

The 1984 Progress Report

Prepared by the Progress Committee of the SMPTE



M. Carlos Kennedy
Chairman, Progress Committee

FOREWORD

My first duty as Executive Vice-President started before I officially took office when I became Chairman of the Progress Committee. The committee has prepared the 1984 Progress Report, which continues the tradition of reporting the achievements in the fields served by the Society.

The Society has gone forward by eliminating the offices of Affairs Vice-Presidents and creating the new positions of Engineering and Editorial Directors for both motion pictures and television. This Progress Report is the first prepared since these new positions were created. These directors have had a major part in assisting both the Editorial Vice-President and the Engineering Vice-President in preparing this report.

Progress also continues in technical standardization, one of the SMPTE's most important activities. Over 100 engineering meetings were held in 1984. The cooperation with engineering standards organizations continues. SMPTE held, for the first time, joint meetings with EBU specialist groups in the areas of digital television tape recording and analog components. The SMPTE Working Group on High-Definition Electronic Production was formed at the request of the ATSC, and the SMPTE HDTV Psychophysics Working Group continues its work to support ATSC activities.

The work in preparing the NASA engineering guideline on motion-picture equipment for the space shuttle is nearing completion. Significant progress on completing the digital television tape recorder standard was made, and the studio analog component system was developed and demonstrated during the 126th SMPTE Technical Conference.

SMPTE represented the U.S. at the IEC meeting on television recording held in Frankfurt. The Society was also represented by Harold Eady and Kenneth Mason at the Paris UNIATEC meeting.

The 18th SMPTE Television Conference in Montreal was one of our most successful, with an excellent papers program and technical demonstrations on new television technology trends in the areas of 3-D television and improved and enhanced display systems.

The first SMPTE technical conference held outside of North America was "Sound & Vision '84" hosted by the Australian Section in Sydney, in June. This was a great success and plans are already under way for the 1986 conference.

The 126th SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit was the most successful New York conference ever, with a 20% increase in exhibit space over the last New York conference.

The Society, as one of the sponsors of the IBC, had an exhibit in Brighton, England, at that conference. Over 50 new members joined the SMPTE at that time. We also had an exhibit at the NAB show.

The Society's editorial staff continues to pioneer in their use of computers in the preparation, editing, and typesetting of the *Journal*.

In December 1984, a meeting was held by Leonard F. Coleman, the Society's then President, with officials of ABC, CBC, CBS, NBC, and Group W, to explore the current position of the Society and plan its television future so as to be most beneficial to the television community. This was a historic meeting that set the groundwork for future meetings to help the Society's officers plan our course in television.

The motion-picture and television industries are making dramatic technical progress at a phenomenal rate. Motion-picture companies are expanding into television as our two major disciplines come closer together. The 1984 Progress Committee is pleased to document this progress for the benefit of SMPTE members and others in the industry we serve.

I would like to express my appreciation to everyone who has helped in preparing the 1984 Progress Report, especially to the Progress Committee; to the Editorial Directors, Edward J. Blasko and Donald C. McCroskey; to the Engineering Vice-President, Richard G. Streeter; to Jeffrey B. Friedman, Editor of the *SMPTE Journal*, and the other members of the Editorial Dept. A special thanks goes to Rae Hargrave, not only for this year, but for all the years she has been so vital in the production of the Progress Report. Rae will retire this summer and will be missed by all. We all wish her an enjoyable retirement.

— M. Carlos Kennedy, Chairman, Progress Committee