

News



Adam Schadle addressing the January meeting of the San Francisco Section.

had been shown at the SMPTE 134th Technical Conference, which was held in Toronto, and some footage shot recently in San Francisco using a Betacam with an anamorphic lens. He also demonstrated bit-rate reductions from 2:1 to 4:1 and multiple-generation machine-to-machine dubs to 80 generations, the results being virtually transparent. Schadle outlined the costs, size, and stability advantages of ATV, which provides satisfactory resolution without making much of today's equipment obsolete. He announced that Sony will soon market a computer that will transfer D-2 to 4:2:2 digital.

The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session, which sparked a sometimes heated discussion of standards, both present and future, i.e., 13.5 MHz versus 18 MHz, and clarification of digital audio specs. — Richard LeForge (Secretary/ Treasurer), Consultant.

Washington, D.C., February 18, 1993 — Over 40 people attended the February meeting, which took place at the Merrifield studio facility of Media General Cable. Media General passes to more than 300,000 homes, two-thirds of which subscribe to their services. Michael Nelson was the host of the meeting.

Nelson and George Weisley presented in detail the philosophy behind the design of the dual head-end system. Each diversely located head end contributes 60 channels that are brought to baseband and frame-synchronized to a single reference before distribution.

Following a lively question-and-answer session, the staff conducted tours of their production and head-end facilities. Refreshments were also provided. — Bruce Miller (Manager), Capital Cities/ABC.

SMPTE President Irwin Young, DuArt Film Labs, will be the guest speaker at the 25th Equipment Exhibition of Motion Pictures and Television. The conference, sponsored by the Motion Picture and Television Engineering Society of Japan, will take place from May 19 to 21, 1993, at the Nippon Convention Center, which is also referred to as Makuhari Messe. The event will include exhibitions of developments, special screenings of award-winning films and TV programs, demonstrations of 3-D HDTV, and a workshop on lighting fundamentals.

The Post Experience, a comprehensive and educational multimedia seminar that was developed by the SMPTE Toronto Section, will be offered on June 5 as part of the 10th Annual ShowBiz Expo, which will take place at the Los Angeles Convention Center from June 5 to 7, 1993.

The one-day seminar, which premiered in March of 1992 as a Toronto Section Workshop, was such an outstanding success, it was later repeated as part of the 134th SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit in Toronto. The session uses multimedia presentations and entertaining audience participation, and includes presentations by leading editors, technicians, and other experts in post-production to educate the audience on virtually every aspect of the post-production process, including sound editing, Foley artistry, automated dialogue replacement, film-to-tape transfers, music scoring, off- and on-line editing, special effects, and international standards and distribution.

"The Post Experience is an invaluable seminar for anyone in motion-picture and television production who is not intimately familiar with the current post-production process," said Program Chairman Harvey Rogers, YTV. "This seminar provides a rare overview of the current technology and methods used by the post-production community." The upcoming session will include presentations by Michael Beard, YTV; Ellen Heine, Adcom/Epix; and Bob Predovich, Masters Workshop. In addition, the event will get full support from the SMPTE Hollywood Section.

The Post Experience was most recently presented to the National Film Board of Canada on March 29 in conjunction with the SMPTE Montreal Section; plans are under way for its presentation at future industry conferences and events.

For more information on Showbiz Expo, contact Mary Harris at Live Time, Inc., 2122 Hillhurst Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90027.

The International Workshop on HDTV '93 will take place October 26 to 28, 1993, at the Congress Centre, in Ottawa, Ont., Canada. The event is being jointly sponsored by the SMPTE; the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers; The European Association for Signal Processing; The Institute of Television Engineers of Japan; The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers of Japan; and the Communications Society, Circuits and Systems Society.

The objective of the international workshop is to provide a forum for discussion on new technologies and applications for HDTV, 3-D TV, super-high resolution, and other advanced television systems. Areas of interest include coding methods for digital transmission/distribution, VLSI for HDTV application, standardization and compatibility issues, and hardware implementation of codecs. For more information, contact Metin Akgun, Communications Research Centre, 3701 Carling Ave., P.O. Box 11490, Station H, Ottawa, Ont., Canada K2H 8S2.

ITEC '93: 1993 ITE Annual Convention will take place July 21 to 23, 1993, at Science University Tokyo, it was announced by The Institute of Television Engineers of Japan. The program will cover theory, experiments, and applications related to image electronics, broadcast technology, and image information engineering. Presentations are expected to cover such subjects as CATV image information, applied imaging technology, studio equipment, optical fiber transmission, and information pickup technology. For more information, contact ITE: The Institute of Television Engineers of Japan (Television Gakkai), Kikai-Shinko Bldg., Rm. 209, 5-8 Shibakoen 3-Chome, Minato-Ku, Tokyo 105, Japan.

Fuji Photo Film U.S.A., Inc., has announced that construction has been completed on a VHS-format videotape factory located in Greenwood, S.C. The state-of-the-art plant, the largest and highest capacity manufacturing facility of its type in North America, and one of the largest in the world, has now entered full production. Although the plant has

been producing videotape in limited quantities since November of 1991, the installation and testing of the facility's double-coated videotape manufacturing line was recently completed.

IBM Corp. and R/Greenberg Associates are jointly developing advanced digital image production techniques for the IBM Power Visualization System (PVS). The PVS is a supercomputer-strength parallel-processing visualization system that can perform up to 2.5 billion operations per second, with very high speed capabilities that optimize image-handling capabilities.

The principal goal is to create a software environment that can satisfy image production needs for a wide span of broadcasting, entertainment, film, print media, and advertising users.

The new digital film and production environment will be resolution independent, meaning it will be able to accommodate the visual information standards of these diverse industries, all of which are evolving their own sophisticated

imaging tools. Both companies hope to simplify the picture as a result of their efforts by providing a new, common environment.

Richard Stumpf has been promoted to senior vice-president of engineering and development for Universal Studios. Stumpf, who is a 25-year veteran of the company, will be working closely with Joerg Agin, senior vice-president, new technology and business development, and Dan Slusser, senior vice-president and general manager.



Elizabeth A. Cohen, Cohen Acoustical Inc., served as chairperson of the Audio Engineering Society's (AES) 1993 session on Architectural Acoustics, which took place in Berlin. Cohen presented a paper entitled "Acoustics for Projection

Rooms," which delved into acoustic design issues for both commercial and home-projection booths, including sound isolation, mechanical noise control, port design, multimedia expansion, and floor, ceiling, and wall design. Examples of industry-standard, home, and commercial projection rooms were used to illustrate the presentation. The AES Conference took place March 16 to 20.

Daniel W. Castles has been appointed vice-president of Tektronix, Inc.'s, television product's independent business division. Castles, who has been with Tektronix since 1978, has held several operational and management positions, including controller and manufacturing manager. Since 1988, he has served as general manager of television products.



Calendar

June

10th Annual ShowBiz Expo, Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, Calif. Info: Live Time, Inc., 2122 Hillhurst Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90027. *June 5-7, 1993.*

18th International Television Symposium and Technical Exhibition, Montreux, Switzerland. Info: Montreux International Television Symposium and Technical Exhibition, P.O. Box 97, Rue du Théâtre 5, Montreux 1820, Switzerland. *June 10-15, 1993.*

APRS 93: International Exhibition of Sound Recording Equipment and Services, Olympia 2, London, England. Info: Conference Organizer, Association of Professional Recording Services (APRS), 2 Windsor Sq., Silver St., Reading, Berk. RG1 2TH, England. *June 23-25, 1993.*

July

6th Annual International TeleProduction Society (ITS) Forum and Exhibition, Beverly Hilton Hotel, Los Angeles,

Calif. Info: Jessica Josell, Josell Communications, 185 West End Ave., Suite 22C, New York, NY 10023-5539. *July 8-12, 1993.*

ITEC '93: 1993 ITE Annual Convention, Science University, Tokyo, Japan. Info: Television Gakkai, ITE: The Institute of Television Engineers of Japan, Kikai-Shinko Bldg., Rm. 209, 5-8, Shibakoen 3-Chome, Minato-Ku, Tokyo 105, Japan. *July 21-23, 1993.*

August

ACM Siggraph '93 Exhibition and Conference, Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, Calif. Info: Hall-Erickson, Inc., SIGGRAPH '93, 150 Burton Ave., Clarendon Hills, IL 60514. *August 1-6, 1993.*

October

International Workshop on HDTV '93, Congress Centre, Ottawa, Ont., Canada. Info: Metin Akgun, Communications Research Centre, 3701 Carling Ave., P.O. Box 11490, Station H, Ottawa, Ont. K2H 8S2, Canada. *October 26-28, 1993.*

Future SMPTE Conferences

SMPTE All-Day Tutorial, Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, Calif. Info: SMPTE, 595 W. Hartsdale Ave., White Plains, NY 10607. *October 29, 1993.*

135th SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit, Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, Calif. Info: SMPTE, 595 W. Hartsdale Ave., White Plains, NY 10607. *October 30-November 2, 1993.*

1994 Advanced Television and Electronic Imaging Conference, Chicago Downtown Marriott, Chicago, Ill. *February 4-5, 1994.*

136th SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit, Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, Calif. Info: SMPTE, 595 W. Hartsdale Ave., White Plains, NY 10607. *October 13-16, 1994.*

1995 Advanced Television and Electronic Imaging Conference, St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco, Calif. *February 10-11, 1995.*

1996 Advanced Television and Electronic Imaging Conference, Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Seattle, Wash. *February 2-3, 1996.*