

News

Digital Television Tape Recorder Standard Accepted by CCIR Study Groups

At the final meetings in Geneva of the International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR) Study Groups 10 and 11, the recommendation for a component digital tape recording (DTTR) format for worldwide exchange of television programs was approved. This unanimous action completes the final technical review prior to consideration by the Plenary Assembly which will meet during May 1986 in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia.

The new DTTR format was developed in close cooperation with the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), and its approval is a key element in the establishment of standards for an all-digital TV studio, which started four years ago with CCIR Recommendation 601, the component digital video encoding standard. These standards are of particular significance, since they represent agreement among the world's manufacturers and broadcasters on commonality of equipment. The CCIR is a permanent organ of the International Telecommunications Union, which is itself a specialized agency of the United Nations.

The advent of the DTTR will make possible major improvements in television by the utilization of digital components, and it will provide essentially transparent reproduction of the original image and sound through many generations of recordings.

Additional information may be obtained from Barry Detwiler at SMPTE Headquarters, or F. M. Remley, Chairman WG-DTTR, University of Michigan, Media Resources Center, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

New SMPTE Sustaining Members

Ten new sustaining members of the SMPTE have been announced by SMPTE Sustaining Membership Chairman Edmund DiGiulio, Cinema Products Corp. Joining more than 250 motion-picture and television equipment manufacturers and service suppliers currently on the SMPTE Sustaining Membership roster are Abekas Video Systems, Inc.; B&B Systems; Computer Prompting Corp.; InterGroup Video Systems (ISI); Leitch Video of America, Inc.; Motion Picture Association of America; Ryudensha Co., Ltd.; Schwem Technology; TFT, Inc.; and YCM Laboratories.

Abekas Video Systems, Inc., manufactures and markets digital video products for the production, post-production, and television broadcast markets. The company's A52 digital special effects system, a digitally-decoded 4:2:2 high-performance signal system, offers transparent picture quality in the form of NTSC and RGB outputs. Abekas Video Systems has its offices in Foster City, Calif.

B&B Systems, based in Valencia, Calif., manufactures stereo audio and time-code verification systems for television post-production, radio broadcasting, and other applications. B&B Systems' unique Imagescope, introduced recently, allows an engineer to actually see a graphic display of a stereo audio image. The firm is also involved in telecine design and scene-to-scene color correction.

Computer Prompting Corp., Washington, D.C., offers the CPC-1000, a computerized teleprompter that operates on the IBM PC, XT, and AT. The model provides powerful features and is easy to use.

InterGroup Video Systems (ISI), Gainesville, Fla., manufactures audio and video teleproduction equipment. The most recent addition to the company's complete line of products is the 903E switcher, designed for use in areas where space is limited. ISI emphasizes quality control and affordability in the manufacture of its products, as well as an overall commitment to innovation.

Leitch Video of America, Inc., designs and manufactures a line of video broadcasting and production equipment. Among the products in this diverse line are sync generators, test signal generators, distribution amplifiers, and video processing amplifiers. Leitch Video maintains its headquarters in Chesapeake, Va.

The Motion Picture Association of America, located in New York City, has as members the ten leading U.S. producers and distributors of films for theaters and television. MPAA serves the motion-picture industry by representing the interests of these member companies.

Ryudensha Co., Ltd., is a leading manufacturer of lighting control consoles and luminaires for motion-picture and television studios and theater stages. RDS offers a complete line of lighting products, including microprocessor-based memory lighting control consoles, motorized and manual monoples, and flood lamps. Ryudensha is headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, with branch offices in Germany, Singapore, and Hong Kong.

Schwem Technology, headquartered in Pleasant Hill, Calif., is a new company, seeking to make its mark in the industry with a revolutionary image stabilizing

zoom lens for ENG hand-held cameras. The small, lightweight zoom lens eliminates vibration in the image without the use of brackets or braces. Stabilization is accomplished optically.

TFT, Inc., Santa Clara, Calif., manufactures aural and frequency modulation monitors for radio and TV. The company offers a wide variety of other products to the broadcast engineer, including STLs, remote-control systems, and emergency broadcast equipment.

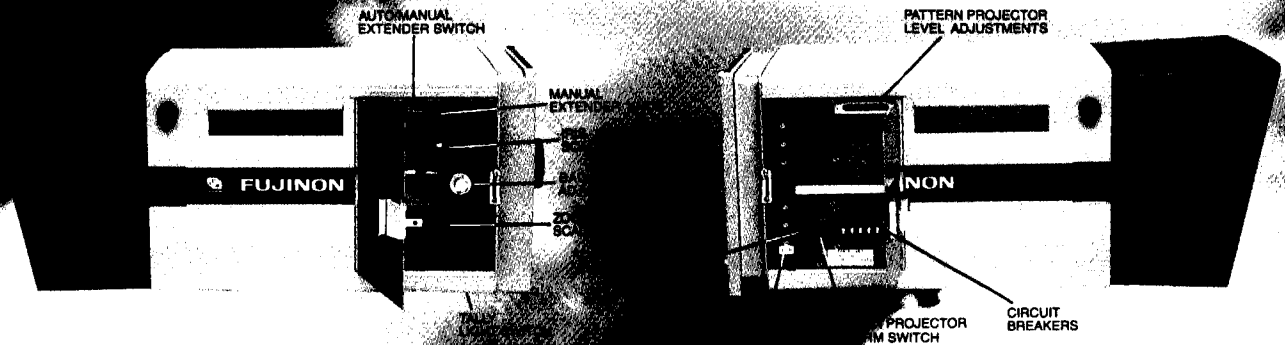
YCM Laboratories specializes in color reproduction and sound transfer. Color reproduction services include contrast, ratio, and balance modification of color material; format and aspect ratio conversion from two, four, and eight-perforation formats; and archival presentation. Some of the company's sound transfer services are noise reduction, re-equalization, and variable selective filtering. YCM is based in Burbank, Calif.

The Illuminating Engineering Society of North America will hold its third annual Summer Workshop of Lighting at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, N.H., July 6-19, 1986. The workshop, for teachers of lighting, covers the basic and advanced concepts of lighting design. An intensive series of lectures, demonstrations, and design projects promises to arm the teacher with the information needed to develop a comprehensive introductory lighting course for students of engineering, interior design, theater arts, and architecture. Inquiries can be directed to John E. Kaufman, Technical Director, IES, 345 E. 47th St., New York, NY 10017.

Photokina 86, the next Photokina World's Fair of Imaging, will take place September 3-9, 1986, at the Cologne Fairgrounds, Cologne, Germany. The annual event attracts photographic trade professionals, users, and consumers from around the world. This year, a special professional media segment will be launched; some 500 suppliers of professional film and video equipment, broadcast systems, AV communications, and studio photography are set to occupy 463,000 ft² of exhibition space. Further details are available from KölnMesse, P.O. Box 21 07 60, D-5000 Cologne 21, F.R. Germany, or from the German-American Chambers of Commerce in New York City and Los Angeles.

IBC 86, the 11th International Broadcasting Convention, will be held in Brighton, England, Sept. 19-23, 1986. Papers for presentation and discussion in IBC's technical program are invited. Topics will include satellite and cable distribution, enhanced and high-definition television systems, and digital multi-channel sound. At the complementary IBC exhibition, the world's leading manufacturers and

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smaller, specialized companies will display the latest broadcasting equipment. A highlight of the convention will be the presentation of the IBC 86 Award, which recognizes "a significant contribution over any period of time by a person or group of persons to all aspects of broadcasting and allied research, design, development, manufacture, operational practice and management, without restriction as regards nationality or country of residence." Further information about IBC 86 and the IBC Award is available from IBC Secretariat, Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London WC2R 0BL, England.

The 10th International BKSTS Film and Television Technology Conference and Exhibition will be held at the Metropole Hotel Conference and Exhibition Centre, Brighton, England, June 26-30, 1987. Paper subjects in the technical program will focus on film and video and the integration of their images for various display systems. The BKSTS 87 exhibition provides a showcase for manufacturers and service companies to demonstrate professional film, television, video, sound, and AV equipment. Further information on the conference is available from BKSTS, 110/112 Victoria House, Vernon Pl., London WC1B 4DJ, England.

Motion Picture Laboratories, Inc., plans to open a film and video post-production facility in Nashville, Tenn., it was announced by MPL President Blaine Baker. With this new branch, MPL, headquartered in Memphis, will be able to provide its Nashville customers with faster 16 and 35mm color negative processing and 3/4-in. video editing services. The edit suite will feature EnVision, a system that integrates film and video editing techniques using computer technology. Jerry Sterr, with MPL for 17 years, will head the Nashville office. Sterr previously served as manager of MPL's laboratory in North Carolina.

Adams-Smith has established a U.K. subsidiary near Cambridge, England, to provide end-user and distributor support for Europe. The new firm, managed by David Godsmark, was expected to become fully operational sometime during November 1985. Adams-Smith, based in Hudson, Mass., is the manufacturer of System 2600, a modular line of time-code, tape synchronizing, and audio-for-video sweetening equipment for use by recording studios and post-production facilities.

Norman Enterprises, Inc., has announced the acquisition of Bardwell & McAlister, Inc., a manufacturer of lighting and grip equipment for the motion-picture and video industries. Immediate plans call for Bardwell & McAlister, which will continue to operate at its Hollywood, Calif., location, to expand its product line in both

lighting and grip equipment. Norman Enterprises, headquartered in Burbank, Calif., is a supplier of studio electronic flash equipment for the professional photographer. It is a subsidiary of Photo Control Corp.

Harris Corp. has acquired the product rights, inventories, and equipment of ADDA Corp. The video systems operation of Harris' Broadcast Group will absorb the manufacturing function of a portion of ADDA's product line, which includes time-base correctors, frame synchronizers, electronic still-store systems, and digital video effects systems. These products complement and broaden Harris' existing line of equipment for the radio and television broadcasting industries. Additionally, Harris Corp., located in Melbourne, Fla., will offer parts and repair services for selected products manufactured by ADDA.

An "electronic workprint" disc-making service for users of the EditDroid® editing system has been announced by Pacific Video, Inc. The disc-making service provides film-to-tape-to-disc transfer or tape-to-disc transfer from any film or videotape format. The service uses the ODC optical laserdisc recorder to produce duplicate laser videodiscs that are, in essence, electronic workprints for editing purposes on a daily basis. The disc-making service includes telecine transfer and digital audio syncing from original negative.

Color Systems Technology is using a highly advanced computerized process to color-convert segments of television programs originally filmed in black and white. The results of this patented process, known as color spectography, can be seen in color-converted segments of ABC's "Ripley's Believe It or Not," NBC's "Alfred Hitchcock Presents," and Showtime's "Honeymooners Anniversary Celebration." Buddy Young, president, believes that color-converting segments of pre-1964 television programs and feature films will increase commercial and video-cassette sales around the world.

Panasonic has announced that its Premium Standard, Super High Grade, and Hi-Fi videocassette tapes will now bear the Quality Certification Mark. The red and gold rectangular mark, awarded by the Reliability Center for Electronic Components of Japan, signifies official third-party recognition of a manufacturer's consistent product quality. Certification is accorded only after a long series of investigations into the design, quality control, and technological excellence of a manufacturing system. Panasonic's videocassette tapes are manufactured by Matsushita Electrical Industrial Co., Ltd., the parent company.

Bernard Happé has been elected president of the British Kinematograph Sound and Television Society (BKSTS). Happé was formerly affiliated with Technicolor Ltd. in England as technical manager. He was the technical editor of *Screen Digest*, and continues to serve as a writer and consultant in the field of motion-picture technology. In 1976, Happé received the Herbert T. Kalmus Gold Medal Award from the SMPTE.

James A. Comella has been appointed midwest product sales manager at EEV Inc. Comella began his sales career at Apeco Video Systems, subsequently joining GBC, CCTV, and Roscor Corp. He then took sales positions at CEI/Panavision and Hitachi Denshi in 1979 and 1982, respectively. Before joining EEV, Comella was a regional sales manager at CMX/Orrox.

Debra Garcia has been appointed a product manager in the Marketing Dept., Strand Lighting. In this position, she will manage the marketing of Strand's control consoles and dimming and theatrical luminaires through the company's worldwide network of dealers and representatives. Garcia has a background in technical direction and lighting design.



Joan V. Silver has been promoted to president, Reeves A/V Systems, New York, N.Y. Previously, Silver was vice-president and general manager at Reeves, a broadcast and industrial video equipment sales and service dealership for Panasonic Professional/Industrial Video, Sony Industrial Video Communications, Tektronix, Ikegami Electronics, and others.

Christin Hardman has been named product planner at CMX Corp., a video editing systems installer based in Santa Clara, Calif. Hardman joined CMX in 1981, serving as staff editor and, most recently, product specialist. She has had extensive experience in the editing field, having served as a professional video editor for Videography, Trans American Video, and 4D Productions.

James Wood, Jr. has been appointed to head the newly established Pro Video Service Div. of JVC Service and Engineering. Wood joined JVC, based in Elmwood Park, N.J., in 1983, as a special products manager. Prior to that, he was systems technical support manager with Harris Corp. He has also worked for Sony Video Products Co. as national service administrator.