

New Products

Digital Cinema Solution

Sony has unveiled a complete digital cinema solution including a newly developed media block and the Sony screen management system. These new technologies, when combined with Sony's Silicon X-tal Reflective Display (SXRD) 4k projector and packaged in a FIPS 140 enclosure, provide an all-in-one package for displaying both 2k and 4k content at the highest high-definition video resolution levels available. The Sony system is also compliant with all of the specifications of Digital Cinema Initiatives (DCI) for digital motion picture projection. The new media block, model LMT-100, is a combined server and decoder that contains all the components required to ingest, decode, and play digital content. Specific functions include JPEG2000 decoding, security key management, extraction of audio and visual images from MXF files, alpha channel insertion for subtitles, and audio and image watermarking. The media block also features 16 audio channels. It can be connected to generic Redundant Array of Independent Disk (RAID) storage units.

Projectors

Panasonic has introduced the PT-DW5000 and its selectable lens (without lens) version PT-DW5000L, two widescreen one-chip, mid-to-large venue DLP projectors. With a high brightness of 4,500 lumens and a WXGA (1280 x 768) resolution, the PT-DW5000 and PT-DW5000L are equipped with new Texas Instruments' high-contrast, one-chip DLP subsystem and Panasonic's completely sealed, dust-proof, liquid-cooled optics. They also feature high-speed digital signal processing with 16-bit color depth for wider dynamic range and more film-like images, dynamic sharpness control, and progressive cinema scan (3:2 pull down) capabilities. The units can project on screens from 50 in. to 600 in., are less than 7 in. (178mm) high, and weigh 32 lb (14.5 kg). Other standard benefits include DVI-D (HDCP compliant) selectable nine-language on-screen menu, easy lens, and dust filter replacement.

Router

NVision has launched the NV8288 digital video router, specifically designed for use in video production trucks and other applications where space is limited. The NV8288 delivers the same level of performance as large-scale studio routers at half the size (10 RU), half the depth (12 in. deep), half the weight (approximately 150 lb.), and half the power consumption (less than 2 kW) of other large-scale routers. All modules in the NV8288, including power supplies and cooling fans are front-serviceable and hot-swappable. Running at data rates



The FlightStrata HD from LightPointe.

up to 1.5 Gbits/sec, the NV8288 is engineered to be 3 Gbit/sec-capable for future signal formats such as 1080P HD. Built for HD, the NV8288 supports all standard SD data rates, and is ASI-compliant. The basic NV8288 can be configured for systems ranging in size from 12 x 12 up to 288 x 576. The NV8288 Plus offers the same I/O block size, but is expandable with a second frame to 576 x 576.

Server System

Harris Corp. has announced the launch of NEXIO XS, modular transmission server system, which offers standard- and high-definition (SD/HD) support, integrated, "agile" software codecs with an extensive range of compression formats and back-to-back DV/MPEG playout—all in a single, 3-rack unit (3RU) frame. NEXIO XS features all-software codec technology, integrated editing applications, and front-panel access to drives. The server system connects to the NEXIO storage area network (SAN), providing broadcasters with a streamlined infrastructure for producing, processing, distributing, and managing SD and HD content. It provides an extensive range of I/O types, integrated applications support and encode options, including long-GOP MPEG-2 at SD and HD resolutions, DV25, DV50, and IMX.

Waveform Monitors

Tektronix has introduced the WFM6100 and the WFM7000 series waveform monitors. The SD-capable WFM6100 multi-format waveform monitor offers high-performance monitoring and measurement capabilities for systems using composite analog video and SD digital video formats. The HD-capable WFM7000 and WFM7100 help to manage hybrid HD/SD/composite video systems. The WFM7000 addresses basic monitoring needs, while the WFM7100 has additional capabilities for high-performance monitoring and measurement. Available options include support for monitoring digital audio, both embedded and discreet AES/EBU inputs, and analog audio formats. The WFM6100 and WFM7100 also offer options for Dolby audio monitoring, high-performance SDI signal measurement, and in-depth digital data analysis. All units provide an integrated high-resolution XGA.

Wireless Solution

LightPointe has introduced the FlightStrata HD, a high-bandwidth, wireless solution for meeting high-definition television (HDTV) requirements, including the delivery of realtime, remote HDTV-quality broadcast video and audio feeds. The FlightStrata HD transmits uncompressed HDTV signals wirelessly at full-duplex throughput of 1.485 Gbits/sec. An optical wireless product based on free space optics (FSO) technology, the FlightStrata HD uses beams of light for sending high-quality, realtime HDTV video streams at recommended distances up to 750 m between a remote HDTV camera and production studio facility or remote satellite truck. It is fully

compatible with the HDTV serial digital interface (HD-SDI) transmission industry standard (SMPTE-292M). The system also incorporates multibeam transmission, auto tracking, optical beam shaping (OBS) and automatic power control (APC).

Harris Corp., www.harris.com

LightPointe, www.lightpointe.com

NVision, www.nvision.tv

Panasonic, www.panasonic.com/projectors

Sony, www.sony.com

Tektronix, www.tektronix.com

Obituaries

J. Creighton Douglas, a Life Member, passed away on February 6, 2006. He was 81 years old.

Sigmund J. Jacobs, 93, a SMPTE Life Fellow and an internationally recognized authority on explosives with the Naval Surface Warfare Center, died Feb. 25 of pneumonia at the Sunrise assisted living facility in Silver Spring, MD.

Jacobs joined the White Oak laboratory of the warfare center, then located in Silver Spring, in the late 1940s. He held a number of positions at the weapons research facility, including technical coordinator of the program that developed the Trident missile. His expertise was in explosives and propellants, and he helped develop an important equation that is still used to predict the results of detonations. He was one of the founders of the International Detonation Symposium, which has been held every four years since 1966.

When he retired in the late 1980s, Jacobs was senior research scientist at the White Oak facility. In 1998, the detonation science facility at the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Indian Head was named in his honor.

Jacobs was born in Minneapolis and received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering in 1933 and a master's degree in physical chemistry in 1952, both from the University of Minnesota. He received a doctorate in physics from the Van der Waals-Zeeman Institute for Experimental Physics in Amsterdam in 1953.

SMPTE has recently learned of the passing of **Yet Fai Lee**, a Life Member. A member of the Hong Kong Section since 1993, Lee passed away in Clifford, China, on June 5, 2005.



Richard J. Stumpf

SMPTE Life Fellow and motion picture and television veteran, Richard J. Stumpf, passed away on February 2. He was 79.

In 1998, Stumpf retired after 29 years with Universal Studios, where he was senior vice-president of engineering and development. Prior to that he was director of sound and electronics, managing the sound department for 14 years. He was co-inventor on two patents while at Universal.

Early in his career Stumpf worked at NBC for 10 years and for 7 years with RCA, specializing in television engineering. Between these assignments he was in aerospace for 3 years working on the first man in space program, Project Mercury. Stumpf had been a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences since 1970. He served on the Scientific and Technical Awards Committee for 23 years, its Science and Technology Council since its founding, and chaired the Council's Technology History Subcommittee. He was recognized with two Academy Awards for technical contributions and the Academy Medal of Commendation in 1992.

Stumpf served the Society in many capacities, including five terms on the Board of Governors. From 1984 to 1991 he co-chaired the high-definition SMPTE Working Group that wrote the 1125/60 production standard. He was also an active member on the SMPTE Board of Editors. Stumpf received the Samuel L. Warner Memorial Medal Award in 1986 and the SMPTE Presidential Proclamation award in 1997. In 1998 he received the NATO Lifetime Achievement Award. He also served as CTO Emeritus of the Entertainment Technology Center at USC.

Stumpf is survived by his wife of 48 years, Paula, sons Derrick and Andrew, daughters Elisabeth and Barbara, and their families including six grandchildren.

