

# The People's Republic of China

## Addendum to the Progress Committee Report

*Ed. Note: This Report (prepared by Di Shi-  
jei, Film Bureau of the Ministry of Culture,  
Beijing, China) was received on 19 March  
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as an addendum to the Progress Committee  
Report.*

### Film

A total of 65 feature films were produced in 1979. Compared with the previous two years, the production of newsreel, documentary, scientific, educational, and animated films increased in quantity and improved in quality. The films were well-received by audiences.

In the production of these films, both China-made color negative film stocks and Eastman color film stock types 5247 and 5243 were used. In order to adopt the high temperature process of the ECN-II and ECI-II films, the major film studios and laboratories in Beijing, Shanghai, and Changchun modified their film processing equipment. Both test films and control parameters showed that with the new modifications they could meet the film processing requirements.

The production of color film prints by the dye transfer process was smoothly carried out. In the Shanghai Film Technology Plant, China-made dye transfer equipment was used, whereas in the Beijing Film Laboratory imported imbibition production equipment was fully accommodated. In 1979, all dye transfer film prints in China were produced using blank film stocks manufactured domestically. The technical quality of these film stocks became much more stable. Experimental work aimed at producing nonsilver dye transfer film prints was successfully carried out. It is possible now for both the Shanghai Film Technology Plant and the Beijing Film Laboratory to accept matrix films made in other countries for printing film copies, and both of these laboratories have shown an interest in providing such services to their colleagues abroad. They are also interested in exchanging technical information.

In 1979, the Light Source Research Group at the Shanghai Film Studio, with other relevant organizations cooperating, accomplished a great deal in the research and experimental production of new types of lighting equipment for film production. The most remarkable result was a series of metal halide lamps based on the use of rare-earth elements and suitable for location shooting of color films. One such group, ranging from capacities of 500 W to

2 kW, can operate from an ac power supply and has a working life of 30 to 100 hours. Another group, ranging from 1 kW to 5 kW of capacity, operates from a dc power supply and has a working life of 20 to 30 hours. Compared with usual halogen-tungsten lamps or carbon arc lamps these new kinds of light sources have a 1 to 2 times higher light output efficiency and smaller dimensions and therefore should mean a reduction in manual labor in film production. The dc metal halide lamps have the advantage of lack of flicker effects, which is caused by the frequency alternation of the mains supply and is typical for ac metal halide lamps.

In November 1979, a technical conference on environmental protection problems for film processing laboratories was held in Shanghai. At this conference representatives from different film studios and laboratories exchanged their experiences in the regeneration of chemical film processing solutions, silver recovery, water-saving and overall waste treatment. They discussed testing methods and various waste disposal standards for film processing laboratories. At the present time the TSS, CD-2, and CD-3 color film developers and bichromate and potassium ferricyanide bleach solutions can be regenerated using ion-exchange resins. The Shanghai Film Technology Plant also published its work on recovering silver from postfixing washwaters.

In 1979, Chinese film engineers and technicians further strengthened contacts and relations with their counterparts from other countries. In February, a Chinese delegation was sent to France, the United Kingdom, and the Federal Republic of Germany. In September an observer was sent to attend the International Symposium on Standardization in Belgium. In October, a delegation was sent to attend the SMPTE 121st Annual Conference in Los Angeles. In turn, SMPTE President Robert M. Smith, Vice-Presidents Harry Teitelbaum and Fred M. Remley, and Past-President William D. Hedden together with film specialists Milton Forman and Sidney Solow visited China in April and May and gave several lectures in Beijing. The Eastman Kodak Company (U.S.) also sent a technical delegation led by Al Williams. This delegation met with a number of Chinese film technicians and also gave a series of lectures. All of these contacts are very valuable and should help to create an even better perspective for further strengthening the cooperation of film technicians from all countries.

### Television

The main building of the China Central Television Station (CCTV) has a total architectural area of 5600 m<sup>2</sup>. It has three broadcasting studios. The largest studio occupies an area of 600 m<sup>2</sup> and is used for entertainment programs. The second largest has an area of 150 m<sup>2</sup> and is used for educational program production. The smallest one has an area of 40 m<sup>2</sup> and is used for newscasting. There are two sets of television broadcasting equipment, one set of program production facilities, and another set of tape editing equipment.

CCTV has four large color TV vans for OB production and transmission work and one truck with two sets of necessary equipment for ENG and EFP works. CCTV's transmitting station was built in 1967. Its tower height is 180 m. The effective transmission capacity of channel 2 is 50 kW and for channel 8 it is 10 kW. All transmitting equipment is made in China by the Shanghai and Beijing factories.

Of China's 30 provinces, state administered cities, and autonomous regions, 26 are able to receive programs transmitted by the CCTV through the microwave network of the country. Local stations also can send their programs to CCTV for joint broadcasting or for some further treatment in CCTV and later transmission. In 1976, CCTV started its satellite exchange program.

In order to raise the cultural, scientific, and technical level of the whole nation, the CCTV and the Ministry of Education have been jointly operating a Television University since the beginning of 1979. At present, there are 10 courses planned for the next three years. There are already 500,000 students enrolled. Currently there are four subjects being taught six times each week (each time the lecture lasts four hours). Together with review lessons, the Television University is on the air 41 hours each week.

Since 1976, the CCTV has been broadcasting in color using the PAL system. Videotape and motion picture films are the two main forms of broadcast material. Only a few news and live television programs are broadcast directly without pre-recording. CCTV also has a film department which can process 16-mm color reversal, original negative and positive films. It produces all the filmed and taped material it uses in news, documentary, and television entertainment programs.

The principal cities of China's provinces and autonomous regions also have television stations. In 1979, the City of Beijing established its own television station, using Channel 6 for its local programming.