

Bahamian Trained in Advanced Cinematography

Bahamian cinematographer Kevin Kemp is pioneering new trails in preparing for The Bahamas' burgeoning film industry.

Mr. Kemp, who is on staff with the Bahamas Film Commission, recently completed advanced training in Chicago for one of the world's the most specialized digital cameras. The training for operating the Panasonic AJ-HDC27 Varicam came over a three-day period in November under the tutelage of Hollywood's leading cinematographers. The HD EXPO Varicam Workshop was conducted by noted filmmakers such as Bob Primes, who won Emmy awards for his work on the television show, "Felicity." Mr. Primes' other projects include feature films such as "Bird on a Wire" and television shows such as "Thirtysomething" and "Quantum Leap."

"With projects like the upcoming Bahamas International Film Festival, there are some Bahamians who take film seriously and are preparing for the future of digital cinema in the Bahamas," Mr. Kemp said. "I have had a tremendous opportunity to undergo this training. I am not aware of another Bahamian who has been trained in Varicam technology, but I am sure I will not be the last."

Mr. Kemp has challenged himself to help equip other Bahamian cinematographers to operate the Varicam and prepare to work on professional film sets.

"I'm looking forward to educating and working with the new generation of Bahamian filmmakers, especially in the area of commercials, tv-shows, music video, and feature films we can see our culture, food, music, and we tings. HD is here now," he said.

The Panasonic Varicam has a variable frame rate from 4 - 60 frames per second. The variable frame rates and related variable shutter speeds are capable of creating interesting effects, including ghost effects, motion blurs and warp speed zoom effects.

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For further information, please contact:

Clarence Rolle

325 2384

crolle@bahamas.com