

SECTION MEETINGS



New York January 2015

The January New York Section meeting titled, “IP-Based Facilities for Content Creators,” was produced by John Cerquone, CER-TEC Incorporated and Ryan Dismukes, New York University, with speakers Fred Huffman, Huffman Technical Services; Ken Morse, Cisco Systems; Hugo Gaggioni, Sony Professional AV Products; and John, Mailhot, Imagine Communications.

Fred Huffman began by presenting a program overview, the scope of the program, and speaker introductions. The program scope and speaker presentations vectored off the November *SMPTE Newswatch* column, which covered Internet protocol (IP) facilities for content creators.

Television formats and carriage mechanisms including analog to digital, standard definition (SD) to high definition (HD) and such, are constantly evolving. The panel of experts explored the details of how television production moves into the next frontier—the use of Ethernet/IP to transport, switch, and process signals in IP packets instead of the traditional serial digital signal format.

Cisco affirmed its commitment to supporting product versions of standards-based Ethernet switching and IP routing required for content production.

Sony presented information about the development of a new large-scale integration chip that will form the core of a multi-function, multiport, multigigabit network node, based on SMPTE 2022 and SMPTE 2059 (with proposed extensions) to accommodate new and innovative features and functionality that fully emulate traditional standard serial digital functions and capabilities.

Imagine Communications presented a detailed briefing on software-defined network (SDN) technology, including a definition of its origins and potential uses in live content production, and current sources of various elements such as open flow software, open stack, and open daylight initiatives. Imagine also described its approach



The New York Section's January meeting speakers: (L-R) Fred Huffman, Hugo Gaggioni, and John Mailhot.

to Orchestration or System Management and various alternatives to migrating from serial digital interface to Ethernet /IP.

With more than 115 members and guests in attendance, it is believed that this event marked a recent record attendance for the New York Section. Several attendees commented that they came to get “down-to-earth,” factual, current information about the state of development and future deployment and migration of content creation facilities from traditional serial digital technology to Ethernet/IP.

Thanks to Cisco Systems, New York office for hosting the first of the New York Monthly Section meeting program series. A video of the meeting is available at <http://smpteny.org/videos>.—Bruce Follmer, Section Chair

New York February 2015

The B&H Photo Video Training facility in New York City was the site of the New York Section meeting on 25 February, where trends in light-emitting diode video lighting were discussed by four brand leaders in the technology; ARRI, Inc., Lowel-Light (Tiffen, Inc.), Lightpanels (the Vitec Group) and Fiilex.

The meeting was organized and moderated by Douglas I. Sheer, chief executive officer and chief analyst of D.I.S. Consulting Corp., of Woodstock, NY—publishers of “Video Lighting World 2015” and “Digital

Cinematography World 2015.” Sheer is a Governor of the SMPTE New York Region and a past chair of the Section.

Each company provided a representative to both demonstrate and present a Power-Point focused on its respective options for LED lighting. The training meeting room in which the Power Point presentations were provided, accommodated the 105 guests in attendance. Presenters included John Gresch, ARRI, Inc.; Brian Chiang, DiCon Lighting (Fiilex); Eric Druker, Tiffen (Lowel-Light); and Pat Grosswendt, Vitec Group (Litepanels). The audience was composed of both members and nonmembers and refreshments were generously provided by B&H.

The event was organized to focus on addressing the latest technology used in professional LED video lighting. The representatives from the four leading brands, demonstrated products during the meet-and-greet period, and then took to the



Douglas I. Sheer, New York Section's February meeting organizer and moderator.



podium to make their PowerPoint presentations. They also joined Sheer in a panel discussion that ranged from the practicalities of LED lighting usage and its benefits to the concerns that some users have about the safety and the efficacy of LEDs. The benefits highlighted by Sheer and the presenters included lower power requirements, cool running temperatures, longer-lasting units, and dependable settings.

Each of the four manufacturers provided product demonstrations of current LED lighting in which they showed products ranging from portable kits, to on-camera units, to ceiling grid-mounted instruments.—Bruce Follmer, Section Chair

New York March 2015

The New York Section meeting on 18 March was held at the Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC). The event, which covered digital media asset management (DMAM), was hosted by



Photo Courtesy: Mark Forman Productions, Corp.

The New York Section's March Meeting at BMCC.

John Gallagher, director, media center at BMCC with the help of several students.

The meeting was produced by Warren Singer, Video Technology Resources, Inc., and Sara Kudrle, Grass Valley, a Belden Brand, and attracted 110 attendees and featured 5 speakers, and sponsors, who each provided their company's view on DMAM.

Attendees discovered at the meeting that DMAM has a wide range of definitions and the solutions can be quite varied.

The first speaker, Luc Comeau, Sr. business development discussed "Metadata as an Enabler." He reviewed the value of rich metadata and the need for universal connectors for media.

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Speakers at the New York Section meeting in March: (L-R) Luc Comeau, Patrick Macdonald-King, David Miller, Ed Casaccia, and Arun Krishnaswamy.

Next, David Miller, chief operating officer at Empress, presented, “Distributed Media Asset Management” discussing concerns including asset management; cloud challenges, security, the last mile, costs and access. Asset management has to overcome all of these obstacles daily.

Ed Casaccia, senior segment manager at Grass Valley, a Belden Brand, discussed,

“Bringing the Newsroom to the Field.” Casaccia led attendees through the day of a news person in the field and gathered some laughs with, “The news is not in the newsroom...and if it is, the producer is having a very bad day!” He explained that asset management is essential for remote production to handle assets that are remote or local to the newsroom.

Patrick Macdonald-King, president, Prime Focus Technologies then presented “An Enterprise-Class Cloud Media ERP Solution, Developed from an Internal Collaboration Solution.” Macdonald-King focused on catalysts in the industry that are driving asset management in the cloud, such as bandwidth, 4G, IPADs, and other personal video devices.

Finally, Arun Krishnaswamy, director of technology—Viz One, Vizrt, Inc. presented, “Internal versus Outside Access: Designing a MAM system that Caters to Both.” Krishnaswamy described a distributed approach to asset management and warned of security issues and hard shell, soft kernel solutions.

The meeting closed with a lively Q&A session and all presenters were given plaques for their contributions. The entire session was video-recorded by students, who also helped with logistics and check-in. A video of the meeting is available at <http://smptt-eny.org/videos>.—Sara Kudrle, Meeting Producer

Toronto February 2015

A capacity crowd of 75 members attended the meeting at Ryerson University on 10 February, to learn about transporting ultrahigh-definition (UHDTV) over Internet protocol (IP) networks. After refreshments, provided by Sony, the meeting began with opening remarks from Section Chair Paul Briscoe.

Jack Douglass from PacketStorm began the presentations discussing the history and activities of the Video Services Forum (VSF), then the current and future testing methodology used in the interoperability workshops. These workshops confirm that equipment from different manufacturers will work together when connected via IP networks, using the SMPTE 2022-5, -6, and -7 and ST 2059 standards. Various tests for forward error correction, packet delay variation, burst drop, latency, packet jitter, and bit error rate were explained, using the scenarios of basic testing with no impairments, test studio environment with impairments, and test wide area network environment with impairments.



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More than 75 members and guests attended the Toronto Section meeting in February.

The second presenter, Gael Rouvroy, chief technology officer at IntoPIX, joined the group via a Go To Meeting link from Amsterdam. He started by presenting and expanding on the three facts of 4K IP Live Production: UHDTV needs more video bandwidth, we live in a serial digital interface (SDI) world, and broadcast facilities are moving to IP. Rouvroy spoke about 1 Gigabit Ethernet (GbE) and 10 GbE stating the affordable ports, SMPTE 2022, 2022-5 and 6 video over IP standards evolution, and that

4K cannot fit into 10 GbE. He emphasized the need to lightly compress 4K to fit in a single 10 GbE cable, which IntoPIX does with TICO: low complexity of implementation with low compression ratio, no compromise on latency, and visual quality to transport UHDTV. Rouvroy explained the technology, standardization, implementation, quality analysis used, and next steps for TICO.

Hugo Gaggioni, was scheduled as the last presenter, however, he was he unable to at-

tend the meeting due to travel delays. His presentation, titled "AV over IP for Live Production" was delivered by Ellen Heine of Sony. Heine spoke about the merging of the SDI and IP worlds in production, and the practical considerations and workflow efficiencies of an IP solution. In an outside broadcast van IP solution, a cable weight reduction of 85% could be realized over a conventional SDI-based system. Heine expanded about the requirements and challenges of an audiovisual (AV) over IP system, touching on signal processing in a networked media interface, redundancy, network synchronization, and system management, to ensure dynamic quality of service. Standards considered appropriate for IP Live Production included SMPTE 2022-6 and -7, as well as ST 2059-1 and -2, with a proposal for frame boundary-aware FEC to prevent transmission errors. The goal for IP production solutions is not only to connect components within a facility, but also to connect facilities themselves.—Reid Robertson, Manager at Large

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