

## ISO Technical Committee ISO/TC 36— Cinematography Meets in Berlin

The 18th triennial meeting of ISO/TC 36—Cinematography, hosted by ISO member body Deutsches Institut für Normung e.V. (DIN) Normenausschuss Bild und Film (Image and Film Department), took place in Berlin, Germany, on October 13-16, 2003. SMPTE serves as the Secretariat for this technical committee through the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The Chairman and Secretary is Carlos V. Girod, Jr., P.E., SMPTE Director of Engineering.

Appropriately, the meetings began on October 13, the eve of the 34th World Standards Day, October 14. The theme for World Standards Day 2003 was “Global Standards for the Global Information Society.”

Each year on October 14, the members of ISO, the IEC, and ITU celebrate World Standards Day, which is a means of paying tribute to the collaborative efforts of the thousands of experts worldwide who develop the voluntary technical agreements that are published as international standards. We believe that cinematography, motion picture film, theatrical exhibition and now the future promise of digital cinema all play a role in the Global Information Society through education as well as entertainment.

Delegates from China, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, the U.K., and U.S. attended the four-day series of meetings, which included the five Working Groups: WG-1 Film Technology, WG-2 Laboratory Services Technology, WG-3 Audio Technology, WG-4 Presentation Technology, and WG-5 Film/Electronic Interface Technology. The work covered the systematic review of International Standards, the existing program of work and new items of work, which included Spectral Response of Photographic Audio Reproducers for Analog Dye Sound Tracks on 35mm film, image area produced on 35mm motion picture film by transfer of 16:9 aspect ratio television images—position and dimensions and three future digital cinema audio projects: audio characteristics, channel mapping, and LFE low-frequency extension.

Delegates also received a tour of Studio Babelsberg, production home of Roman Polanski's *The Pianist*, winner of three academy awards in 2003 (Oscars for Best Director, Best Actor in a Leading Role (Adrien Brody), Best Adapted Screenplay).

ISO, the International Organization for Standardization with headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, is a network of national standards institutes from 147 countries working in partnership with international organizations, governments, industry, business, and consumer representatives to form a bridge between public and private sectors.—*Carlos V. Girod, Jr., P.E.*

## Kees Immink Receives Emmy Award

Kees A. Schouhamer Immink was awarded an Emmy Award for outstanding technical achievement by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS), in honor of his pioneering role in the “Coding technology for optical recording formats, such as Blu-Ray, DVD, and Compact Disc.” The Emmy-honored coding technology used in the DVD is based on the technology used in the Compact Disc, which he developed in the early 80s, and involved the efforts spanning many years.

Immink, a SMPTE Fellow, is president and CEO of Dutch-based Turing Machines Inc., and adjunct professor at the Institute for Experimental Mathematics, Essen, Germany, has a long career of envisioning and creating new technologies for digital audio and video recorders. He holds more than 400 international patents and has earned numerous technical and scientific awards for his creative work.

The presentation took place during a black-tie dinner ceremony, held at the Plaza Hotel in New York City, on October 23.

## Academy Creates Science and Technology Council

The Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has created the Academy Science and Technology Council and voted funds to hire a director and staff, who eventually will be housed in the Pickford Center for Motion Picture Study in Hollywood.

The motion picture industry needs a body to monitor the current state of the technology arts, one that can work to facilitate understanding of new developments within the industry and by the wider public audience,” Academy President Frank Pierson said. “That will be one of the mandates of the Academy Science and Technology Council.”

The Council will also be charged with completing a database of the history of film technology, beginning with the history of the Academy's Scientific and Technical Awards submissions, and with presenting educational programs on the technology of motion pictures.

## Kodak Upgrades Black-And-White Reversal Films

Kodak has introduced redesigned black-and-white reversal camera films, giving film schools a desired tool for teaching filmmaking to students. The films—Kodak Tri-X Reversal Film 7266, Kodak Plus-X Reversal Film 7265—are coupled with a lab process that is more efficient and easier on the environment. Kodak Tri-X Reversal Film 7266, with an exposure index of 200, offers finer grain and increased sharpness over its predecessor. Kodak Plus-X Reversal Film 7265 will be rated at an exposure index of 100 (80 tungsten), giving filmmakers an extra stop of speed compared to the previous film, with minimal grain penalty.