



For Europe's Pro AV integrators in a Networked World

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**Industry News**

[IS Roadshows Hit a Bump.](#)

There's no official press release. But IS Roadshow sponsors and pre-registered delegates for Athens, Sofia and Budapest have already been told of the cancellation by the organizers who cited logistics problems.

"It was better to cancel than deliver an event that was below our standard," says Mike Blackman, MD at Integrated Systems Events.

ISE pioneered the Road Shows to help vendors get into more difficult markets and to promote the Amsterdam ISE. Without doubt, the Roadshows accomplished this much and ISE will continue to seek ways to bring the industry together with EMEA's emerging markets. IS Russia is an example of their successful efforts as well as a forthcoming event in Middle East.

Go [IS Roadshow](#)

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**PROJECTA**

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## Displays & Mounts

### DiamondVision Gives Red Bull Wings



When 40,000 Londoners dodged rain showers to watch the Red Bull Air Race 2008 over the Thames in the UK, many of them probably linked the Red Bull air show to its famous advertising slogan: Red Bull Gives You Wings.

The Red Bull Air Race is a championship competition and daredevil pilots race against the clock around a course of inflatable pylons (called Air Gates) at high speed (close to 370 km/h). The Red Bull Air Race is a global event, visiting eight cities around the world over the course of the 2008 season.

Unnoticed except by professionals in the audience, it's actually Diamond Vision who gives Red Bull the "wings" for its air show.

Mitsubishi Electric provides the big screen video systems for all the venues. For example, in London, Mitsubishi Electric provided a total of five ODO10 10mm screens (a single 43m<sup>2</sup> system and four 25m<sup>2</sup> screens) around the public and hospitality areas of the course.

Diamond Vision's MD, Steve Halliday, says, "We've provided screens for the Red Bull Air Race World Championship for a number of years. Each of the venues is very different and each one presents us with logistical challenges. In Abu Dhabi, for example, the screens are floated into the harbour on barges; in Budapest, we suspend them over the river on giant cranes. The crew have to be quite adaptable, but we have a big advantage in that the Diamond Vision system is very versatile and can be assembled into different configurations very easily."

Go [Diamond Vision](#)

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The **NEW** PFT 2510 Trolley



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### Projection & Screens

#### Epson's Bright New Ultra-Portable XGA Projector



Epson just announced in USA a small XGA projector with a small price tag. The EX100 3LCD projector comes out at 2700 lumens and 400:1 contrast ratio and can project an image up to 300 inches. The USA price is below USD\$1000.

This comes with instant on/off, 1.2x power zoom lens, an AV mute slide for when presenters need to pause the presentation, "Presenter View," which allows the presenter to show a PowerPoint slideshow while simultaneously viewing presentation notes and operating buttons on the monitor out of view of the audience.

Go [EX100](#)

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#### Here's a Projector Innovation -- Put a Handle on it!



Vivitek comes up with a "handy" idea. The company is shipping its new D732MX projector (a portable projector) with a built-in carrying handle. This is a DLP projector that weighs 7.3 pounds and is specified at XGA resolution, 3200 ANSI lumens and 2100:1 contrast ratio.

It has fast on and instant off, includes RS-232C and has onboard vertical digital keystone correction.

Go [D732MX, Projector with a Handle](#)

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### Digital Signage

#### Teq Digital's HD Digital Signage Player



VPH150 (Networked)

VPH150 (Networked)  
VPH151 (Wireless)  
VPH152 (LiveTV)  
VPH159 (DIY-Open)



HD Hi-Def 1080i 720p HDMI UXGA HDV HD TV

Teq Digital introduced the VPH150, a high definition player that the company will match the native resolution of the LCD, plasma or projector for portrait or landscape 16:9 signage.

You can install one of multiple players and control them either as standalone devices or over the network. You can choose to show media, videos, webpage, slideshows, images and scrolling text message from RSS or XML feed in single screen with LIVE TV. Also, it can be mounted behind the display, in a rack or closet and can be used networked or wireless.

Go [Teq Digital](#)

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## Control & Systems Integration

### Extron RGB to DVI Scaler Solution



Extron has a new RGB to DVI scaler that converts incoming analog component video and RGBHV signals to DVI. The RGB-DVI 300 accepts HDTV and high resolution computer-video up to 1920x1200, and offers multiple, selectable DVI output rates up to 1920x1200, including HDTV 1080p/60.

The RGB-DVI 300 is compact enough to be placed behind flat-panel displays. It is especially suited, says Extron, for applications where newer displays, equipped only with DVI or HDMI inputs, are to be used with sources that output analog RGB computer-video, or in an environment with an existing analog RGB signal distribution infrastructure.

In addition to high performance scaling, Extron says they included several integrator-friendly features for speeding set-up and system operation. An on-screen display gives you data about incoming signal and adjustment of picture settings, including positioning, size, zoom, brightness, contrast, and detail. Internal test patterns are available for calibration and setup. Several memory presets are available to store and recall configuration settings using the front panel or through the RS-232 serial port.

Go [Extron RGB-DVI 300](#)

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### Sierra Video's Router Control Software



TyLinx Pro is a new router control software for Sierra's line of video and audio routing switchers. This version allows you to provide unique profiles for each user, and Sierra added security features as well.

TyLinx Pro uses a Windows-based GUI that allows users to virtually recreate their routing system on their computer desktops, defining sources and destinations, signal formats and cabling. The operating window, or "console player", contains tabs that can be switched between Button Per Source and XY views of the routing switcher.

TyLinx Pro supports multiple routing switchers, and the software automatically retrieves source and destination names from a router and identifies those sources and destinations to guide routing choices.

Go [TyLinx Pro](#)

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## Lencore Wants to Redefine Paging Systems



Lencore's Music Page Interface is a very different type of paging distribution system. The MPI, says Lencore, replaces all the bulky head end equipment usually needed for music and paging systems. Instead, the company says the MPI requires no additional amplifiers, separate equalizers, special switching equipment or matching vendors for compatible product interfaces.

Lencore also says it can make zone additions, modifications, deletions and other changes to the paging system on the fly. It also eliminates the need for running multiple home runs back to the electrical closet or through building risers to create separate or additional zones.

When connected to the Lencore Spectra i.Net Sound Masking System, the MPI lets you program up to 99 individual zones for paging using standard DTMF tones through a single line telephone wire. The system is also programmed for all call and emergency broadcast paging. The system's one octave band equalizer can be adjusted to either individual zones or can be adjusted for all zones. It also provides fine tuning options.

The company goes on to say that, when used with other pieces of Lencore equipment, programming can be set for up to 1.5 million square feet of space through a single device. Modifications are done through a web browser interface.

Go [Lencore MPI](#)

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## Rich Content & Content Distribution

### HaiVision & Video Furnace Deliver IP Solutions

HaiVision, known for its video encoding, and Video Furnace, a global provider of enterprise-class IP video solutions, announced a partnership to deliver video-over-IP quality and IPTV high-definition solutions for a wide range of markets, including enterprise, education and government. The agreement includes cooperative technical development, integrated systems propositions and joint marketing efforts. The partnership will enable the companies' global network of integrators, resellers and partners to deliver video over IP across North America and Europe.



The Video Furnace control and distribution systems and set-top boxes immediately support HaiVision's high-definition H.264 MAKO-HD encoding technology at HD 1080i resolution. The company says the MAKO-HD supports guaranteed frame rate performance of top-quality H.264 encoding at up to 1080p resolution and at the lowest latency available. Additional integration will be available in the near future, including the ability to store and manage high-definition video libraries and to deliver video via Video Furnace's inStream Viewer, which does not require any resident player software or browser plug-ins.

The companies say the current combined HaiVision and Video Furnace solution is especially suited to live, high-definition content scheduling, management and distribution for HD signage and video over IP applications, and provides centralized management and control.

Go [HAI](#)

Go [Video Furnace](#)

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## MediaStar Goes to School in Qatar





The American School of Doha in Qatar complemented its recent with state-of-the-art audio video facilities for its 1300 students.

The school, founded in 1997, expanded to provide a new library, dining hall, computer and science labs, presentation rooms, recreation and sports facilities, art studios and a 630 seat theatre. Work started last year, and Doha-based specialist systems integrator, Techno Q was appointed to oversee the audio visual and lighting elements.

"We have installed Cabletime products in a number of projects," said Abdulla Alansari, Executive Director at Techno Q. "So, we were familiar with MediaStar's flexibility of usage, user friendly interface and high reliability. We also needed to ensure that the client would have stable transmission over long distances, because the American School occupies a large campus, and we knew that the MediaStar Pro would deliver."

MediaStar Pro can provide up to 180 channels of live TV across Cat-5e/6 cabling. At the American School in Doha, it transmits a signal coming from two satellite dishes delivering 30 channels to over 75 points across campus. These include classrooms, boardrooms and laboratories, and additional video sources such as DVD are also available.

MediaStar Pro is a complete solution for professionally managed multi-channel video and audio delivery. Without impacting on the LAN, it offers 90/180 (PAL) or 100/200 (NTSC) TV channel capacity, unlimited users, use of an existing Cat 5e/6/7 infrastructure and total control of users viewing rights.

Go [MediaStar](#)

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## Presentation Products

### Revolabs Adds to Mic Systems



Revolabs announced two new microphone products -- a directional RF Armor Wireless Microphone, and the Tabletop Dialer for the Fusion WIREless Microphone System.

Revolabs' RF Armor Wireless Microphone is now available in a directional version. It is impervious to RF interference, says the company, and up until now, the RF Armor microphones were only available in wearable and omni-directional versions.

Revolabs is also introducing a wireless RF remote control for the Fusion Wireless Microphone System with touchpad and digital display and stored memory for quick dialing. The Tabletop Dialer is an upgrade to the IR remote control that ships with the Fusion Systems.

Go [RF Armor Wireless Microphone](#)

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### New Portable DVR From Fast Forward



Fast Forward has a new drop-in replacement for tape-based recording devices. The NDT 200 is a new version of the company's portable DVR and they say this one was made with an improved design, greater tolerance to shock and vibration and an improved user interface.

The NDT200 easily fits into the same footprint as a Sony Video Walkman and records onto a 2.5-inch removable hard drive. It is designed for high-quality video recording in remote locations and specifically designed for freelance producers, outdoor broadcasters, video-assist operators, surveillance and security organizations, video analysts, emergency "first-response" teams, law enforcement, government, and military agencies.

Fast Forward says they designed the touch-pad user interface and large push button controls to make it easy to use. And all functions can be controlled via the touch-pad, soft buttons, and LCD panel on top of the unit or from an external PC or VTR controller. Video clips can be recorded in QuickTime format for playback on a PC or Mac or as FFV secure video files. They then can be downloaded to PC or Mac systems via the onboard USB 2.0 port or through the removal of the hard drive and the insertion of the drive into an equipped PC or Mac.

Go [FFV NDT-200](#)

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## Residential Systems & Digital Home

### SlingCatcher: One Device to Rule Them All

The Slingbox is one of the great all-time hits for home viewing but hasn't resonated in Europe the way it does in USA. The newest product, the SlingCatcher, may change this.

SlingCatcher does the opposite of the original SlingBox: instead of "slinging" TV transmissions, it "catches" media streams and then slings them onto your TV, PC or

It can capture media from other SlingBoxes in the house, from USB drives and anything streamed from your PC (video, internet or desktop).

If you can play a video on your PC, you can project it to your TV with SlingCatcher. This is great for viewing Internet video from your web browser, downloaded movies from your hard drive, or even photo slideshows on your TV.

Attach a USB drive to SlingCatcher and enjoy your family movies, downloaded videos, podcasts, and more - all on your TV.

Watch video from any device connected to your Slingbox (cable, satellite, DVR, or DVD player) on a TV in your home or someplace else. You can use SlingCatcher with your home TV... or with a TV on the other side of the globe.

You can even watch live or recorded TV in a room that's not wired for cable or satellite, eliminating the need to purchase additional devices and subscriptions for every television in your home.

Go [SlingCatcher](#)



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Well, that's it for this edition of rAve Europe! Thank you for spending time with us as we follow the industry happenings.

Do you have a special topic you would like to address industry-wide? We're open for **Guest Editorial** comments on the industry from Europe... Sorry, no commercials...this is just for industry issues. Contact: [rAveEurope@gmail.com](mailto:rAveEurope@gmail.com)

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#### **A little about Gary Kayye, CTS, Chief Visionary, Kayye Consulting, Inc, and founder of rAve Publications:**

Gary Kayye, CTS is chief visionary at Kayye Consulting, a Chapel Hill, NC, USA-based firm specializing in marketing consulting and training development services to the ProAV and HomeAV markets. Recognized as InfoComm's Educator of the Year in 2004 and NSCA's Instructor of the Year in 2007. Gary is a columnist with Sound & Communications Magazine and founder of rAve Publications, publisher of the premier HomeAV industry's eNewsletter (rAve HomeAV Edition – published in conjunction with CEDIA), rAve ProAV Edition, rAve Rental [and Staging] and the newly launched Reviews By rAve. Prior to forming Kayye Consulting, he spent 11 years at Extron and AMX as VP of Sales and Marketing and has previously served on the InfoComm Board of Governors, as the chairman of the Projection Shoot-Out and chairman of the AV industry's Professional Education and Training Committee.

Gary is currently serving on NSCA's Industry Advisory Board (IAB). In addition, he donates four weeks of his time a year as an active educational leader in the ProAV and HomeAV markets through free seminars and workshops at shows like NSCA, InfoComm, CES and CEDIA. He is a lively and fun speaker and every time he speaks, he mixes a visionary look into the future with a keen eye on how to get there. His clients have included Sony, InFocus, Crestron, Hewlett Packard, Steelcase, NEC, Da-Lite, Epson, Clarity, Apple, Scientific Atlanta, Cisco, JBL, Crown and Harman.

Finally, Gary's passion is a non-profit he co-founded called the Swim for Smiles Foundation ([www.swimforsmiles.org](http://www.swimforsmiles.org)). Swim for Smiles raises money for the North Carolina Children's Hospital through fun, active athletic events involving kids and swimming.

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