

Press Release

New audio monitoring functionality in DVStation™'s Quality Monitor Module (QMM)

AMSTERDAM, September 8, 2000 - Pixelmetrix Corporation will introduce its flagship product, DVStation™, to the European market for the first time at IBC 2000. Unveiled at NAB 2000, DVStation™ has been extremely well received. It now comes to Europe with a newly enhanced Quality Monitor Module (QMM) with embedded audio measurement capability.

Based on the patented Rock-to-Pebble algorithm, QMM provides a real-time evaluation of video picture and audio signal quality. Video impairments such as MPEG block noise, black-out and freeze frame, and audio impairments such as silence, over peak and L-R phase miss-match, can all be quickly identified. By setting alarm thresholds on quality and time duration for black-out and freeze frame, system engineers receive an automatic early warning before serious problems develop. Corrective action can be quickly taken before picture quality is affected.

From source to viewers, programs traverse different physical equipment that can introduce impairment in any layer of the digital stream. "A major stumbling block in the delivery of quality digital video has been the inability to quickly find and resolve impairment problems. Using human eyes to watch hundreds of TV screens for errors is neither practical nor helpful in pinpointing which piece of equipment failed," said Danny Wilson - President and CEO of Pixelmetrix Corporation.

QMM's single-ended architecture eliminates need for a reference signal. Coupled with DVStation™'s Transport Stream Processor (TSP), analysis of both picture quality and transport stream PID bandwidth with full-time correlation can be achieved to enable future improvement.

QMM Specifications

Input Signal Format:

- 270 Mb/s serial component digital video
- ITU-R BT.601, BT.655, SMPTE 259M
- Embedded audio over SDI

Impairment Detections:

- MPEG Quality
- Black-Out
- Freeze Frame
- Audio Silence
- Audio Over Peak
- Audio L-R Phase Miss Match

The new DVStation™ will be showcased at IBC 2000 until September 12 at the Pixelmetrix exhibit in the Amsterdam RAI (booth 233, hall 8).

About DVStation™

DVStation™ is the first product of its kind to provide integrated supervision of up to 21 ports to detect the source of picture impairments on multiple levels (physical, transport, video/audio quality). Its power is in the 21-port correlation of results from many different transmission layers. With DVStation™, TV broadcast operators now have an early warning system that helps them resolve errors before picture quality is affected.