



Grass Valley HD Equipment Captures the Magic of 78th Academy Awards® Telecast Hollywood's Highest Rated Media Event Employs Multiformat Cameras, Switchers, Servers and Other Production Equipment from Thomson

Paris/Nevada City, Calif., March 7, 2006 — All the glamour and glitz of the 78th Academy Awards® telecast on Sunday, March 5th was broadcast around the world with Grass Valley™ high-definition (HD) equipment from Thomson (Euronext Paris: 18453; NYSE: TMS). This year's production, the fourth HDTV broadcast of the Oscars®, aired live on ABC from the Kodak Theatre, in Hollywood, in the 720p HD format.

As it has for the past 12 years, mobile production faculties were provided by Denali and its NEP Entertainment Group, which operated two of its most sophisticated, all-digital mobile units, "Silver" and "Gold", on site for the main awards presentation show. Both trucks rely heavily Grass Valley multi-format HD production equipment and systems, including HD cameras, switchers, servers, routers and conversion modules.

"Grass Valley production equipment is used throughout the world to bring the highest profile television events to viewers around the world," said Marc Valentin, president of the Grass Valley business within Thomson. "We're proud to be involved once again in the Academy Awards® telecast, bringing the best and brightest of what Hollywood has to offer to viewers in pristine HDTV live."

More than 20 Grass Valley LDK 6000 mk II Worldcam HD cameras were used throughout the Kodak Theatre in connection with Silver and Gold mobile units, along with two Grass Valley Kalypso™ Video Production Center switchers, one handling the 16:9 HD broadcast and the other handling the 4:3 SD show for analog viewers. Both trucks also employed Grass Valley several PVS 2000 HD Profile® XP Media Platform servers, Grass Valley SMS7000 and Concerto™ Series routers, as well as a full complement of Grass Valley Kameleon™ signal processing and conversion modules.

For "Oscar Countdown 2006," the Academy's official pre-show, NEP Supershooter 20 used several Grass Valley LDK 6000 mk II HD cameras and a Kalypso HD switcher. In addition, its SS18 (with Kalypso HD and Worldcam HD cameras) handled the international feed. Both of these rigs include Grass Valley GVEous digital effects units and dozens of Grass Valley 8900 Series conversion modules.

"NEP, Denali and our clients have come to count on the on site engineering support provided by Grass Valley at these high profile events, insuring the

production team's creative visions are implemented flawlessly," said George Hoover, Sr. Vice President, Engineering, NEP Broadcasting, LLC.

For the live stage show inside the Kodak Theatre, video server facilities company ProQue, LLC partners Jon Aroesty and Rick Edwards installed and operated five Grass Valley PVS 2000 HD servers and four PDR 300 MPEG SD servers. All servers were controlled by ProQue's Prodisk proprietary system.

These servers provided random-access playback for the show's pre-taped segments, lower-third graphics, commercials and billboard packages, as well as the dozens of film clips that appeared on screen during the telecast. ProQue has used the Profile server to support both the Academy Awards® and Grammy telecasts each year for the last ten years.

Certain statements in this press release, including any discussion of management expectations for future periods, constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the "safe harbor" of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements are based on management's current expectations and beliefs and are subject to a number of factors and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the future results expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements due to changes in global economic and business conditions, consumer electronics markets, and regulatory factors. More detailed information on the potential factors that could affect the financial results of Thomson is contained in Thomson's filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

About Thomson — Partner to the Media & Entertainment Industries

Thomson (Euronext Paris: 18453; NYSE: TMS) provides technology, systems and services to help its Media & Entertainment clients — content creators, content distributors and users of its technology — realize their business goals and optimize their performance in a rapidly changing technology environment. The Group intends to become the preferred partner to the Media & Entertainment Industries through its Technicolor, Grass Valley, RCA and Thomson brands. For more information: www.thomson.net.

Thomson's **Systems and Equipment** division develops video and film technologies, products and services sold to all major Hollywood studios, all major television, satellite, and cable broadcasters under the **Grass Valley** brand-name for the delivery of analog and digital entertainment. The division also includes Thomson's Broadband Access Products Business, which develops technologies and products for broadband and telecommunication networks to deliver digital entertainment and data to consumers and businesses.

For information about Grass Valley products from Thomson please visit www.thomsongrassvalley.com.