

New Products

Camera Heads

Radamec Broadcast Systems has launched **433 Weather-Cam**, a robotic pan/tilt head designed to endure severe weather conditions. It provides a reliable and cost-effective solution for achieving broadcast-quality coverage of outdoor events as well as a means of providing high-quality surveillance. The new design includes sturdy gearboxes capable of maintaining stability in extreme winds measuring as much as 50 mph. The maximum payload of the unit is 44 lbs enabling it to support an ENG camera, lens, lens servos, and weatherproof enclosure.

The **432** remote control pan/tilt head, also from Radamec, supports teleprompters and is capable of a maximum 77-lb payload. The unit's control electronics are integral to the head and can be mounted in an inverted position making it ideal for suspended cameras. Another unique feature is the 432's ability to be operated manually in the event of an emergency.

Film

Kodak has developed a new and improved antifoggant chemistry designed to reduce costs and waste for motion picture laboratories. The **AF-2000** is a liquid concentrate that is added to the developer used to process color-negative film. It replaces Eastman Anti-fog No. 9, which was used in wetted or dry powder form. AF-2000 can be safely transported and stored since it is neither explosive nor flammable.

Lenses

Optex has added the **Canon 33 x 11** lens to its stable of EC (electronic cinematogra-



The Canon 33x11 lens by Optex.

phy) styled lenses. Designed for standard-definition cameras, tests have shown the lens also offers outstanding results when used on HDTV cameras. The iris is calibrated in T-stops while focus is calibrated from a nominal 48mm image plane rather than from the front of the lens. Gear rings are fitted to focus, zoom, and iris so that conventional film accessories can be used.

Monitor

Optex has announced the **OTM 1690** widescreen monitor. It offers a 5.8-in. active matrix TFT LCD screen, bright enough to be used in full sunlight and has a very wide viewing angle. The monitor's light weight, portability, compactness, and sturdy construction make it ideal as a handheld or camera-mounted monitor for shooting on location. In 4:3 mode images can be viewed with either black bands on both sides showing all aspects of the original picture or zoomed in to fill the whole screen with just a slight loss from the top and bottom of the picture. In 16:9 mode the image fills the entire screen making the unit a true widescreen monitor. It can be supplied either as a standalone unit or fitted

with appropriate bracketry to accept either PAG or Anton Bauer batteries. The monitor will accept an input supply of up to 24V DC making it ideal for television and film camera applications. Automatic PAL or NTSC makes it ideal for worldwide use.

Videocassettes

Maxell has introduced the **Betacam SX** videocassettes, which are fully backward-compatible with Betacam/Betacam SP and provide high-interface ability with nonlinear editing systems and video servers. The videocassettes are equipped with fine ceramic armor metal magnetic particles and high-performance binder systems, achieving reliability and durability under various ENG/EPF tape-operating conditions and extreme tape-running modes during editing. They also employ a highly accurate cassette shell and a patented SW (smooth winding) reel with radial grooves molded on the lower flange. This emits most of the air generated during high-speed winding to minimize uneven tape winding.

Kodak, website: www.kodak.com/go/motion

Maxell Corp. of America, 22-08 Rte. 208, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410; fax: (201) 796-8790

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Radamec Inc., 20 North 4th Ave., Highland Park, NJ 08904; tel: (732) 246-0906; fax: (732) 448-1184; e-mail: radamecinc@netscape.net

Obituaries

Gordon Mackechnie, a Life Member, has died at age 82. Mackechnie an "old-timer" of the tape recorder era, worked with Jack Mullin who introduced the Magnetophone tape recorder that caught the interest of Bing Crosby for use for his radio show. Mackechnie founded VIF International, a supplier of the VIF line of Hold Down Knobs and many versions of their Pressure Roller. His code of ethics was well known, and used as model for many others, not just in the recording field. His integrity in business dealings around the world is spoken of continually by friends, customers, and dealer/distributors. Mackechnie had been a SMPTE member for over 50 years.

Monty Mann Sr. has passed away. A Life Member of SMPTE, Mann was a veteran

of the advertising business for 65 years. During his career, he held a number of positions including motion picture and television producer, director, cameraman, editor, and vice-president for companies such as Tracy Locke Co., in Dallas, Glenn Advertising of Dallas, and later Brooks-Pollard in Arkansas. Mann worked on major accounts for the Frito Co., Dr. Pepper Co., Borden Dairy Products, Justin Boot Co., Chevrolet's Southwest Division, Ford Motor Co.'s Southwest Division, Ralston-Purina Co., and Kerr-McGee Corp.

Daniel Robert Mead has passed away at age 58. Mead joined the Society in 1982.

Aaron Shelton, a Life Member of the Society, has passed away at age 90. Shelton had been a member for 50 years.

Errata

Re: "Audio-Video Synchronization Across DTV Transport Interfaces: The Impossible Dream," by Randall Hoffner, November 2000.

The author would like to make a correction in the designation of "AES interface" and "AES bit streams," which are used throughout the paper. References in the text to "AES interface" should be specified as "AES3 interface."

In Item 1 of the bibliography, a dash was added between AES and 3; this is incorrect. It should read AES3-1992 (r. 1997), "AES Recommended Practice for Digital Audio Engineering—Serial Transmission Format for Two-Channel Linearly Represented Digital Audio Data.