

Harmonic to Acquire Entone Technologies' Video Networking Software Business

Harmonic Inc. has announced that it has entered into an agreement to acquire the video networking software business of Entone Technologies, Inc., a privately-held company based in San Mateo, CA, with research and development facilities in Hong Kong. The Entone software solutions—encompassing content ingest, distributed content management, and video streaming—facilitate the provisioning of personalized video services, including video-on-demand (VOD), network personal video recording (nPVR), time-shifted television, and targeted advertisement insertion. By combining Harmonic's industry-leading video headend, edge, and access network solutions with Entone's on-demand software, Harmonic will be able to provide cable, satellite, and telco/IPTV service providers an advanced and uniquely integrated delivery system for the next generation of both broadcast and personalized IP-delivered video services.

ANSI Announces Improved Search Engine for Standards

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI), coordinator of the U.S. voluntary consensus standardization system, has launched a new version of its NSSN vertical search engine for national, foreign, regional, and international standards and regulatory documents. Major enhancements include additional content; a streamlined, user-friendly design; greater speed; improved search functionality; and results filtering and display options.

First launched in 1997, the NSSN: A National Resource for Global Standards (<http://www.nssn.org>) is a cooperative partnership between ANSI, U.S. private-sector standards organizations, government agencies, and international standards organizations. The site has become the leading provider of technical data and information about developments in the global standardization arena. The redesign was based on extensive consumer research to make it easier to find standards and related documents and to identify points of contact for standards developing organizations.

Simple and advanced search options assist users in searching for standards by title, document number, key word, or developer. More than 270,000 records are indexed, with links to download the documents from the ANSI electronic Standards Store (www.webstore.ansi.org) or from other standards developers or resellers. Users can also create and

manage customized user-profile accounts to monitor updates on standards activities in areas of personal interest.

Technology & Engineering Emmy Awards to be Presented at International CES

The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS) has announced that the Technology & Engineering Emmy Awards ceremony, for the first time, will be the opening night event for the International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) on Monday, January 8, 2007, in Las Vegas.

NATAS will add two new Technology & Engineering Emmy Award categories, marking the first time the Emmy Awards will honor the use of Advanced Media Technology in advertising. The new Emmy Awards will be given for "outstanding innovation and achievement in Advance Media Technology for best use by commercials," one award for personal media display and presentation technology and one for non-traditional platforms, including broadband, the internet, video-on-demand, computer-based media players that are not personal media devices.

The Technology & Engineering Emmy Awards will be presented for achievements that occur May 1, 2005 to April 30, 2006 in two areas: Science & Technology for Television, which includes broadcast, cable, and satellite distribution, and Advanced Media Technology encompassing interactive television, gaming technology, and, for the first time this year, internet, cellphones, private networks, and personal media players.

Last year, the awards were presented at a ceremony in Princeton, NJ.



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Thomson Continues Momentum for North American Digital Cinema Plan

Reinforcing its global leadership in digital cinema, Thomson, through its Technicolor Digital Cinema business, announced it has reached a strategic agreement with National Amusements, Inc., a world leader in the motion picture exhibition industry operating more than 1,500 screens in the U.S., U.K., Latin America, and Russia, to install and maintain digital cinema systems in National Amusements-owned and operated screens, in line with Digital Cinema Initiatives, LLC (DCI) specifications.

The agreement calls for Technicolor Digital Cinema, as part of its previously-announced beta test, to place state-of-the-art digital projection equipment in 14 National Amusements sites, reaching 120 screens located in select areas nationwide, including the Boston, Los Angeles, and New York markets. The installations began at the new Cinema de Lux 14: The Greene in Dayton, Ohio, which opened on August 25, 2006.

The addition of National Amusements to Technicolor Digital Cinema's beta test, and its growing roster of top-10 exhibitors, is significant as the circuit comprises in the U.S., 1,066 state-of-the-art screens in high-traffic venues. The agreement with National Amusements is part of Thomson's broader rollout of complete digital projection systems in up to 5,000 screens over the next 3 to 4 years. Thomson intends to equip at least 15,000 screens in the U.S. and Canada, through the initial rollout and additional phases, over the next 10 years.

UTU Telecom World 2006

ITU Telecom World 2006, a leading global Information Communication Technology (ICT) event, will be held in Hong Kong, China, from December 4 to 8, 2006. This is the first

time that this event is will be held away from its traditional home in Geneva. Top names from the world's major ICT companies, including Cisco Systems, Microsoft, Ericsson, Fujitsu, Intel, Alcatel, HP, Qualcomm, Samsung, Toshiba, Siemens, and Motorola, and key policy makers, regulators, and industry visionaries will come together to discuss new thinking and ideas for the future growth of ICT.

Under this year's theme, "Living the Digital World," the event will explore the concept of shared digital resources for access to the vast wealth of the world's knowledge, culture, education, and learning. ITU Telecom World '06 will focus on the technologies, companies, and organizations that are driving this concept forward. The event will encompass a dynamic exhibition; a business-centered telecom village; a content-rich Forum, including a youth forum; a telecommunication development symposium; plus a host of networking opportunities and events. Mirroring the theme of the event will be the "Digital Life Theatre," a dedicated stage where futuristic visions of the digital world will be presented.

Reflecting the global scope of the event, some 600 exhibitors from across the world are expected to take part, along with up to 50,000 trade visitors from some 160 countries and 2,000 VIPs from 150 countries.

Quantum Completes Acquisition of Advanced Digital Information Corp.

Quantum Corp. has completed its acquisition of Advanced Digital Information Corp., creating a global storage company specializing in backup, recovery and archive solutions. With the close of the acquisition, Quantum will provide customers of all sizes with a comprehensive range of innovative products and services designed to meet their current and future data protection and retention needs. The combination is also expected to expand Quantum's market access.

New Products

Encoder

Harmonic Inc. has introduced the DiviCom Electra 5400, a third-generation MPEG-4 AVC (H.264) standard-definition (SD) encoder. Delivering up to four full-resolution SD channels in a one rack-unit package, as well as simultaneous low-resolution content for picture-in-picture (PiP), mobile video services, or other applications, the Electra 5400 is ideal for massive deployments of telco/IPTV, satellite, and DVB-T services. The Electra 5400 utilizes Harmonic's advanced processing engine to provide best-in-class picture quality and sets a new standard for bandwidth efficiency in SD H.264 with bit rates more than 30% lower than H.264 encoders deployed today. In addition, the density of the Electra 5400 allows operators to minimize the number of systems required in the headend infrastructure, thereby reducing capital and operating expenditures.

DVD Player

Axon has introduced a new version of the popular 9 widescreen portable DVD player, the AXN-6090A. The newly designed unit includes a SD card slot allowing viewers to show photos (jpeg format) from digital cameras or play MP3-formatted music on the card. The integrated USB port provides access for music or photos stored on USB flash drives. The AXN-6090A can also display broadcast or cable television with an optional TV tuner that is sold separately. Key features include high brightness/contrast TFT LCD screens; wide screen (16:9 aspect ratio); SD card slot/USB 1.1 port; remote control stereo speakers w/headphone jack; supports DVD, CD, and MP3 data; and three power options (rechargeable battery, wall plug, or car adaptor).

Memory Drive

Panasonic has announced the AJ-PCD20 five-slot P2 solid-state memory drive, giving users the flexibility of using either the USB 2.0 or the IEEE 1394b (S800) interface for high-speed file transfer of 25 Mbit/sec DVCPRO, 50 Mbit/sec DVCPRO50, or 100 Mbit/sec DVCPRO HD into nonlinear