

Rochester March 12, 1996

Visual In-Seitz, Inc., was the site for the March meeting, which featured a presentation by that company's Sharon Klocek. Twenty-nine people attended "Video on the Web," which included a description and demonstration of computer technology as applied to videoconferencing and video transmission over various commercially available systems. Klocek also reviewed several Web page technologies such as capabilities for sound, animated graphics, and interactivity. Following this meeting, attendants adjourned to the Beefsteak Mining Company for dinner. — Walter C. Snyder II (Secretary/Treasurer, Acting Chair), Eastman Kodak Co.

Toronto March 12, 1996

Close to 100 SMPTE members gathered at Ryerson's Rogers Communications Centre to hear presentations by Patrick Whittingham, Sony Canada, and Stuart Hurst, Panasonic Canada, on the transition of consumer and professional TV to widescreen or 16:9 format.

Whittingham started the evening by focusing on the consumer side of the industry, covering the history of TV

receivers and how they initially came into the market as receive-only devices, later became monitors with the advent of the VCR, and are now evolving into communications displays acting as interactive devices. He went on to say that because of advances in digital technologies, the television medium could also be on the verge of renewal, much like the audio industry experienced with the advent of the compact disc. As a model for the future, Sony's Powerwide Multimedia TV was demonstrated. Whittingham also discussed the impending release of the Plasmatron flat screen technology this December in Japan. He concluded by citing that the world's library of widescreen film classics is now in decay and that the launch of the digital versatile disk (DVD) format could help rejuvenate and digitize it.

Hurst discussed how professional production equipment is migrating to the 16:9 high-definition environment. Panasonic feels that the transition will occur in two steps, first to a 525 widescreen format and later to a true high-definition format. In order to record HDTV, 18-MHz sampling rates are required, and Hurst outlined a couple of options that are already available for those who wish to start the process, including Panasonic's Multifunction FIT CCDs as an example. On the VTR side,

Mr. Hurst noted that D-5 can record at 300 Mbits/sec and is switchable between current 13.5 MHz required for NTSC and 18 MHz. He concluded by noting that true HDTV would probably generate 1.2 Gbits/sec. — Brad Fortner (Promotions Advisor), Rogers Communications Centre, Ryerson Polytechnic University

SMPTE SECTION CALENDAR

Toronto

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

• Tuesday, June 11, 1996: New Media Technology. 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., June 15th for August issue).

Calendar

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.*

IESNA Annual Conference, Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio. Info: The Illuminating Engineering Society of North America, 120 Wall St., 17th Fl., New York, NY 10005-4001. *August 5-7, 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.*

Photokina '96, Cologne Fairgrounds, Cologne, Germany. Info: KölnMesse, Messe-und Ausstellungen, Ges.m.b.h. Köln, Messeplatz 1, D-50679 Köln, Germany. *September 18-23, 1996.*

November

The 4th IS&T Color Imaging Conference, The Radisson Resort, Scottsdale, Ariz. Info: IS&T, 7003 Kilworth Ln., Springfield, VA 22151. *November 19-22, 1996.*

June 1997

Montreux International Television Symposium and Technical Exhibition, Rue du Théâtre, Montreux, Switzerland. Info: P.O. Box 1451, Rue du Théâtre 5, 1820 Montreux, Switzerland. *June 12-17, 1997.*

SMPTE Activities

NEW ORLEANS, LA. — SMPTE at Siggraph '96, *August 4-9, 1996.*

COLOGNE, GERMANY — SMPTE European Imaging Conference on Imaging Media, Cologne Fairgrounds, *September 19-21, 1996.*

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

NEW YORK, N.Y. — 31st SMPTE Advanced Motion Imaging Conference, Crowne Plaza, *February 6-8, 1997.*

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