



Video Services Forum, Inc. News Letter

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This is the sixth issue of Video Services Forum (VSF) News Letter. The VSF feels that it is important to keep you informed about what is going on within the VSF since the VSF is **your** organization. As we realize that your time is valuable, we have kept this News Letter deliberately brief.

VSF Officers & Board Members:

During the 1Q of every year, VSF Board of Directors elections are held at the annual member meeting. There has been one change since the annual member meeting. Mary-Luc Champel – Thomson was selected by the VSF Board to replace Kerry Wheelles – Harris Broadcast, necessitated by the acquisition of Aastra Digital Video by Harris Broadcast. VSF Board appreciates all of the effort Kerry has devoted to the operation of the VSF over the years and anticipates he will continue to lend a hand as needed.

Director	Company	Term Expires
Pierre Costa	AT&T	2007
John Dale	Media Links	2007
Richard Friedel	Fox Broadcasting	2007
Mary-Luc Champel	Thomson Grass Valley	2007
Roger Hatcher	State of Georgia	2007
Steve Storozum	Level 3 Communications	2006
John Mailhot	Harris Broadcast	2008
Brian Wilson	Verizon	2008

The following VSF Officers continue to serve two-year terms, which run through February 2007:

President	Derek Smith	Vyvx
Vice President	Carl Ostrom	System Resource
Secretary/Treasurer	Jeff Carpenter	Artel Video Systems

Administrative and Technical Staff:

Brad Gilmer – Gilmer and Associates, VSF Executive Director
 Barbara Main – Assistant Director
 Bob Ruhl – VSF Operations Manager

VSF Current Member List:

A.R.G ElectroDesign
 Aastra Digital Video
 Artel Video Systems
 AT&T (formerly SBC Communications)
 Bell Canada
 BridgeTech
 CBC/Radio-Canada
 Comtech EF Data
 D-Technologies
 Digital Fountain
 DirecTV
 DVBLink, Inc.
 Fox Broadcasting
 Evertz
 Georgia Technology Authority
 Harmonic, Inc.
 Harris Broadcast Communications Division
 IneoQuest Technologies, Inc.
 Iowa Public Television
 Ipitek
 Juniper Networks
 Media Links, Inc.
 Merrill Weiss Group
 MESoft, Inc.
 Modulus Video, Inc.
 Path 1 Network Technologies
 Pathfire, Inc.
 Paxson Communications
 QVidium Technologies, Inc.
 Renovo Software
 Scientific Atlanta
 Spirent Communications
 St-Germain Consulting

System Resource, Carl Ostrom, Principal
TANDBERG Television
Telecom Product Consulting, Wes Simpson, Principal
Thomson Grass Valley
Tut Systems
T-VIPS
UPC
Verizon Communications
Video Products Group
Vyvx

Meetings and Conferences:

The June 2006 **VSF Meeting Series** was held June 6, 7 and 8 (1/2 day) in Toronto, Ontario and was hosted by Bell Canada. This meeting was heavily attended with over 80 people in attendance. A tour of the Bell Canada TOC took place on Tuesday afternoon with a tour of the CBC Radio-Canada Toronto Broadcast Center on Wednesday afternoon. Based on a survey taken after the meeting, these tours were very well received. For additional information on the meeting, agenda and presentations please visit: <http://www.videoservicesforum.org/Meetings/index.htm>.

The October 2006 **VSF Meeting Series** will be held October 3, 4 and 5 (1/2 day) in Broomfield, Colorado and will be hosted by Level 3 Communications. For additional information on the meeting location, preferred hotel and registration please visit: <http://www.videoservicesforum.org/Meetings/index.htm>.

The **SMPTE Digital Content Connection and VSF VidTrans 2007 Joint Conference** and exhibition will be held January 21, 2007 through January 24, 2007 in Orlando, Florida. The Buena Vista Palace has been selected as the site for the joint conference with SMPTE. Additional details on the joint conference will be provided at videoservicesforum.org and smpte.org sites and through e-mail announcements.

VSF Activity Groups:

VSF Activity Groups (AGs) supply input and expertise to various industry standards bodies on behalf of the VSF. These are some of the topics that VSF Activity Groups are actively addressing.

Professional Real Time Video/Audio Over IP Network Infrastructure Activity Group – Discussing key issues of relevance to transporting real-time video signals across IP-based networks.

The **WAN Video IP Activity Group** is investigating high quality/contribution video over IP infrastructure current or draft standard documents with the objective of leveraging the VSF knowledge base and making appropriate recommendations, modifications or new documents.

Co-Chairs: Pierre Costa, SBC and John Dale III, Media-Links

COP-3 Group is sub group specifically covering the standardization of Pro-MPEG CoP#3 through SMPTE.

The **COP3 Standardization Activity Sub-group** has successfully submitted the final FEC and Transport documents for video over IP services to the SMPTE N26 committee for ballot. These documents are based on the Pro-MPEG COP-3R2 work. The result of this work will define an interoperable standard implementation of MPEG2 transport streams over IP networks.

The CoP3 work is currently undergoing a technical ballot within the SMPTE. The ballot will close on July 17, 2006. As of now, the documents have received a number of positive votes, positive vote with a comment, and no negative votes.

Co-Chairs: Carl Ostrom, System Resource and Peter Elmer, British Telecom

Test and Measurements Activity Group - goal is to identify and describe metrics required to accurately characterize packet-based network performance for streaming video transport over IP.

Mike Bany has completed a document describing measurements for video transport over IP networks and it has been supplied to the VSF Board for approval. Once the VSF Board approves the document, it will be submitted to ATIS, hopefully in time to be presented by Jim Welch- IneoQuest Technologies, Inc. at the next ATIS IIS meeting to be held July 19th, 2006.

Chair: Michael Bany, DVBLink, Inc.

New Activity Groups formed at the VSF Meeting Series in Toronto.

COP3VBR Activity Group – objective is to define how to apply FEC (Pro-MPEG CoP3 / SMPTE N-26) forward error correction algorithm to the transport of VBR video streams.

Co-Chairs: Olaf Nielsen, Tut Systems and Carl Ostrom, System Resource

COP4 Activity Group – objective being formulated.

Chair: John Dale III, Media Links, Inc.

VidTrans 2007 Demo Activity Group – objective is to demonstrate a high degree of interoperability between vendors for errorless video transmission over IP or Ethernet networks

Chair: John Dale III, Media-Links, Inc.

To learn more about these Activity Groups please visit:

<http://www.videoservicesforum.org/about/index.htm>.

Other News:

The VSF website and Logo were recently updated so please check them out when you have a chance. We have also established a VSF Members-only single access code for all VSF Meetings and VidTrans conference notes in the archive section. To access any of these files use User Name = NNNNNN & Password = NNNNNN. Also this access information will allow members only to access the VSF By-Laws, new Work for Hire and Trademark Policy documents. Annually we will change the access code information and supply members with a new one. News Letters and Press Releases are also available on-line, on the Home page, to all without need for access codes.

If you have any comments or suggestions on the VSF site and/or News Letter please send them to Bob Ruhl.

Well, that's it for now. If there is any topic that you would like to see covered in the next issue of the News Letter, please contact Bob Ruhl at bob.ruhl@comcast.net.