

IBC honours the world of content

When an awards ceremony ranges from football to grand opera, and from India to Italy, you know that IBC reaches everywhere that content needs to go. Last night's awards ceremony was a dazzling occasion enjoyed by a large and enthusiastic audience.

Football's governing body FIFA took two awards. IBC's highest award, the International Honour for Excellence, went to FIFA TV for its long-term commitment to quality and innovation, and the Judges' Prize went to FIFA and 14 of its

technology partners.

Niclas Ericson, director of FIFA TV, said "This honour and recognition pays a fitting tribute to the dedication of our industry-leading service providers who help us deliver the very best coverage of the World Cup to football fans all over the world. We look forward to continuing this pioneering work with the broadcast industry as we offer the unique platform of the FIFA World Cup to help drive technology forward."

A different sort of score was one of the factors that

saw the Vienna State Opera receive a special award for its staatsoperlive.com online service. This includes a lot of imaginative ways of augmenting the opera experience, including presenting the musical score on a tablet, synchronised to the main broadcast.

The opera house is also experimenting with 4K capture and delivery to Samsung smart televisions. The audience at last night's show got to see excerpts from Verdi's Nabucco – as well as from the FIFA World Cup final – in 4K

and surround sound.

The show also saw RAI of Italy receive the prize for best conference paper, and Innovation Awards go to Sky in the UK for its Monday Night Football coverage; to Sky News Arabia; and to Turner Sports.

Prizes were also awarded to the best exhibition stand designs. You can see pictures of the winning stands on page 8 in this issue of *The IBC Daily*.

Find out more about the IBC Awards at www.abc.org/awards.

Award for mobile future

IBC always attracts many more papers for its technical sessions than can be programmed, and the papers committee carefully review each submission for relevance, innovation and clarity. As well as forming the programme, they also choose the best paper in the conference, which receives an award.

This year the award went to a team from Italian national broadcaster RAI. Gino Alberico, Andrea Bertella, Silvio Ripamonti and Mirto Tabone carried out research into DVB-T2 Lite, a new variant of the digital broadcast standard, aimed particularly at allowing live broadcast to portable and mobile devices using the existing infrastructure.

Chair of the technical papers committee Nick Lodge said they were "impressed with the thorough nature of your experimentation and measurements, both in the lab and in the Aosta Valley. The results you achieved provided and excellent validation of the performance of T2-Lite."

Lodge presented Gino Alberico with the award for best conference paper during the ceremony last night. On behalf of his colleagues, he said "We are proud of the recognition given to the work that RAI R&D is doing which could enable the best possible exploitation of broadcast spectrum and network infrastructures for new services."

Visit www.abc.org/awards for more details.

FIFA Excellence on the ball

Niclas Ericson, director of FIFA TV, had two clear shots at goal last night, taking home not one but two trophies. For the innovations at this year's World Cup, FIFA took the Judges' Prize, and for continuing efforts to bring the best possible coverage to the widest possible audience, it won IBC's highest award, the International Honour for Excellence.

For the Judges' Prize, the stage became a very crowded place as representatives of 14 partner organisations crowded on. They included FIFA's host broadcast organisation HBS, along with vendors Sony, NHK, Telegenic, EVS, Deltatre, Eutelsat, TV Globo, Eurovision, Netco Sports, Fraunhofer Heinrich Hertz Institute, Boxframe, Dolby and Fujinon.



Niclas Ericson, FIFA TV (holding Award), with Technology Partners for FIFA 2014 Football World Cup™ Brazil

Receiving this award, Ericson said "The global football audience is always hungry for more – more cameras, more detail, more replays and more analysis. In Brazil this year we worked together with our partners to provide more

engaging multi-platform content and to develop the language to cover football in high resolution formats. It was an exhilarating team effort, and I am proud to recognise all those who contributed."

The International Honour for

Excellence recognised FIFA's long-term commitment to coverage that is not just excellent but also consistent – wherever in the world you watch a FIFA event you will see exactly the same high quality pictures.

New services are also added to maintain engagement. This year, for instance, each game was covered with 34 HD cameras, many of which were available as alternative views on tablet apps. 4K, 8K, 360° immersive video and high frame rate capture were also on the Brazil menu.

Accepting the International Honour for Excellence, Ericson said "our deepest thanks go to IBC for this honour and recognition. We look forward to continuing this pioneering work with the broadcast industry as we offer the unique platform of the FIFA World Cup to help drive technology forward."

For more details visit www.abc.org/awards.

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TV is a new game. It's time to play.

Semantic TV comes home

LinkedTV

By **Adrian Pennington**

The big brains at the Fraunhofer Institute have turned their attention to imagining how a converged web search and TV content might be experienced in the living room of the 2020's.

Visitors to the IBC Future Zone can make themselves comfortable in a living room simulation and, while watching a TV programme, explore more information and content about concepts and topics via a companion app. The technology, which makes this programme enhancement possible, is targeted at broadcasters and OTT content providers and runs under the name LinkedTV.

"We will show this for two genres where further information exploration is a typical interest of viewers: a newscast by Rundfunk

Berlin-Brandenburg and a documentary series of the Dutch TV station AVRO," explained Lyndon Nixon of the Institute's Intelligent Analysis and Information Systems (IAIS) department.

"We think that viewer interest is sometimes lost or frustrated because it is not possible to easily find everything we see on TV: how do I Google for the painting I just saw on the wall behind the presenter when I don't know the name of the artwork nor the artist?"

The institute is working with 11 partners from seven countries on the project. Software scans the contents of a show prior to its broadcast via speech analysis and image processing for topic-related content from the web. Since the software provides a great number of unfiltered hits and semantic links, the researchers have developed methods to narrow down the

results according to certain criteria.

"For example, content will be displayed only if it complies with laws for the protection of minors and for which the copyright is no problem," said project manager, Heike Horstmann. The editorial team adds the final touches, checking suggested content for relevance and eliminating any duplications from the hit list.

"Unlike one-size-fits-all second screen enhancements, LinkedTV incorporates viewer profiling to enable personalised enhancements, highlighting concepts they are interested in and adapting the additional information and content to them," said Nixon. The automated LinkedTV workflow permits a lower cost scaling up of TV programme enhancement for broadcasters and OTT providers."

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Full HD camera-mount monitor

Marshall Electronics

By **David Fox**

The new V-LCD71-MD 7-inch monitor from Marshall Electronics is claimed to be the first camera-mount monitor to offer full HD resolution. It uses a high-brightness 700-nit, backlit 1920x1080 LCD panel, and input/output modules that can be easily swapped to give the specific I/O combination users require.

The base model, known as the V-LCD71 MD comes with HDMI input and pass through, while the V-LCD71MD-O** comes with a preinstalled MDO-3G module providing dual 3G-SDI outputs converted from the HDMI input. The V-LCD71MD-



3G includes the base unit with a preinstalled MD-3GE module providing a 3G/HD/SD-SDI input with loop-through.

Features include: a wide variety of formats and markers; waveform display; dual audio bars; front panel headphone output; variable pixel-to-pixel function; and a peaking filter in four colours for easier focus assist. Also new are: multiple DSLR presets; six User presets; adjustable IRE clip guide; and backlight control.

All the new MD series monitors come with an HDCP compliant HDMI input with pass-through, a selection of 10 battery adapters, and a choice of one input or output module.

11.D20

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