AES SWISS SECTION NEWSLETTER

INFORMATION ON NEXT MEETING

EXPO 02 – TV Infrastructure

Tuesday 10th of October 2002, 17h00 at Morat

SPEAKERS: Roland Fischer, TSR
                      Philippe Kaiser, TSR

ORGANIZER: Patrick Boehm, TSR   LANGUAGE: French

Within the framework of the Expo02 opening ceremony, SSR Idée Suisse installed a large infrastructure to broadcast this show live for more than two hours. No less than 7 reporting buses and 230 kilometres of fibre optics were necessary to direct this TV programme.

The Expo02 technical manager Roland Fischer will first speak to us about the installation of all these elements as well as problems linked to the synchronization of the four arteplages.

Secondly, Philippe Kaeser will talk to us about the TV studio located on board the boat "Idée Suisse", from where the programme "Zig-Zag café" is broadcast live daily, as well as other one-off programmes such as: sport, "ABE", and also a TV5 programme.

Following the two presentations, the meeting will continue with a guided tour of the boat so as to visit the different parts of this floating studio.

Finally, the evening will end with an optional meal organized for those interested .

Biographical Notes

Roland Fischer has worked during many years as a freelance sound engineer, before joining the TSR in 1999. He is responsible for the technical part of the Expo02.

Philippe Kaeser entered the TSR in 1995 as an audio-video technical associate. He was the manager of the studio installation on board the boat "Idée Suisse". Before, he has worked during 9 years at the Radio Suisse Romande in Geneva.

Meeting point and provisional programme

17h00: meeting place in front of the underground car park located in front of the Morat Coop (200m from station towards old town (altstadt)) – see the map on page 4

17h30: beginning of the two presentations at the Morat cinema (in old town at about 3 minutes' walk from the meeting place)

19h30: guided tour of the boat "Idée Suisse" (in 2 or 3 groups)

21h00: optional meal at the restaurant des Bains (in Morat harbour)

REPORT ON PREVIOUS MEETING

AUDIO OVER IEEE 1394 / FIREWIRE

Tuesday 18th of June 2002, 17h00 at Rest. zum äusseren Stand, Zeughausgasse 17, Bern

SPEAKERS: Dr. Steven Harris   BridgeCo AG, Zurich, Switzerland
Bob Moses   Island Digital Media Group, Seattle, US
Keith Warburton   Glyph Technologies Inc, Ithaca, US

REPORTER: Markus Erne   Scopein Research, Aarau

LANGUAGE: English

Steven Harris started with an overview of the features and the technology of Firewire. Firewire not only offers a high bandwidth of up to 3200Mbps but it additionally supports 1023 buses per system with up to 64 Audio/Video senders. Steven provided a summary of all different types of cables, ranging from CAT5 to STP high speed connectors as well as an overview of the IEE1394 Layer model and the different protocols. Applications include non linear editing of audio&video, digital television, multi-channel audio, home networking, automotive, digital cinema and pro audio. By offering cable, optical and wireless connection to all different kinds of AV-equipment, the IEEE1394-standard is gaining increasing importance and is said to become a future audio transmission standard.

Bob Moses continued with a presentation on home networking in combination with other networking technologies. The variety of digital network connections at home, starting from a broadband internet gateway, to a A/V-system, based on network technology up to a local area network for computer applications, would make Firewire the ideal standard for the consumer. Technologies such as HomePNA (Home Phoneline Network Alliances), in combination with wireless LAN, Ethernet and Firewire for the distribution of A/V-signals can provide completely different solutions to existing communication at home.

Bob presented an impressive prototype example of such an installation, by offering the audience an insight into his own home-network, called "Bob's Heterogeneous Network". Bob concluded with a remark that home networking brings the digital revolution into the home for all devices and who knows: maybe our next generation refrigerator will only alert us that "pasta" is empty for tonight's dinner but additionally suggest some interesting alternatives for a menu, automatically order all necessary items and finally take control of the cooking process.

The last speaker of the evening, Mr. Keith Warburton of Glyph Technologies Inc., provided an insight into an interesting range of products, using Firewire-technology. The company is specialized in the design of reliable, very quiet and thermal stable storage devices, dedicated to professional A/V applications. Firewire-drives are hot-pluggable and hence automatically mounts drives on to your desktop of the computer. Among the interesting features, these storage devices offer self-monitoring, analysis and reporting, protecting your data with predictive failure analysis to warn you of issues with your storage subsystem before it's too late.
Keith concluded with a look into the market potential of Firewire-based products before the audience had the possibility to ask questions. After some interesting discussions, the participants gathered for the apéritif.

AES Swiss Section General Meeting

June 18, 2002 in Bern

Thirty-five Members attended the General Meeting of the Swiss Section was held after the technical presentations and cocktails at the same location in Bern.

Patrick Roe, the outgoing Section Chairman opened the proceedings with a report on the Section activities over the period 1.7.2000 to 30.6.2002. He reported that 14 technical meetings had been organised over this 2-year period including two joint meetings with the Swiss Acoustics Society and one joint meeting with French AES Section. The table summarizing the meetings showed that the meeting venues were well distributed as were the presentation languages (English, French and German). The average attendance had been just under 40 (38) per meeting, closely matching the average over the previous 2-year period. Newsletters coinciding with each meeting had continued to be sent out to all Swiss Members and the AES Swiss Section Newsletter is now at its 83rd Edition.

The outgoing Chairman also gave a brief account of the ongoing education activities of the Section. He confirmed that the 4th set of Exams for Sound Technicians had been organised by the Swiss Section Exam Committee. This involved a considerable amount of work including 10 organisational meetings plus the exams themselves. The exams had been held in August 2001 for just over 30 candidates. The written exams had been held in Bern and the practical exams at the Stadttheater in Bern (PA exams) and at the Radio Suisse Romande in Lausanne (Recording and Audio systems exams). A Diploma Ceremony had been held on the 8th of April 2002 in Luzern (see report in Section Newsletter 82, page2).

Patrick Roe ended his report by thanking the members of the exam Committee for their

considerable effort: Gabriel Basso, Dr. Markus Erne, Stefan Giannini, Martin Lachmann (president), Andreas Litmanowitsch, Terry Nelson, Patrick Roe (vice president), Marcel Zulauf.

The Section Secretary, Attila Karamustafaoglu, then presented the latest situation concerning the Section membership, which is currently just under 200 official members with an increasing number of student members. Every effort has been made to continue updating the Section database. The Section Secretary also pointed out the growing success of the e-mail list for sending out the Newsletter and other information, with over 100 people subscribing. Attila Karamustafaoglu was also able to report the ongoing success of the Swiss Section Website (www.swissaes.org) showing a chart of Website visits.

Alain Roux, the Section Treasurer then gave a brief summary of the financial situation. He reported that the situation was as expected and continued to be healthy. Mailing costs and meeting organisational costs continued to be the main items on the budget (80%) with the remaining funds being spent on supporting the education activities of the Section. No financial problems are foreseen for the next period and the budget proposal for next year will be in line with the current annual budget.

The election of the incoming Section committee was then held. First of all, Attila Karamustafaoglu, warmly thanked the two outgoing Members, Patrick Roe (Chairman) and Markus Erne (Vice-Chairman) for their dedicated contribution to the Swiss Section over the past ten years. Patrick Roe and Markus Erne briefly presented Véronique Adam and Gabriel Leuzinger, who were proposed as their respective replacements on the Committee.

The full committee was elected without any dissenting votes. A committee meeting has been held since then and the following functions have been assigned within the committee:

Attila Karamustafaoglu, Chairman
Terry Nelson, Vice-Chairman
Joël Godel, Secretary
Alain Roux, Treasurer
Véronique Adam, Newsletter Editor
Walter Koeller, Education
Patrick Boehm
Gabriel Leuzinger

Patrick Roe closed the meeting after thanking all the people who had helped organize and support the General Meeting and in particular Freddy Bohner for all the technical equipment.

Reminder:

The AES Swiss Section will be present at the Light + Sound 02 exhibition in October (12-14) in Zürich. The next newsletter will be send some time in November.

EXPO02 – TV Infrastructure
Map of meeting point