointed Tacnet Electronica, Ltd., and Quinto Communications Pty, Ltd., as product distributors for Brazil and Australia, respectively.

The two distributors will cooperate with various companies to promote Evertz products. Located in Rio de Janeiro, Tacnet will work with national broadcasters Redo Globo, SBT, Rede Bandeirantes, Rede Record, and a number of production and post-production houses. Quinto Communications will deal with the Australian

Broadcasting Corp., and Special Broadcasting Services, as well as production and post-production houses.

New Company Focuses on DTV

Several senior executives have joined forces to establish Omneon Video Networks, a new company targeting digital television networks.

According to Omneon president Larry Kaplan, the company intends to provide broadcasters, cable TV networks, program distributors, and post-production companies with new products based on advanced compression and networking technologies. The company was formed by Kaplan, Don Craig, vice-president; SMPTE Governor Ed Hobson, vice president of marketing and sales; and Mike Gilbert, vice-president of operations.

The founders all have extensive experience in the television industry. Kaplan was most recently senior vice-president of Sony Electronics, Broadcast and Production Systems. He was responsible for the company's broadcast and production equipment and their System Integration Center. Craig led the teams that received technical Emmys for the development of the Tektronix VM700 automated television test system, and most recently, the Profile digital disc recorder. Hobson was Sony's vice-president of production system and professional audio. Gilbert headed Sony's Advanced Development Center in San Jose and led teams that developed and supported the software for several large multichannel television facilities.

Moore and Livingston are Promoted by Panasonic

Panasonic Broadcast and Television has announced several promotions and organizational changes in its unit company, Panasonic Broadcast and Digital Systems. Among those promoted were SMPTE members Tom Moore and Phil Livingston.

Moore, a 12-year Panasonic veteran, was named vice-president of sales. He is responsible for all broadcast and professional video sales. Prior to his appointment, Moore was director of major accounts.

Livingston was promoted to vice-president of engineering support and training. The 20-year Panasonic executive's responsibilities include customer technical and engineering support, industry relations, and training. Livingston was previously director of digital sales at Panasonic.

Deyo Joins the Harris Corp.

SMPTE member Tom Deyo has joined Harris Corp. as director of television field sales for the U.S. and Canada. Deyo, a 24-year veteran of the broadcasting industry and a specialist in digital television, will coordinate field sales efforts to assist broadcasters with the seamless conversion of studio and RF systems to digital technology.

Prior to joining Harris, Deyo was employed by Sony Corp. as regional manager for the company's Business and Professional Group in Chicago and Los Angeles.

Obituaries

Denis A. Courtney

The Society sadly announces the death of former SMPTE Executive Director Denis A. Courtney. The long-time SMPTE employee died on April 25, 1998 at his home in Greenwood, SC at the age of 83.

Courtney climbed the position ladder at SMPTE, starting as assistant to the Editor of the *Journal* (then Victor Allen) in 1953, and peaked as Executive Director in 1968.

In 1954, Courtney took over the management of advertising, a new venture for the *Journal* at that time, as well as various other editorial responsibilities. As Advertising and Conference Manager, he built up the number of equipment exhibits, which is now a major attraction at the Society's Technical Conference.

While a member of the editorial department, Courtney worked closely with SMPTE Executive Secretary (the title



Denis A. Courtney

would later change to Executive Director) Boyce Nemeck and his successor Colonel Charles S. Stodter. During that time he acquired extensive experience and a comprehensive understanding of SMPTE affairs and the requirements of the posi-

tion, which led to his appointment as Executive Director by the Executive Committee. The Headquarters group grew from 8 employees to a staff of 27.

Closely acquainted with many of the Society's outstanding personalities for a long period of time, Courtney was able to give a candid assessment of the 13 SMPTE Presidents that served during his tenure.

The ambiance of SMPTE Headquarters reflected Courtney's personality. The warmth, genuine affection, and respect that employees had for each other, as well as their dedication to allotted tasks was a tribute to his quiet influence.

During World War II, he served in the U.S., England, and France. He attained the rank of Lieut. Colonel and spent four years in the postwar occupation of Germany. Courtney wrote an unpublished memoir of his World War II experience as well as notes toward a survey of Gothic

Architecture, which had fascinated him since his boyhood.

Born in Simla, India, his boyhood years were spent in London and he received his B.A. (Honors) and M.A. degrees from Cambridge University in 1937. He continued his academic career with graduate studies at the Sorbonne and the Ecole Libre des Sciences Politiques in Paris. Before joining SMPTE, Courtney worked for the National Planning Association and the Raw Materials Mission in Washington, DC

Courtney is survived by his daughter Jennifer Lane Justice, and son Stephen Denis Courtney.

Charles W. Wyckoff

Charles W. Wyckoff, a SMPTE member since 1949, died on May 9, 1998 in Needham, MA. He was 82 years old. Wyckoff was awarded the E.I duPont Gold Medal by the Society in 1965 for his work in high-speed photography and photo-instrumentation.

While doing postgraduate work at MIT, he worked with stroboscopic photography pioneer Harold Edgerton: Edgerton developed ultrafast flashes and Wyckoff developed ultrafast film and cameras. During World War II he helped perfect torpedoes for the Navy.

The SMPTE Life Fellow was a founding

member of the research and development firm EG & G, for which he developed a system for photographing atmospheric nuclear bomb blasts. A series of his photos of atomic bomb blasts were published in *Life* magazine in 1960. A decade later, the publication published a two-page spread of a photograph of the sun's corona taken by Wyckoff from a high-altitude NASA jet, with high-speed color film that he invented.

He shared his photographic expertise with a national audience when he was called upon by CBS to analyze the Zapruder home movie of the assassination of President Kennedy frame-by-frame on a show hosted by Dan Rather.

In 1970, he left EG & G and started Applied Photo Sciences. After an automobile accident resulted in the death of his son Charles Jr., Wyckoff devoted his energies to developing a high visibility, high-way lane-marking system to help prevent accidents during periods of low visibility.

Last year he explored the depths of Loch Ness in Scotland with high-tech photographic gear in search of the lake's legendary monster. The expedition, funded in part by the PBS series "Nova," will air later this year.

Wyckoff held more than 20 patents and was awarded a medal of honor by the Academy of Applied Science in April of this year.

Ralph J. Cook, Jr.

Long-time SMPTE member Ralph J. Cook, Jr., has passed away. Cook joined the Society at the associate level in 1933 and transferred to the active grade in 1944.

He entered the motion picture field in 1932 as a development engineer with the United Research Corp., and continued with other Warner Brothers subsidiaries until 1940. He joined Farrand Optical Co., where, as assistant chief engineer, he was involved with the development of a wide variety of equipment optics, photography, and motion picture technologies including space and combat simulators. After retiring, Cook remained in the industry in a consulting capacity. He was given Life Membership by the Society in 1983.

James H. Butts

James H. Butts, a member of the Society since 1956, has passed away. During his career, Butts was employed at WRC and WRC-TV from 1946 to 1948; WO1-TV and KBTV Denver as a television supervisor from 1949 to 1952 and 1952 to 1954, respectively; KOA-TV Broadcast Station in 1954 as chief engineer; and the RCA Corp. He was given Life Membership status in 1992.

New Products

Camera Equipment

The **Omega fluid head** from Cartoni USA features a drag system that accommodates heavy camera payloads up to 220 lbs at any angle from -90° to +90°. The drag system provides a wide range of drag effects, from wheeling to extra strength. Omega also features an illuminated bubble level, safety lock on the camera plate, and four-position front/rear pan bar attachments. The fluid head's Mitchell flatbase interfaces with all flat base tripods, mounts, cranes, or pedestals.

Genum Corp., has launched its new **Genlinx II chipset** which includes the GS9025 serial digital receiver and the GS9020 serial digital video input processor. Features of the chipset include standards-independent, adjustment-free clock recovery for all serial digital video data rates from 143 Mbits/sec to 540 Mbits/sec. A programmable Fifo reset pulse for integration with system memory is also featured. The chipsets automatically correct misplaced or erroneous TRS IDs and ANC headers along with a complete set of

error detection and handling flags (SMPTE RP 165).

Control Systems

Metawave Ltd., has launched the **MX/SC control system** which includes a range of control panels suitable for small and large routing applications up to 1024 x 1024. A wide range of panel sizes, including programmable panels, x-y, and single and multiple destination control panels with breakaways are available. The panels can be customized for the user's applications through the use of user-definable button mapping, field legible, backlift push buttons, programmable LCD buttons, and easy reconfiguration of panels from a single PC panel. The following panels are available.

The **MX/SCP** single destination unit is a 1U single with 32 buttons per source keys, a level selector, and panel/destination lock keys with up to four levels of routing breakaways.

The **MX/SXY** is a 2U panel which allows selection of 32 sources and 32 destination buses. It includes 32 source and

destination keys, a router level selector with panel lock, and take buttons.

The **MX/SXY256** is a 2U panel which allows full-control of larger MX series routing switchers. The panel operates via 24 source and destination buttons functioning in an industry standard tree-like structure with up to eight levels of routing breakaways.

The **MX/LCP** is a 1U single with 17 programmable, 3-color LCD buttons, and controls up to eight levels of routing switchers with breakaways. This control panel can be user configured to work as a single or multidestination unit with panel lock features using the MX/SC configuration software.

The 2U dual selector **MX/LXY** panel can be software configured to the user's requirements and can control eight routing switcher levels with breakaways.

Conversion System

The **VersaFrame II digital conversion system** from Telect provides a comprehensive range of conversion tools for A-to-D, D-to-A, component, composite, and