

Engineering News

New Working Groups Formed

M21.21, Working Group on Content Formatting and Authoring, is examining the development of an infrastructure where the process of authoring and formatting will enable creative control of original program elements by utilizing the attributes in multimedia platforms. The group will examine existing formatting, processes, and draft standards to link program elements and creative authoring.

V16.08, Working Group on 6.35mm Compressed Data Component Digital Video Recording Format, will define all recording parameters to ensure interchangeability and provide sufficient technical details on the data compression algorithm.

V16.07, Working Group on Archival Storage of Magnetic Media Used in Television Recording, held its first meeting. The stated objective is to prepare a television archival standard for medium- and extended-term storage of magnetic media on which television records/data of permanent value have been recorded.

Engineering Meeting Schedule

October

9 Wed.	Committee on Film Technology Committee on Laboratory Practices (combined meeting)	Hyatt Regency Los Angeles, Calif.
30 Wed.	AHG on Audio Prod/Post Prgm. A12.68 (M. Strong)	Disney Studios Burbank, Calif.

December

2-6 Mon.-Fri.	P18/S17/PT21/M21 and subgroups	Hewlett-Packard Santa Clara, Calif.
9-11 Mon.-Wed.	V16 and subgroups	Dolby Laboratories San Francisco, Calif.
11 Wed.	AHG on Audio Prod/Post Prgm. A12.68 (M. Strong)	Disney Studios Burbank, Calif.

New Products

Cameras

Rollei fototechnic and HP Marketing Corp. have developed the **Rollei 6003 Professional 6 x 6 cm system camera**. Among its features are spot and multiple zone metering, 1/3-step increments for apertures and shutter speeds, manual metering, 2 frame/sec motor drive, and drop-in insert film loading. There is also a check control finder display with LED indicators for state of battery charge, change of film speed, change of exposure compensation, and operating error read-out.

Computer Equipment

The **Oxygen 102 graphics accelerator card for personal computers** is new from Dynamic Pictures, Inc. The card is targeted for such markets as animation, visualization, and CAD/CAM, and it accelerates all OpenGL and Heidi-based applications. The Oxygen 102 is driven by Dynamic Pictures' Oxygen chip, a next-generation, integrated 3-D graphics rendering and texturing processor. This graphics engine accelerates such high-end graphics capabilities as Gouraud shading, texture mapping, anti-aliasing, image scaling, atmospheric effects, transparency, and alpha buffering. Supported monitor resolutions

range from 640 x 480 to 1600 x 1200, refresh rates from 60 to 75 Hz, and color depths from 8 to 32 bits/pixel.

Control Systems

The **OpTex mini pan and tilt system** from OpTex consists of a digital data control system, environmental housing, pan and tilt head, and 3:1 miniature motorized zoom lens. The system has been designed to accommodate the full remote control of pan, tilt, zoom, focus, and iris of miniature cameras. The heart of the system is the digital data control panel, which is a control box fitted with a three-axis multifunction joystick for pan, tilt, and zoom control; push buttons for opening and closing lens iris; rotating focus control knob; and reversing switches for pan and tilt.

Editing Equipment

miro Computer Products has released the **miroVideo DC30**. With PCI bus mastering and data rates up to 6 Mbytes/sec, the unit offers 4:2:2 YUV True Color support and an M-JPEG compression rate of up to 3.5:1. It processes full NTSC, PAL, and SECAM resolutions at full frame and field rates with square pixels. It also supports ITU-R 601 rectangular pixels for broad-

cast-compatible video. The **miroVideo DC30** also offers real-time video overlay for display of full-motion video directly on the PC monitor using a Direct Draw-compatible graphics board, so an additional video monitor is not required.

Lighting Equipment

The Great American Market has introduced the **Gam-Litt portable softbox**. Gam-Litt diffuses and contains directional light sources and attaches to most Fresnels and many other lights. Each kit includes a folding soft box, one folding snoot, one filter frame, three support rods, hardware, and simple assembly instructions. Gam-Litt is available in five sizes: 14, 18, 24, 32, and 42 in.

The **HydroPar 2K incandescent underwater lighting system** is now available from HydroFlex. It is designed around the CYX single-ended globe and weighs only 4 lb in water. Barn doors and specially designed snoots are readily added by simply removing the front retainer ring and inserting the accessory. Gels and scrims may also be added. HydroPars mate to a 5/8-in. spud for compatibility with standard grip and lighting equipment.