Video Services Forum, Inc.
News Letter

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This is the fourth issue of Video Services Forum (VSF) News Letter. The VSF feels that it is important to keep you informed about what is going on within the VSF since the VSF is **your** organization. As we realize that your time is valuable, we have kept this News Letter deliberately brief.

VSF Officers & Board Members:

During the 1Q of every year, the membership of the VSF elects new members to half of the seats on its Board of Directors for two-year terms:

Director	Company	Term Expires
Pierre Costa	SBC Technology Resources, Inc.	2007
John Dale	C-COR	2007
Richard Friedel	Fox Digital	2007
John Mailhot	Aastra Digital Video	2007
Roger Hatcher	State of Georgia	2007
Steve Storo-zum	Level 3 Communications	2006
Kerry Wheeles	Leitch Inc.	2006
Brian Wilson	Verizon	2007

The following VSF Officers will serve two-year terms, which run through February 2007:

President	Derek Smith	Vyvx
Vice President	Carl Ostrom	System Resource
Secretary/Treasurer	Jeff Carpenter	Artel Video Systems

Administrative and Technical Staff:

Brad Gilmer – Gilmer and Associates is the VSF Executive Director
Barbara Main – Assistant Director
Bob Ruhl – VSF Operations Manager

VSF Current Member List (40 Current):

A.R.G ElectroDesign
Aastra Digital Video
AboveNet Communications
Axiowave Networks
Artel Video Systems
Bell Canada
Bridge Tech
CBC/Radio-Canada
C-COR
Digital Fountain
DirecTV
Fox Digital
Georgia Technology Authority
fSona Communications
IneoQuest Technologies, Inc.
Intelsat
Ipitek
Juniper Networks
Leitch
Level 3 Communications
Merrill Weiss Group
Miranda Media Networks
Modulus Video
Network Electronics
Path 1 Network Technologies
Pathfire, Inc.
Renovo Software
Rohde & Schwartz
SBC Communications
System Resource, Carl Ostrom, Principal
Tandberg Television
Tektronix
Telecom Product Consulting, Wes Simpson, Principal
Thomson Grass Valley
Tut Systems
T-VIPS
UPC Technology
Verizon Communications
Video Products Group
Vyvx

Meetings and Conferences:

The **VidTrans05** annual conference and exhibit was held January 30, 2005 through Wednesday, February 2, 2005 in Atlanta, GA. The VSF and the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers (SMPTE) worked together to stage this combined conference and exhibition. There were 350 people in attendance, an increase of approximately 140 over VidTrans04. There were 14 sponsors and 28 exhibitors. It was a very successful conference based on attendee questionnaire results and the VSF Board is currently working with SMPTE to plan a joint Conference in 2006.

The Professional Real Time Video/Audio over IP Network Infrastructure Working Group, planned and conducted a successful demonstration in the Exhibit area illustrating two things; 1) the transport of high quality real time video over a packet network with deterministic packet loss, and 2) interoperability between multiple vendors using independent implementations of the Pro-MPEG Forum Code of Practice 3 Revision 2 (COP3R2).

During the demonstration, each participating company generated an IP multicast consisting of a single 20Mb video stream with predetermined FEC/Interleaving. Prior to being distributed to all participants, the multicast streams were fed into an IneoQuest Technologies device which introduced deterministic errors. The errored streams were then distributed over the network to all other participants. This was done to demonstrate the recovery capabilities of the Forward Error Correction (FEC) system described in COP3R2.

The following companies participated in the demonstration; Aastra Digital Video, C-COR, Path 1, IneoQuest Technologies, Inc., Qvidia, Tandberg Television, Thomson and Tut systems.

The **May VSF Meeting Series** was held May 23rd, 24th in Austin, TX and was hosted by **SBC Laboratories**. This meeting was heavily attended with over 60 people in attendance. For additional information on the meeting, agenda, and presentations please visit: **http://www.videoservicesforum.org/Meetings/index.htm**.

The **October VSF Meeting Series** will be held October 25, 26, 27 (1/2 day) in Arlington VA and will be hosted by **Verizon Communications,** Forum #1, 1310-1320 North Courthouse Rd, Arlington, VA. For additional information on the meeting location, preliminary agenda, preferred hotel and registration please visit: **http://www.videoservicesforum.org/Meetings/index.htm**

The **VidTrans06 Annual Conference** and exhibition will be held January 29, 2006 through Wednesday, February 1, 2006 in Los Angles, CA at the Renaissance Hollywood Hotel. The conference is titled: VSF VidTrans and SMPTE Advanced Motion Imaging 2006 Joint Conference, sponsored by the VSF and SMPTE. As soon as we have more details on the joint conference, we will share them with you.

VSF Activity Groups:

VSF Activity Groups (AGs) supply input and expertise to various industry standards bodies on behalf of the VSF.   These are some of the topics that VSF activity groups are actively addressing.

Professional Real Time Video/Audio Over IP Network Infrastructure Activity Group – Discussing key issues of relevance to transporting real-time video signals across IP-based networks.

Co-Chairs: Pierre Costa, SBC and John Dale III, C-COR

COP-3 Group is sub group specifically covering the standardization of Pro-MPEG CoP#3 through SMPTE.

*Co-Chairs***:** Carl Ostrom, System Resource and Peter Elmer, British Telecom

Test and Measurements Activity Group - goal is to Identify and describe metrics required to accurately characterize packet-based network performance for streaming video transport over IP.

Chair: Michael Bany, DVBLink, Inc.

To learn more about these AGs please visit:
http://www.videoservicesforum.org/about/index.htm.

Other News:
1] VSF has authored Y.1541 annex document for possible standardization at the ITU. In addition the VSF submitted an Y.1541 Annex article for publication in the SMPTE Journal and it appears in the July/August 2005 issue.

2] The VSF-edited T1502 has passed all technical evaluations and is being published by ATIS. This old Analog Measurement document was revised by the VSF to include Digital Services.

3] The VSF is working with the Pro-MPEG Forum to move their Code of Practice 3 (COP3) document through standardization. COP3 addresses technical issues which are within the domain of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers (SMPTE). Advancing COP3 through SMPTE will involve re-formatting the COP3 document into SMPTE-accepted form.   The VSF has invited the Pro-MPEG Forum members to jointly work with the VSF towards that goal.

Well, that's it for now. If there is any topic that you would like to see covered in the next issue of the News Letter, please contact Bob Ruhl at <u>bob.ruhl@comcast.net</u>.