Sommer Cable's Cardinal DVM 194 Series, to be featured at ISE 2013 in Amsterdam, promises to serve as an new AV solution for networked conference room settings, at a price point that would also make the components within reach for applications including restaurants, schools, auditoriums or other public venues.

More details from Sommer Cable (www.sommercable.com):

The Cardinal DVM 194 series is a complete device line which has been developed for the requirements in many sectors. It can be used both as a totally closed system and as an open solution with free interfaces.

The series comprises the following devices:

1. Automatic mixing console

This "automatic mix machine" makes the installer's long-cherished dreams come true. Since most operating parameters are fully controllable, an unprecedented degree of automation can be achieved. For instance, the gain and level are adjustable on all channels. And you can also kick in an automatic level control on the microphone channels to keep the level at the desired preset value fully automatically. This allows to operate the system as discussion equipment, too.

There are two mix buses and one docking bus. The docking bus enables a room overlapping connection of several systems, e.g. to make announcements or play background music from a central point or implement a modular room concept.

Just like on the amplifier there is the option to make all settings locally on the device using a high-resolution display with an intuitive menu navigation. The four microphone inputs are additionally equipped with a parametric high-pass filter and a tone control section.

The processor allows users to control the following functions:

- Gain per channel

- Level per channel

- 48V per microphone channel

- Auto control per microphone channel

- Mute function per channel

- Bus assignment per channel

- Docking functionality

- Master level master A and master B

Inputs and outputs:

- 4 x microphone input via Euroblock

- 2 x analogue stereo input via Euroblock

- 1 x digital stereo input, SPDIF via RCA

- 1 x stereo docking input via Euroblock

- 2 x balanced stereo output via Euroblock (Master A, Master B)

- 1 x additional record output (bus level MIX A pre-master) via stereo RCA

- 1 x stereo docking output via Euroblock

2. Media controller

The media controller is the heart of the DVM 194 series, establishing the connectivity for the media and input devices. Via the web user interface instruction macros can be freely defined and entire instruction sequences created. A bi-directional communication with the connected devices is also possible – e.g. the checkback signal from the beamer that the lamp needs to be replaced. Using the integrated relay contacts e.g. a motor-driven canvas, a beamer lift. or the blackout equipment can be controlled. The 12 momentary switch interfaces are equipped with RJ12 connectors and have a freely programmable LED checkback signal.

The following connections are available:

- LAN connection with link output (integrated 2-port switch)

- 4 bi-directional RS232 interfaces

- 12 switch interfaces with LED checkback signal via RJ12 connector

- 4 switching relays (max 48V DC, 5A)

3. HDMI Picture source selector

This tool can route up to four HDMI picture sources to one output and is very different from all low-budget alternatives on the market. For instance, a full integration into the LAN environment and the DVM194 network can be realised. Therefore a total automation through the media controller and thus external momentary switches or e.g. the interactive SYSDESK-IA connection panel is possible without great effort.

The audio signal is gathered from the HDMI data stream and is present in digital form at the SPDIF output.

The device may be directly operated with four buttons plus an LED.

Inputs and outputs:

4 x HDMI input

1 x HDMI output

1 x SPDIF digital audio output

4. Power amplifier

The mini high-performance power amplifier delivers 80 watts into 4 ohm loads (50W @ 8 ohms) and is fully remote-controlled (standby/active, level, high-pass 40/80/160Hz). The operating status is indicated to the LAN (temperature, clip etc). All settings can also be made directly on the device and called up on a high-resolution display with an intuitive menu navigation.

The passive cooling concept is based on class D power amp technology which, owing to its high efficiency, produces almost no waste heat.

Input and output on each channel have Euroblock connections on the rear side.

All devices are fully assimilable into the the Ethernet environment (LAN link out via built-in 100Base-T mini switch) and are based on the same controller platform. The use of variable instruction sets ensures full compatibility with most common devices on the market (also with “large“ media controllers, building technology BUS systems, displays, beamers etc). Set-up can be done quickly without programming skills through a web interface – like e.g. on an internet router at home. A pre-programmed “plug and play“ solution is also available. Via the IP interface maintenance and surveillance can also be remotely controlled, which in case of service will allow a fast and efficient troubleshooting process.

The devices are mechanically fully compatible with the popular SYSBOXX system and will easily slide in here. A 2RU frame will accept up to 4 devices! The voltage supply for all devices is established using 24V DC system power supplies via a 4-pole XLR connection. Those system power supplies can also be mounted easily into the frame as well.