

The 25th Annual SMPTE Television Conference

Westin Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, February 1–2, 1991

The 25th Annual SMPTE Television Conference will abound with educational opportunities, including an all-day seminar on digital recording which will be held on January 31, 1991, at the Westin Hotel in Detroit, the day before the conference begins.

"The Thursday tutorial will offer an unusual opportunity to learn about the intricate technology, uses, advantages of, and concepts and reasons for digital television tape recording. It should prove to be useful in better understanding some of the conference papers that will be presented during the following two days," said Program Chairman Rudy Kryger, CBC.

"This seminar is designed to be understandable for technologists, helpful for engineers, and valuable for producers who have experience in analog television recording and who require a familiarity with digital recording formats," said SMPTE Engineering Director of Television Ken Davies, CBC, organizer of the event.

The seminar will provide attendees with the information and skills needed for the introduction, application, and system-level maintenance and operation of digital recording. In addition, participants will receive a summary of available documentation concerning standards, and sources of additional information on digital recording, interfaces, coding, and error management. Presentations will be made by experts from the research, development, and engineering segments of various manufacturers and from experienced users of digital recorders.

The seminar will begin with a welcoming introduction by Davies and the distribution of reference materials. Then, John Watkinson, a noted technical expert and author of *The Art of Digital Video*, will present "Fundamentals of Digital Recording — Part A," a session devoted to tapes, heads, tracks, head/tape interfaces, and writing/reading. John P. Watney, Ampex Corp., will then present "Fundamentals of Digital Recording — Part B," which will focus on data coding and error management.

During Session 2, entitled "Putting Video and Audio on Tape," Watkinson and Watney will make a presenta-



Program Chairman Rudy Kryger

tion on video recording, discussing scrambling, shuffling, error coding, segments, sectors, error performance, and stunt modes. They will then discuss audio recording, in terms of pre-processing, error coding, segments, sectors, error performance, time codes, auxiliary data, and reference tracks. Koichi Sadashige, consultant, will conclude the session with a talk on specialized recorders, touching on magnetic discs, optical, and RAM.

During Session 3, "Recorder Characteristics," Jurgen Heitmann, BTS, and Hugo Gaggioni, Sony, will discuss the D-1 4:2:2 component and HDTV, while Eric F. Morrison, Ampex Corp., and Yoshinobu Oba, NHK, will provide information about the D-2 and D-X NTSC composite formats.

Session 4, "Video and Audio Applications in Production," will include a presentation by François Michaud, CBC, on interfaces, video, audio, and data control; a discussion on D-1 applications by Marcos Obadia, Lime Lite Video; and information on D-2 applications, provided by Tom Cavanagh, CBC. There will also be a presentation on LMS Systems. The session will close with a discussion by Koichi Sadashige on the future of digital recording, focusing on bit-rate reduction, new media, and innovative formats.

The seminar will end with a wrap-up session which will include summaries of the presentations. Also, demonstrations will be given of recent production elements from digital recorders, presented and explained by their contributors. Afterwards, atten-



Engineering Director, Television, Ken Davies

dees will have an opportunity to interview speakers and discuss the specifics of digital recording.

Conference Program

The Television Conference, entitled "A Television Continuum — 1967 to 2017," will offer attendees a broad look at television's past and its future. It will begin on Friday, February 1, with a "A Path to the Future," which will briefly review the significance of the past 25 years of television technology. The second session, "Forward to the Present," will highlight such technologies as HDTV standards, EDTV methods, and digital recorders. Saturday's sessions will begin with "Back to the Future," which will continue coverage of present technologies and offer discussions on the newest industry concepts.

"Crossroads to the 21st Century," a special joint session with the Audio Engineering Society, will conclude the conference. This session will focus on future developments with predictions of new ideas and technologies, such as the impact of computer/television integration, possibilities of establishing worldwide standards of transmission, the use of direct-broadcast-satellite for global distribution, optical fibers, flat-screen TV displays, and recording by using purely electronic means.

"The Detroit Section is indeed fortunate to have such highly motivated and enthusiastic conference and seminar committee members," Kryger said. "As a result, this will be a lively and informative 25th Television Conference."