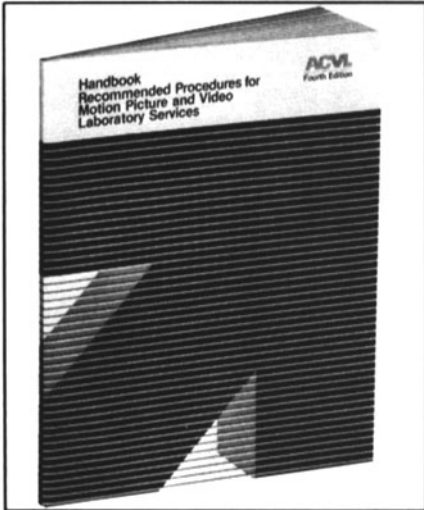


BOOK REPORTS



The Association of Cinema and Video Laboratories has published its 1983 edition of its *Handbook: Recommended Procedures for Motion Picture and Video Laboratory Services*. The objective of the new handbook, the 4th edition, is to foster better communications between the customer and the laboratory using language, terminology, and recommended procedures that can be mutually understood so that the laboratory can provide the correct services. The handbook, which has been in the making for several years, represents recommended procedures and practices by the nation's leading film and video laboratories. In commenting on the new edition, Irwin Young, ACVL President, said, "Through the efforts and input of our members, we have completely updated the film section and added an entire new section on video, slides, and film strips." Copies of the ACVL *Handbook* are available at a price of \$5.00 each from ACVL, P.O. Box 34932, Bethesda, MD 20034.

Cable Communication by Thomas F. Baldwin and Stevens McVoy is intended as a textbook. Baldwin is a professor of telecommunication and communication at Michigan State University, and McVoy is a cable industry entrepreneur and engineer in Columbus, Ohio. The book's first four chapters deal with cable technology in lay terms, including topics such as microwave, satellite earth stations, distribution plant construction, converters, descramblers, security systems, and two-way technology. Other chapters discuss specialized satellite networks, pay television, and videotext and provide information on federal and state policies, copyright and privacy laws, and the issues in franchising and refranchising. The authors also look at the future of the cable industry and other new communication technologies, noting, "There will be time to contemplate, understand, and control the more profound aspects of our

new communication environment as it develops."

The book is published by Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632. The price is \$23.

Handbook for Television Subtitlers by Robert Baker, Andrew Lambourne, and Guy Rowston has been published jointly by the IBA Engineering Division, Oracle Teletext Ltd., and the University of Southampton. The book (53 + iv pp.) is available, free of charge, to all broadcast organizations and to those actively concerned with film or educational applications of captioning, from IBA Engineering Information Service, Crawley Court,

Winchester, Hampshire, S021 2QA, England.

The book provides specific guidelines to the subtitling of television programs, by means of teletext, for the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

A section on real-time subtitling discusses the additional problems imposed during the subtitling of live television programs when speakers may be presenting entirely fresh material at up to 200 words a minute. The book points out that the value of subtitling-guidelines and techniques extends beyond their immediate use of teletext and has application to the second-language captioning of television and film material upon which many millions of

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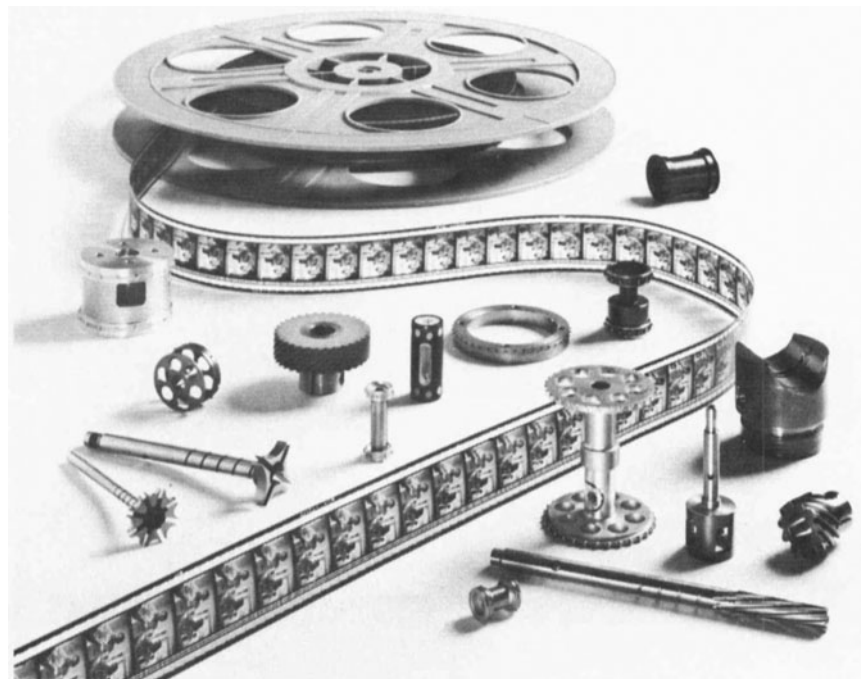
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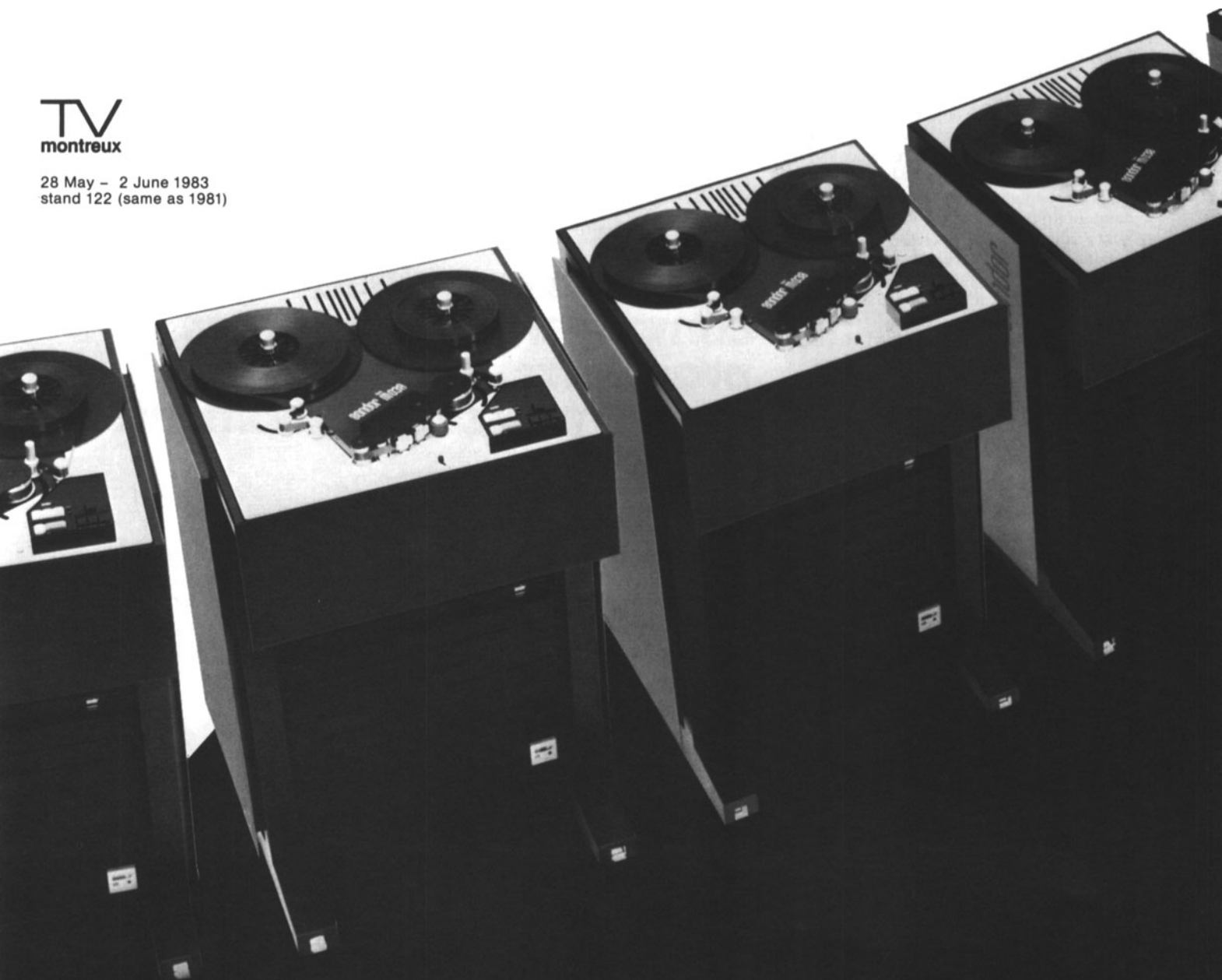


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The benefits of television subtitling for the deaf and hard-of-hearing have become increasingly evident during the past two years. With teletext these benefits are achieved without in any way affecting the hearing viewer, since the subtitles are seen only by those viewers who choose to use them by means of teletext receivers or adaptors.

Fiber Optics in Broadband Communications: A Technical Overview is a 16-page illustrated booklet describing the function of fiber optics technology, its advantages compared with present-day communications methods, and its limitations and design criteria. It is available from the Grass Valley Group, P.O. Box 1114, Grass Valley, CA 95945. The booklet is divided into three sections.

Section 1 is on the operational advantages of fiber optic links. For example, "Not only is the optical fiber not susceptible to absorbing noise, but it is also incapable of radiating its own information content. This again enhances the quality of flexible application of the system. The information content of an optical fiber is difficult to intercept and can, therefore, be viewed as 'inherently secure' making it a practical approach to the many security applications which exist in government and military environments."

Section 2 is on system design criteria. "The fundamental operation of fiber optic communication is based on the principles of light travelling through glass. Light waves travel at a speed of 30 billion meters per second in free space but slower in other materials. . . . Light travels at about 20 billion meters per second in glass."

Section 3 describes the role of the Grass Valley Group in fiber optic communications and gives a detailed description of the Wavelink™ fiber optic system.

The Handbook of Interactive Video, edited by Steve and Beth Floyd, is available from Knowledge Industry Publications, 701 Westchester Ave., White Plains, NY 10604, at a price of \$34.95. The 168-page book examines some of the ways in which interactive video is being used today including flight training programs, interactive marketing presentations, surrogate travel, and others. Interactive video, the marriage of computer and video technology, is changing the use of television as a teaching communications medium by allowing viewers to participate actively in the programs. Users of an interactive program proceed each at his own pace. A correct answer leads to the next segment, while an incorrect answer can lead to a remedial segment or, depending on the program, to a video segment which graphically depicts the results of the error.

The *Handbook* serves as a practical guide to using this new technology effectively. Six authors take the reader through each step of the interactive process. The

authors emphasize the distinctions between traditional linear video with the intent of helping the reader to avoid errors that can be made when using a new technology for the first time.

Digital Image Processing: A Systems Approach by William B. Green (203 pp.) is available from Van Nostrand Reinhold, 135 W. 50 St., New York, NY 10020, at a price of \$34.50. The book makes a practical approach to digital image processing. It is intended to enable readers to design a computer-based system to process image data and also to enable them to meet design requirements that arise when developing software specifically for image processing applications. The book contains numerous diagrams and almost 100 practical illustrations of techniques and hardware components. The illustrations and block diagrams demonstrate various computer peripheral devices that are being used now as well as devices that will be used in the future.

A technical bulletin describing the use of fiber optics in computer graphics communication networks is available upon request from Artel Communications Corp., P.O. Box 100, West Side Station, Worcester, MA 01602. The four-page bulletin illustrates the operation and configuration of wideband T/R-201X series optical communication systems in long distance remoting of high-resolution RGB color and monochrome graphics workstations. The bulletin explains how fiber optic cables can extend the processor-to-work station separation up to 100 times farther than by using coaxial cables and without losing video resolution. System block diagrams show the configuration of both video and data signal paths in a typical RGB color graphics application.

The Guide to Profitable In-House Production, a 12-page illustrated guide to studio production techniques, is available upon request from Broadcast Production Guide, MCI/Sony, 1400 West Commercial Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309. The guide is intended especially for radio and television stations that are reevaluating audio hardware in current use and planning upgrades, particularly in the light of stereo broadcast opportunities. The booklet details the new MCI/Sony Broadcast Audio Production System, a complete customized production facility including 8-track recorder, multitrack console, and mix-down stereo recorder. The system's heart is an MCI/Sony JH-618 recording/remixing console configured especially for broadcast applications with ten microphone/line inputs and five stereo line inputs for turntable and tape machine. Also included is the JH-110C-8 8-channel recorder/reproducer.

The guide's text and diagrams illustrate each machine's technical features and explain how they function in broadcast production work. Also explained are basic techniques of multi-track production.



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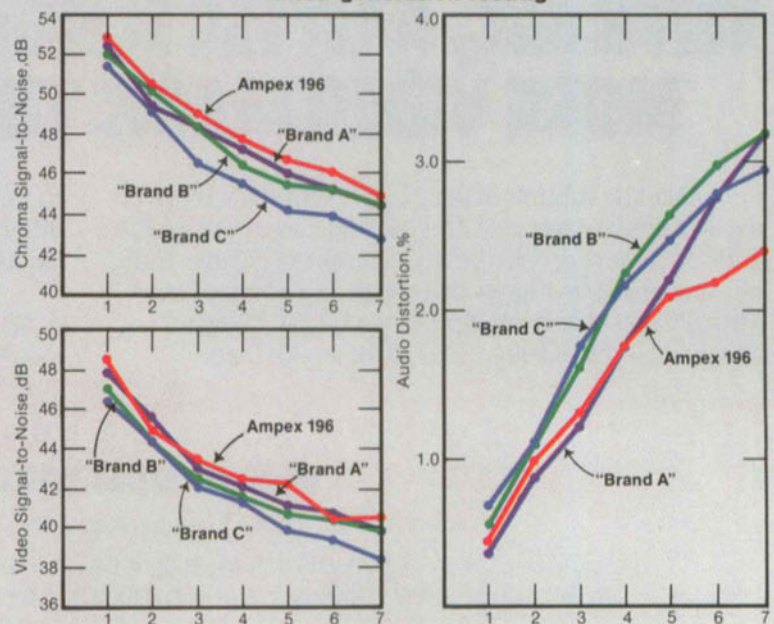
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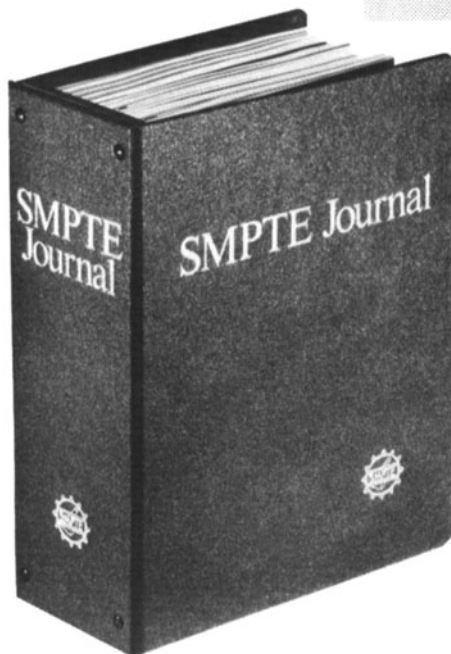
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The Vii Test Equipment Selector Chart, available from Visual Information Institute, Inc., P.O. Box 33, Xenia, OH 45385, offers a review of the firm's High Technology Television Test Instruments. Three categories of test instruments are diagrammed: Adjustable (signals and patterns conform to varying requirements), Vii Proportional Clocked (generators with totally clocked pulses and patterns for demanding applications), and Custom Clocked (clocked computer-type design using larger scale integrated circuits and PROMS). Categories of preset and selectable scan rates are also displayed. Also outlined is Vii's line of synchronizing generators, both internal and separately packaged units.

Video and pulse delay lines and video filters are described in an eight-page illustrated catalog available from Allan Avionics, Inc., 224 E. 2nd St., Mineola, NY 11501. Among other equipment, the catalog describes the Hum Eliminator HEC1000, a device used to eliminate hum and other interference in video lines caused by differences in ground potential. Also described are random noise measurement networks and pre-emphasis and de-emphasis wave-shaping networks. A delay equalized lowpass filter, the VSL4P5, is also described.

The 8000 series high-resolution CCTV system is described in an illustrated data sheet available from Cohu, Inc., Electronics Division, P.O. Box 85623, San Diego, CA 92138. The 8000 series provides up to 1400 lines of resolution from a 1-in. image tube and has selectable bandwidths of 8, 16, or 32 MHz and a choice of scan rates from 405 to 1749 lines per frame.

Wavelink fiber optic systems are described in two illustrated data sheets available from The Grass Valley Group, Inc., P.O. Box 1114, Grass Valley, CA 95945. The Wavelink system converts an electrical signal to a modulated light signal, transmits it through fiber optic cable, then reconverts the optical signal back to its electrical equivalent at the receiving end. By so doing, the data sheet points out, the signal is exceptionally well maintained over much greater distances than would be possible with metallic cable.

Interactive Video Served on a Disc is the title of an eight-page booklet that explains the varied uses for Scotch laser disks. The booklet, illustrated with colorful charts, drawings, and photographs, describes several videodisk applications as well as the technological advantages of the optical disk format. For example, it notes that the laser videodisk offers the capacity of 675 80-slide carousel trays of information and notes also that videodisks may be used as an in-store selling aid or as an information storage and retrieval medium. The booklet is available upon request, on company letterhead, from Optical Recording Project, 3M Center, 223-5S, St. Paul, MN 55144.