

Videostore. The Videostore handles the insertion of commercials and other short form content on both Showcase and The History Channel. The Flexicart plays all long form material and GPI pulses between the two units trigger its operation. The Videostore has enough disks to hold 30 hours of the 5 Mbit/sec MPEG-2 Main Profile@Main Level 4:2:0 material. The Videostore employs a RAID (Level 3) configuration. This means that there would be no loss in image resolution if one of the drives in the unit went down. To encode video material onto the Videostore, a Sony VST1000 BitStream MPEG-2 encoding unit is employed. The software to control the system has been provided by Cyradis Technology Group, a Canadian company that has had a great deal of success in this field. Currently a streamer is used to back-

up the Videostore; however, Deming noted that the use of nearline storage devices is increasing as backup units.

Chris Coghill, Alliance, presented a paper called "Master Control Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow." The paper provided an overview of how the operation of master control has changed since he started working in the television industry. Coghill has had direct experience in master control from the days of manual commercial playback through to operating Alliance's current installation. Coghill believes that even with the new file server technology, the operation of a master control is more difficult than when he first started. He noted that no more errors occur during commercial breaks since the introduction of the Videostore. Coghill is also happy to have the Flexicart, which can run the entire

operation should the Videostore require service. "Staff training is a problem," he said. "no one is used to running a file server and we've had to develop many of the skills in-house." Coghill has had to develop a paper-based back-up system in case of a major crash. "We've also had to develop new thinking in areas of (disk) space management. Our drives filled up quickly," he said.

Coghill observed that while there is less dubbing occurring since the introduction of the Videostore, new master control tasks such as V-chip and credit squeezes are adding to the operational complexity. "The ability of the operations personnel to be multitasking is a key requirement and much more knowledge is required by today's operations personnel," he concluded.

## News

### **SMPTÉ Makes Plans for Fourth European Conference on Imaging Media**

The 1998 European SMPTÉ Conference on Imaging Media will be held on September 17 to 21, 1998 during the Photokina Professional Media Event. The Society's three-day conference will be headed by its German Section and held at the Congress Centre, located east of the Cologne Fairgrounds.

The program will provide solutions for equipment manufacturers, professional users, and experts in the fields of research, teaching, and training. It will include five lecture sessions on the relations between modern information and communication technology and film and television technology. Session topics include progress in image display techniques, an overview on powerful tools for multimedia production and services, the newest developments in information and/or broadcast technologies, and professional results with consumer equipment. Applications of business TV will also be discussed.

Every session will conclude with a podium discussion. All presentations, given in German or English, will be simultaneously interpreted. A call for papers has been announced with an August 15 deadline.

The conference will also feature a social program providing additional opportunities for communication between all national and international conference participants.

For more information contact SMPTÉ

Germany, c/o Rolf van Kaldenberg, P.O.B. 1351, D-29306 Winsen/Aller, Germany, tel: +49 (0) 5143-935 55, fax: +49 (0) 5143-935 56, e-mail: 102354.270@compuserve.com.

### **Relative Strangers Walks Away with 1998 SMPTÉ Creative Award**

Tim Richter was awarded the 1998 SMPTÉ Creative Award at the Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS) graduation ceremony in May 1998.

Richter won the award for his use of front screen projection and wide tricks and techniques in *Relative Strangers*. The other ten contestants submitted excellent work as well, which made it difficult for the SMPTÉ and AFTRS judges to select a winner. Therefore, two additional prizes were awarded: Andrew Tamandl was recognized for his work using 3-D animation tools titled *Has Beans*. Damon Escott was also selected for his use of superb in-camera effects to skillfully shoot *Half Mongrel*.

### **IESNA Annual Conference Set for San Antonio**

The Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA) Annual Conference is set for August 10-12, 1998 in San Antonio, TX at the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel. This three-day event is an educational forum for the lighting industry. Papers presentations will focus on the latest research in design theory,

measurements and controls, photometry, daylighting, energy, ballasts, and fiber optics. Educational seminars will cover a wide range of topics including residential lighting, marketing strategies for retail, lighting sites on the Internet, security lighting, and deregulation.

William Stevens Tabor, Jr., Princeton Development Corp. will present the keynote address titled "Where is Your Energy Coming From?" on Monday, August 10. IESNA will also present its Medal, Marks, and Distinguished Service and Fellow awards at a luncheon honoring outstanding individuals who have furthered the art and science of lighting or advanced the society's goals and mission.

The program's 25th anniversary will be celebrated at the International Illumination Design Awards luncheon on Tuesday, August 11. Lighting designers will be recognized for their outstanding and original lighting design projects from this year's program.

New products and services will be showcased in a Progress Report presentation followed by tabletop exhibits by manufacturers in the lighting industry on Wednesday, August 12.

Prior to the conference, two 3-hour IESNA CEU accredited workshops titled "Lighting is the Finish" and "Software Solutions" will be conducted.

The full conference fee is priced at \$485 for members and \$525 for nonmembers (meals included); full technical fee is set at \$380 for members and \$400 for nonmembers; daily fee is priced at \$140 for members and \$160 for nonmembers; and

the full technical fee for retired IESNA members and IESNA students is set at \$30. For more information call Valerie Landers at (212) 248-5000 x117.

### Rocky Mountain Film and Video Expo Scheduled for October

The Rocky Mountain Film and Video Expo '98 will be held in Denver, CO on October 14-15, 1998. Titled "Tools and Toys for Creative Success," this year's show will feature 20 free Short Takes—quick presentations held on the exhibit floor. These sessions cover a variety of timely subjects, including production, post-production, audio, digital technology, and business issues such as marketing and financing. For more information, contact Mark Cramer at (303) 771-2000.

### Member Promotions

SMPTE member **J. A. Flaherty**, NANBA, was elected chairman of the World Broadcasting Unions Technical Committee (WBU-TC) for the 1998/1999 term. Also elected were Om Khushu, ABU, and David Wood, EBU, as vice-chairman and secretary, respectively. The WBU-TC is the technical arm of the World Broadcasting Unions.

**Don Thompson** has been has been

appointed to lead Leitch Technology Corp.'s global marketing team. He will be responsible for directing the corporate marketing strategy worldwide, with his reporting structure expanded to include marketing operations groups in Toronto, Canada, and Basingstoke, England. Thompson has been director of marketing for Leitch's U.S. division, Leitch Inc. (LI), since 1991. He joined the company in 1982 and was promoted to vice-president in 1985.

Leitch has also promoted Society member **Bob Combs** to director, network sales. In this position he will be responsible for all sales and account management for the New York-based broadcast television networks. Combs most recently served Leitch as network account manager as has also held positions with Sony Corp. of America.

SMPTE member **Paul Hansil** has been appointed vice-president for strategic technology by Crawford Communications. In this capacity, Hansil will monitor technical issues impacting the industry and ensure that the appropriate long-term decisions are made. He will also serve as a staff resource to Crawford's managers to assist them with choosing the right hardware and software solutions. He brings more than 25 years of experience to the position.

## Books, Booklets, Brochures

**The Storage Guide for Color Photographic Materials** by James Reilly explains why color images fade, why they need special storage, and what can be done to make them last as long as possible. The 48-page color guide, accompanied by a circular slide rule of environmental conditions, provides an overview of the stability of today's color photographic materials. The publication is the product of one of the most extensive accelerated-aging projects ever done for the purpose of learning how storage conditions affect image fading. The guide is available from the University of the State of New York, New York State Educational Dept., 16-C 47 Cultural Education Center, Albany, NY 12230. Credit card orders can be placed through the Image Permanence Institute by calling (716) 475-5199.

**The Datacom/Networking Cookbook Number 11** from Telebyte Technology, Inc., provides detailed specifications, product descriptions, and also includes an expanded series of application notes. The catalog shows Telebyte's additions of fiber-optic networking products such as

WDMs and T1/E1 modems. Also highlighted is the company's new fiber-optic platform for rack mounting various fiber-optic devices. The 136-page catalog features several product descriptions, specifications, and prices. There are descriptions of common interfaces and a glossary of datacom terms. Purchases can be made by contacting Telebyte Technology, Inc., 270 Pulaski Rd., Greenlawn, NY 11740, tel: (800) 835-3298, fax: (516) 385-8184, e-mail: sales@telebyteusa.com, or register at Telebyte's web site <http://www.telebyteusa.com/catalog>.

MCM Electronics has released **catalog number 41** which features more than 5,000 new products including project accessories, semiconductors, connectors, test equipment, computer and home audio products, and thousands of original OEM TV/VCR repair parts. The catalog features brand names such as Hitachi, Tektronix, RCA, GE, Panasonic, Sony, and many more. For a free copy, write to MCM Electronics at 650 Congress Park Dr., Centerville, OH 45459-4072, or call (800) 543-4330.

## Calendar

### SMPTE Activities

COLOGNE, GERMANY—1998 European SMPTE Conference on Imaging Media, Congress Centre, *September 17-19, 1998*

PASADENA, CA—140th SMPTE Technical Conference & Exhibit, Pasadena Convention Center, *October 28-31, 1998*

ORLANDO, FL—33rd SMPTE Advanced Motion Imaging Conference, Omni Rosen Hotel, *February 25-27, 1999*

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA—SMPTE '99, *July 13-16, 1999*

NEW YORK, NY—141st SMPTE Technical Conference & Exhibit, *November 19-22, 1999*

For more information on these and other Society activities contact SMPTE Headquarters: (914) 761-1100, Fax: (914) 761-3115

### August

The Illuminating Engineering Society of North America Annual Conference, Marriott Rivercenter Hotel, San Antonio, TX. Info: Valerie Landers, IESNA, 120 Wall St., 17 fl., New York, NY 10005-4001, tel: (212) 248-5000, fax: (212) 248-5017, Internet: <http://www.iesna.org>, *August 10-12, 1998*

### September

International Broadcasting Convention Ltd., RAI International Exhibition and Congress Centre, Amsterdam U.K. Info: IBC Office, Savoy Place, London WC2R 0BL, U.K., tel: 44 0 171 240 3839, fax: 44 0 171 240 3724, e-mail: show@ibc.org.uk, Internet: <http://www.ibc.org.uk/ibc/>, *September 11-15, 1998*

### October

Rocky Mountain Film and Video Expo, John Q. Hammons Convention Center, Denver, CO. Info: Mark Cramer, ExpoMasters, Inc., 7632 E. Costilla Ave., Englewood, CO, 80112. *October 14-15, 1998*