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Title: Comments for the Turin ITU Experts Meeting on Subjective and Objective Audio/Visual Quality Assessment Methods

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Due to schedule conflicts, we will not be attending the upcoming Turin ITU experts meeting on subjective and objective methods for the assessment of audio-visual quality in October 1997. However, we are especially interested in the results of this meeting as they pertain to ITU-T Study Group 9 questions 23/9, development of an assessment aid for MPEG-2 codecs (R. Prodan rapporteur) and 22/9, measurement and control of the quality of service of digital television transmission on contribution and/or distribution networks. Additionally, we have the following comments on the JRG002 Proposal on Video Classes of Operation and A. Webster's list of proposed HRCs.

Comment on Proposed Classes:

The proposed classes TV1, TV2, and TV3 are of particular interest. It is unclear, however, how these classes apply to cable television.

For example, commercial insertion over cable television will occur at regional facilities and at local headends. Although the cable industry typically refers to local headend insertion as a part of secondary distribution, the proposed definition of classes does not include changes (such as commercial insertion) in TV3. The attributes for TV2, primary distribution, also do not fit the local headend advertising insertion application. The addition of cable television examples may provide appropriate clarification of classes TV2 and TV3.

Comments on Proposed HRCs:

Please note that one of the items for study (Section 3.2) under question 23/9 includes selecting a number of test pictures and test sequences that are appropriate to assess the performance of MPEG-2 codecs. Thus, information on this topic may be useful in the creation of a draft recommendation in Study Group 9.

Bitrates that are primarily of interest in the list of proposed HRCs are main profile at main level for 3 Mbps through 12 Mbps. Main profile at high level HRCs in the range of 10 to 30 Mbps for 480 progressive, 720 progressive, and 1080 interlaced are also of interest.