

SMPTE NEWS & NOTES

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SMPTE TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF TELEVISION AT NAB98

SMPTE will produce a full-day seminar titled "Charting the Course of Television Technology in the Coming Decades:

From Rasters to Bit Streams" at the NAB'98 International Convention and Exposition. The seminar will be held on April 4, 1998 at the Las Vegas Convention Center and will discuss the new world of television and its evolution over the next two decades.

The television medium has been based on the various synchronized scanning of images since its inception. According to seminar chair Merrill S. Weiss, television is now in a position to convert to a medium based on the exchange of program material as bit-streams because of the strength of computer technology and data networking.

Recognizing this transition, the Society teamed up with the European Broadcasting Union to form a Task Force responsible for looking into the future to decide what would be needed to facilitate the change. Team leaders will present their findings on various aspects of the transition and the Task Force will release a final report. Seminar topics include compression, wrappers, metadata, file transfer methods, protocols, interfaces and network, and systems management and control.

According to SMPTE President David L. George, the seminar will prepare engineers to better understand the rapidly changing technology associated with the exchange of program material as bit-streams. SMPTE members are eligible for the special NAB member rate. Registration forms are available by calling (301) 682-7962 or you can register online at www.nab.org/conventions/.

SUBMITTALS FOR FILM CONFERENCE STILL BEING ACCEPTED

It's not too late to share your knowledge and ideas on film with the industry's top professionals at SMPTE's Second Annual Film Conference. Technical papers, articles, practical demonstrations, and suggestions for panel discussions are still being accepted for this breakthrough event held in conjunction with Variety's ShowBiz Expo West on June 12-14, 1998. The conference will carry the theme, "Tools, Practice, and the Experience," and includes four technical presentations and a day-long seminar. The technical sessions, titled "Laboratory," "Exhibition," "Production," and "Post-Production" will run from Friday to Saturday, June 12 and 13. A day-long seminar will conclude the conference on Sunday, June 14. Details of the conference will be published in the *Journal* as it becomes available.

TELEVISION STANDARDS NOW ON CD-ROM

The ANSI-approved SMPTE Standards, Recommended Practices, and Engineering Guidelines for television and motion pictures are now available on CD-ROM and will be published in June and December of each year. Documents are

formatted as Adobe Acrobat .pdf files and requires the Adobe Acrobat Reader for display. The Microsoft Windows 95 version of Adobe Acrobat is included on the CD-ROM. For further information contact the SMPTE Engineering Department at 595 W. Hartsdale Ave., White Plains, NY 10607, tel: (914) 761-1100, fax: (914) 761-3115, or e-mail: smpte@smpte.org.

SMPTE PUBLICATIONS SPECIALLY PRICED

Several cost saving book deals are still available from SMPTE. A four proceedings set, originally priced at \$30 per publication, is available for only \$40. It's a savings of \$80 off the original member rate. The "First Annual SMPTE Film Conference" includes a collection of papers from the inaugural March 1997 event focusing on all aspects of the film process. "Film and Video Synergies: Creation to Delivery" features a compilation of original papers presented at the 138th SMPTE Technical Conference in Los Angeles in 1996. "Moving Images—Meeting the Challenges" features several papers focusing on the changes surrounding the television, film, telecommunications, and motion imaging disciplines. The 496-page publication takes papers from the 137th SMPTE Technical Conference held in New Orleans in 1995. "The Age of Compression: Nonlinear Editing, Digital Broadcasting and Other Wonders" presents papers from the 31st SMPTE Advanced Motion Imaging Conference held in New York in February 1997.

The Society is also offering four books discussing the recently approved digital television standards. These publications, are priced at \$190 and include "A Compilation of the ATSC Standards;" "SMPTE Standards for ATV & HD Production with Supplemental Standards Including Ancillary Audio;" and two tutorials titled "Implementing HDTV: Television & Film Applications," and "Digital Image and Audio Communications." Sets ordered in excess of ten are available at a discount rate of \$160. Orders can be placed by mail to SMPTE Books, 595 West Hartsdale Ave., White Plains, NY 10607, by fax at (914) 761-3115, or by e-mail (mktg@smpte.org).

—Jermaine Hall

SAVE THESE DATES

April 4, 1998: NAB'98 International Convention and Exposition, Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nev..

June 12-14, 1998: 2nd Annual SMPTE Film Conference and Exhibit, Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, Calif.

October 28-31, 1998: 140th SMPTE Technical Conference and Exhibit, Pasadena Convention Center, Pasadena, Calif.

This information is available at the SMPTE Web Site: <http://www.smpte.org>.

March 1998

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Manuscripts

For information on the presentation and processing of manuscripts, see Information for Authors, which is published frequently in the *SMPTE Journal*.