New Products

Consoles

Solid State Logic recently introduced the **Aysis Air Plus 'SC,'** a specially configured version of its popular Aysis Air Plus digital broadcast console. The SC has been designed specifically for the daily broadcast tasks of owned and operated stations, affiliates and other broadcasters who are looking for a cost-effective transition to digital broadcast. The SC console has built-in redundancy and security features such as hot-swappable faders and is capable of expansion as station challenges evolve. Comprehensive reset capabilities allow greater capacity and studio efficiency. Stereo or 5.1 surround operation gives the flexibility to do a variety of tasks from simple news to full surround sports coverage.

Solid State Logic announced the release of **MT Version 6 production console.** Using the power of the HS processor that is at the heart of MT Plus and MT Production, MT Version 6 introduces automation and processing features that further the benefits of a discrete control surface and digital signal processing. MT V6 features new, dynamics algorithms that capture performance subtleties through the use of more precise control than its analog counterparts. All of this power is accessible from the console's front panel, making it easy for the engineer to choose from this new palette of dynamics options.

SSL's specially configured digital broadcast console Aysis Air Plus SC.

Winsted Corp. model E4520 multimedia desk and cabinet system.

Editing Desk

Winsted Corp. has introduced model **E4520,** a multimedia desk and rack cabinet system designed to work especially well with Sony's Xpri editing system. The desk has a 59 in. wide by 30-1/2 in. deep curved work surface, with a 20 in. deep riser spanning the full width of the desktop. The riser is adjustable in 1/2-in. increments to place monitors at the user's ideal viewing angle. A rack cabinet sits alongside the desk for easy access to VTR, hard drive, and monitor. Both desk and cabinet are made of heavy gauge steel for long-lasting durability.

Image Processing

With a strong emphasis on image processing and color enhancing video and data images in realtime, da Vinci introduced the new **2K Plus** color enhancement system. The ongoing demand from filmmakers for a real-time color correction toolset coupled with the merging of the computer and video industries has produced the 2K Plus Data product, specifically designed for the emerging digital film grading marketplace. The 2K Plus can be configured as a data-only, realtime image enhancement system. More important, the existing 2K system can be upgraded to a 2K Plus along with its many new features and improvements, including enhanced SuperKilovectors with independent controls and True Gamma. A new 2K Plus Server Interface option allows the colorist to process high-resolution images in a non-telecine-dependent setting.

Projectors

Panasonic Broadcast & Television Systems Company has strengthened its micro-portable LCD projectors line with the new **PT-LC75U XGA and PT-LC55U SVGA projectors.** Offering a sleek design and an array of advanced digital technologies, these ultralight units are easy to move between locations, from the office to the classroom, from a church setting to a training center, and provide an ideal alternative to rear projection television in home theater applications. Panasonic's built-in gravity sensor determines the projectors' angle relative to the floor (up to 30°) and corrects for keystone distortion accordingly. The projectors handle all picture adjustments, from phasing and dot clocks to vertical and horizontal position. Both deliver exceptionally bright performance of 1200 ANSI lumens and display vivid, colorful images in true 1024 x 768 native XGA resolution and 800 x 600 native SVGA reso-

lution. High contrast ratios of 500:1 or 400:1 ensure sharp, crisp images for computer and video.

Lenses

Thales Angenieux announced its new **26 X 7.8AIF high-definition and high-resolution series** telephoto zoom lens for broadcast news and sports applications. The 26X series lenses offer a focal range of 7.8mm to 206mm (5.6mm to 406mm with a 2X extender) and an aperture of f/1.8 to the HR version and f/2.2 for the HD version.

Thales Angenieux also introduced its **Optimo 12 X 9.7 HD lens**. The new zoom lens features an advanced optical design combined with proprietary high-resolution glass, ideal for the new 24-frame HDTV cameras so popular in the cinematography and video production markets.

Multiplexer

Telecast Fiber Systems launched the new compact **Digital Copperhead.** The product provides SDI and HDTV compatibility via a two-core, single-mode fiber optic cable, enabling broadcasters to gather remote digital images effortlessly with higher quality and at longer distances than with conventional copper cables. A portable system, it mounts directly onto ENG/DSNG cameras to deliver both digital (601 SDI or uncompressed HDTV) and analog video. Superior transparency, bandwidth, and small cable size enable the delivery of signals up to 30 times the distance of ordinary coaxial or triaxial cable, with only one-tenth the weight.

Video Transmission System

Optelecom announced its completely self-contained MPEG-1 or MPEG-2 **compressed digital video transmission system.** A PC is not required with this system, although PCs equipped with readily available MPEG cards can be used to decode and display the video signal. The system accepts an analog NTSC or PAL video signal (with audio); compresses it into a digital video format; transmits it as a T1, E1, or ethernet over IP signal; decompresses the digital format; and converts it back to an analog video output that interfaces directly with a video monitor. T1 or E1 functionality is available as an option on the 9923/9933 encoder/decoder cards while ethernet over IP is provided by the 9940 IP NIC card, which interfaces with multiple encoder or decoder cards.

Optelecom also announced **SDI fiber transmission modules**. Comprised of a transmitter, receiver and transceiver, the modules accept serial digital data conforming to SMPTE 259M, 294M, and 305M standards at data rates up to 360 Mbits/sec. Versions are available for multimode fiber with transmission ranges up to 4 km and single mode with transmission to 71 km.

Optelecom, Inc., tel: (800) 293-4237; website: www.optelecom.com

Panasonic Broadcast & Professional, website: www.panasonic.com

Solid State Logic, tel: +44 (0) 1865 842300; website: www.solid-state-logic.com

Telecast Fiber Systems, Inc., tel: (508) 754-4858; website: www.telecast-fiber.com

Thales Components Corp., tel: (973) 812-3858; website: www.thalescomponents-us.com

Winsted Corp., tel: (952) 944-9050; website: www.winsted.com

ISO Secretary-General dies, aged 63

The ISO (International Organization for Standardization) announced the death of its Secretary-General, Dr. Lawrence D. Eicher, aged 63, in Geneva, Switzerland. An American citizen, Dr. Eicher held that position since May 1986. He will be remembered for his leading role in the thorough re-structuring of the organization during the 1990s, which saw the introduction of a business management model at the levels of both corporate governance and standards development. This organizational re-engineering was accompanied by a technical one, consisting of the passage from paper-based communication to one taking full advantage of information and communication technology infrastructures and applications to link ISO's national member institutes in more than 140 countries and to improve the efficiency of the standards-development work of its 186 technical committees.

Lawrence D. Eicher was born on November 3, 1938 in Colorado, USA. He received a doctorate in physical chemistry from Texas A&M University in 1972 and went to work for the National Science Foundation in Washington, DC. In 1974, he joined the USA's National Bureau of Standards (NBS—now the National Institute of Standards and Technology, NIST) and from then on remained in standardization, soon becoming involved at the international level. His international work included chairmanship of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Advisory Group on the ISO International Standards Information Network (ISONET), and membership of the ISONET Management Board. Appointed Director of the NBS Office of Engineering Standards in 1979, he represented NBS on the Board of Directors of ANSI and was a member of the ANSI International Standards Council. He was, therefore, already well known in international standardization when he joined ISO in 1980.