

# News

**Toronto, April 8** — This meeting, held at the Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Toronto, drew a total of over 100 members and their guests. After a videotape on the Tsukuba EXPO 85 Science Exposition was shown, Section Chairman Fung F. Lam, Sony of Canada Ltd., presented a technical overview of the 8mm video system.

Lam's introductory remarks centered on industry efforts to standardize 8mm videotape. In 1985, 127 companies adopted the 8mm video format, following a developmental process that began with standardization discussions in 1980. The 8mm videocassette, which is about 20% of the volume of VHS cassettes, incorporates several unique operational features, including signal recording, playback and automatic gain control circuits, head-to-tape speed characteristics, and the tracking system.

According to Lam, the 8mm video system uses a novel method of four frequency-tracking pilots to provide a fully automatic tracking system, and it automatically identifies and makes adjustments for metal powder or metal evaporated tape. The video 8 system contains no stationary heads. All audio, video, and pilot information is carried by the rotating video heads, and a 2-track erase head, on the same drum, provides an automatic record/edit function. If only sound information is desired, the system will provide up to 12 hours of PCM audio recording. Following the technical presentation, the audience was given an opportunity to closely inspect an 8mm demonstration tape. — David L. George (Secretary/Treasurer), Imagineering Ltd., 95 Barber Green Rd., Suite 112, Don Mills, Ont., Canada M3C 3E9.

**Washington, D.C.** — Douglas Drew, Allen Fleitell, and Douglas Smith, all affiliated with host City Lights, offered an interesting program on television, film, and theatrical lighting. City Lights, located in Washington, is a lighting and production facility. The firm provides lighting equipment, along with the talents and expertise of an in-house staff of cinematographers, lighting designers, and other professionals, to local television stations, film production houses, theaters, businesses, and even churches. The firm also has a grip truck for location shooting.

The three speakers enthusiastically talked about their facility, pointing out its range of services, past accomplishments, and recent assignments undertaken. Following the discussion, they demonstrated fresnel, ellipsoidal, PAR, and border lights. Special effects were created by using projection templates (gobos). The speakers then fielded questions from the audience, after which a tour of the facility was conducted. — David A. Cmeyla (Secretary/Treasurer), U.S. Information Agency, 601 D St. NW, B/TVF/FSL, Washington, D.C. 20547.

**Members of the SMPTE Archival Papers and Historical Committee** have been selected by Chairman John Belton, Columbia University. The committee is composed of Albert Abramson, CBS, Inc.; Evan W. Cameron, York University; Steven Chamberlain, Arriflex Corp.; Leonard F. Coleman, Eastman Kodak Co.; Richard T. Dayton, YCM Laboratories; Steve Garfinkel, Showtime; Robert Gitt, University of Southern California (Los Angeles); Peter Hammar, Ampex Corp.; Calvin Hotchkiss, Eastman Kodak Co. (retired); John B. Kuiper, George Eastman House; Eugene Ostroff, Smithsonian Institution; Roderick T. Ryan, Eastman Kodak Co.; Ralph Sargent, Film Technology; Arnold C. Schieman, Restoration House Film Group; Anthony Slide, Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences; S. Frederick Spira, Spiratone Inc.; and Heinz H. Thiele, consultant.

In response to the considerable interest expressed by both the Society's membership and the industry at large in film and video restoration, the 128th SMPTE Technical Conference will feature one or more archival sessions. The new committee is actively soliciting technical papers for the session(s). According to Conference Program Chairman Jack Spring, Eastman Kodak Co., the archival papers will shed light on some of the restoration efforts recently undertaken by individuals, institutions, and corporations.

**The 1986 Annual Seminar of the SMPTE Rocky Mountain Section** will be held September 13, 1986, at the Regency Hotel in Denver, Colo. The seminar, the theme of which is "Imaging Technology," will include technical papers on the following five subjects: High-Definition Television, The M-II Format, Digital Sound, Ampex Corp.'s ACR-225 Spot Player, and Enhanced NTSC. The featured presenters will include top industry professionals from Sony Corp.; NBC, Inc.; Eastman Kodak Co.; and Ampex Corp. Douglas Trumbull, co-chairman of Showscan Film Corp., who is widely recognized as a Hollywood legend in the field of special photographic effects, will be the keynote speaker at the seminar. Registration information is available from Paul Deer, Western Cine, 312 S. Pearl, Denver, CO 80209.

**The 1986 Rocky Mountain Film & Video Expo** will be held September 29-30, at the Regency Hotel, Denver, Colo. The exposition, in its second year, will feature the latest professional film and video equipment from well-known national and international distributors and manufacturers.

For more information, contact Mark Frost, (303) 534-4040.

**China Film, Sound & Stage '86** will take place December 1-6, 1986, at the Beijing Exhibition Centre, People's Republic of China. Organized by China Expo Management Corp., the widely promoted trade exhibition aims to import motion-picture, television, and theatrical equipment and technical expertise from around the world for use by China's rapidly growing entertainment industry. China Film, Sound & Stage '86 is endorsed by both the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Television, Radio, and Film, P.R. China. Exhibitors or individuals desiring further information may contact Joann Coviello at China Expo Management Corp., 6 E. 39th St., New York, NY 10016.

**A series of technical discussions on high-definition television (HDTV)** drew representatives from the U.S., Europe, and Japan to Tokyo, May 6-7. Attending the HDTV conference were representatives of the European and Japanese television manufacturing industry, the U.S. Advanced Television Systems Committee (ATSC), French broadcasters, the Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK), and a Japanese delegation of the Broadcasting Technology Association. The constructive meeting addressed the particular problems each country faces relative to the worldwide use of HDTV.

**The Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)** has established a Master of Science degree in color science, appearance, and technology. The program, which will be offered beginning in the fall semester, 1986, is designed for students whose undergraduate majors are in imaging science, photography, graphic arts, and other disciplines pertaining to color. The curriculum for the graduate major will stress color measurement, color appearance, and colorant formulation. Additional information is available from Dr. Roy S. Berns, Munsell Color Science Laboratory, RIT, P.O. Box 9887, Rochester, NY 14623.

**The Mitsubishi Pro Audio Group**, San Fernando, Calif., has adopted the SMPTE/EBU RS422 standard. In making the announcement, the company said that its entire line of digital audio recorders as well as its Westrex film master motion controllers will be engineered to conform to the new interface standard. According to a spokesman, the decision to adopt the RS422 standard relieves the studio facilities of having to develop their own complicated interfaces.



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## Sherwin H. Becker Joins Headquarters Staff as Manager of Engineering

SMPTE President Harold J. Eady, Novo Communications, Inc., recently announced the appointment of Si Becker as Manager of Engineering, effective August 1, 1986. Becker will succeed Alex E. Alden, who has held this position for the past 25 years. The Society will continue to have the benefit of Alden's expertise as a consultant until his retirement.

Becker, who had been with Allied Film & Video since 1965, was named director of engineering in 1975, and was elected a vice-president of the company in 1977. He had previously been affiliated for 15 years with Douglas Film Industries of Chicago, initially as an editor, writer, cinematographer, and director of audio-visual motion pictures, and later as head of the motion-picture laboratory.

Becker was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1978, in recognition of his technical achievements in motion-picture printer design, processing machine drives, chemical replenishment systems, and printer light valves. Among his many inventions are a manual additive light valve (1968), an automatic additive light valve (1973), an electronic solution-level controller (1970), a demand drive processing machine (1971), and an automatic chemical replenisher control system (1974). In recent years, he has developed computerized motion-picture color-correction systems, automated chemical mixing systems, printer loop cabinets, laboratory-quality control systems, and many other projects used by motion-picture laboratories throughout the world.

As a consultant, Becker has worked with such well-known companies as Bell & Howell, Peterson Engineering, Triese Engineering, and Mead Corp. He has also written training programs for Eastman Kodak service and engineering representatives and served as an instructor at the Kodak Marketing Education



Sherwin H. Becker

Center. In addition, he wrote several sections of the Association of Cinema and Video Laboratories (ACVL) *Handbook*.

Becker's recent work has centered on developing new techniques for film/video interface. One of his projects was a new computer-aided system that retains the simplicity of motion-picture techniques in the creative editing of films, yet fully utilizes the electronic advantages of television technology in optical effects, character generation, and automatic program assembly on videotape.

Becker has been a member of the Society since 1953, and has played an active role in its affairs. He served as Governor, Central Region, for the 1982-83 term, currently serves as Sections Vice-President, and is a U.S. representative to the motion-picture working group of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). In past years, he presented a number of technical papers at the Detroit, Chicago, Toronto, and New York Section meetings.

**Southern Productions**, a full-service film and video production company located in Nashville, Tenn., has announced the installation of Nashville's first graphics and animation studio for television. The service is based on the recently unveiled Artstar 3-D computer, manufactured by Colorgraphics Inc., which features advanced 3-D modeling, 3-D animation, and 3-D vector-type capabilities. According to Lynn Bennett, president, the Artstar will not only offer dramatic improvements in the way animation is produced, but will reduce the time it takes to draw and animate, resulting in overall cost reductions.

**Audio Kinetics Ltd.** has added four agents to its worldwide distribution network. Appointed were J-Mar Electronics Ltd., Toronto, Canada; Sonotechnique PJJ Inc., Montreal, Canada; Kem-Electronics O.E., Attica, Greece; and Acesonic Co. Ltd., Taipei, Taiwan. Audio Kinetics, whose U.S. distribution office is located in Middletown, N.J., manufactures the Q-Lock series of SMPTE time-code synchronizers and the MasterMix disc-based console automation system.

**The Henry Crown Space Center and Omnimax Theater** has opened at the Chicago

Museum of Science and Industry. The 334-seat Omnimax Theater, the main attraction of the \$12 million center, is an innovative domed auditorium which incorporates advanced cinematic technology to show oversized 70mm films. The theater, the 11th such facility built in the U.S., uses film frame, projection, and audio technology developed by Imax Systems Corp., Toronto, Canada.

**FOR-A Corp. of America**, a supplier of video broadcast and post-production equipment, has moved to larger headquarters in the Nonantum Office Park, 320 Nevada St., Newton, MA 02160. David E. Acker, president, announced that the new facility, which more than doubles the space of the previous one, allows the company to maintain a significantly larger inventory of products for improved delivery. All of FOR-A's U.S. marketing, research and development, and service operations will be handled at the new headquarters.

**EEV Inc.**, a supplier of electron tubes, has recently relocated to 4 Westchester Plaza, Elmsford, NY 10523. The facility, about double the size of EEV's previous plant in Elmsford, provides additional space for the company's expanded sales force and test operations. The move also allows the company to maintain a larger inventory and to broaden its services to customers. EEV Inc. is a subsidiary of EEV Co. Ltd.

**Joseph A. Moscarel**, one of the film industry's most knowledgeable executives on anti-piracy matters, has announced his early retirement as vice-president, film and videotape security and anti-piracy, Paramount Pictures Corp. During the past five years

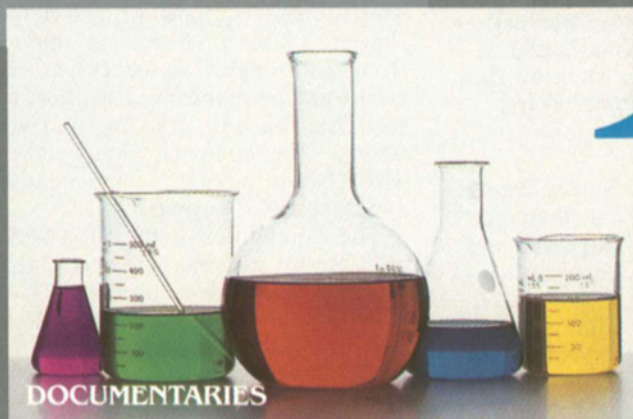


in that position, Moscarel was responsible for developing a series of controls to strengthen film and videotape security at Paramount. He devised a ten-point program on piracy prevention, which was subsequently adopted by most of the major member companies of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA). Moscarel also developed a print coding technique, a highly efficient system that is utilized on a worldwide basis to track film and videotape piracy.

Moscarel, a member of the SMPTE and other professional societies and organizations, will continue as a special consultant in anti-piracy matters with Paramount. He is considering doing other industry consulting work and writing a book on film and videotape piracy.

**Saul Walker** has been appointed manager for Broadcast Marketing, Mitsubishi Pro Audio Group. His role is to develop sales in the New York region for the firm's

# The New Look



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professional audio and film equipment. Before joining Mitsubishi Pro Audio, Walker served as vice-president of marketing and product development at Straight Wire Audio, Arlington, Va. He was also a co-founder, in the late 1960s, of Automated Process, Inc.

**Tom Weems** has been named director of marketing for National TeleConsultants, Inc. Weems joins the firm after having held executive positions in broadcast engineering at KMOS-TV, Sedalia, Mo.; KOROTV, Corpus Christi, Tex.; KCMO-TV, Kansas City, Mo.; WTVH-TV, Syracuse, N.Y.; WPLG-TV, Miami, Fla.; and KQED-TV, San Francisco, Calif. He will be responsible for national and international marketing at National TeleConsultants, a broadcast facility design firm located in Glendale, Calif.

**William Meyer** has joined Dixieland Productions as chief engineer. Prior to joining the Atlanta-based video production and post-production facility, he was director of engineering for One Pass Video Systems, Bolton, Ont., Canada. Meyer also held design engineering positions at Inter-

national Video Corp. and Television Research International. He designed and installed production facilities for CKVU-TV, Vancouver, and was active in the construction of CITY-TV, Toronto.

**Emily J. Damrow** has been named advertising and administrative manager, Motion Picture Products Div., Agfa-Gevaert, Inc., Teterboro, N.J. In this position, she will manage the division's U.S. advertising and promotion programs, and will assume responsibility over budgets and inventory control. Previously, Damrow was assistant advertising manager/marketing assistant in the same division. Damrow has been affiliated with Agfa for 22 years.



**Anne Whedbee** has joined Studer Revox America, Inc., as advertising manager. Her responsibility will be to supervise and coordinate all aspects of the company's in-house advertising department. Prior to joining the distributor of audio recorders and other products, Whedbee worked at DeRoyal Industries, Inc., as advertising/art director.

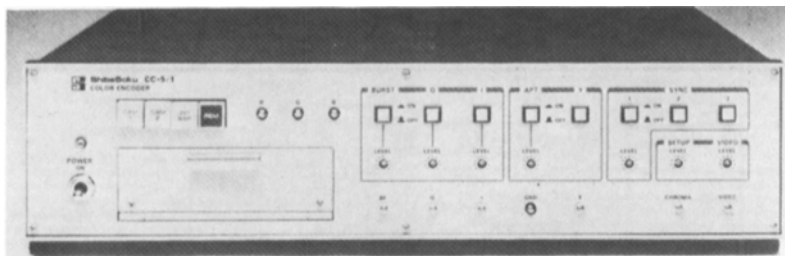
## New Products

*Further information about these items can be obtained from the addresses given. As in the case of technical papers, the Society is not responsible for manufacturers' statements, and publication of these items does not constitute endorsement of the products or services.*

**The SP-3AES 3-chip CCD camera and a remote-control unit for cameras** have been announced by NEC America, Inc., 130 Martin Ln., Elk Grove Village, IL 60007. The camera is equipped with an electronic shutter capable of 16 step-variable speeds from 1/60 through 1/1500 sec. It features accurate and permanent registration, and is free from burn-in, sticking, and cometailing. The compact, lightweight SP-3AES provides NTSC, component video, and direct RGB outputs.

The capabilities of the SP-3AES and other SP-3A cameras in the NEC product line can be enhanced by the RCU-3 remote control. The unit permits standard camera cable to be extended up to distances of 1000 ft, or up to 1.5 mi when used with triax cable.

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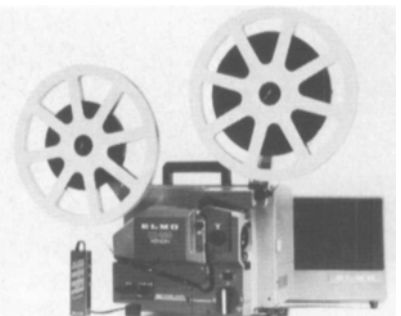
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*Elmo CX-350 Xenon projector*

**The CX-350 Xenon portable 16mm projector** has been introduced by Elmo Manufacturing Corp., 70 New Hyde Park Rd., New Hyde Park, NY 11040. The projector uses a high-efficiency 350-W xenon arc lamp to provide sharp projection images. The light source has an estimated life span of 1500 hr. Its newly engineered 30-W amplifier makes possible dramatic sound reproduction. The projector, which is compatible with all optical and magnetic films, features low-voltage remote control, automatic loop resetter, automatic film tension control, and the company's patented film guide system.

**The CVS microprocessor-based color monitor** has been introduced by Barco-Industries, Inc., 170 Knowles Dr., Suite 212, Los Gatos, CA 95030. The broadcast monitor has both a digital and an analog