

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

David George states in his message, "...the interest in digital television has put technological concerns, and technical people, back on the front burner...This is where SMPTE comes in. If you participate, we can help."

SMPTE was founded in 1916 as a professional society to develop voluntary standards, and it has fulfilled this role for over eight decades. Evolving from film, the standards of the Society have expanded to include analog television, electronic digital imaging, and now digital distribution. The standards the Society produces have maintained their quality and relevance, reflecting a proactive approach to the changing environment. The work of the Society is recognized globally and across many industries for its competence and accuracy.

There are six stages in the development of a standard, recommended practice, or engineering guideline.

1. Determination of a need and assignment of work.
2. Acquisition of information necessary to the development of a standard — the discovery stage.
3. Development of the standards document.
4. Submission to the SMPTE review process.
5. Determination of consensus, including resolution of any objections to problems raised during the process.
6. Publication and distribution for public use.

Hundreds of people are involved in SMPTE Standards development; more are needed. Work in the areas relevant to David's message include the following committees, working groups, and study groups, focused under the Television Steering Committee.

Television Recording/Reproduction Technology

Working Groups for:

DTTR Format Applications
Archival Storage of Magnetic Media
Digital 1/4-in. Format (D-7)
Digital-S (D-9)

Study Groups for:

User Requirements for Automated Storage and Retrieval

Television Signal Technology

Working Groups for:

Ancillary Data
Serial Digital Jitter
Monitors
Monitoring and Digital Diagnostics
Fiber Optic Camera Cable
Reference Signals for Digital TV

Television Production Technology

Working Groups for:

Objective Test Materials
Digital Control For
Television
Time and Control Code
Editing Procedures
Subjective Test Materials

Packetized Television Technology

Working Groups for:

Headers and Descriptors
Switching and Synchronization
Television Compression Systems
Packetized Television Interconnections
Video Index



Frederick C. Motts

Under the direction of the joint Motion-Picture/Television Steering Committee, technologies addressed are:

Audio Recording/Reproductions Technology

Working Groups for:

Television Audio Signal Interfaces and Synchronization
Sound Library Data Bases
Television Monitoring, Audio Levels and Metering
Practices
Bit Rate Reduced Television
Film Audio Issues

Study Group for:

Audio, MP and TV Entertainment Programs

Multimedia Technology

Working Groups for:

Digital Pictures
Test Patterns for DPX Exchange
Production Colorimetry
Telecine Practice
Authoring and Content for Television
Closed Captioning and Subtitles

There are three categories of participation in the SMPTE standards developing activities: producers, users, and general interest. The Society actively seeks increased participation in the process by persons in the **user** category. To become active, access the SMPTE web site to find the Statement of Participation, or contact the Engineering Department at SMPTE Headquarters.