

Rocky Mountain February 21 and 22, 2001

The Rocky Mountain Chapter offered two days of technical training on February 21st and 22nd. Encoda Systems (formerly Columbine JDS) provided facilities in downtown Denver, with an attendance of 20, while AT&T Broadband provided facilities in the Denver Tech Center. Attendance on the first day was 20, and on the second day, 46.

Dave Wood, president and founder of Ensemble Designs, presented the "Nuts and Bolts of Digital Television," an in-depth look at the ITU-601 standard and the nuances of AES audio embedding and disembedding. He did a terrific job of divining digital sampling, Nyquist impact, and issues related to digital-to-analog and analog-to-digital conversion.

We wish to thank Panasonic

Broadcast Systems Inc. and Barco Inc. for the loan of equipment to augment the presentations.—Rome Chelsi, Section Chair

Toronto February 13, 2001

More than 150 people attended the joint SMPTE/Siggraph meeting on Post-Production for HDTV, held at Rogers Communications Centre, Ryerson University. Arranged by Joe Sunday, Majortech; Adele Newton, the Siggraph Toronto Chapter; and Brad Fortner, Ryerson University, the program featured four speakers and a demonstration of Avid's new nonlinear HDTV editing technology.

Calvin Judges, marketing manager of storage products and post-production systems for Sony of Canada, presented a paper on the technical considerations

relating to the design and installation of a 1080p24 linear production suite. Glyn Evans, president of Stonehenge Inc., spoke next focusing on the need for HDTV, from a producer's perspective. He discussed why many of his clients are choosing HD formats for acquisition and mastering.

Maurice Patel, presented a paper on Avid's viewpoint about nonlinear HD systems. The paper contained direct reference to HD workflow and the company's HD Digital Studio product. The members in attendance were then treated to a demonstration of the technology.

The Toronto Section has made the presentations of Calvin Judges and Glyn Evans available via RealMedia on the website under the library link (<http://www.smpete.org/sections/yyz/library.htm>).

Industry News

Leitch Awarded U.S. Patent for Video Server Architecture

Leitch has announced that its server division, formerly ASC Audio Video Corp. has been awarded a U.S. patent on the video storage architecture used in its industry-leading VR-300 and VR-400 series of server products. This unique architecture allows multiple users to access and manipulate video content from a common storage repository. Further, it allows manipulation of this video data while it is still being recorded onto the common storage repository. In short, incoming material can be stored, manipulated, and played out of this server environment, faster and with greater efficiency.

A key feature of the patent is the separation of audio/video data from bus access requests and other traffic by carrying the two types of data on separate buses. A high-bandwidth video data transfer bus carries the program information, and a separate information data bus carries video bus access requests and arbitration protocol communication. This separation allows higher video data throughput, as well as a lower latency and local storage requirements than is possible with other video data storage architectures.

USA Cable Takes Technological Leap

USA Cable has selected A.F. Associates to design and construct its new digital Network Operations Center (NOC) located in Jersey City, NJ.

The existing origination facility is undergoing a complete transformation from a hybrid analog/digital infrastructure into a fully digital, multichannel NOC, employing advanced archiving and digital asset management systems. The new center will include the first ADIC ALM/2 near-line archive system employed in the country. The dual robot/dual quadro tower system, which will be the primary repository for USA Cable's program and interstitial library, will hold 2,688 150-Gbyte DST cassettes, for a total storage capacity of 44,800 hr at a bit rate of 20 Mbits/sec.

Encoda Systems Acquires ODAC, Inc.

Encoda Systems has announced the acquisition of ODAC, Inc., and the formation of a new business unit focused on providing an end-to-end, cross-media ad-commerce solution

for the industry. ODAC will provide both the name and management leadership for the business unit. The new workflow-enabled media operating system software will be combined with two other interrelated initiatives, a standards-based gateway and an advanced data warehouse. This three-part solution offers true integration and business efficiencies for the media industry.

Azcar, Immad ECVS, and the Merger of STI

Following the recent acquisition of Synergistic Technologies of Pittsburgh (STI), the name Azcar now applies to both the former Immad ECVS and STI. The combined entity took the name of the Toronto-based parent company.

Headed by Richard Bisignano, president and CEO, Azcar now facilitates in Markham Ontario; Boonton, NJ; and Pittsburgh, PA. To recognize the international distinctions, the American company is Azcar USA, Inc., and the Canadian company is Azcar Technologies, Inc. Stephen Pumple continues as chairman of the Board.

Wall Street Communications Expands Operations in Europe

Wall Street Communications, a marketing communications agency specializing in video and broadcast equipment and electronic components accounts, has announced the opening of its office in Newbury, Berkshire, U.K., the company's first location in Europe. Although the company had previously maintained a European client base, the new office will enhance Wall Street's activities in the U.K. and throughout Europe.

Master Classes in Film, TV, and Video Production

Lloyd Silverman, producer of the film *Snow Falling on Cedars*, will lead the Feature Film Producer's Master Weekend," just one of the courses offered in 2001 by the International

Film and Television Workshops. Television production courses include a Master Class taught by Michael Pressman and Ken Topolosky; a children's television workshop, led by Michael Holman; and a one-week course for producers of television commercials. A three-day clinic for those wishing to explore high-definition television, as well as workshops for corporate and freelance video producers is described in the International Film and Television Workshops' 2001 Catalogue. The catalogue details more than 120 Master Classes, programs, and workshops in all aspects of film, video, television, and digital production.

For more information on the The Workshops, see "<http://www.TheWorkshops.com>" or request a free catalogue by calling toll free (877) 577-7700; or writing The Workshops, P.O. Box 200, Rockport, ME 04856.

IES Call for Entries

The New York Chapter of the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America is now accepting entries for the 2000 Richard Kelly Grant. This is an educational grant offered to recognize and encourage creative thought and activity in the use of light. Anyone 35 years of age or younger at the time of submission, studying or working in the field of illumination in North America are welcome to apply. Applicants must demonstrate an accomplishment and potential to make a contribution in the art or science of illumination.

For additional information contact the Illuminating Society of North America at 120 Wall St., 17th Fl., New York, NY 10005; tel: (212) 248-5000; fax: (212) 248-5017/18, or visit www.iesna.org.

Calendar

SMPTE Activities

LAS VEGAS, NV—SMPTE All-Day Seminar at NAB 2001. *April 21, 2001*

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA—SMPTE 2001 Conference & Exhibition. *July 9-13, 2001.*

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: (914) 761-1100; fax: (914) 761-3115.

APRIL

NAB 2001, Las Vegas, NV. Info: 1771 N. St., NW, Washington, DC 20036; tel: (800) 342-2460; fax: (202) 775-3520; website: www.nab.org/conventions. *April 21-26, 2001.*

MAY

Lightfair International 2001. Las Vegas, NV. Info: AMC, Inc., 240 Peachtree St., NW, Suite 2200, Atlanta, GA 30303; tel: (404) 220-2221; fax: (404) 220-2442; website: www.lightfair.com. *May 30 - June 1, 2001.*

JUNE

The Society for Information Display's 2001 International Symposium, Seminar, and Exhibition (SID 2001), San Jose, CA. Info: Mark Goldfarb, Palisades Convention Management, 411 Lafayette St., 2nd Fl., New York, NY 10003; tel: (212) 460-8090, ext. 202; fax: (212) 460-5460; e-mail: mailto:mgoldfarb@pcm411.com. *June 3-8, 2001.*

2001 IEEE International Conference on Consumer Electronics, Los Angeles, CA. Info: Diane Williams, Conference Coordinator, 67 Raspberry Patch Dr., Rochester, NY 14612; tel: (716) 392-3862; fax: (716) 392-4397; e-mail: dwilliamsiee.org. *June 19-21, 2001.*

JULY

SMPTE 2001 Conference and Exhibition, Darling Harbour, Australia. Info: Expertise Events, P.O. Box 295 Brookvale 2100 NSW, Australia; tel: +61 2 9939 4445; fax: +61 2 9939 4251; e-mail: smpte2001-expertiseevents.com.au; website: www.smpte.com.au. *July 9-13, 2001.*

SEPTEMBER

IBC2001, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Info: IBC, Aldwych House, 81 Aldwych, London WC2B 4EL, U.K.; tel: +44 (0)20 7611 7500; fax: +44 (0)20 7611 7530; e-mail: show@ibc.org; website: www.ibc.org. *September 14-18, 2001.*

OCTOBER

12th International Audio, Video, Broadcasting, Motion Picture, and Telecommunications Show (IBTS), Milan, Italy. Info: Via Domenichino, 11-20149 Milan, Italy; tel: +39-02 4815541; fax: +39-02 4980330; e-mail: assoexpo@assoexpo.com; website: www.assoexpo.com. *October 4-8, 2001.*