TODAY'S PRESENTATION HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO ILLNESS OF THE SPEAKER.

We are attempting to arrange an alternate presentation. Watch this website and your e-mail for updates.

DATE: Tuesday, September 13, 2005

TIME: 7:30 PM

LOCATION: CBS/UPN Detroit
26905 W. 11 Mile Road
Southfield, Michigan
(248) 350-5050

SPEAKER: Tish Boyles
Morrow Technologies

SUBJECT: COFDM in ENG Transmissions: New Problems, New Solutions

What is COFDM? How do you manage it, control it, and deal with it? The transition to digital ENG necessitates changes not only to transmit and receive hardware, but also to the tools and methods utilized to monitor and maintain signal quality. Historically, the TV/monitor approach has been the industry-standard for analog transmissions; the remote spectrum analyzer will become the new standard for monitoring and control in the digital domain.

While COFDM is designed to work well in multi-path environments, interference can affect signal levels. COFDM signals are susceptible to the "Cliff Effect" and to over-saturation; both result in the failure of the receive chain to produce a useable signal. The "Cliff Effect" refers to the drop off in reception resulting from marginal signal levels. When analog signals degrade, the picture quality degrades with an increase of sparkles or snow. However, digital signals lack the corresponding degradation of picture quality; when the signal drops below the minimum threshold, the digital picture simply and abruptly disappears. Conversely, over-saturation occurs when the signal level exceeds the maximum threshold. This causes excessive inter-modulation or side band regrowth, preventing the receive chain from decoding the signal. In either situation, the picture quality does not give any indication of the proximity of the signal to the relative threshold until it’s too late.

Tish Boyles is the Sales Manager for Morrow Technologies and has been in the Technology field for over 6 years. She worked with Allied Telesyn for a number of years in the networking market. She now is with Morrow Technologies in the Test & Measurement field. She has a degree in business with a focus on technology.

Managers' Dinner is at 5:30 PM at Steak & Ale, 27590 Orchard Lake Road (at 12 Mile), Farmington Hills. (248) 476-8440

Upcoming events

- The Taste of NAB Roadshow, Friday, September 16, 12:00 Noon at Detroit Public Television’s new facility in Wixom (Grand River and Napier Roads, one mile west of the Wixom Road/I-96 interchange). Visit http://www.tech-notes.tv/2005/56-Detroit.htm for more details.
- October 11 Section Meeting: ENCO Systems will discuss developments in audio for television including uncompressed 5.1 surround audio servers
- November 8 Section Meeting: Panasonic will present digital HD camera technology

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Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers
Detroit Section Meeting Notice
October 2005

Joint Meeting with Detroit Section, Audio Engineering Society

DATE: Tuesday, October 11, 2005
TIME: 7:30 PM
LOCATION: ENCO Systems
29444 Northwestern Highway
(North of 12 Mile)
Southfield, Michigan

SUBJECT: Uncompressed Surround-Sound Server Technology

Though Enco's product line consists of server-based digital audio recording and playback systems, they keep their eye on the needs of television. One of the latest offerings of their DAD and DADtv systems support uncompressed 5.1 and 7.1 surround sound streams. The DADtv is being used at television installations such as QVC, The Dr. Phil Show and Entertainment Tonight. Enco's engineers will give us a presentation on the workings of their surround sound servers.

Managers' Dinner is at 5:30 PM at Fishbone's Rhythm Kitchen, 29244 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield. (248) 351-2925

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Guests and Non-Members are Welcome
Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers
Detroit Section Meeting Notice
November 2005

DATE: Tuesday, November 8, 2005

TIME: 7:30 PM

LOCATION: Roscor Michigan, Inc.
27280 Haggerty Rd., Suite C-2
Pavilion Hills, Michigan
(South of 12 Mile)
(248) 489-0090
Map

SPEAKER: Mr. William Edwards
Panasonic Broadcast and Television Systems

SUBJECT: P2 Memory-based Acquisition in HD

Panasonic's introduction of P2 was interesting from many perspectives, but two of the more noteworthy were the decision not to introduce a companion editing system, but rather to announce an effort to partner with existing systems, and to promote the fact that the P2 cards were HD ready and that HD products would follow shortly. These two threads align because, while the original partners supporting P2 were only four (Avid, Quintel, Pinnacle and Grass Valley), their ranks have grown to 15, and, as Panasonic has announced an HD / SD P2 camcorder "family," many of them have announced synchronized release of NLE support for P2 HD.

This presentation will discuss the unique attributes of P2 acquisition, the inherent advantages of memory-based storage, why it integrates into editing systems easily, how HD "fits" into P2, and why the MXF O.P. Atom structure makes all this possible. In a word, it's all about workflow.

Bill Edwards is Director of Broadcast Sales Development at Panasonic Broadcast and Television Systems Company. During his more than 10 years with Panasonic, Mr. Edwards has held the positions of Sales Development Manager for the Central US Region and District Sales Manager for the Mid-Atlantic States. Bill's background is in electronic technologies and business. Current responsibilities involve working directly with the East Coast-based Broadcast and Cable Networks, Station Group Ownerships, Emerging markets and Panasonic's resell / distribution channels to facilitate Panasonic Broadcast's High Definition and P2 based products.

Managers' Dinner will be at 5:30 PM at Greek Isles, 39777 Grand River Ave, (West of Haggerty) Novi, MI 48375. (248) 442-9255

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Guests and Non-Members are Welcome
DATE: Wednesday, December 14, 2005 (Note different day than usual!)

TIME: 7:00 PM (Note earlier time)

LOCATION: Detroit Science Center IMAX Theatre.
5020 John R
Detroit, Mich. 48202
(Behind the Detroit Institute of Arts at Woodward and Warren)
Map

SPEAKER: Todd Sisler
Director of Science Programs
Detroit Science Center

SUBJECT: IMAX Theatre Technology

NOTE: To cover DSC’s costs of after hours access, an admission charge of $2 per attendee will apply.

This month we get a rare look into the workings of an IMAX theatre. Todd Sisler and Pete Herb, DSC’s IMAX Chief Projectionist, will show us the projection booth and audio system, explain IMAX technology, and show a short feature. We’ll also get a look at the new planetarium by Dassault Système and its optics and control systems.

Managers' Dinner will be at 5:30 PM at Traffic Jam & Snug, 511 W. Canfield at Second, Detroit 48201.
(313) 831-9470. Map
Please be prompt if possible due to the early start time.

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Guests and Non-Members are Welcome
Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers
Detroit Section Meeting Notice
January 2006

DATE: Tuesday, January 10, 2006
TIME: 7:30 PM
LOCATION: Roscor Michigan, Inc.
27280 Haggerty Rd., Suite C-2
Farmington Hills, Mich. 48331
(248) 499-0090

SPKERS: Dave Westermann
Regional Sales Manager - Great Lakes Region
Ross Video, Inc.
Ryan McCormick
Ross Video, Ottawa, Ontario

SUBJECT: Multi-Definition Switcher Design Considerations

This month’s meeting will involve both a brief presentation and a hands-on, close up look at the design considerations and eventual product for the Ross Video MD series multi-definition switchers. Included topics will be design goals, form factor, chassis design, graphics, video processing, DVE’s, and external device control. After the presentation attendees will be able to see the MD unit in action including some hands-on time and a look at the MD frame.

Dave Westermann has been in the broadcast and video industries for 28 years and is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Since moving to Michigan in 1991 he has worked for video equipment manufacturers and dealers. He has been a member of the Detroit SMPTE section since 1993, Dave joined Ross Video in November of 2004.

Ryan McCormick has been with Ross Video for nearly two years. Prior to joining Ross Video he worked as the Technical Director for Report on Business Television in Toronto, part of the CTV Network. He currently does both training and product demonstration work around the world.

Managers’ Dinner will be at 5:30 PM at Greek Isles, 39777 Grand River Ave. (West of Haggerty) Novi, MI 48375. (248) 442-9255

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Guests and Non-Members are Welcome
DATE: Wednesday, February 15, 2006 (Note different day of the week)
TIME: 7:30 PM
LOCATION: Farmington Public Schools Maxfield Training Center
Room 2
33300 Thomas St.
Farmington, Mich. 48336
(MTC is north of Grand River and east of Farmington Rd., behind the Methodist Church and Goodyear Tire Center.)

SPEAKERS: Emerson Ray
Director of Sales, Eastern Region
Sundance Digital

SUBJECT: Broadcast Automation

This month, Sundance Digital will present a program on broadcast automation, servers, playout, and asset management systems. Sundance, based in Irving, Texas, has manufactured broadcast automation systems since 1994.

Managers’ Dinner will be at 5:30 PM at Page’s Food & Spirits, 23621 Farmington Rd. (south of Grand River; park in back), Farmington.

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Guests and Non-Members are Welcome
Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers
Detroit Section Meeting Notice.
March 2006

Joint Meeting with Society of Broadcast Engineers, Chapter 82

DATE: Wednesday, March 15, 2006 (Note different day of the week)
TIME: 7:30 PM

LOCATION: WKBD-TV & WWJ-TV
26005 W. 11 Mile Rd.
Southfield, Mich. 48034
(248) 350-5050

SPEAKERS:
Sarah Maneri and Bill Anderson
Vizrt

SUBJECT: Multiformat realtime 3D character generation

Vizrt will be presenting the Viz/Trio broadcast graphics system. This system replaces traditional character generators and still stores in a broadcast news environment with one centralized user interface and a modular output system capable of 2D & 3D animations without the need for pre-rendered video clips. They will also be showing Viz/Artist, the design tool incorporated into Viz/Trio. Viz/Artist is capable of real-time rendering of complex full screen animations and animated objects normally created in AfterEffects, 3D Studio, and other similar programs.

Sarah Maneri, Product Specialist, has just begun her career at Vizrt, coming from ESPN where she was the lead graphic designer and project manager during the transition to Vizrt in 2004.

Bill Anderson is Central Region Sales Manager, joining Vizrt in January of 2005. Prior to that, his 30 year career in radio & television production, management, and sales included most recently positions as Broadcast Product Specialist & Regional Sales Manager with Pinnacle Systems for eight years.

Managers’ Dinner will be at 5:30 PM at Steak & Ale, 27390 Orchard Lake Road (at 12 Mile), Farmington Hills. (248) 476-8440

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‘Guests and Non-Members are Welcome’
DATE:       Tuesday, April 11, 2006  
TIME:       5:30 PM  
LOCATION:   PAGE'S FOOD AND SPIRITS  
            23621 Farmington Rd., Farmington Michigan  
            (248) 477-0099  
SUBJECT:    Members' Technology Discussion  

Join your fellow engineers for dinner at Page's and discuss what's new in technology, what to expect at NAB and our future plans and ideas.  

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Guests and Non-Members are Welcome
DATE: Tuesday, May 9, 2006
TIME: 7:30 PM
LOCATION: MACPROFESSIONALS
40245 Grand River Ave.
Novi, Michigan 48375
(248) 893-0738

SPEAKER: JON RUTHERFORD
Director, Video/Broadcast-HD & Training, Macprofessionals
DEAN NORTON
Director of Technology, MacProfessionals

SUBJECT: Trends in Storage; Mobile HD; Windows on Mac, and SMPTÉ Annual Post-NAB Sum-Up

Advances in storage technology give production and post production facilities myriad storage options. SATAII, 4GB FC, SAS will be discussed as some of the SAN solutions available.

Mobile HD - a fully portable HD field acquisition system. And you’ve heard about it, now see it...running Windows XP on a Mac; and implications for production workflow.

If you attended last year’s NAB, you are especially invited to join us at this month’s meeting and share your learned observations and opinions with the group!

Jon Rutherford is director of Video/Broadcast-HD and Training at Macprofessionals, an Apple Authorized Training Center offering the complete Apple Pro Apps curriculum. Their Video group specializes in configuring specific solutions to meet the client’s needs. Jon has many years of multi-media experience and travels the country providing training and consultation services.

Dean Norton heads the technical team at Macprofessionals, Michigan’s only Xsan Medallion Reseller, and Apple Professional VAR. Norton has been supporting Apple technology professionally for 16 years. He holds two bachelors degrees in technology subjects from Michigan State University, and five current technical certifications from Apple. When he is not thinking about SAN solutions, he spends time writing, learning the guitar, and flying stunt kites.

MANAGERS’ DINNER will be at 5:30 PM at Greek Isles, 39777 Grand River Ave. (just west of Haggerty in Pheasant Run Plaza). (248) 442-9253.

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DATE: Tuesday, June 13, 2006
TIME: 5:30 PM
LOCATION: Greek Isles Restaurant
39777 Grand River Ave. (Pleasant Run Plaza)
Novi, Michigan 48375
(248) 442-9255

To wrap up the 2005-06 season, SMPTE members (and industry-related friends) are invited to join Detroit Section managers and officers for an informal dinner/meeting at the Greek Isles restaurant.

Since the positions open for the last election had only one candidate per slot, the following results are in, effective as of July 1:

- Chair (July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007): Chuck Reti
- Secretary-Treasurer (July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007): Frank Maynard

Terms of Managers Bob Zeichner, Gerry Matthews and Jim Totten run through June 30, 2007. Thanks go to Helge Blucher for serving as Section Manager for the last two years.

An administrative meeting for Managers/Officers will be held as usual in August. Our next regular membership meeting will be Tuesday, September 12. Suggestions for meeting programs, and assistance in obtaining speakers and meeting venues would be appreciated.

If you are unable to join us for dinner, have a safe summer and hope to see you again in September.

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