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In this column, we provide interesting historical briefs from the Journal articles of days past. The purpose of this column is primarily entertainment, but we hope it will also stimulate your thinking and reflection on the Society's history, how far we have come in the industry, and (sometimes) how some things never change. This column is sponsored by Television Broadcast Technology, Inc., since March 2001: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7257346>.

25 Years Ago in the Journal

The June 1994 *Journal* published in: "MPEG Overview" by Stan Baron and W. Robin Wilson: "The Motion Picture Experts Group (MPEG)¹ standard addresses the compression and decompression (restoration) of moving pictures (video) and sound (audio) and the formation of a multiplexed common data stream that includes the compressed video and audio data plus any associated ancillary service data. The MPEG standard further addresses the synchronization of the video, audio, and ancillary data during playback of the decompressed signals. It is intended to serve a wide variety of applications and services such as digital storage media, television broadcast, and communications ... The MPEG standard is a compression standard that uses motion estimation and DCT technology to achieve high efficiency. The MPEG compression standard is flexible enough to be adapted to many different

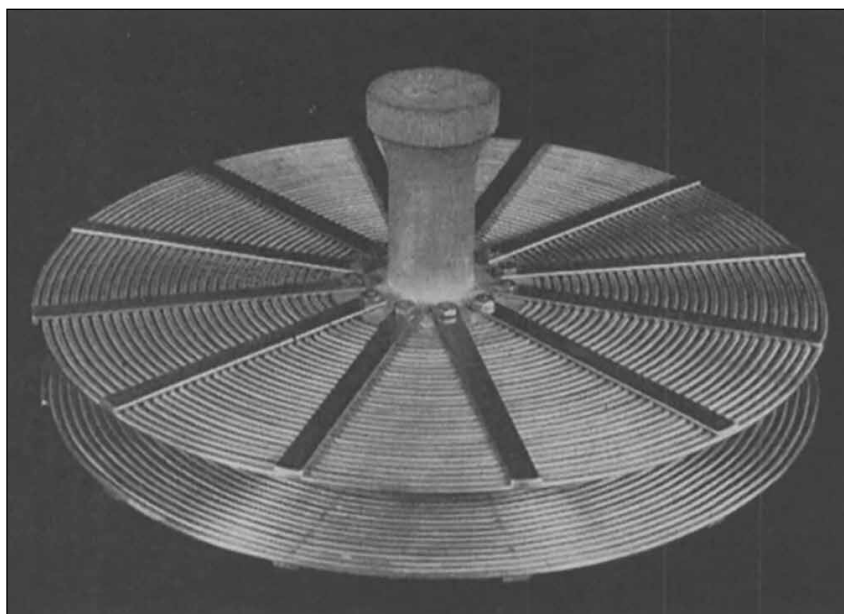
¹MPEG is understood to reference ISO/IEC Moving Picture Experts Group Draft Standard on "Coded Representation of Picture, Audio, and Multimedia/Hypermedia Information." ISO/IEC 13818-2. *3.59. Nov. 1993.

video applications." For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7240233>

50 Years Ago in the Journal

The June 1969 *Journal* published in: "Standardized Audio Response From Magnetically Striped Motion-Picture Films" by W. K. Grimwood, F. J. Kolb, Jr., and D. L. Carr: "Test films are essential to permit simplified measurement of signal level and frequency response in magnetic recording so that the industry can conveniently achieve interchangeability of program material. For all

film and tape formats, calibration of a test film requires that first a reference reproducer be established and calibrated over the audio spectrum of interest ... The extensive literature on magnetic recording/reproducing theory is reviewed to justify the details of reference reproducer calibration and to emphasize that the magnetic film systems incorporate some parameters which have not previously been recognized in the calibration of magnetic tape systems. The theoretical basis for a recommended super-8 characteristic is presented. By reference to this broader review of the magnetic theory, intercomparisons of the U.S. and international standards for both film and tape are presented. We have used the most probable interpretations of these documents (in the absence of a precise exposition of the intent of most committees), from whence it is apparent there is a frequent need for either



The 50-ft flat spiral stainless steel reel (Fig. 1, *JSMPT*, Jun. 1944, p. 352).

clarification or revision.” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7227456>

75 Years Ago in the Journal

The June 1944 *Journal* published in: “The Flat Spiral Reel for Processing 50-ft Lengths of Film” by C. E. Ives and C. J. Kunz: “The flat spiral reel employed for 6-ft lengths of still camera film is one of the most compact types of processing equipment. After preliminary chemical and physical treatment of the loaded reel, it is possible to dry the film on the processing reel, thus diminishing the risk of damage in handling. Complete processing units in 30- and 50-ft sizes have been built of stainless steel wire welded to flat radials. Other sizes are possible within limits which are discussed. The two mated sides were mounted on a reinforced Bakelite hub which provides the bearing for rotation of the reel and terminates in a handle at one side. The stainless steel spirals were built by Nikor Products Co. Accessory equipment consists of a rewind for loading and unloading the reel, processing and washing tanks, loose water stripper, and drying cabinet. The intensity of agitation which can be given is limited. Consequently, while the uniformity of development is satisfactory for still photographs, it is not suitable for the most exacting motion picture work, although it may have some application in small-scale motion picture work.” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7252235>

100 Years Ago in the Journal

The April 1919 *Journal* published in: “President’s Address:” “The Society

of Motion Picture Engineers has developed into an effective organization. It was less than three years ago when a handful of enthusiastic men at the suggestion of our past president, C. Francis Jenkins, met in Washington to discuss the advisability and possibility of forming a technical body in connection with the motion picture industry. This meeting, as you know, resulted in the formation of this Society at the Astor Hotel in New York in October 1916. We have been recognized as the authority on technical matters in the motion picture industry and our proceedings, which are issued twice a year,

are much in demand for reference. We should continue in our efforts and should include all branches of the industry which should be represented and through this means, we should materially increase our membership ... Commercial competition should have no bearing on any papers which we present or discuss ... Cooperation and good feeling among our members are the only things that will bring the desired results ... I fully appreciate the honor which you have conferred on me by electing me your president ... H. A. Camp.” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7229942>

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