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May 1997 Meeting Notice

"The IEEE 1394 (Firewire) Multimedia Serial Bus"

Bob Moses, PAVO

WHEN: Wednesday, May 28, 1997 - 7:30 PM
WHERE: Jack Straw Productions Studio, 4261 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA
DIRECTIONS: From I-5, take the NE 45th St. Exit (Exit 169). Go Eastbound on NE 45th. Turn right onto Roosevelt Way NE (one-way Southbound). Jack Straw is on the right, at the corner of NE 43rd. Limited parking in the lot on the south side of the building, plus street parking.

The IEEE 1394 multimedia serial bus has been adopted by nearly 100 companies in the multimedia, consumer electronics, pro audio, and computer industries for connecting digital media products such as DVD players, entertainment PCs, set top boxes, digital VCRs, digital cameras and camcorders, and so on. 1394's popularity stems from its ability to carry digital video, digital audio, and control protocols simultaneously over a single cable. Today, 1394 is shipping in volume on a variety of products from companies such as Sony and Matsushita. In the coming year, we will see a variety of exciting new products sporting 1394 connectors introduced to the marketplace.

The 1394 bus supports isochronous (i.e. guaranteed time of delivery) and asynchronous communication between nodes. Its 100Mbps, 200Mbps, and 400Mbps data rates allow hundreds of digital audio channels to be sent over the bus, along with digital video and other protocols. 1394 supports hot plugging, which means you can add or remove a node on the bus while the system is running without disturbing communications on the bus. System configuration is fully automatic, so it is literally as easy as plugging an RCA cable into an analog jack today (even easier if you consider the fact that you only need one 1394 cable for all I/O in a system, compared to multiple RCA cables for an analog system). Indeed, 1394 has been designed from the ground up to be simple, reliable, and cost effective - securing its role as tomorrow's ubiquitous digital media interconnect.

This meeting will focus on the technical details of the 1394 bus, as well as demonstrations of some of the world's first 1394 audio and video devices. Engineers at PAVO, based in Seattle's Pioneer Square, are responsible for creating the world's first audio device for 1394, and are working with Microsoft to create 1394 driver support for the upcoming Memphis operating system. This promises to be an educational and fun-filled evening.

About Bob Moses and PAVO

Bob Moses was the Sr. Digital Audio Engineer at Rane corporation for 8 1/2 years before embarking on his own last year. He joined forces with long-time "cyberarts" colleague Greg Bartlett, and founded PAVO as an R&D company specializing in digital technologies for arts and entertainment. PAVO created the world's first 1394 audio device, publicly demonstrated by Bill Gates in his keynote address at the 1996 Windows Hardware Engineering Conference (WinHEC '96). Last month PAVO returned to WinHEC '97 for a repeat performance and the announcement that Microsoft has adopted PAVO's 1394 technology as the "reference design" for upcoming support in the Memphis operating system. In June PAVO will begin shipping the world's first 1394 audio product, "Papaya". Papaya is a member of PAVO's Amazon Digital River technology family, and allows 8 channels of audio to be transmitted over the 1394 bus. Today PAVO has a team of engineers working with several OEMs to develop 1394 audio products which will find their way to the market soon...

NON-MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND