

New Products

Hitachi Denshi America at NAB2002

Based on its award-winning technology, Hitachi Denshi America unveiled its dockable **DVD-Ram recorder and a one-piece, three-CCD camcorder**. The recorder is dockable to all Z-Series cameras and most other manufacturer's cameras. Designed for ENG applications it follows a system approach to DVD production with editing software and video clip assembly features inherent in its design. It delivers CDi-quality recordings and can record up to one hour of full-motion MPEG-2 video.

Resolution on the camcorder will be 800 TVL. It can record up to one hour of full-motion MPEG-2 video and offers both DVD-R and DVD-RAM form compatibility. Video can be edited in the camera allowing users to reorder scenes and add transitional effects. The media can also be removed from the recorder for more conventional editing.

Snell & Wilcox Displays at NAB2002

At the NAB convention in Las Vegas, Snell & Wilcox featured Alchemist Platinum, the next generation of the company's award-winning Ph.C standards converter. Alchemist Platinum addresses the ever-higher conversion quality demanded by many broadcasters. Alchemist Ph.C, introduced in 1993, was the world's first motion compensated standards converter and rapidly became the de facto industry standard for high-end conversion. However, broadcasters throughout the world are setting ever-higher picture-quality standards. Alchemist Platinum uses Ph.C motion compensation technology to ensure the most precise motion processing possible. Unlike its predecessor, Alchemist Platinum has been built as a platform to accommodate future upgrades and options. Two of these options, HD up-



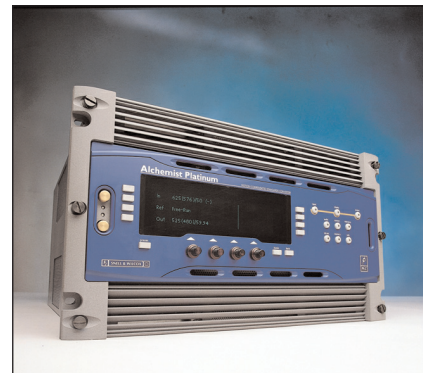
Hitachi Denshi America's dockable DVD-Ram recorder.

conversion and video-to-film processing, are already available. It offers 12-bit processing, improved resolution, and a noticeable improvement in picture fidelity. A significant additional benefit is that, for the first time, it enables optional high-quality up-conversion along with standards (frame-rate) conversion.

Snell & Wilcox also displayed its **Premier HD6200 universal high-definition cross-conversion platform**. The HD6200 offers a choice of high-quality up-conversion, down-conversion, and cross-conversion, either singly or in any combination. The 10-bit linear HD6200 provides a future-proof way of safeguarding an investment in high-definition conversion in a world of different frame rates, image sizes, and aspect ratios. Integrating important functions such as aspect ratio conversion with pan, scan, and zoom; time code conversion; and 3:2 cadence correction, the product is designed as a complete solution for real-world requirements. Housed in a 2RU box, it features built-in test pattern generators, aspect ratio conversion, and digital color space conversion and can genlock to both standard and high-definition references. The unit features a redundant power supply, one HD/SD SDI input, four HD SDI outputs, three 601 outputs and six GPI inputs and outputs.

Video Design Software at NAB

Video Design Software (VDS) released the Command Post & Transfer Corp. high-definition **digital disk recorder** (CPHD-DDR) for use with VDS' Liberty paint, animation, and compositing products. The CPHD-DDR provides a one-stop-shop for importing and exporting HDTV mater-



Alchemist Platinum standards converter from Snell & Wilcox.

ial within the Liberty user environment. Realtime uncompressed HDTV is recorded in the recorder as raw data, and the YUV space is then converted into several different image formats and exports the resulting file to and from an NFS or hotswap mount. This construction allows users to access the HD capture and image data within moments of conversion.

Poise, an image stabilization plugin for the Quantel iQ system developed around iolmage's stabilization technology, achieves perfect stabilization by reconstructing the camera's motion and smoothing its trajectory. A totally automated, resolution independent system, it works on any shot and is able to distinguish between intentional and unintentional camera movements. Poise automates the image stabilizing process, enabling the use of material that might otherwise be deemed un-stable or un-usable. The application eliminates the need to use expensive stabilizing systems, such as gyros and steadycams, necessary to achieve image stabilizing in certain production situations.

Automatic MP Defect Detection System

Lipsner-Smith has a new automatic motion picture defect detection system, the **Advisor**. This CCD and software technology to find and document film scratches eliminates expensive man-hours looking for damage and does it automatically. The system finds scratches and other imperfections down to 10 microns. Supplied as a standalone unit or mounted on a variety of film handling equipment, Advisor will provide a frame-accurate report and, if desired, an alarm will

sound if a scratch is detected. Reports of film damage and location are clear and easy to read. There are minimal consumables or running costs once the system is installed. Little or no calibration is required during its normal running life. Advisor is available for color film only.

Video Transmission Systems

Optelecom announced the release of a single fiber CWDM digital video system. Based on its 10-bit digital video transmission cards, it may be configured to support 20 to 64 video channels on one fiber, each exceeding the RS250C short haul SNR specification of 67 dB. Using CWDM technology with four or eight video channels on each wavelength, up to eight wavelengths may be combined on one fiber. An optional digital stereo audio, data, or contact closure may be added to each video channel without reducing the number of available channels. The system also will support up to eight bidirectional data, audio, or contact closure channels.

Also from Optelecom are high-resolution **RGB/XGA video transmission**

systems used for conference room and control center application. Models 3654A and 9311 transport high-resolution RGV/STGA video signals with various sync configurations over three optical fibers and are available in single and multimode version. When coupled with models 9541/9545 PS2 keyboard/mouse and serial port extenders, these cards form a complete PC I/O remoting system supporting resolutions up to 1800 x 1600 and distances up to 5 km.

Management Information System

Encoda Systems' new **Paradigm 5.0** extends the capabilities of previous advanced management information systems, allowing users to more easily perform tasks such as programming and spot scheduling, inventory management, and sales and financial reporting, in multichannel and station group environments. Paradigm integrates all critical business processes in a windows environment, including ad sales and proposal generation, program scheduling and rights management, digital transmission manage-

Encoda Systems, tel: (303) 237-4000; website: www.pressinfo@encodasystems.com

Hitachi-Denshi America, Ltd., tel: (516) 921-7200; website: www.hadal.com

Lipsner-Smith, tel: (800) 323-7520; website: www.lipsner.com

Optelecom, Inc., tel: (301) 840-2121; website: www.optelecom.com

Snell & Wilcox, tel: (408) 260-1000; website: www.snellwilcox.com

Video Design Software, tel: (631) 249-4399; website: www.videodesignsoftware.com

ment and automation, in a single relational database, greatly improving workflow and efficiency. In addition, major new system-wide features have been added: Work Orders, a browser-based tool that automates the routing of program preparation tasks, and frame-accurate timing in NTSC, PAL, or NTSC and PAL combined.

Obituary

Andy Anderson, director of engineering and operations at Houston PBS/KUHT since 1991, passed away on March 12, 2002. Anderson began his career in commercial radio at a Montrose, CO, station in 1964. It wasn't too long after that he got the TV bug and moved to a commercial television station in Montrose.

By 1966 he moved to Denver for a post at KRMA-TV, Channel 6, where he supervised the station's move from black and white to color. In 1974 he became director of engineering at the Rocky Mountain Corporation for Public Broadcasting in Denver. He left RMCPB's Diamond Hill facility in 1979 to become Chief Engineer at KRMA-TV. He came to Houston in 1991 to assume the post he has held for more than a decade.

Anderson's dedication to broad-



Andy Anderson

casting and in particular to public broadcasting made him a valuable asset wherever he worked. He served as a member of the PBS Engineering Committee for many years and was heavily involved in mentoring young, promising engineers throughout the industry and the broadcasting community.

Anderson was recognized by his peers at the 2001 PBS Annual Engineering meetings in Las Vegas as one of an elite group to be awarded the PBS Engineering Excellence Award.

Calendar

SMPTE Activities

Pasadena, CA
144th Technical Conference and Exhibition, *October 23-26, 2002.*

Seattle, WA
37th Advanced Motion Imaging Conference, *February 27-March 1, 2003.*

Showbiz Expo, Los Angeles, CA. Info: Mary Anderson-Harris, 6310 San Vicente Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048; tel: (323) 653-8053; website: www.showbizexpo.com. **June 1-3, 2002.**

SCTE Cable Tec Expo 2002, San Antonio, TX. Info: 140 Philips Rd., Exton, PA 19341; tel: (800) 542-5040; website: www.scte.org. **June 4-7, 2002.**

Siggraph 2002, San Antonio TX. Info: 401 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611; tel: (312) 321-6830; fax: (312) 321-6876; website: www.siggraph.org. **July 21-25, 2002.**

IBC2002, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Info: IBC, Aldwych House, 81 Aldwych, London WC2B 4EL, U.K.; tel: +44 20 7611 7500; e-mail: show@ibc.org; website: www.ibc.org. **September 12-17, 2002.**