

Sensor

NEWS FROM PIXELMETRIX



Issue 69 - May 2008

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ DVProbe-C
- ▶ DVStation-Mini
- ▶ Electronic Couch Potato & ECP Consolidator

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June 17 - 20, Singapore
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- ➔ SCTE Cable-Tec Expo 2008
June 24 - 27, Philadelphia
Booth 2400



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Booth 2400

FINALLY! AFFORDABLE & COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORT STREAM ANALYSIS

DVStation Mini

SELF-CONTAINED, COMPACT AND PORTABLE

Easy To Use
Single User Interface minimizes learning curve

Robust
Uses Linux with shock-mounted hard drive

Flexible
ATSC, DVB, Digicipher® Protocols, remote VNC access,
SNMP & LAN Integration

Available in two models: DVStation-Mini PSK & DVStation-Mini TSP

The ideal test tool for terrestrial, cable headend and satellite uplink monitoring

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Pixelmetrix DVProbe-C

The DVProbe-C offers DVB-C compliant cable operators a cost-effective way to maintain visibility of network quality and performance. It also allows last-mile monitoring for cable networks in either traditional or IP backbone based setups.

With a single QAM input, the DVProbe-C provides comprehensive transport stream monitoring capabilities. Deployed in remote locations, the DVProbe-C can report alarms and other logging information via SNMP or Corba. It can be accessed for configuration or update purposes with a standards-compliant VNC or HTTP interface.



The DVProbe-C provides a full suite of transport stream analysis and monitoring tools. The service view provides status at a glance by displaying video thumbnails, critical transport stream and audio/video parameters in a concise format. Moreover, examining errors is a cinch, thanks to its powerful software.



Boosted with On-Air Content Validation, the DVProbe-C triggers instant notification when the channel plan does not match the configured set. Utilizing the EIS<>MuxConfig interface, the On-Air Content Validation feature can be set up by an EIS<>MuxConfig-compliant encoder, thereby allowing for flexibility.



With a proven SNMP interface and the most comprehensive set of SNMP traps for error conditions, the DVProbe-C can be used in conjunction with an SNMP network management system, such as the ConsolidatorPlus, to achieve end-to-end visibility in the network.

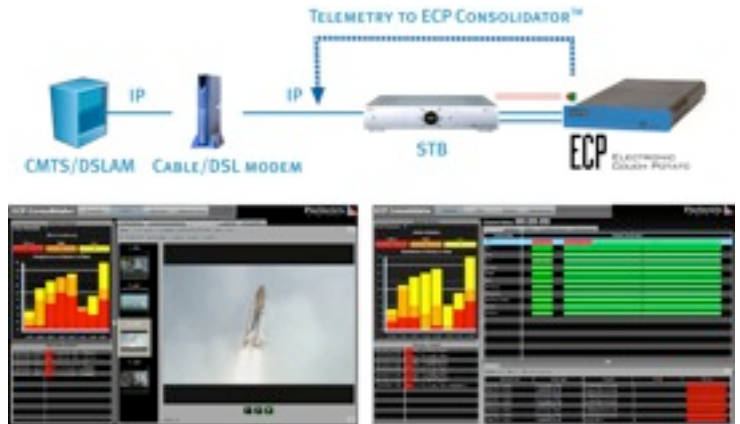
Electronic Couch Potato™ (ECP) & ECP Consolidator



The Electronic Couch Potato™ stands out with its ability to emulate the end-user changing channels on a Set Top Box via a built-in infrared (IR) control transmitter.

Service plan verification, channel switching and recording measurements on service quality for each channel to be reported to a central management console, equips the service provider with an in-depth knowledge of the end-user's experience.

Most importantly, it helps to check whether the channels that the ECP scans are actually available in the first place.

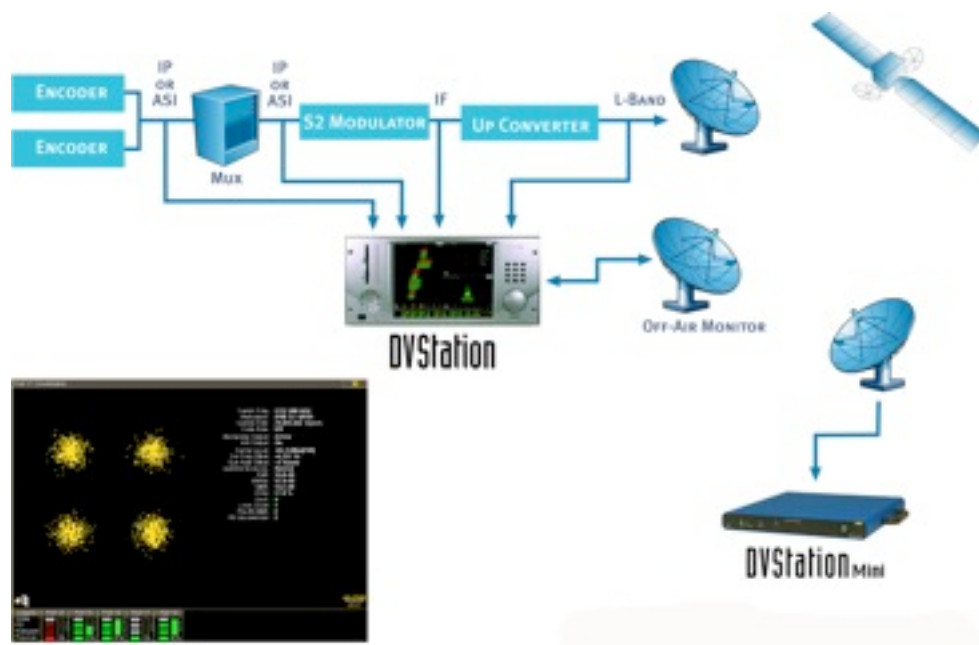


One-stop Complete Satellite Monitoring Solution

Pixelmetrix introduced two new modular interfaces to the ever-expanding DVStation family – video over IP solution and DVB-S.2 ASLF.

The new video over IP solution provides immediate connectivity to IP networks for detailed MPEG over IP analysis with the Emmy® award winning DVStation-210. The new IP solution expands Pixelmetrix integrated headend monitoring offering with the flexibility to monitor any mix and match of satellite, cable, terrestrial and IP signals in the same platform, simply by installing different line interface cards.

DVB-S.2 ALSF (Advanced Satellite Line Interface) is a multi-standard solution for the monitoring of digital satellite transmission. It supports DVB-S.2, DVB-DSNG and DVB-S modulation of MPEG-2 transport streams.



Tradeshow/Seminar Reports

Asia Future TV Summit



Danny presented “Making IPTV QoS/QoE bring in Customers” at the Asia Future TV Summit, held at the Shanghai Marriott Hotel, Hongqiao, China.

Day 2 highlight of the event was the special track focusing on IPTV. At this session, he covered some of the common problems that have plagued IPTV deployments, QoS and QoE issues that still remain to be resolved, and more.

“Years of television history have set very high expectations from customers. Today, customers have a choice. Nascent IPTV operators are faced with the challenging mission of pulling customers away from the existing cable and satellite services. Failure to offer the highest possible Quality of Service and Quality of Experience will only result in lost customers and lost profits,” said Danny Wilson.

NCTA Cable Show

Pixelmetrix took up a booth at this show to present the new DVStation-Mini, DVStation-210, DVStation-IP³, DVStorIP-Gen, VISUALmpeg and ConsolidatorPlus.

ANGA Cable Show

Pixelmetrix recently featured the new DVProbe-C at the ANGA Cable Show.

DVProbe-C is a cost-effective, ideal preventive monitoring and operational debugging tool. This monitoring probe is powerful enough to assure quality in a modern EdgeQAM based distribution plant. The DVProbe-C connects directly to the QAM RF cable network and uses the transport stream analysis technology of the Emmy® award winning Pixelmetrix DVStation.

“We are delighted to announce that a very large German cable operator is among the first customers to deploy the DVProbe-C throughout their network. With IP-based distribution and flexible EdgeQAM devices, the intelligence in the modern cable distribution architecture moves out from the headend into the network. This trend forces cable operators to rethink their quality assurance strategy. They need to deploy intelligent monitoring probes throughout the network. Cost is a critical factor. The new DVProbe-C from Pixelmetrix addresses these new requirements at the lowest cost possible,” said Reto Brader, General Manager, EMEA.

Packaged as a 1RU rack-mount system with power, network and RF input connections all on the back of the unit, it integrates easily even into space-conscious environments. A flexible software-based system built on open standards, the DVProbe-C can evolve with the network as digital cable systems move towards technologies like Switched Digital Video (SDV) and beyond.

Other product highlights at the booth included the new IP interface for the DVStation - the market leading headend monitoring solution.

DVStation

DVStor

DVShift

About DVStation

Pixelmetrix has focused on creating a single self-contained monitoring station that can analyze thousands of parameters within hundreds of digital television signals. Through the use of plug-in modules and parallel processing, it can monitor all these parameters real-time, simultaneously and continuously. Whether it is monitoring for compliance of an RF carrier, MPEG transport stream, picture quality or program content, development efforts are targeted at assuring the quality of the signal, integrity of the program service and delivery of essential technical information to the right people, in a timely and meaningful manner.



The DVStation-Remote is a compact version of the flagship DVStation, ideal for smaller-sized facilities. Consisting of one to four book-sized Pod modules and a single 1U rack-mounted Remote Controller, the system is operated through a LAN or dial up telephone, allowing database or user access from a personal computer.

The DVStation-Pod is a low-cost tool that can analyze and troubleshoot digital broadcast signals. Lightweight and portable, it easily slips into a tool case. DVStation-Pod borrows most of the advanced features of the DVStation, including its extraordinary user-friendly interface, on-board transport stream capture, internal playback and analysis, as well as error and measurement logging.



The DVStation-IP³ offers a one-stop monitoring engine for IP and Transport Stream Analysis, detailed service visualization and IP Headend Output verification for IPTV networks. It provides, on all services, MPEG-2 and H.264 main profile thumbnails, Media Delivery Index (MDI) which allows packet loss and jitter measurements as well as video presence, freeze or blackout displays.

The DVStation-Mini provides a compact and cost-effective way for terrestrial, cable and satellite operators to maintain visibility of network quality and performance. It offers comprehensive TS monitoring and is optimized for remote site deployment.



TS Time Shift

This unique product is ideal for delayed re-broadcast across time zones and provides stable, user-programmable delays from seconds to days.



DVShift

DVShift is a great improvement over the conventional approach of utilizing separate audio/video delay equipment which simply does not work with the

advent of multi-channel audio, multiple subtitles or closed captioning, and especially so with multimedia content such as MHP.

TS Recording & Playback

The DVStor system provides real-time recording and playback of MPEG transport streams over a pair of ASI interfaces.



DVStor

Capable of recording more than three days of MPEG-2 transport stream, the full integration with our DVStation Preventive Monitoring platform

means past alarms and errors can be fully investigated and analyzed.

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