

# New Products

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Nova Systems time base corrector

A line of time base correctors has been introduced by Nova Systems, Inc., 50 Albany Turnpike, Canton, CT 06019. The battery-powered model 502 EFP, the 900S, which is designed for multiformat editing systems, and the 710S wideband time base corrector make up the line.

The model 502 is powered by a 12-V DC battery. The unit stabilizes the output of portable and camera dockable videocassette recorders to make the output suitable for field editing and transmission from remote locations. The model 900S has a repertoire of user-controllable digital effects, such as freeze, strobe, posterize, mosaic, and fade-to-black. It uses CCIR-601 standard, 4:2:2 component signal processing. The model 710S has a VTR-SC mode for videocassette recorders that accept an external subcarrier input. It processes S-VHS inputs at 5.5-MHz bandwidth, with a resolution of more than 440 lines.



Ampex SMC-200 slow-motion controller

The slow-motion controller, model SMC-200, from Ampex Corp., 401 Broadway, Redwood City, CA 94063-3199, is compatible with Betacam, Betacam SP, Type-C, D-2 composite digital, and 3/4-in. video systems. The master-slave architecture of the controller enables users to review a

multiple-camera shoot by playing back cues from several recorders in normal, slow-motion, or still-frame modes. With the SMC-200 connected to individual videotape recorders, a multiple machine installation can be configured to assign any single machine as master to control the remaining slave machines.

Also new from Ampex is a still-store system. Model ESS™ 5T is designed for telecine rooms to simplify transferring between video formats. The software-driven system automatically selects the video standard by the incoming signal source. It can store up to 200 frames of video in NTSC format or 160 frames in PAL. Off-line storage is achieved with either a tape streamer or 5 1/4-in. optical disks. The ESS 5T has an off-line library that allows users to search for images not currently stored on-line or within the system.



Sony SNS-1000 still-store system

A digital networked still store, from Sony Corp. of America, 9 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019, can store 1600 still images on a transportable 12-in. write-once-read-many (WORM) disk and 400 images on a 5.25-in. rewritable optical disk. It has a WORM disk jukebox and a 50-disk automatic changer that provides 80,000 still images on-line. The model DNS-1000 has a separate chassis for each user, ensuring reliability through distributed electronic components. The chassis are linked through an Ethernet™ network, which allows each user access to the other's stills. The still store uses a mouse-and-menu control. Choosing and sequencing the images can be accomplished by pointing with the mouse. All images are stored in the CCIR-601 4:2:2 component digital format. If the signal enters the still store as composite or component analog, it is transformed into high-quality digital.

A new line of video graphics products is available from Quantel, 655 Washington Blvd., Stamford, CT 06901. The Paintbox V-Series is smaller and faster than the original Paintbox series, with expanded features and capabilities, including a zoom facility for retouching fine detail, a fully integrated key channel, and digital



Quantel Paintbox V-Series

ports — all accessed via a cordless pen. The original Paintbox on-screen menu and palette operating system remain unchanged. The model VI is intended for presentation graphics, storyboards, and original illustrations. The VR retouching system adds RGB and digital inputs for grabbing video frames. The VA configuration adds cel and sequence animation. At the top of the line is the VE effects unit, which includes special hardware for the calculation of true perspective and french curves in near real time.



Panasonic AK-450 analog camera

A digital signal-processing camera was introduced by Panasonic Broadcast Systems Co., One Panasonic Way, Secaucus, NJ 07094. The model AQ-20 uses three 400,000-pixel frame interline transfer CCD image sensors to achieve a picture of more than 750 lines of resolution and a signal-to-noise ratio of more than 60 dB. The digital design of the camera allows centralized control, setting, and memorization. The camera is compact and weighs just over 7 lb without the recorder and lens. Vertical smear is minimal; light sensitivity is  $f/5.6$  at 2000 lx. A variable speed electronic shutter has six settings, from  $1/100$  to  $1/2000$ .

Also from Panasonic is a dockable analog camera. The model AK-450 uses 2/3-in. CCD chips with 450,000 pixels. It has a resolution of more than 800 lines, a signal-to-noise ratio of 62 dB, and a vertical smear of  $-105$  dB. Features include dynamic highlight compression, black stretch, and shading correction. The camera has five electronic shutter speeds from  $1/60$  to  $1/2000$ . It comes with an  $f/1.4$  prism with quartz filter.

A studio videotape recorder has been introduced by Panasonic. The model AU-60 features a built-in time base corrector,

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color framing, an SMPTE/EBU time code generator/reader, 32-character fluorescent display LED, complete editing functions, audio split editing, manual tape-speed override, REC inhibit display LED, RS-422 serial control, and an optional S-VHS input/output.

**An HDTV test-signal generator** has been introduced by Magni Systems, Inc., 9500 SW Gemini Dr., Beaverton, OR 97005. The model 2030 computer-assisted generator allows users to define, preview, and generate signals for whichever HDTV specifications they require, in *GBR* or color-difference formats. Step-through menus allow a range of signal parameters to be specified from scratch or modified from those of an existing signal. Three channels of sync information, either bi- or trilevel, are provided.

**A video graphics encoder** was introduced by Magni. The 4004S genlockable encoder provides software-based support for S-VHS and other *Y/C*-based systems. It expands the capabilities of the previous models 4004 and 4005, with separate graphics-only output of *Y* and *C* channels. Amiga graphics can be recorded on S-VHS and similar tape machines with compatible output.

**A switcher control system**, the model BCS-3000, has been introduced by Broadcast Television Systems, Inc., 2300 South 2300 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84119. The system uses local area network (LAN) techniques to connect machine control panels to videotape recorders, telecine systems, and other equipment designed for RS-4:2:2 control. It has only one "backbone" coax cable for both switcher and machine control. Soft-key control panels provide interactive operation and flexible assignment of push-button functions. The BCS-3000 controller has color video-status displays and connects to manufacturer's station automation systems and master control switchers.

Also from BTS is a **video/audio distribution switcher**. The model TVS/TAS-3000 provides a video bandwidth of more than 50 MHz, measured with a full-amplitude sine wave or video signal. A single 19-in. high chassis has up to 160 inputs with 20 outputs, or 70 inputs with 40 outputs. Additional chassis can be added as needed.

**A line of video production switchers** by Sony Corp. of America, 9 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019, marks the company's entry into the switcher business. The model DME-450 has three inputs and offers a range of digital effects devices, such as compression and expansion of images, rotating images, creation of three-dimensional effects, and modifying the perspective of the images on the screen. The model BVS-1100 weighs just 17 lb and can run on batteries. The models



*Sony BVS-3100 and BVS-3200C switchers*

BVS-3100, BVS-3200, and BVS-3200C complete the line. The products vary in the number of inputs, wipe patterns, internally generated color mattes, and the maximum number of effects layers that can be achieved at the output of the switcher.

**Two high-resolution video monitors** have been introduced by Sony. The models PVM-1944Q and PVM-1942Q are both 19-in. monitors with multiple inputs. The model PVM-1942Q has line A, line B, VTR/S-video and analog/digital *RGB* inputs; the PVM-1944Q has lines A and B, VTR/S-video and analog *RGB* component inputs. Both monitors feature SMPTE Type-C phosphors, 600 lines of resolution, internal and external synchronization, and gain and bias controls on the front panel.



*Accom digital decoding system*

**A digital decoding system**, the D-Bridge 221, is available from Accom, Inc., 1430-F O'Brien Dr., Menlo Park, CA 94025. The system uses frame-based three-dimensional adaptive decoding to convert signals from NTSC D-2 and RS-170A to D-1. The three-dimensional process eliminates cross luminance and cross chrominance artifacts; prefiltering in the encoding process is not necessary. The decoding system has 10-bit resolution of its digital and analog inputs and outputs.

**A video workstation** has been introduced by Pinnacle Systems, 2380 Walsh Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95051. The Prizm™ is an integrated, software-based workstation. The optional Prizm digital optics software, designed specifically for the workstation, has  $\frac{1}{32}$ -subpixel motion resolution, true three-dimensional perspective, rotation, warp, and curvilinear effects. It allows the user to specify three levels of movement — source, object, and global — instead of the usual two levels. The Prizm program is well suited for fixing a scene in post-production. Picture expansion is virtually undetectable at extremely slow speeds. The optics option is one of a series of modules for the workstation.

To expand the capabilities of its video workstation, Pinnacle Systems has agreed

with Seehorn Technologies, Inc., to incorporate Seehorn's **desktop preproduction and editing products** into the workstation. With this combination, the production process can begin on the producer's desk with scripting, budgeting, storyboarding, shot listing, and other planning tools. The Seehorn editing capabilities include pictorial-based editing with cataloging, paper cut, and first-cut editing. An edit decision list that runs on any Pinnacle video workstation or the standard CMX-compatible edit decision list is generated.

**Software for multigeneration recording**, new from Ampex Corp., 401 Broadway, Redwood City, CA 94063-3199, improves the quality of recordings made on composite analog equipment. M-Gen, designed for the Ampex VPR-300 studio videotape recorder, allows users to preview the effects of various video settings for up to 20 generations and to correct the minute setup errors created by analog video systems. These potential problems are identified and eliminated before they would be recorded on tape. An error of only 1% in black level can escalate to a 20% error by the 20th generation recording. When the M-Gen software is activated, the VPR-300 displays 20 generations of a test signal in real time. Once the accumulated errors are visible, the setup parameters can be adjusted to minimize the degree of variance between the first and twentieth generations. The M-Gen system can also be used to test and correct errors in other studio equipment by sending the VPR-300 M-Gen output through a routing switcher before it is recorded on the VPR-300. For example, system errors in equalization or differential gain and phase can be corrected this way.



*Hitachi VL-D500 video player*

**A new videocassette player**, the VL-D500, is available from Hitachi Denshi America, Ltd., 175 Crossways Park West, Woodbury, NY 11797. The player's advanced LSI circuitry eliminates image deterioration in the editing process, even after 20 generations. The machine plays all three cassette sizes automatically for up to 208 min. A shuttle speed of  $\pm 60\times$  normal speed makes editing very fast. A menu-based diagnostics system is built into the player, and an on-screen display function allows operator and diagnostic information to be displayed on the monitor. The

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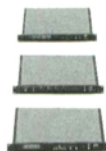
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film formats and video systems of today and tomorrow. Sondor technology is a world of unlimited options: the modular design provides optimal flexibility and versatility. Sondor's highly qualified specialists will evaluate, design and install a ready-to-go studio-system to suit your individual requirements - with a complete system warranty.



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lightweight player occupies seven rack units in a standard 19-in. rack.

Also new from Hitachi is an **HDTV videotape recorder/player system**. The HV-1200 system is composed of the HV-T1200 tape transport unit and the HV-P1200 processor unit. It conforms to the SMPTE 240M 1125/60 studio standard for high-definition television and complies with NHK guidelines. With cross-shaped, multilayered amorphous heads and metal tape, the system can transfer data at a rate of 1188 Mbits/sec. Video quality is maintained through a sampling frequency of 74.25 MHz and 8-bit quantization. Long recording and playback time is achieved with a single 14-in. reel that accommodates up to 96 min of picture and sound data. Digital signal processing allows both slow playback and shuttle monitor functions.



*Hitachi rear-projection display*

A line of **high-definition rear-projection display units** has been introduced by Hitachi Denshi America, Ltd., 175 Crossways Park West, Woodbury, NY 11797. The seven systems are intended for applications such as medical education and training, where larger-than-life images of realistic quality are needed. The projectors can display NTSC composite video, *RGB*, and HDTV 1125/60 Hz. The model C110"-5000R has aspect ratios of 5:3 or 4:3 and a 1280-dot $\times$ 1000-line resolution. It has a 40-fL brightness level for use in conventionally illuminated rooms. The C66"-4500R and the C54"-3500R each have an aspect ratio of 16:9 and are designed for high-definition presentation. These displays have a black-stripe screen for high-contrast viewing.

A line of **digital video processing products** has been introduced by Microtime, Inc., 1280 Blue Hills Ave., Bloomfield, CT 06002. The Genesis Act 3 digital video effects system offers simultaneous rotation and perspective and a range of other effects. The system is available in NTSC, 625-line PAL, and 525-line PAL standards.

The **AB roll-effects system** accepts in-

puts from virtually any videotape recorder. Simultaneous outputs of composite, component, and S-VHS are standard. Each channel has a framestore memory to produce an extensive range of dual-channel transition effects. Event memories allow the user to develop preprogrammed effects for future recall.

The **TX3 format interchange time base corrector (FIT)** and the lower-cost TX4 time base corrector use a full frame of memory and accommodate extended bandwidth videotape recorder formats. Both models are offered with optional remote control which adds many single-channel transition effects to the basic time base corrector.

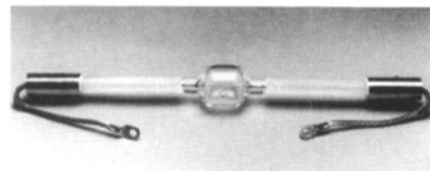
A **graphics software package** has been introduced by Cubicomp Corp., 21325 Cabot Blvd., Hayward, CA 94545. The Auto-Paint package accepts live video, then applies filters to give the images a hand-painted look. A variety of styles and mediums can be replicated. Users can set up a fully automated sequence to queue a videotape, specify the effects to be used, and run the program. This enables the rendering operation to run unattended. The package is offered as a stand-alone graphics system or as an add-on software package for the PictureMaker<sup>®</sup> three-dimensional graphics system.



*Videocassette quality-control station by Dwight Cavendish Co.*

A **quality-control station for videocassettes** is available from Dwight Cavendish Co., 2117 Chestnut Ave., Wilmette, IL 60091. The Copymaster performs a range of quality checks at the rate of 400 cassettes/hr. The station has a control panel from which the operator can monitor color video picture, video waveform, RF envelope, high-fidelity RF envelope, linear audio, and high-fidelity audio. The control panel has five-function remote control of slave videocassette recorders, including master eject. A sequence hold/eject function allows the operator to hold the automatic sequencing cycle for closer scrutiny of a suspect cassette, then to eject an indi-

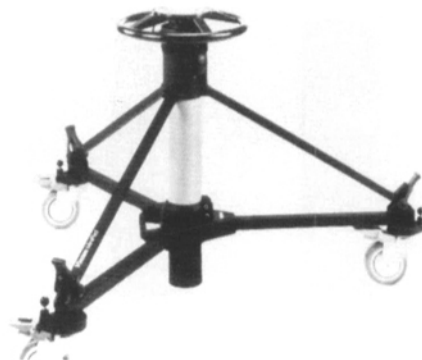
vidual defective cassette. The station includes a 13-in. monitor and VU meters for audio level evaluation. A built-in speaker provides monaural audio listening; ear-phones are used for stereo evaluation.



*GTE studio lamp*

A **high-output studio lamp** has been introduced by GTE Electrical Products, 100 Endicott St., Danvers, MA 01923. The 6000-W BriteArc<sup>™</sup> lamp produces 570,000 lm and has an average rated life of 300 hr. It is designed for use in Fresnel-type fixtures which accept HMI lamps.

A **new line of motion-picture film** has been introduced by Fuji Photo Film U.S.A., Inc., 555 Taxter Rd., Elmsford, NY 10523. The F-series films deliver fine-grain with high definition, sharpness, and true-to-life color reproduction under a variety of lighting conditions. All of the films in this line are composed of three layers, which are sensitive to red, green, and blue light respectively, plus a protective layer, a yellow-filter layer, and an antihalation layer all coated on a clear safety base. The film has excellent inter-negative matching and intercutting capabilities even with blue matte work. It is also well suited to film-to-tape conversion. A low-fading cyan coupler allows high-quality printing more than 100 years after processing.



*Vinten studio pedestal*

A **pneumatic pedestal**, from Vinten Broadcast, Inc., 275-C Marcus Blvd., Hauppauge, NY 11788-2001, is designed specifically for the new lightweight cameras. The Vision pedestal is portable, yet can support 44 lb. A telescopic column has an operating range from 25 to 58 in. and detaches from the base for easy storing and carrying. Other features include a self-charging system and castoring wheels with fixed tracking facility, independent brakes, and cable guards. The pedestal is also available without track lock and cable guards.