

# First SMPTE European Conference Launched In Cologne, Germany

By Lynette Robinson

Members of the SMPTE German Section, assisted by European members of the SMPTE, successfully launched the First SMPTE European Conference in Cologne, Germany, September 18 to 20, during the biannual Photokina exhibit.

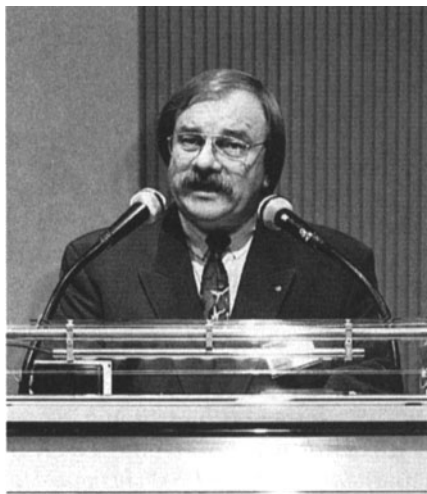
Two years ago, the idea of the SMPTE producing a conference in Europe was discussed by members representing the four SMPTE European sections: Nordic, German, Italian, and Russian. At that time, German Section Chairman Rolf Hengstler and German Section Secretary/Treasurer Rolf von Kaldenberg volunteered to head the committee responsible for facilities and program content, with representatives from the other three European sections assisting. The Cologne Trade Fair offered the use of its facilities during Photokina — the World's Fair of Imaging Systems, and the planning began. What resulted was an excellent technical program, held in state-of-the-art facilities, attended by over 200 registered people from 27 nations.

The program, "Film and Television — Ways to the Year 2000," had its opening ceremony on Friday, September 18, with Conference Chairman Rolf Von Kaldenberg officially welcoming the attendees to this historic event. SMPTE President-elect Irwin W. Young, Du Art Film and Video, briefly described the Society's history and growth in the areas of standardization, technical programs, conferences, and education during its 75 years. The program and its contents were briefly described by Program Chairman Rolf Hengstler.

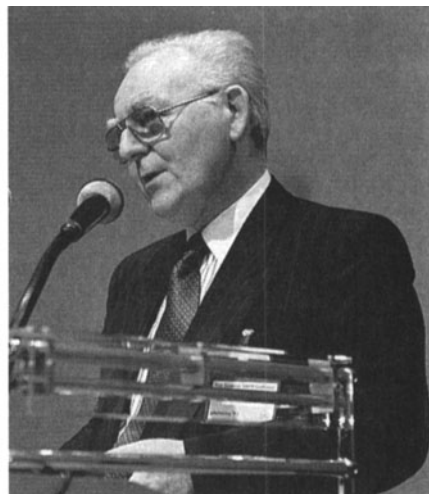
SMPTE Italian Section Secretary/Treasurer Angelo D'Alessio, BTS Italy, acted as Chairman of Session 1: Perspectives of Development for Film and Television in an Extended Europe. Papers presented in this session were: *Broadcasting in New Europe*, by George Waters, EBU; *Motion Pictures and the New Horizon*, by Brad Hunt, Eastman Kodak Co.; *Trends in Program*

*Production in Television*, by Francesco Pinto, RAI; *Archival Storage of Audio-Visual Media*, by Harald Brandes, Bundesarchiv Koblenz; *New Methods for Film Presentation: Back to the Future*, by Mats Kullander, AB Swedish Film Industry; *Electronic Post-Production of Films*, by Tomas Dyfverman, Profilm Company AB; and *Technology and the Future of Editing*, by Paul Bamborough, O.L.E.

On Saturday, September 19, Session 2: Digital Imaging and Data Reduction: Application in Television, was chaired by Jurgen Heitmann, BTS, Germany. This session included *New VTR Formats Using Data Reduction*, by David Creed, Kozo Kaminaga, and Motoharu Suda, Sony Corp.; *New Generation Codecs for the Transmission of High-Quality Television and HDTV Signals*, by Yves-Marie Pannerer, Thomson



Conference Chairman Rolf von Kaldenberg addressing attendees at the First SMPTE European Conference.



George Waters presenting a paper during Session 1: Perspectives of Development for Film and Television in an Extended Europe.



SMPTE German Section Chairman Rolf Hengstler, program chairman of the event, describing the content of the conference.



SMPTE Executive Vice-President Irwin Young discussing the Society's history and growth during its 75 years.



From left to right: SMPTE Italian Section Secretary/Treasurer Angelo D'Alessio, George Waters, Program Chairman Rolf Hengstler, and SMPTE Executive Vice-President Irwin Young during the opening session of the First SMPTE European Conference.

Broadcast; *Video Compression and Transmission: From Contribution to Secondary Distribution*, by Marzio Barbero, RAI; *Imaging: Communication and Processing for Pictures — State, Developments, and Trends*, by Detlef Kromker, Fraunhofer-Institut für Graphische Datenverarbeitung; *The Application of Data Reduction for Professional Television*, by Michael Croll, BBC; *Bit-Rate Reduction for Professional HDTV Recording*, by Marcel Breeuwer, Philips Components; *Image-Coding — A Key Technology for Communication, Multimedia, and Broadcasting*, by Ralf Schafer, HHI; and *A Practical Electronic System for Film Opticals*, by Peter Owen, Quantel.

Session 3: From 16:9 to HDTV Production and Presentation, was held on Saturday afternoon. The session, chaired by Per Appelquist, SVT, Sweden, featured the following papers: *How a 625/50 Production Studio Can Be Adopted to Work in an Aspect Ratio 16:9*, by Hans K. Heber, ZDF; *HDTV Production Situation and Perspectives*, by Roberto Cecatto, RAI; *The Use of Super 16 to Produce 16:9 Programs for Television from a Cinematographer's Point of View*, by Rune Ericson, Consultant; *Considerations in the Use of Super 16 Film for the Production of Wide Screen Television Programming*, by Brad Hunt, Eastman Kodak Co.; *Progress in High-Performance Telecines*, by

Dieter Poetsch, BTS; *Tape-to-Film Transfer — The High-Definition Digital EBR System*, by Milan Krsljanin, Sony Corp.; and *Vision 1250 — The European Strategic Approach to an HDTV Global System*, by Franco Visintin, RAI.

On Sunday, September 20, Session 4: Digital Audio New Developments for Sound in Film and Television was chaired by Leo Danilenko, WDR, Germany, and included the following presentations: *Digital Multichannel Sound Synchronous to the HDTV Picture*, by Jurgen Heuer, WDR; *5-Channel (3/2) Stereophony, a New Sound System — Not for HDTV Only*, by Gerhard Steinke, Audio Consultant; *Multichannel Sound for the Consumer — Current Practice and a Proposal for the Future*, by Graham Carter, Dolby Laboratories; *The Future of Cinema Sound is Digital* by Elisabeth Lochen, L.C. Concept; *Modular DSP-Based Time-Domain Audio Signal Processing Devices*, by Boris G. Belkin, Michael G. Gordon, and Y. Baryshnenkov, Cinema and Photo Research Institute (NIKFI); *Summary of the Development and Operation of the Digital Multisound System, NICAM 728, for Use in PAL B and G Systems for Television*, by Per Appelquist, SVT; *Flexible Use of Bit Rates in CDE-1 for Flexible Software Application*, by Guido Korff, Philips Components; and *Efforts to Establish an OD-Format*

as Standard for Digital Audio Recording, by Stefani Renner and Dieter Michel, Audio Consultants.

### Social Events

Social events during the conference included a Friday evening reception and buffet, with guest speaker Martin Wiebel, head of the TV Drama Department, WDR. The function, which featured an array of German foods, was courtesy of the Cologne Trade Fair. On Saturday evening, registrants were invited to an HDTV screening party and reception, courtesy of Vision 1250 and the Cologne Trade Fair.

### Special Thanks and Recognition

Special thanks are made to the following, who gave of their time and expertise to make this First SMPTE European Conference the success it was: Conference Chairman Rolf von Kaldenberg, Germany; Program Chairman Rolf Hengstler, Germany; Program Vice-Chairman, Motion Pictures, Bengt Orhall, Sweden; Program Vice-Chairman, Television, Paolo Zaccarian, Italy; Audio-Visual Manager, Lothar Sander, Germany; Public Relations/Publications Manager, Fred Morre, Germany; Conference Assistants, Marianne Horlein, Birgit von Kaldenberg, and Alexa P. von Kaldenberg; and Heinz Olberg and the Cologne Trade Fair for providing the facilities and support for the conference.