

The 2009 C+t Awards

Recognising Innovation in Products, Production, Projects

Australia • New Zealand • Southeast Asia

The 2009 Annual Content+Technology Awards for Innovation has attracted a record number of entries. Winners will be announced Wednesday July 22nd, 2009, during the SMPTE09 Gala Awards Evening, Powerhouse Museum, Sydney. Meanwhile, enjoy our finalist highlights.

CATEGORY: TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

Australian Broadcasting Corporation - ABC Innovation

The ABC's Innovation Division developed Australia's first IPTV service and has launched the broadcaster into the mobile space. They have experimented with games as a way to simulate real life situations and generate informed learning outcomes across complex scenarios. They have experimented with map mash-ups, Google Earth layers, desktop widgets, web information portals, mobile applications, twitter, 3D environments and more.
www.abc.net.au

Digistor - RTD|HD

Building on Digistor's history of Replay Transition Devices (RTDs), the company recently announced the RTD|HD – an HD version of its SD model.

RTD's are primarily used to highlight the transition between live action and replays by replaying an animated TGA sequence and providing real-time uncompressed SDI or PAL key and fill outputs for subsequent linear keying. The RTD's are triggered from vision mixing consoles and keyed over a soft edge wipe to mask the transitions.

This RTD|HD takes the RTD to the next level with enhanced control via Video Disk Control Protocol (VDCP) and the ability to support HD and SD in the one device. Audio support for up to 8 mono channels/4 stereo pairs is included.
www.digistor.com.au

DMCIT - Viz-Ability

VizAbility is a .Net component library aimed at live graphics creation software using the VizRT platform. Simply drag and drop key components onto a form to get functionality from ease of graphic creation to a built in character generator.

Previously, any business developing graphic applications had to develop their own methods of communication and interaction with the graphics device. Often applications written by the same company had different methods of interaction, meaning operators would need to be retrained to deal with the new situation.

Using VizAbility, all configuration and interaction with the operator and the interface remain constant across applications. Also, from a developer's point of view, all training to use the library and knowledge remains the same across developers.
www.dmcit.com.au

Innes Corporation - DAB+ Radcap

Innes Corp_IMG_5044.JPG

Developed to coincide with the launch of digital radio in Australia, this radio capture PCI card receives and decodes the entire contents of a DAB+ digital radio ensemble, providing a cost-effective solution for multi-channel media monitoring and broadcast logging applications for this new medium.

Using an FPGA for frontend signal processing and highly optimised driver software to decode the data stream, the card creates dynamic Windows audio capture devices for each service on the ensemble, while the ancillary data, such as DLS text and slide shows, is available through a custom API for applications to display.
www.innescorp.com.au

Innes Corporation - Flashlog 7 (DAB+)

This full-function radio broadcast logging recorder provides analogue and digital line inputs, multi-station AM and FM radio capture and now DAB+ digital radio capture as well.

Using Innes Corporation's DAB+ Radcap cards, it can record the entire contents of up to four DAB+ ensembles. Based on an industrial quad-core processor PC and the latest high capacity SATA disc drives, it stores all content for a minimum of 42 days with multi-user random access playback both locally and via its network interface.

The DAB+ data streams are recorded as raw data on the hard discs, with audio decoding on playback together with the display of DLS text, slide show images and other programme-related content.

As well as DAB, it can also simultaneously record up to twelve stereo line channels, twenty AM stations and twenty-four FM stations.
www.innescorp.com.au

Massive Software - Massive Software Moves into the Real

Massive is software that enables non-programmers to author artificial intelligence. Massive has a tightly integrated, highly efficient animation engine that allows simulation of hundreds of thousands of agents per scene.

The Massive AI-driven agents use a "brain" which is complete with simulated vision, hearing, touch and memory, and the results are much more realistic compared to traditional engineering methods that use predetermined paths, finite state machines, or particle systems.

Massive's groundbreaking technology transformed the film industry after allowing audiences to experience

500,000 realistic characters on screen for the first time. Massive has recently moved into real-world simulation for architecture, engineering, retail behaviour, transportation simulation, urban planning, life sciences, and other real world simulations – plus animation for robotics.
www.massivesoftware.com

Pixelmetrix - The Electronic Couch Potato

The Pixelmetrix Electronic Couch Potato (ECP) and Consolidator Engine is an after network probe that measures and reports the end-users' experience for delivered video services.

The Consolidator Engine, a central management console, works in tandem with a collection of ECPs to enable service providers to understand their end-users' quality of experience across a geographically distributed delivery chain.

The ECP controls the set top box (STB) via infrared and changes channels on the STB just as an end-user would. Each tuned channel is then monitored and telemetry is collected by the ECP and sent back to a central consolidation point, where collected data from multiple ECPs is processed and presented to the service provider.

The ECP and Consolidator Engine solution also removes the need for an engineer to physically travel between remote head ends to check test signals.

In the event that an erroneous condition arises, the Pixelmetrix ECP is able to pinpoint both the location as well as the exact reason for the cause of the problem. Another unique feature is the ability to execute TCL test scripts where the ECPs act like a "programmable test robot."

Que Audio - Q-E.N.G Pack

The Q E.N.G. Pack is an audio equipment package conceptualised by Australia's leading news broadcaster and Que Audio engineers.

Designed to provide for all the varied needs of news reporting, the pack also complies with carry-on luggage size and weight requirements for aircraft so crews don't have to check it in as baggage.

The kit includes; a mini shotgun mic; mini shock mount; an extending boom pole, which doubles as a mic holder; a base that the pole can screw into turning the pole into a table top mic stand or by extending it, it becomes a floor mic stand; an adaptor that allows the shock mount to be attached to any camera by screwing it into the thread on the bottom of the camera; and a set of monitor headphones.
www.da-cappo.com

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Redbyte Design - Decimator

The Decimator down-converter provides an elegant way for camera operators to allow easy onset monitoring. It allows the user to configure either a PAL or NTSC output from any of the HD or 3G formats and any SD format is automatically passed through as the same standard. The low power consumption, low latency and lightweight nature of the Decimator allows its use in a myriad of location work settings.
www.redbytedesign.com

Redbyte Design - 3G-TPG

Redbyte Design's 3G-TPG hand held Video and Audio Test Signal Generator makes affordable High Quality test signals available to the bulk of the broadcast and production industry.
Redbyte Design's 3G-TPG Multi-standard SD/HD/3G test pattern generator provides an amazing 54 Test Patterns, including SMPTE bars and moving zone plates. Included is an embedded audio generator for up to 16 channels that includes broken tones for channel ID, user selectable level and frequency. Intuitive front panel controls allow easy user settings of standards, patterns and audio configurations in the field or facility.
www.redbytedesign.com

Redbyte Design - Decimator-Quad

The Decimator-Quad is an affordable high quality, technologically advanced, down-converting quad-split. The Decimator-Quad accepts and auto-detects any of the 26 digital formats simultaneously in any of the

quadrants with its user selectable output displayable in both SDI and composite. Internal scaling within each quadrant allows true aspect ratio to be displayed. It also features low latency and low power consumption.
www.redbytedesign.com

Rubber Monkey - Monkey Extract

Monkey Extract is a tool that simplifies the process of conforming footage created on the Red One camera. As well it is used widely to prepare shots for visual FX. Developed in Wellington, New Zealand, Monkey extract has become an industry standard software tool used world-wide by some of the most prominent post-production facilities.
www.rubbermonkeysoftware.com

Ruzz TV - Wanda Automated Barcode and Ingest

Wanda provides automated ingest tools to eliminate repetitive manual tasks, to reduce or eliminate the manual entry of key numbers and other metadata, and to provide automated bulk ingest of large quantities of material using robotic cart machines (e.g. Sony Flexicart). Wanda can be used to provide automated ingest under multiple scenarios including Payout, Archive and Production. Key elements of the Wanda solution include:

- automatic metadata creation and/or import from existing systems or databases
- Automatic prioritisation of ingest based on schedules, work orders or metadata

Aardman (Wallace and Grommit) feature film. Television series such as "Roary the Racing Car", "Miffy" and "Fifi and the Flowerpots" are all filmed with Stop Motion Pro. Features include:

- Interfacing with the "live view" from Canon DSLR cameras. The live view gives animators unprecedented clarity for positioning subject material while shooting.
- RAW image workflows and CMS integration
- Multiexposure modes for generating HDR (High Dynamic Range) images, 3D imagery and "checker boarding" - the process for creating a matte image for each frame.
- Interfacing with motion control rigs, controlling pre-roll for smoother camera moves.
- Real-time playback at accurate fps of captured frames.

www.stopmotionpro.com

Telstra - BigPond News Ticker

The BigPond News Ticker is a TV style news ticker application that provides headlines to users' computer screens. When a headline scrolls across screen users can click on that headline to be taken directly to the full story in text or, when available, to the video. It's free to download, it's customisable and users can add their own feeds into the Ticker simply by dragging any active RSS Symbol onto the Ticker.
www.bigpond.com/pond/ticker

Video Ezy - eBox

eBox is Video Ezy's electronic rental system that features an innovative combination of file downloading and VOD. eBox kiosks allow customers to download content onto a personal portable storage device. At home, the device is attached to the eBox to access any of the downloaded content. This process is facilitated through a mobile phone chip embedded into a modem within the eBox. To view the movie customers press play on their remote that connects the eBox to a server for authorisation, via the mobile phone chip. The entire process takes less than two seconds and the rental fee is only charged once the movie or show is watched, so users only pay for content viewed on Page 70. Video Ezy's recent 2.0 version of eBox includes a significantly upgraded user interface that allows browsing of titles, past rentals and suggested viewing.
www.videoezy.com.au

- Manual and Automatic ingest from standalone VTRs (including barcode readers if required)
 - "Barcode" stations for preparation of tapes for subsequent ingest
 - Automatic ingest from robotic cart machines such as Flexicarts
 - Automatic recording of live feeds (lines record)
- www.ruzz.tv

Stop Motion Pro - Stop Motion Pro Software

Stop Motion Pro is a software tool that has revolutionised the traditional art form of stop motion filmmaking. Advanced features built into the software give animators and directors the power to make creative decisions on set. Credits include the Australian feature film "Mary and Max" (Adam Elliot) and the production "Pirates", an

Wohler Technologies (Europa Australia) - Closed-Caption Encoder

Wohler's HDCC-200A HD/SD-SDI dual-channel closed-caption encoder/decoder bridge is a compact modular solution that simplifies closed-caption encoding of two independent SD and/or HD sources to bring greater convenience and flexibility to digital and multiformat broadcast and production workflows. Designed to support both U.S. EIA-608/EIA-708 and OP47 protocols, the HDCC-200A was developed through a joint venture with Europa Australia's Elio Deluca, one of the world's foremost experts in closed-captioning. Wohler acquired the Australian company in 2008, and Deluca continues to lead development of data insertion and extraction technologies. Occupying just one card slot, the HDCC-200A may be installed in conversion frames including the Wohler

HPA1 thinks HPA2 should be made redundant

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E-card and openGear frames in 1-RU, 2-RU, or 3-RU configurations. Additionally, a Wohler-supplied rear interconnect board will allow the HDCC-200A to be used in existing Evertz frames without further modification to the frame. The device accepts HD/SD-SDI, World System Teletext (WST), and live captioning data via an RS-232 or Ethernet port that accepts data in the Newfor protocol.
www.wohler.com

XDT - Catapult Technology

XDT has developed a revolutionary new frame streaming protocol called Catapult. Specifically designed for post-production facilities dealing with uncompressed DPX workflows, Catapult addresses the current issues with SANs and commonly used network protocols like NFX and CIFS. Catapult is capable of utilising multiple GigE, 10GE and InfiniBand to their maximum theoretical bandwidth in a single point-to-point transfer. Multiple connections can be used in a true concatenated configuration, increasing bandwidths to unprecedented levels.

'Catapult-enabled' client applications achieve up to 112MB/s per Gigabit Ethernet connection (i.e. 6 x GigE achieve up to 672MB/s) and 1.2GB/s using InfiniBand for point-to-point transfers. Catapult delivers realtime review of Stereo 2K or 4K uncompressed DPX sequences over standard copper infrastructure. XDT also offer an API and SDK for other software vendors to 'Catapult-enable'

third party applications.
www.xdt.com.au

CATEGORY: PRODUCTION (TV)

Videocraft/Southern Star - Hi-5 Seamless Workflow

Videocraft provided equipment and workflow to Southern Star Entertainment for Series 11 of the Hi-5 children's television programme.

For live recording Videocraft supplied a four camera OB setup with four Sony DVW-970P camcorders ISO recording, a Technical Director's station with technical monitoring and routing, alongside distribution and video monitoring for the director and production staff.

The studio set up consisted of two cameras, a Technical Director's station, technical monitoring and a Panasonic MX70 Vision switcher to allow checking of chroma-key levels.

www.videocraft.com.au www.southernstargroup.com

Videocraft/Ambience Entertainment - Larry the Lawnmower

Videocraft provided a XDCAM HD solution to Ambience Entertainment for its new children's TV series Larry the Lawnmower. Videocraft consulted with Ambience and conducted extensive testing of the PDVHD1500 Sony Professional Disc Recorder, PDW700 Sony Professional

XDCAM HD Camcorders and PDWU1 Professional Disc Drive Units.

With Ambience having to cover 65 half-hour programmes for Channel Seven, editing and storage also became key deciding factors. Omnilab Media's CornerPost facility provided a post-production workflow by utilising the Final Cut Pro-ProRes offline path utilising the file-based workflow directly off the XDCAM Professional Disc media. Sony's XDCAM transfer application was used to transfer the files 1.5 times faster than real time into Final Cut Pro and deliver a fastturnaround offline cut.

www.videocraft.com.au
www.ambienceentertainment.com

Videocraft/Freehand Productions - Top Gear Australia

Videocraft assisted Freehand Productions with the task of creating Australia's biggest motoring show based on a global product, Top Gear. Supplied equipment included two Avid Media Composers, a new Avid Symphony Nitris DX, a 24Tb Avid Unity Media Net, a Digital Betacam camera, DVcam record facilities, a video router, tape machines, and high quality video and audio monitoring.

The Avid solution came after Videocraft looked at how the Avid Symphony was used on the UK show and decided that the new Nitris DX would suit as the main finishing suite for sequences with the Media Composers used for editing. Data transfer between the Symphony

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DNxHD DVCPRO HD AVC-Intra ProRes QT H.264 MPEG WMV

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With Telestream you can simplify HD media capture, automate transcoding between all major SD & HD video and audio formats and deliver your HD-ready media to destination systems – quickly, easily and affordably.

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FlipFactory automates media ingest, transcoding and delivery – including faster-than-real-time HD-to-HD transcoding on a single server.



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and Media Composer worked smoothly despite very heavy shooting and post schedules.

www.videocraft.com.au www.freehandtv.com.au

Videocraft/Network TEN - Moto GP Tapeless Workflow

In March 2009, Videocraft assisted Network TEN in broadcasting the first live Australian sporting event with a tapeless workflow.

Videocraft developed and delivered a solution using Sony XDCAM cameras for acquisition and Sony PDW-1500 XDCAM decks for high-speed upload ingest into Avid Media Composers. An Avid Unity system integrated with Avid's Interplay Media Asset Management completed the system.

Interplay Assist was used by producers to create a rough 'cut' before craft editing, which saved a significant amount of time. Avid Interplay Assist also allowed Videocraft to integrate EVS servers, used for slow motion replays and playout to air. The tapeless workflow was a significant development as it allowed easy access to information, the ability to rename and organise clips and save time.

www.videocraft.com.au www.ten.com.au

CATEGORY: PRODUCTION (FILM)

Cutting Edge/EditShare - Australia Editorial Workflow

Cutting Edge provided many services to Baz Luhrmann and 20th Century Fox for the epic movie Australia, including on-location and office based editing facilities.

Cutting Edge worked with EditShare to design a media and project storage solution that would provide RAID protected storage and a portable mirror of all media.

The workload saw the rapid expansion to include 15 Avids working with nearly 450 hours of HD footage – a total of 54TB on EditShare servers.

The scale of the system assembled for this movie had never before been possible with known workflow and collaborative storage equipment.

FilmLight and Avid helped to integrate Avid's DNX codec as part of Baselight's support of MXF for use on the third Preview DI at Cutting Edge Sydney. This allowed Cutting Edge to network import the nine reels of the movie as MXF files directly into the Baselight in their DI theatre.

Grading round the clock for two weeks, the team used updated reels as they were produced and adding VFX shots as they were finished daily. The workflow was smoothed with the Baselight using the same compressed file format and sharing the same EditShare storage as the Avids.

www.cuttingedge.com.au www.editshare.com

CATEGORY: PRODUCTION (RICH MEDIA)

Australian Broadcasting Corporation - iView

In July 2008 ABC Innovation, in collaboration with ABC TV, launched iView, Australia's first full-screen internet television broadcast service.

iView delivers a full screen, high quality, on-demand video service for an Australian audience, which ABC TV could use to practically deploy their initial steps into

Internet Broadcasting.

iView is the only Programmed Channel offering in the country which not only replays catch up programs, but offers Australians discreet programs not aired on ABC TV as well as news services, archived documentaries and arts programs and special events like the full coverage of the Paralympics.

In six months from launch, Australians were consuming around 3,000 hours of content on iView per day.

www.abc.net.au/tv/iview/

Australian Broadcasting Corporation - Gallipoli: The First Day

Gallipoli: The First Day is an interactive Flash 10/Flex environment that recreates and explores the first 24 hours of the 1915 ANZAC landing at Gallipoli in rich detail.

The basis of the site is a sophisticated 3D map of Anzac Cove, which was built using topographical data from 1916.

Gallipoli: The First Day offers an hour-by-hour timeline of the landing, broken up into four main chapters. Each chapter contains a wealth of supplementary media to explore, including diary extracts and letters voiced by Hugo Weaving, video interviews with survivors from Gallipoli and photographs from behind the trenches.

The site also links to a Google Earth layer that plots the movements of soldiers across the landscape and offers a selection of supplementary media from the site.

www.abc.net.au/gallipoli

Hoodlum/ABC (US) - Dharma Wants You

Dharma Wants You was a multi-platform project that allowed audiences to enter the mysterious world of 'Lost' in an extensive eight month interactive experience that continued the Lost story between Season 4 and 5 of the hit US TV show.

The experience was produced by Australian digital entertainment company Hoodlum for broadcaster ABC (US). Dharma Wants You was produced entirely out of Brisbane and delivered to a global audience made possible with Hoodlum's proprietary technology delivery platforms.

The project used a wide variety of media platforms, including websites, exclusive video, interactive games, Bluetooth, mobile, TV, VOIP, social networks and complex real-world events to involve thousands of fans.

Dharma Wants You enrolled fans as active members of the fictional Dharma Initiative, the secretive scientific organisation at the centre of the Lost world.

www.hoodlum.com.au

Visionbytes/CNN - CNN Presidential Elections Visionplayer

During the US Presidential Elections of 2008, CNN leveraged technology from Australian company Visionbytes to offer "Visionplayers" covering each of the pre-election debates and the acceptance and concession speeches.

Captured live and processed in realtime, the Visionplayer allowed users to:

- * View speeches/debates in chapters
- * Perform textual searches for issues over the videos and watch the video search results
- * Click on any word in the transcript to view the corresponding video
- * Follow the words highlighted in the transcript as they

are spoken

The video and synchronised transcripts of the debates appeared on the site within five minutes of broadcast with the Visionplayer being the first rich media player to market every time. The technology made it possible for the programs broadcast in the US to be processed in Australia, with both parties able to take advantage of costs savings across geographical locations.

www.visionbytes.com

CATEGORY: PROJECT/FACILITY ROLL-OUT (TV)

EVS/Thoroughbred Racing Productions - Tapeless Production and Judge Review

Thoroughbred Racing Productions (TRP) provides complete event broadcasting and production services to Australia's exclusive thoroughbred racing television channel (TVN) and the Victorian Racing Industry.

TRP required a fully integrated production control system to maximise the live viewing experience of the thoroughbred racing audience and offer an efficient and reliable review system for the official racing stewards.

Features:

- * Multiple camera angle recording with content immediately available for live replays, simple highlights packages, closers, etc
- * Multiple user access and control of the ingested content for simultaneous reviewing or production actions through a media production network.
- * Control and management of back up and storage of races and sequences on archive devices.
- * Reliable and intuitive multiple camera reviewing capabilities for the stewards' team, to assist with judging decisions.

TRP implemented EVS instant tapeless technology configured to guarantee a permanent recording of eight cameras managed by two XT[2] production servers located in TRP Outside Broadcast trucks. The footage is also made accessible in the Stewards Room for review and judging requirements.

www.evs.tv www.tvn.com.au

Grass Valley/Australian Broadcasting Corporation - ABC TV News Production Automation

ABC TV has refurbished 10 HD ready studio control rooms across Australia and installed Grass Valley Ignite automated production systems.

A studio in each Brisbane, Hobart, Adelaide, Perth, Darwin and Canberra facility has moved over to automated production of the 7.00 main evening news programme, plus the Stateline current affairs programme each Friday.

In Melbourne and Sydney two studios have been modernised: Sydney producing the national lunchtime news, and Melbourne the ABC News Breakfast, a programme developed with the capabilities of Ignite in mind.

For basic news programmes the complete live on air production system can be driven by the producer and the director/ignite operator. More complex shows may involve a dedicated prompt operator and/or a graphics controller.

The automation systems feature HDC robotic camera

heads and Grass Valley cameras, a Grass Valley Kayak production switcher and a Yamaha digital audio console. While in automated operation all of these are controlled from the Ignite timeline.

www.grassvalley.com www.abc.net.au

Magna Systems/Omnilab Media – Omnilab Media Broadcast Operations Centre

Magna Systems and Engineering has designed and is building the new broadcast operations centre and disaster recovery site for The Playroom and Omnilab Media.

The multi-channel, multi-media, multi-platform centre will be the first Australian non-network owned facility that is able to deliver any kind of content anywhere in the world.

This unique facility includes Miranda presentation multiviewers and glue, iControl network monitoring, a Pebble Beach Neptune multi-channel automation payout system, SeaChange Servers, Isilon storage, Sun computer-based hardware servers and Magna's own MediaPilot MAM and Front Porch DivArchive. The new broadcast operations centre will initially manage multiple channels and handle HD, SD, IPTV and all current formats from one central control room.

www.magnasys.tv www.omnilab.com.au

Magna Systems/Australian Broadcasting Corporation - National Newsroom Graphics Solution

Magna Systems and Engineering designed, supplied and installed a complete national newsroom graphics solution for ABC TV.

The first of its kind in Australia, the system produces on-air graphics including OTS, lower thirds and full frame backgrounds and completely changes the way ABC TV creates graphics and put them to air nationally.

The complete graphics newsroom solution includes Chyron HyperX2 dual channel graphics systems with Clip Player for news production studios, HyperX2s with Lyric Pro software for ABC News' OB trucks, Camio newsroom systems and LEX2 dual channel graphics CGs, also with Lyric Pro software, to work with the Camio systems.

The system also utilises Chyron's unique iSQ Intelligents Sequencer which allows a user to control multiple graphic payout devices from a central application.

Magna Systems also project managed the national installation and training for all the newsroom studios and OB trucks.

The tender had many specific requirements including, seamless integration with iNews ABC TVs existing Newsroom Computer system, providing support for 16:9 wide screen as well as 4:3 content and including HD capabilities.

www.magnasys.tv www.abc.net.au

Omneon/HBO Asia - HBO Asia infrastructure upgrade

HBO Asia recently underwent an infrastructure upgrade to enable a fully file-based workflow for its Singapore facility. The combination of Omneon MediaGrid active storage and ProXchange transcoding with Pharos Mediator content management and Playtime automation will allow HBO Asia to achieve greater efficiency as it delivers programming to a base of 31 million subscribers across 22 countries in Asia.

In addition to its MediaGrid purchase, HBO Asia

has upgraded its existing Omneon Spectrum server with increased system bandwidth and six additional playback channels to be used as squeeze channels.

The system was operational in the last quarter of 2008.

www.omneon.com www.hboasia.com

Special Broadcasting Service/Harris - SBS Tapeless Programme Preparation and Layout

SBS Engineering and Harris brought together a team to build Australia's first end-to-end tapeless television broadcasting platform with full media asset management facilities and automated workflows.

Challenges included content sourced from over 400 international and national sources, some of it live and requiring fast turnaround on a daily basis.

Secondly, more than half of SBS's transmission hours are broadcast in a language other than English, necessitating the creation of English subtitles for the sixty something languages other than English that SBS brings from around the world into Australian viewers' homes.

Harris identified and documented every type of material and every type of task associated with every type of material then designed the hardware stratum to process all the material in all the required ways.

Harris engaged the SI team from Sony Australia's Project Systems Division to handle the physical cabling and installation in SBS's equipment rooms.

The new system was commissioned live on air in January 2009, just six months after the contract was signed.

www.sbs.com.au www.broadcast.harris.com

Snell/ Radio Televisyen Malaysia - RTM Goes Digital with Monitoring and Control

Malaysian broadcaster RTM recently replaced its analogue infrastructure with a fully digital transmission system and has successfully completed testing for three new free-to-air digital channels.

In order to roll out the new digital system as quickly and cost-effectively as possible, RTM implemented a series of intelligent broadcasting components from the Snell IQ Modular line. A central component is the Snell Roll/Map control and monitoring system with integrated Hyperion content monitoring technology, which gives the facility complete system visibility and control.

Snell Roll/Map enabled the broadcaster to monitor and control new channels and a significantly more complex infrastructure without having to hire additional engineers. The end result: transmission problems can be detected and corrected faster and easier.

CATEGORY: PROJECT/FACILITY ROLL-OUT (FILM)

Cutting Edge/DFT - Wolverine Dailies

In a world's first implementation, Cutting Edge changed the capture, processing and creation of film dailies using DFT Digital Film Technology Bones Dailies software and EditShare Storage. The client was 20th Century Fox for the movie X-Men Origins: Wolverine.

Using Bones Dailies, Cutting Edge scanned 35mm negative on its Spirit4K Datacine, applied a best light colour correction via daVinci2K and recorded uncompressed HD

4:4:4 captures in real-time to EditShare disks. Once in Bones, the lab rolls were marked up manually according to the Scene, Take, Camera etc. and all the meta-data is maintained by Bones in its internal database, alongside Keycode information coming from the Spirit 4K.

Location audio was then imported faster than real time into Bones where the software auto-analyses the spectral content of each audio file to accurately pin-point the location of the stick closures.

With a fully graded, logged and sound synchronised uncompressed HD timeline available, dailies playouts could be made to whatever video tape format the client requested.

www.cuttingedge.com.au www.dft-film.de

Deluxe - Entry Title: StageOne Sound

Deluxe StageOne Sound is a new AUD\$4.5 million dollar Re-Recording Mixing Theatre with supporting facilities. It has succeeded in delivering a truly world class facility to the local industry and equalled anything on offer overseas. It has gained Dolby 'Premier' certification, the only studio in Australia and one of only nine studios in the world awarded this prestigious honour.

With three major feature films on its credit list already, along with several documentaries and short films in the short time it has been open, audiences the world over have already heard the results of all the hard work that has gone into its creation.

Global Television Services - HD OB Van Rollout

Global Television has just designed, built and commissioned two new HD double expanding OB vans. Global Engineering Services Department took on the project management and in consultation with Global Operations Department designed the external and unique internal truck layout, best of breed equipment acquisition and overall technical design incorporating a 3G upgrade path.

The truck design philosophy was based around a one man deployment with no OHS issues and manufactured by an Australian body builder, covering all Global's clients technical and production requirements in both studio and sport productions.

The overall technical design is based around a Virtual System Management system that controls all aspects of the technical equipment setup from a central position and allows for projects to be captured and archived in a file based workflow that can be managed offline and transferred between trucks.

www.globaltv.com.au

TransMedia Dynamics/NFSA - National Film & Sound Archive of Australia Project

TMD was contracted to provide a Media Asset Management, Archive and Workflow system to the National Film and Sound Archive in Australia.

The solution was based on the Mediaflex system and will support all of the primary collection management functions of the NFSA including acquisition, preservation and access to their collections that comprise over 1.5 million items.

The NFSA wanted a new system to address the growth from the acquisition of born-digital objects and from the increasing use of digital preservation methodologies not forgetting the considerable holdings of analogue assets.

In addition they wanted a platform that would significantly increase the accessibility of the content and enable the NFSA to pursue new business opportunities in the future, in particular in the area of digital video and audio.

In the Mediaflex based system both standard and modified workflows will be used so curators, archivists and others will gain better visibility of the state of items that are in the collections. Support for new object types such as Safety and Nitrate Film, Documents, Images and Artefacts will also be included.

<http://www.tmd.tv/section.asp?doc=186>

CATEGORY: PROJECT/FACILITY ROLL-OUT (RADIO/PRO AUDIO)

Kordia Solutions - Digital Radio Rollout in Australia

Kordia played an instrumental role in the Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB+) rollout in Australia's five metropolitan capital cities.

Kordia was commissioned as project manager for the rollout by Commercial Radio Australia (CRA) and worked closely with the transmission site supplier to CRA, TX Australia Pty Limited (TXA).

From project inception to implementation, Kordia completed the wide spectrum of complex engineering tasks within the tight timeframe which included:

- project management for CRA- pre and post-implementation coverage surveys for and with TXA resources
- design and supply of antenna mounts and associated steelwork
- installation of Rohde and Schwartz transmitters for CRA and RFS antenna systems and combiners, with associated steelwork and
- electro magnetic emission (EME) site surveys

The tight delivery timeline meant that Kordia had to simultaneously deploy five specialist rigging teams, each comprising of up to eight technicians, to TXA broadcast transmission facilities across the five capital cities, presenting numerous project management challenges.

At least three tonnes of antennas and steelwork were installed at each TXA site and most were mounted at heights of 180m to 200m metres on the TXA broadcast transmission towers to provide maximum coverage.

www.kordia.co.nz

Sydney Educational Broadcasters - Relocation of 2SER-FM Studios and Transmitters.

Originally the 2ser studios and transmitters were collocated on level 26 of the UTS tower building on Broadway at Ultimo, Sydney.

A nine-month project saw the transmitters relocated to a roof level plant room on level 32 of the tower and the studios relocated to a heritage building with a frontage onto Broadway.

Transmission was continued throughout the operation with the two sites interconnected by fibre optic cables with studio transmitter linking by "Audio over IP".

The heritage value of the building was retained by building the new studios as cubes within the existing "Bank Chamber" and floating floors were installed to overcome noise from Broadway traffic.

www.2ser.com

TX Australia - DAB Transmitter Rollout

TX Australia Pty Ltd (TXA) have upgraded all capital city VHF B-III legacy television antenna systems with the innovative RFS 662 dual polarisation panel solution to accommodate DAB broadcasting in Australia.

This involved a world first for high power DAB transmission with the replacement of the legacy horizontal only polarised antenna systems with combined horizontal and vertical polarised antenna systems in the same tower aperture to provide a shared television (horizontal pol) and DAB (vertical pol).

These antenna systems, using no additional vertical space on the tower, perfectly replicate the television services while the interleaved vertical elements provide directional DAB antenna radiation patterns.

www.txaustralia.com.au

CATEGORY: PROJECT/FACILITY ROLL-OUT (RICH MEDIA)

Australian Broadcasting Corporation - Catchment Detox

Catchment Detox is a cross-media project that involves an interactive online simulation and a specially created companion radio series for ABC Local radio. The Catchment Detox project was designed to increase public understanding of the dilemmas involved in managing a typical Australian river system.

The Sim/game format was chosen because simulations are an excellent way for players to experiment with different approaches and so come to understand the complex underlying principles in water management.

The model underlying the sim was developed in conjunction with the CSIRO and the eWater CRC. The project was launched in a 50 turn "competition mode" which ran for 3 weeks. 108,000 games were played with some 6000 entries in the competition. When the competition closed, the sim was put into a 100-turn "standard mode" and remains online as a permanent resource for educators and the public.

<http://catchmentdetox.net.au/>

Australian Broadcasting Corporation - Sydney Sidetracks

Sydney Sidetracks uses simple web 2.0 tools to change the presentation and consumption of archival collections. The Sydney Sidetracks website and mobile application uses Google maps of six inner city Sydney precincts - Circular Quay and The Rocks, Kings Cross, Paddington, Pyrmont, Redfern, Surry Hills, Sydney CBD and South and East Sydney - to geo-locate a range of historic material including video, audio, image and text files and build an interactive social history of Sydney.

All media files are also available to download from the site - meaning content can be uploaded to any portable media player to be explored and enjoyed in the audience's own time.

The mobile application is an extension of a 'podtour' which allows the audience to experience the content from the very location it is based upon.

<http://www.abc.net.au/sidetracks>

Australian Broadcasting Corporation - Mobile

In March 2009 the ABC rolled-out a suite of mobile products including a mobile site (<http://m.abc.net.au>), accessible through any web-enabled mobile phone handset, in addition to mobile phone applications for the Apple iPhone and handsets using the Android operating system.

The result is that any Australian with a web enabled mobile phone can access this ABC service whenever and wherever they get coverage. The m-site launched as a limited text and image service so that data charges would remain manageable - with plans to increase rich content as the mobile data market becomes increasingly affordable for all Australians.

Content available on the m-site at launch included: ABC news, sport and entertainment stories; localised information including weather forecasts and radio schedules; movie reviews and session times; TV guides for ABC1 and ABC2; along with music news and reviews from triple j.

The ABC's iPhone application shot to #1 in the 'Top free apps' in the Australian iTunes store where it remained for about 2 weeks. The iPhone app has been downloaded by almost 130 000 users which, by estimates, is roughly 25% of the total iPhone market in Australia.

<http://abc.net.au/innovation/mobile/>