

Letters to the Editor

The following letters were received regarding the articles referenced below; the author's response follows. The Journal is interested in publishing other Letters to the Editor that may be of interest to our readers.

Re: "Cleaning Solutions for a Clean Environment" by Tom Tisch

August 1995 SMPTE Journal

Dear Sir:

This is in regard to the paper by Mr. Tom Tisch published in the August issue of the *Journal*. The paragraph on Aqueous Cleaning implies that aqueous film cleaners are not operational or available.

Technical Film Systems, Inc., manufactures a 100 feet per minute and a 200 feet per minute distilled water film cleaner. These film cleaners have been purchased by and are operational at Consolidated Film Industries, Deluxe Laboratories, Foto-Kem Inc.,

and Technicolor Inc. We have already received a substantially larger number of re-orders for these machines; this should imply that they are operational. These cleaners do not employ carcinogenic chemicals, have no fume emissions and an extremely low operational cost. Contrary to Mr. Tisch's article, these machines do clean camera original.

Sincerely yours,
M. G. Michelson, President
Technical Film Systems, Inc.
Chatsworth, CA 81311

Author's response:

Dear Sir:

When the paper, "Cleaning Solutions for a Clean Environment" (paper #136-40), was submitted to the SMPTE, our survey of the marketplace, which

included major motion-picture film laboratories, revealed no evidence of commercially available fully aqueous film cleaning machines in use. Since that time, aqueous-based units have become available from Lipsner-Smith Co., as well as from TFS and others, and have been installed for use in some facilities. Although a water-based machine might be used to clean camera original, for this application we continue to recommend the use of highly effective, non-carcinogenic solvents which will not damage the film if component failure occurs during the cleaning and drying process. Lipsner-Smith Co. advocates a time-tested, conservative approach when cleaning original film elements.

Sincerely,
Thomas A. Tisch, Vice-President
Lipsner-Smith Co.
Lincolnwood, IL 60646

Re: "The Convergence of Networking and Broadcasting" by Randy Conrod

December 1995 SMPTE Journal

Sirs:

I just finished reading the tutorial article in the December 1995 issue of the *SMPTE Journal*. First off, I want to say I welcome this feature. The tutorial series has been very informative.

The article I had questions about is titled "The Convergence of Networking and Broadcasting." The first comment is about the telco overview. One item that was glossed over is ISDN service. I'm not sure what ISDN will provide. Is it a direct DS0 connection? What type of bit rates are available with ISDN service? I ask because I have seen many advertisements, like the Telos Zephyr, that are used exclusively with ISDN lines. I would like to see an expanded ISDN article, services it will provide, where ISDN is going.

This article is the first informative article I've seen about ATM, although I've seen the ATM term thrown around in a few other articles.

What I didn't like was the writer left the ATM as a "cloud of switches."

He states that routing switchers will become obsolete, but he doesn't go into specifics of ATM connectivity. Just connect your equipment to a "cloud of switches," I could make the connection on my equipment end, but I have no idea what connector to run to a cloud. Are you planning on expanding this discussion?

Thank you for your time.

Jeff Koscho
U.S. Air Force

Author's response:

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your comments. First of all, we will define ISDN and what it is used for. The "cloud" in ATM technology will be cleared up, and the connection to a cloud will be discussed.

ISDN (Integrated Services Digital Network) is a technology that is over ten years old; it is now becoming a mature technology. It is a DS0 connection that has three channels. Two channels are called "B" channels and carry 56 kbits/sec; the other is a "D" channel and carries 16 kbits/sec. This adds up to total of 128 kbits/sec for an ISDN connection. ISDN is used in PBXs (private branch exchanges) for digital telephone systems in offices. It

is also switched in central switching offices in telephone companies. ISDN is also used for video conferencing, Internet connections, and for STLs (studio-to-transmitter links) for radio stations. ISDN does not have the bandwidth to carry high-quality video images in real time.

The "cloud" in ATM (asynchronous transfer mode) technology is a term commonly referred to as a switch or switches that are configurable and expandable using differing bandwidths that interconnect ATM devices in a building, across the street, or even across a continent. ATM can carry data, voice, video, and audio signals. Devices are connected to an ATM switch in "star" fashion, allowing a private path to the ATM switch. The routing of signals from device to device is done without the use of an external routing switcher as used today. Connections are made through coaxial cable using BNC-type connectors and through fiber using the more popular SC-type connectors. Twisted-pair connections (RJ-type connectors using category-5 cable) are becoming more popular as the technology evolves.

Randy Conrod
Leitch Technology International
North York, Ont., Canada