

# SMPTE Awarded Emmy by National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences

The highest accolade bestowed by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences — the Emmy Award — was presented to the SMPTE at the sixth annual Engineering Emmy Awards ceremony held September 12 at the Sheraton Centre Hotel. The award recognized SMPTE's "early recognition of the need for a digital-video studio standard, their acceptance of the EBU proposed component requirement and for the development of the hierarchy and line lock 13.5 MHz demonstrated specification which provided the basis for a world standard."

The Emmy — a genuinely beautiful statuette — was accepted for the SMPTE by Roland Zavada, accompanied by Frank Davidoff, Frank Davidoff, Inc., Lynbrook, N.Y., and Marcel Auclair, CBC, Montreal, Canada, representing Kenneth Davies, CBC. Davies is chairman of the Working Group on Digital Video Standards. Davidoff was chairman of the Task Force on Component Digital Coding.

Other SMPTE groups involved with digital developments included the Committee on New Technology (chairman, Robert Hopkins), Study Group on Digital Television (Charles Ginsburg), and Study Group on Digital Television Tape Recording (William Connolly).

The Emmy Award is given to an individual, a company, or an organization for developments in engineering which are either so extensive an improvement over existing methods, or so innovative in nature that they materially affect the transmission, recording, or reception of television.

Nine Emmys were presented at the September 12th ceremonies. Other than the SMPTE, the organizations and individuals thus honored were:

- RCA Broadcast Systems for the development of an electronic hand-held recording camera.
- The CCIR for providing the international forum to achieve a compromise of national committee positions on a digital video studio standard.
- The European Broadcasting Union for achieving a European



The Emmy Award

agreement on a component digital-video studio specification based on demonstrated quality studies.

- The 3M Company for outstanding achievement in engineering pioneering for the development of the first industry-accepted videotape.
- Mr. Mel Sater for his important contribution to the development of the first industry-accepted videotape.
- Ampex Corp. for the engineering development of the first transparent-quality real-time digital effects system of off axis-rotation, true third-dimension perspective, and ultra-smooth motion.
- Xerox Research Center for pioneering support for research leading to the development of the first

electronic graphic creative system.

- Richard G. Shoup for his concept and development of the first electronic graphic creative system which led to the importance of videographics in television today.

Recipients of the Emmy Award are chosen by a blue ribbon panel of the most highly qualified engineers in television. The panel considers and evaluates all the important engineering developments of the past year. The balloting is secret and a two-thirds vote by the panel is required before an Emmy is awarded. Chairman of the NATAS engineering awards committee is Robert M. Smith, Du Art, a position he has held for several years.