



*Rocky Mountain July meeting. Ron Vincent, KWHD, discusses DTV transmission at the annual Lookout Mountain seminar and luncheon.*

seeing the daylong installation of equipment.

The spectacular array, beginning with HD camera, spanned switcher, microwave link, format conversion, excite, encode, transmission, decode, and display. Transmitting on channel 16—but allocated to the WXXI DT designation 21-1—the 1/2-W indoor exciter signal emanated from a mere Radio Shack bowtie antenna pinned to a studio curtain.

Reception via a set-top loop antenna located a few meters across the room allowed attendees to manipulate freely and simulate multipath. Attempts to foil the 8-VSB scheme resulted primarily in macroblock distortions to a DVCPRO-100 1080i sourced image and its station ID “bug,” inserted into the transport stream by a single ADC encoder. The encoder also resolved lip sync.

The event, which drew visitors from as far as Albany and Buffalo, continued

with individual presentations by manufacturers, representatives, and vendors, which included Panasonic, Hitachi, Fast, Insciber Technology, JVC, Videotek, Ross, ADC, Tektro-nix, and LeBlanc Broadcast.

The meeting concluded with personal demos and a Q and A session, followed by an opportunity for operators to view the displays.—John P. Weiksner, Rochester Section Manager/Membership Chair

## Rocky Mountain July 19, 2000

Excellent weather greeted over 65 attendees at the annual Lookout Mountain seminar and luncheon. RIA Corp. and Burst Communications sponsored the meeting, with KWGN providing the facilities at their transmitter site. Ron Vincent, chief engineer at KWHD, and Rome Chelsi, Section Chair, provided keynote discussions that included topics relating to Denver’s transition to digital television. Technical staff from many of Denver’s television and cable operations were in attendance.—Rome Chelsi, Section Chair

## SMPTÉ News

### Xytech Appoints Hugh Heinsohn as GM

Xytech Systems Corp., has announced the appointment of SMPTE member Hugh Heinsohn as general manager. Based out of the company’s Burbank headquarters, he will be responsible for overseeing all of Xytech’s activities, including sales, marketing, and new business development in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

Heinsohn brings a 20-year background in the entertainment and communications fields to Xytech, having served in managerial positions for companies such as Digital Vision AB, 360 Systems, CAE Inc., and Gentner Communications Corp. Prior to joining Xytech, he served as general manager for the U.S. office of Digital Vision, which produces video image processing equipment. Heinsohn was also responsible for the execution of marketing and business plans, and the development of marketing and training materials for use

in direct mail, publicity, and sales campaigns.

### Jeffrey J. Blatt Launches X Ventures

SMPTE member Jeffrey J. Blatt, Sr. vice-president of business affairs, Measat Broadcast Network Systems in Malaysia, provider of the Astro DTH service, has left Measat to launch a regional consulting company under the name X Ventures. The company will have its Asia-Pacific operations based in Bangkok, Thailand, and provide clients in the satellite, cable, broadcasting, internet, film, and entertainment industries with a broad range of services under the domain name Xventures.com.

According to Blatt, who will be the



new company’s founder and CEO, “X Ventures will provide clients with critical counsel and representation with which convergence companies need to develop, grow, and operate in Asia.”

### KPIX Channel 5 Names Edwin Karl Chief Engineer

Edwin Karl has been appointed chief engineer of KPIX, San Francisco. Karl, a SMPTE member, was chief engineer of KBHK-TV San Francisco since 1994 and KTVX-TV Salt Lake since 1998. He was responsible for the construction of a new 50,000-sq. ft building in Salt Lake and worked on installing a new DTV transmitter and microwave site. Additionally, he worked on the conversion of the newsroom to Beta SX format to prepare the transition to digital editing. While at KBHK-TV San Francisco, he installed a new DTV transmitter and Ghz microwave.