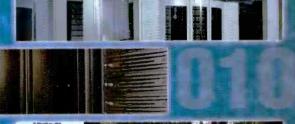
A supplement to Broadcast Engineering - December 2003

Broad Cast Engineering THE JOURNAL OF DIGITAL TELEVISION

2004



Digital Reference Guide



The #1
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for all your
broadcast
needs

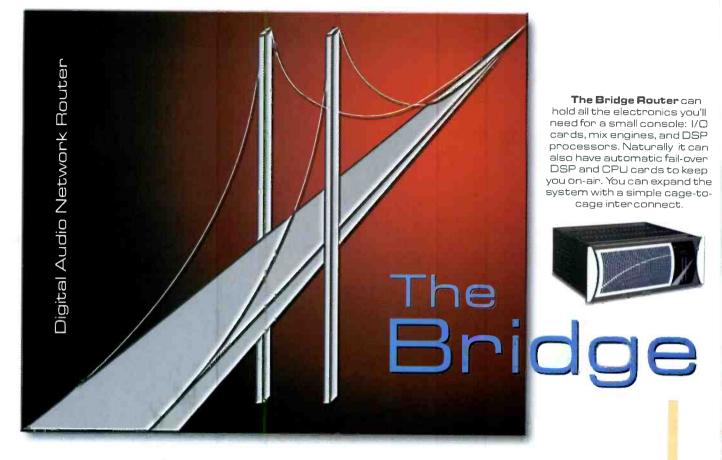












It's not just a Digital Console, It's AN ENTIRE AUDIO INFRASTRUCTURE

YOU CAN START with a simple AES router with analog and digital inputs and outputs. From there you can add logic I/O cards and scheduling software; you can link multiple master bridge cages together to achieve thousands and thousands of I/O ports; you can create a custom system that includes multiple smaller remote satellite cages— with everything interconnected via CAT5 or fiberoptic links.

BUT THAT'S JUST THE BEGINNING: you can also add mix engine cards, interface to your automation system; you can choose from two different WHEATSTONE series control surfaces (D-5.1 or D-9), each specially configured for production room, onair or remote truck applications. We also provide a full complement of Ethernet protocol remote router control panels, as well as a complete family of plug-in modules that interface the routing system to existing Wheatstone digital and analog standalone consoles.



It can route, generate and monitor 5.1 surround signals and produce simultaneous 5.1 and stereo master signals for your dual broadcast chain. The console also provides extensive, rapid communication paths throughout your entire Bridge system. Motorized faders and control setting storage and recall make show-to-show transitions fast, easy and accurate.

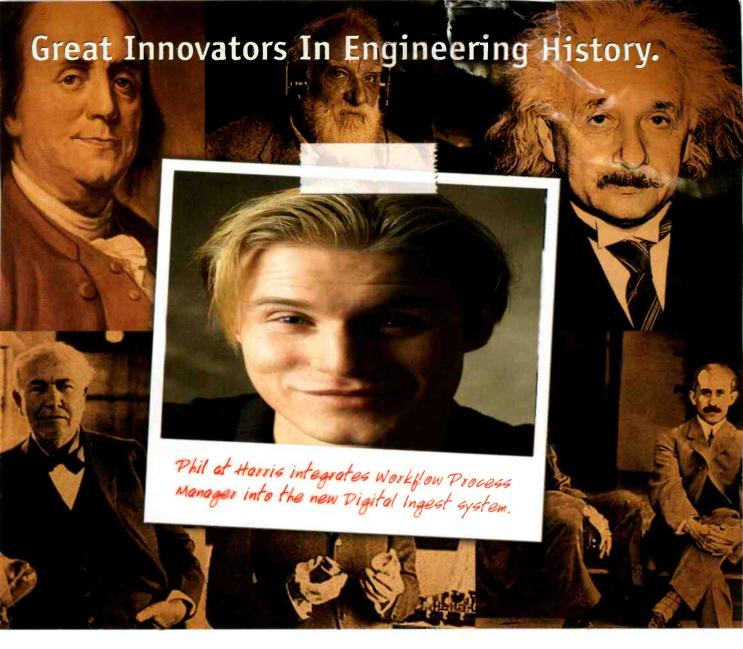


Wheatstone Knows Live Audio. The D-5.1 is loaded with MXMs, foldbacks, and clear easy-to-read displays. You'll have all the power you need when the news breaks! Its intuitive layout helps your operators work error-free, and it can handle and generate all the 5.1 content and simultaneous stereo capability any large or medium market station could need.



the digital audio leaders





Announcing a breakthrough in media ingest and transfer: New Digital Ingest from Harris.

Yes, our guy Phil was pretty excited about the whole Digital Ingest thing. But now it's your turn to discover the latest innovation from Harris, the leader in broadcast technology. Digital Ingest completely automates your front-end media ingest and transfer process,



whether you're talking about a single facility or a whole enterprise. Until now, when digital media was acquired from delivery services — such as Media DVX or DG Systems — distribution throughout the broadcast

facility required manual transfer to tape and video file servers. All of that has changed. Now, with Digital Ingest — part of the Harris Resource Suite — you eliminate the error-prone busy work of manually entering metadata, give your operation virtual "real time" ingest-to-playout (great for those last-minute, gotta-get-this-on-the-air requests), and better allocate your engineering resources.

Designed to integrate seamlessly with your Media Client station, Digital Ingest has intelligent and customizable "rules" to adapt workflow processes to your operation. Plus, (as Phil will proudly tell you), Digital Ingest includes Workflow Process Manager (WPM) — an integrated software module that allows the system to manage automated and manual tasks and processes. With Digital Ingest, you can even search, browse, and approve content from desktops anywhere in your enterprise (your Program Manager will love you). So go ahead. Make Phil happy. Call about Digital Ingest today.

For more information about Digital Ingest and the entire Harris Resource Suite of products, call **1-408-990-8200** or visit us online at **www.broadcast.harris.com/automation.**



Read, vote, win.

his year's Digital Reference Guide, formerly the Buyers Guide, holds a wealth of information. The directories department gathered information on hundreds of companies and products for presentation in this issue. The goal was to provide readers with a timely, accurate and up-to-date reference of solutions and vendors for broadcast and production television equipment.

In addition to the printed version you now hold, we have a complete electronic version online at www.broadcastengineering.com. So, search either the printed page or the electronic one — both versions will help you locate the products and vendors you need.

Don't forget to read the 3rd annual Excellence Awards, which begin on page 49. After you've read each story, vote for your favorite installations on *Broadcast Engineering's* Web site.

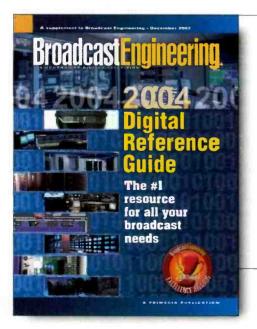
Readers win too!

Readers will again help select this year's winners. So, vote online and we'll enter you into a drawing for the new *Broadcast Engineering* T-shirts. Read, vote, win!



Brod Drick

Brad Dick editorial director



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And henscutter ary The NewsCutter® Adrenaline® FX system offers complete newsroom connectivity and the speed productivity, and performance that broadcast professionals demand. Tight integration with the newsroom. Full-featured color correction. Future HD expandability. Professional effects to enhance production everywhere in the station, from news to promotions and beyond. Power your edit suites and deliver programming in virtually any format with the new standard for broadcast.

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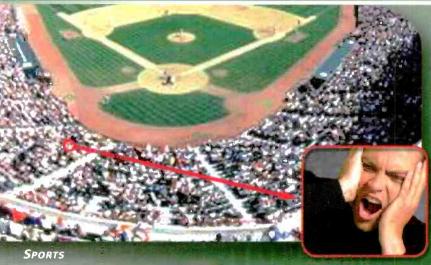
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Canon's 3-Chip PTZ Camera System Adds A New Dimension To Quality Production.



20X Optical Zoom (UP TC 100X DIGITAL)



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WEATHER COVERAGE



TRAFFIC MIGNITORING

Now broadcasters can take advantage of a high quality PTZ camera system featuring genuine Canon optics, advanced technology and sophisticated design and control.

The NU-700N provides an impressive turnkey, plug and play system for shooting documentaries, travel destinations, outdoor reality programs, weather, traffic and much more. The NU-700N combines a 1/4" 3 CCD Canon video camera with a puilt-in 20X optical zoom lens and 5X digital function for a powerful 100X zoom range, all contained in a rugged outdoor housing with unique features ncluding a rain wiper and defrost. When used with Canon's optional network camera server, the VB150. (shown below) broadcast images can be controlled and viewed on the nternet or a LAN.



NU-700N FEATURES AT A GLANCE

- Exceptional video quality from Canon optics and a 3 CCD camera.
- A built-in rain wiper and defrost effect for adverse weather conditions.
- Powerful 20X optical zoom lens, plus a 100X digital zoom feature.
- Auto focus for improved operability.
- ·Flexible connectivity, either to a LAN or the Internet through an optional server.
- Non-proprietary protocol allows users and system integrators to provide a third-party server or controller, for easy integration with other systems.







Find out more at canonbroadcast.com

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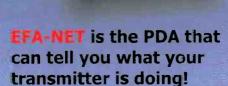


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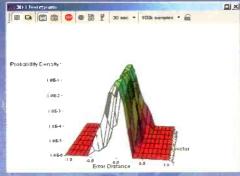
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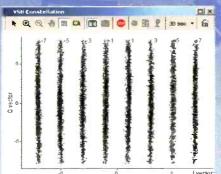
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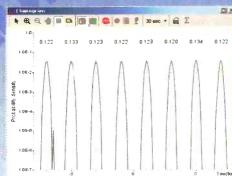
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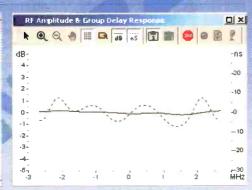


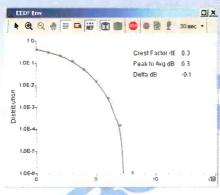


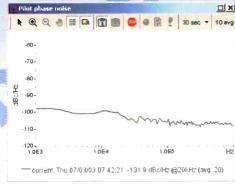


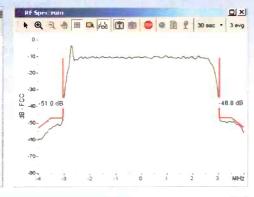












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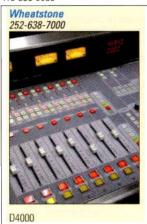
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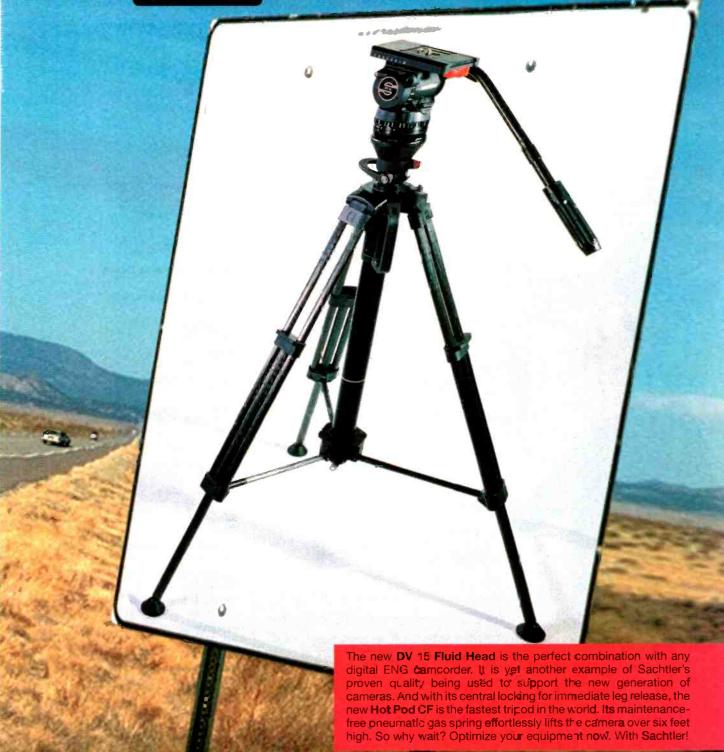
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Broadcast Richardson 630-208-2200 **Discreet Software**

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Seachange Int'l 978-897-0100

United Media 714-777-4510 x110

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Digital Audio Workstations

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Harrison by GLW 615-641-7200

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Astro Systems

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Avica Technology 310-450-9090

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Cinekinetic

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Digital Vision (US)

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Panther

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RTI

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GRAPHICS

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auto.des.sys

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Bauhaus Software

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Vizrt

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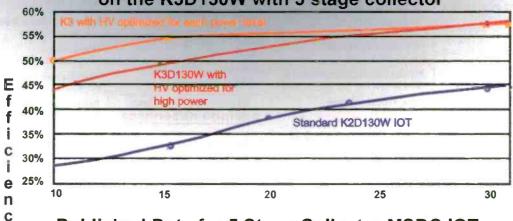
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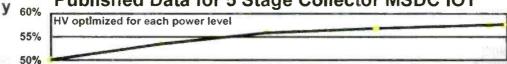
Elegant Efficiency

The Real Facts about EIMAC's K3 MSDC IOT

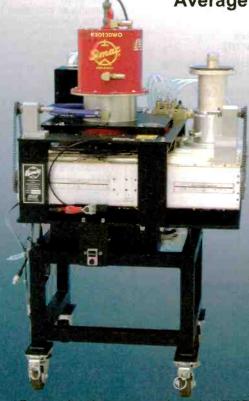
ACTUAL EFFICIENCY MEASUREMENTS on the K3D130W with 3 stage collector *



Published Data for 5 Stage Collector MSDC IOT



Average power 8VSB (kW)



Test results with uncorrected standard 8VSE input. High voltages between 30 kV and 34 kV



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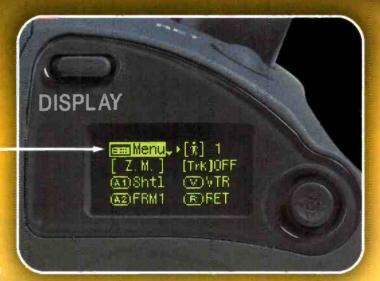
From its enhanced features to its environmental design, Canon's new J22ex7.6B IRSD/IASD lens is engineered to impress. The widest angle portable telephoto lens ever produced, the J22ex7.6B is the first in a series of Canon e-IFxs and e-HDxs broadcast lenses. These lenses feature enhanced digital technology, which improves on the performance of the highly useful Digital Drive tools and are manufactured with non-polluting components including lead-free glass, minimizing environmental impact.

e

Enhanced Features Environmental Design



First in a series of e-IFxs and e-HDxs lenses



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Equipped with an informational LCD display and digital feature navigator, e-IFxs series users can customize the enhanced digital functions with ease and precision. New features of e-IFxs lenses include:

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 can be combined with Shuttle Snot, Speed Preset
 and 2 Framing Presets, and Zoom Track for
 powerful user settings.
- New Aux 1 and Aux 2 switches provide quick access to user-assignable functions.
- Users can set precise zoom and focus curves according to their needs.

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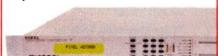
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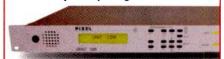
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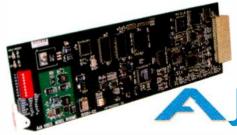
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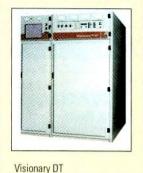
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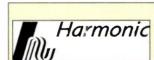
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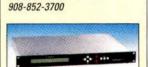
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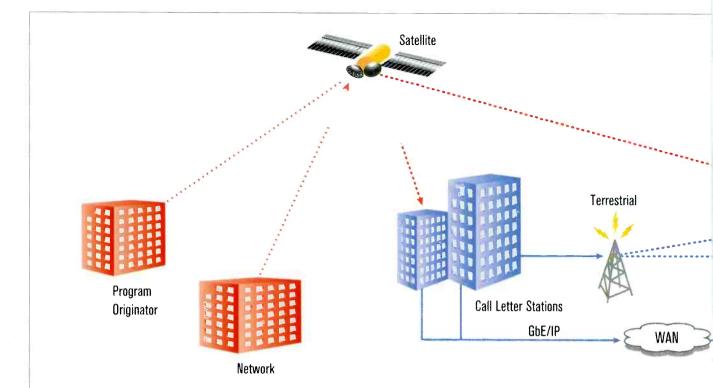
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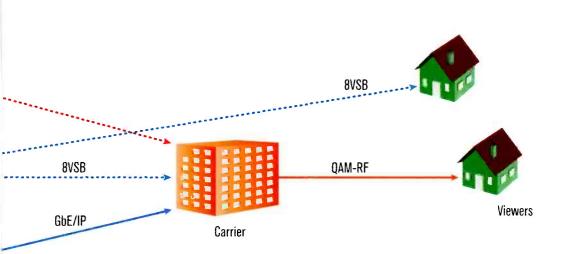
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Leitch routing switchers include the affordable Panacea, which provides compact, feature-rich routing in sizes up to 32x32; and the Integrator and Integrator GOLD, which include scalable routing systems in 4, 6 and 8RU frames allowing for expansion from 8x8 to 512x512. All are fully integrated with the award-winning CCS Navigator.

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Audio Accessories 603-446-3335

AutoPatch 509-235-2636

Ensemble Designs

530-478-1830 Gennum

905-632-2996 Image Video 416-750-8872

Kramer Electronics 908-735-0018

Leitch Technology 818-525-2599; 888-843-7004

Media Concepts 918-252-3600

Network Electronics

818 701 6201 NVISION

530-265-1000; 800-719-1900 **PatchAmp**

201-457-1504 Pro-Bel

631-549-5159 Studio Exchange 818-840-1351

Switchcraft 773-792-2700

Product Directory

Thomson Broadcast & Media Solutions

530-478-3000; 800-547-8949

Utah Scientific 801-575-8801

Videoframe 530-477-2000

Video DAs

ANALOG WAY

212-269-1902

Burst Electronics 505-898-1455

Crystal Vision +44 1223 497049

Datatek

908-654-8100

Ensemble Designs

530-478-1830

ESE

310-322-2136

Evertz Microsystems

905-335-3700

Horita

949-489-0240

Image Video

416-750-8872

ISIS Group 530-477-2984

Knox Video Technologies 301-840-5805

Kramer Electronics

908-735-0018

Laird Telemedia

800-898-0759

757-548-2300; 800-231-9673

Leitch Technology

818-525-2599; 888-843-7004

Link Electronics

573-334-4433

Marshall Electronics

310-333-0606; 800-800-6608

Media Concepts

918-252-3600

Miranda Technologies

514-333-1772

Network Electronics

818 701 6201

530-265-1000; 800-719-1900

Panasonic Broadcast & **Television Systems**

201-348-5300; 800-528-8601

PatchAmp

201**-**457-1**5**04

4 rack unit 64-1x4 video distribution; Serial digital to analog monitoring con-

Pro-Bel

631-549-5159

Ross Video

613-652-4886

Sierra Video System 530-478-1000

Sigma Electronics

717-569-2681: 866-569-2681

Snell & Wilcox

408-260-1000: 800-827-4544

High Definition <

Video and Audio <

Standard Definition <

Analog and Digital (SDI) <

2004 DIGITAL REFERENCE

Studio Systems Electronics

Telford Technical Research

+44 1932 564 063

TV One Multimedia Solutions

859-282-7303

Videotek

610-327-2292; 800-800-5719

Ward-Beck Systems

416-335-5999

Video processing amplifiers

AJA Video

800-251-4224

Camplex 620-342-7743

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Kramer Electronics

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Leitch

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Miranda Technologies 514-333-1772

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PatchAmp

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Snell & Wilcox 408-260-1000; 800-827-4544

Studio Exchange

818-840-1351

Swiderski Electronics

630-787-0800

TAIYO YUDEN (USA) (POWER)

760-510-3200

Videotek

610-327-2292; 800-800-5719

Video routing switchers

Adrienne Electronics

702-896-1858

Altinex

714-990-2300

AutoPatch

509-235-2636

Burst Electronics 505-898-1455

Datatek

908-654-8100

Ensemble Designs

530-478-1830

Evertz Microsystems 905-335-3700

Extron Electronics

714-491-1500

GE Interlogix 800-343-3358

Gennum

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Kramer Electronics

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Laird Telemedia 800-898-0759

Leightronix

517-694-8000

Leitch AgileVision

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757-548-2300: 800-231-9673

Leitch Technology

818-525-2599; 888-843-7004 **Link Electronics**

573-334-4433 Media Concepts

918-252-3600

Miranda Technologies

514-333-1772 Network Electronics

818 701 6201

Network Technologies

330-562-7070

530-265-1000; 800-719-1900

PatchAmp

201-457-1504 8 input-dual outputing analog HD routing switches

PESA Switching Systems

631-845-5020: 800-328-1008

Pro-Bel 631-549-5159

Quartz Electronics

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613-652-4886

Sierra Video System

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Sigma Electronics

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Snell & Wilcox 408-260-1000; 800-827-4544

Telford Technical Research

+44 1932 564 063 Thomson Broadcast & Media

Solutions 530-478-3000; 800-547-8949

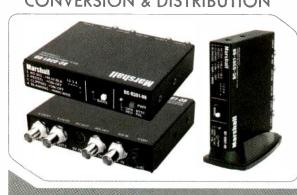
TV One Multimedia Solutions

Utah Scientific 801-575-8801

Video Accessory

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Ward-Beck Systems

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Archive/DVD Storage

Ancept

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Avid Technology 978-640-6789; 800-949-AVID

Blueline Technology

972-353-2583

Imation 651-704-4000

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416-445-9929 ext3482

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Masstech Americas

651-688-3653

Maxell Corporation of America

201-794-5900 800-533-2836

Odetics Broadcast

714-774-2200

Sony Electronics / Recording

Media 201-930-6342

Commercial insertion equipment/software

Adtec Digital 615-256-6619

Digital Transaction Group

512-837-3737

DVC Digitalvideo Computing +49 8152-93010

Enseo

972-234-2513

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MATCO

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858-404-2933

Pinnacle Systems / Breadcast & Professional

650-526-1600

Quantel

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Seachange Int'l

978-897-0100

Spencer Technologies

818-771-1850

On-air presentation systems

Arcatron

602-843-2589

Associated Press FNPS

202-736-1100

Aston Broadcast Systems

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Chyron

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DVC Digitalvideo Computing

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954-943-2026

Quantel

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Imagine Products

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Spectra Logic

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Storeel 770-458-3280

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BOXX Technologies

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Chyron

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DVS Digital Video Systems GmhH

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Fast Forward Video 949-852-8404

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Product Directory

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GE Interlogix 800-343-3358

Leightronix

517-694-8000

Leitch

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Leitch Technology

818-525-2599: 888-843-7004

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Sony Electronics / Recording

RibaM 201-930-6342

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818-771-1850

Studio Exchange 818-840-1351

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Video servers

360 Systems 818-991-0360

Accom

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Avica Technology

310-450-9090

Avid Technology 978-640-6789; 800-949-AVID

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Drastic Technologies

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831-336-9626

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Panasonic Broadcast &

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650-526-1600

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Seachange Int'l

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Silicon Graphics (SGI)

650-960-1980

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201-930-6342

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TV Magic

858-650-3155

ViewCast

972-488-7200

VTRs (video tape recorders)

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818-898-3380

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Leitch Technology

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773-792-2700

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Barco Projection Systems 770-218-3200

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Signal Transport

949-859-9615

Telecast Fiber Systems 508-754-4858

Videoframe

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Office 321-739-0457

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Genco 847-795-9555

Hosa Technology 714-736-9270

Kramer Electronics

Marshall Electronics 310-333-0606; 800-800-6608

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Mogami America

310-333-0606 Nemal Electronics Int'l

305-899-0900 Network Technologies

330-562-7070 Presentation Systems Design

Studio Exchange

636-225-3637

818-840-1351

Teracom Components 207-627-7474

Video connectors

ADC

952-938-8080: 800-366-3891

Bescor Video

516-420-1717 Comprehensive Video Group

800-526-0242 EaglePro Industries

7-796-8800 **Kings Electronics**

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Lemo USA 707-578-8811

Marshall Electronics

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+81 3 3439 3755 Nemal Electronics Int'l

305-899-0900

Neutrik USA

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732-901-9488 **Presentation Systems Design**

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The 2003 Broadcast Engineering EXCELLENCE AND S

- 23 top broadcast and production facilities
- Photos of leading-edge solutions in use

Vote and win a free T-shirt (see page 50)

Broadcast Engineering

EXCELLENCE AWARDS

e're proud to present entries for the 3rd annual *Broadcast Engineering* Excellence Awards. These awards recognize innovation and quality in the design and construction of broadcast and production facilities. This year's entries cover a wide range of systems integrators, manufacturers and facilities.

And, as before, *Broadcast Engineering* readers will help select the winners. Here's how you can vote, and win too!

Readers should read each of the entries that appear on the following pages. Select your three favorite entries. Then, visit the *Broadcast Engineering* Web site, *www.broadcastengineering.com*, and click on the Excellence Awards logo on the home page. You'll be taken to a ballot page, where you can register your three votes for your favorite facilities.

When evaluating the facilities, please consider several issues:

- · Originality and innovation of new or existing techniques
- Complexity of project
- · Presentation, visual attractiveness
- Unique application of technology
- Meeting owner/client goals

You can win too!

Readers who vote and then enter their e-mail address will be eligible to win a NEW *Broadcast Engineering* T-shirt. Only one entry per reader please. To be eligible to win one of the T-shirts, you must provide an e-mail address. E-mail addresses will be used only to notify the T-shirt winners. A drawing for the T-shirts will be held on Feb. 3. Hurry, you must register your vote by Feb. 1, 2004.

Excellence Awards winners will be announced in the March 2004 issue, and the awards will be presented to the winners at the NAB convention. T-shirts will be mailed to winning readers in March.

Read, vote and win!

Brow Drick

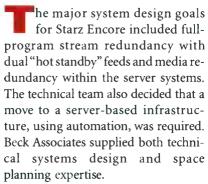
Brad Dick Editorial director

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Toronto 1	. 63
SWR	. 64
Ohio News Network	. 65
Time Warner	. 66
WNED-TV	. 67
WGBH-TV	.68
WPSX-DT	. 70
WLVT PBS 39	.72
WTTW-TV	
KLRU-TV	.74
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Starz Encore

productivity and air operation



The Starz Encore technical plant can be conceptualized as two separate but interacting facilities: production operations and air operations. Production operations includes 18 digital edit suites, 10 graphic suites and three audio post suites. Beck Associates moved much of the production equipment directly from the existing plant at NDTC. Thorough, careful pre-wiring, cabling and harnessing of the new

Design Team

John FitzRandolph, proj. chf./sr. eng. Fred Beck, sr. eng. Jeff Morris, design cons./sr. eng. Terry Breay, system eng. Brad Martins, system eng. David Basil, lead tech. Oscar Ramirez, inv. mgr./ ACAD Misty Proulx, inv. mgr./ACAD

Equipment List

OmniBus Colossus automation system Archive interface w/ Avalon preview NVision SDI transmission router Pro-Bel return router Pinnacle playout primary and backup Ingest servers Deko Cast Evertz delay and cc Leitch Sync generator

Reference distribution amplifiers Dolby E decoder and AC3 Tektronix monitors Wohler 5.1 audio monitors Sony picture monitors and ingest VTRs Barco Monitor cubes Videotek test and measurments

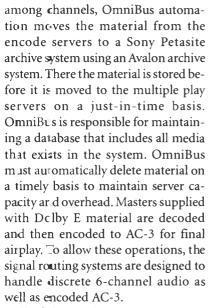
suites prior to the move allowed the majority of suites to be functional within a few days of the move.

Air operations is responsible for the continuous real-time origination of 30 separate program streams



(15 "channels," each with independent East and West Coast branding and timing). These feeds are continuously monitored in a large, 2-tiered master control room. The OmniBus automation system efficiency is such that only two operators and one supervisor are typically necessary. The system is designed to monitor and alarm on failure of video, audio (multi-language, Dolay E and AC-3), closed captioning and transmission path failure. Error messages are displayed immediately and dynamically on the nine Barco multi-channel multiplexed display screens.

Program material is brought into the facility on Digi-Beta masters. After quality evaluation and promotions editing, the movies and interstitial material are moved to the video server. Pinnacle supplied the 14 core servers that comprise the broadcast chain. Two of the servers are used for encoding operations, while 12 (sex primary and six redundant backup) servers are used for play to air. Because a large amount of program material is shared



All of the routing systems are controlled by automation. The routing systems include a 192 x 192 Nvision transmission router, an Nvision "encoding" routing system (AES and SDI) and a Pro-Bel transmissions or "return" routing system. Evertz supplied the primary "glue", which includes, but is not limited to, audio-to-video MUX ar d DEMUX units, audio delay units, and V-Chip encoders. Both Textronix and Videotek supplied the pervasive test and measurement equipment. Pinnacle supplied the DekoCaet units that are used for channel branding.



PBS

Ingest Suite

ocused on establishing discrepancy-free program feeds, PBS teamed with systems integrator CEI of Newington, VA, to develop a comprehensive solution based on a new workflow concept. Together, they designed an ingest suite that did more than reduce errors. The server-based system inspired further enhancements, which provide reliable and money-saving program-delivery solutions.

In traditional master control environments, discrepancies happen. Automation can fail to key a logo, V-Chip data may not be inserted, or the instruction to insert a parental rating message could be left off the program log. Whether hardware, software or human error, the result is the same: Once a discrepancy hits the air, it is too late to fix it.

PBS and CEI decided to examine the benefits of moving the packaging of programs upstream. According to

Design Team

Marilyn Pierce, sr. eng. James Seaman, sr. eng. James Kutzner, sr. dir./chf. eng. Andy Butler, sr. dir./eng. Stephan Scheel. sr. dir./tech.

Jay Brown, dir. eng./proj. mgr. Ruber Huertas, sr. systems eng. Tom Hackett, sr. design eng.

Equipment List

Mirrored Omneon Video Servers
totaling 9TB storage
ADIC Scalar 10K LTO-1 Tape Archive
Front Porch Digital DIVArchive
with 860TB Managed Storage
Harris Automation
Dolby-E hardware
Clarity 67" Lion LCD Display
Miranda Imagestore
K-2 Display Processor

Jay Brown, CEI's director of engineering, a prepackaging approach that is combined with sophisticated quality control measures eliminates many potential discrepancies. Integrating program elements



(such as program video and audio, branding information, data, or special inserts) in advance ensures that programs are 100 percent accurate before the program is sent to air. Catastrophic failure or a corrupted file could still impact air; however, the inclusion of redundant systems makes the chances of this occurring relatively small, At weekly meetings, PBS and CEI engineers discussed current projects and future plans. To achieve their goal of discrepancy-free program feeds, the team decided to build a prototype ingest suite. To this end, the design process began in earnest on an SD/HD capable solution.

At the heart of the new ingest suite are mirrored 4.5TB Omneon servers for air and protect. This 58-channel system is the largest installed in North America. Program masters are ingested into the Omneon servers as 50Mb I-frame-only files under the control of Harris Automation. Front Porch Digital (FPD) products address two requirements. DIVArchive manages file transfers between the servers

and the 430TB ADIC Scalar 10K tape archive. FPD BitScream transcoders generate 1.5Mb Windows Media 9 files for PBS internal network browsing. Program elements are integrated with the 50Mb program—masters, which are then *re-ingested* as 12Mb long-GOP air masters. Evertz, Miranda and Videotek products meet demanding QC requirements of monitoring, error detection, alarming and logging. The ingest suite has proven to be reliable and effective since going online in January of 2003.

The success of the server-based workflow inspired the launch of an edge-server prototype program in the spring of 2003 involving nine PBS member stations. The transfer of ingest suite program files to edge-servers in *non-real-time* brings money saving delivery options to stations, including both terrestrial transmission and the opportunistic use of transponder space. Developments currently underway also will bring browse and request interactivity to PBS and member stations.

The new ingest suite at PBS head-quarters began as a concept-based discussion and was built as a prototype discrepancy-free delivery solution. Now in operation, it promises to be much more.

DIRECTV's

single-operator control requirements

IRECTV, a United States digital satellite television service. needed to expand its local broadcast television station programming to further compete with cable offerings. DIRECTV accomplished its goal by engineering a state-of-the-art network of facilities, which included multiple local collection facilities that capture local TV broadcast programming at

the source and transport it back to one of two (soon to be four) central broadcast facilities over terrestrial fibre.

DIRECTV wanted the new system to consist of an extremely complex group of inter-related subsystems. The most complicated architectures would be located in the studios, control rooms and central technical areas. The

system would need to communicate with all the controlled elements via whatever physical connection is offered and present timely and relevant information to the users regarding status, progress and available options. The system would arbitrate between concurrent users sharing resources, assist cooperative working and deliver fully automatic, semi-automatic and manual control in exactly the way different users require at different times.

The solution would run on standard PC hardware. User-friendly, touchscreen technology would provide the interface to the system and allow single operator control and monitoring of many pieces of equipment at multiple locations — including remote and unstaffed areas. This reduces the amount of equipment —and therefore space — required to support multiple channels and broadcast streams.

The solution would be able to control multiple systems/devices from a single workstation, including cameras,

codecs, integrated receiver/decoders, ISDN terminal adapters, routers, sateLite receivupccnverters, video disks, video mixers, and VTRs. The system would integrate otherwise incompatible devices into a



single, coherent control system, using a simple WAN or Intranet connection sites. The system could provide a station such as system status of a video feed or Web page. Status display screens

to control multiple systems at different tus display of every device at every remote facility, providing useful informa-

Design Team

DIRECTV

Dave Baylor, exec. vp Gary Loo, sr. mgr., eng. Rick Purpura, sr. dir. Frank Hironaka, sr. dir. BBC Technology Mitchell Linden, sr. vp-ops. Julian Wil iams, pre-sales and product mktng. Shannon Kim, vp-sales Peter Watson, lead architect

Equipment List

Boeing 601 HP spot beam satellite Barco screen display wall BBC Technology Colledia Control

also would provide system-wide fault logging and alarms management from one single, intuitive display.

I•IRECTV also required a trial program in which the vendor installed simulator systems at DIRECTV's broadcasting centers in Castle Rock, CO, and Los Angeles.

In order for this system to be costeffectively deployed, the facilities needed to be unmanned while maintaining the utmost standards of serviceability and reliability.

BBC Technology's software-based Colledia Control was selected because it allows greater customization and configuration than other control platforms. Its software runs on standard PC hardware and operating systems and is both cost-effective and simple to install. It is scalable and currently rolling out in DIRECTV's two new satellite uplink facilities in Oakdale MN, and Winchester, VA.

I•IRECTV implemented a distributed broadcast monitoring and control solution, which allowed it to carry out checks at its unmanned distant sites to ensure that the local channels maintained the same picture quality, broadcast availability and general reliability as their existing programming.



(IMC)

International Media Centre

he new BT International Media Centre (IMC), based at the BT Tower in London, officially opened in April 2003 with equipment specification and technical integration by Cambridge-based Megahertz Broadcast Systems.

This center, an enlarged and enhanced version of the old TV control room, routes and monitors broadcast TV signals on a global scale and acts as a hub for virtually every television company broadcasting in the UK.

At any one time, up to 3000 services can be passing through the new center, of which several hundred will need either signal or picture monitored for quality. If a transmission fault occurs, it is reported to the IMC, where BT staff identify the cause and

immediately allocate engineers to solve the problem.

The design and technical requirements of the facility posed several difficulties for the Megahertz team, not

maintenance engineers. Analog four-wire interfaces, Videotek VTM-300 test equipment, an eight-cube Synelec display video wall, and Zandar DX4 quad SDI multiviewers and Fusion 26-input SDI scaleable multiviewers also were recom-

mended. Megahertz audio monitoring units with input select and PPM, Kent Modular Electronics TFT screens, a Quartz 64x64 SDI matrix, 16x16 analog matrix and 64x64 stereo analog audio matrix were installed as well. Snell & Wilcox glue equipment (DAs, converters, synchronizers, logo generator, etc), Megahertz custom alarm software, Courtyard SPGs and changeover, and Wharton GPS clock system with digital displays were implemented. Leitch analog displays, a Bose speaker system, a Sony DFS-700AP vision mixer for the studio and BES Electronics custommade bargraphs were put in. Ikegami tube monitor and a Pharos control system finished the installation.

This technical array allows each desk to be individually equipped for a specific function, with an increasing level of sophistication toward the front of the room. If a fault cannot be dealt with quickly on the desk receiving the first notification, it will be passed on to senior engineers, with more sophisticated equipment for diagnosing and resolving the problem.

Design Team

Philip Ballabon, BT proj. mgr. Megahertz Steve Hope, sr. proj. eng. Steve Burgess, TD Richard Benderz, cust. support mgr.

Equipment List

CCC Networks KVM switch (128x128) Riedel Artist 128-port digital talkback Analog four-wire interfaces Videotek VTM-300 test equipment Eight-cube Synelec display video wall Zandar

DX4 quad SDI multiviewers Fusion SDI scaleable multiviewers Megahertz

audio monitoring units custom alarm software

Kent Modular Electronics TFT screens Quartz 64x64 SDI/stereo audio router Snell & Wilcox

DAs, converters, synchronizers, logo generator

Courtyard SPGs and changeover Wharton GPS clock system with digital displays

Leitch analog displays BES Electronics bargraphs Ikegami tube monitors Pharos control system least due to budget constraints. These difficulties included integrating communications to customers via an existing engineering manual telephone exchange (EMX) into a state-of-the art talkback system, as well as achieving acceptable desk ergonomics within the limitations of a room with a side and central pillar while respecting the room's aesthetics to make it impressive yet functional.

Getting signals in and out of an existing infrastructure is always a challenge. For this particular project, the Megahertz team had to monitor video traffic throughout the building, which meant that "hooks" had to be installed in different locations. Megahertz worked closely with external architects from the design stage up to ensure that these challenges were resolved effectively with no unexpected problems when the equipment was installed.

The integrator specified a wide range of equipment, including a Riedel Artist 128-port digital talkback system with ISDN interface and Radio Talkback interface for mobile

Channel M

Building a multicultural TV station





hannel M was awarded an over-the-air broadcast license in early 2002. Its mandate was to provide multicultural programming in over 22 languages to the Vancouver (British Columbia, Canada) community.

The station needed to be as high-tech and automated as possible to reduce ongoing operational costs. The infrastructure needed to accommodate an eventual migration to HDTV, while initially being able to satisfy demanding local production requirements.

From this vision grew the Channel M model: Video server technology would be at the core of the station; however, the station couldn't afford a SAN or MAN system. Users of the video server platforms included news, production and on-air departments so, to ensure reliability, redundant servers would be incorporated. The station needed to provide as much storage capacity as possible to the three areas, while maintaining a tight coupling between the news back-end editing system and the front-end play-to-air system.

The station was built as an SDI plant with separate (non-embedded) AES audio. Sony IMX technology was chosen for the production and on-air areas. Sony DV Cam was chosen for news acquisition.

Working with Applied Electronics, the station brought many advanced systems together. A redundant video server core services on-air and news play-to-air. Thomson Crass Valley Vibrint editing

Design Team

Channel M

Peter Gillespie, VP ops./eng.
Wayne Paugh, Ken Dann, Rod
Friesen, Eing Qi, Shawn Greek, eng.
Applied Electronics
Kim Edmonds, proj. mgr.

Kim Edmcnds, proj. mgr. Brian Burtch, tech. mgr.

Equipment List

Sony

HDSX and AES audio router

Flexicart

DVS9000 switcher,

DMXR-100 console

DXW35 cameras

DSR370 DV camera

MSW9000 cameras

Harris Invenio MAM system

Trilogy intercom

Radamec robotics

FOR-A virtual set

Miranda Kaleido monitor wall

AVID Symphony Thomson Grass Valley Vibrint

Newsbrowse

M2100 switcher Profile XF servers

BDL teleprompting

Pinnacle

FX Deko

Thunder

AP ENPS

systems were chosen for the news backend, and Profile XPs were chosen for playout. The servers were chosen because they can do seamless video file transfers, but also they can support both MPEG-2 50Mb and DV 25Mb formats. Avid systems were chosen as for online production editing because of the familiarity of the interface within the freelance editing community. A transcoding package was purchased to flip the Avid files from their native format into the Thomson Grass Valley server in a DV or MPEG format.

Channel M faced many challenges with the build, but Pinnacle Systems integration of MOS protocol in the newsroom solved the multiple language requirements. Requirements for video to the desktop were solved using media asset management. Virtual set technology was used to resolve issues of limited studio space. These technologies represented many firsts for Channel M.Channel M also was the first broadcaster in Canada to use COFDM technology in their microwave truck.

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Turner Entertainment's

network operations center

TOC has four quality control stations

for live incoming signals and embeds

the audio, using Snell & Wilcox aud o

embedding equipment, into the video.

BARCO screens along the front wall.

The outgoing TOC features large

urner Entertainment Group, a division of Turner Broadcasting System, built an expansive new 198,000-square-foot broadcast facility at its Atlanta headquarters. The facility houses 20 Turner-owned domestic and Latin American television networks that occupy 11 control rooms, or broadcast operations centers (BOCs), centralized on the first floor. The 11 BOCs are divided among four separate "pods." Each pod features a centralized, glass-walled supervisor's area for overseeing operations and altering playlists. Each BOC features an A chain and a B chain of master control equipment for every feed. If the A chain fails, a push of a button switches to the B chain and its duplicate complement of equipment.

The transmission operations center (TOC), divided into two sections, is also on the first floor. The incoming

This area provides operators with a final look at a signal before it leaves the building. A Snell & Wilccx RollCall network monitoring and control system is instrumental to this room. The facility's main RollCall terminal is installed here to monitor equipment and pinpoint signal loss quickly. With 500 racks throughout the facility, the system minimizes failure effects.

The central equipment room (CER) comprises one half of the second floor and is laid out in network groups (TNT, TBS, etc.). Two redundant Cisco IP data routers connect to every source in the building for file distribution. A central cache area, broadcast inventory management, delivers ingested air material to a network playout server as a file when called upon by an automation system.

Snell & Wilcox IQ modular equipment occupies rack space in CER. A facilitywide installation of more than 5000 modules in 3RU enclosures handle a variety of applications.

Included in the IQ modular applications are analog and digital audio and video distribution, analog-to-digital and digital-to-analog conversion, video decoding and encoding, frame synchroni-

zation, audio conversion, sub-frame remapping, digital "proc amp" control, gamut legalization, and standards conversion for international program exchange. Most feature 10 or fewer populated slots; up to 16 slots are available in each 3RU enclosure.

The other half of the facility features a high-density storage library and the media operations center (MOC), which houses short-form and automated long-form ingest rooms; a central tape area with a variety of VTRs for dubbing between formats; and "Guard Source VTRs" to provide a third level of automation-controlled redundancy for the BOCs.

The MOC is where the media operations control center is located. Here operators can monitor everything, connect to sources in every control room and alter playlists. Snell & Wilcox audio shuffling modules are featured in the MOC, as well as other unique products that reconfigure audio tracks of various languages associated with a program.

Equipment List

Snell & Wilcox

IQ modular products
RollCall network control and
monitoring
Pro-Bel automation

Pinnacle Mediastream 900 servers with networked storage

Cisco IP routing systems Thomson Grass Valley

Trinix routers

M2100 master control switchers Philips Venus routers Chyron Aprisa and Duet graphics

BARCO Hydra multi-image display
EMC data storage

Avalon storage management

ASACA DVD archives
Evertz modular equipment
Taranay digital video process

Teranex digital video processors Scientific-Atlanta IRDs Tektronix audio/video T&M systems

Nvision fiber optic transmitters

TOTAL VCE ANIMA

FOX News

production studio

hen FOX News prepared to add a new, street-level production studio to their midtown Manhattan broadcast operations center, The Systems Group (TSG) was brought in to implement a "21st century operations suite" as part of a turnkey production facility. The addition of the studio allowed FOX News to expand its current programming to include a live audience production. This suite of control and production operations rooms includes production control, audio control and voice-over booth, tape and server playback area, satellite equipment room, and a glasswalled street level studio in the Rockefeller Center district of NYC. The space allotted for the production control rooms and the studio consisted of office space in the News Corp. building, as well as the purchase of the now defunct Dish of Salt restaurant.

which is where the studio is now operating. The facility incorporates some of the latest in multiviewer monitoring, hybrid audio mixing and network-connected production systems technology.



The design of the new production environment marked a different path from the model that FOX News had previously used to design the entire facility. The control rooms and the entire graphics department now occupy the former office space. In addition, there are offices for the production staff of the "Dayside" show, and a local satellite equipment room that houses the equipment for the control rooms, the studio and the graphics department. The production space is used for multiple shows with individual setur needs, which made it necessary to enable the room to be reconfigured as quickly and painlessly as possible. The production control room was designed around a multiviewer-driven, rear-projection display monitor wall and competition overbridge that included serial tallies

from the production switcher, as well as router-driven dynamic tally and source ID. The same multiviewer platform sources an LCD overbridge in the audio control room, and monitoring configurations are changeable via snapshet recall between and during shows from a unique technical director cockpit. The integration of a digital switcher and mixer streamlines the process of show snapshot saving, recall and setup.

The space allocated for the build was two stories up from the existing technical and production core, located next to and above a breezeway that runs through the building. Due to the location of the new build, interfacing to the existing technical core required the addition of multiple cabling conduits, a metwork of demarc panels and extensive coordination with local labor groups. The implementation of the monitor wall multiviewer, the UMD system controller, the switcher and the facility router for integrated serial tallies and dynamic UMD displays proved to be one of the more challenging design aspects to implement. TSG also designed infrastructure to support the future FOX News relocation of the remote robotic camera and video shading control room.

Design Team

FOX News

Warren Vanderveer, VP-op. and eng. Chris Bauer, dir. eng. Gordon Jackson, eng.
The Systems Group Paul Rogalinski, proj. mgr. John Holt, sr. systems eng. Darwin Clermont, install. supervisor Steve Losquadro, lead tech. John Vasilenko, proj. coordinator Gus Garcia, James Hughes, Joe Ortega, Rafael Sumeersarnath and Houari Ramos, tech.

Equipment List

Thomson

XttenDD prod. switcher LDK-200 digital cameras Accom DVeous DVE Quantel Picturebox SS Miranda Kaleido K2 TSL USC-21 system controller Clarity Lion UX 67" Display Calrec Sigma 100 Audio Mixer Fujinon studio and ENG lenses Radamec camera robotics



CNNTime Life Studios

since the 1980s, CNN has expanded its international news organization beyond its home in Atlanta to include facilities around

the globe. The most recent move for CNN involved the renovation and construction of two facilities in New York City in 2002 to accommodate news shows built around its high-profile talents, Connie Chung and Paula Zahn. The Systems Group (TSG) was appointed to help plan and execute the project, which included the renovation of the CNN facil-

ity located at 5 Penn Plaza and the construction of the new street-front studio located at the Time Life building in midtown Manhattan. These facilities were necessary for CNN to have a

bigger presence in New York.

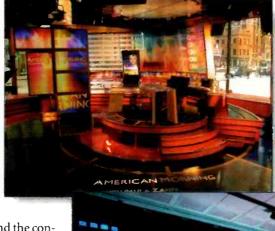
Early in the planning process for the 5 Penn Plaza project, CNN announced plans to create the new studio facility

the expansion of routing connectivity feeds to two smaller existing studios. Thomson Grass Valley 4000 three-M/E production switchers were chosen for the facility, deployed along with a Thompson Trinix SDI video router with a 256 x 256 channel matrix and active carding for a 192 x192 matrix. A Venus analog router with active carding for a 256 x 256 matrix also was installed. Sony PVM and BVM video monitors using Telex KP32 intercom key panels for communication were installed in the two facilities. The new systems were cut into the existing onair operation in a highly coordinated manner with no impact to the home

> viewer. Each room in Penn Plaza was individually transitioned and tested, allowing the engineers to shadow the signal path for both analog and digital systems while remaining on the air.

> TSG was appointed in February 2002, with the 510 Penn Plaza segment reaching completion in May 2003. TSG

was on site within four weeks to begin the cable pulls for the production studio upgrade. The studios went from analog to a full-digital 601 operation within a six-week period. The Time Life installation started in April 2003. Testing for the Time Life studios began on May 15. The 1000-square-foot-studio launched on June 24, only 20 weeks after the award date. The 2000-squarefoot-street-front studio designed for Paula Zahn came online on September 18, due to the complexities of the set design. Once all the smoke cleared, CNN had a showpiece facility for its high-profile talent and their expanding New York presence.



Design Team

Jeff Gershgorn, dir. eng.
Jesse Spilka, eng. mgr.
Dave Slack, VP-imp. and planning
Tim Sloan, tech. mgr.
The Systems Group
John Zulick, eng.
John Holt, sr. eng.
Paul Rogalinski, sr. proj. mgr.
Darwin Clermont and DJ Rice,
installation supervisors
Hemant Ganesh and Steve

Equipment List

Losquadro, lead tech.

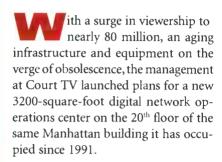
Thomson Grass Valley
Trinix SDI video router 256 X 256
Venus Analog audio router
4000 three-M/E production switchers
Yamaha 02R digital audio mixer
Vinten Quattro studio pedestals
Telex intercom key panels KP32
Sony
HDC950 cameras

HDC950 cameras
PVM and BVM video monitors

in the former Time Life building and control it remotely from the 5 Penn location. The Time Life Studio was designed to give news shows dedicated high-profile studio space, with two sides of glass for public exposure to Sixth Avenue and the associated plaza. Support and technical facilities are located on the lower concourse level. Sony HDC950 video cameras mounted on Vinten Quattro studio pedestals aze used to provide the studios with HD capability for the future, as well as SD quality for the initial launch. A Yamaha O2R digital audio mixer fulfills the audio production duties. Two production control rooms were updated along with

Court TV's

network operations center



Design Team

Court TV

Joe Schwinghammer, VP-eng.

A. F. Associates

Tom Michales, pro. mgr.
John Ciulla, sr. design eng.
Brian Luscombe, design eng.
Mario Patuto, automation specialist
Sundance Digital

Robert C. Johnson, president Eric Harrington, dir. eng. Sean Pendleton, programmer Rick Stora, dir. broadcast ops. EMC Avalon

Jeffrey Esposito, mgr./proj. architect Deborah Farmer, proj. mgr. Avalon Customer Services Group Concadia Solutions

Patrick Turner, sr. systems architect

Equipment List

Thomson Grass Valley Profile XP servers M2100 MC switcher Trinix DV 33-256 router Sundance Digital FastBreak Automation List Sync Sundance Archive Manager DNF 3040 controller EMC AVALONidm software Sun Microsystems V880 server LSI Logic disk cache ADIC Scalar 10K robotic archive Sony AIT-3 tape drives Telestream Flip Factory Canto Cumulus BARCO Hydra/Janus projection Chyron **Duet LEX CG** MAX! graphics system

Leitch Logomotion

AFA equipment racks

Motorola DigiCipher II platform

The facility upgrade addressed both physical and technical aspects, with a serverbased, highly redundant environment at the top of the network's list of requirements. The technical core of the new design would be a centralized machine room

supporting the multichannel master control room and digital asset management. Coals included improved content movement and workflow through a digital asset management system, as well as increased consistency and reliability through more technology with less human intervention. A. F. Associates, an Ascent Media company, was brought in for design guidance and overall systems implementation.

A fully redundant automation system was a necessity, and Sundance Digital's FastBreak Automation was selected to drive three Thomson Grass Valley Profile XP video servers: two PVS 1026s for play to air, and one PVS 1044 for ingesting the content. The system also is integrated with a Concadia Solutions digital asset management system and AVALONidm data storage management software controlling an ADIC Scalar 10K robotic archive and 4TB of disk cache.

FastBreak automation includes a main Air Station plus a ListSync backup station for both the East Coast and the West Coast feed. ListSync adds a leve_ of real-time system redundancy that automatically updates the backup playlist for a seamless transfer of control. Playlist changes are reflected on both stations without manual intervention.

Sundance issues archive requests



through EMC's AVALONidm software to manage files on the disk cache and the ACIC library. Through the AVALONidm policy engine, content files not accessed after a user-defined time period are automatically deleted from the disk cache system, while all files are saved on data tape for long-term backup. This keeps the disk cache system free for new and/or more frequently used media.

Court TV also imposed discrete master control switching for the East and West Coasts. Two Thomson Grass Valley M2100s with Evertz X1202Ss for backup switching were installed. Graphic elements are achieved via two Chyron Duet LEX character generators with clip player options. Orban Optimod 6200s handle the audio processing.

An expandable Thomson Grass Valley Trinix DV 33-256 router with an Er.core control system was installed to accommodate current needs and anticipate potential requirements. Three 67-inch Barco Janus projection screens, stitched together appear as one large screen and serve as the commanding centerpiece of Court TV's control room. Up to 90 images of any size can be shown simultaneously, and any source can display tallies, alarms and audio metering. Forecast Consoles provided all of the furniture in master control.



GeorgiaPublic Broadcasting

eorgia Public Broadcasting (GPB) provides multiple channels of television and radio public broadcasting and a rapidly growing Internet streaming media service to educators throughout Georgia. In early 2002, GPB selected the Broadcast Solutions Group of systems contractor MCSi with SGI Professional Services to transition their infrastructure to an open digital format.

The SGI architecture needed to meet not only broadcast playout requirements, but also the common data management, shared storage and archiving infrastructure that the station envisioned for both its broadcast and non-broadcast data. GPB also wanted to build a highly reliable centralized storage environment that would support both their Internet service and broadcast operation. The result of the collaboration was an ITbased, open digital infrastructure that met the station's enterprise-level storage requirements and transformed its videotape-based broadcast workflow into a simple, full digital dataflow incorporating media management.

A Hitachi Data Systems 9980V was chosen as the central disk storage environment. It has no single point of failure and is designed to grow seamlessly to dozens of terabytes. To connect all participating departments broadcast, IT and educational streaming media — the current mixture of platforms, including SGI IRIX, Windows, Macintosh, Linux and other Unix environments, needed to be universally supported. The 64-bit heterogeneous SGI CXFS shared filesystem for storage area networks (SAN) was implemented, which allows platforms of varying operating systems to attach to the central storage — either by network or Fibre Channel — and see that storage just as though it were local to that desktop or workstation. GPB also selected the ADIC Scalar 10K, with LTO-2 tape media, as their nearline robotic tape library.

Due to the large number of statewide educational users with varying familiarity with the information residing in the infrastructure, media management was dictated. Masstech Group's MassStore enabled automated operations, allowing material to be easily found and maintained. The system also provides the interface for the broadcast operations, moving broadcast data between the various storage systems, including SGI Media Server for broadcast MPEG 2 video servers, Virage Solution Server, and Masstech MPEG-4 proxy server.

The station chose the SGI Media Server for broadcast for its ability to ingest and play out a variety of standards-based file formats, i.e. MPEG-2 I-frame, MPEG-2 Long GOP, DVCPRO25/50 and IMX/D-10. The media server also supports the new MXF file exchange format, ensuring that the company can handle any of today's ompressed video formats. For on-air playback of four 24-hour broadcast feeds, the servers are con-



nected directly to the central storage infrastructure through a high-speed, high-availability 2Gb Fibre Channel redundant SAN fabric.

The station's post-production facilities consist of Avid Media Composer, Symphony and Avid Xpress editing suites. They will be integrated with the centralized storage — most likely using one of the interfaces SGI has developed for the Avid environment — in the next phase of the project, now underway. A Virage media asset management system also will be integrated.

For future high-definition (HD) digital broadcasting, SGI — using its Media Server for broadcast system — developed a customized server that will allow GPBto capture both SD and HD feeds (via an DVB/ASI stream). Harris Automation will control both an SGI Origin 300 video server for HDTV service and redundant SGI Media Servers for broadcast MPEG-2 video servers to provide additional SD channels and embedded data services.

GPB began broadcasting using the MCSi and SGI-designed dataflow in mid-2003.

Design Team

Georgia Public Broadcasting
Mark G. Fehlig, PE, CPBE, DE
Mike Nixon, dir. IT
MCSi Broadcast Solutions Group
Gary Hawkins, sr. eng./proj. mgr.
Michael Wright, nat'l sales mgr.
SGI Professional Services
Bill Buhro, solutions architect
Tony Karam, proj. mgr.
Tom Kaye, principal systems eng.
Doug Squire, account mgr.

Equipment List

SGI

Media Server
Origin 300 servers
CXFS shared filesystem
Hitachi Data Systems 9980V storage
Masstech Group
MassStore storage
Mass Proxy transcoder
ADIC Scalar robotic tape library
Harris automation
Brocade 2Gb Fibre Channel switches

AMV's

Studio C

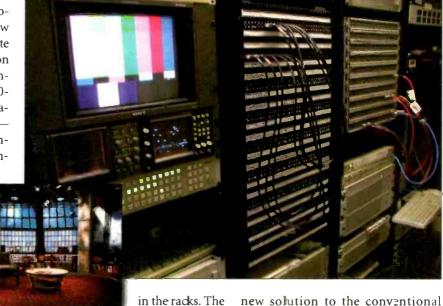
n February 2003, All Mobile Videos' (AMV) Chelsea Studios, located in the Chelsea section of New York City, needed a facility to integrate their four studios at their building on 26th St. AMV needed to feed a live interactive training seminar to the 3000member sales force of Pfizer Pharmaceuticals located around three cities -10 hours a day for five days. The control rooms were required to be stan-

dardized as much as possible, which meant that an upgrade to an SDI backbone was in order for Studio C. Heading the renewal project was Steve Bickman, general manager of studio operations at AMV.

One of seven AMV production studios, Studio C needed to have its own identity. The studio's control room, production and engineering suites were rebuilt from the ground up, including new architecture and furniture. The rebuild covered four rooms, including the 50'x40'x14.5' sound stage, and a remodel of the existing control room. New broadcast equipment, including two consoles and a monitor wall, also were built for the control room.

The studio was completed in less than 12 weeks — from demolition to client move in. PatchAmp Systems Integration Group (SIG) was chosen for the studio design and installation.

PatchAmp SIG provided system engineering, rack layout designs, and integration based around new and existing analog and digital processing and conversion equipment. During the renovation of the studio suites, PatchAmp SIG fabricated the cable assemblies and pre-wired most of the core equipment, including the Leitch routers and Sony production switcher



pre-wired system reduced the onsite labor to less than four weeks.

Considering rack space and time constraint, AMV was looking for a integrated patching and distribution core. The company chose the PatchAmp PA-5032 patching and distribution frame, a high-density DA tray that is pre-wired to the patchbays in a single 14RU frame. The tray was has both digital DAs and D-A conversion DAs for analog output.

Studio C also was designed with HD in minc. The studio offers an HD backbone with the PatchAnap distribution system for complete client flexibility. This concept offers HD upgrade without the high cost associated with SD-to-HD conversion.

Since the Pfizer production, Studio C has been the home to Chelsea Studio's Media Tour clients, as well as client: needing a high-end production facility with a user-friendly environment.

Design Team

All Mobile Video

Steve Bickman, gen. mgr./stud o ops. Nat Tam, proj. eng.

PatchAmp Systems Integrat on Group Jim Tronolone, proj. eng.

Marcel Stubbs, proj. mgr.

Equipment List

DVS 7350 production switcher 20N1U multiformat SDI monitor HDC950 cameras and montors

PatchAmp

PA-5032 patch and DA PA-6000-220 downconverter

Integrator video router VIA 32 32X32 stereo audio router Soundcraft K2 audio mixer McCurdy CS-9500 digital intercom Vinten Quattro studio pedestals Telex intercom key panels





CSTV

College Sports Television

ollege Sports Television (CSTV) is a brand new cable/ satellite service that was launched in April 2003. Located at Chelsea Piers on Manhattan's west side, the facility is actually built on Pier 62 out over the Hudson River. With a variety of existing soundstages located in the Chelsea Piers facility, CSTV chose Stage F for its studio set and an adjacent retail store to renovate and house its production and support spaces. Built in 1910 and renovated in 1992, Pier 62 remains an active docking facility for commercial ships and is part of the 30-acre entertainment complex.

CSTV's mission is to be "the place to go for college sports." CSTV produces eight hours of original programming per night between 4 p.m. and midnight (EST). This programming maspace was altered to accommodate the production control rooms, as well. CSTV is operating in a networked en-

> vironment for ingest, logging, editing, playout and archive. It uses DV25 as the in-house tape format with the ability to playback all 1/2inch tape formats.

> Post-production consists of four nonlinear edit bays with room for



Design Team

Patricia Power, CSTV vp-ops. Jim Parkinson, broadcast sys. consultant Janson Design Group Francisco Tsai, proj. mgr. Karen Singh, sr. designer Mike Braito, const. coord. Chelsea Piers, const. coord. Gary Backman, Sony proj. mgr. Dave Linick, AFA proj. mgr. Tim Hunter, set design

Equipment List

Sony BVP-E1 triax studio cameras DSR-2000 DVCAM VTRs DSDR-1000 DDRs 96x96 SDI, 64x64 video, 128x12 audio, 32x32 and 32-port RS-422 router BVM, PVM series monitors Vinten pedestals Jimmy Jib Pinnacle FX Deko II and Deko 1000 character generators Thunder XL DDR Telex Adam CS matrix intercom Soundcraft Series V audio console Sennheiser wireless microphones Leitch terminal gear Tektronix test and measurement Venaca S3 archive system TBC consoles

terial is then repeated for the following two 8-hour blocks. The control rooms are located directly adjacent to the 4,000-square- foot studio, and this area contains the production control room, audio control room, video/tape and lighting control, main equipment room and master control. Unlike the typical windowless control room environment, CSTV has taken advantage of the waterfront environment and opened up the control room and master control room for passersby to see.

Architecturally, the sound stage required alterations to make it suitable for television production. Excessive ductwork and air conditioning noise was remedied by replacing existing ductwork with larger cross sections. This reduced the air velocities, while the addition of duct silencers reduced the amount of noise generated from the actual air conditioning unit. The connecting stage doors of an adjacent sound stage were sealed off to prevent noise leakage during taping (or filming), and the inside of the stage was treated with acoustic absorption to control sound decay rates. The retail a total of six, each with local DV25 record/playback decks and 1/2-inch J series players. In addition, four nonlinear "highlight" edit rooms are used for nightly highlight packages. The systems are networked with shared storage, and all of the rooms are connected to the facility routing switcher.

Graphics are made up of several PC and MAC-based workstations. Quantel Paintbox Q Pro, which is linked to production and post-production via gigabit Ethernet, and a wideband routing switcher also are key equipment.

Toronto 1

Craig Media's newest TV facility

hen Craig Media, Canada's largest, privately owned television broadcasting company, set out to launch a brand-new television station in Toronto (Canada's largest media market), the company's design philosophy was straightforward build a new facility from scratch us-

ing the latest available technology.

The result was a brand-new, dualformat broadcast facility that is now home to Toronto 1, Toronto's newest local television station

in more than 30 years. Launched on September 19, 2003, Toronto 1 is an independent conventional television station for and about the greater Toronto area.

Airing in the Toronto area on Rogers Cable 15, in the surrounding area on Cogeco Cable 16 and nationally on

satellite cable provider Bell ExpressVu 224, Toronto 1 is an exciting addition to the city's media landscape.

Toronto 1 is about "One Toronto" the definitive expression of the city's contemporary ideals, voice and vision.

Design Team

Paul East, SBL Drew Craig, Craig Media Don Bezenar, Leitch

Equipment List

Leitch multiformat servers Opus SD/HD master control NEO and 6800+ modular infrastructure products LogoMotion II SD/HD brand system Juno upconverter Panacea routers DPS VelocityQ nonlinear editor DPS-575 digital processing synchronizers

With more than 30 hours a week of locally produced programming, this new station not only will reflect the diversity of today's Toronto, it will provide a voice for local and Ontariobased producers and filmmakers.

After winning a license award for Toronto 1 back in April 2002, Craig

> Media conducted a careful review of manufacturers to SD/HD facility, in

SD/HD master control, NEO and 6800+ SD/HD modular infrastructure products, and the new LogoMotion II SD/HD branding system. They also installed the Juno upconverter, Panacea rou-ers, the dpsVelocityQ nonlinear editor and DPS-575 digital processing synchronizers.

A major challenge was the transformation of the selected location for the Toronto 1 station, an art deco-style structure built in 1942 and situated in the heart of downtown Toronto's emerging east media district. Exten-

> sive interior renovations were necessary to transform this historical building into a high-definition-ready, all digital broadcast facility. Ultimately, the fully integrated Leitch system allowed the dual-format facility to operate efficiently and effectively with the highest technical standard

> > possible for the launch of Toronto 1. With the addition of Toronto 1, Craig Media's broadcasting services are now available to approximately 40 percent of Canada's English-

speaking population. The station has a 2003-04 program schedule featuring an array of original shows and co-productions, new network series, a blend of entertainment and variety fare, and a strong assortment of sports programs from NASCAR to Monday Night Football.



Sound Broadcast Limited (SBL), a Winnipeg-based systems integrator. SBL and Craig se-

lected Leitch Technology as the primary equipment manufacturer. SBL and Craig have enjoyed a long, successful relationship with Leitch, stemming back to the debut of Craig's original broadcast services, including the launch of MTV Canaca in 2001.

Craig built a fully integrated system for its new SD/HD facility using a variety of Leitch products that process content entirely in the MPEG domain, as well as flexible platforms that allow for a gradual transition from standard to high definition. Craiz installed Leitch multiformat servers, Opus





(SWR) Südwestrundfunk

üdwestrundfunk (SWR), or Southwestern Broadcasting, is one of the first German public broadcasting stations. SWR serves more than 14 million viewers from three broadcast sites in the cities of Mainz, Baden-Baden and Stuttgart. Their current studio is approximately 15 years old, so SWR recently built a completely new studio and implemented a tapeless

digital newsroom. This newsroom will allow the 50-person news team in Mainz to streamline its operations for distributed news production and play to air.

For Mainz, the station chose a solution designed by SGI Professional Services, which also served as systems integrator. The solution,

based around SGI's data-centric broadcast technology, relies on the Media Server for broadcast systems (configured for DVCPRO25), as well as the Origin 300 server and the TP9400 storage system. Pinnacle Systems Liquid Blue nonlinear editors (NLEs), Dalet newsroom computer system, SGT Media Manager, SGT DBOS newsroom automation system, and MPEG-1 video browser/editor also were valuable pieces of equipment in carrying out the solution. Rather than serving strictly as a means of transporting a video signal, the new digital infrastructure enables the company to enhance its workflow and create efficiencies by allowing users to edit and browse material while it is being ingested, as well as by allowing easy reuse of the news story texts and video clips on the station's Internet Web site.

The new tapeless digital newsroom is based on IT technologies and centered on networking for computers and storage. It uses a switched Gigabit Ethernet backbone linked to a central content store, to provide users and sys-

tems with the ability to automatically access con-

tems with the ability to automatically access content through efficient distribution systems. The network also provides the link from the newsroom to the balance of the facility's legacy pro-

duction, planning and archive systems. For feed and tape ingests, an SGI Media Server for broadcast systems is configured with eight ports (four for ingest, two for backup playout, one for low-resolution encoding and one for content review). Coupled with 44 hours of protected RAID-3 storage, the SGI Media Server uses a protected file system for high reliability. Operators schedule ingest from their workstations, and two versions of clips are created.

Low-resolution clips can be browsed and pre-edited using SGT Media Manager software on any of the 50 PC-based Dalet OpenMedia station clients. All files ingested are referenced in SGT's media asset management database and are updated via a MOS protocol gateway to the Dalet OpenMedia newsroom computer system.

High-resolution files are simultaneously transferred from the SGI ingest server to the Origin 300-based central content server, where all content is stored during the news process. It's equipped with 100 hours of the high-performance TP9400 RAID storage system, which also allows it to act as the network-attached-storage server for five high-resolution Pinnacle Liquid Blue NLEs. The NLEs have direct access to the complete central content store via the high-speed network.

SGT DBOS news automation is designed with a modular distributed architecture that allows for flexibility and future expansion, handles the news automation duties. The Media Server systems support Multi-unit Video Control Protocol, a telnet-based protocol that uses the Ethernet network. The DBOS system communicates with the OpenMedia system using MOS protocol.

SWR went on air in February 2003 and reports the facility is experiencing greater flexibility, faster time to air and smoother news operations.

Design Team

SWR

Gerhard Gaa, proj. mgr. Holger Kortüm, journalist Rupert König, prod. eng. Service and Projects Rolf Allard, Udo Fettig, Hans-Jürgen Grumbach, eng. SGI

Stephan Kappel, mgr. Pierre Montagne, Dirk Müller, Helmut Scherer and Cenk Seven, solution architects Sebastian Brings, systems eng.

Equipment List

SGI

Media Server with RAID-3 Origin 300 server with SGI TP9400 Dalet OpenMedia newsroom system SGT

Media Manager/ DBOS news automation Pinnacle Systems Liquid Blue NLEs

Annual Stringer

Ohio News

Network's News Wheel





he Dispatch Broadcast Group's Ohio News Network (ONN) selected Crispin to provide a cost-effective solution in automating its statewide 24-hour news channel. The legacy system required a half-hour show to be edited to tape and then replayed. The first block was reserved for the top stories. Graphics were pre-produced on the tape masters. Breaking news was manually inserted over the taped shows through a master control operator. Commercial breaks were scheduled to occur through the legacy master control automation system.

Prior to the onset of this project, the master control equipment for ONN was relocated to a new control room, consolidating master control facilities for ONN and WBNS. The project was envisioned to use existing equipment and facilities to the greatest extent possible.

The general design goal was to provide complete control over the on-air programming via the AP/ENPS newsroom system. The system needed to be capable of executing multiple active rundowns as driven by producers through ENPS. Playback of stories would originate from GVG Profiles with embedded graphics scheduled in the rundown. The graphics would originate live from a Pinnacle FX Deko II. While automated, the system would still need to support the ability for live

news and weather cut-ins. Additionally, the system would need to provide support for commercial breaks.

The Crispin News Rundown Manager also needed to support multiple active rundowns. This feature created a requirement for the FX Deko to stay synchronized with all the active rundowns. To accommodate, Crispin created another function to parse the CG events from each story created from the built-in ENPS CG editor. Crispin then provided device control of the FX Deko based on the CG objects. This had the added benefit of no longer requiring additional hardware and software to connect the FX Deko to

Design Team

The Dispatch Broadcast Group Jason Pheister, dir. new media Ken Eyerman, asst. chf. eng. Vince Jones, ops. mgr. AP/ENPS

Larry Tawes, systems eng. Crispin

Mark Hunt, special proj. mgr. Jim Zagrabelny, software dev. mgr. Will Owen, software eng.

Equipment List

Crispin Rapid Play X
Crispin News Rundown Manager
Thomson Grass Valley Profile and
Vibrant
Videotek RS12A switcher
Pinnacle FX Deko II

MOS. Leveraging existing live production components, the only new equipment required was a Videotek RS12A switcher, the Pinnacle FX Deko II and the Crispin automation system.

Live news cut-ins were accomplished by creating an ENPS object that causes automation to switch to the studio output. The director then triggers out of the live news cut-in to continue to the next news wheel element. Commercial breaks have a similar object that causes automation to trigger the master control automation to roll the break. At the end of the break, the master control automation triggers the first news wheel element of the following segment.

On schedule and on budget, the automated news wheel system was transitioned to air on September 8, 2003. With minimal investment, the existing news wheel process was automated to a more efficient operation. The entire news playback process is now driven by the ENPS newsroom system as entered by producers. Changes in show format and content order is completely controlled by ENPS and reflected immediately in the Crispin Playout control.

This approach provides broadcasters with existing news productions and the ability to add a 24-hour news channel with little investment.



Time Warner

Oceanic Cable Systems



ceanic Time Warner Cable deployed a Scientific-Atlanta Prisma DT digital transport system to provide a variety of interconnect services for its cable TV and cable modem customers on the islands of Oahu, Maui and Hawaii. A fourth segment of the system is currently being installed on Kauai. In addition to serving cable customers, the network also will provide high-speed data services for government and education agencies in Hawaii.

The flexible Scientific-Atlanta transport system will be used to deliver five major applications for Oceanic on the four islands via an undersea fiber-optic cable network that is believed to be the longest fiber link ever supported by Scientific-Atlanta. Fully redundant links on each island will help to protect the network in the case of a fiber cut. The applications are:

• Video on demand — At the master headend in Mililani on Oahu, library servers are used to store all VOD content. Rather than replicating the effort of downloading the same content at a master site on each island, the central master site on Mililani downloads content updates to remote servers that are located close to customers on each island. Oceanic is using a variety of Scientific-Atlanta Explorer set-top models to support its VOD application.

•High-speed residential cable modem service — All of Oceanic's residential cable modem traffic is being transported among the islands to the system's master headend in Mililani for connection to the Internet.

•Off-air broadcast channels — On each island, local off-air broadcast content is captured at the broadcasters' studios and transported to the Prisma DT network using the Prisma DTx service adapter. Then, the programming from all the broadcasters is included in the cable lineup for viewing on the four islands. This allows cable customers on one island to view programs that are broadcast on the other islands in pristine quality, expanding their viewing options.

Design Team

Ausvin Intakanok, app. eng. Wes Berkey, sr. app. eng. Giorgio Bombelli, sys. eng. Ron Cartwright, transport ntwrk. sales eng. Kevin Sweeney, principal eng. Jeff Powell, staff eng.

Equipment List

Master headend Scientific-Atlanta Explorer set-top models Prisma DT network Prisma DTx service adapter Prisma DT ASI card VOD servers •High-speed data service for government — Several government agencies and the Department of Education have interconnected existing networks on the three islands over OC3 and OC48 rings. The flexibility of the Scientific-Atlanta transport system and its OC3 cards has allowed Oceanic to deliver a high-speed data link for the agencies and schools.

•Content delivery — The Prisma DT system's delivery capabilities let Oceanic downlink the programming for its entire cable lineup at Mililani, create the complete cable package for all consumers, and use ASI to transport it on the Prisma DT system for delivery to customers. Using a Prisma DT ASI card at the master headend at the single reception site has proven to be both efficient and cost- effective. This eliminates the costly process of receiving, processing and multiplexing feeds to create identical cable channel programming lineups on each island.

Installation, integration and support services for the Oceanic network on Oahu, Maui, and Hawaii were provided by SciCare Broadband Services, Scientific-Atlanta's integration and professional services arm that provides the technical resources to help customers meet their business and technical needs. SciCare is currently supporting the Kauai installation.

WNED-TV

incorporates Thales' MSDC-IOT





hen WNED-TV, a PBS-affiliated-station located in Buffalo, NY, made the decision to go digital, it wanted a reliable transmitter that was economical and upgradeable, to meet future power maximization plans.

After assessing many transmitter solutions, WNED bought the Thales MSDC-IOT transmitterto fulfill its FCC obligations. After analyzing Thales' DCX Paragon transmitter, it seemed like the perfect fit for WNED.

WNED was attracted to the significant power and cost savings the DCX Paragon would provide for the station. The transmitter was designed with cost of ownership in mind, with a beam efficiency of up to 60 percent. Since the DCX Paragon's installation in May 2003, it has provided WNED with significant financial savings.

With the purchase and installation of a new transmitter plant, there was a lot to consider, especially with the emerging MSDC IOT technology. Some of the key features offered by Thales made the decision process an easy one. One key feature is Thales' Soft Arc Technology (SAT). SAT eliminates the need for a crowbar circuit for IOT high-voltage protection. SAT has proven to be a failsafe and reliable system, passing the manufacturer's "wire test" requirement for IOT protection.

The DCX Paragon transmitter also incorporates an oil-cooled primary cooling loop inside the HPA cabinet with a liquid-to-liquid heat exchanger. Oil cooling for the MSDC IOT simplifies both the design and maintenance along with increasing the overall reliability. The liquid-to-liquid heat exchanger system allows WNED to use a standard water/glycol system external to the cabinet for

Design Team

Thales Broadcast & Multimedia Tom Stone, program mgr. Mark Grochowski, sr. rf sys. eng. Rodney Cole, assoc. systems eng. WNED

Jonathan Herrington, VP-eng./tech. Ray Felckowski, mgr. trans./rf system Radian Communication Services Greg Gasharre, rf install. spec alist

Equipment List Thales DCX Paragon transmitter

ADAPT 8-VSB exciter
L3 (CEA) MSDC-IOT
IOX analog transmitter
E2V D2130 IOTs
Tektronix RFA 300 measurement set
Sencore IRD 3384 receiver/decoder
Leader LV5152DA HD monitor
Wohler ATSC-3 5.1 ch. audio monitor
Barco HDM5049 HD monitor
Dielectric NTSC/DTV combiner

DeltaStar TUC-05-16 / 80H-R panel

antenna

the remainder of the system, including RF loads. These features are two examples of many. It is the overall efficiency of the DCX Paragon that makes it the correct choice for an ultra-efficient, extremely reliable DTV transmitter plant incorporating the latest technologies.

In parallel with installing the DCX Paragon DTV transmitter, WNED also had Thales install an IOX analog transmitter system. WNED selected turnkey installation of services from Thales, and the entire process was extremely smooth. WNED was able to work with Thales to schedule a timely installation throughout its busy digital transition schedule.

WNEC is planning to upgrade its 155kW ERP DCX Paragon to 950kW ERP in the future. Because the DCX Paragon's installation was planned to be upgradeable, any future goals for the station will be integrated easily.

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WGBH-TV

microwave system upgrade

GBH-TV maintains a fullduplex 7Ghz inter-city microwave link between WGBH in Boston and its sister station WGBY-TV in Springfield, MA, 100 miles away. The link is used for program exchange and also handles network traffic like e-mail and Web access for WGBY. In 2001, these 30-year-old systems needed to be upgraded with the latest state-ofthe-art equipment, capable of handling at least DS-3 rates. A digital upgrade was run on the existing microwave link because the link was already in full service with towers, dishes, RF plumbing, shelter space, etc. There would be a one-time-only cost to purchase and install the new equipment.

The Microwave Radio Communications (MRC) proposal met all the criteria set by WGBH and WGBY. The proposal specified variable-rate modems (VRM) at each end as the baseband interface and at each repeater site to re-clock the data. These modems met the bandwidth and interface requirements the station was looking for. The MRC 2RU modem chassis has four card slots for a variety of interfaces and uses quadrature amplitude modulation

(QAM) of the IF carrier. The units installed in the system have two ASI interface modules and one T1 module, leaving one spare slot. One ASI interface is used to transport a multiplex of two MPEG pro-



gram streams, each encoded at 12Mb/s. The T1 interface links the WGBH and

Two Tandberg E5720 encoders and two TT1260 decoders are installed at both the WGBH and WGBY master controls, making it possible to send two program streams in each direction simultaneously. Each of the three repeater sites is configured with a modem pair for eastbound traffic and a pair for westbound traffic. A pair of modems is connected to the back. The ASI and T1 interfaces on the receive modem feed the inputs on the transmit modem to re-clock and regenerate the data, and to make it possible to breakout the ASI for troubleshooting. One challenge faced was the trade-off between bit rate and the robustness of the link. The station already had a handle on fade margins

WGBY networks.

and performance on the old link. MRC helped develop a link budget and, based on the numbers, suggested 16 QAM as the level to ensure acceptable performance during worst-case conditions. The maximum bit rate on the link is 60Mb/s with the 16 QAM modulation spread over three IF channels in the variable rate modem.

The upgrade took three days of replacing radios and installing modems. After installing the new equipment at all of the repeater sites, the studio ends were turned on. With a few configuration modifications in the modems and encoders, staff were seeing pictures and network data was moving. Over the past nine months, the link has been reliable except for a modem ASI jitter issue early on, which MRC has resolved.

It is likely in the near future WGBH will be adding more services on this link, including both real-time and non-real-time video transfer.

Design Team

MRC
Sal Blatti, systems eng.
WGBH
Steve Harrington, dir. eng.
Michael Foti, systems eng. mgr.
Dave St. Onge, R-F systems mgr.
WGBY
Ray Miller, chf. eng.

Equipment List

MRC
DAR radios
Variable rate modems
TANDBERG
E5720 MPEG encoders
TT1260 MPEG decoders

Vote and Win!

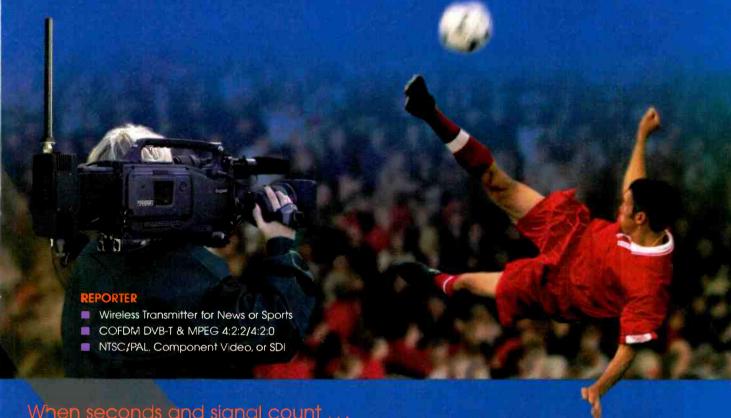
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WPSX-DT

Distributed Transmission (DTx)

PSX-TV is a non-commercial station owned by Pennsylvania State University, serving central Pennsylvania on analog VHF channel 3. WPSX-DT was assigned UHF channel 15 for its DTV signal. The station's city of license is Clearfield, PA, which is separated by mountains from the three major population centers of Altoona, State College and Johnstown, all of which are important to the station's success.

While the propagation characteristics of low band VHF allowed the analog channel to carry over the hills, this challenging terrain promised to block the UHF digital signal from reaching key viewing areas. Additionally, the station's over-the-air signal serves most of the population to the north of Clearfield, as there is little cable penetration in this rural area.

To meet the challenging service demands, the station selected a new technology called Distributed Transmission (DTx) working with their consulting engineer Merrill Weiss. The possibility of relocating the main transmitter to a location that would better serve the three population centers was considered, but no location exists that would allow service to all of the desired areas. Also, any move would have significantly impacted the

coverage of the northern region. DTx promised to allow the station to deploy multiple transmitters throughout the region to target all of the desired population centers, and to operate them all on the same channel. The key to DTx is that the signals from all transmitters in the network are identical. This allows interference received from any one transmitter's signal to the desired signal from another to be treated as multipath. This, in combination with its ability to control the timing of the multiple signals, allows a well-designed distributed transmitter network (DTxN) to take advantage of the equalizers built into every DTV receiver to maximize cov-

Axcera developed a custom system consisting of a 30kW Innovator DT solid-state transmitter for Clearfield and three medium-power transmitters serving State College, Altoona and Johnstown, plus a distributed transmission adapter called the DTXA2B. The station then applied

erage and minimize interference.

for an experimental license and placed the order with Axcera.

Axcera delivered as promised, and the system has met the station's goals. In addition to bringing DTV to areas that would otherwise be underserved, the system is currently being used for testing to help promote the DTx standard, which is currently a Candidate Standard at the ATSC.



Design Team

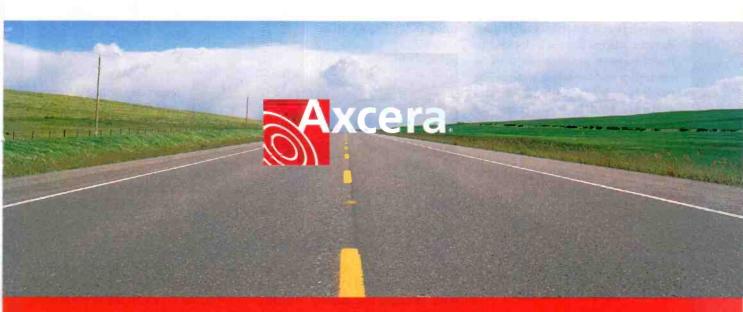
WPSX-TV

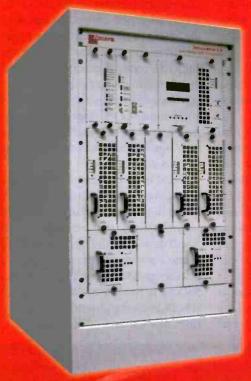
Carl Fisher, CE Tom Wonderling, asst. CE Duane Champion, IT dir. George Thurman, tech. dir. Kate Domico, tech. dir. Merrill Weiss, consultant

Dan Dickey, VP, eng. Bob Welch, sr. mgr., tech. support Dave Hershberger, principal eng. Lance Dolfi, field service eng.



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WLVT

PBS 39

hen WLVT was starting our DTV migration in the year 2000, it needed an automation system that could handle multicast programming and an ever-growing record schedule. WLVT came upon MicroFirst and were intrigued by its prior experience in building microcontrollers that it used as port expanders and interfaces to various devices. MicroFirst then decided to build its own automation process controller and operating system. The result is a package of hardware and software that is built from the ground up for real-time, missioncritical operation.

The MicroFirst Digital Automation System or D.A.S. with its real-time

Design Team:

Bill Ziegler, chief tech. officer Paul Keller, asst. CTO John Scarpa, CEO MicroFirst John Beneat, CTO MicroFirst George Teplansky, dir. bus. dev.

Equipment List:

6 DSR-4000 IRDs

- 7 Panasonic AJ-D960 DVCPro 50 VCRs
- 2 Sony BVW-75 Betacam VCRs
- 1 Sony DVR-10 D2 VCR via VCR Expander
- 2 Sony BVU-950 UMatic vcrs via VCR Expander
- 4 Pinnacle MediaStream decoders
- 2 Pinnacle MediaStream encoders
- 1 Thomson Jupiter Router controller 1 LTC clock
- 1 Sony SVO-5800 S-VHS VCR via VCR
- 1 Panasonic AG-6500 VHS VCR via GPI VCR Expander
- 4 Panasonic AG-6300 VHS VCRs via GPI VCR Expander
- 1 Leitch DPS-575 logo key via GPI
- 3 Miranda Oxtel ImageStores
- 1 NVision router controller
- 1 Leitch AgileVision.

operating system will boot in under 10 seconds and start running any schedules that are loaded. The operating controls are a suite of programs that run on Windows 2000 or XP workstations and connect over the Ethernet network using TCP/IP. Application



functions include: schedule import/export, editing and event monitoring with alarming and manual override; machine control for manual device control, server ingest and clip trimming; media database management; resource configuration; and a log viewer that can be filtered by any number of parameters. Up to 10 workstations can connect to an automation processor at the same time.

All resources are available to all schedules. There is no need to restrict a device to a particular function. WLVT normally runs three schedules: analog, digital and record. The record schedule is used for incoming and outgoing network feeds. Schedules can be built arbitrarily far in advance and still edited at the last second. A feature that is particularly useful is branding one of the DTV services as the default schedule. This service is a network feed that is the same format

every day. If the DAS does not find a schedule for a certain date, it determines if a default schedule is established. If it finds one, then that is run. This way, a schedule only needs to be created for the days that some of the network programming is preempted.

The Machine Control Program is used for manual control of devices. Its GUI makes for an intuitive operation. The server dubbing screen docks the VTR and server control panels with the ability to enter a cue point or grab one from the tape. One feature is the ability to create duplicate clips based on an existing server clip. A duplicate clip has a different name and start and end points. WLVT records multi-segment shows off the satellite, and then each segment is broken out of that one file as a duplicate clip.

MicroFirst worked well for WLVT's needs. Many of the features came from suggestions from the users. Need to control a device that is not on the list? It will develop it and either download it into a system or refer a Web page to get the updates from. The result is a package of hardware and software that is built from the ground up for a real-time, mission-critical operation.

WTTW-TV

public television programming

TTW-TV has been providing Chicago and its surrounding metropolitan area with locally and nationally produced public television programming for many years. In 1965, a studio facility was constructed on the north side of the city. The WTTW analog master control and associated tape room facility from the 1960s had undergone several rebuilds prompting the query whether to refurbish again or start anew. WTTW re-purposed the old facility for other operations and decided to build a new broadcast facility.

Working with both architectural and interior design firms, a new space was created for a highly functional work environment.

Design Team

WTTW

Jerry Hanna, VP-eng. Fred Engel, dir. eng. ops. Robert Bruner, sr. eng. elect. Michael Tompary, const. EIC Dennis Raymond, sr. eng. ops. John Oppy, elect. main. tech. Shaw Saepoung, elect. main, tech. Alan Skierkiewicz, elect. main. tech. Ted Szubzda, elect, main, tech. Robert Wratschko, elect, main, tech. Sundance Digital Robert C. Johnson, pres. Annie Billings, field eng. Rick Stora, dir. broadcast ops. Eric Harrington, dir. eng. Harol Lutz and Associates, architect Studio Designs Group, interior desgr. Roscor, primary vendor

Equipment List

SeaChange International Broadcast
Media Cluster
Sencore Stream server
Thomson Trinix video router
Venus audio router
Jupiter control system
Saturn master control switcher
360 Systems Digicart II
Miranda K2 monitors
Sundance Digital FastBreak auto. sys.

In April 2002, WTTW-DT started broadcasting from the Sears Tower using a combination of upconverted analog WTTW programming, plus high-definition content, both locally produced



and from PBS. WTTW decided to use its employees in the electronic maintenance and design group and built the facility without the help of a systems integrator. Engineering managers researched equipment, tactics and budgets and developed an overall system design while vendors selected equipment and furnished implementation ideas.

WTTW chose the SeaChange Broadcast Media Cluster because its 5node server provides more than 1800 hours of SD program storage at 12 MB/s. It also has 11 encoders and 15 decoders allowing for multiple channel playout. With the advent of digital multichannel capability, WTTW had to decide how to cost-effectively get multiple channel streams on the air. Sundance D_gital's FastBreak Automation system was chosen as the automation vencor because its system provides a user-friendly GUI, traffic and record log conversion capability, and flexible database management.

Several programs make up Sundance Digital's FastBreak Automation system: The Sundance Intelli-Sat

program converts record lists generated by the Myers Information Systems Prc Track traffic system and prepares them for automatic recording. Three Sundance prep stations allow for program evaluation and preparation for air as well as a place to examine database information. Sundance SIDON controllers provide RS-422 control to most of the broadcast devices in the system. The Sundance Air Station gets a playlist from ProTrack and provides direct control of a server decoder for playout. The Air Station issues commands to the router, switcher and ancillary equipment through SIDON.

WTTW uses a Sundance ListSync computer to parallel their main Air Station for redundancy. The Sales View program allows individuals not directly connected to the Sundance network infrastructure to query the content database, as well as callup indiv dual items to stream over an internal house network. In WTTW's case, they directly control a server decoder wired to an RF modulator. The DBOC is centered on Thomson Trinix and Venus routing switchers controlled by the Thomson Jupiter control system. A Thomson Venue AES aucio router and four Saturn Master Control switchers are controlled by the Sundance Digital FastBreak automation system.



KLRU-TV

Multichannel DTV Project

LRU-TV concluded its planning in late 2002 for a phased transition to a multichannel DTV operation. KLRU has become an adopter of what evolved to be the classic model of a large-market PBS multichannel DTV operation.

KLRU wanted to install an all-digital production environment solely in pre-existing rack space, and to do the work without interruption of its current station backbone. The system also needed to enhance and introduce functionality in a variety of ways, while balancing and maximizing future workflow. Along with the ability to multicast and to broadcast in HD formats, KLRU's primary project design goals included increasing from

two to four channels under automation control (two NTSC, two DTV), with the option of increasing in the future as DTV needs change and adding the ability to store and trim NTSC, SDI, HD-SDI, and ASI files on a server. Increasing server I/O capability and adding automated file transfers between traffic and automation, as well as an interface to the DTV MPEG-2

multiplexer system for smooth dayparting reconfigurations was also important. Implementing transparent file transfer from the traffic system and an interface to the DTV MPEG-2 multiplexer for smooth dayparting reconfigurations also was necessary.

After an extensive review process, KLRU selected SignaSys in early 2003 to provide overall project management, transition planning, system engineering, technology integration, system installation, and testing services. SignaSys delivered a plant-wide automation system, as well as comprehensive integrated ATSC encoding and

transmission server systems. Director of engineering David Kuipers decided on SignaSys after he visited the Multi-Channel Broadcast Alliance (MBA) lab in its San Jose, CA. head-

quarters. The MBA Lab demonstrated multiple software interfaces to control, monitor and day-part multiple channels. This system emulated a complete

master control operation, thereby KLRU could evaluate its DTV system architecture needs before spending money on technology.

At times, a project's accomplishments are emphasized by overcoming unforeseen crises. KLRU and SignaSys faced an obstacle partway through the project: The initially chosen automation manufacturer discontinued its

product and downsized its operation to "support-only" mode. As the centerpiece of the new DTV facility and the core enabler of efficient workflow, this development could have turned the project into a disaster for SignaSys and become a long-term burden for KLRU. SignaSys promptly identified Crispin's System 2000 as the replacement for KLRU's distinct automation requirements within the project

schedule and the budget constraints.

SignaSys completed KLRU's transition in early October 2003. KLRU's DTV facility now has an integrated 4 SD + 1 HD encoder and mux system,

an automation system with a traffic interface, a dynamic PSIP, 'glass cockpit' MCR monitoring, closed captioning, and last of all, DTV EAS capabilities.

KLRU is located in Austin, TX. Broad-

casting for more than 40 years, KLRU continues to be a leader in providing public television programming, community services, and public events.

Studio photo courtesy of Scott Newton at Austin City Limits.



Design Team

SignaSys

David Lingenfelter, prog. mgr.
Stan Becker, sr. systems architect
Jim Bostrom, sr. systems eng.
Don Fox, installation group mgr.
John Denito, lead install. tech.
KLRU-TV

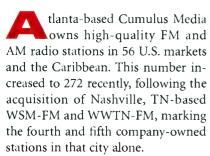
David Kuipers, dir. eng. Brad Wilkinson, proj. consult.

Equipment List

AVP Digital Audio/Video Jackfields
Crispin System 2000 automation
Evertz HDTV logo inserter, HDTV
caption encoder, multiformat HD test
signal generator
Miranda virtual monitor wall
Omneon mediaserver 2101
Sencore ATSC receiver/decoders
Tandberg Television 5821 HD and
5710 SD encoders
5000 Mux transport stream
Tektronix Test & QC
Teranex Volare 210 upconverter
Triveni Digital ATSC PSIP
ProTrack interface module

Cumulus

Media-Nashville



With five stations broadcasting from two different facilities within the city limits, it was time to consolidate all operations under one roof. The media company already owned a two-story building in Nashville, so location was not a problem. Both floors were gutted to accommodate the remodeling required to add WSM-FM and WWTN-FM to existing stations WRQQ-FM, WQQK-FM and WNPL-FM.

The first floor was

renovated for administration, business and sales. The second floor was rebuilt to house the studios and relevant personnel. The heating and air-conditioning systems were obsolete and needed to be replaced, and the entire electrical system was inadequate and required new lines to be installed. The ultimate design emerged following a tremendous amount of thought, planning and consultations with program directors and air staff.

Attention to detail was a priority. Each piece of furniture was designed to fit each room. Where people would sit and where TV monitors would go was taken into consideration. An acoustical consulting firm was hired to offer advice on achieving maximum efficiency in each room's noise rating.

Breaking with tradition, Cumulus built clusters, or "pods," instead of linear rows of studios. Each air studio is grouped with its program director's office. Keeping each station's personnel together helped preserve its individual personality, and placing the program director in the cluster keeps him close to his people and the heart of the broadcast.

Another significant feature of the fa-

cility is a glass-enclosed live performance studio with its own separate control room. Designed and built



around the specific needs of live acts, the room will serve a

dual purpose as both a radio and TV studio. The company consulted with engineers from Country Music Television (CMT) and the Grand Ole Opry to be sure the studio incorporated enough functionality to accommodate acts both large and small, both radio and television. A daily morning television program, complete with graphics, will originate from the fully featured studio.

Once the architectural plans were

nailed down, it was time for technical considerations. The media group has enjoyed a long-standing relationship with Wheatstone, so it was an easy decision to go with Wheatstone's worksurface technology again. The entire facility is being built digital, from the CDs to the transmitter, with source gear

as the only possible exception. The media company chose Wheatstone's new digital, modular D-9TV console to process audio on the television side of the operation,

and a G-5 for the radio end. The entire infrastructure is based around a digital audio BRIDGE network router — a dual domain routing system that is expandable via fiber optic links to multiple router cages. The company designed its Houston, TX, and Eugene, OR, facilities around the BRIDGE system as well.

A great deal of equipment, furniture and functionality had to be packed into the five-station, 19,000-square-foot facility. The compact D-9 capitalizes on work-surface area. Its configuration includes multiple outputs, surround sound options, subgroups, DCM masters, monitor functions and communication circuits, as well as a wealth of operational functions.

'With a low profile, through-counter design, the G-5's compatibility with the BF.IDGF router digital audio network system will allow all studio control surfaces to access a common pool of shared signal sources. The media company chose fiber-optics over cable for digital links from each studio to the rack rocm. These single-run digital links saved enormously on wiring costs.

Completion of the five-station complex is scheduled for February 2004.

Equipment List

Scott Studios automation Wheatstone

D-9 TV digital television console G-5 digital audio radio console BRIDGE d gital audio network router European Cabinetry furniture

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16x9

Burbank, CA; 818-972-2839; www.16x9inc.com

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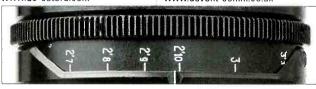
Nashville, TN; 615-256-6619; www.adtecinc.com

Advanced Test

Equipment (ATEC) San Diego, CA; 858-558-6500; www.atecorp.com

Advent Communications

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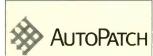
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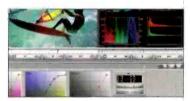
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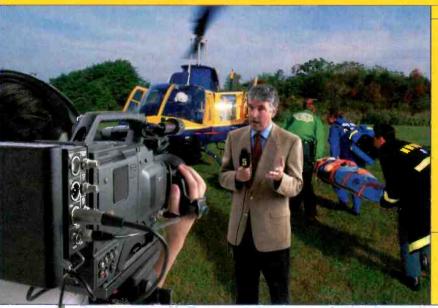
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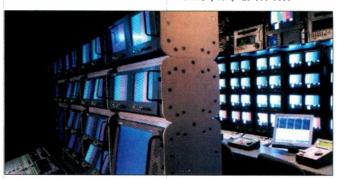
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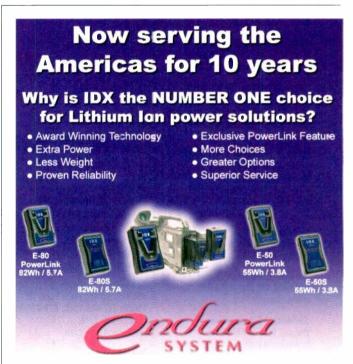
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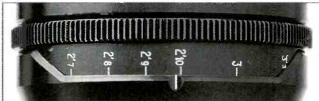
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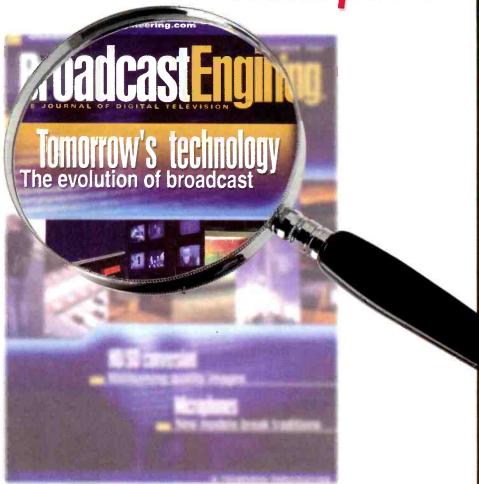
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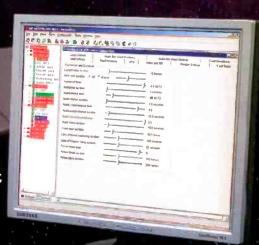
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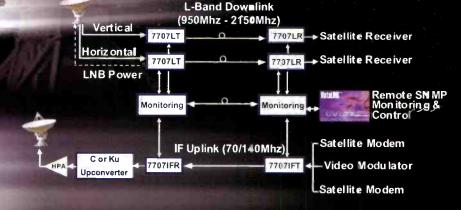
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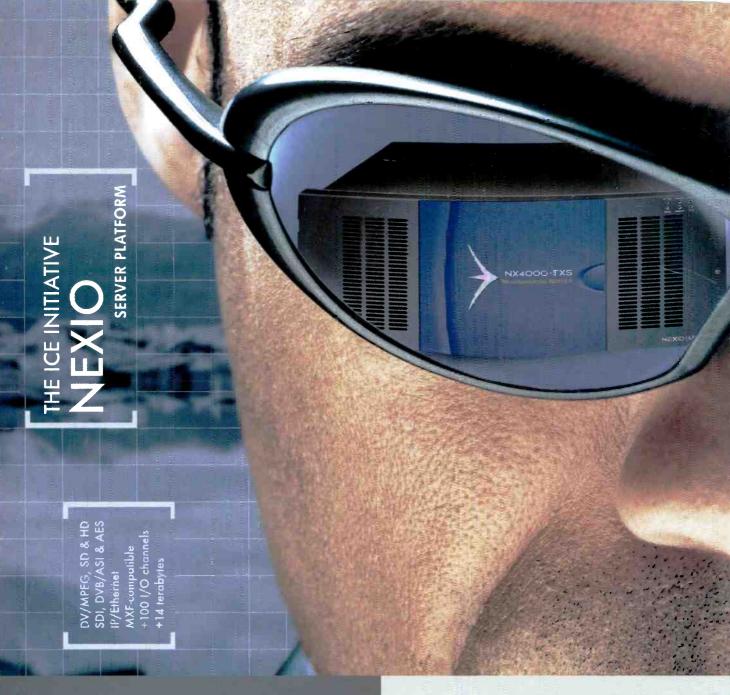
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