

# President's Acceptance Speech

By Irwin W. Young, SMPTE President

Members of the Society and Friends:

With a deep commitment to the aims and goals of this Society, I accept this honor and responsibility.

After many months of seeing and hearing political rhetoric in our media, I find it difficult to use the word "change." To my mind, in the world of politics change is merely changing one pair of dirty diapers for another, but in our world, the technology of moving images is forever changing and, as technology progresses, change accelerates. We have seen this evolution bring us movies, television, high-definition television, and computer imaging. We are now entering into the magical world of digital imaging, which brings to us new terminology, such as:

- *Interoperability.* The issue of exchanging digital representations of high-resolution images between different users and applications with minimum degradation of image quality.

- *Scalability.* The concept that an imaging system can deal with a hierarchy of spatial resolutions, temporal rates, and image aspect ratios by varying the amount of data that is stored, transmitted, received, or displayed up

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Text of acceptance speech delivered by incoming President Irwin W. Young, Du Art Film Laboratories, Inc., at the 134th SMPTE Technical Conference in Toronto, Ont., Canada, November 10-13, 1992. Copyright © 1993 by the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, Inc.



to the maximum resolution that was originally required.

- *Extensibility.* The approach to imaging standards where advances in technology allow imaging systems to evolve without the need to discard existing products that conform to the basic requirements of the imaging hierarchy.

We will have to define a digital imaging architecture to properly interrelate the different technologies of the moving image. New technologies in a changing and more open world bring new challenges to the Society. How well we integrate new technologies into our Society could well determine our future.

The Society's membership has also changed. Today, 27% of our members, as well as 9 of our 27

sections, reside outside the U.S. Our membership growth has been primarily in our international sections. We have truly become an international Society, unique in this political world, where our allegiance as members is to the advancement in theory and practice of the technology we serve.

It is often said that there is nothing permanent except change, but the art of progress is to preserve order amid change and to preserve change amid order. It is our responsibility as a Society to insure the progress of the technologies we serve. This can only be done by adhering to the basic goals and objectives of the Society.