

# Section Meetings

## Atlanta October 16, 1995

Twenty-five people attended the October meeting, hosted by David Priester, Georgia Power Television, and held at Georgia Power's corporate headquarters. The speaker for the evening, Mike Duckworth, Leitch, Inc., distributed a training manual that he uses in comprehensive sessions. The manual begins with the basics of serial digital television and concludes with detailed explanations of the use of current SDI test equipment and techniques. The meeting ended with a tour of Georgia Power's television production facilities. — Kathleen Wood (Secretary/Treasurer), Grass Valley/Tektronix

## Atlanta November 13, 1995

Ethernet implementation was the subject of the November meeting, which was attended by 33 people. Geoff Trotter, Sony Electronics, Inc., started with the basics of Ethernet, including local area network fundamentals, topologies, and hardware components. He then went on to discuss packetized video and its implications for implementation in a video facility, pointing out the logistics required to minimize data collisions and maximize efficiency. Then Larry Bisel, Video Tape Associates (VTA), detailed the decision process that went into VTA's early adoption of Ethernet. He also explained the Ethernet design criteria that have supported the intelligence and flexibility of VTA's growth over the last several years. The meeting ended with an informal tour of the VTA facilities. — Kathleen Wood (Secretary/Treasurer), Grass Valley/Tektronix

## Chicago November 15, 1995

The November meeting was held in conjunction with the Chicago chapter of the Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE). The 105 people that attended heard John Watkinson, Watkinson International Communications (U.K.), discuss various philosophical issues surrounding the industry's transition from analog to digital. Watkinson compared the past technology, which offered restrictions, to the new digital technology, which offers unlimited possibilities, and he questioned whether or not the industry is equipped to handle this new freedom. Emphasizing the need to have vision and break away from tradition in approaching the future, he cited several examples where manufacturers had lacked vision in designing

new digital products and instead created digital versions of analog devices. The program was sponsored by Snell & Wilcox, for which Watkinson wrote a booklet entitled "Your Essential Guide to Digital." Copies of the booklet were handed out after the meeting. — Steve Robinson (Secretary/Treasurer), Serial Scene

## Detroit November 14, 1995

The November meeting was held at WXYZ-TV, Southfield, Mich., and featured Michael Long, Premier Wireless, Inc., who discussed his company's Premier Wireless Video System. The Premier wireless transmitter is FCC-approved to operate in the 2.4 to 2.8-GHz range and can transmit over two miles, depending on the type of antenna used. It is a broadcast-quality audio/video transmitter that weighs only 15 oz. Long showed three videotapes illustrating some of the many applications of the system, and in each application a different off-the-shelf antenna was used to optimize the transmission. The discussion also included the use of Parts 15 and 74 of the FCC rules and regulations; Part 74 addresses that broadcaster's needs. The meeting was adjourned after a question-and-answer period. — Harold L. Miller (Secretary/Treasurer), Harold Miller Associates

## Hollywood October 11, 1995

The meeting was held at the Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum with some 110 members and guests in attendance. Birney Dayton, NVision, delivered an informative paper on the timing relationships between AES digital audio and 525/625-line systems. Topics included routing methods, embedded audio and machine-control routing methods, and embedded audio and machine-control routing dynamic port architecture. — Roy T. Brubaker (Chairman), Crest National

## Hollywood November 15, 1995

Some 130 members and guests attended the November meeting, held at CBS Television City, Los Angeles. The speaker, Hugo Gaggioni, Sony Advanced Systems, reviewed fundamental concepts of video compression. He covered JPEG, MPEG, and MPEG-2 international standards and described recent modifications to the MPEG-2 "tool kit" that permit the use of 4:2:2 signals and the vertical blanking

## SMPTE SECTION MEETINGS

### New England

For further information contact Secretary/Treasurer Paul Beck, Emerson College, (617) 578-8800

- Wednesday, February 21, 1996: "Nonlinear Showcase"
- Wednesday, March 20, 1996: "PEGs! MPEG, JPEG, and Other Compression Technologies"
- Wednesday, April 17, 1996: "What's Up at NAB?"
- May (date to follow): "Film Processing and X-Fer"

### Toronto

For further information contact Stephen Pumple, IMMAD: (905) 470-2545, ext. 225, fax: (905) 470-2559.

- Tuesday, February 13, 1996: topic to follow
- Tuesday, March 5, 1996: "Direct-to-Home Technology (DTH)"
- Tuesday, April 9, 1996: topic to follow
- Tuesday, May 14, 1996: Annual NAB Wrap-Up
- Tuesday, June 11, 1996: topic to follow. Last meeting for the year.

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. Information must be received by the 15th of the second month preceding issue date (e.g., January 15th for March issue).

interval for broadcast and production applications utilizing the 4:2:2 profile. Ten broadcast-quality monitors were used to display direct comparisons of all of the compression standards against an uncompressed D-1 playback. The ability to edit and go to multiple (7) generations were demonstrated for the 4:2:2 studio profile. After the meeting was adjourned, many members of the audience talked with Gaggioni about their specific applications of video compression. — J. Richard West (Manager), HD consultant

## Hong Kong November 6, 1995

The Hong Kong Section had its inaugural meeting in the Peony Room of the Park Hotel. More than 60 people were gathered at a dinner reception, sponsored by Shun Hing Technology Co. Ltd., in which SMPTE President Stanley N. Baron, NBC, Inc., praised the contributions of Section Chairman Michael Cheng, AV Technology Ltd., and the other committee members responsible for the Section's establish-

ment. Baron said that he had confidence that the Section would bring a higher technical standard to the local film and television industries, as well as effect a closer relationship with the film and television industries in neighboring countries.

Following the cocktail reception, representatives from Panasonic addressed the topic of "New Concept DVCPRO Machines." DVCPRO is a new system that responds to the changing trend in the industry shift to digital equipment, downsizing, and an increased emphasis on news

programming. DVCPRO's 1/5 compression of digital component data makes it possible to capture a huge amount of video data in condensed form. DVCPRO will provide transfer at four times normal speed and offers picture quality, sound quality, and multigeneration editing capabilities.

At the conclusion of the meeting, SMPTE members were invited to participate in a tour of an all-digital station at the Chinese Television Network. — Shun Chung Chan (Secretary/Treasurer), Asia Television Ltd.

# Calendar

## March

**Reflector Design — Theory and Practice Seminar**, Embassy Suites, Denver, Colo. Info: TLA Lighting Consultants, 7 Pond St., Salem, MA 01970. *March 18-20, 1996.*

## April

**ICT'96 International Conference on Telecommunications**, The Marmara Hotel, Istanbul, Turkey. Info: Aykut Hocaban or Rusen Meylani, Secretariat, Bogaziçi University, Electrical-Electronic Engineering Dept., Bebek, Istanbul 80815, Turkey. *April 13-17, 1996.*

**National Association of Broadcasters 74th Annual Convention**, Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nev. Info: NAB, 1771 N St. NW, Washington, DC 20036. *April 15-18, 1996.*

**Imaging the Future II: Storytelling for the New Millennium**, Kauai Marriott Resort and Beach Club, Kauai, Hawaii. Info: The American Film Institute, 2021 N. Western Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90027. *April 22-28, 1996.*

## August

**Siggraph '96**, New Orleans Convention Center, New Orleans, La. Info: Exhibition Management, Hall-Erickson, Inc., 150 Burlington Ave., Clarendon Hills, IL 60514. *August 4-9, 1996.*

**Eurographics '96**, Futuroscope Poitiers, Poitiers, France. Info: Conference Secretariat, Eurographics '96, INRIA Rocquencourt/Relations Extérieures, B.P. 105-78153, Le Chesnay Cedex, France. *August 26-30, 1996.*

## September

**IBC96**, RAI Exhibition and Congress Centre, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Info: Sarah Campbell, IBC Office, Savoy Place, London, WC2R OBL. *September 12-16, 1996.*

## SMPTE Activities

**SEATTLE, WASH.** — 1996 SMPTE Advanced Motion Imaging Conference, Sheraton Seattle Hotel and Towers. *February 1-3, 1996.*

**LOS ANGELES, CALIF.** — 138th SMPTE Technical Conference and World Media Expo, Los Angeles Convention Center, *October 9-12, 1996.*

For more information on these activities contact SMPTE Headquarters:  
(914) 761-1100 Fax: (914) 761-3115

# Books, Booklets, Brochures

**Lighting by Design** by Brian Fitt and Joe Thornley is a full technical guide to the theory and practice of lighting aimed at practitioners of lighting in the entertainment industry. This book will also be of interest to those people involved with stage, film, television, and still photography, particularly when the effects of lighting have a major influence on their contribution to the medium concerned. The book, in addi-

tion to the thorough coverage of equipment in use, contains unique insights into design requirements, writing specifications, contracts, and purchase of equipment. Unique color filter comparison tables are included, comparing 1,000 color filters from all the leading manufacturers. The book is available for \$37.95 from Focal Press, 313 Washington St., Newton, MA 02158-1626.

**The Colorado Video 1996 Short Form Catalog** describes a series of specialized video instruments for use in research, industrial inspection, and communications. Products include a family of unique video memories, as well as signal analyzers, measuring equipment, and still-picture transmission systems. A copy of the catalog can be obtained directly from Colorado Video, Box 928, Boulder, CO 80306