semiconductor industry offer potential for improvements in both quality and cost. He concluded his presentation with a demonstration of the company's video compression technologies.

Terry Snazel, TSN Enterprises, presented a paper entitled "Video Compression from the Perspective of a National Sports Network." He examined the current status of the development of video compression systems and provided a speculative view of the potential applications of the technology and gave a description of a proposed operating model for a compressed video television delivery system. The SkyPix proposal was cited as offering customers 80 to 100 different television channels using 10 satellite transponders, which are directed to and priced in accordance with the consumer market.

The benefits of video compression were outlined, and it was shown that a standard, uncompressed digital television picture requires 140 Mbit/sec delivery rate while the newer technology requires in the order of 4 to 8 Mbit/sec delivery rates, when compressed. A description of intraframe compression and dealing with spatial components of the picture was provided, as was a discussion of interframe compression in the temporal domain.

Snazel noted that his company's requirements were very demanding in light of the motion requirements of sports. He concluded the presentation with a video of a wide variety of manufacturers' compression schemes, which gave the audience an opportunity to visualize the impairments and the relative merits of each particular technology. – C. Peter Laidlaw (Secretary/Treasurer), Imagineering Ltd.

Tom Scott, LucasArts Entertainment Co. (left), demonstrating the company's new technologies to members of the San Francisco Section.

Engineering News

Committee Information

SMPTE Engineering Committees meet to develop standards, practices, and engineering guidelines and to review existing documents to ensure that they are current with established engineering practices and are compatible with international standards.

Membership is open to those who have affirmed in writing that they are directly and/or materially affected and are willing and able to participate actively in the work.

Individuals interested in contributing to committee work should contact the SMPTE Engineering Dept. at SMPTE Headquarters, (914) 761-1100.

SMPTE Monthly Engineering Meeting Schedule

The adjacent calendar shows the dates and times of upcoming meetings and the cities where they will be held. Those requesting additional information on participation in these meetings should contact the Engineering Dept. at SMPTE Headquarters, (914) 761-1100.

March			
2 Mon.	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	WG on ½-in. Composite Format V16.05 (K. Sadashige)	Sony Broadcast Montvale, N. J.
2 Mon.	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	S17 Subgroups	Sony Broadcast Montvale, N. J.
3 Tues.	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	S17 Subgroups	Sony Broadcast Montvale, N. J.
3 Tues.	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	WG on D-1 and D-2 Applications V16.03 (B. Weber)	Sony Broadcast Montvale, N. J.
3 Tues.	1:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	TV Rec. and Repro. Tech. V16 (T. Cavanagh)	Sony Broadcast Montvale, N. J.
4 Wed.	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	TV Signal Technology S17 (W. Nichols)	Sony Broadcast Montvale, N. J.
4 Wed.	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	P18 Subgroups	Sony Broadcast Montvale, N. J.
5 Thurs.	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	P18 Subgroups	Sony Broadcast Montvale, N. J.
6 Fri.	9:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	TV Production Technology P18 (M. Weiss)	Sony Broadcast Montvale, N. J.