

CONTRIBUTION TO IEEE STANDARDS SUBCOMMITTEE

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COMMITTEE: G-2.1.6 Compression and Processing Subcommittee

TITLE: Liaison Statement from SMPTE Working Group on Test Materials
for Digital Television System Evaluation

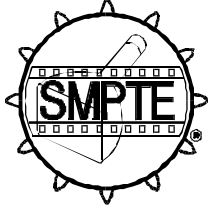
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ABSTRACT: This liaison statement requests cooperation on the sourcing, development and distribution of video test materials.



The Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers ®

Engineering Committee Correspondence

To: Alan Godber, Chair IEEE G-2.1.6

Date: July 27, 1997

From: David Fibush, Chair, SMPTE Committee on Packetized Television Technology

Copy to: Bill Miller, SMPTE Engineering Vice President

Merrill Weiss, SMPTE Engineering Director, Television

Phil Livingston, Chair, SMPTE Committee on Television Production Technology

Bill Zou, Chair, SMPTE Working Group P18.45

Subject: Liaison on Test Materials for Digital Television

The SMPTE Working Group on Test Materials for Digital Television System Evaluation, P18.45, plans to assemble a comprehensive set of test scenes that can be used to evaluate compressed and uncompressed digital television systems. Selected scenes are to be used for subjective and/or objective testing. It is recognized that several other standards development groups are undertaking a similar activity, hence the reason for this liaison statement. Groups known to be involved in these related activities are: IEEE G-2.1.6, ANSI T1A1.5, ITU-R WP11E and the Joint Rapporteurs Group of ITU-T SG12 and SG9.

There are three specific areas in which cooperation would be useful; solicitation of test materials from various organizations, production of required test materials not otherwise available and distribution of the test materials.

Regarding the solicitation of test materials; the working group intends to write a letter to a wide range of organizations asking for donation/use of scenes owned by that organization. A priority, but not an absolute requirement, is that the copyright status of the scenes be such that they can be distributed by SMPTE for a nominal fee. To the extent that the groups listed above are involved in similar solicitations, it may be appropriate to develop a joint request or, at least, let those organizations being solicited know there will be more than one such request.

Production of test materials is always an alternate path to obtain new materials and to eliminate copyright restrictions. Here again it would be most efficient for the various standards groups to cooperate on use of the production resources.

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Finally, SMPTE would like to be the distributor of test materials standardized by the various standards groups. SMPTE has long been a supplier of sound and vision test films on 8-, Super 8-, 16-, 35- and 70-mm motion picture film and monitor/receiver alignment video cassettes in VHS and umatic formats. We are presently working with the ITU-R to become a supplier of the test digital video material referenced in recommendation ITU-R BT.802-1 "Test pictures and sequences for subjective assessments of digital codecs conveying signals produced according to recommendation ITU-R BT.601", which lists 50+ segments. Considering the expertise of SMPTE in this area, it would be appropriate for other standards groups to look to SMPTE for distribution of their standardized test materials.

Since I am an active member of all the standards groups listed, the SMPTE working group has requested that I make this liaison contact to determine if there are areas where cooperation would be appropriate. To that end, I would appreciate your consideration of the suggestions made above. Please contact me by way of one of the means listed below and I will see that your inputs are delivered to and discussed by the SMPTE working group.