

LEIGHTRONIX NEXUS MULTICHANNEL VIDEO SERVER



Peer Reviewer:

Marshall Miles, president, Tri-State Public Communications Inc., Canaan, CT. Tri-State Public Communications operates a local access TV station, WNWC/CATV 6, which serves 16,000 viewers in Northwest Connecticut.

My Pick:

Leightronix NEXUS Multichannel Video Server, \$7,000 MSRP

What I Like About It:

Because I work at a non-profit, volunteer-run local access TV station that doesn't have paid employees or professionals, I need a system that can effectively, easily, and quickly record, playback, and air video. The equipment has to be user-friendly, easy to learn, and easy to operate. I also need a system that can seamlessly playback our program schedule — 24 hours a day, seven days a week — and produce a professional-quality end product.

The NEXUS system has successfully met each of these goals. It's very easy to operate and program. If you can operate a computer with Windows XP, you can run and program the NEXUS. It can even be operated remotely.

I Would Change:

I would add a full-range character generator. There are many times when it would be handy to have a built-in character generator,

MANUFACTURER SPECIFICATIONS

Network: Eight-position/eight-conductor RJ45 modular jack, 10/100/1,000Base-T Ethernet, TCP/IP, user-configurable IP address, subnet, gateway

Video: Six BNC video inputs, three BNC video outputs, NTSC composite video 1V P-P, active switching, unity gain

Audio: Six dual RCA audio inputs, three dual RCA audio outputs, -10 dBV unbalanced line level, unity gain

Power Supply: Internal, accepts 90 to 264 VAC @ 47 to 63 Hz

Certifications: UL 60065, CAN/CSA E60065, FCC Part 15

Weight: 12 pounds

Dimensions (HxWxD): 3.5 x 19 x 15 inches

Leightronix NEXUS

so you could scroll messages over the bottom or top of current programming coming off the NEXUS — live on-air.

Where I Used It:

WNWC/CATV 6 studios and office, Canaan, CT

My Results:

The NEXUS works very well for our needs. After completing the installation of the product ourselves, it took about two days to set up and load with programming. We started on-air playback the third day, and by the start of the next week, all of our on-air programming came from the NEXUS. By the end of the second week, we were totally digital playback on-air.

I keep one SUPER VHS deck in the system to transfer tapes to MPG directly, as well as one SUPER VHS deck connected to a Pinnacle Digital Editing System for transfer of analog to digital. My second Pinnacle Digital Editing System is a main editing station for DVI input. A third laptop Pinnacle system can also be used in a pinch, if I'm overloaded with production work. With the addition of a Lacie 500 GIG hard drive, I have great digital storage, and can add three more, if necessary.

Right now, I have a seven days a week, 24-hours per day schedule performing off the NEXUS system. It switches from live to digital, to character generator, and to networks without a hitch.

The NEXUS system has also helped reduce our equipment costs. It replaced the following equipment at WNWC/CATV 6: an eight-channel routing switcher, five SUPER VHS decks, and a DVD player. Additionally, the customer support for the product has been superb. Leightronix quickly responds to any questions, and supplies software updates on a regular basis, which has further enhanced the functionality of the system and added new options. **AV**

