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# NEWS

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Six classes and workshops for professional filmmakers, arranged by International Film Workshops, Rockport, ME 04856, will be held November 3-14 in New York City. The series includes a one-week workshop covering film and television lighting and a training course for Steadicam and Panaglide operators. The workshop series is sponsored by leading film and video manufacturers who will provide state-of-the-art cameras, lenses, and lighting and production equipment.

Satcom I, the nation's first 24-transponder domestic communications satellite, was retired June 4, by its owner, RCA American Communications, Inc. Satcom I had been in service 8½ years, and had travelled more than a half-billion miles. The retirement was accomplished by RCA Americom's Space Systems team by boosting the satellite above geosynchronous orbit over the equator. Satcom I will continue to move in an ever-increasing altitude above the earth.

Satellites such as Satcom I are maintained in their assigned positions on the

orbital arc by firing small, on-board thrusters that counteract the pull of gravity and the effect of solar winds. The thrusters are powered by a finite amount of hydrazine fuel. When the fuel is exhausted, the spacecraft can no longer be controlled, and the satellite must be retired.

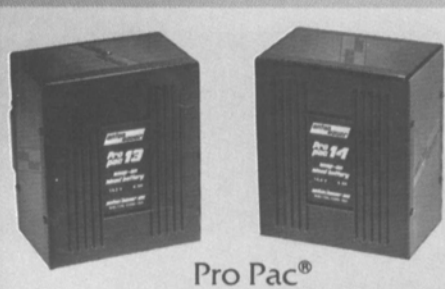
Grass Valley Group, Inc., is currently manufacturing a 440 Series video switching system for NASA at Kennedy Space Center. The switcher, the largest that GVG has ever built, will be located in a control center in the vehicle assembly building, the second largest building in the world in terms of volume. The system will route television pictures from cameras at launch facilities to many different destinations at the Space Center.

The system features custom software/control and will have the capacity for insertion of countdown information in each video output. The system consists of 22 equipment racks, each 122 in. high and 34 in. deep, 32 miles of cable in the switcher, and a 5-bay master control console. It is expandable to 512 inputs by 512 outputs.

Harrison Systems and The BTX Corp., Bedford, Mass., have signed an agreement covering the development of BTX automation products for incorporation into the Harrison family of audio consoles. According to the agreement, Harrison will offer an in-console version of BTX's Softouch™ audio editing system in the Harrison line of consoles. BTX will tailor the system to Harrison's specifications. The Softouch system allows the operator to automate and control many of the disjointed post-production processes associated with sound effects assembly, sweetening, and dialogue replacement.

Ampex Corp., Redwood City, Calif., has been granted licenses by Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. Ltd., Osaka, Japan, which will allow Ampex to use Matsushita's patents and technology to make a new generation of thin-film, high-density video recording tapes. The licenses grant the use of Matsushita patents and technology for five years with an option to extend. Ampex will have the nonexclusive right to manufacture and market the product worldwide including in Japan.

Nick Simpson, managing director, Kay Laboratories, London, has been elected president of the British Kinematograph Sound and Television Society to serve a two-year term. He has been BKSTS treasurer since 1974.



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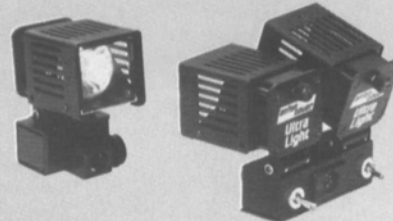
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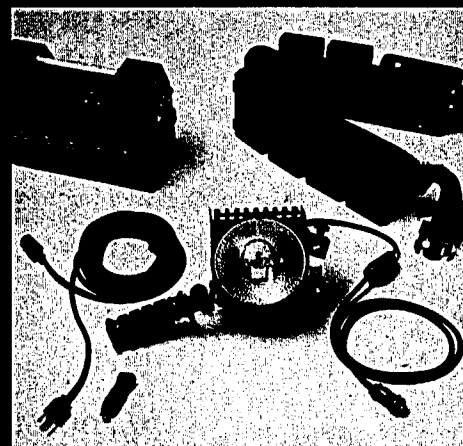
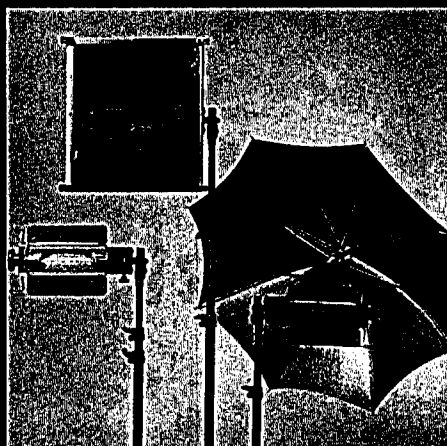
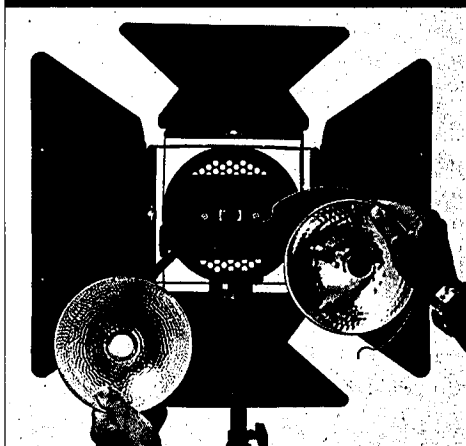
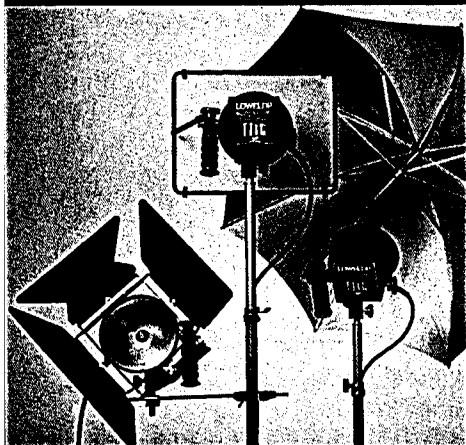


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**Kenichi Kano** has been appointed senior vice-president and general manager, NEC America, Inc., Broadcast Equipment Div., with headquarters in Elk Grove Village, Ill. A 30-year employee of NEC Corp., Kano has served in engineering and systems marketing of NEC's video products. Most recently, he held the position of general manager of the Broadcast and Video Systems Div.



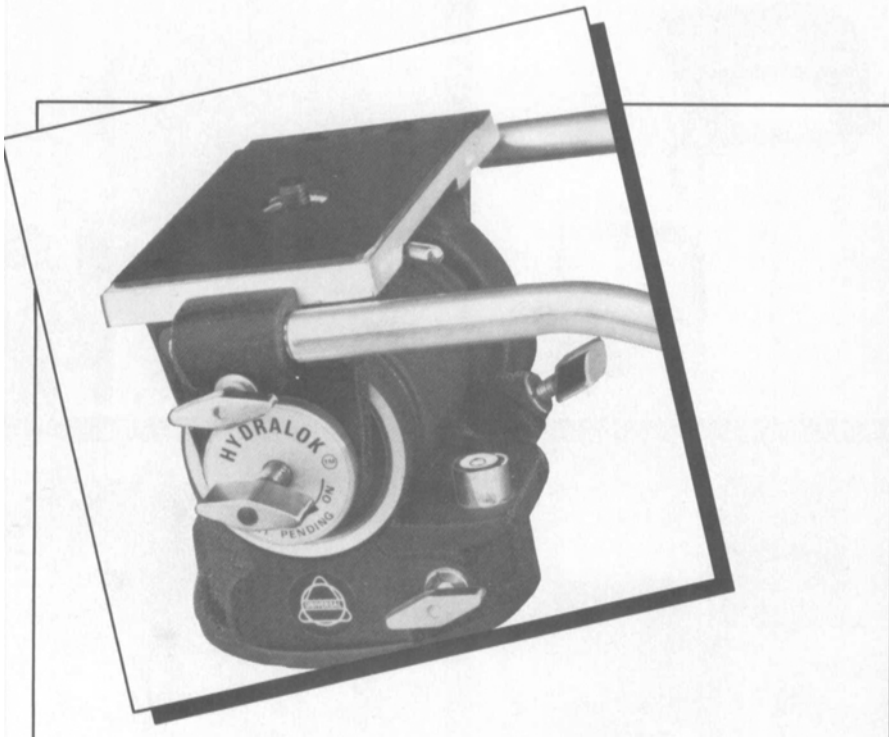
**Henry A. J. Clapp** has joined Agfa-Gevaert, Inc., Teterboro, N.J., as director of marketing North America, Motion Picture Div. Prior to joining Agfa-Gevaert, he was vice-president and chief executive officer of Film House Group, Toronto. Previously, he had been sales manager for motion-picture products, Photo Importing Agencies, Ltd., Toronto, and owner of Clapp Chemicals, Toronto.



**Edward Efron** has been appointed vice-president, Color Systems Technology Inc., Los Angeles, Calif. In his new position, Efron will head the company's High-Technology Group. Prior to this appointment he was director of development, ABLE Computer. Previously, he served as a research engineer on the Apollo project, working on the on-board visual simulation program for North American Aviation.

**Steve Silberberg** has joined ABC as supervisor of closed-captioning, ABC Broadcast Operations and Engineering. His responsibilities include coordinating ABC's closed-captioning activities and serving as liaison between ABC's broadcast operations and engineering, and the National Captioning Institute. Before joining ABC, he was with Showtime/The Movie Channel as network operations coordinator.

**Kent Gratteau** has been appointed manager of engineering for KWGN-TV, Denver. He was previously assistant director of engineering, KMGH-TV, Denver, and at WTSP-TV, St. Petersburg, Fla.



**Addendum  
June 1984, p. 600**

The News section of the June issue of the *Journal* featured a story on John G. Frayne. We would like to add the following information, which has just been received.

John Frayne, former president of the SMPTE, was presented with the Gordon Sawyer Award (an Oscar) by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences on March 31, 1984. In addition to this honor, Mr. Frayne was the recipient of a Commendation Medal from the Academy in 1979.

**Erratum  
July 1984, *Journal*, p. 667**

Re: *Dimmable Lighting System for a TV Studio* by Keiichiro Ryu

Figure 2 of this article was inadvertently printed upside down. The photograph appears correctly below:



Figure 2. Interior of studio.