

# Section Meetings

## San Francisco July 25, 1996

More than 70 members and guests met at Silicon Graphics in Mountain View, Calif., to hear several speakers discuss a variety of subjects. John Streets, Merlin Engineering Works, demonstrated a device to keep the lens of a tiny television camera clean during auto races. The device advances a clean film filter in front of the lens at 60-sec intervals. Then Klaus Eichstadt, EVS Broadcast Equipment, Liege, Belgium, and Merlin Engineering Works, demonstrated the RAM disc recorder that NBC used for slow-motion replays at the Olympics in Atlanta, Ga. The RAM disc compresses video before writing it into memory and decompresses it during read-out. A 20-min capacity is thus realized.

Next, the main topic of the evening, the digital videocassette (DVC), was introduced by Section Manager and Meeting Coordinator Peter Hammar, Hammar Communications. Howard Kirsch, JVC,

gave a presentation about the three current implementations of the format, using his company's high-resolution LCD projector to display his laptop computer graphics. He then showed a 4:1:1 digital camera/recorder that was slightly larger than a hand-held audiocassette player. Gary Youngs, Panasonic, helped Kirsch field a variety of questions from the audience.

Adam Wilt, Pinnacle Systems, demonstrated the Sony DVCam and compared using it to Hi-8mm and BetaCam in making industrial videos. He showed examples and A/B comparisons of each. Wilt predicted that the digital videocassette format, with the support of more than 50 manufacturers, is going to be much more than just a top-of-the-line consumer format.

The meeting was followed by more than an hour of hands-on operation of the hardware by those in attendance. Kirsch also showed JVC's new Digital-S machine with full 4:2:2 processing. — Charles Hintz (Chair), KTVU

## SECTION CALENDAR

### Toronto

For further information contact Promotions Adviser Brad Fortner, Rogers Communications Centre, Ryerson Polytechnic University, Tel: (416) 237-0625, Fax: (416) 979-5203, e-mail: bfortner@acs.ryerson.ca

- Dates for future meetings:
- November 12, 1996
- December 10, 1996
- January 14, 1997
- February 11, 1997
- March 11, 1997
- April 15, 1997
- May 13, 1997
- June 10, 1997

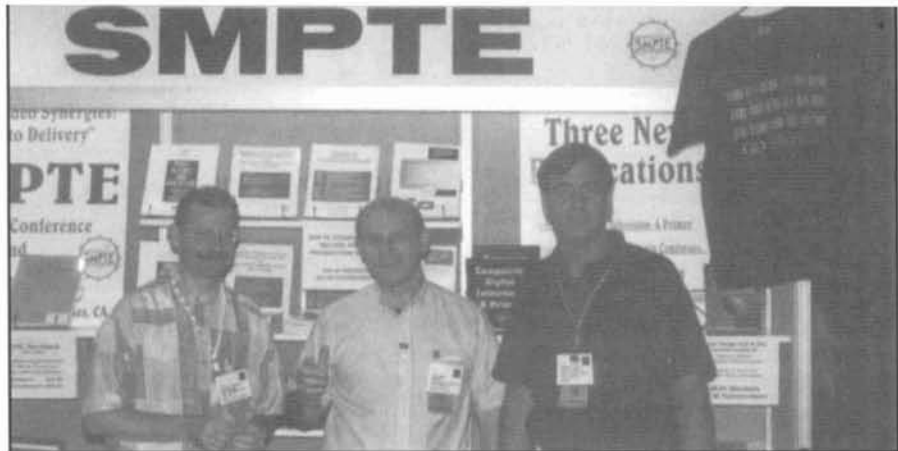
To publicize your Section events, please send announcements to SMPTE Headquarters, 595 W. Hartsdale Ave., White Plains, NY 10607, tel: (914) 761-1100, fax: (914) 761-1100, e-mail edit@smpte.org. Information must be received by the 15th of the second month preceding issue date (e.g., October 15th for December issue).

# News

## SMPTE at SIGGRAPH

The Society had an opportunity to exhibit at Siggraph '96, which was held August 4 to 9, 1996, at the New Orleans Convention Center in Louisiana. Many of SMPTE's new publications were on display and available for sale, including *Digital Image and Audio Communications*, written by SMPTE President Stanley N. Baron, NBC.

**Made to Measure 96: Digital Television** will be held November 6 to 8, 1996, at the Petit Palais, Montreux, Switzerland. This seminar, which is being organized by the IAB and the EBU in cooperation with the DVB Project, the SMPTE, and the University of Braunschweig, is designed for users, broadcasters, and production people, as well as research institutes and manufacturers. The program will begin on Wednesday afternoon, November 6, with a welcoming address from George Waters, EBU. Professor Ulrich Reimers, University of Braunschweig, will present the keynote speech. Papers presented during the course of the seminar will look at



From left to right, SMPTE Conference Vice-President Ed Hobson, President Stan Baron, and Executive Director Fred Molts pose for pictures in front of the SMPTE Store/Membership Services booth at Siggraph '96, in New Orleans.

such issues as digital origination and transmission. For further information about registration, contact J. J. Peters or P. MacAvock, European Broadcasting Union, Ancienne Route 17A, 1218-Grand Saconnex, Geneva, Switzerland, tel: +44

22 717 21 11, fax: +41 22 717 27 10; or Aleksander Todorovic or Heather Fraser, International Academy of Broadcasting, 11 avenue Florimont, CH-1820 Montreux, Switzerland, tel: +44 21 961 16 60, fax: +41 21 961 16 65.