

A SERIES OF SEVEN PAPERS ON STANDARDS AND STANDARDIZATION

Report of the Standards Committee By GLENN L. DIMMICK

This report describes the activities of the SMPTE Standards Committee with an analysis of product emphasis presently existing in Standardization

DURING the period from January 1, 1956, to April 29, 1957, 49 separate Standardizing actions were originated in the SMPTE Engineering Committees and are in various stages leading to final approval as ASA Standards. It is the purpose of this brief report to classify these actions in two ways.

First, the actions will be broken down in the number originated by each Engineering Committee to indicate those that are still in Committee, those that are in process of becoming Standards, and those that are approved ASA Standards. A second way of classifying the various standardizing actions is to indicate the number that have been originated in relation to different kinds of equipment and processes used in the motion-picture industry.

Of the 49 separate standardizing actions, 14 were originated by the Sound Committee under the chairmanship of L. D. Grignon. Five of these are still in the Engineering Committee, 5 are in process of becoming Standards, and 4 have been approved as ASA Standards.

Eleven standardizing actions originated in the 16- and 8mm Committee under the chairmanship of R. E. Birr. Four of these are in the Engineering Committee, 4 are in process of becoming Standards, and 3 have been approved as ASA Standards.

Eight standardizing actions originated in the Film Dimensions Committee under the chairmanship of W. G. Hill. Four of these are in the process of becoming Standards and 4 have been approved as ASA Standards.

Seven standardizing actions originated

in the Film Projection Practice Committee under the chairmanship of Willy Borberg. Six of these are in process of becoming ASA Standards, and one has been approved as an ASA Standard.

Four standardizing actions originated in the Laboratory Practice Committee under the chairmanship of Vaughn C. Shaner. Two of these are in the Engineering Committee, and 2 are in the process of becoming ASA Standards.

Two standardizing actions originated in the Television Committee under the chairmanship of T. Gentry Veal. Both actions are still in the Engineering Committee.

One standardizing action originated in the Screen Brightness Committee under the chairmanship of Fred J. Kolb. This action is still in the Engineering Committee.

One standardizing action originated in the High-Speed Photography Committee under the chairmanship of R. O. Painter. This action is in the process of becoming an SMPTE Recommended Practice.

One standardizing action originated in the Color Committee under the chairmanship of J. Paul Weiss. This action is still in the Engineering Committee.

To summarize, 9 of the 13 Engineering Committees were responsible for originating the 49 standardizing actions. Within the period noted above, this resulted in 12 approved ASA Standards. Twenty-two more have passed the Engineering Committee action and are in the process of becoming ASA Standards. Fifteen are still in Engineering Committees.

It is of interest to know the degree of emphasis that has been placed on various kinds of equipment in originating the actions leading to standardization.

Twelve of the 49 standardizing actions had to do with sound. Three of these

related to optical sound systems and 9 to magnetic sound systems.

Ten of the standardizing actions had to do with projectors. Six of these related to 35mm projectors, 2 to 16mm projectors, and 2 to 8mm projectors.

Eight standardizing actions had to do with film dimensions. Four of these related to 35mm film, 2 to 32mm film, and 2 to 16mm film.

Eight standardizing actions had to do with cameras. One of these related to high-speed cameras, one to 35mm cameras, 3 to 16mm cameras, and 3 to 8mm cameras.

There were also these standardizing actions: 4 to do with screens; 3 to do with test film; 2 to do with printers; and 1 each to do with safety film and with density measurements on color film.

From the above it may be seen that the Sound Committee is the most active committee at the present time and that two-thirds of this activity is centered upon magnetic sound systems. It also appears that the greatest standardizing activity relates to 4 kinds of equipment, i.e., sound, projectors, film and cameras.

In concluding this report I would like to thank Peggy Legakis for her valuable assistance in supplying the data from the SMPTE records.

Discussion

Ellis W. D'Arcy (D'Arcy Magnetic Products, Inc.): Has there been any activity on magnetic video recording standardization?

Mr. Dimmick: There has been no standardization activity in video recording; however, in view of the work that is going on in both photographic and magnetic video recording, I would expect committee action in the near future.

T. Gentry Veal (Eastman Kodak Co.): At the committee meeting in Hollywood last year, Axel Jensen and several others were wondering whether this was a matter for the SMPTE, RETMA, NARTB or several of the other societies. The tentative plan was to form a committee made up of one member from each of the various societies to decide how this should be handled.

Mr. Dimmick: We hope that this committee is formed and that it takes effective action to assure that there will be appropriate standards covering the important field of magnetic video recording.

Presented on April 28, 1957, at the Society's Convention at Washington, D.C., by Glenn L. Dimmick, Chairman of SMPTE Standards Committee, Bldg. 10-8, Radio Corp. of America, Camden 2, N.J.

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