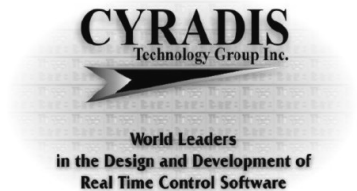


Cyradis Donates Television Master Control System

Cyradis, who are well known in the television master control space, have donated a complete multi-channel television master control system to the Rogers Communications Centre. The technology planned to be in place by December 2002 will provide a professional level Master Control for Channel 84, the Rogers Centre Community Channel. The technology includes the complete Cyradis Master Control system software, a number of SONY Profile hard drives and the MPEG-2 encoder equipment required to encode programming. The system will be built just inside the doors of Video Post.

Cyradis technology is found in places like the Castle Rock Broadcast Center, Colorado where it's the primary satellite uplink site for DirecTV U.S., DirecTV, Japan a Multi-Channel Broadcast satellite uplink site for DirecTV's Japan operations, California Broadcast Center, Long Beach as a primary satellite uplink site for DirecTV in South America and TCI, Denver, Colorado the parent company of Viewer's Choice, where the system controls their Sony VideoStore Multi-Channel Video File Server System.



Cyradis technology was also used by NBC during their broadcast of the 1996 Atlanta Games and the broadcast of the 2000 Sydney Games. Additionally Cyradis products were provided to NBC for their Genesis project, which was the complete updating of their extensive facilities in New York.

Triveni Digital and B2C2 Technology Allow For Datacasting Testing

The Rogers Communications Centre has setup and will work with Triveni Digital Corporation's Skyscraper datacasting system. Installed for the first time in Canada, the system allows for data content to be scheduled and transmitted in the ATSC broadcast stream. The equipment has been installed in the CDTV Toronto Test transmitter site in which the Interactive Broadcast Learning Lab is a partner. The Skyscraper system will allow for experimentation with the transmission of various data formats including mp3's, MPEG-4 and various forms of streaming media. The system includes a DataFab that collects, manages and schedules the transmission of data content, a DataHub that allocates bandwidth and inserts data into the broadcast stream, and a DataReceiver that extracts data from the broadcast stream for the end-user.

In addition to Triveni's DataReceiver, the Rogers Communications Centre now has both the PCI and USB versions of B2C2's technology that provides the ability to separate the data from an ATSC broadcast stream. While the Centre has had technology to receive both standard and high definition for some time, the B2C2 technology allows research staff to separate other data types from the transmission and place it on the network for enhanced and iTV applications. B2C2's technology allows for the reception of data types such as MP3 and MPEG-4 via the ATSC broadcast signal.

Inscriber and Visual Computing Labs Receive Substantial Upgrades

The Rogers Communications Centre's Inscriber and Visual Computing Labs (V-341) have received substantial upgrades over the past few months. There has been increasing use of V-341 by the Media Arts and the Graduate program since it was tailored more toward multimedia usage. Hardware improvements in V-341 include the replacement of CD ROMS with DVD ROMS and an overall upgrading of the OpenGL video cards to NVIDIA GeForce4. The Centre has also equipped all of our Inscriber/Visual Computing labs with Firewire/USB 2.0 cards that allow for the connection of various multimedia (primarily video devices) by students making them much more functional with video and audio

Also this year, the labs have received significant software upgrades. In V-341 the popular Lightwave animation software has been upgraded to version 7.5. The lab has new software including Premiere 6.5, After Effects 5.5 and Illustrator 10. Macromedia's Studio MX has been added to the room. Studio MX includes Macromedia Dreamweaver MX, Macromedia Flash MX, Macromedia Fireworks MX, Macromedia FreeHand 10, and a developer edition of ColdFusion MX. In addition backend Macromedia servers are being added to increase the functionality of Macromedia's popular Flash program.

Canadian Foundation For Innovation Funds Labs For Interactive Art

Prof. Lila Pine, along with Dr. Tim Jackson, both from the New Media Option of the School of Image Arts, recently secured a grant of \$80 000 from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) to be used towards their project called New Media Studios for Evolving Stories as Interactive Art. This infrastructure grant will be used to create a digital studio and interactive environment that will enable the creation and testing of interactive/remote projects. To that end, the studio will be housed in two locations, one in the Roger's Communication Centre, the other in the School of Image Arts. The infrastructure will enable Dr. Jackson's Synth/Ops Research Group to proceed with more interactivity in a broad array of art applications while Professor Pine will have access to the necessary tools to build complex, interwoven, narrative systems. CFI has traditionally recognized the areas of science and engineering, and both Pine and Jackson are thrilled to have received the first award that CFI has ever offered a communication and design project.

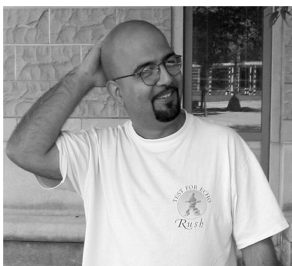
The Devil Makes Her Own Dessert

Thea Faulds, a recent graduate of Ryerson's Image Arts program and who is currently employed in the Rogers Communications Centre as our Television Services Assistant was recently awarded an Artist in Residency commission at Trinity Square Video. It was awarded for her to produce a video that dealt with the thematic content of "The Devil in Rock and Roll". The result was an 8 minute work titled "The Devil Makes Her Own Dessert" that deals with the concepts of rebellion and feminism. In October 2002, Faulds traveled to Vancouver to screen her work, which she was able to do as the result of a Canada Council grant to promote her art.



Thea Faulds

Size Does Matter



Many Ayromlou

Rogers Communications Centre System Integrator Many Ayromlou is the latest hero of the Open Source Access Grid community. He recently built a single small computer measuring 280mm x 200mm x 180mm capable of replacing the work done previously by three individual computers in Access Grid applications. The computer employs a simple and elegant design and is the talk of the Open Source Access Grid Community. It's the pride and joy of Ayromlou, a graduate of Ryerson's Applied Computer Science Program and he's currently working on a design that may shrink the technology to about the size of a portable CD player. This innovation was a direct result of the Rogers Communications Centre applied research into grid computing and networked communications.

Toronto New Media Trainers Alliance

Brad Fortner, Program Director, Operations and Technology; Rogers Communications Centre has been elected as the Chair of Toronto's New Media Trainers Alliance. His term that started September 1, 2002 will last for two years. The Toronto New Media Trainers Alliance is a project of SMART Toronto and is made up of both public and private sector educators. Members currently include Centennial College, George Brown College, Humber College, Ryerson University, Seneca College and Sheridan College.



Brad Fortner

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