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TELEVISION:
 an international history
 of the formative years

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 development of television,
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- Baird's demonstration in 1926
- Social and technical influences

**Television: an international
 history of the formative years**

is a meticulously and deeply researched book, presenting a balanced and thorough history of television from its infancy through 1940. Author R.W. Burns details the many factors - technical, financial and social - which influenced and led to the establishment of many of the world's high-definition TV broadcasting services. Highly illustrated.

Author: R.W. Burns

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The Guide to Postproduction for TV and Film—Managing the Process by Barbara Clark and Susan Spohr chronicles the duties of the associate producer and post-production supervisor. The publication focuses on the processes involved in getting a show ready to air and emphasises managing the post-production process on time and on budget. The book explains the technology in nontechnical terms and details what must be done before moving to the next step. Inside tips, sample forms, and glossary terms to help readers better understand the industry's jargon is included. This 221-page guide is available from Focal Press/Butterworth-Heinemann, 225 Wildwood Ave., Woburn, MA 01801-2041, tel: (800) 366-2665, fax: (800) 446-6520-2620, e-mail: custserv@bh.com.

Several new standards are now available from the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA).

Marine Lighting, IESNA RP-12-97 is a guide for individuals and agencies responsible for providing marine lighting. Applications addressed include ships and watercraft, as well as marine platforms used for drilling and research. This 58-page publication discusses tasks supported by lighting, design considerations, maintenance requirements, and the quantity and quality of the illuminance.

Choosing Light Sources for General Lighting, DG-10-98, is a comprehensive document on state-of-the-art lamps. It provides information on technology, characteristics, and options most suitable for a particular design. Standards orders can be placed by contacting Albert Suen, (212) 248-5000, ext. 112.

The **NECA/IESNA Recommended Practice for Installing Indoor Commercial Lighting Systems, NECA/ IESNA-500-97**, is a jointly developed standard. It describes installation procedures for lighting systems commonly used in commercial and retail buildings. Also included are related construction materials such as lamps, conduit, wire, screws and clips, and suspension components.

Lighting and the Visual Environment for Senior Living, IESNA RP-28-98 addresses the lighting needs of the aging population in terms of vision and its photobiological, psychological, and physical effects. This 52-page publication divides seniors into two categories based on the principal reason for their visual disability. The first group includes seniors whose vision is limited by a reduction in image contrast due to preretinal scatter from corneal, lenticular, and vitreal opacities. Category two includes those with limited vision due to retinal dysfunction and reduced acuity and contrast sensitivity.

New Products

Camera

The remote **AquaCam waterproof motion picture camera system** from HydroFlex is designed for use on cranes and jib arms for on the water or wet filming. The system incorporates an Arriflex 35-3 body, custom 400 in. magazines, and remote focus and iris controls. In hand held mode, a 5.6 in. monitor allows the operator to set the frame while the camera assistant rolls camera and pulls focus and iris from as far as 100 in. away. This low profile system fits inside an 11 in. diameter tube and weighs 62 lbs fully loaded.

Lenses and Accessories

The **Ah70X DigiPower television zoom lens** from Fujinon combines the highest magnification available in a field production lens with 32-bit RISC processor control of all major lens functions. A high-speed, 13-bit serial communications link between the zoom/focus demands and the

lens provides smooth, precise control over all functions. The product employs optical encoders, which increases reliability and offers high positioning accuracy when used in robotics and virtual studio applications.

Century Precision Optics has introduced a series of lens accessories for use on the Canon XL1 compact digital camcorder.

The **.6x wide angle adapter** mounts to the front of the XL1's standard 16:1 zoom lens, increasing coverage by 40% when zooming is not needed. This lens also provides a wider viewing angle with minimal distortion.

The **.8x wide angle converter** is designed for shoots requiring both a wider viewing angle and full zooming capabilities. Adding the converter to the lens front yields 20% more coverage when set to wide angle, telephoto, or anywhere in between.

The **Fisheye adapter** provides the

widest possible angle of view and a high degree of barrel distortion. It exaggerates depth, pulling nearby objects closer and causing distant objects to recede into the background.

When mounted on the XLI, the **1.6X tele-converter** provides greater telephoto reach. The converter instantly shifts the focal length-range in the telephoto direction.

Achromatic diopters can be used in situations that require tight focus on a small object in tabletop, miniature, and flat field videography. Adding them to a zoom with a lens front provides greater close-up range and magnification while maintaining zoom capabilities, without compromising image quality. The diopters are available in +2.0 and 3.5 magnifications.

Projection System

Autograf Cinema Systems has introduced the **CAF-100**, an automated focusing vehicle for projected moving pictures. The system consists of the CAF-100, a CCD camera, and a variable stepping motor. The product makes a rough focus, then constantly refines the focus until the best view is reached. The system then detects focus variations the human eye can't see. The system also has a digital signal processor which makes sure the focus calculation for one frame is done before the next frame is ready and before the lens is moved as needed.

Recorder

Panasonic Broadcast & Digital Systems Co. has announced the availability of the **AJ-D90 DVCPRO50 dockable VTR**. The AJ-D90 features 4:2:2 signal processing and switchability between a DVCPRO 4:1:1 signal and the DVCPRO 4:2:2 signal. The product allows camera people to use their existing analog and digital cameras for high-quality component digital news and field acquisition.

The VTR offers a 4:2:2 signal processing platform, a digital video data rate of 50 Mbits/sec, 3:3:1 DV-based compression, and 16-bit 48 kHz sampled channels of uncompressed digital audio.

Additional features include phantom power supply, built-in monitor speaker, stereo mini jack (x1) for audio monitoring, time code In/Out (BNCx2), a large LCD multidisplay, and an external DC In/Out connector.

Software

The **BitAlyzerHDTV** (Model HDVA292) from SyntheSys Research is built on an Windows-NT platform with advanced touchscreen control. It produces realtime error statistics for format errors and includes logic analyzer features for

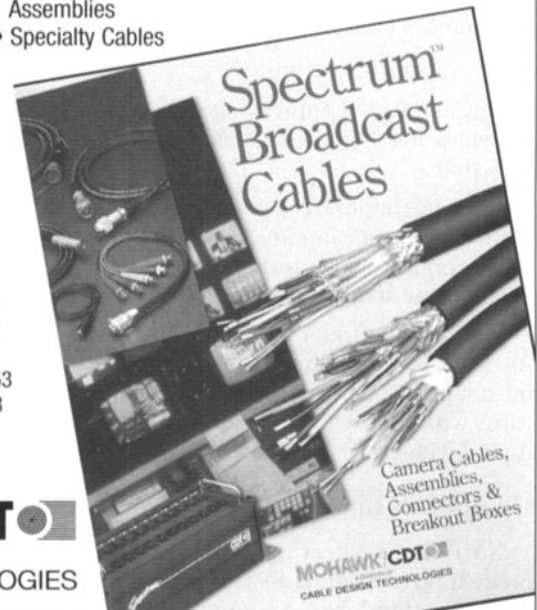
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- Component Analog RGB-RGBS-RGBSC
- Kings and Lemo Connectors
- Camera Cable Assemblies
- Composite Camera Cable (ENG), (EFP)
- Fiber Optic Cable
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- TV Camera & VTR Assemblies
- Specialty Cables
- Data Cable RS232, 422, 485
- Plenum Cable
- Custom Audio/Video Cable Assemblies

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For further information regarding the new products and developments listed in this section, contact the companies directly at the addresses listed below:

Century Precision Optics, 11049 Magnolia Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601, tel: (818) 766-3715, fax: (818) 505-9865, Internet: <http://www.centuryoptics.com>

Fujinon Inc., 10 High Point Dr., Wayne, NJ 07470, tel: (201) 633-5600, fax: (201) 533-5216

HydroFlex, 5335 McConnell Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066, tel: (310) 301-8187, fax: (310) 821-9886, e-mail: h2opros@hydroflex.com, Internet: <http://www.hydroflex.com>

Panasonic Broadcast & Digital Systems Co., One Panasonic Way, Secaucus, NJ 07094, tel: (201) 392-4319, fax: (201) 392-6001

SyntheSys Research Inc., 3475-D Edison Way, Menlo Pk., CA 94025, tel: (650) 364-1853, fax: (650) 364-5716, Internet: <http://www.synthesysresearch.com>

Calendar

SMPTE Activities

ORLANDO, FL—33rd SMPTE Advanced Motion Imaging Conference, Omni Rosen Hotel, *February 25-27, 1999*

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA—SMPTE '99, *July 13-16, 1999*

NEW YORK, NY—141st SMPTE Technical Conference & Exhibit, *November 19-22, 1999*

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

October

Rocky Mountain Film and Video Expo, John Q. Hammons Convention Center, Denver, CO. Info: Mark Cramer, Expo-Masters, Inc., 7632 E. Costilla Ave., Englewood, CO, 80112, *October 14-15, 1998*