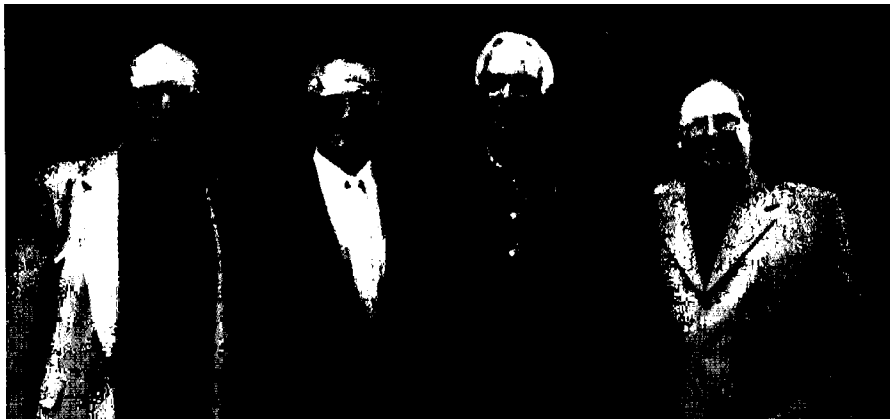




SMPTE Past-Presidents' Reunion

Four Past-Presidents of SMPTE met in May for their annual get-together. The four were Robert Smith (1979-80), Harold Eady (1985-86), Blaine Baker (1991-92), and David George (1997-98). Also attending were invited guests Si Becker, John Berry, and Roland Zavada. An added bonus was the presence of Fred Remley, who was selected as the member who was most important in the Society's development during the year.

The gathering was held at White Wing Farm in West Chester, PA, chosen for its proximity to the DuPont mansion and gardens at Winterthur, and Longwood Gardens, the Hagley Museum, and to the first E.I. Dupont plant where gunpowder was manufactured in the early 1880s. The perfect weather added to the group's enjoyment of their May-time visit.



Pictured at their annual get-together are (from left) Past-Presidents Robert Smith, Harold Eady, Blaine Baker, and David George.

Bellamy Joins Cinesite

Mike Bellamy, a veteran film processor and colorist, has joined the Digital Film Mastering division at Cinesite, a subsidiary of the Entertainment Imaging Division of Eastman Kodak, as senior colorist, assigned to collaborate with filmmakers who are creating looks and color-timing digital masters for motion picture and video distribution. Bellamy, who began his career at MGM MetroLab in 1979, moved to AME Inc. in 1986 as a telecine operator and joined Vidfilm in 1990, specializing in mastering feature films for video and digital cinema release. "Cinesite is helping to define an important part of the future of the motion picture industry," he said of his new post. "Digital Film Mastering is a tremendous creative tool; it provides a bridge between

the film and digital worlds where anything is possible and traditional compromises aren't necessary."

Venn Joins Snell & Wilcox

Snell & Wilcox, Inc., has announced the appointment of SMPTE member Chris Venn as Broadcast Services Business Development Manager for its western region. He will work directly with broadcast customers and in tandem with system integrators to educate them about Snell & Wilcox products; simultaneously he'll solicit customer input for product enhancement and new product development. Venn joins Snell & Wilcox with extensive experience in broadcast, satellite, and live HD production. He was most recently director of international broadcast operations and engineering for Slingshot Networks.



Broadcast Solutions

Four companies prominent in the broadcast world have teamed up to address challenges faced by station groups and networks in implementing centralized broadcasting

models. Miranda Technologies, Encoda Systems Inc., SignaSys, Inc., and Pinnacle, Inc., have adopted the name Centralized Broadcasting Solutions; the goal of their initiative is "to collaborate, adapt each individual system element to the others, perform interoperability testing and create solution templates for a variety of architectures," the group announced. Each of the four players will contribute its own particular strength: Encoda providing multichannel automation with traffic and asset management; Pinnacle Systems supplying com-

plete solutions for networked video servers and content distribution; Miranda offering multi-image monitoring and on-air presentation switching and branding; and SignaSys providing application consulting and case analysis.

Philips and Sun Microsystems Collaborate

Royal Philips Electronics and Sun Microsystems have announced they'll collaborate in developing

streaming multimedia solutions for broadband media, video-on-demand and mobile wireless markets. Under a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding signed by both, the two companies will formally share technological know-how for developing an end-to-end reference solution for broadband media, based on the open ISO standard MPEG-4 technology. In recent weeks, the two companies have demonstrated the flexibility of the MPEG-4 standard with content that has been replayed over the network to a variety of clients.

Cinesite Launches DVD Division

Cinesite Hollywood has announced the formation of a digital versatile disk (DVD) division that provides compression, authoring, quality control, and menu graphics services. The DVD Division will be housed in a 1500-sq. ft. facility at Cinesite's state-of-the-art Pro-Tek Media Preservation Services Center in Burbank, CA.

"The new DVD division is a perfect fit for the range of digital imaging and asset management services we provide," said Cinesite's President and COO Ruth Scovill. "We have the technology and staff needed to provide high-quality DVD services in a convenient, streamlined process."

Rohde & Schwarz Receives NAB "Pick Hit" Award

Broadcast Engineering has recognized Rohde and Schwarz's DVQM (Digital Video Quality Analyzer) as one of the most exceptional products launched at NAB 2001, with a "Pick Hit" award.

Products are judged by a committee of anonymous professional in various facets of the industry, chosen by Broadcast Engineering

to select appropriately priced products that meet demanding criteria, including the ability to offer substantial improvement over previous technology and effect a positive impact in the workplace.

The multichannel DVQM was selected for its unique ability to allow simultaneous and independent quality monitoring for up to 12 digital MPEG-2 transport streams used in the ATSC or DVB standard. The system, which is housed in a 19-in. rackmount unit, monitors each channel separately for picture freeze, picture and sound loss, as well as measurable MPEG-2 picture-quality impairments.

Miranda and Oxtel Join Forces

Seeking common missions "to provide solutions for rapidly expanding markets in centralized broadcasting and multichannel delivery," Oxtel and Miranda Technologies have joined forces, the companies have announced. Oxtel, founded in 1990, is a world leader in automated master control and channel branding, along with the recently introduced Imagestore, which provides switching, matching, and two layers of keying from internal or external sources; while Miranda's strength is the production of digital video/audio interfaces, DTV and HDTV converters, and professional AV products.

Along with their complementary product strengths, the two companies will bolster each other's geographic arrangements, with Miranda's strong positions in the Americas and Asia/Pacific reinforcing Oxtel's strong European presence.

Philips Licenses Select Digimarc Patents

Philips Digital Networks has licensed Digimarc's patents as

part of Philips' WaterCast Broadcast Monitoring System. The Philips system includes video watermarking embedders and detectors that add identifying data to a video signal prior to transmission by terrestrial, cable, and satellite broadcasters. These identifiers are imperceptible to television audiences and survive all common video-processing operations. Broadcasts can then be monitored using WaterCast detectors to verify that program and advertisement transmissions comply with contractual requirements and do not occur without the permission of the broadcast owner. The two companies will work together to market and promote broadcast monitoring solutions.

Vela, DSMCI, and Virage Develop Software Interface

Vela, a provider of video compression technology and products for the cable and broadcast industries, has joined systems integrator DSMCI and Virage Inc. to develop a software interface between the Vela Argus Dual Stream Encoder and the VideoLogger from Virage, Inc. When combined with the simultaneous encoding and indexing capabilities of the Virage SmartEncode process, the Argus Dual Stream will provide a broadcast-quality MPEG-2 stream and a simultaneous frame-accurate MPEG-1 proxy stream for use in media asset management solutions.

"Media asset management solutions are becoming essential in the broadcast industry," a Vela-vice president said. "DSMCI's employment of the Argus encoder in its asset management solution is forward-thinking and meets the demand for MPEG streams when filing, storing and retrieving assets."