

(U.S.A.), was very heavy so two additional days of meetings were scheduled before the main TC 60 meeting. Draft documents corresponding to SMPTE type B and C formats for 1-in helical tape were prepared based upon submissions of documents from the Federal Republic of Germany and the U.S.A. In addition, a type D format was drafted (it was decided to retain the now popular B and C designations) based upon a Japanese submission. Only a few recorders conforming to this format are to be found in the U.S.A. Type B and D documents will now be circulated for approval by National Committees, but the C document will be delayed by several months until several relatively minor points con-

cerned with 625/60 application are resolved.

Additionally, several changes were made to IEC Publication 347 covering quadruplex recorders to bring it into line with present technology and practice and to make its section on reels conform more closely with ISO R1860 which covers the same subject.

Working Group 8 — Video Disk Systems for Non-Broadcast Use. C. Tinet (France) chairs this working group. Because no input documents had been received since the 1976 Ottawa meeting of SC 60B (at which preliminary specifications for the TELDEC disk system had

been submitted), it was impossible for WG 8 to make significant progress in Budapest. New proposals are expected before the next SC 60B meeting.

It is hoped that this abbreviated report will indicate the scope of the work undertaken by IEC SC 60B. In addition, it was decided that a questionnaire will be circulated to the National Committees to determine the present situation regarding digital video recording and to decide at the next meeting of SC 60B, probably in late 1979 or early 1980, as to the need to establish a new working group to discuss this subject. Questions on any of the items noted above may be directed to A. Conte at SMPTE Headquarters.

Report on the Meeting of Subcommittee SC 60C of IEC TC 60

Budapest, Hungary, 17–22 April 1978

By HERBERT E. FARMER and
RAYMOND WYMAN

Subcommittee 60C: Applications of Educational and Training Equipment and Systems and its various working groups met during the same week as Subcommittee 60B. H. E. Farmer (University of Southern California), U.S. Technical Advisor to SC 60C, and the following delegates represented the United States: Brian Boucher (Lockheed Training Systems), William Kessler (TV consultant), F. Lee Morris (Mississippi Educational Television Authority), John Wilshusen (Purdue University). Raymond Wyman (University of Massachusetts) chaired the meeting with the able assistance of Win Koeter and Jacques Oostdam of the Netherlands as Secretariat. Twenty delegates from seven countries participated and there were observers from ISO TC 36, ISO TC 42 and the Central Office in Geneva.

At the plenary session Dr. Wyman reviewed the tasks which had been completed since the previous international meeting in Ottawa. Three IEC Standards publications have been issued including the very comprehensive document on the use of audio cassettes for education and training which is completely compatible with PH7.4, the ANSI standard on the same subject. The Steering Committee met and continued to deal with the complex task of defining areas needing attention, establishing priorities, and providing guidance as to the various other existing committees and organizations having an interest in, or a responsibility for at least a part of, the needs of education and training.

The tasks and titles for several working groups were discussed and adjusted to re-

flect current needs. No working groups were terminated or started, but WG 7 for Standard Methods of Measuring Performance of Audiovisual Equipment, which was organized in Ottawa, started work in Budapest.

All seven working groups met during the week and their reports were considered and accepted:

Working Group 1 — Symbols and Identifications. Under the able leadership of A. A. Crocker (U.K.), the editorial changes suggested to the six-month rule document formalizing approximately 100 selected international symbols for use in audiovisual equipment were discussed. Work also continued on the more difficult task of preparing and gaining approval of approximately 30 new symbols for use where no suitable symbols presently exist.

Working Group 2 — Electrical and Mechanical Matching. This group dealt with the problem of standardization in the interconnection of separate pieces of audiovisual equipment and the monumental task of considering the various national standards which exist and the local practices which have developed over the years. As the needs of international commerce and exchange are compared, reported, and discussed, some applications lend themselves to international acceptance. As an example, while the DIN-type connector seems to be the most universally used as far as different countries are concerned, it has little use in the United States. The 1/4-in phone jack has achieved almost international acceptance. The priorities of

ruggedness and simplicity are high in the needs of education and a number of projects are under way to determine the areas where agreement can be expected utilizing existing standardized connectors and agreeing on preferred electrical matching values. Future work will include video connectors and remote control for audio recorders and related equipment.

Working Group 3 — Electronic Learning Systems. The specifications for the audio cassettes control of one projector were completed and will be submitted for international consideration in the six-month rule document. Work has started on the specifications for the control of two projectors.

Consideration of more than two (multiple) projectors is being held as future work since each system in use today is quite specialized. Systems of digital control and microprocessing of control information are still very flexible, and it is too early to expect significant agreement and interchangeability even on a national level.

Proposals for the automatic control of recording of broadcast video as a requirement of education has been received and work is under discussion with SC 60B as to the feasibility and possible methods.

Working Group 4 — Equipment and Systems Safety. Of major concern to education are the safety factors related to equipment for educational use including grounding, mechanical hazards, physical stability, fire and explosion (xenon lamp) considerations and markings. A major concern to everyone is that while most factors are the same from one type of

equipment to another, responsibility is spread over many different committees and organizations with multiple requirements. Working Group 4 is working with a new ACOS Committee on Audiovisual Equipment which, among other things, is charged with preparing *one* standard for the safety requirements of *all* types of projectors.

Working Group 5 — Audio Recording Systems. Work is under way on a supplement to the recently published IEC Publication 574-10 to add the details of a superimposed cueing system along with other changes. It is intended that a draft of this work will be sent to the National Committees for comment at an early date.

Work was started on the preparation of documents for audiovisual magnetic cards and card readers, digital counters for audio cassette recorders, and the labeling of audio cassettes.

Working Group 6 — Video and TV Systems. This committee is watching the work of SC 60B very carefully to consider the choices which must be made in education and training making use of video considering the various factors of quality, portability, interchangeability and cost. Of special concern are such factors as operating practice and leaders for videotape and the special features of video disks and videotape recorders. The proposed three-letter code for matching tape and recorders was deleted.

Working Group 7 — Methods of Measuring and Recording the Performance of AV Equipment and Systems. The Secretariat of this working group has been accepted by Brian Boucher of the U.S.A. At this first meeting the working group spent considerable time defining its tasks, assigning individual responsibilities,

and preparing its schedule of work. The first need is to define the relevant parameters which are necessary to describe the performance of various types of audiovisual equipment. The following steps will be to identify all IEC and ISO standards which deal with the measurement of these parameters and then to consider standards from other sources which bear on the question. After this work had developed to some degree, the method of dissemination of the information will be considered.

The delegates to this conference were very gratified by the warm reception offered them by their Hungarian hosts and for the comfortable arrangements provided. Anyone interested in participating in these international activities is encouraged to make his interest known to the U.S. Technical Advisor, any of the above-mentioned U.S. representatives, or the SMPTE Manager of Engineering Services.

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