

Lightworks NLE courses 'back on the menu' at the Short Course Unit of the NFTS

London, August 30th 2004 – Lightworks announces that courses based on its Touch non-linear editing systems are to resume at the Short Course Unit of the National Film and Television School this Autumn.

Deanne Edwards, Director of the National Short Course Training Programme at the NFTS, commented: "The NFTS probably trained the majority of this country's freelance Lightworks editors, and most craft-trained editors have a special affinity for Lightworks, so we're particularly pleased to be able to offer full training and refresher courses on these marvellous systems once again." She pointed out that Paul Bamborough, designer of the original Lightworks system, was a graduate of the NFTS.

The self-funding Short Course Unit at the NFTS started in 1982, specifically to train the UK's predominantly freelance film & TV workforce. It then provided training services on behalf of Lightworks, both at Beaconsfield and at major production centres around the UK, for several years. Edwards observed: "After the unhappy recent history of Lightworks, I was initially apprehensive about the company's acquisition by Gee Broadcast Systems. On meeting Keith Gee, however, I was immediately impressed that here at last was someone who cares about the company; someone we could work successfully with once again."

Edwards met up with Gee in July and they agreed to establish a collaborative partnership, with Lightworks initially supplying two Touch systems for a trainee editors' film course on the FT2 scheme during November 2004. The systems will be used in conjunction with 35mm and 16mm rubber-numbering machines and Steenbecks to take the students through a complete film cutting-room workflow. All being well, Edwards hopes to negotiate the reintroduction of the full range of Lightworks short courses early in 2005.

Keith Gee commented: "We're steadily getting Lightworks back on track now, and reintroducing independent training courses in collaboration with a prestigious establishment like the NFTS can only help restore the company to its hard-won position as the professional editor's favourite."

About Lightworks

Lightworks has been developing and supplying high end editing solutions for the film and broadcast TV industry for over 10 years. The latest product, Lightworks Touch, has already been used around the world on many feature films and TV productions. Lightworks has offices in London, Toronto and Los Angeles. Lightworks UK Ltd was recently formed after the purchase of the Lightworks business by Gee Broadcast Systems Ltd. Gee Broadcast Systems has been supplying products and engineering services to the broadcast industry for 17 years and now also manufactures the Geevs Video Server, which provides integrated, networked, production solutions, together with Lightworks Touch editors.

About the National Film and Television School

Since launching in 1971, The National Film and Television School has turned out numerous world-class film and television practitioners. Its post graduate-post experience courses are the product of a unique partnership between Government and the film and television industry, many of whose members teach on its courses and advise on curriculum development, ensuring that the School stays relevant to the Industry's present and future needs. Among its many distinguished Alumni are award-winning television drama directors David Yates (*State of Play*) and Sarah Gavron (*This Little Life*), controversial documentarist Nick Broomfield (*Aileen: Life and Death of a Serial Killer*), Oscar-nominated cinematographer Roger Deakins (*The Village*, *The Ladykillers*) and the creator of *Wallace and Gromit*, animator Nick Park, CBE. The NFTS is also the home of the renowned National Short Course Training Programme, which specialises in skills upgrading for practising professionals.

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