

Harry Mathias Joins Barco

Barco has appointed Harry Mathias as director of digital cinema, America. In his new role, Mathias will be responsible for guiding the strategic planning, marketing, and technical coordination of the Barco digital cinema projector rollout in the U.S. Along with the company's digital cinema team, Mathias will collaborate with theatrical production, distribution, and exhibition industries and will also represent Barco on the SMPTE Digital Cinema Standards Study and Working Groups.

"Harry will be a great asset to the Barco organization. He has extensive knowledge of the motion picture industry and experience in the development of digital cinema," said Jim Crane, vice-president and

general manager for Barco Projection Systems. "We are very pleased to have Harry on our team."

Panasonic Broadcast Appoints Steven Cooperman

Panasonic Broadcast & Television Systems Co. has appointed Steven Cooperman as product marketing manager, video server and nonlinear systems. Cooperman will be responsible for all marketing activities related to the company's expanding video server and NLE product lines.

"Steve has excellent industry experience and will be instrumental in the sharpening of our marketing focus and execution in video servers and nonlinear systems," said Stuart English, vice-president, marketing, Panasonic Broadcast.

Cooperman, a SMPTE member, has held a variety of marketing and sales positions over the past years.

Evertz Appoints Bob Combs as New York Regional Sales Manager

Evertz has appointed Bob Combs to the position of New York regional sales manager. In his new position, Combs will directly manage Network accounts in New York and Post-Production accounts in the region for the company's rapidly expanding range of captioning, DTV, and HDTV, film transfer, and time code products.

Combs has held senior sales management positions in several key broadcast equipment manufacturing companies.

J. T. Duggin Promoted at DST

Digital Systems Technology, Inc., (DST) has promoted John T. Duggin to the newly created positions of executive vice-president and chief operating officer. Duggin, previously vice-president of the firm, will be in charge of all of the company's day-to-day operations, including supervision of its nationwide sales staff, marketing efforts, and technical operations.

"I'm looking forward to overseeing the continued growth of DST and guiding the company into one of even greater prominence within the broadcast and webcasting industries," said Duggin. "We are known as a provider of the highest quality for systems integration, and we look to further that reputation in the future."

Industry News

Panasonic Receives Technical Emmy Award

The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) has awarded Panasonic parent company Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd., a Technical Emmy Award for the development of Universal Format Conversion technology.

Emmy Awards are presented annually by NATAS for significant achievements within the television industry, including exceptional contributions to broadcasting technology.

The AJ-UFC1800 enables broadcasters to convert television signals between video formats recognized under the U.S. ATSC-DTV standard, minimizing the inconvenience of dealing with incompatible, competing DTV video for-

mats. The converter can insert or remove 3:2 pull-down film conversion and many other programmable, spatial, and 60/24 frame conversions and supports multiple frame rates, including 60, 50, 30, and 24 Hz.

"Panasonic's Universal Format Conversion technology is a key technology for broadcasters transitioning to the digital broadcasting era," said Dr. Yoshitomi Nagaoka, director and board member of Matsushita Electric.

Philips and Microsoft Encourage Adoption of Enhanced Television

Philips Electronics and Microsoft Corp. have announced agreements designed to encourage the cable and satellite industry as

well as consumers to adopt Enhanced Television products and services. Under the agreements, Philips will license Microsoft TV software and collaborate with Microsoft on the development of a range of set-top boxes based on that software and Philips Nexperia-based hardware platform. The first of these Philips set-top boxes are expected to be available in 2001. MSTV customers who want to deploy a Philips set-top box earlier will be offered a migration path.

The Philips/Microsoft Enhanced TV platform will support a wide range of emerging product categories, including interactive, personal, and internet television. Both companies have agreed to work together to fulfill specific needs of network operators and expand the potential of Enhanced Television worldwide, based on open standards.

Tandberg Delivers Live Audio Video from Airbus

Tandberg Television has achieved a world first with its digital electronic news gathering solution, by broadcasting live pictures from a Lufthansa Airbus. The trial, carried out by German broadcast specialist AVS with the cooperation of Lufthansa Technik engineers, broadcast live video and audio over a 600 km distance from the Airbus cruising at 8000 m at a speed of 840 km/hr during a test flight from Hamburg to Frankfurt in Germany. This was achieved using a combination of the company's OFDM-based digital ENG E5100 transmission and receiving solutions alongside AVS' own microwave transmission equipment.