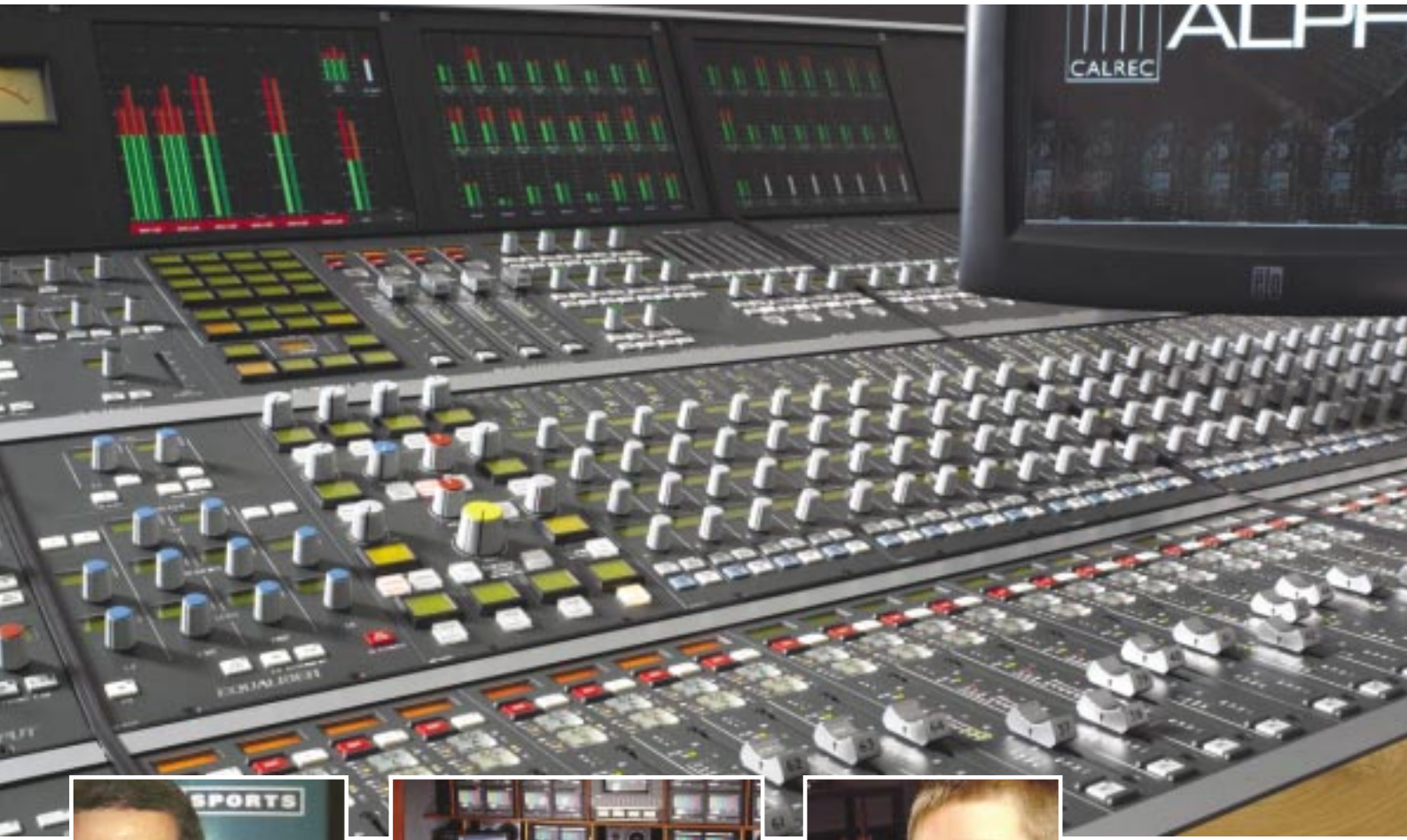


SOUNDWAVES



THE CALREC BROADCAST AUDIO NEWS UPDATE



Sky's the Limit

BSkyB boost news with two Alpha digital consoles



Hi Five!

Pittsburgh based NEP upgrade to five Hi Def units



US Growth

Peter Harrison expands Calrec's US sales team

System Plus Platform Launch

Calrec unveils the future of broadcast audio production

PRODUCT UPDATE

System Plus: The Evolution of Broadcast Audio Production

“The Calrec user interface makes getting shows on the air a simple task, despite the Alpha being an extremely sophisticated mixer.”

Chad Snyder,
Account Manager,
Lyon Video

Live production and on-air broadcast operations are continually evolving. From content to delivery, workflow systems are constantly changing as broadcast operations demand greater integration and flexibility to maintain their creative edge. Reliability, sonic quality and suitability for purpose are still essential ingredients – Calrec customers take these critical elements for granted. It is how technology integrates with workflow practices that manufacturers are increasingly judged on.

This is why the world’s biggest broadcasters trust Calrec. Calrec has been helping change the broadcast landscape since 1964, and our technology has evolved with our customers’ changing needs.

System Plus is a significant milestone in the natural evolution of the Alpha, Sigma and Zeta 100 Series consoles, offering affordable, flexible solutions to ensure your needs are met for years to come.

Providing solutions for all sizes of broadcast operation, System Plus technology adapts to meet the needs of all broadcast users and, when combined with Hydra audio networking, can maximise your studio flexibility via a resilient industry standard Gigabit networking technology.

The Alpha, Sigma and Zeta Plus consoles provide expanded functionality to offer greater integration with existing infrastructures and more configurability than ever before.

In keeping with Calrec’s reputation for long term usage and high return on investment, System Plus elements – both hardware and software - are available as optional upgrades to existing 100 Series consoles,



Zeta Metering (above & below)



Zeta Fader Panels

enabling our established customers to continue to take advantage of our forward developments. This concern for the future needs of our customer base is at the core of all System Plus products which are designed to accommodate future developments and be upgradeable.

System Plus consoles naturally provide the same reliability, and high performance standards which typify every single Calrec desk.

Take a fresh look at the way you work with System Plus. ■



Alpha Console

System Plus Feature Set

System Plus Console Stability:

- High DC voltage power distribution allows for wide variations of AC power without dropping DC operating voltages or damaging devices
- Console and racks boot from cold in less than 20 seconds

- Full control system reset in less than 15 seconds with no loss of audio
- Hot plugging of every card and module
- Hot plugged cards initialise on insertion
- Non-sequential power-on-process
- On board Flash ROM offers 99 memories independent of the PC
- Automatic background memory stores current status for fast loading on power up
- Independent DSP operation ensures audio continuity even during PC or control reset
- PC not required for sustained operation or boot up -PC failure or reset has no effect on audio signal
- SNMP reporting

Hardware Redundancy

- On-board hot spares provide full intelligent and automatic redundancy on the most critical system elements: PSU, DSP and control processors
- Automatic takeover occurs in the event of a card failure, ensuring protection against even the most unlikely occurrence of hardware failure

Metering

System Plus provides the widest choice available in console metering through conventional LED bargraphs or new TFT screen displays. The TFT system provides enhanced flexibility through full operator configurability of layout, size and colour without increasing cost over conventional bargraphs.

- TFT screens allow up to 3 rows of meters
- Each screen can have mixed sizes of meter: 1/3, 2/3, 1/2 and full screen size
- Size, location and colour are all user definable
- User configurability ensures a high degree of redundancy
- VGA output from each panel
- Both bargraph and TFT metering systems allow for the provision of mechanical VU and PPM meters where required

Monitoring

The all new monitor system for Alpha and Sigma consoles provides simple, easy to use panels with expanded functionality:

- User configurable panels with full operator profiles
- Intuitive operation
- Extremely fast access to all sources provided through an elegant hierarchical structure
- Up to 8 monitor outputs (4 x 5.1 and 4 x stereo) provided with fast access to all sources
- Up to 112 sources available
- Monitor sources may be any combination of 5.1, stereo and mono

Interfacing

By using the proven Calrec Hydra audio network technology, System Plus provides a powerful and reliable means of sharing remote sources between consoles with an open path to accommodate future developments in standards and customer requirements. ■

Sigma Console with Enhanced Monitoring and Metering options



“The Alpha has performed very well. The desk has been extremely well accepted by sound operators.”

George Hoover,
Vice President &
General Manager,
NEP Inc.

US News: Maryland's Sharing Broadcast Station!

Maryland Public Television has installed a Calrec Hydra network into their state-of-the-art broadcast facility in Owings Mill, Maryland.

Upgrading from an analog production core to a digital facility, the adoption of the Hydra system further enhances MPT's flexibility.



"We are striving to keep our audio in the digital domain," says MPT Audio Supervisor Jim Bigwood. "The Hydra eliminates long analog runs from our studios to our production core, thus reducing the possibility of noise being introduced into the system."

"Since the Hydra boxes connect to the Alpha racks with only a single CAT5e cable we saved a lot in effort and expense on running multiple mic and line cables to each studio."

MPT installed two Alpha consoles in 2002, and use the Hydra network to share studio resources across both boards.

"At the completion of our digital upgrade MPT will have three studios and two control rooms equipped with Alphas. Hydra enables us to run any studio from either of the two control rooms. "Hydra makes it easy to route resources to and from multiple studios via a single control room so that a show may have an interview set in one studio and a performance area in another."

MPT produces live to air or live to tape programming and provides live studio facilities to clients such as PBS, CBS, ABC, NBC, CNBC, MSNBC, BBC, Fox News, Fox Sports and ESPN. ■

UK News: Twin Alphas are News to Sky

Sky continue marching towards a digital infrastructure with the installation of two Alpha consoles into brand new studios.

The 64 and 80 fader consoles will be used in Studio C and Studio A of Sky's custom built News Production Centre, a new studio complex at its West London Studio Centre.

Studio C is used for the production of Channel 5 News; this is a new contract for Sky News and went on air in January 2005. Studio A will be the new main studio for Sky News and will go on air later this year.

"Studio A will be the new flagship studio for Sky News & will be on-air 24 hours a day, 365 days a year," says Vaughan Rogers, Head of Sound Operations.

"Studio C is used for the News injects into Channel 5. "We have had a Sigma in our Parliamentary studio for a couple of years - it has proved to be utterly reliable and operators have found it very easy to use."

"Sky News is bigger and more complex, so the Alpha seemed the obvious choice. Redundancy is also a major factor, particularly with the Sky News desk in live-on-air at all times."

Sky are committed to launching a High Definition / 5.1 service in 2006. ■

Sky's Head of Sound Operations Vaughan Rogers



US News: Lyon puts Alpha to work!

Lyon Video has installed a 72 fader Alpha into 6HD, a brand new Hi Def mobile unit.

6HD is a 53' trailer with a 49' expanding section, capable of 1080i, 720p, 24p and standard definition production.

"Our first experience with Calrec was the Q2 in unit 5," says Lyon Video Account Manager Chad Snyder.

"The desk proved so magnetic for clients and operators that when we initially planned this HD unit, the Q2 was in the design."

"However, after reviewing our client's requests and our available options, it was clear the Alpha 100 was the desk we wanted. The Calrec user interface makes getting shows on the air a simple task, despite the Alpha being an extremely sophisticated mixer. With the addition of TFT displays, our choice became crystal clear - the operators love the displays."

The new unit is primarily used for live broadcasts and live-to-tape of sports, corporate and entertainment events. ■

"We have had a Sigma in our parliamentary studio for a couple of years - it has proved to be utterly reliable."

**Vaughan Rogers,
Head of Sound
Operations, BSKyB**

Freelance Operator Wendel Stevens drives the Alpha



Australia News: Calrec Double Up Down Under

Australia's Global Television have installed Sigma digital consoles into two of their digital trucks.

The consoles have been installed into DP3 and DP4, and will be used on a wide range of sporting and light entertainment projects each week. All six of Global Television's digital units now use Calrec, with two Q2's, a VCS and an S2.

"We chose Calrec for reliability, build quality and sound quality reasons," says Global Television's Installation Technician Chris Beech.

"Our operators love using Calrec consoles and the support is outstanding across the range."

"The operators feel comfortable with the logical layout and the comprehensive monitoring section is second to none."

Incorporated in 1987, Global Television is the leading service provider to the Australian television and broadcast industry. The company is the largest independent Outside Broadcast company in Australia. ■

US News: NEP Install Calrec Consoles for HD push

Pittsburgh-based remote broadcast specialists NEP have placed orders for a Sigma and an Alpha digital console, to be installed in two new Hi Def trailers.

Both consoles will be used as main mixers in the new units. The Sigma is destined for SS26.

"The Alpha has been installed into SS24 and will principally be used for CBS Sports on NFL, NCAA Final Four and other events," says NEP Vice President and General Manager George Hoover. "During its first two months of service the desk and the audio room have met with rave reviews for sonic quality, flexibility and ease of use."

"We installed our first Alpha 100 into our SS9 SD truck back in 2002. The desk has performed very well and has definitely paved the way for these desks...and also for other Alphas currently going into other OB trucks in the US. The Alpha has been extremely well accepted by sound operators."

NEP currently operates five HD units, three of which contain Q2 analogue consoles. ■

Japan News: Calrec Break into Japan

Calrec Audio has scored a first digital sale in Japan with the installation of a 48 fader Alpha console to Mainichi Broadcasting System (MBS) Inc in Osaka.

Installed into the Galaxy Hall Sub as part of a major refurbishment the console is used live to air for 90% of programmes and broadcasts talk shows such as Chichinpuipui and Shittoko!.

The sale was made through Hibino, Calrec's exclusive distributor in Japan.

"The Alpha is more focused on broadcast use than any other console available," says Mr. Ohkawa at MBS. "MBS especially liked the fact that operation does not rely on a PC, and that analogue users feel comfortable with the desk."

"MBS also liked the Alpha's user-friendly operation such as the ease of path transfer, bus assignment using the Interrogate mode and input assignment on the I/O Matrix. It is the most appropriate console for broadcast." ■

Alpha console in NEP's SS24 mobile unit



"Our operators love using Calrec consoles and the support is outstanding across the range."

**Chris Beech,
Installation
Technician,
Global Television**

Peter Harrison Appointed to US Post

Peter Harrison has joined Calrec Audio as Regional Sales Manager for the USA.

A former Director at console-manufacturers Amek, Peter is responsible for developing sales in the Southern US states and will work alongside National Sales Manager Jim Wilmer, who retains overall responsibility for the US.

Peter has an enviable history in pro-audio, including 12 years as Director of Engineering at Amek. He began his career in audio in 1975 as a Sound Engineer at Border Television before joining Neve as Senior Technical Service Engineer in 1980.

Peter joined Amek as Broadcast Product Manager in 1985 to develop a new range of audio consoles and control their sale and distribution - within three years division sales had grown from zero to £3.9m.

His appointment builds on Calrec's investment in the North American market.

Calrec have over 60 digital consoles in daily operation in the US marketplace both in remote units and in regional and national studios. ■



Crystal Clear Reception!

Calrec's historic Nutclough Mill HQ has benefited from significant investment with the installation of a MY19 placement machine, doubling surface mount production capacity. The Mill's 19th Century lobby has also been refurbished into a state-of-the-art company reception. ■



Refurbished reception at Nutclough Mill

Calrec NAB

Calrec mark a pivotal moment in the evolution of digital audio consoles with the System Plus development of their Alpha, Sigma and Zeta consoles. (p 2)

Based on Alpha architecture, the Calrec range of Alpha, Sigma and Zeta consoles has been continuously provided with a host of new facilities to meet specific broadcasters' needs.

Alpha, Sigma and Zeta consoles at NAB will all be networked via the Hydra network at NBA (booth N 802), with the Sigma, Zeta and Hydra network at the AES in Barcelona (booth 1415). ■

Exhibition Diary

Exhibition	Location	Dates
NAB	Las Vegas	18-21 April
KOBA	Seoul	17-20 May
AES	Barcelona	28-29 May
BIRTV	Beijing	25-28 Aug

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