

Acknowledgement: The design of the ESS-1 signal system involved the talents of a number of people, and the author wishes to thank particularly E. Engberg, J. Diermann, J. Miller, D. Beaulier, R. MacKenzie, R. Greutmann, and D. Rosendahl for their contributions.

References

1. W. G. Connolly and J. Diermann, "The Electronic Still Store: A Digital System for the Storage and Display of Still Pictures," *SMPTE J.*, 85: 609-613, Aug. 1976.
2. J. C. Mallison and J. W. Miller, "On Optimal Codes for Digital Magnetic Recording," Conference

Proceedings Publication No. 35 of the IERE, for the Joint IERE-IEEE Conference on Video and Magnetic Recording, Birmingham, England, 1976.

3. J. C. Mallison and C. W. Steele, "Theory of Linear Superposition in Tape Recording," *IEEE Transactions on Magnetics*, Vol. 5, No. 4, Dec. 1969.
4. J. P. Rossi, "Color Decoding a PCM NTSC Television Signal," *J. SMPTE*, 83: 489-495, June 1974.

Video Disc Study Group to be Activated by SMPTE

SMPTE has announced that an organizational meeting of a Video Disc Study Group will be held during the Society's annual conference in Los Angeles. Scheduled for a to-be-posted room at the headquarters, Century Plaza Hotel, at 9:30 A.M., Monday, October 17, the meeting will be open to all persons interested in the orderly establishment of video disc as a useful, universal communications medium.

Bob Paulson, of AVP Communication, has agreed to chair the group. He said that the organizational meeting would focus on fundamental questions such as — Should there be an SMPTE Study Group? — What should it try to accomplish? — When should it start? "Inputs from prospective users, software producers and hardware manufacturers are all equally urgently needed at this first meeting," he said. "SMPTE's objective here is to organize activities such as the establishment of standards and practices, which will help this long-awaited communications technique be-

come a practical, commercial, useful reality. They are not interested in establishing another technical debating forum, in which only the technical merits of unique, proprietary, not-yet-in-production systems are argued."

Within the new SMPTE organizational structure, the Video Disc topic is the responsibility of the Committee on New Technology, chaired by Fred Remley of the University of Michigan Television Center. The Study Group will function in an advisory role to this Committee. Engineering Services Manager Alex Alden at SMPTE Headquarters will assist in planning meetings and agendas and distributing published materials.

Mr. Paulson may be contacted for further information or agenda suggestions through his office, P.O. Box 454, Westborough, MA 01581, telephone 617-366-4694. He stresses, however, that participation in the organizational meeting is open to all, without further formalities or invitations.

Standards & Recommended Practices

Draft American National Standard

Draft American Standard Nomenclature for Motion-Picture Film Used in Studios and Processing Laboratories, PH22.56, is published here for a trial period and public review. Most of the definitions are unchanged from the 1971 issue; however, the 32-mm and Format M films have been deleted. Metric conversions have been added. Comments should be addressed to Alex E. Alden, *Manager of Engineering Services*, at Society Headquarters before 1 December 1977. The proposal has been submitted to American National Standards Committee PH22; consequently, all comments received from *Journal* publication will be reviewed prior to conclusion of action by that committee.

Reaffirmed American National Standards

On 17 March 1977, the American National Standards Institute approved reaffirmation of the following American National Standards: PH22.87-1966, Dimensions of 100-Mil Magnetic Striping on 16-mm Motion-Picture Film Perforated One Edge; PH22.90-1964, Method for Determining Aperture Calibration of Motion-Picture Lenses; and PH22.157-1971, Dimensions of Camera Aperture Image on Super 8 Motion-Picture Film. — Alex E. Alden