

# Multichannel News

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## Anixter's Cable R&D Lab Moves Operation to Denver

By CATHERINE STRATTON

**D**ENVER — Anixter Brothers Inc. is moving its cable TV research-and-development laboratory here from Seattle, the company said last week. As part of a consolidation of the Seattle lab operations, that facility will be groomed to test only non-CATV technology, according to Anixter.

Dean DeBiase, vice president of new business development, said the new Denver facility will house 40-50 staff members along with a lab and a sales and marketing division. An undetermined number of staff members will be transferred from Seattle, he said, with other positions to be filled by new employees.

The sales and marketing division will be operating by the end of February, according to Mr. DeBiase, while the lab, though fully wired, will not be operational until spring.

"The Denver lab is going to focus on new technologies that apply to cable TV," he said. Mr. DeBiase indicated the lab would focus on fiber optic AM and FM and broadband technology. Other undisclosed projects, are also on the slate, he said.

The lab will test both outside and in-house technology, including active and passive distribution equipment and the components and cabling that accompany the equipment, Anixter said. Also, the lab will test 1-GHz platform development, laser link systems, connector development, and basic fiber development, he explained.

Anixter will join forces with AT&T in the lab when testing fiber optic technologies, particularly the Anixter laser link systems. Mr. DeBiase also noted that Anixter will be working with Synchronous Communications Inc. on FM fiber optic technologies.

The Denver facility will house AT&T sales support staff to facilitate coordination of its products, Mr. DeBiase said. (Anixter is the exclusive marketer of all AT&T fiber optic equipment to CATV interests.) In the new Denver facility, Gene Robinson will head the sales department as executive vice president of national accounts, while the lab will be headed by Gaylord Hart. Mr. DeBiase said an informal open house will be held at the new facility in the near future. The facility's budget is still undetermined, he said, adding that a significant part of Anixter's 1989 budget will be allocated to R&D. ■

**"We don't want our R&D lab to operate in a vacuum. We intend to be hands-on, directing our engineers' talents into product development that is in step and in tune with cable operators."**

**Dean DeBiase,  
Anixter Corp.**