

Section Meetings

Australia, June 5, 1990 — At a meeting held at Pro-Image Duplication, Dennis Fripp explained the various methods of videocassette duplication and discussed the alternative systems that are available for high-speed duplication. Fripp noted that real-time copying is appropriate for small quantities such as corporate videos, but high-speed duplication is preferable for larger volumes, as in the video rental market. He added that high-speed duplication offers lower maintenance and quality-control costs, and has a higher dub quality. The 20 attendees were then given a demonstration of the company's Sony Sprinter system, which has a higher capital cost but lower installation and energy requirements. The audience was then shown two videos, one copied in real time and the other copied on the high-speed system. Of interest, the majority of the viewers were unable to distinguish one from the other. — Dominic Case (Past Chairman), Colorfilm Pty Ltd.

Hollywood, June 19, 1990 — A panel discussion on Exhibition in the 1990s was held at Paramount Stage 31 before an audience of 150 people. S. Ross Hering of Lucasfilm's Theater Assurance Program reviewed the quality levels that create an "enhanced movie-going experience." He said that people are willing to pay for THX and cinema digital sound. Larry Jacobson, AMC Theaters, reviewed the changing patterns and costs of distribution and exhibition. He noted that increased revenues are from ticket prices and not from attendance, which has been flat for many years. Robert Marich, business editor of the *Hollywood Reporter*, providing an investor's view of the economics of exhibition, said that the business is healthy and that it is showing its fifth year of gains against increased leisure-time competition. The panel was organized by Section Manager John Mason, Eastman Kodak Co. Outgoing Section Chairman Mike Chewey opened the meeting by awarding service plaques and office strips to past officers. — Milton R. Shefter (Secretary/Treasurer), Paramount Pictures Corp.

Houston, June 20, 1990 — Larry Thorpe, Sony Advanced Systems, presented a paper outlining the history of the development of HDTV, the political problems and ramifications of its development, and the rationale behind the consideration of more than one standard depending on the intended use of the medium. He described the MUSE system now in use in Japan for DBS delivery of programming and the EDTV 1 and 2 systems now under consideration for terrestrial delivery. He also

described the system under consideration in Russia that is designed primarily for electronic distribution for theaters and secondarily for home delivery.

Thorpe detailed the multitude of complications that have arisen from attempting to make any one HDTV system fulfill all of the demands and needs of the public, producers, and distributors of media in all its forms. He emphasized the integration of film and video in as many facets of both production and distribution as possible. He pointed out that HDTV should be con-

sidered for the present demands and needs of the medical, science, and business communities and that serving the motion-picture industry and the general public should be lower in priority. He then gave a demonstration of HDTV with a videodisc player and an HDTV monitor. After the presentation, which was held at Houston Sports Enterprises, the 90-member audience was given a tour of the master control rooms, and the editing and networking facilities. — Robert Musburger (Secretary/Treasurer), University of Houston.



Larry Thorpe addressing an audience of over 100 people at the June 20 meeting of the Houston Section.



One of seven master control rooms used by Houston Sports Enterprises to distribute 24-hour sports programming to five regional and national cable networks.



"Allen Gives Us Reliability."

That's what Hank Bartels, chief engineer of Precision Film Laboratories in New York City, said was most important. "We wanted machines that would last, and we got them."

Since Allen Products helped pioneer color positive and negative second generation processors, it has extensive knowledge about the ECN-2 and ECP-2 processes. Which can be a huge boost to any lab's output.

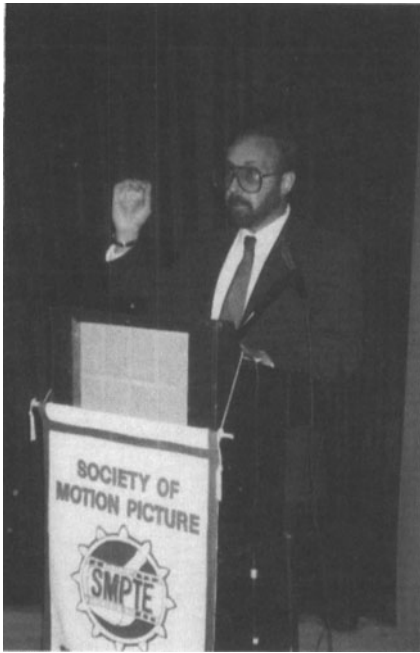
During its many years of involvement, Allen has developed processors to meet the innovative needs of the industry. It continues to do so, and also offers the best in service, value and quality. Along with any kind of assistance possible.

Call Goetz Vehse, our motion picture market engineer. And find out why Hank Bartels added, "Allen's quality of machine, and product turned out, are superior."

Visit the Allen Booths
SMPTE — 1710
Photokina — Hall 12-2

 **Allen Products**

180 Wampus Lane, Milford, Connecticut 06460
Telephone: 203 878 7454 Fax: 2038776346



Robert Orzack presenting a paper on videotape duplication at the May 16 meeting of the New York Section.

New York, May 16, 1990 — Videotape was the topic of two presentations at the New York Section's May meeting, held at the MGM Theater. Kevin Fitzgerald, 3M, gave a tutorial on videotape formats. Discussing market applications by format, he used a time chart to show the origination and expected life span of the 21 videotape formats he described.

Robert Orzack, Cine Magnetics Video and Film Laboratory, gave a talk on videotape duplication. After giving an overview of the business and the various services provided by duplicators, he discussed current trends in formats, duplicating methods, quality considerations, and duplicating speeds. He added that customers have many alternatives to choose from to achieve their videotape duplication needs. He stressed that customers must become aware of the many options available and trade offs required when price and quality are weighed. He noted that the most important part of a duplicator's business is a well-informed customer service staff, which can advise customers of the best procedures and materials for their specific applications. — Edgar A. Schuller (Manager), Entertainment Video Systems.

New York, June 20, 1990 — Formidable problems exist in the conversion of D-1 to D-2. In order to convert from 4:2:2 component digital to 4 f_{sc} composite digital, a common sampling frequency of 470.5 MHz is used. Differences also exist in the number of quantizing levels between D-1 and D-2 and color difference in the signal axes. At the June meeting, representatives from several companies discussed their approach to D-1 to D-2 conversion.

Ed Engberg of ACCOM highlighted the programmable encoding parameters of the D-Bridge 122, including various prefiltered modes and selectable color difference bandwidths. Skip Yord of Grass Valley Group described the DTC series of transcoders, which includes the DTC-221 composite to component transcoder. According to Yord, two transcoders can be housed in a single frame, allowing for a key channel. Bruce Lilly, Sony, discussed the DFX-1200 (D-1 to D-2) and DFX-2100 (D-2 to D-1) digital rate converters. Of note, there is a lack of prefiltering in the DFX-1200. The companion DDU-2100 provides automatic delay of eight digital audio sources and time code. Following the presentations, there was a hardware demonstration, and the 95-member audience was able to view test signals and 4:2:2 film transfers. — Jay H. Ballard (Secretary/Treasurer), NBC.

Ottawa, April 18, 1990 — A presentation on the Museum of Civilization Applications Supported Intelligence Network (MOCASIN), was given by Howard Dean, its designer. Describing the museum as an intelligent building, Dean said that it houses an internal system that accommodates fiber optics, co-axial cable, and twisted pair applications. This network consists of a central control center that is linked to 1000 universal communications outlets (UCOs) located throughout the one-million-square-foot building. Data, telephone, radio frequency, and fiber-optic signals can be distributed throughout this system.

MOCASIN was designed and installed during the museum's construction because the building's architectural design does not allow for future retrofitting. Opened in 1989, it now stands as a tribute to Canada's past, however, Dean de-

scribed it as "a digital island in an analog sea." He said that he hoped MOCASIN will be used as a universal resource for the development of such future projects as HDTV processing and LAN systems. Following the presentation, the 28 members and guests were given a tour of the museum. — John Howard (Chairman), Broadcast Service, House of Commons.

Toronto, June 12, 1990 — Over 100 people attended the Toronto Section's final meeting of the year, which was held at VTR Productions. The meeting opened with a short film, produced by VTR Productions, extolling the virtues of joining the SMPTE. After the film, Dave George, Chairman of the 1990 SMPTE Mini-Conference in Toronto, gave an overview of that event. Then a technical paper, "The Avid Nonlinear Editing System," was presented by Tom Ohanian of Avid Corp., who described the system as a digital, random access, nonlinear processor that stores images on hard drives and recalls them in real time as directed by the editor. Material can be entered into the system and immediately become digitized and stored on a number of hard drives. Part or all of the stored material can be withdrawn as required and stored in bins. He gave a demonstration of the system and showed how, through the use of pull down menus and a mouse, control over the system can be effected. Following his presentation, Ohanian was given the SMPTE Plaque of Appreciation by Past Chairman Fred Lemmin. Lemmin also received a plaque for his service as Chairman and Walt Bebenek was presented with a plaque in appreciation for his tenure as Secretary/Treasurer. The meeting was followed by a wine and cheese reception. — Walter Bebenek (Secretary/Treasurer), Ampex Canada, Inc.



Kevin Fitzgerald (second from right) providing New York Section members with technical literature at the May 16 meeting.