AES Audio Engineering Society - Pacific Northwest Section

Around the Puget Sound, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.

June Meeting Notice
An Intimate Look at an SSL 4000 Console
plus
Theory and Practice of Console Maintenance and Repair
and
Annual PNW Section Business Meeting with Elections

Presented by
Phil Nickolay — Virtual Earth Professional Audio
and
The AES Pacific NW Section

7:30 PM, Tuesday, June 5, 2007
The Art Institute of Seattle
Seattle, WA

[Directions to The Art Institute of Seattle](#)

What is so special about an SSL studio mixing console? Why is it the top choice of so many first class recording studios around the world? What are its features and signature characteristics? How do you keep it at the top of its game while in heavy usage? And what do you do when it breaks?

These questions and more will be answered for us by Phil Nickolay, factory trained service technical engineer for SSL and Neve mixing consoles. Join us as we tour the outside and insides of the one that lives in AIS's Studio A. We'll see how it is put together and how it comes apart, and look at the minutest construction details thanks to a video magnification system that will be set up specially for this event. Phil will also pass along tips for all types of console maintenance that should be useful to anyone who is responsible for the well-being of a mixing console.

Topics to be covered include

- SSL and Neve history
- System overview.
- Variants and options.
- Power supplies.

- Console architecture.
- Computer, automation and Total Recall.
- Channel modules.
- Bussing.
- Master section.
- Metering.
- Patch bay and connector Panel.
- Common problems and what to do about them.
- Routine maintenance.

NOTE: The Studio A control room has limited capacity, so we'll set up duplicate video systems in the control room and in its associated studio. We'll have audience members rotate through the two spaces, so that everyone can be in the room with the console for an equal time. In light of our April meeting, we'll also point out that due to the limited capacity of the control room and of the studio; once it is full, it will be full and we will have to turn away the overflow.

Phil Nickolay

Phil Nickolay has over 27 years in professional audio, including manufacture, design, systems test, quality control, installation, commissioning and field service. Starting with Neve in 1979 testing sub-assemblies, Phil moved on to console final test before being hired in 1984 by Solid State Logic's founder Colin Sanders as Systems Test Engineer.

Within a year of joining SSL, Phil was promoted to Technical Sales Engineer where he provided technical liaison between the sales team, clients, R & D and all manufacturing departments. Phil worked with clients in assessing their needs, choosing appropriate equipment, proposing and designing modifications and providing specifications and build information for manufacture, test and service. In short, when a sales person told a client "yes, that's no problem sir, we can do that" it was Phil's problem!

After 13 years at SSL in England, including a spell as Chief Engineer to the Test Department, Phil relocated to Los Angeles where he moved from the manufacturing environment to providing field technical service and support to the recording, film and broadcast industries.

In 2004 Phil founded Virtual Earth Professional Audio, where he continues to use his expertise and specialist knowledge of mixing consoles, all aspects of studio installation, integration, service and maintenance to provide technical solutions to clients throughout the USA and Europe.

Phil currently sits on the board of directors for Voice of Vashon alongside AES president Bob Moses.

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Elections

This meeting will be the Annual Meeting for the PNW Section of the Audio Engineering Society, which is when we have elections for officers and committee to run the Section and plan the meetings held during the year.

The Committee has put together a slate of candidates as follows, but there will also be nominations from the floor in case anyone is interested in serving the local audio community. If you wish to serve as a section officer or serve on the committee, you must be a Member or Associate. Nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to the election.

This year's election slate is:

Officers (1-year term)
Chair — Rick Chinn
Vice Chair — Steve Turnidge
Secretary — Gary Louie
Treasurer — Dave Franzwa

Committee (10 seats, 2-year term, 5 elect in even years, 5 elect in odd years)
By position number:

1   Bob Smith (2-year term)
3   Dan Mortensen (2-year term)
5   Aurika Hays (2-year term)
7   Bob Gudgel (2-year term)
8   Ivan Tashev (1-year term, completion of Dr. Rice's term)
9   Dr. Michael Matesky (2-year term)

[Candidate's biographical sketches](#)
[2007 Ballot and Voting information](#)

n.b. *The material presented at our meetings is the opinion of the presenter and not necessarily that of the Society. You are encouraged to conduct your own research and to form your own opinions before adopting the presented material as Truth.*

Our meetings are open to anyone interested in Audio. AES membership is NOT required for you to attend our meetings.
Last modified 6/5/2007.

AES Audio Engineering Society - Pacific Northwest Section

AES PNW Section
2007 Election of Officers and Committee

Chair - Rick Chinn

Rick is *It* at Uneeda Audio, a pro-audio consultancy, and has served the PNW section in various capacities since its inception over 25 years ago. He served as volunteer and technical liaison for the 14th International Conference in 1997, volunteer at the 121st Convention in 2006, and AES Standards SC05-05 and SC-05-02 since 2000. In 2003, he was a panelist on the Grounding and Shielding Tutorial at the 114th Convention in Amsterdam. In addition to his Section work, he is a consultant specializing in audio systems design and troubleshooting, live sound mixing, recording, technical writing, and web design..

Previously, Rick has worked for nearly every pro audio company in the local area, the sound crew at Seattle Center, and is currently working on projects for Benaroya Hall, Teatro Zinzanni, and several area churches. Rick is also a freelance live and studio mixing engineer as well as the current PNW AES webmaster. He holds one US Patent as well as Commercial Radiotelephone and Amateur Radio licenses. He does not do ladders or lights.
www.uneeda-audio.com

Vice-Chair - Steve Turnidge

Steve Turnidge is a noted mastering engineer at UltraViolet Studios with dozens of albums and thousands of licensed music tracks to his credit. His latest project is to co-produce and master the upcoming Jellyfish Tribute Album.

He has over 20 years experience in the Pro Audio electronics industry specializing in mixed digital and analog printed circuit board design (with a specialty in FireWire audio designs). Steve taught a year of Audio Recording at Shoreline Community College, and is currently assisting in the design and documentation of the new XBOX Studios at Microsoft.

In addition to being the Vice-Chairman of the PNW Section Audio Engineering Society committee, Steve is a voting member of the Recording Academy and plays bass in The Nervous Freemasons.

Steve is also a founder of [Shared Media Licensing](#) and co-host of the [Krimson-News podcasts.](#)
[www.arsdivina.com](#)

Secretary - Gary Louie

Gary has been the recording engineer for the University of Washington School of Music since 1979, previously earning his BSEE at the UW. He has served as AES PNW Section Chair, Vice Chair, Committee, and most recently, Secretary since 1993. Gary is also the co-author, with Glenn White, of the *Audio Dictionary* 3rd Ed.

Treasurer - Dave Franzwa

Dave has been employed in the audio manufacturing industry in the Seattle area since 1979, having worked at TAPCO, Carver, Spectral, and currently at Mackie where he is Technical Documentation Manager. He graduated from Cogswell College North in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electronics Engineering Technology. He enjoys playing music and working with audio and sound reinforcement equipment in his spare time.

Committee - boB Gudgel

boB, K7IQ, has has worked with, or for many Northwest audio companies, including, Phase Linear, TAPCO, Spectro Acoustics, AudioControl, Mackie, and Symetrix. He presently works for MidNite Solar and Magnum Energy designing inverters/chargers for the alternative energy market, as well as spending time at side jobs related to audio and his home recording studio. He also currently serves on the PNW section committee. boB runs a web forum for defunct Northwest audio companies that can be found at
http://www.bob.gudgel.org

Committee - Aurika Hays

Aurika is currently a full time teacher specializing in a curriculum of Kindermusik, gymnastics, ballet, tap, piano, educational computer software, and mouse techniques for little fingers. Although her 4 year old son can play Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, Chop Sticks, and Happy Birthday on the Piano, he believes that music is primarily useful only as a background to gymnastics and dance moves. In her spare time, Aurika is the current AES PNW Database Maven. Before being promoted to the title of "Domestic Engineer and Child Development Specialist", Aurika spent several years at RealNetworks in Seattle, where she worked as an Audio Software Engineer, an Audio Quality Specialist, and as a Program Manager in the Tools and Authoring Products Group. She first became involved with the AES at the tender age of 13, when she spent countless hours at AES HQ

in NYC doing research in violin acoustics. She graduated from Stanford University with a BS degree in Audio and Acoustical Engineering. At the University of Miami, she was the first woman to earn an MS in Music Engineering Technology. Aurika had hoped to one day return to a life of math more advanced than "I love you Googleplex much", but she is currently waiting for the finalization of a new acquisition (Baby Hays version 2.0).

Committee - Dr. Michael Matesky

Dr. Michael Matesky is the designer and owner of Opus 4 Studios (audio and video recording) where he also engineers. Born and raised in Los Angeles, where his father worked in the studios, he has a BM and MM in cello, and also a DMA in conducting from the University of Washington. He is a composer and arranger, President of Opus 4 Music publishing company, studio musician, music contractor, founding cellist in Opus 4 String Quartet, and occasional Gypsy jazzman with undeniable traces of evidence found at www.opus4studios.com. Dr. Matesky is currently serving on the PNW section committee.

Committee - Dan Mortensen

Dan is President of Dansound Inc., which specializes in live sound reinforcement and is Washington State dealer for Meyer Sound Laboratories, among other dealerships. He is current AES PNW Treasurer, past Section Chair, Vice-Chair, & Committee member. He is the current Executive Director of the Washington Association of Production Services. After more than 10 years, Dan continues to find that serving on the AES PNW Committee is one of his favorite things.

Committee - Bob Smith

Bob has a BSEE from the University of Washington and has worked in the Biomedical industry for over 30 years. The last 12 years he has spent developing acoustic research and audio engineering disciplines for Medtronic / Physio Control to improve speech intelligibility for medical device voice prompting and voice recording systems in noisy environments. He is responsible for voice prompting in 30+ languages. The department now handles acoustic measurements of components such as drivers , microphone capsules and system measurements including Thiele-Small parameters, polar plots, waterfalls, frequency response, impulse response, several speech intelligibility methods, etc. He also runs an acoustic lab / project studio called BS Studios recording local musical talents, has recorded local school concerts for 10+ years, does remote recordings, acoustic consulting and is currently working on automotive interior noise assessments and their effect on speech intelligibility.

Committee - Dr. Ivan Tashev

Dr. Tashev works on creation of novel sound capturing and sound rendering devices and audio processing algorithms in Microsoft Research. He created and implemented the algorithm for the microphone array support in Windows Vista. He has published more than 50 scientific papers and has 15 submissions for US patents. Four of them are already granted and all are in the area of novel audio processing algorithms. He holds Ph.D. degree in Computer Science (1990) and Masters Degree in Electronics (1984), both from the Technical University of Sofia, Bulgaria.

Committee - Dave Tosti-Lane

Dave is a theatrical sound designer, lighting designer and technical director, and is a founding faculty member and Chair of the Performance Production Department at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle. Dave holds a BS degree in management and an MFA degree in Lighting Design and Technical Direction from Virginia Tech, but his real audio education began when handed his first tape recorder at age 10. He is Chair of AES Standards Committee Working Group SC-05-03 on Audio Connectors, Vice-Commissioner for Education in the Sound Design Commission of the US Institute for Theatre Technology, and the associate editor for sound of TD&T, the journal of the USITT. He is a past Chair, Vice Chair and Committee member of the PNW AES Section.

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AES Audio Engineering Society - Pacific Northwest Section

AES PNW Section
2007 Election of Officers

Once per year, our section is directed by its bylaws to elect a new set of officers for the coming meeting year (September thru June). There are four section officers, each serves for a term of one year. There are no term limits. The Section Executive Committee has ten seats; committee members serve for a two-year term. Five of the seats elect in odd numbered years; five of the seats elect in even numbered years. Elections take place at the June section meeting. A quorum of the members in the region must be present before the election can be held. This year, a quorum is 15 members.

Accordingly then, it is time to conduct our yearly election. Any member of the society, in the grade of Member or Associate, may participate in this process by voting for and/or by running for office. Typically the current officers and committee members draw up the ballot, however any member may 'throw their hat into the ring' by announcing their candidacy to one of the section officers or committee members. Furthermore, any member may self-nominate at any time after the election has been announced up until the moment of the election.

This year, we have one additional committee position to fill because of the resignation of the person holding that position (seat #8). This term of this position will be for one year, at which time it will go through the election process again.

A link to the Candidate's Biographical sketches can be found after the List of Candidates.

Officers (1 year term)
Chair: Rick Chinn
Vice Chair: Steve Turnidge
Treasurer: Dave Franzwa
Secretary: Gary Louie

Committee (2-year term, except as noted, by seat#)
1 — Bob Smith
3 — Dan Mortensen
5 — Aurika Hays
7 — Bob Gudgel
8 — Ivan Tashev (1yr, to complete a 2-yr term)
9 — Dr. Michael Matesky

Returning Committee members (2nd year of 2-yr term)

2 — Mark Rogers

4 — Dave Tosti-Lane

6 — James (JJ) Johnston

10 — Jake Perrine

[Candidate's Biographical Sketches](#)

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