

News

SMPTE Forms Ad Hoc Group on High-Definition Studio Systems

The SMPTE has formed an Ad Hoc Group on High-Definition Studio Systems to document the specifications for the current 1125-line/60-field high-definition television (HDTV) system, it was announced by SMPTE Engineering Vice-President Richard G. Streeter, CBS, Inc. The Society's effort to prepare a series of documents on the HDTV system is being undertaken in response to requests from the Advanced Television Systems Committee (ATSC), the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., and the CTV Television Network in Canada.

The ad hoc group's documents will define the colorimetry, optical/electronic conversion, scanning parameters, blanking waveforms, and other details of the 1125/60 HDTV signal. Other documents will define studio level interfaces for the HDTV signal, in both analog and digital terms. The timing reference signal for the HDTV studio will also be defined.

The chairman of the ad hoc group is Keith Field, Canadian Broadcasting Corp.

Robert Bosch GmbH and N.V. Philips Gloeilampenfabrieken, have jointly founded BTS — Broadcast Television Systems GmbH. The new company was established so that Bosch and Philips may continue and extend their mutual activities in the television equipment field. Bosch will integrate into BTS its Television Systems Div. in Darmstadt, F.R. Germany, and Robert Bosch Corp.'s Video Equipment Div. in Salt Lake City, Utah. Philips will bring to the merger its development and manufacturing facilities in Breda, The Netherlands, and its sales company, Philips Television Systems Inc., in Mahwah, N.J. The company will be headquartered in Darmstadt.

Quantel has been honored with the Industry Service Award from the Broadcast Designers Association (BDA). The award, presented by former BDA President Jan Phillips at the June convention of the organization in Dallas, recognizes outstanding contributions to television and to BDA members. Quantel, which has its U.S. headquarters in Palo Alto, Calif., manufactures electronic systems for graphics and animation.

The New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) has announced that its Computer Graphics Laboratory was honored for excellence in technical achievement by the Videotape Production Association. The association presented three 1986 Monitor Awards to NYIT's laboratory for its outstanding graphics work on the opening segment of "CBS Sports Saturday and Sunday." Established in 1975 at NYIT's campus in Old Westbury, N.Y., the Computer Graphics Laboratory houses an extensive array of computer hardware and is staffed by computer scientists who conduct important graphics generation research.

The Motion Picture and Television Engineering Society of Japan, Inc. (MPTESJ), has announced new officers. Kinya Takagaki, Tokyo Broadcasting System, has been appointed president, succeeding Masahiko Morizono. The society's other new officers are: Yasuaki Hashizume, NHK Technical Service, executive director; Keinosuke Nakajima, NAC, assistant executive director; Setsuya Mizuarai, NHK, assistant executive director; and Izumi Yamana, secretary general.

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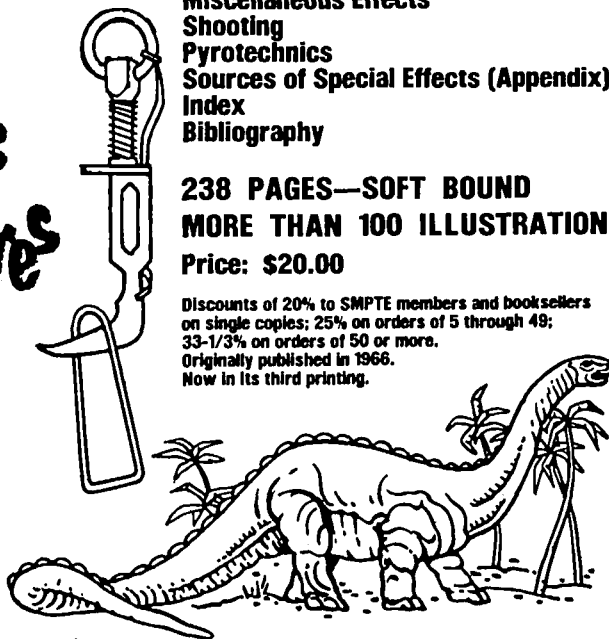
Frank P. Clark

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CONTENTS: The Development of Special Effects
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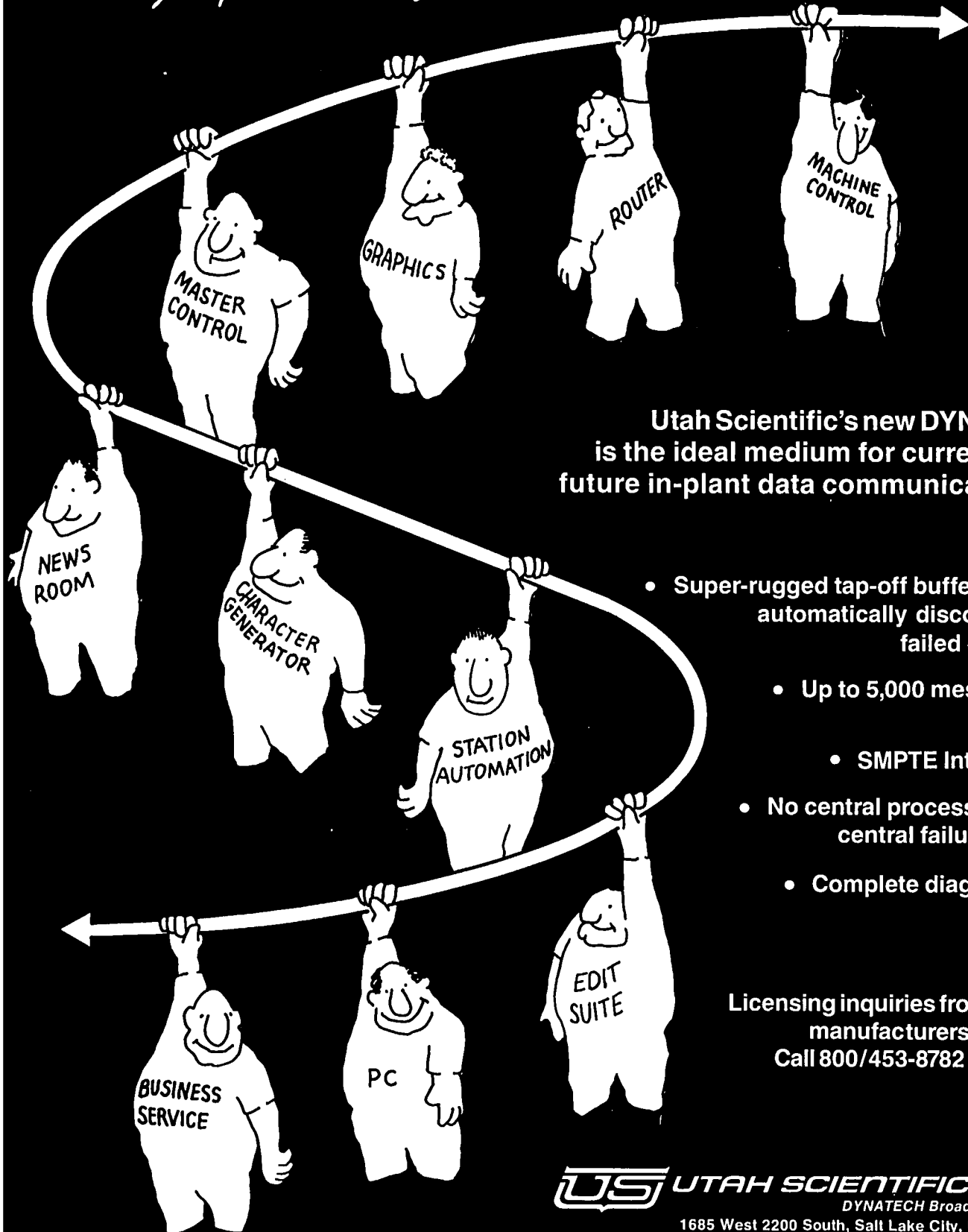


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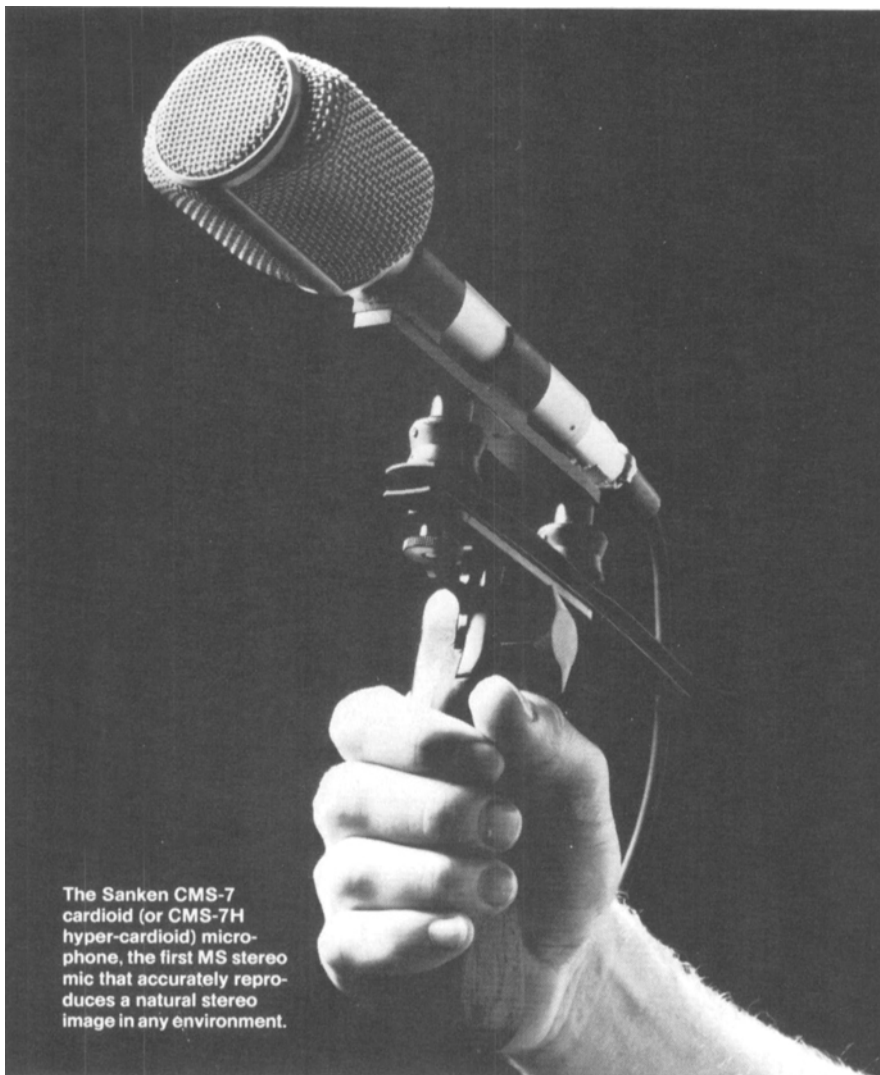
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William H. Butler has been appointed president of The Droid Works, San Rafael, Calif. Butler, who has extensive product development, manufacturing, and sales experience in the television industry, has served in top management positions at several companies, including Memorex, CMX Systems, CEI, and Bosch-Fernsch. At CMX Systems, which he founded in 1970, Butler was involved in the development of the CMX 600, an editing system acknowledged in the industry as the forerunner of today's nonlinear, random-access off-line editor.

John F. Monahan has been named vice-president of engineering, M.P. Video, Inc., Natick, Mass. Monahan joins the firm, which manufactures miniature video cameras, from the Broadcast Systems Div. of RCA, where he was unit manager of engineering programs. He also served as manager of television camera development in the Broadcast Products Div., Harris Corp. While he was at RCA, Monahan, a holder of 12 U.S. patents, was involved in the design and development of the Emmy Award-winning CCD-1 solid-state camera.

Takeyuki Arai has been named chairman of the board of Tamron Co., Ltd., Japan. Yasumasa Mizushima will assume Arai's previous position as president and chief executive officer of the company. The changes in top management were made, in part, so that Tamron could expand in the optics field. The company recently completed the first phase of a new plant that will produce engineering plastics.

Obituary

Edward A. Graf

Edward A. Graf, a member of the SMPTE, who was a decorated major in the U.S. Air Force, died May 19, 1986, at the age of 66. He was interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.

Maj. Graf was born June 16, 1923, in Philadelphia, Pa. He attended North Dakota Agriculture College, the University of North Dakota, and Temple University. As a military man, he served the country for 23 years, through World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. Graf served with devotion and distinction, having been honored with the Bronze Star and Air Force Commendation Medals.

After his military retirement in 1970, Graf continued to work for the USAF and NASA as motion-picture laboratory supervisor, Technicolor Government Services, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla.