Richmond Sound Design Ltd. - Show Control & Virtual Sound System Software for Theatre Sound Design & Control Applications

For Press Releases after October 2000, please go to:

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AUDIOBOX(TM) HONORED AT THEA AWARDS

"Themed Entertainment's Gala Night Honors the AudioBox"

Beverly Hills, CA - Themed recreation venues and attractions took center stage on the evening of Saturday, September 16th as the Themed Entertainment Association (TEA) celebrated its seventh annual Thea Awards Gala in the Grand Ballroom of the Regent Beverly Wilshire Hotel.

According to the President of the internationally recognized organization, Brian Edwards, "The Thea Awards were established in 1994 to honor excellence and outstanding achievement in themed entertainment design and production. Certainly, our 15 exceptional award recipients this evening did much to add credence to that goal. And, this year's Thea Award recipients represent three continents and a multitude of countries. The TEA has now truly achieved a worldwide presence."

The AudioBox from Richmond Sound Design (RSD) received the Breakthrough Technology Award and was represented at the ceremony by Tim Bartoo of Harmonic Functions and Susanne Clampett of RSD. In his acceptance address, Tim explained "Technology, even breakthrough technology, seldom finds a straight, direct path from concept to finished product."

But in this case the path resulted in success as the TEA's own press release attests, "Richmond Sound Design Ltd. developed a special version of its AudioBox for The Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man at Islands of Adventure. This fully digital playback and control system, designed to withstand shock and vibration of 15 Gs, finally solves the problem of on-board audio. It is now available as a standard unit, predicted to make a significant impact on the quality of the guest experience industry-wide."

As well, the Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man received the Best Attraction Award and Universal Studios Islands of Adventure received the Best Theme Park Award and RSD is extremely pleased and proud to have contributed to the excellence of these superb themed properties.

The Themed Entertainmant Association (TEA), based in Burbank, CA, is an international alliance of the world's most experienced professionals in the leisure entertainment industry today. Its member companies, located in 16 countries on 5 continents, have played key roles in the development and/or production of the most successful theme parks, entertainment centers, museums, and themed hotels, restaurants and retail on the planet.

Among its biggest supporters are major Hollywood studios with interests in location-based entertainment, including Paramount, 20th Century Fox, Universal Studios and The Walt Disney Company.

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AudioBox(TM) Key to EXPO Exhibit at Frankfurt Airport

"Frankfurt Airport Showcases 'Mobility in the Future'"

Frankfurt/Main, Germany, 2000 July 10. Richmond Sound Design Ltd. (RSD) is pleased to announce that our AudioBox sound and show controller has been installed as the key diffusion element to the 'Mobility in the Future' exhibit at the Frankfurt Airport.

This exhibit is one of the 700 registered "Projects around the World" that accompany EXPO 2000. This multimedia installation was designed jointly by the AIRail Partners, Satis&Fy and Supreme Particles. The high-tech interactive concepts using camera motion tracking and non-linear show control were designed and installed by Michael Saup and Louis-Philippe Demers of Supreme Particles.

For more detailed technical information about this exhibit and other projects by Supreme Particles and Satis&Fy please visit their web sites:

http://www.processing-plant.com
http://www.particles.de
http://www.satis-fy.de

About the AIRail Partners' "Mobility in the Future" exhibit

The AIRail Partners? That's the Frankfurt Airport company, FAG (short for Flughafen Frankfurt/Main AG), Deutsche Bahn AG (the German railway service), and Deutsche Lufthansa AG. Together they are working in partnership to develop new approaches to integrated transport systems.

At the launch, guests from the worlds of politics, business, the arts, and journalism were welcomed by the German Transport Minister, Reinhard Klimmt; the Hesse state premier, Roland Koch; and the mayor of the city of Frankfurt, Joachim Vandreike. This was followed by presentations on the AIRail partnership and the exhibition concept by Dr. Wilhelm Bender, the chairman of FAG's Executive Board; Dr. Christoph Franz, in charge of passenger transport at Deutsche Bahn AG; and Dr. Karl-Friedrich Rausch, head of Lufthansa's Passage Airline division.

World of Mobility

The Exhibition "Mobility in the Future", located in the connector building between Terminal 1 and the Long-distance Train Station/AIRail Terminal, is part of one of the 700 "Projects around the World" that are accompanying EXPO 2000. These exhibitions explore the EXPO theme, "Humankind-Nature-Technology", through local connections and topics. The AIRail Partners' exhibition creates a link right from Frankfurt Airport - one of Europe's key transport hubs and the gateway to EXPO 2000 for visitors from all over the world - to the "Mobility" project at EXPO in Hanover, which is in Hall 4 of the Theme Park.

The exhibition space presents a "mobile" multimedia world that explores the theme of networked transport by means of light effects, film and sound. Meanwhile, the attached "Chill-out Zone" focuses on comfort, relaxation and information. There's also a stage for a program of events to be held over the five months of the exhibition. Details of upcoming events will be flagged in press releases and on the AIRail Partners' web site,

www.airail-partners.com

Facts, Dates and Figures on the AIRail Partners' Exhibition
"Mobility in the Future"

When?

During EXPO 2000, from June 1 to October 31, 2000
Opening hours: daily, except Mondays, from 10:00 to 18:00
Admission free

Where?

Frankfurt Airport, in the connector building between Terminal 1
and the AIRail Terminal (Long-distance Train Station)

 Theme:

Transport systems integration for improved mobility
Frankfurt Airport as an integrated transportation hub
Comfortable, seamless, environmentally friendly travel, amid
growing passenger and freight volumes

 Exhibits:

Interactive "Travel World":
Diameter: 12 m, 31 Plexiglas pillars in a circular array in the
AIRail Partners' colors: red (DB), yellow (LH), blue (FAG:
central pillar)

Visitors pass through light barriers, triggering light effects,
video images and sounds

"Suitcase Cinema":

Booth in the shape of a giant RIMOWA suitcase presenting the
Railway Check-in pilot program for Stuttgart-Frankfurt.
Visitors enter the suitcase for a video presentation on baggage
transfer

"Chill-Out Zone":

Relaxation zone with comfortable armchairs.
Varying light and sound effects create alternately speedy and
peaceful atmosphere.

Three globe counters with touch-screen terminals provide
information on AIRail Partners, transport systems integration,
Railway Check-in pilot project, environment

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    AudioBox(TM) at ACMC2000 interFACES

    "Richmond Sound Design AudioBox Workshop in Australia"

Brisbane, Australia, 2000 July 5 to 8 -- Richmond Sound Design
(RSD) is pleased to announce that, as part of the Australasian
Computer Music Conference: interFACES, a workshop on the Richmond
Sound Design AudioBox will be conducted.

The Australasian Computer Music Conference 2000 will take place
Wednesday 5 July to Saturday 8 July 2000 and is sponsored by

Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia. For
further information please visit the Conference web site:

   http://acma.asn.au/

The RSD AudioBox and Third Monk Software's ABControl Macintosh
software provide an ideal platform for the design and
presentation of multi-channel, multi-speaker electro-acoustic
music diffusion.

The AudioBox is a hardware system which provides 16 channels of
asynchronous hard disc audio playback and a 16 X 16 real-time DSP
based matrix mixer. The matrix provides level control on all
inputs and outputs and individual level control of each of the
256 crosspoints. In addition, delay and equalisation is
available for all inputs and outputs. All level control
parameters are dynamically adjustable in real-time providing the
facility for complex spatial gestures and dynamic moves.

ABControl software provides an intuitive user interface for the
AudioBox. This software has been designed with electro-acoustic
music diffusion in mind and has been employed on a number of
electro-acoustic concert programs in Canada and elsewhere.
ABControl provides facilities for diffusion cue lists, real-time
diffusion control with movement capture, algorithmic diffusion
generators, and vector based physical-speaker-independent speaker
maps. Speaker maps allow for some degree of translation of a
diffusion from one speaker set-up to another.

This workshop presentation will introduce the AudioBox and
ABControl as a one-box solution for concert diffusion. The
presentation will also consider the application of this system to
soundscape installations, and sound effects and music playback
for theatre. The workshop will address issues of performance,
improvisation and compositional process.

The related topics of human computer interaction, acoustics,
psycho-acoustics and spatialisation will also be considered.
Samples of various electro-acoustic compositions realised with
the AudioBox will be presented during the workshop. Workshop
presenter Ian Stevenson will highlight the application of the
AudioBox to refined diffusion of acousmatic and electroacoustic
music in concert performance situations. Ian Stevenson brings
experience from the use of the AudioBox in theatrical and
soundscape installation projects as well as extensive experiments
in music spatialisation.

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   SOUND TRAVELS WITH AUDIOBOX

   "Sarah Peebles' Comments on using the AudioBox"

Toronto, Canada, 2000 June 17 -- The SOUND TRAVELS Concert was a
great success at Gibraltar Point Centre for the Arts on Toronto
Island. It was a weekend of outdoor walks, discussions and
electroacoustic concerts. Please go to www.interlog.com/~cansound
for more information.

Canadian composer Sarah Peebles presented "Where the Wild Things
Went," an eight channel surround sound diffusion piece using
Richmond Sound Design's AudioBox(TM) as an essential presentation
element. Here is what Sarah says about this composition:

'Where the Wild Things Went' was originally created in stereo
for 'The Female of the Species' CD compilation, and was amended
for surround sound performance at the Banff Centre for Sound
Travels in September, 1999. It is a "comprovisation" - a
series of predetermined, memorized moves which allow for some
improvisation by myself as well as for some chance operations
within the computer.

This piece features samples of birds, insects and strange
creatures which I've gathered in N. America and Japan over the
years (which are accessed from within my computer). It was
performed live: between one and eight discrete channels of
sound move through any combination of eight loudspeakers at the
same time.

These sounds are guided by my perceptions of multiple events
moving around me in space which I amended on the fly: using a
mouse and keypad on my right (attached to ABControl and The
AudioBox), I choose when to stop, start and modify pre-set
stereo spatial movements (e.g., counter-rotations, slow
crossfades, quasi-random movements - all pre-sets which I
developed for the piece); at the same time, using a mouse and
keypad on my left (attached to my Macintosh), I control
volumes, choose groups of sampled materials, and select between
one and five (simultaneous) "patches" from within a framework I
have created using Max programming language - simple
algorithms which create cyclic, random walk, and multiple
delay patterns.

Max is an object-oriented programming environment which sends
either MIDI or SMPTE information to other applications either
within the computer or to an external source. ABControl
software and The Richmond Sound Design AudioBox work together
as a sound spatialization system.

"Where the Wild Things Went" in surround sound was premiered in
1999 at the Banff Centre for the Arts and New Works Calgary
(Alberta), and received additional performances at the Logos
Foundation (Ghent), and City University (London) in Winter,
2000.

"The Female of the Species" CD compilation (law and auder
records, 3/99 /email: PEarle@compuserve.com or inquire with
Verge Distribution: TEL/FAX 905-852-9745
[www.vergemusic.com] [verge@durham.igs.net]

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'PAN' FLIES WITH AUDIOBOX(TM)

"'Pan' Production Prevails in Sydney"

Sydney, Australia, 2000 June 22 --

Richmond Sound Design Ltd. (RSD) today announced the use of their
AudioBox in 'Pan,' described by Connections Magazine in their May
2000 issue as "the most ambitious theatre production yet
undertaken in the southern hemisphere."

'Pan' opened May 14th after almost three months pre production in
Sydney's largest and grandest theatre, the Capitol. 'Pan'
includes more than 50 tunes and over 200 sound effects. Associate
Sound Designer Kelvin Gedye, says "There's a lot of under
scoring, it's more a film approach."

Sound Operator Alix Campbell uses ABControl(TM) software on a
Macintosh computer to control the AudioBox, a 16 channel, 16
output multi track hard disk playback and matrixed control system
specifically designed for theatrical sound control. The
ABControl software interface includes a mixer, matrix, and
dynamic controls like EQ and time delay.

The complete article 'Pan Fights to get in the Air' is available
on RSD's web site, by kind permission of Connections Magazine.

For the text version, please go to:

 http://www.richmondsounddesign.com/txt/pan.txt

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   AME PROVIDES PROGRAMMING SERVICES FOR EXPO 2000 IN HANOVER

   Hannover, Germany, 2000 May 24 --

Associates in Media Engineering (Glendale, California) is
providing show control programming services for the Korea
Pavilion at Expo 2000 in Hanover, Germany. Show producer, Last
Communication Company of Seoul engaged AME to provide programming
and technical support for Korea's cutting-edge Multi Dimension
Cinema Hall.

The show, presented by the Korea Trade Investment Promotion
Agency, conveys a message of environmental responsibility. A
thirty minute film presentation, coupled with special effects,
lasers, show action, and exquisitely costumed performers,
interact with the images on the screen and demonstrate a
harmonious co-existence of nature and technology.

AME worked closely with the show producers to provide event
programming using Richmond Sound Design's "ShowMan" show control
software. AME also provided technical support for integrating all
of the show elements on site. "ShowMan" is one of the many show
control programming protocols AME is fluent with!

Expo 2000 is an impressive world-class event running from June
through October. For more information on this project, please
contact Ken Wheatley at ken@media-engine.com or at (818)
662-9120.

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   CHARLIE RICHMOND HONOURED AT USITT

   "CEO of RSD Receives Distinguished Achievement Award"

Denver, 2000 March 25 -- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. (RSD)
is pleased to report that their President and CEO, Charlie
Richmond, was presented the 'Distinguished Achievement Award in
Sound Design 2000' by the United States Institute for Theatre
Technology (USITT) at their annual Awards Banquet.

Professor Richard K. Thomas of Purdue University presented the
award which states "Through your leadership and creativity, the
sound designer is recognized as an essential member of the
production design team, and the areas of computerized sound and
show control have been revolutionized."

Upon acceptance of the award Charlie stated "I accept this as a challenge to ensure Sound Design and Show Control are recognized as design elements in every single theatre."

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AUDIOBOX(TM) GETS EVEN BETTER

"Award Winning AudioBox now has 16 Channel Playback"

Vancouver, 2000 March 17 -- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. (RSD) today announced that the AudioBox, winner of the 1997 TCI Magazine Sound Product of the Year Award, now has full 16 channel synchronous and non-synchronous audio playback capability. This doubles the playback capacity of the original AudioBox without diminishing any of its other capabilities.

Current owners of the original version of the AudioBox, the Model 1616HD, can update it to the capabilities of the new Model AB1616 by simply exchanging their mother board with the new Model AB1616MB mother board, available at nominal cost. All other components remain compatible with the new mother board.

The AudioBox has gained enormous popularity in the short time it has been available to the theatre and themed entertainment industry. It was chosen for the Universal Islands of Adventure Theme park as the multi-channel sound and show control system for all ride vehicles in their 1999 EDDY Award Winning 'Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man' multimedia dark ride which opened in May 1999.

To read the Wired Magazine article about this ride entitled 'SCREAM MACHINE' please go here:

http://www.orlandorocks.com/ioa/pages/wired_article_on_spidy.htm

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AURA ACCOMPANY ALMEIDA TO THE GAINSBOROUGH

London, 2000 March 15

Continuing their long, close relationship with the celebrated north-London theatre company, Aura Sound Design are delighted to have been invited to work with the Almeida on their most ambitious and adventurous project to date: a season of Shakespeare in the ruined shell of the historic Gainsborough Film Studios in Shoreditch.

The season, which commenced on March 30th and will run for four months, features Ralph Fiennes in the lead roles of Coriolanus and Richard II in productions directed by Jonathan Kent. Kent and Fiennes previously collaborated on the Almeida's acclaimed productions of Ivanov and the Hackney Hamlet which subsequently transferred to Broadway. Both productions feature sound designs by Aura's John A Leonard, who will be continuing this collaboration at the Gainsborough Studios. The creative team for the shows also includes composer Jonathan Dove, lighting designer Mark Henderson and set designer Paul Brown.

The Gainsborough Studios, which border Islington and the City in London, enjoyed their heyday in the 1920s and '30s, providing a London home for the making of Alfred Hitchcock's early works, including The Lodger and The Lady Vanishes. This former power

generating station is due to be re-developed: prior to this, the Almeida have installed a temporary auditorium complete with bars and restaurant until the building gets demolished after the company leaves.

As well as designing the sound for the shows, Aura, as sound advisors to the Almeida, have been asked to specify a sound and communications rig which will serve the Gainsborough season, but which will then form the core of a new sound rig in the refurbished Almeida Theatre. Aura's recommended equipment list, produced with the Almeida's head of sound, Scott George, is based on many years of working on shows in the theatre. For loudspeakers, it includes twelve Meyer UPM-1P, four Meyer UPA-1Ps, two Meyer USW-1Ps powered loudspeakers and two Meyer MSL-2as, four Tannoy i12 and two Tannoy T12s passive loudspeakers. Amplification includes four Amcron MA1200 amplifiers . Replay features Tascam minidisk recorders, Denon CD players and an Akai S6000 sampler along with a Yamaha SPX1000 effects processor, while the system will be controlled from a Yamaha 02R computerised mixing console. Richmond Sound Design Ltd Showman NT Show Control Software handles all the control; whilst the audio routing is manipulated by Richmond Sound Design AudioBox. The system also includes a comprehensive RTS communications system complete with Motorola radio stations and a variety of video cameras and monitors. The system is being supplied to the Almeida by Marquee Audio.

"We are all looking forward to this demanding yet exciting project," commented Aura's John Owens. "Given the exceptional shows produced by this creative team in the past, these new Almeida shows promise to be very special, especially given the dramatic surroundings the Gainsborough Studios provide. They will give their new sound rig a thorough workout before it reaches its final home!"

For more information on the Almeida and their season at the Gainsborough Studios, visit their website at www.almeida.co.uk. For more information on Aura Sound Design, visit their website at www.aurasound.co.uk.

Contact: John Owens
Tel: 020 7739 6057
Fax: 020 7729 1820
Email: johnowens@aurasound.co.uk
Web: http://www.aurasound.co.uk

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BUSCH GARDENS' NEW ICE SHOW

Thomas Gregor Associates Audio and Lighting Adds Excitement to Busch Gardens' World Rhythms on Ice"

Los Angeles, 2000 February 29 -- Thomas Gregor Associates has completed the audio, lighting and show control for World Rhythms on Ice at Busch Gardens Tampa Bay. Opened to the public on November 6th, this exciting new ice-skating spectacular takes the audience on a 36-minute whirlwind tour of seven countries. The show represents a new, innovative level of family-oriented shows, where a 16-member cast combines with state-of-the-art technology to produce a truly world-class spectacle. Thomas Gregor Associates created a lighting design that embellished each scene.

"The Moroccan Palace Theater is a unique space in that the entire

stage floor is covered with ice," says Garrett Caine, the lighting designer for Thomas Gregor Associates, "it acts as a clean canvas which we can paint with light."

Caine used Cyberlights to create a kaleidoscope of patterns on the ice. Special effects add sparkle to the show, including black light, scent cannons, streamers and "sneeze" cannons controlled by Richmond Sound Design's ShowMan(TM) show control software to create a true "one button push" control system. Once started the system automatically runs the show and resets to the top of the show. "This show will have over 7000 performances, so we wanted a system they could rely on," said Caine.

Thomas Gregor Associates develops integrated audio, video, lighting and show control systems for live performances, theme parks, retail developments, arenas, cruise ships and gaming establishments. Recent projects include Lost Continent at Universal Studios Islands of Adventure; Sam's Town Hotel & Casino; The Studio Store at Universal's City Walk, and the Grand Princess cruise ship. For more information, please call 310-535-9140 or visit the website at www.thomasgregor.com

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MASQUE BUILDS AudioBox(TM) INVENTORY

"Major Broadway Rental House acquires more AudioBoxes"

New York, 2000 February 16 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd (RSD) announced today the delivery of two more AudioBoxes to Masque Sound and Recording Corporation of New York and New Jersey. This further increases the number of AudioBoxes Masque has available for rental and indicates their increasing popularity in the rental market for integrated Sound and Show Control equipment.

The AudioBox represents the latest in this integrated approach, incorporating a full-featured two-list show controller along with an eight-track hard disk audio playback system coupled with an automated 16X16 matrix, 96 bands of computer controlled parametric equalization and a total of 5.2 seconds of programmable and assignable audio delays.

The AudioBox includes free Windows and Macintosh software for a variety of theatrical and audio visual applications and a large amount of third party application software for Windows, WindowsNT, Macintosh, BeOS and Amiga operating systems is available, plus major standalone control system verdors such as Dataton, AMX and Crestron provide AudioBox support in their product range.

Since its recent introduction the AudioBox has attracted significant recognition, being awarded the 1998 TCI Sound Product of the Year award and chosen by Universal Studios Florida as the digital sound and playback control system for each of the ride vehicles on the EDDY Award winning 'Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man' ride at their new Islands of Adventure theme park in Orlando.

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E-SHOW(TM) RECEIVES EDDY AWARD

"1999 Show Control/Sound Product of the Year"

New York, 1999 December 10 --- At a gala ceremony hosted by
Entertainment DesignTM Magazine (an Intertec(R)/Primedia
Publication) and attended by over 200 entertainment industry
notables, Richmond Sound Design's E-Show Control Network Software
received the prestigious Sound Product of the Year EDDY Award
for 1999.

Accepting the award on behalf of RSD was John Huntington, author
of "Control Systems for Live Entertainment," otherwise known as
the standard reference book for Show Control. Mr. Huntington
claimed to be connected to Charlie Richmond, President of RSD,
via a brain-implanted fibre optic port for the purpose of
delivering the acceptance speech - a show control industry first
- but this was not confirmed by independent investigation.

E-Show provides real time sound and show control over standard
networks and is licensed Windows NT multimedia device software
which transmits MIDI over any TCP/IP network, typically Ethernet.

E-Show uses industry standard industrial computer cards to make
sourcing and configuring easy. Any number of MIDI IN and OUT and
standard serial and parallel ports are easily handled.

E-Show is compatible with all Windows NT based MIDI software
including RSD's powerful ShowMan(TM) show control program. It is
fully compatible with industrial control devices, PLC's and
multiple port hubs which connect via Ethernet. For example, a
standard serial hub can be connected to an E-Show ethernet
network cable at any point along its run to provide any number of
serial ports anywhere you need them. Other compatible protocols
are: USB, IEEE1394, Infrared interfaces and all other devices
with a Windows NT driver.

When brain-implated fibre optic ports become available, E-Show
will provide the network interface for them.

Fully functional, time-limited demonstration versions of E-Show
and all of its currently available virtual control devices as
well as ShowMan and all currently available virtual device
editors can be downloaded for evalution at no charge from
Richmond Sound Design's web site at:

                    http://www.richmondsounddesign.com/

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    VOLKSOPER UPDATES WITH AUDIOBOX(TM)

    "Vienna Landmark gets Advanced Audio Installation"

Vienna, Austria, 1999 December 22 - Richmond Sound Design (RSD)
today announced the installation of its AudioBox(TM) 1616HD
matrix sound source in the world famous Wiener Volksoper (Vienna
People's Opera House). The Volksoper has 1489 seats and
celebrated its 100th anniversary last year (1998). The Volksoper
has a web site at http://www.volksoper.at

The Volksoper operates as a repertory theatre, performing
everything from operas, operettas and dance to special events
(such as TV and Rock'n'Roll Shows) and needs extremely flexible
audio equipment. Every day sees a new show, with rehearsals
starting at 10AM! Shows currently in production include the
opera 'Hansel and Gretel,' the modern dance production 'Swan Lake
Remixed,' and the musical 'My Fair Lady,' while 'La Cage aux

Folles' waits in the wings.

Resident sound designer Martin Lukesch
(martin.lukesch@volksoper.at) and Harald Steindl
(harald_steindl@mocom.via.at) of Mocom Communication Systems,
Vienna recently searched for a replacement of equipment no longer
applicable to modern sound design.

Their requirements for a new playback system were:

- Cost effective
- Hard disk playback using a popular audio format
- Easy production with a hard disk recording system
- Automated/programmable matrix w/EQ & delay at input and output
- Cue based Windows automation software for
    - hard disk playback
    - matrix
    - mixing desk
    - MiniDisc backup system
    - outboard equipment
- Remote control via Laptop computer and PCAnywhere software
- Compatible with an existing high speed network and two DAW's

RSD's AudioBox and Stage Research's SFX Show Control software was
chosen to successfully meet these needs. In addition, the
operator can also sit with a laptop computer in an optimal
listening position during rehearsals and control all aspects of
the sound system.

Martin Lukesch states "AudioBox with SFX is a very good playback
system for theatre use. I am very happy that RSD and Stage
Research have such good support - very important for a software
based system) and both companies react to my wishes with new
software versions and new functions." Photographs of the
Volksoper and its audio installation are available upon request
from RSD.

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    DRAMATIC AudioBox PRICE REDUCTION

Vancouver, Canada, 1999 September 1 --- Richmond Sound Design
Ltd. (RSD), manufacturer and developer of sound and show
control systems, announced today a major price reduction for the
popular AudioBox Theatrical Sound Playback Matrix and Show
Controller. Effective immediately, the AudioBox now sports a
list price of $4995 (US Funds).

Charlie Richmond, President of RSD, explained how such a major
reduction could be obtained: "We have accomplished this in three
basic ways: 1. Reducing fixed overheads, 2. Volume production,
and 3. Making the Hard Drive an option since many users may
prefer to source their own."

RSD recently moved to new premises - our first move in 28 years.
We now have considerably more space but are in an industrial park
instead of our former downtown location. Our sales team has been
reduced as most of our sales are now generated by the Web Site
and far less time is required to explain our capabilities and
distribute information and software, yet our service remains
unparalleled.

After two years, we have a great deal of experience producing
AudioBoxes and have streamlined production and considerably

increased assembly efficiency.

The AudioBox is now available without Hard Drive. Since the
AudioBox requires a standard SCSI hard drive, it can be upgraded
or replaced at any time as convenient. Of course RSD can supply
AudioBoxes with Hard Drives installed at very competitive prices.

We expect this change will now make the AudioBox accessible to
many who have desired one but could not afford it.

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    AURA BRING THE ULTIMATE IN SHOW CONTROL TO THE UK

"Aura Sound Design appointed UK Dealers for Richmond Sound Design
acclaimed show control products"

London, UK, 1999 August 16 -- Aura Sound Design are pleased to
announce their appointment as UK distributors for the powerful
and highly acclaimed range of show control products from Richmond
Sound Design Ltd. (RSD) of Vancouver, Canada.

As one of the leading sound design companies in the UK, Aura
Sound Design have many years of experience with using MIDI to
control audio equipment, and have often turned to Richmond Sound
Design's Stage Manager control software to facilitate the
operation of even the most complex theatrical productions. Aura
are therefore delighted to have been appointed by Richmond Sound
Design as UK distributors for all of RSD's products. These
include the Stage Manager(R) show control software for the Amiga
computer, the ShowMan(TM) show control software for Windows NT
computers and the acclaimed AudioBox digital playback system.

AudioBox offers sound designers 8-tracks of audio replay, a 16x16
matrix, built-in delay and equalisation and programmable fades in
a 2u-high rackmount box. Aura have already used AudioBox on shows
such as 'Alarms and Excursions,' 'Brittanicus' and 'The Iceman
Cometh' while elsewhere in the world the system has been used on
such compex shows as the new 'Adventures of Spiderman' ride at
Universal Studios in America.

Aura's long relationship with Richmond Sound Design's products,
will allow them to supply anyone interested in using these
products in the UK with practical advice earnt from years of
using the products in shows. "We haven't traditionally sold
equipment" comments Aura's John Owens, "but we felt that the
Richmond Sound Design products deserved a wider audience in the
UK - and to be represented by people who actually use the
products. We are delighted to continue our long working
relationship with Charlie Richmond and his company and look
forward to introducing many more British sound people to these
powerful tools."

Contact: John Owens
Tel: 020 7739 6057
Fax: 020 7729 1820
Email: AuraSound@aol.com
Web: http://www.aurasound.co.uk

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    RICHMOND SOUND DESIGN'S ADDRESS CHANGES

Vancouver, Canada, Effective 1999 August 17 --- Richmond Sound

Design Ltd., manufacturer and developer of sound and show
control systems, announced the final step in our move to new and
larger premises. Effective 1999 August 17, our new mailing
address is:

Richmond Sound Design Ltd.
205-11780 River Road
Richmond, BC
V6X 1Z7
Canada

The following new telephone numbers are also effective as of the
same date:
Our new direct Administration number is   +1-604/718-0860
Our new direct Sales number is   +1-604/718-0861
Our new direct Support number is   +1-604/718-0862

Our World Wide Web domain remains the same:

www.RichmondSoundDesign.com

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    FIRST E-SHOW(TM) CONTROL NETWORK DEVICES RELEASED
    Three WindowsNT Multimedia Device Drivers Now Available

Vancouver, Canada, 1999 August 3 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd.,
manufacturer and developer of sound and show control systems,
announced today release of our first three E-Show Control Network
Multimedia Device Drivers for Windows NT and ShowMan(TM) Show
Control Software. The E-Show Network is based on industry
standard WindowsNT computers interconnected via a TCP/IP-based
network, normally Ethernet.

The _NetMIDI_ device is a configurable set of 32 MIDI OUT ports
and 32 merging MIDI IN ports. Each OUT and IN port can be named
and selected much like a MIDI patchbay or OMS on the Macintosh
platform. Individual IN and OUT ports can even be on different
computers in the E-Show network!

The _MTS-232_ device provides MIDI-to-Serial and Serial-to-MIDI
interfaces just like the RSD model MTS-232 legacy hardware
device. Make as many MTS-232 devices as you have standard PC
serial ports in your E-Show network. It uses standard MTS-232
MIDI messages (shows written on Stage Manager(R) using MTS-232's
can be imported and used directly) and handles ASCII serial input
like an MTS-232. A configuration panel defines devices and sets
serial port parameters. This setup panel has even more
flexibility than an old style rack mount MTS-232!

The _MIDISerial_ device sends raw MIDI via serial and accepts
correctly formatted serial data for delivery to a virtual MIDI IN
port. Again, devices are defined via a setup panel. This is great
for fast cheap MIDI using baud rates of 115200 baud or higher
depending on the serial card.

Fully functioning demonstration versions of these new Devices are
available at the following URL:
http://www.richmondsounddesign.com/demos/E-Show.zip

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    SPIDER-MAN'S ADVENTURES WITH THE AUDIOBOX(TM)

'Adventures of Spider-Man' Ride Opens at USIOA

Vancouver, 1999 July 2 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. announced
today the official opening of Universal Studios Islands of
Adventure's 'Adventures of Spider-Man' ride featuring
synchronized 3-D sound and visuals utilizing a
specially-developed version of the AudioBox, now available as a
standard unit designed specifically for themed attractions.

Carl Hartzler, A/V Manager of Universal Studios Islands of
Adventure's Super Hero Island stated, "The Adventures of
Spider-Man has redefined the benchmark for theme park
attractions. Many concepts that make up this attraction have
never been done before including the audio system. I'm grateful
to Richmond Sound Design for the tremendous support they have
given to bring The Adventures of Spider-Man to life. Their
product, the AudioBox, is the heart of this unique audio system
and their support was a major factor in the success of this
attraction."

Richmond Sound Design would also like to take this opportunity to
thank Carl Hartzler and the whole crew at USIOA for their superb
support and assistance throughout the construction process.

==

   RSD'S PHONE NUMBERS CHANGE

Vancouver, 1999 June 23 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd.
announced today the first step in our move to new and larger
premises which will happen later this year.

The following telephone numbers are in effect as of June 23,
1999:

Our new direct Administration number is +1-604/718-0860
Our new direct Sales number is   +1-604/718-0861
Our new direct Support number is   +1-604/718-0862

Our North American toll-free sales number remain
the same for the time being.

Our World Wide Web domain also remains the same:

www.RichmondSoundDesign.com

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STORIES OF VALOR TOLD AT CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR MEMORIAL
SITE

Indianapolis, 1999 June 17 -- Richmond Sound Design Ltd.
announced today that Stage Tech Inc., a leading supplier of
light, sound and staging in the Midwest played a key role in the
construction of the nation's first memorial honoring all 3,410
Medal of Honor recipients. The Medal of Honor is the highest
award for military valor awarded by the USA.

The new memorial was dedicated on May 28, 1999. Located in White
River State Park in downtown Indianapolis, the memorial is
composed of 27 curved walls of glass, each between 7 and 10 feet
high and representing specific conflicts in which the medal was
awarded. The glass walls feature the names of the recipients,
along with their branch of service and the location of their

heroic action.   Each day at dusk, the memorial's sound system
plays recorded stories of valor.   The voices heard are those of
Medal of Honor recipients.

Stage Tech Inc. designed a presentation structure to provide a
unique sound and lighting tour through the memorial on each of
four successive nights. Using RSD AudioBox(TM) Model DM1616HD's,
Crest CA-400 amplifiers, JBL Control 23 loudspeakers and an
Alcorn-McBride control interface, the entire system was installed
in record time, with show programs installed in a single
afternoon. Caboose Audio Production Services provided the audio
content. Miller-Eads was the electrical contractor for the
project.

IPALCO Enterprises, an Indianapolis-based energy company,
contributed $2.5 million --- including the design, construction
and future maintenance --- as a gift to the recipients and to the
country.   "The memorial results from the grateful participation
of hundreds of men and women...painstakingly built by contractors
and union workers. Each step toward completion was marked by
extraordinary effort toward a greater cause. We are indebted to
everyone at Stage Tech who was involved," said John Hodowal,
chairman of the board and president of IPALCO Enterprises.

Bob Golobish, IPALCO's Director of Corporate Relations, who
coordinated the memorial's audio/video features said "Stage Tech
and Miller-Eads brought in the right people and the right
technology to create an outstanding audio and light program."

Stage Tech Inc. provides lighting, sound and staging for the
largest festivals and corporate clients in the Midwest. For more
information, visit their website at www.stagetechinc.com

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    AUDIOBOX IN WORLD PREMIERE AT A.C.T.

    New Musical "The First Picture Show" uses ABControl Macintosh
    Software for system tuning

San Francisco, 1999 May 4 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
announced the use of an RSD AudioBoxTM 1616HD moving matrix sound
source and ABControl Macintosh software from Third Monk Software
in American Conservatory Theatre's world premiere presentation of
"The First Picture Show," a musical theatre piece about the
beginning of the film industry, opening at the Geary Theater May
12, 1999, at 8 p.m. and running through Sunday, June 6. The
AudioBox and ABControl provide individual equalization, delay and
output matrix sound distribution for musical and effects
reinforcement loudspeakers throughout the theatre.

Garth Hemphill of GLH Design and A.C.T. Resident Sound Designer
states "The AudioBox seems a very good complement to the Mackie
Digital 8 Bus. I like using the ABControl software so I can make
quick intuitive adjustments to the system EQ and Delay, and I
have some great ideas for future software updates, but it has
been a very painless setup. The system was tuned using SMAART
PRO, and it was nice to know that when I needed a cut at 1523 hz,
and I typed in 1523 hz, I actually was getting the cut right
where I wanted it."

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    A SHOW WITH DEPTH

Immersive sound propels underwater experience

Vancouver, 1999 April 22. Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
announced the use of an AudioBox(TM) 1616HD moving matrix sound
source in the 'Deep Link' feature show, the centre piece of the
new attraction 'Mysteries of the Deep' at the Monterey Bay
Aquarium in Monterey, California.

Conducted in a 299-seat auditorium, the hourly show combines
automated lighting, video and moving soundscapes with live
presentation. At one point in the the show, the onstage
presenter is linked with an offshore research vessel.

Acoustic and Audiovisual Consultant Steve Thorburn of Thorburn
Associates (Castro Valley, CA +1-510/886-7826) was looking for a
single box solution. "The presentation uses a stereo front image
with subwoofers and twelve surround channels" says Steve. "The
AudioBox provided the perfect combination of live playback
channels and mixing outputs for this project."

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THE ICEMAN COMETH TO BROADWAY

Hit London Show Moves to New York

New York, 1999 April 20. Howard Davies' acclaimed production of
"The Iceman Cometh" starring Kevin Spacey, originally at The
Almeida Theatre in London, opened at The Brooks Atkinson Theatre
on Broadway in April 1999 to rave reviews. Audio and MIDI
control were handled by Richmond Sound Design's AudioBox(TM)
coupled with ShowMan(TM) Eight cue list show control software
with a Yamaha 02R front end supplied, along with the rest of the
audio equipment, by Masque Sound Corp., Dennis Short and Gary
Stocker co-ordinating.

Aura Sound Design's John A. Leonard converted the show's original
Stage Manager(R) 3000 cues to ShowMan format in the U.K. by
running Showman on his Macintosh G3 Powerbook using Connectix
Virtual PC V2.1 to emulate a Windows NT system!

Leonard reports that "..the transfer went extremely smoothly,
despite the need to modify lengthy MIDI sequences to cope with
the very new Yamaha Disklavier MIDI player piano that provides
all of the show's music. Using the latest version of Showman to
set up the matrix and delays in the AudioBox was very simple and
the show's operator, Viktor Vaituzis, was quick to grasp the
operation of ShowMan. Support from Richmond Sound Design and
Masque Sound was, as always, superb."

The show caused some controversy when box-office opened with top
seat prices at $100, but as producer Manny Azenberg commented
"Given that the show lasts over four hours, it's effectively the
most play for the money on Broadway at the moment..."

For more information on Aura Sound Design, please contact:

John A Leonard
Aura Sound Design Ltd.
23 Charlotte Road
Shoreditch
London EC2A 3PB
Phone: +44-171/739 6057

Fax: +44-171/729 1820
http://www.auracle.com

Asked to further explain the "Iceman Cometh" design process, John
Leonard posted the following message on the Theatre-Sound Mailing
List:

Ronald,

First, declared interest - Aura Sound Design are U.K. dealers for
RSD products, so you can, if you like, regard this an an
advertising post; however, I've been using this kit since before
we were dealers and would have used it anyway.

ShowMan is used for three distinct functions on "The Iceman
Cometh" which is a straight play by Eugene O'Neill and very long!

1: Effects & Music sequencing system: All the music for the show
is played via a Yamaha Disklavier MIDI Player piano disguised as
a Pianola - some list-members may remember a long discussion
about how to stop the thing going to sleep in between cues, but
Yamaha kindly provided a brand new model that didn't go to sleep,
but responded to the velocity information in the original
sequences in a completely different way, which meant that I spent
the week modifying all the piano cues, sometimes note by note, in
order to make them sound right. This was done in StudioVision and
then dumped to ShowMan via the "capture MIDI data" command.

I must stress that this was entirely due to the various upgrades
carried out by Yamaha in the Disklavier system which made the
piano far more sensitive to velocity settings than the very
elderly version that we had in the U.K., particularly in the
quieter sections. On the U.K. model, most velocity levels between
20 and 64 produced much the same result, but with the newer
machine, many low velocity notes simply caused the hammers
to move without striking the strings. Simply scaling up all the
notes by a fixed percentage was not an option, as the U.S.
Disklavier then played all the quieter sections of the music more
or less correctly, but then blasted out the loud bits at triple
F! I had to do selective velocity scaling, sometimes four or five
times per piece, in order to achieve the correct dynamic range,
and then edit out all the accidental notes that the composer had
played that didn't register on the original Disklavier, but that
now shone through in all their atonal glory on the new machine.
a Yamaha piano tech/tuner called Tom Sheehan (nice guy) came and
tweaked the Disklavier as well, which helped a bit, but not
enough to stop me being involved in this very long process.....

Sound effects for the show are stored in an Akai S3200XL sampler
and fired, either singly or in a series of sequences, from
Showman. In future shows, we will use the internal hard-drive of
the AudioBox to store effects and music cues as well.

2: Program changes to the Yamaha 02R. There are no long fades in
Iceman - the ten seconds allowed for in the 02R are sufficient.
However, in other shows where I've used the AudioBox, I've used
timed fades commands in the AB command set to do long crossfades
on both inputs and outputs. This solves any problems and also
gives you the option of chosing a fade profile, unlike the 02R.

3: System set-up. The eight 02R sub-group outputs are sent to the
eight analog ins of the AudioBox and the crosspoint and in/out
level commands are used to set up which group feeds which sets of
speakers and at what level. On Iceman, this stays constant
throughout the show, but on Plenty, which I'm currently involved
in, these change fairly frequently, in particular to make changes
to rear auditorium and sub-bass systems. I used the specific
AudioBox commands within Showman to make these settings, and MSC
commands in Stage Manager 3000 to effect the changes in Plenty.
(The Almeida Theatre have not yet made the change to ShowMan in
the U.K.)

The vocal reinforcement is also routed via the AudioBox. A pair
of outputs from the 02R were set aside as reinforcement subs,
with five Countryman IsoMax microphones and two Neuman KMR82
Rifles as the source. The (fixed) mix from these microphones is
sent to the delay speakers via the AudioBox, with delay settings
set in ShowMan. Delays and level for the auditorium rears were
also set via Showman.

I hope this helps and is of some interest. The
SM3000-ShowMan/AudioBox/02R/Akai set-up is one that I've been
using for a while now, and I find it extremely flexible.

Regards,

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    RSD CREDITED IN 'WIRED' MAGAZINE FEATURE ON SPIDERMAN RIDE

Richmond Sound Design Ltd. is pleased to report that we were one
of four suppliers noted for their contribution to the central
ride at Universal Studios' multibillion dollar 'Islands of
Adventure' theme park - 'The Amazing Adventures of SpiderMan.'

Mentioned on page 202 in the May issue of 'Wired' Magazine, our
contribution was a specially engineered version of the AudioBox,
designed to endure 15G vibration and shock forces continuously
while manipulating 16 channels of 3-D sounds for a minimum of 10
years.

To accomplish this, we incorporated a special solid-state hard
disk drive of the type used in airplane 'black box' flight
recorders for storage of audio, spatial sound moves and show
control programming.

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RSD EXPANDS

New Staff Member Added to Roster

Vancouver, 1999 March 31 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd.
today announced the addition of new staff member Susanne Mae
Clampett.

Susanne Mae Clampett has a Masters of Music degree in Sound
Recording from McGill University in Montreal. She is an
accomplished Sound Designer, Recording Engineer and Music Editor
and is currently designing sound for 'Pride and Prejudice' at the
Stratford Festival of Canada.

Susanne will be responsible for demonstrations and productions
using the AudioBox(TM) and will be available to assist in the
training and execution of sound designs at AudioBox venues.

Susanne can be emailed at ellymae@richmondsounddesign.com

Kenneth Deane Bell, PEng, PE, is leaving to develop a new themed
entertainment vehicle, KLS Experience (+1-604/444-4660), while
remaining a consultant to RSD.

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E-SHOW(TM) ANNOUNCED

New electronic show control realm under development

Vancouver, 1999 March 24 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd.
today outlined the development programme for E-Show, a radically
new concept in show control.

Physically based on Ethernet, and employing the protocols of the
Internet, E-Show will provide a peer-to-peer networking
infrastructure for the exchange of real-time show control
messages. "Imagine the span of the web, with sub-millisecond
control between disciplines and between their media," offers RSD
President Charlie Richmond, adding that "unlike contemporary
implementations on Ethernet, which are often proprietary, E-Show
is intended to be an open standard, essentially a complete show
control environment."

Driving the project are the specific needs of a major worldwide
theme park developer. Concepts and software will be tested in
the new Stage Technology program at New York City Technical
College, at Rhodes University in South Africa, and at UCLA's
Hypermedia Studio (itself a joint venture between Microsoft,
Intel, and the UCLA School of Film and Television).

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RACINE RENEWED

Almeida Theatre Company's smash hits Phaedre & Brittanicus
come to New York

Vancouver, 1999 February 5 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
announced the use of an AudioBox(TM) and Stage Manager(R) 3000
(SM3000) show control software in the smash-hit Racine
double-bill, 'Phaedre' and 'Brittanicus,' at the Brooklyn Academy

of Music's Majestic Theatre in January. The shows, starring Dame
Diana Rigg, had been playing to sold-out houses at London's
Albery Theatre for the past few months.

Only a few hours were available to re-create the shows so sound
designer John A. Leonard of Aura Sound Design Ltd. rented a
front-end system identical to that used in the U.K., consisting
of RSD's AudioBox and SM3000 software, Akai S3200 sampler and a
Yamaha 02R digital mixing desk. It took a mere ninety minutes to
install and configure the system and Phaedre opened before an
ecstatic audience on the following day. Later in the week, the
changeover to Brittanicus was achieved in a few seconds.

Commented Leonard; "Trying to recreate the show using
conventional technology would have been a nightmare in the time
we had available. Using a show control system like SM3000 and a
fully programmable digital mixing desk, sampler and the AudioBox
matrix meant that we had only to balance the installed speaker
system at The Majestic and this, thanks to the resident sound
staff, took hardly any time at all. Fine tuning of the system was
carried out using the Audiobox during the technical and dress
rehearsals. The sound operator, Scott George, who had originally
looked after the shows in the U.K. was instantly at home with the
system and we had no problems during the run."

Equipment rental was from Masque Sound and Production Arts
Lighting in New Jersey, with Dennis Short of Masque
co-ordinating.

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   FACULTY OF TOMORROW

   UCSC's new theatre extends the boundaries of teaching and
   experiment

Vancouver, 1999 January 15 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
announced the choice of an AudioBox(TM) 1616HD playback matrix
with Macintosh software ABControl(TM) for the new Experimental
Theatre, under construction at the University of California,
Santa Cruz.

The 200 seat flexible space augments existing 500 seat and 200
seat proscenium theatres, and features both conventional and
automated sound, lighting, and video equipment, including
computer-controlled amplifiers and an AudioBox and digital
console suite controlled by an Apple G3 mini-tower. A dedicated
ProTools audio laboratory with a separate complement of digital
workstations and mixing consoles, controlled by a second Apple
G3, is connected by Ethernet to the new Experimental Theatre, the
two proscenium theatres, and two other performance spaces.

UCSC's Production Equipment Staff felt that sound and lighting
systems "should provide the best-equipped undergraduate theatre
program in the western United States," adding that "we wanted
up-to-date devices and methods, to create an environment which is
very production oriented, and which turns out the most current
and most versatile graduates."

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   MULTI DIMENSIONAL SONIC JOURNEY

   Electroacoustic composers challenge immersive orthodoxy

Vancouver, 1998 December 21 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today announced the use of an AudioBox(TM) 1616HD playback matrix with ABControl(TM) software for Macintosh as the diffusive audio control core in the touring spatial concert 'Sound Travels, which opened November 21st in Vancouver, Canada.

The Vancouver launch was the culmination of a month-long residency in spatial composition, and featured new works by composers Ned Bouhalassa, Darren Copeland, Kenneth Newby, Matt Rogalsky, Chris Rolfe and Hildegard Westerkamp. The Vancouver concert was in tribute to the international electroacoustic pioneer, the late Martin Bartlett, and coincided with the long-awaited release of the CD, "Burning Water," archiving his work.

More details on the concert and photographs can be found on Apple Computer's website:

    http://www.apple.com/publishing/music/artofsound/

The Sound Travels tour continues across Canada, with a residency and performance at Concordia University (http://cec.concordia.ca) in Montreal February 8th and performances at the Music Gallery (+1-905/822-3918) in Toronto February 12th through 14th.

    EXPERIENCE PREFERRED

    Immigration Inspires Immersive Installation

Vancouver, 1998 November 6 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today reported installation of an AudioBox(TM) moving matrix sound source in Gallery One of the Immigration and Hellenic Archaelogical Museum (Melbourne, Australia). The gallery uses an array of immersive AV technologies to convey the immigration experience, including interactive CD's, a Philips digital video store, and the AudioBox, all coordinated by a dedicated show controller.

The sonic environment itself uses twenty-one loudspeakers and two subwoofers in three acoustic planes, allowing both horizontal and vertical movement to lend physical presence to sounds in the space. Sound design and show programming (contracted by Australian Business Theatre) was accomplished by Activated Space Pty. of Melbourne (phone +61 3 95720133; Fax +61 3 95720153) led by composer and computer musician Garth Paine, whose most recent commission Escape Velocity was featured at SIGGRAPH '98 and on tour through Europe, and whose previous commissions include MaP1, Moments of a Quiet Mind, and Ghost in the Machine at locations throughout Australia.

"The AudioBox" says Garth, "is a very cost effective way of using sound to bring an environment alive. The ability to change spatial positioning, equalization and delay on each channel in real time is absolutely essential to creation of engaging multimedia environments. As the public and our clients raise their expectations of the quality and dynamics of AV displays, products like the AudioBox will become indispensable in realizing design goals."

The museum installation is profiled, with photographs, at the web address

http://www.creativeaccess.com.au/~garth

EASY AS ABControl(TM)

Spatial Composer for Macintosh Announced

Vancouver, 1998 October 21 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd., today
announced the release of Macintosh software ABControl V2.0, by
Third Monk Software, for the AudioBox(TM) matrix sound source.

Developed by Chris Rolfe, a leading member of Canada's
electroacoustic community, ABControl offers an assortment of
real-time control surfaces for spatial manipulation of sound
elements, based on a loudspeaker map of the enclosing venue.
Sound moves so composed can be replayed in sequence from the
computer, or installed aboard the AudioBox as .SHO files
executable from any MIDI Show Control compatible show controller.

A specially constructed editor converts real-time recorded data
into a series of visual placemarks for subsequent easy
manipulation of loudspeaker levels. ABControl also includes
intuitive controls for the EQ and delay features of the AudioBox
on a cue-by-cue basis.

Pre-release versions of the software have been used in a number
of electroacoustic concerts and West End shows, and the look and
feel has garnered favourable comment from both electronic
composers and theatrical sound designers.

AudioBox(TM) ACTIVATED

New ActiveX(TM) Control and Development Tools Announced

Vancouver, 1998 October 5 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
announced the beta developer's release of the AudioBox ActiveX
Control for the AudioBox matrix sound source.

The new ensemble allows third-party developers to communicate
with the AudioBox using standard Windows programming procedures -
accessing the powerful AudioBox instruction set with simple
functions. Intended for use in any Windows development
environment supporting ActiveX controls, such as Visual Basic,
Visual C++, Delphi or Java, the new control also includes
extended support for multiple AudioBoxes in clustered or
networked installations.

Charlie Richmond, President of RSD, said "Not only does the new
AudioBox ActiveX Control make it easier to create third-party
applications for specific markets, it makes it easier for our
many software partners to maintain and upgrade code."

The developer kit and loaner hardware for development purposes
are free to qualified developers upon application to RSD.

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SMILES ALL AROUND

ShowMan Controller Propels EXPO Keynote

Vancouver, 1998 October 2 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd.,
manufacturers of sound and show control equipment, today reported
the installation of a ShowMan(TM) Model NT/8 show control system
as the central sequencer for the feature show 'The Millenium
Smile' at the '98 Kyongju World Culture EXPO in South Korea.

The Expo, celebrating the triple theme of 'Inheritance, Harmony
and Creation' as the kickoff to 'A Global Century of Culture,'
is situated in Kyongju, the ancient capital of the 1000-year
Shilla dynasty and currently one of Asia's most outstanding
temple cities.

Producer Ki Churl Yoon of The Last Communication, Seoul (+82 2
585 6800) engaged Thoughtful Designs, Las Vegas (a PRG company)
to provide and program a show control system for the fast-track
installation, which integrates film and fixed projection, fixed
and moving lights, pyrotechnics, moving scenery. lasers, special
effects and multi-channel sound. Show Entertainment Producer is
Big Kim, President of The Last Communication.

George Kindler, President of Thoughtful Designs (+1 702 221 8292)
said "the short supply and contract schedule would not have been
possible without the close cooperation of RSD and the other
suppliers," adding that "the show is very well attended, with
long lines and consistently full houses." 'The Millenium Smile'
runs until November 10th. Information on the Expo may be
obtained at the web address

   http://expo98.provin.kyongbuk.kr

   NETWORKING AT THE GUTHRIE

   SFX Software Links AudioBox(TM) to Euphonix console for
   Theatre Sound seminar"

Vancouver, 1998 September 8 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
reported use of the AudioBox moving matrix sound source in the
seminar 'Digital Audio Playback and Show Control for Theatre,'
sponsored by Stage Research Inc. (Cleveland, OH, USA; phone +1
440 717 7510) and held August 14th at the Guthrie Theater
(Minneapolis, MN, USA).

The Guthrie Theater boasts a recently installed 100 base-T
Ethernet audio network with an NT audio server controlled by
multiple Windows workstations. The AudioBox matrix provided
spatial movements for computer generated sounds within
loudspeaker patterns assigned by the Euphonix CS2000 main
console. The entire delivery was sequenced using Stage
Research's SFX 5.20 software.

The Guthrie's resident sound designer, Scott Edwards, noted for a
layered, cinematic approach to sound playback, said "aside from
the seamless integration, I'm most excited by the control and
consistency the system offers." Carlton Guc, President of Stage
Research, added that "the AudioBox is a feature-rich unit which
provides zoned fades with minimum computer outputs." The
seminar, which attracted 25 participants, is one of a series of
scheduled presentations by Stage Research in technically advanced
theatres throughout the US.

NON STOP PERFORMANCE

AudioBox(TM) logs time in three West End productions

Vancouver, 1998 September 2 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
reported that an AudioBox(TM) moving matrix sound source
originally sourced for 'The Judas Kiss' by the Almeida Theatre
Company (London, UK) has been in constant use on three subsequent
West End productions.

The unit, slated for permanent installation after the original
run, has instead been featured in Jonathan Kent's acclaimed
production of 'Naked' (by Luigi Pirandello and starring Juliette
Binoche) at the Playhouse Theatre, in Howard Davies' stunning
'The Iceman Cometh' (with Kevin Spacey) at the Old Vic, and in a
new translation of Racine's 'Phaedre' (by Poet Laureate Ted
Hughes and starring Dame Diana Rigg) at the Albery Theatre.

Paul Clay, production manager for the Almeida, comments that "the
AudioBox and the 02R console obtained with it are the most
cost-effective pieces of sound equipment we have purchased. We
can adapt them to each location with an absolute minimum of time
and money." John Leonard, sound designer for many Almeida shows,
concurs "I no longer have a problem running out of matrix sends,
reconfiguring during a show, or in generally experimenting with
different sound scenarios. The onboard processing, delay and
playback facility means that the Almeida tours far less
equipment, with minimum real-estate. All I want now is for the
Almeida to get a second AudioBox for their own space."

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WHEN LIGHTNING STRIKES

Windows Show Sequencer Provides Quick Show Turnaround

Vancouver, 1998 August 18 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
announced the installation of their Windows NT show control
software, ShowMan(TM), in a restoration of the volcano attraction
at Adventure Island FEC in Orange Beach, Alabama, USA.

The Adventure Island volcano, combining powerful smoke,
compressed air, audio and lighting systems, is one of the most
durable and popular attractions on the Gulf Coast. Facility
owner Frank Hughes was devastated when the landmark structure
received a direct lightning strike.

Nation-wide systems contractor All Pro Sound (Pensacola, Florida;
phone +1-850/432-5780) completed the restoration in a mere two
weeks, in time to salvage the summer season. Project manager
Chuck Walthall, a veteran of the original RSD build, said "we
were given a grand opportunity to upgrade to the Windows
environment. ShowMan, the new NT program is really slick. It's
simple, yet incredibly powerful."

The fast changeover was aided by direct import of cues from the
Stage Manager® 3000 controller damaged in the strike. Systems
administrator T. J. Ward converted a total of six shows to
comprise the overall performance sequence, and at completion, was
dubbed 'Volcano Master'.

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THE CONTROL DISCUSSION

New Internet Mailing List Discusses Show Control

Vancouver, 1998 August 4 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
announced the creation of a public internet mailing list
specifically for discussion of the technical aspects of show
control.

The new list is intended as a forum for discussion of any facet
of show control, providing a useful resource for advanced users
and novices alike. The Show Control Mailing List's archive and
subscription web site is:

http://www.talklist.com/forms/show-control/

Charlie Richmond, list administrator, said "It's a delight to
host such a list. We have seen show control occasionally
discussed on theatre sound and stagecraft lists, and in
newsgroups. This now provides a forum for exclusive and
non-partisan discussion of the field." Mr. Richmond noted that
the majority of senior practictioners in the show control arena
have been invited and are on the list.

The Show Control Mailing List began quietly on July 31 and now
has over 170 subscribers.

MIDI CAPTIVE RELEASED

Windows Show Sequencer Boasts Advanced Message Capture

Vancouver, 1998 July 9 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
announced the addition of the MIDI Message Capture facility in
their Windows NT show control software, ShowMan.

The new facility time-stamps incoming MIDI messages and allows
the contents and cadence of external controllers to be easily
incorporated into the master controller. The captured messages
can also be edited for content, and adjusted in absolute or
offset timing, for complete smoothing and refinement of cues.

Charlie Richmond, President of RSD, said "We have had lots of
requests for this capability and we are very pleased to announce
it is now available!" Current ShowMan licensees may upgrade
directly from our web site and the demo version on the web site
also includes the new feature.

A SOUND ALLIANCE

Two TCI Sound Product Winners Team Up

Vancouver, 1998 June 24 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
announced support for the AudioBox(TM) matrix sound source in
professional versions of the popular theatrical sound software,
SFX, by Stage Research, Inc. (Cleveland, OH, USA; phone
+1-440/717-7510; http://www.stageresearch.com)

SFX Pro Audio and SFX Show Control are now equipped with AudioBox
Tools, seamlessly integrating external playback and routing with
the internal soundcards and pushbutton user interface that

characterize SFX. The new Tools emphasize Stage Research's
commitment to provide a uniform and easy operating experience,
regardless of device.

Carlton Guc, President of Stage Research, said "it makes sense to
take the best of the best and make them work together," adding
that "dedicated hardware always points the way for computer
solutions." SFX was named TCI Sound Product of the Year in 1996;
the AudioBox won this award in 1998.

SONIC LANDMARK

Revolutionary Sound Tower redefines urban acoustic experience

Vienna, 1998 June 8 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. (RSD) today
announced the commissioning of the interactive 'Klangturm' (Sound
Tower) in St. Poelten, Austria. The core of the Sound Tower is
an RSD AudioBox moving matrix sound source controlled by the
public, performance artists and audio technicians via a Crestron
MIDI control system.

A bold statement in real time sonic sculpture, the 62 meter high,
eight floor, tower hosts a variety of urban soundscape
experiments, including sound cascades, environmental ambience,
audio 'donations', variations in the tower's internal acoustics,
concerts, and teleperformance -- all in St. Poelten's civic core.

On each floor there is something different to do or watch. On
the outside of the tower there are loudspeakers mounted on each
edge from top to bottom.

Klangturm was fitted by MOCOM Communication Systeme GmbH, Vienna
(Harald Steindl, hsteindl@mocom.via.at) and the responsive audio
and control network was conceived, built and programmed by
MOCOM's Walter Thornton. Steindl says "The whole idea is to
'load' the AudioBox with all setups to work the tower in an
unattended fashion. For the future there are all sorts of crazy
ideas, like interactive furniture making sounds depending on how
you interact with it." The official web site for the Sound Tower
is http://www.klangturm.at

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THE VISION IS CLEAR

Three New Shows Toast Latest Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines
Build

Miami, May 29, 1998 --- Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
announced that a Stage Manager® 4000 show controller
operates three productions aboard Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines'
newest build, 'Vision of the Seas,' namesake of the 'Vision'
class.

'Rock On Broadway' (written by Peter Grey Terhune) 'Rhythm
Nation' (written by Clint Holmes) and 'Make Mine Broadway'
(written by Lenore San Angelo) were all directed by Mark Dow and
produced in-house by RCCL, under veteran executive producer Gene
Hull. Showroom audio was provided by Clair Brothers Audio
(Lititz, PA) with the showroom automation system supplied by
Harbour Marine Systems of Miami, FL. Creative Television
Communications (Boca Raton, FL) provided video and audio

mastering, additional scoring, and show programming for all three
productions.

John Potts, President of Creative Television, enjoys the
pressure, noting "It's a challenge to put three full productions
in the same ship at once. We're very pleased. With the RSD
system, we can complete three shows in the time of two."

   WILDE SOUND

   AudioBox(TM) featured twice in 'The Judas Kiss'

London, 1998 May 22 - The AudioBox(TM) moving matrix sound source
and Stage Manager® 3000 sequencing software were used in two
productions of David Hare's new play, "The Judas Kiss," by the
Almeida Theatre Company, London, UK.

The London production was directed by Sir Richard Eyre at the
Playhouse Theatre, and starred Liam Neeson as Oscar Wilde. John
Leonard of Aura Sound Design Ltd., London, provided the design
and equipment. The show transferred to the Broadhurst Theatre,
New York, for a limited engagement, with equipment provided by
Walter Yurgel of Masque Sound & Recording Corp. John D. Owens of
Aura Sound Design supervised the transfer, noting "the arrival of
the ABEdit software made the set-up even easier." Long-time
Almeida colleague Clayton Steward supervised daily operations.

"The Judas Kiss" is the third production by Almeida to transfer
from London to Broadway, following award-winning productions of
"Medea" and "Hamlet," both of which used Stage Manager 3000
sequencing.

   SHOWMAN DEBUTS!

   New software revolutionizes PC-based show control

Vancouver, 1998 February 6 - Richmond Sound Design Ltd. today
announced the release of ShowMan show control software for
Windows NT.

Two years in the coding by NT expert Loren Wilton, ShowMan
duplicates on the affordable PC platform the legendary power of
our true multitasking standard, Stage Manager®. ShowMan boasts
all of the features of Stage Manager, including multiple
simultaneous cue lists, manually fired cues, the full command
sets of MIDI, MIDI Show Control and MIDI Machine Control, and
switchable time code lock. ShowMan also incorporates a
fast-update feature allowing cues to be retimed in cadence with
musical or stage action. Any of the thousands of shows written
using Stage Manager can be quickly imported into ShowMan.

ShowMan includes dedicated device editors for RSD hardware
components, especially the new AudioBox(TM), and will soon offer
programming screens for virtually all popular lighting consoles
and show control units.

   SHOW CONTROL IN HONG KONG

A Tiger Talk

Hong Kong, 1998 January 28 - Five-day course in show control at
Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts

Stage Manager software was used in a five-day course in show
control techniques, presented by RSD general manager Ken Bell at
the Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts (HKAPA).

The course, offered to both Academy faculty and venue technical
staff, covered data communications, lighting control, MIDI and
MIDI Show Control, broadcast automation, network protocols, and
industrial automation using programmable logic controllers
(PLC's).

Aubrey Wilson, Dean of HKAPA's School of Technical Arts, said
that "the course material assists us greatly in developing our
own curricula for show control instruction." Philip Soden,
Associate Director of Operations, added "the course helps us in
designing the show control infrastructure planned for our three
venues: the Lyric Theatre (1181 seats), the Drama Theatre (415
seats) and the Studio Theatre (120 seats)."

HKAPA is the foremost institution granting degrees for
performance technical arts in the Asia-Pacific region. Graduates
of the Academy compose the elite of technical decision makers in
this fast emerging geographical area.

   MIDI MAKES MANIPULATION MARVELOUS

   Hearing Voices in the Telephone

Princeton, 1998 January 2 - Custom assembly animates Princeton
exhibit.

A custom MIDI telephone assembly provides telephone decoding and
control in the exhibit 'Voices' at the Cotson Children's
Collection, Firestone Library, Princeton University (Princeton,
NJ).

The children's collection, themed by exhibition designer Lynne
Breslin, encourages library study through actual experiences of
character and story. The 'Voices' exhibit was designed by Ben
Rubin (Electronic Arts Research Studios, New York,
+1-212/965-8824) and allows children to create fictional
characters by altering their voices as they talk to each other.
The exhibit uses two pairs of ordinary phones at opposite ends of
the room, with advanced MIDI processing in the signal chains.
Exhibit fabricators Maltbie Associates (Mount Laurel, NJ)
performed the on-site installation.

Of the custom assembly, Ben Rubin remarked that "the Richmond
people were very insightful into what we wanted, and were very
creative in coming up with the equipment exactly as we needed."
'Voices' is one of three exhibits designed by Rubin in the
children's collection.

   AUDIOBOX FOR DEVELOPERS

   Development Units

Vancouver, 1998 January 2 - A limited number of AudioBoxes are
available for software development and evaluation purposes. To
apply for for evaluation status, please contact Charlie Richmond,
CharlieR 'at' RichmondSoundDesign 'dot' com

   THE ACCOLADES OF INDUSTRY:

   AudioBox(TM) named as Sound Product of the Year

New York, 1997 December 19 - The AudioBox(TM) moving matrix sound
source has been named as a Sound Product of the Year by the
prestigious magazine Theatre Crafts International (Jacqueline
Tien, Publisher; David Johnson, Editor).

Ken Bell PE, General Manager, expressed delight at the award,
noting "the TCI judges, who have diverse theatrical, themed and
technical backgrounds, look at audio products all year long and
at many trade shows. Amidst such a large field, we're honored to
have been chosen by qualified people as having developed an
outstanding product."

The award was presented at the 30th anniversary celebration of
Theatre Crafts International, held December 12th in New York.
David Johnson, editor of TCI, remarked that "not only was 1997 a
watershed year for Theatre Crafts International, it was also a
banner year for audio products in the theatrical and themed
industries."

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   AUDIOBOX IN HONG KONG

   My Fair Sound

Hong Kong, 1997 December 12 - A Stage Manager® 3000 controller,
in conjunction with an AudioBox (TM) matrix, was the sound source
in Springtime Productions' (Hong Kong) latest musical drama,
'Pygmalion.' The system was supplied by Dino Technology Ltd. of
Hong Kong (Amornthep Tantikovit, Technical Manager).

Sound Designer Joey Chan specified the units to handle all sound
system controls, saying "RSD products are indispensable tools to
the sound designer. I am pleased with the comprehensive
functions and flexibility of the Stage Manager system."

The production was staged at the Lyric Theatre of the Hong Kong
Academy of Performing Arts (HKAPA). The Academy is the first
institution in the Asia Pacific region to offer degree courses in
technical production and professional performance.

   YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE TOP OF THE CLASS

   Stage Manager® on the Case

Toronto, 1997 October 25 - Young People's Theatre Establishes New
Ground with Children's Musical

A Stage Manager 500 show controller is being used on the Young
People's Theatre (Toronto, Canada) production of 'Jacob TwoTwo's

First Spy Case,' written by noted Canadian author Mordecai
Richler.

Setting new standards for children's theatre, the production is a
full musical including a four piece band which will "sound like
and orchestra through the magic of the sampler" according to Todd
Charlton, Sound Designer for the production. A total of ten
wireless microphones are used on the performers.

Charlton states that he prefers Stage Manager because it's "fast,
easy to use, and works perfectly every time." The Stage Manager
system controls all four reverb effects devices by changing
programs for each song, a sampler for additional sound effects
plus the Mackie MIDI-controlled console and a PC running SAW
software by Innovative Quality Software, providing hard disk
sound effects.

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    COMMAND/CUE CONCURRENT LIVES

    Knowing Your Sound

Winnipeg, 1997 October 10 - Manitoba Theatre Centre (MTC) uses CD
technology to fast track new production.

Sound design is underway for Manitoba Theatre Centre's (Winnipeg,
Manitoba, Canada) production of "A Perfect Ganesh," using a
combination of recorded computer samples and in-house CD's
mastered on a new CD recording system. Playback sounds are
spatially distributed through a custom RSD COMMAND/CUE® router
controlled by CONCURRENT(TM) software, while MIDIShowCD(TM)
software on the same computer sequences the CD's. Asimware's
MasterISO(TM) is used to create the custom CD's.

"It really is terrific" says David Wallace, MTC's head of audio,"
I can read off the 12X CD source directly into the Samplitude(TM)
editor, play it off the sound card while editing, and burn it to
CD as soon as the edit is complete. The sequencing software
works great, too, giving me instant starts."

"A Perfect Ganesh" was written by Terrence McNally and concerns
two women travelling to India for self-enlightenment. Sound
Designer Suzanne Clampett, a McGill Tonmeister graduate noted for
a recent design of "The Heiress," reports including the sound
track of a particular Indian soap opera for the utmost in
authenticity.

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    TEACHING SHOW CONTROL

    Show Control Offered In Ivy League

New Haven, 1997 October 1 - Stage Manager® software used in first
Yale University course on show control

A Stage Manager 500 show control system will be used for the MIDI
portion of the course 'Control Systems for Live Entertainment',
taught this semester at Yale University (New Haven, CT) by John
Huntington, author of the book with same title.

"I'm really excited about this course" says Mr. Huntington,
"since, although there have been various short workshops

throughout the country, this is the first ever full-semester course in the subject."

The course is offered to upper levels of the graduate theatre class and covers the entire range of control protocols used in the entertainment industry, including DMX-512 and MIDI as well as newer developments such as IEEE1394 and AES-24.

ROYAL CARIBBEAN CRUISE LINES CONVERTS

Eight Ships now with Stage Manager® Show Control

Miami, 1997 September 16 - Weekend Conversions Bring RCCL Showroom Automation Total to Eight Ships. Conversions this weekend of Royal Caribbean Cruise lines' 'Monarch of the Seas' and 'Nordic Empress' to Stage Manager 4000 show controllers. Creative Television Communications, Boca Raton, FL, informed of the assigment Tuesday last week, took delivery of the controllers Saturday morning in Florida and programmer Rich Fidanza had automation systems in both ships operational in San Juan, PR on Monday evening.

John Potts, President of Creative Television, explained that "RCCL has a commitment of continually improving existing installations to the standard of their latest ships, in this case, the 'Vision' class. This particular opportunity had a short time frame, but fortunately we were able to respond with their requirements."

With this weekend's conversions, RCCL now has eight cruise ships sporting advanced Stage Manager show automation.

AUDIOBOX DEBUTS IN ROYAL FASHION

Fit for a King

Stratford-on-Avon, 1997 September 9 - AudioBox makes its theatrical debut! Sound designer John A Leonard used a unit supplied to Autograph Sound Recording Ltd. as the main console fanout in the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of 'Henry V' at Stratford-on-Avon. The production will play Stratford for three weeks before touring major cities in the UK. Stage Manager® 3000 software controls the AudioBox and other show elements.

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