

Obituary



Michael Z. Wysotsky

Michael Z. Wysotsky, Deputy Technical Director, Head of Engineering Research, Mosfilm Studios, a Fellow of the SMPTE, died in April 1981 at the age of 75, after a long and distinguished career in motion picture sound engineering. He received his doctorate from the Moscow Electro Technical Communication Institute. He was one of the first in the USSR to experiment in making 35-mm films with two-channel stereophonic sound, beginning his experiments in 1936. During World War II (1941-1945), he was Senior Engineer in the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission in the United States. In 1946 he returned to Russia where, as Chief Project Engineer for the Mosfilm Studios, he directed the studios' largest reconstruction program, increasing capacity to 40 and more feature films per year. He also developed special equipment for the production of various release prints from 35-mm anamorphic and 70-mm negatives.

Dr. Wysotsky was the author of several books on sound engineering and more than 100 articles in Russian and foreign professional journals. He was a member of the Editorial Board of *Technika Kino y Televideniya*. He was also a Member of the Board of several institutes devoted to motion picture and television research.

He joined the SMPTE in 1941 and became a Fellow in 1972. He contributed several articles to the *SMPTE JOURNAL*, among them, "Methods of Producing Different Release Prints From 35-mm Conventional, Anamorphic and 70-mm Motion Pictures" (Feb. 1966); "The 50th Anniversary of Mosfilm Studios" (June 1974); and (with B. N. Konoplev and N. D. Berstein) "A Universal Format for Film Production" (Sept. 1973).

During his lifetime he received many honors and awards, among them the Order of the Sign of Honor, a prestigious award presented by his government.

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