

HW International's new updated catalogue is now available, giving full details of the Shure range of mics, QSC amps, plus stands, frames and accessories from Ultimate Support Systems.

☎ 071 607 2717.

A new 3.5" rewritable optical disc has been launched by 3M, who have also announced a lifetime warranty on all their magneto-optical products. The new disc incorporates the patented silicon carbide technology of existing 5.25" disks, and has a formatted capacity of up to 133Mb.

☎ 0344 4267265.

Solid State Logic have joined forces with the Open Media Framework Group of manufacturers who are currently developing proposals for extended data compatibility between a variety of audio and video post-production devices. The aim appears to be an extension of the CMX compatible EDL standard to provide an improved tool for both audio and video post-production applications.

☎ 0865 842300.

☎ 0865 842118.

Systems Workshop have been appointed distributor of the Bryston range of power amps for the UK and Eire.

☎ 0691 658550.

☎ 0691 658549.

## AMS/Neve surprise merger

Neve Electronics and AMS Industries merged in the UK on October 1, though the trading names of Neve and AMS will be retained, along with their respective product identities. The surprise move follows the earlier merger of Neve and AMS in the USA as Siemens Audio Ltd. The new company HQ will be situated at Burnley, Lancashire, with manufacturing continuing at Burnley and at Neve's facility at Kelso, Scotland. Sadly, Neve's newly-built multi-million pound complex in Hertfordshire will undergo a "phased closure", with the loss of around 80 jobs.

MD of the new enterprise will be Mark Crabtree, former MD of AMS; he comments that "the strategy of the new company is to enhance the name and reputation of AMS and Neve jointly, while continuing to support both AMS and Neve product lines utilising the skills and experience of each. All major current products will remain in the new company's portfolio and will

continue to be fully supported. The merger allows us to rationalise the positioning of our products to provide maximum choice and therefore flexibility to our customers.

"The question which has provoked most interest since the announcement of a merger at the AES in Vienna has been our joint strategy for the Logic 2 and Capricorn [digital] consoles. Our position is clear — we will continue to market and support both desks, since to do so allows the maximum possible customer choice."

The merged company has yet to announce a corporate name — this is currently being considered by US parent Siemens.

Ⓐ AMS/Neve, Billington Road, Burnley, Lancs BB11 5ES.

☎ 0282 57011.

☎ 0282 39542.

## Ambisonics and B-Format User Group

An Ambisonics and B-Format User Group has recently been set up by Donald MacLennan and colleagues to promote a discussion forum for this British-designed surround sound recording system. Donald is hoping to create a database of all recordings made in B-Format or UHJ, and welcomes contact from *Audio Media* readers all over the world who have worked with Ambisonics and/or produced recordings themselves.

"People keep asking me what material is available in Ambisonic format. I can list the Nimbus Collection and only the few I've seen in the shops. But I have heard of several producers/engineers that have mastered in B-Format and would like to know which of their recordings have been released in Ambisonics."

Ⓐ Ambisonics & B-Format User Group, 51 Hillside Avenue, Plymouth, PL4 6PS, England.

☎ +44 (0)752 663229.

## Prism's DREAM ticket

The first product in Prism Sound's DREAM (Dynamic Range Enhanced Audio Modulator) series of products is the Dream AD-1 high performance A/D converter. The AD-1 is available in a number of variants offering a range of specifications and facilities. Analogue inputs are transformerless and electronically balanced, with the analogue electronics isolated from the digital to avoid noise pickup and crosstalk. Input level is adjustable with a choice of several fixed ranges and tamper-proof multi-turn pots which can be de-selected if desired.

To avoid clipping when high level recordings are made, a soft limit function is provided. The DREAM series features wide dynamic range, with the noise floor at -115dB. Noise shaping and Triangular Probability-Density Function (TPDF) dither are among the features provided to enhance the output. Comprehensive support is given for standard digital I/Os, including AES/EBU on XLR and coaxial

formats, and consumer optical format. SDIF-2 outputs are an optional extra. If you have difficulty when using consumer SPDIF formats, the AD-1 can provide simultaneous consumer and pro format outputs as well as having a range of alternative switchable Channel Status implementations.

Synchronisation is available in several options, starting with the AD-1's own precision crystal oscillator. Options are provided for AES 11 Digital Audio Reference Signal on XLR or coax, AES or SPDIF on optical and SDIF-2 word clock. A range of models is available to suit various applications in music recording and broadcast, and all can be fitted with the SDIF-2 interface option.

Ⓐ Prism Sound Ltd, William James House, Cowley Road, Cambridge CB4 4WX.

☎ +44 (0)223 424988.

## First Korg Soundlink installed in UK

Advison Studios in Brighton, owned by Geoff Downes of 'supergroup' Asia, have become the first UK studio to install Korg's Soundlink random access digital audio multitrack system. Geoff Downes commented: "When the Soundlink was first demonstrated to me, I was immediately hooked on the musical possibilities. It is very important for me that technology is designed with the musician in mind, as well as the engineer. With the Soundlink I have found a system with a clear layout, which offers me the ability to adjust every single musical event to my liking, at a very reasonable price compared to other systems currently on the market."

Geoff has found the Soundlink to be invaluable during work

on his solo album (guitarist Steve Howe has also been recording a solo album using Soundlink), and the post-production possibilities of the system also proved very important to Geoff. Advison is equipped with video and film capabilities, and Soundlink can be used for full film score synchronisation; its SMPTE capabilities allow it to be synchronised to any of the formats available in the studio.

Ⓐ Korg UK, 8-9 The Crystal Centre, Elm Grove Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 2YR.

☎ 081 427 5377.

☎ 081 861 3595.

## STAFF APPOINTMENTS

IAN MORAIS has been appointed as digital product & synchronisation specialist at Babel Systems.

STEVE BRADSHAW, former service manager for Nomis Studios, has been appointed by Systems Workshop to head the newly-formed Systems Workshop Service.

LARS-OLOF JANFLOD has been appointed as international sales manager for Genelec.

SAM THOMAS, previously with Julians, London Sound Centre and

Hilton Sound, has just joined Studiohire as bookings manager.

MARK BROMFIELD, previously TAC service and commissioning engineer, has joined SSE Hire Ltd of Birmingham as head of technical services.

ALAN BURROWS has been appointed general manager of Fairlight ESP Pty Ltd.

SUZ HOWELLS has become director of sales and marketing at Grey Matter Response, after five years with Emu and four with Digidesign.

## DIARY DATES

Pro Audio & Light Asia '93

July 7-9

World Trade Centre, Singapore

Organised by Business & Industrial

Trade Fairs, Wanchai, Hong Kong

(+852) 865 2633

APRS '93

June 23-25

Olympia 2, London

0734 756218