

Philadelphia September 2022

The Philadelphia SMPTE Section held its first live meeting and event since 2020 on 22 September. The event was a huge success, bringing together students from local universities and young professionals in the field to meet Philadelphia SMPTE members, see broadcast technology in action, and learn about job opportunities.

WPVI engineering staff, including Christopher Silva, executive director of technology, Michael Amato, chief engineer, and Marc Bress, engineering manager, assisted in welcoming SMPTE members. They explained facility details, answering questions about their line of work, describing the use of news trucks in the field, and presenting their very compact expandable remote truck, which has been used for Philadelphia Union, Mummers Parade, Phillies, and other larger events.

The formal presentations began after a spread of food and drink provided by Evertz. Chuck Diehl, senior account manager at Evertz, and Sean McDonald, media director at Neumann College, began the presentation portion of the evening by remarking on a large number of communication students in attendance and thanking them for taking the time to attend the event. They briefly discussed how SMPTE not only provides career networking opportunities, but also serves as a portal to current broadcast and entertainment technologies. Both Diehl and McDonald stressed the significance of SMPTE developing and establishing standards for manufacturers and content providers. Fernando Solanes, director



During the summer months a lot of planning and discussions were accomplished by the Philadelphia Section's management team to produce an inviting, open, and welcome return to meetings in person.



Students attending the Philadelphia Section meeting.

of solutions engineering at Evertz, provided a more in-depth presentation, describing how the broadcast industry is transitioning to an IP-centric facility. His presentation covered today's advanced control systems and the need for them to seamlessly transition from serial digital interface (SDI) to IP without compromise. High-capacity switch fabrics, media IP gateways, and traditional SDI products are orchestrated and controlled by software-defined video networking (SDVN). SDVN provides a flexible, format-agnostic, and scalable infrastructure for SD, HD, 3G, and ultra-HD (4K and 8K) video to broadcasters, content distributors,

and service providers. Solanes' presentation was followed by 20 minutes of questions.

—Chuck Diehl
Section Manager

Toronto September 2022

The Toronto Section meeting on 20 September was held at Humber College, Toronto, ON, Canada. Humber College provided the facilities for the meeting, which was followed by a tour of their cutting-edge ATSC 3.0 Lab. Members sat down for the evening's presentations after a barbecue and socializing.

Orest Sushko, director of the Humber College ATSC 3.0 Lab,

gave a high-level introduction to the ATSC 3.0 standard as well as an overview of the Humber Broadcast-Broadband Convergence B2C Lab development.

Willie Perez, lab engineering manager, gave a presentation explaining the lab's technology and how it works together. During a Q & A session that followed the presentations, it was mentioned that ATSC 3.0 data delivery could be especially useful in situations where streaming applications are unable to meet demand. This is similar to the Canadian hockey finals at the past Winter Olympics, where, Akamai admitted that it effectively broke the internet.

The tour included a visit to the college's new radio frequency (RF) chamber. Their current broadcast channels are part of their demonstration license.

Humber College has established Canada's first Broadcast-Broadband Convergence B2C Lab to investigate multisectoral data delivery



PHOTO CREDIT: TONY MEERANKER

Attendees at the Toronto Section meeting received presentations on the ATSC 3.0 Lab at Humber College.

applications enabled by ATSC 3.0, which will replace ATSC 1.0 in North America.

The new terrestrial broadcast standard is based on an IP backbone and can integrate with other global data delivery standards such as Wi-Fi and 5G. It is currently the most efficient one-to-many data delivery system in the world.

Humber is actively involved in the development of a 3.0 inter-tower communications network (ITCN)

and broadcast core network to support the North American broadcast industry's digital transformation. When fully operational, the B2C Lab will also provide cutting-edge 5G and RF research infrastructure in an innovator-friendly environment, all of which will aid in the development of new products and services for industry stakeholders and the adoption of ATSC 3.0 in Canada.

—Craig Jasman
Section Manager

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