

Leitch Sponsors Award for SMPTE

SMPTE has approved the establishment of the Jim Leitch Gold Medal Award, which will honor outstanding contributions in the application of digital technology to the motion imaging arts and sciences. The award will recognize exceptional developments in software, equipment or systems, or the standardization of technology involved in the acquisition, processing, or distribution of sound and images.

"Having been active participants in this exciting industry for nearly 30 years, we look forward to honoring those who continue to change the world with their remarkable technological innovations," said Tom Jordan, Leitch's senior vice-president of strategic relations and SMPTE Conference Vice-President.

The Jim Leitch Gold Medal Award, named for the industry pioneer who founded Leitch in 1971, will be presented for the first time in November 2001 at the SMPTE 143rd Technical Conference and Exhibition in New York City.

Sarnoff Award Presented to Michael Isnardi

Michael Isnardi has received the David Sarnoff Award for Outstanding Technical Achievement, Sarnoff Corp.'s highest technical honor, in recognition of his innovation and leadership in WEG systems, which permit consistent deployment of networks for satellites, cable, and broadcast digital television (DTV).

As head of the Compression Systems Group of the DTV & Entertainment business unit at Sarnoff, Isnardi manages the development of DTV technology and related test and measurement tools. His leadership helped bring about the world's first realtime MPEG-2 encoder, used in the leading satellite television system. His



expertise helps broadcast studios make the transition from analog to digital television more cost-effective.

"Michael Isnardi is respected throughout the broadcast industry for his ground-breaking technical work in digital television," said James E. Carnes, Sarnoff Corp.'s President and CEO. "He is also in great demand for tutorials on DTV and MPEG-2, which are changing the nature of television. It's only fitting that his peers have selected him as this year's winner of the David Sarnoff Outstanding Technical Achievement Award, named for the visionary who created broadcasting as we know it, fostered the development of color TV, and founded our company."

Isnardi conducts tutorials on topics such as DTV and MPEG standards for broadcast and consumer electronics industry audiences around the globe, and is an active member in the IEEE, ATSC, and SMPTE. He received the SMPTE Journal Award in 1989 and shared a Technical Emmy Award for his contributions in Compliance Bitstreams.

SMPTE Members on Server Management Team

In an effort to strengthen its server management team, Leitch Technology Corp. has appointed two industry leaders to spearhead growth in its video server product line.

John Edwards, who brings with him an impressive track record of managing technical innovation, assumes the position of director of product development. In his new role, Edwards will be responsible for engineering and product marketing, with a strong focus on refining and articulating the division's technical strategy. He will also drive day-to-day development activities, where his commitment to customer focus and experience in fast execution are well suited to the demands of this rapidly changing market.

Kent Ewing will join Edwards in Burbank, bringing to bear his exceptional leadership and organizational skills as director of operations. He will oversee production, procurement, financial, and human resources issues, and focus on scaling up the company's infra-

structure for its growing server business. An additional priority for Ewing will be to enhance Leitch's hallmark support for West Coast customers.

Phil Livingston Appointed VP-Technology

Azcar Technologies has announced the appointment of Phil Livingston in the newly-created position of vice-president, technology.

"Phil is a well-respected figure in the industry, and brings a wealth of experience in broadcast and video technology," said Rich Bisignano, president and COO for Azcar.

A member of SMPTE, Livingston chaired the Committee on Television Production Technology (P-18) for two years. He also served as a representative to the Advanced Television Systems Committee and was a board member of the Advanced Television Technology Center. He has written numerous white papers and articles and given presentations throughout the U.S. and abroad in television systems and emerging technology.

"We are excited about Phil Livingston joining our team," said Stephen Pumple, Azcar's chairman and CEO. "He will make a strong contribution in supporting Azcar's vision to establish multistream playout facilities in North America and abroad."

Douglas Korte Promoted at Leitch

Leitch has announced the promotion of Douglas Korte to director of sales, Western U.S. Korte, a SMPTE member and industry veteran with over 15 years experience in the television and entertainment industry, brings a strong sales management background to the position. In his new role, Korte will be responsible for directing and expanding the Leitch West Coast sales team as it expands business with broadcasters, post-production facilities, video over IP clients, and other industries.

