

Biz Bites

STREAMING VIDEO and music across the Internet, an IPTV network, or a mobile handset will generate \$70bn in network-derived and content-derived revenue over the next six years, writes Nigel Jopson.



According to a new market research study from Insight Research Corporation, the market will grow at a rate of 29% annually, driven by on-demand audio, video, and the accompanying advertising revenue. 'Questions surrounding consumers' willingness to pay for content have been dispelled by satellite radio and iTunes,' states Robert Rosenberg, Insight Research president. 'The forecasts that we present are conservative and in line with current performance. If, however, per-stream costs drop faster than anticipated, we have quicker acceptance of IPTV, or improvements in 3G delivery take place faster than expected, it could blow the doors off of our forecasts, propelling this industry into explosive growth,' Rosenberg enthuses. A key point of interest for content producers is the cost of bandwidth over wired connections: we have already seen a lot of grumbling from UK Internet service providers (ISPs) concerning the unexpected success of the BBC's new iPlayer. Having marketed all-you-can-eat broadband services to customers, there have been ludicrous claims from ISPs that the Beeb should in some way underwrite the network overhead of iPlayer's IPTV service. It would seem prudent for media owners to develop new revenue sharing strategies for tackling this possible blockage in the pipe to the consumer. If they don't, then ISPs will undoubtedly institute covert bandwidth-throttling, which will spoil the online media experience for consumers and limit take-up.

Philips Content Identification introduced transactional watermarking and live fingerprint registration with the Mediahedge video fingerprinting system at the NAB show in Las Vegas. Transactional watermarking — inserting a serial number or the identity of the device that is downloading the media content — is gaining in



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WSDG creates 'invisible' wall



The wall separating musicians from producers and engineers was rendered largely invisible at Diante do Trono Studio in Brazil through a design by Walters-Storyk Design Group who installed a glass wall. Renato Cipriano, head of the WSDG Brazilian office, said that a clear sight line between the live and control rooms was a critical design goal for the new complex. Diante do Trono is the 50-member gospel band of Batista da Lagoinha, one of Brazil's largest worship ministries. In addition to attracting huge crowds to stadium-level venues, the group has recorded 25 albums and sold more than 3 million CDs since its formation in 1997.

The ground floor of the complex has a 600sq.ft live room (with ceiling level windows facing the tropical sky), a 350sq.ft 5.1 control room with two isoboos, and an equipment room. Studio B on the 2nd floor features a 600sq.ft live room/control room/edit room tracking facility and a video edit suite for music video projects.

WSDG architect/acousticians John Storyk and Renato Cipriano developed variable acoustic panels, including motorised units installed in the ceiling that can be operated from the control room. The studio's most striking design is the expansive forward-looking panoramic glass wall separating the live and control rooms. The three main Genelec 1032 5.1 surround speakers are housed in the glass via a baffled configuration. Positioned over the equipment rack, they establish an unobstructed view between the rooms. The installation meets all ITU standards.

'The challenge of floating the main monitors within a panoramic front viewing glass wall in an acoustically acceptable configuration has been a long-time design goal,' said Storyk. 'In 2004 I was a member of the acoustic team for Jazz At Lincoln Center. The 500-seat Allen Room performance venue there features a 50ft high by 90ft long glass wall overlooking NY's Central Park directly behind the stage. The experience we gained from that project was extremely beneficial in helping us realise Diante Do Trono.'



With facilities in London and New York, Goldcrest Post has recently added to its London operation with The Television Studio, a surround sound television mixing suite based around a 32-fader Icon D-Control with Pro Tools HD3, supplied by Scrub. The addition takes the studio count at Goldcrest London to five surround rooms, complementing the full service High Definition and 2K picture and sound facilities in New York.

Sonnox plugs shine on Daryl webcast

Grammy award-winning engineer/producer/mixer Pete Moshay, who has worked with Average White Band, Ian Hunter, Barbra Streisand, and Hall & Oates, is a confirmed Sonnox plug-in fan.

One of Moshay's current projects is recording and mixing Live From Daryl Hall's house for a monthly webcast. 'The show features Hall and his special guests performing in the "Great Room" of his upstate NY house,' explains Moshay. 'It's made from Hemlock and hard pine, and it has an amazingly distinctive sound. The show is pretty laid back, with Daryl doing classic Hall & Oates material, songs by other artists, anything that strikes his fancy.'

Moshay captures Hall's performances with a mobile hard disk recorder, using a combination of stage and studio mics. He then transfers the material into Pro Tools for final mixing and editing. New shows, which are available online, are ready to roll by the 15th of every month. Moshay uses the Sonnox Limiter on the production. 'It's great for providing extra density for tracks,' he said. 'I'll ease it across the bus mix, very gently, and open it up with a bit of the Enhance feature. It's an incredibly musical tool and the perfect touch at the end of a chain.'

Moshay finds the SuprEsser's visual feedback exceptionally helpful. 'You get instant feedback watching the FFT,' he said. 'If you want to get right to that offending 6kHz peak, you can get in there and nail it. I've been de-essing my whole career, and basically working by ear. But no matter how good you may be, the ability to actually see what's going on lets you zero in and do the fix immediately.'

Audient leaps into Salmon Grove



When setting up a music production facility at Hull University, technical engineer Michael Fletcher had to build a studio that catered for the professional market but was also equipped to teach music undergraduates. 'We decided that these criteria were best met through the combination of a high quality inline analogue console, and a digital audio workstation with a control surface. This is the combination which initially attracted us to the Audient ACS8024,' he said. 'It made perfect sense to us to have access to a Command 8 for our Pro Tools rig in this mix position.'

Located on the Hull Campus of the University, Salmon Grove Studios forms part of the teaching resource for the university's Centre for Learning and Innovation. The studio is used for a variety of purposes, including recording and mixing for commercial projects.

NEW PRODUCT

CharterOak Acoustic Devices
M900-T



CharterOak Acoustic Devices has released a new small diaphragm vacuum tube condenser microphone in the slimline form of the M900-T, employing the same cardioid, hyper-cardioid, and omni capsules used in its popular M900 transformerless small diaphragm condenser, combined with a vacuum tube head amplifier and US-made Cinemag output transformer. Other notable features include a two-step sensitivity switch (0dB and -15dB) and 75Hz bass roll off.

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PRODUCT UPDATE

Tascam GigaStudio 4

Tascam is shipping GigaStudio 4, the latest version of its software sampling workstation, while allowing users to access up to 128GB of RAM for loading massive sample libraries and compositional templates. GigaStudio

4 is also capable of hosting

VSTi and GVI virtual

instruments, the latter

gaining the advantage

of kernel-level

processing for lower

latency than most other

host applications. Other

notable features include unlimited

polyphony, 24-bit/96kHz sample

rate support, 128 MIDI channel

playback, and embedded GigaPulse

convolution reverb.

Time+Space Distribution

+44 (0)1837 55200

www.timespace.com

Tascam (USA)

+1 800 447 8322

www.tascam.com

NEW PRODUCT

JZ Microphones The Black Hole PE (BH-3)

Latvian microphone manufacturer JZ Microphones has unveiled the third mic in its The Black Hole series. The Black Hole PE (BH-3) – visually differentiated from its BH-1 (multi-pattern) and BH-2 (fixed cardioid) predecessors by virtue of its dark green colour scheme – has a fixed cardioid polar pattern, but, due to popular request, also features a pad (switchable between -5dB and -10dB) for avoiding overloading mic pre-amps with high-output signals – when recording loud kick drums, for example.

JZ Microphones has also launched a new shockmount and pop filter system for its The Black Hole microphone series. The vintage-style shockmount uses elastic bands while the pop filter's cone-shaped form purportedly reduces blasts and blows in close recording applications more than any other on the market. Stated designer Juris Zarins: "We have been receiving a couple of good suggestions from different users, [so] we decided to include some of them in this product."

JZ Microphones

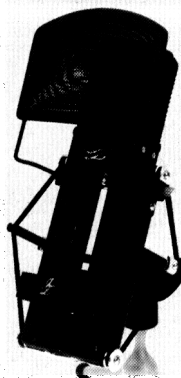
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Full Compass Systems

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BRAZIL

WSDG Realises Crystal Clear Sounds

Diante do Tronto, the gospel band of Batista da Lagoinha, one of Brazil's largest worship ministries, recently turned to full service architectural design and acoustic consulting firm Walters-Storyk Design Group (WSDG) to design its Diante do Trono Studio recording complex in Belo Horizonte, where WSDG maintains an office.

Diante do Trono Studio sports a ground floor-sited 600ft² live room with sky-facing ceiling-level windows and an attendant 350ft² 5.1 surround-capable control room with two adjoining isolation booths (while the second floor houses a 600ft² live/control/edit room tracking facility and video editing suite). Look a little closer, however, and one's eye is drawn to the expansive panoramic glass wall separating the live and control room where the three main Genelec 1032 monitors are housed with the glass itself to provide an unobstructed view between the two rooms. "The challenge of accurately placing a control room main monitor system at ear level within a panoramic front-viewing glass wall in an acoustically acceptable configuration has been a long-time design goal," WSDG founding partner John Storyk stated. "We are proud to have played a role in creating their dream studio."

Walters-Storyk Design Group (Brazil)

+31 3225 2766

www.wsda.com



NEW PRODUCT

Synthology Ivory Italian Grand

Synthology is now shipping its Italian Grand – featuring a 19GB core library of over 2,000 Italian 10-foot grand piano samples – as a standalone multi-platform plug-in powered by its custom playback and DSP engine.

www.timespace.com

www.synthology.com



NEW PRODUCTS

HHB DA60DC, DA113DC

HHB has announced availability of its new HA60DC (60-minute) and DA113DC (113-minute)

double-coated DTRS-format tapes for the likes of Tascam's DA-88 multitrack

www.hhb.co.uk



PRODUCT UPDATE

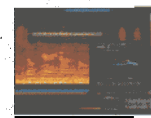
iZotope RX

iZotope has released its RZ audio restoration tools as VST-, AU-, MAS-Pro Tools (RTAS/AudioSuite), and DirectX-compatible plug-ins for DAWs and audio editors. Its Advanced RX version has also been

updated to include plug-ins.

www.maudio.co.uk

www.m-audio.com



LOS ANGELES

Rosse Scores With Anthology II

Grammy-nominated composer-cum-producer Eric Rosse has been making much use of Eventide's

(Digidesign Pro Tools-, ICON-, D-Control-, D-Command-, and VENUE-compatible) Anthology II plug-ins bundle in his SquawkBox Studio.

www.eventide.com

