

# Meeting of Working Group on One-Inch Nonsegmented Helical Recording

As a result of a proposal to the SMPTE that it take some positive action toward standardization of one-inch helical video recorders now being supplied for broadcast applications, the SMPTE Committee on Video Recording and Reproducing Technology has established two working groups to review the situation.

An organizational meeting held in San Francisco at the Society's recent Winter Conference showed that there was a strong interest on the part of the users and manufacturers of one inch VTRs in participating in such a standards forum, and two working groups were set up to study the segmented and the nonsegmented formats now in existence.

The group assigned to the nonsegmented (one field per head pass) format is chaired by F. M. Remley, Technical Director of Broadcasting, for the University of Michigan. This working group held its first meeting at CBS headquarters in New York City on

23-24 February and included experts from all major television networks, ABC, CBS, CBC, NBC, PBS and Group W; industrial users such as AT & T Co., Prudential Insurance Co. of America; and manufacturers' representatives from Ampex, Sony, NEC, IVC, Recortec, Bosch-Fernseh, RCA and Philips.

The two days of meetings covered the areas of tape geometry, number and type of ancillary tracks and various alternatives related to editing. User needs have been defined sufficiently to charge a subcommittee of manufacturers' technical experts to respond to these needs.

It is SMPTE policy to issue no technical specifications resulting from committee deliberations until reasonable agreement has been achieved, at which time a written draft of the proposal is submitted or made available to all interested parties.

## Standards & Recommended Practices

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### Approved American National Standards

On 30 December 1976, the American National Standards Institute approved four American National Standards: PH22.4-1976, Dimensions of 35-mm Motion-Picture Projection Reels; PH22.147-1976, Dimensions of Motion-Picture Projection Reels for Combination 70/35-mm Projectors; PH22.192-1976, Dimensions of Shipping Reels for 35-mm Motion-Picture Prints; and PH22.193-1976, Dimensions of Large-Capacity Reels for 35-mm Motion-Picture Projection. Two of these standards, PH22.4 and PH22.147, are editorial revisions of earlier issues and do not reflect technical changes. PH22.4 has been modified to indicate clearly that the 2000-ft capacity reel is the only reel used for 35-mm theatrical projection although the 1000- and 3000-ft reels are generally used for television applications. PH22.192 and PH22.193 specify the two types of reels used in handling 35-mm release prints.

Inasmuch as compliance with American National Standards is purely voluntary, standards will become truly effective when broad publicity is given to their existence. ANSI and SMPTE would appreciate any personal influence to promote the use of these standards where such action is appropriate. Copies of the standards may be obtained for a nominal fee from the American National Standards Institute, 1430 Broadway, New York, NY 10018.

### Proposed Withdrawal of American National Standards

The Society's Standards Committee has accepted the recommendation of the Committee on Film Technology that two American National Standards be withdrawn because they no longer reflect actual practices. The motion-picture films specified

are not being manufactured: PH22.141-1974, Dimensions for 32-mm Motion-Picture Film, 2R, and PH22.142-1974, Dimensions for 32-mm Motion-Picture Film, 4R.

Comments on the proposed withdrawal should be addressed to Alex E. Alden, Manager of Engineering Services, at Society Headquarters, prior to 1 June 1977.

The recommendation has been submitted to American National Standards Committee PH22. All comments received through *Journal* publication will be reviewed before conclusion of action by that committee. — Alex E. Alden

### SMPTE Working Groups Formed

Several Engineering Committee working groups have been formed by the Society. Prospective members are invited to contact Alex E. Alden at Society Headquarters.

(a) Color Bar Pattern. A working group to consider a proposed modification of the color bar pattern specified by EIA RS-189-A. The modification is intended to increase the accuracy of monitor adjustment.

(b) One-Inch Helical Tape. Two working groups to consider possible standardization of one-inch helical video tape format, both segmented and nonsegmented.

(c) Time Code. A working group to consider the standardization of a time code suitable for all motion-picture formats.

(d) High-Definition TV. A study group to review and consider new developments in the general area of high-definition television systems.

(e) Digital Video and Audio. Two working groups to consider potential areas of standardization for digital video systems and digital audio as it pertains to television systems. — AEA