



For Immediate Release

Press Release

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An Ergonomic Update For An Industry Workhorse

Scotts Valley, CA (March 27, 2001) - The design of Anritsu's MG8000 series synthesizers presented IDE with the challenge of reaffirming an established and well-known product. From the outset of the project, it was clear that with research and sensitivity to experienced users an improved ergonomic design could be accomplished.

The new front panel designs represent a departure from past instruments by utilizing soft tapering arcs and subtly sloped plateaus to organize the user controls and connectors into easily distinguished areas. It avoids staid and often confusing grid-like solutions so often associated with scientific equipment.

The main visual interface for the user is the LCD. It presents complex graphical data that responds instantly to a change in input. The IDE design team created a visual and tactile hierarchy of button clusters and controls with the display as the focal point. The display, though positioned to the left side of the front panel, is visually balanced by the subtle radiating key cluster plateaus, which transition from one to the another through gentle tapering arcs.

The tactile and sculptural quality of the front panel results in a friendly topographical solution to the organization and hierarchy of the user controls.