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Pair joins PostWorks

Veterans Houston, Quinn aboard

By Carolyn Giardina

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Veteran innovator Jim Houston has been named senior vp imaging at PostWorks Los Angeles.

Completing the company's new technological leadership team is former Ascent Media Group executive Jeff Quinn, who was named vp engineering.

PostWorks Los Angeles, a postproduction company with the same independent ownership as PostWorks in New York, launched in the fall with a base in Santa Monica. It is constructing a larger base in Santa Clarita, Calif.

Houston began his career at Walt Disney Feature Animation, during which time his involvement in the development of a digital production system for animated features earned him his first Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' Science and Engineering Award in 1992.

More recently, Houston served as head of image quality and digital mastering at Pacific Title and Art Studio, where he was involved in developments including a digital YCM archival separation process which in 2007 earned him his second Sci-Tech Award.

Houston is chairman of AMPAS' Image Interchange Framework Committee, a project of the Academy's Science and Technology Council that aims to improve workflows and color management for digital productions. He also has been a contributor to the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers' standards projects for more than 20 years.

Quinn brings 20 years of experience to his new role, having spent the past 11 years at Ascent Media fulfilling divisional roles of chief engineer, director of engineering and other engineering positions. He was involved in the development of Ascent's 100,000-square-foot Digital Media Data Center in Burbank, which opened in 2006.

On the creative side, PostWorks has added a second colorist, Scott Ostrowsky, who arrives from Complete Post and joins senior colorist Pankaj Bajpai.

Houston said that PostWorks' Santa Clarita facility will include a digital intermediate theater with a 22-foot screen as well as two additional color-correction suites. The facility also will house all infrastructure and will connect to the Santa Monica operations via a high-speed local area network.

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