

Calendar

SMPTE Activities

NEW YORK, NY

143rd Technical Conference & Exhibition. *November 4-7, 2001.*

DALLAS, TX

36th Advanced Motion Imaging Conference. *February 7-9, 2002.*

PASADENA, CA

144th Technical Conference & Exhibition. *October 23-26, 2002.*

For more information on these and other SMPTE activities contact SMPTE Headquarters:

Tel: (914) 761-1100

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NOVEMBER

The First International Conference on the Science and Technology of Emissive Displays, San Diego, CA. Info: Mark Goldfarb, Palisades Convention Management (PCM), 411 Lafayette St., Ste. 201, New York, NY 10003; tel: (212) 460-9700; fax: (212) 460-5460; e-mail: mgoldfarb@pcm411.com; website: www.sid.org. *November 12-14, 2001.*

ITU Telecom Africa 2001, Johannesburg, Africa. Info: International Telecommunication Union, Place des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland; tel: +41 22 730 6161; fax: +41 22 730 6444; e-mail: telecominf@itu.int; website: www.itu.int/itulecom. *November 12-16, 2001.*

FEBRUARY 2002

National Engineers Week,

Washington, DC. Info: National Engineers Week Headquarters, 1420 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; tel: (703) 684-2852; website: www.eweek.org. *February 17-23, 2002.*

ITU Telecom Americas 2003, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Info: Piers Letcher, Press and Public Relations Officer, ITU Telecom; tel: +42 22 730 6602; fax: +41 22 730 6444; e-mail: piers.letcher@itu.int; website: www.itu.int/newsroom. *February 25-28, 2002.*

MARCH 2002

VidTrans 2002 Conference, Orlando, FL. Info: Matt Peterson, Scenic Wonders, Inc.; tel: (608) 273-4803; e-mail: matt@swonders.com; website: www.videoservicesforum.org/vidtrans/. *March 3-6, 2002.*

New Products

Camcorders

Panasonic has introduced the **AG-EZ50U**, handheld 3-CCD mini-DV camcorder. Weighing just 1.48 lbs, the palm-size camcorder features three high-performance CCDs to produce detailed, true-to-life digital video and has a dedicated image-processing circuit that allows shooting of 1,680,000-pixel high-resolution still images (1428 x 1128 resolution).

The **AG-DVC15**, a 3-CCD mini-DV camcorder, features stable shoulder-style shooting and records up to 83 min. of digital

component video on a single ultra-compact mini-DV cassette. Using an optional adapter, the miniature cassettes can be played back in all Panasonic DVCPRO studio VTRs, enhancing the use of DV video in professional applications.

Camera Snakes

New from Telecast Fiber Systems, Inc. is its **CopperHead** camera-mounted fiber optic multiplexer family. The CopperHead unit is small enough to fit on the back of an ENG mini-camera, yet powerful enough to transmit all broadcast signals to and from the camera over a single fiber-optical strand. Principally designed for use in broadcast settings, the system can also be used in a variety of other applications, such as entertainment venues or campuses.

A small but powerful fiber optic snake, the **Python Plus4**, also from Telecast Fiber Systems, is a format-independent digital distribu-

tion unit that transports four channels of serial digital video on a single optical fiber. It employs coarse wavelength division multiplexing (CWDM) techniques to combine four different wavelengths, or colors of light onto one optical fiber. Target applications for the snake include studio transmitter links, connections in and between production and post-production facilities, and SDTV/HDTV traffic between metropolitan switching centers.

Decoders

Vela has released three decoders, dubbed **CineCast HD**, **CineCast HD/1** and **CineCast HD/2**. The new single and dual-channel SCSI-based MPEG-2 decoders are exceptional DTV and HDTV solutions for broadcast, post-production, advertising, electronic cinema, and other demanding video distribution applications. The new decoders support all 18 ATSC for-