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Hi-tech Hardware *Inspires* Churchgoers

by John Quinn

Religious services are taking on a technological look nowadays. A sight and sound trade show held at the Crossroads Centre at 1295 North Service Rd. earlier this week demonstrated how much sermons from the pulpit have advanced.

The trade show, Inspiration '93: Technology and the Arts, demonstrated how audio and visual equipment can enhance the word of God.

Religious groups of all denominations were invited to view the latest equipment, sure to give any audiophile the maximum sound and visual fix. The show was the first of its' kind in North America.

Inspiration '93, which showcased the latest in video walls, sound systems, computers, musical instruments and instrumentation, was organized by AMI® Publishing.

AMI® produces the magazine Religion: Communications for Worship, a guide for buyers of sound and vision products. The magazine's publisher, Shelagh Rogers, was impressed by the number of groups who pre-

registered for exhibits, seminars and concert series.

Lots of Interest In Show

"There has been an incredible interest in the show. We really didn't expect this kind of response," she said. "It's only a North American event right now, but we would like it to be a world-wide event."

The full range of seminars dealt with sound system component analysis, setup, and how to combine technology and religion.

The concert series involved prominent Christian bands who used the new technology to demonstrate the optimum clarity provided by today's sound and vision equipment.

Top product designers and manufacturers of modern technology, like Sony, JVC, Sennheiser and BOSE, exhibited a wide array of sound system and computer components.

BOSE's demo room gave spare time and full time audiologists the opportunity to sample the hair-raising full frequency response of modern loud-speaker systems. ◆