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Press Release

New Multi-port, Multi-layer DVStation Removes Mystery from Digital Video Impairment

SINGAPORE, March 1, 2000 Pixelmetrix Corporation today announced plans to showcase its new flagship product, DVStation, at NAB 2000 in Las Vegas. Designed for digital video network and transmission operators, DVStation helps operators quickly identify and pinpoint video impairment problems. This is the industry s first modular multi-layer system that simultaneously monitors on up to 21 ports and multiple layers of the video transmission chain. With DVStation, RF, protocol, multiplexing, and content errors propagating through the network can be traced and pinpointed to the faulty link or component before serious problems develop.

From source to viewer, programs traverse different physical equipment that can introduce impairment in any layer of the digital stream. Encoders can create poorly compressed content. Multiplexers can create protocol violations and timing errors. Modulators can output distorted RF signals. ATM networks are sources of timing related faults due to unpredictable buffering and jitter in the ATM network. Reflections, noisy amplifiers, dirty connectors, atmospheric variations and solar flares are some of the many sources of interference that can wreak havoc on RF signal quality and ultimately corrupt TV picture quality.

Deploying and managing digital video transmission networks is a new challenge requiring new techniques and technologies. The old way of picture quality evaluation requires continuous manual observation of a huge number of video monitors in the master control room. While it is still possible to detect a picture problem with the naked eye, it is impossible for the operator to identify which piece of equipment or connection point caused the problem.

"Our design objective with DVStation is to provide a comprehensive early warning system to alert operators of potential problems", says Danny Wilson, president of Pixelmetrix. The power of DVStation is in the 21-port correlation of results from many different transmission layers.
DVStation incorporates a Linux-based presentation engine, an integrated LCD touch panel, and a modular 21-port architecture that can accommodate different types of test modules. Test modules include:

- Physical Line Interface (ASI, SPI, RF, ATM etc.)
- Transport Stream Processor
- SI and Table Analysis Software

- Objective Quality Monitor Module
- Freeze Frame Detection Module

DVStation will be displayed for the first time during NAB 2000, April 10 – 13 at the Pixelmetrix exhibit at the Las Vegas Convention Centre (booth #L206).

Pricing and Availability

DVStation is available for order now. Prices start at US $20,000.

For more information about DVStation and Pixelmetrix' role in enabling the transition to digital television, please visit our homepage at http://www.pixelmetrix.com.

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About Pixelmetrix

Pixelmetrix Corporation is a start-up company focused on providing specialized instruments to the digital video broadcast industry to enable a smoother transition to digital broadcasting.

DVStation, Pixelmetrix first product, is targeted to assist digital video and network operators to quickly identify and isolate errors throughout the video transmission chain. Pixelmetrix has achieved an industry-first with DVStation in providing a modular, expandable, multi-layer system that can simultaneously monitor on 21 ports.

Deploying and managing digital video transmission networks is a new challenge requiring new techniques and technologies. Success requires the application of telecom network management and test techniques. Pixelmetrix employs experts in telecom, broadcasting, and the internet and combines their strengths to design innovative solutions for the new digital video networks.

Danny Wilson is founder and president of Pixelmetrix. While at Hewlett-Packard, Mr Wilson was responsible for introducing the world s first ATM Test System that accelerated the development of ATM networks. It has since become the industry standard test system in the telecommunications world. Previously, Mr Wilson led the development of the world s first 6-port network monitoring system which was accepted and standardized by Japan s network operator, NTT.

Pixelmetrix is a privately held corporation based in Singapore.

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