

The DCOSA plans to make its server and IMB interface specifications available as an open standard for use by the digital cinema industry. The specifications are expected to be completed and available in the first half of 2011. Information regarding specific product availability can be obtained directly from the member companies.



### XDC CONCLUDE VPF DEAL WITH BULGARIA'S ARENA CINEMAS

XDC has concluded a VPF agreement with Arena Cinemas, the major cinema circuit in Bulgaria. Having implemented DCI-compliant digital projection systems in Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia, Bulgaria is the next country in Eastern

Europe in which XDC is exporting its popular VPF financing scheme. Under the terms of this agreement, Arena



na Cinemas, the dominant player in Bulgaria's cinema market, will equip a total of 70 screens at 9 locations with state-of-the-art digital projection systems. Arena Cinemas, which opened its first multiplex back in April 2003, will equip its cinemas with a satellite delivery solution which will allow distributors to deliver films directly to the cinemas, and which provides the opportunity to receive live 2D or 3D transmissions.

All the systems will be connected to XDC's NOC (Network Operations Centre) which will perform the hotline support and the preventive remote maintenance. XDC's local partners will directly manage the frontline support of the digital systems. Furthermore, they will take care of the installations and maintenance supported by XDC's NOC services.

Service of the equipment was one crucial point for entering into an agreement with XDC as Bojidar Iliev, Managing Director of Arena Cinemas, confirmed: "Converting all our cinemas to digital entails that we will need a service partner that meets our requirements to the fullest - XDC



### CHRISTIE SPONSORS FOURTH ANNUAL BKSTS STUDENT FILM SHOW



Sir Sydney Samuelson, centre, and students at the NFT's Screen 3

Students on courses accredited or associated with the BKSTS, and currently graduating, had the opportunity of screening their work at the National Film Theatre on London's South Bank. Students from Brighton Film School, Greenwich, Sheffield Hallam and Staffordshire Universities, as well as from University College for the Creative Arts, Farnham, show-

cased their work to an invited audience which included Sir Sydney Samuelson CBE, patron of the BKSTS. Some readers may not be fully aware of Sir Sydney's career so please see our report of his 'All Industry Tribute Lunch' on page 66. Students were delighted that a veteran stalwart of the British film industry attended their event. In a brief address to the students

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has a proven track record as far as NOC and on-site services are concerned."

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### VISTA WIN MICROSOFT NZ SOFTWARE EXPORTER OF THE YEAR

Vista Entertainment Solutions Ltd has taken home the Supreme award for Microsoft NZ Software Exporter of the Year for 2011 at a gala dinner held in Auckland.

The annual Microsoft New Zealand Partner Awards gives IT companies the opportunity to display their best work, around specific design solutions working in conjunction with Microsoft platforms, while also giving the chance to raise the profile of the company and the occasion to network with peers.

From 4 sub-categories – Solution Awards, Individual Awards, Partner Awards and the Supreme Awards section - 23 winners were honoured for providing outstanding technology innovation, with entries judged on their distinctiveness, market potential, quality of technology, functionality and features, and overall application.

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