SHOWCASE CINEMAS TERMINOLOGY



BOOTH TERMINOLOGY

A ACETATE FILM

Any film with a support containing cellulose

acetate ie: safety film.

AMPLIFIER

An electronic device to increase the intensity of audio signals and provide sufficient power to drive speakers. See PREAMP.

ANAMORPHIC LENS

A lens having different magnifications in the horizontal and vertical dimensions of the image. In motion picture projection, a lens that spreads the screen image horizontally to provide a wide-screen image with aspect ratios that can vary from 2:1 to 55:1, according to Style B of ANSI document PH22.195.

ANODE

The positive (+) terminal or electrode in an electrical circuit - the positive carbon in a carbon arc or positive electrode in a xenon arc.

APERTURE

The rectangular opening in a metal plate that determines the size of the (film) image to be projected or photographed. Also used to describe the dimensions on the film of the area to be projected or photographed. Also the adjustable iris (diaphragm) used in camera lenses to control the amount of light that reaches the film.

APERTURE PLATE

A metal plate containing the aperture that is inserted into a projector or camera. (NOTE: In some cameras, the aperture plate cannot be removed.)

ASPECT RATIO

The size relationship between the width and height of a projected image such as 1.37:1 or 1.85:1 or 2.35:1.

AUTOMATED

A projection system that, once threaded, is controlled entirely by electronic, electrical, or mechanical means. Usually a completely 'hands-off' operation.

R BASE

The transparent, flexible support, usually cellulose triacetate, on which photographic emulsions are coated to make photographic film.

BLISTERING

The effect of excessive incident radiant energy on the film emulsion, particularly on black and white film. Such damage appears as tiny bubbles and renders a print useless.

BLOOPING

The technique of applying a special opaque ink or tape over the soundtrack at the splice in a wide triangular or circular pattern to prevent soundtrack clicks and other annoying sounds caused by splices.

BOBBIN

A 2 or 3 inch diameter plastic hub with a 1 inch diameter hole and keyway. Used to store film for transportation, sometimes called a core.

BUTT SPLICE

A film splice in which the two precisely cut film ends are held together end-to-end with splicing tape and do not overlap.

CASE, SHIPPING

A heavy, reinforced metal case used to ship release prints.

CEMENT SPLICE

A film splice made with a solvent cement to weld the overlapping film ends together.

CINEMA SCOPE

The first commercially successful anamorphic system for the presentation of wide-screen pictures combined with stereophonic sound. The 35mm negative camera image is compressed horizontally by 50% using a special anamorphic camera lens. Upon projection, the 35mm print image is expanded horizontally by the same amount using a similar anamorphic projection lens. Depending on the type of sound used in the print, the screen image has an aspect ratio of 2.35:1 (optical sound), or 2.55:1 (4-trk magnetic sound).

CIRUIT BREAKER

An automatic electrical switching device that acts like a fuse to cut off power at the first sign of an overload or short circuit.

CLATTER

Noise caused by excessive gate tension and/or insufficient film lubrications as the film goes through the projector gate.

CLUSTER ROLLERS

Two or more rollers comprising a single unit, such a those used on platter transport systems.

CREASING

Lengthwise physical deformation of film usually caused by improper threading, or by cupping the film too tightly during inspection.

CROSS ABRASIONS

Short scratches across the film width that occur when sections of the roll shift from side-to-side during shipment.

CROSSOVER

An electronic network that separates the amplifier audio output signal into the proper frequency bands to match the speakers, such as the woofer and the tweeter.

CUE MARKS

Unobtrusive marks placed on the film in accordance with ANSI document PH22.55 to help the projectionist maintain continuity when making a changeover from one projector to the other. In automated and semi-automated systems, the cue can be a small strip of metal foil placed on the edge of the film, or a metal disc placed in the center of the appropriate frame.

CURRENT

The magnitude or volume, of an electrical flow, usually measured in amperes.

D DECIBEL (dB)

Unit os loudness measured on a logarithmic scale. The human ear can

DEPTH OF FIELD

The range of object distances within which objects are in satisfactory sharp focus in a photograph.

DIAGONAL SCRATCHES

Slanted cross scratches on the film usually caused by the film riding over the edge of a roller flange. More common in platter transport systems.

DICHROIC

A type of coating that when applied to glass can produce a so called 'cold' mirror for use in projector lamphouses that permits greater screen brightness without the risk of radiant energy (heat) problems. Usually the rear surface of the mirror is treated by depositing very thing layers of a special coating material designed to transmit infrared (IR) radiation effectively and reflect visible radiation. Alternatively, by selecting certain other materials for the deposit IR radiation can be reflected and visible radiation transmitted, thus providing an efficient heat filter for arc radiation devices.

DIRECT CURRENT (dc)

For applications where current must flow in one direction only, such as lamps.

DOLBY SYSTEMS

Trade name for an audio noise reduction system that has been recently adapted to motion picture sound use.

DOWSER

A device in the lamphouse used to interrupt the high-intensity light source when the projector is not in operation; used to protect the shutter and film from severe heat damage when the film is not moving.

F. EDGE NUMBERS

Sequential numbers printed along one edge of a motion picture film outside the perforations to designate the footage.

EDGEWAX

The recommended method for lubricating theatrical release prints. A solution of 50 grams of paraffin wax per litre of trichloroethane applied only to the edges of the emulsion side of the film is the recommended edgewax treatment.

EMULSION

A light-sensitive photographic material consisting of a gelatin emulsion layer(s) containing silver halide and any other ingredients that may be required to produce the desired image properties.

EMULSION SIDE

That side of a motion picture film on which the emulsion has been coated.

EXCITER LAMP

A DC operated incandescent lamp that provides the light source for the sound scanning beam.

F FADER

A rheostat used to raise or lower the sound volume: creates fade-outs or fade-ins.

FAILSAFE

In theatrical projection, a device that senses damaged or broken film and stops the projector.

FEED SPROCKET

Any driven sprocket that withdraws film from a supply reel or magazine.

FIRE SHUTTER

A small shutter placed just behind the film aperture in the projector gate. It is governor controlled to open only when the projector has reached operating speed, or close when the projector speed drops below safe operating level.

FLAKING

The removal (chipping away) of emulsion particles from the edges of the film that tend to redeposit in the image area while the film is going through the projector gate. Flaking is caused by a lack of proper edgewax lubrication.

FLANGE

The rim on a roller used for guiding the film. Also, a large disc used on a rewind to take up film on a core. A pair of flanges (discs) that screw together is called a split reel.

FLICKER

Random or constant short variation of luminance intensity on the screen.

FOCUS

To adjust a lens so that it produces the sharpest visual image on a screen, on a camera film plane, etc.

FRAME

A single picture image on a strip of motion picture film.

FRAME LINE

The separation between adjacent image frames on motion picture film.

FRAME LINE MARKING

A mark placed on the edge of the film between every fourth perforation as an aid to splicing in frame when no image or frame line is visible. On 70mm film a small punched hole placed between every fifth perforation.

FRAMING

Aligning the film image on the projector gate aperture so that the projected image appears centred on the screen.

GAIN SCREEN

The measure of a screen's ability to reflect the light incident to it. A perfect screen would reflect back all the light that was incident to it at all angles. Such a screen would have a gain of 1.0. In practical use, however, most matte screens that allow wide viewing angles have a gain of about 0.85. Special metallized or directional screens can provide up to about 15 times more reflected light than a common matte screen, but their viewing angles are generally very limited, making them unsuitable for most theatrical applications.

GATE

The projector assembly that holds the film at the aperture, rigid and perpendicular to the optical axis, ready for projection. In professional projectors, the moveable component of the gate assembly. GATE TENSION

The resistance to film movement produced by adjustable spring-loaded rails in the projector gate.

GENEVA MOVEMENT

A mechanical device that produces intermittent film movement in the projector. The principle behind the movement involves a rotating cam and pin that intermittently engages in a four-slotted star wheel, also known as a Geneva cross of Maltese cross. During the pin/slot engagement, the star wheel shaft containing the intermittent sprocket rotates 90°, or a frame. At normal projection speed, this intermittent rotation occurs 24 times per second.

GLOVE

A white, lintless, cotton glove used when handling motion picture raw stock and new release prints in the laboratory. Should be used in all film handling situations and changed frequently.

GUIDE RAILS

Vertical rails located on both sides of the projector trap that restrict lateral movement of the film as it passes through the projector gate.

GUIDE ROLLER

Any roller with flanges that is used to guide or restrict the position of motion picture film as it moves through a camera, projector, or printer.

HORIZONTAL LAMP

A lamphouse light source designed to operate in a horizontal position, such as the xenon closed-arc bulb.

T IGNITOR

A device on a xenon arc lamphouse used to ignite the arc.

IN AND OUT OF FOCUS

The erratic positioning of individual film frames in the projector gate that causes the screen image to appear alternately sharp and unsharp. It is usually caused by excessive heat energy and cannot be corrected by focusing. Movement of the studio guides on the film trap can also cause this problem.

INTENSITY, LIGHT A term referring to the power (strength) of a light source...the total visible radiation produced by the light source.

INTERMITTENT

Not continuous but equally spaced (sometimes random) motion, as the intermittent (24 fps) motion of film through a projector.

INTERMITTENT SPROCKET Any sprocket that imparts an intermittent motion to the film, as in a projector. See Geneva movement.

L LACE

To thread a projector. See Thread.

LAMPHOUSE

A complete light unit containing either a carbon arc or a xenon arc, appropriate optical components, and operating controls, etc.

LEADER

A film or strip of material used for the threading of a motion picture projector. The leader may consist of blank film but generally has specific information printed onto it to identify reels of theatrical release prints.

LENS

An optical device designed to produce an image on a screen, on a camera film, and in a variety of optical instruments. Also used to converge, diverge or otherwise control light rays in applications not involving images.

LONGITUDINAL SCRATCHES

Scratches running along the length of the film.

MAGNETIC HEAD CLUSTER The component in a 35mm magnetic sound head that contains the four magnetic heads used to play back the four separate magnetic tracks on a release print. In 70mm applications, the cluster holds six magnetic heads.

MAGNETIC SOUND

Sound derived from an electronic audio signal recorded on a magnetic oxide stripe or on full-coated magnetic tape.

MAGNETIC SOUND HEAD The magnetic sound reproducer installed above the projector head but below the supply reel support arm or magazine.

MAGNETIC TRACK

The linear path of a magnetically recorded audio signal on a magnetic film stripe or tape. The number of 'mag tracks' can vary from one to six depending on the picture format.

MAKE-UP TABLE

A film handling unit that is one component of a platter system. It is used to assemble (make-up) the individual shipping reels into one large film roll on a platter for uninterrupted projection. See Break-down table. MASKING

Restricting the size of a projected image on a screen by the use of black borders around the screen. Also the restriction in size of any projected image or photographic print by the use of undercut aperture plates or masks and borders.

MIRROR

An optical device designed to focus and/or reflect light from the lamphouse to the film plane in the projector. Any material with a reflecting surface of sufficient optical quality to produce an undistorted image.

MOTORBOATING

The distracting sound heard when the film becomes misaligned over the sound drum and causes the sound scanning beam to 'read' the film perforations instead of the sound track.

MYLAR FILM

See Polyester.

N NITRATE FILM

A highly flammable motion picture film that has not been domestically manufactured since around 1950. It is still present in large quantities in storage vaults and archives and must be very carefully stored to prevent spontaneous combustion, explosions, or other forms of destruction.

NOISE REDUCTION

The process of reducing inherent audio systems noises by the use of special electronic circuitry. See Dolby.

NONSYNC SOUND

Background incidental music not related to film sound. General CD or taped music.

NOTCHING

The practice of making a 'V' cut to remove damaged perforations split to the film edge rather than to remove the damage and make a splice. The practice of 'V' cutting should be avoided because of further damage that often occurs.

OOIL

A good thing for the projector...a bad thing for the film. Keep your films clean!

OPTICAL SOUND

A system in which the photographic sound track on a motion picture film is scanned by a horizontal slit beam of light that modulates a photoelectric cell. The tiny voltages generated by the cell, in turn, produces audio signals that are amplified to operate screen speakers.

OPTICAL TRACK

A sound track in which the recording takes the form of variations in the density (variable density track) or width (variable area track) of the track to be scanned. (Editor's note: For all intents and purposes, variable density tracks are no longer being produced.)

OUT-OF-FRAME OR OUT-OF-RACK A condition that exists when the projected image is not vertically centred on the screen causing a portion of the adjacent frame to be visible near the top or bottom of the screen. In the worst situation the frame line bisects the screen. See Framing.

OVERLAP SPLICE

Any film splice in which one film end overlaps the other film end.

PAD ROLLER

A roller designed to hold the film against a sprocket.

PENTHOUSE,
PENTHOUSE HEAD

The popular names assigned to the magnetic sound head. See Magnetic sound head.

PHOTOCELL

An electronic device that, when modulated by visible light, produces electrical impulses that can be amplified to drive speakers.

PLATTER

A film transport device consisting of at least three horizontal platters, each capable of holding up to 25,000ft of film and providing up to 4.5 hours of continuous projection.

POLYESTER

A film base material exhibiting superior strength and tear characteristics, often referred to as Mylar.

POWER SUPPLY

In theatrical projection refers to any current other than the normal ac current available in the house circuit. For instance, the dc generator or rectifier and the electronic dc supply for the exciter lamp.

PREAMP
(PREAMPLIFIER)

Electronic equipment for boosting very weak signal voltages to useable amplifier levels.

PROUD EDGES

One or two convolutions of film that protrude above the smooth surface of a firmly wound roll of film and are susceptible to damage.

R RECTIFIER

An electronic device designed to convert ac current into the dc current necessary for operating carbon arcs, xenon arcs, exciter lamps, etc. REFLECTOR

Any surface that reflects light. Reflectors can be constructed of cardboard, metal, cloth, or other material. In motion picture projection, primarily the lamphouse mirror and the screen. See Mirror.

RELEASE PRINT

Any of numerous duplicate prints of a motion picture film made for general theatre distribution.

REWIND

An automatic console of set of bench mounted spindles used to wind film from reel to reel.

REWINDING

The process of winding the film from the takeup reel to the supply reel so that the head end, or start of the reel, is on the outside. If there are no identifying leaders on the film, upside-down images will signify the head end.

ROPING

A continuous sprocket tooth indentation along the length of the film usually caused by a poor splice or other damage forcing the film to ride off the sprocket and remain in the position (usually until someone notices the condition or the film runs completely off the sprocket). See Run-off.

PR-40

The recommended practice sponsored by SMPTE title 'Specifications for 35mm Projector Alignment and Screen Image Test Film.' Also, the name usually referred to by projectionists for the test film made to these specification and available from SMPTE as Projector Alignment and Image Quality Test Film, 35-IQ-200.

RUN-OFF

A situation in which the film briefly jumps off the sprocket causing sprocket tooth indentations as with Roping.

C SAFETY FILM

A photographic film whose base is fire resistant or slow burning as defined by ANSI document PH1.25, PH22.21, and by various fire codes. At the present time, the terms, 'safety base film', 'acetate base film', and 'polyester base film' are synonymous with 'safety film.'

SCANNING BEAM

A collimated narrow slit (0.1mm or less) of light that scans the optical sound track of a motion picture film.

'SCOPE'

A diminutive term used to describe any anamorphic projection system or film. See Cinema Scope.

SCREEN

The reflective surface on which theatrical motion picture is projected. Also, to view a motion picture for critical examination.

SHIPPING REEL

A universally used film reel with a nominal capacity of 2000ft used to ship release prints from the distributor to the theatre and back.

SHUTTER

In theatrical projection, a two-bladed rotating device used to interrupt the light source while the film is being pulled down into the projector gate. One blade masks the pull-down while the other blade causes an additional light interruption increasing the flicker frequency to 48 cycles per second. a level that is not objectionable to the viewer at the recommended screen brightness of 16 footlamberts (55 candelas per square meter).

SOUND DRUM

A flat roller in the sound head designed to keep the film precisely positioned at the point where the scanning beam slit scans the sound track. Also called the scanning drum.

SOUND HEAD

The optical sound reproducer mounted beneath the projector head, but above the take-up reel support arm or magazine.

SOUND SPROCKET

Any sprocket that pulls the film past the sound scanning beam slit.

SOUND TRACK

The photographic/optical sound track running lengthwise on 35mm film adjacent to the edges of the picture frames and inside of the perforations.

SPLICE

Any type of cement, tape, or mechanical fastening by which two separate lengths of film are united so that they function as a single piece of film when passing through a projector, camera, or processing machine.

SPLICER

A device use to splice the ends of motion picture film accurately by the use of film cement, tape, or mechanical means.

SPLICING

The joining together of two of more pieces of film so that the joined film segments will pass through a projector, film processor, or camera without interruption. SPLICING TAPE

A special tape designed to make overlap or but splices without the need for film cement or mechanical fasteners. The tape consists of a special nonoozing adhesive coated to a very thin polyester base. It is available crystal clear translucent, or opaque orange in a variety of sizes, with or without perforations.

SPROCKET

A tooth wheel used to transport perforated motion picture film.

SPROCKET HOLE

See Perforations (preferred usage).

SURROUND

The specific sound channel in a sound reproduction system directing audio signals to speakers placed at the sides and at the rear of the auditorium to provide the added realism of surrounding area sounds.

SURROUND SPEAKERS Speakers placed at the sides and at the rear of auditorium to increase the realism of a stereophonic presentation, or to produce other special effects.

T TAIL ENDS,

The end of a film. The film must be rewound before projection if it is tails out.

TAKE-UP REEL

The reel onto which the already projected film is wound up in a projector.

TAPE SPLICE

A film splice using special tape applied to both sides of the film.

TECHNICOLOR

The trade name for a colour process in making motion pictures.

TENSION

The resistance to linear motion of the film caused by restraining forces such as tension pads, drive sprockets, take-up drive motors, spring-loaded guide rails, and the like built into projectors, cameras and other film handling equipment.

TENSION PADS

The spring-loaded pads installed in the gate component of a 35mm projector gate assembly. The pad pressure is usually adjustable and should be set tight enough to produce a steady image, but loose enough to avoid a loud clatter at the intermittent sprocket.

THROW

In theatrical projection, the distance from the projector aperture to the center of the screen. TIMING

In projection, the adjustment of the rotating shutter so that the screen image does not show any vertical movement from the pull-down cycle. See Travel Ghost.

TRAVEL GHOST

A condition that arises when the projector shutter is not properly timed. On the screen, light areas produce 'ghosts' that extend above or below adjacent dark areas, depending on whether the shutter is late or early. See Timing.

V VARIABLE-AREA SOUND TRACK

A photographic sound track that consists essentially of one or more transparent lines of variable width that run the length of a motion picture film within the prescribed sound track area. (The most commonly used.) See Magnetic track.

VARIABLE-DENSITY SOUND TRACK A photographic sound track that is constant in width but which varies in density along the length of a motion picture film within the prescribed sound-track area. (no longer used in current motion picture productions.)

'V' CUT

See Notching.

WD-40

The trade name of an oil based compound, usually packaged in an aerosol container, designed to penetrate and loosen tightly fitting parts such as nuts and bolts. Definitely not suitable as a film lubricant.

WEAVE

Horizontal motion in the projected screen image. Generally less objectionable than vertical unsteadiness.

WOOFER

A loudspeaker designed primarily to reproduce the low frequencies in the audio spectrum.

X XENON ARC

A short arc contained in a quartz envelope in which dc current, flowing from the cathode to the anode, forms an arc in a positive (high pressure) atmosphere of xenon gas. The spectral distribution in the visible range closely resembles natural daylight.

XENON BULB

The quartz envelope containing the two electrodes that produce an arc in a high pressure environment of xenon gas.

FILM HANDLING GLOSSARY

ANAMORPHIC LENS

A lens that has different rates of magnification along different axis. An anamorphic lens, used in motion picture projection, compresses an image along the horizontal axis and stretches an image along the vertical axis. It is also called the scope lens.

APERTURE

The opening in the projector head, located in the film trap, that gives access of the light source to the film.

APERTURE PLATE

The removable plate that is placed over the aperture to 'frame' the projected image on the screen.

ASPECT RATIO

This is the size ratio of width to height of a projected image. The standards are: flat - 1.85 to 1; scope - 2.35 to 1.

AUTOMATION

The system used that parallels the manual controls to 'automatically' perform the booth functions.

BAD SPLICE

A splice that is poorly put together or is out of frame. A wet or glue splice is considered to be a bad splice because it may come apart during a showing.

BANDS

The stiff paper covers that are put on shipping reels to help protect the film. They also contain information about that particular film. Also known as 'reel bands'.

BASE

The transparent, flexible material, usually triacetate, onto which the emulsion is imprinted to form the image. It is also called stock or film stock.

BROKEN SPROCKET HOLES When the film or stock is broken around the sprocket holes. This type of damage may cause you to loose the loops and subsequently may cause a film break or the loss of proper framing.

BUCKLING

The curvature of a film along its horizontal axis which causes a distorted image. A common cause is storage of a print under excessively dry conditions causing the outer edges of the print to become shorter than the center and the film buckles.

BUILD-UP

The process of inspecting and assembling a film for the particular projection system in use.

BUILD-UP TABLE

See 'REWIND BENCH'.

CEMENT SPLICE

See 'GLUE SPLICE'.

CENTER RING

The removable ring at the center of a platter to which you attach the film for take-up during showing.

CHANNELS OF SOUND

The specific different lines of sound information contained in a single, stereo soundtrack.

CINEMASCOPE

The first commercially successful use of an anamorphic system to obtain a screen presentation. The aspect ratio of a Cinemascope picture may range from 2:1 to 2.55:1. The most common is the ratio of 2.35:1. Cinemascope image appears to be tall and thin when they are viewed without a lens. Cinemascope is also called scope.

COUNTDOWN LEADER A film threading leader marked with numbers every foot or every second over its length. Each frame is easily visible for proper thread up. This film is used for setting the proper distance from the aperture to the start of the picture so the picture will 'appear' on the screen at exactly the right moment.

F. EDGEWARE

Temporary or permanent. Temporary is when there is a slight lenthening of the edges of the film relative to the center which may occur during early storage.

Permanent occurs if there is a slight thickness differential across the width of the film and the film is wound under high tension. Permanent edgeware can also be caused when one edge of the film is put under a lot of strain.

EMULSION

An easily damaged gelatin like layer imprinted on the film that contains the image and soundtrack. The emulsion is covered with a waxlike substance for protection and lubrication.

FEATURE

The actual information on a print you wish to present to the public.

FILM

See 'BASE'

FILM CANS

Metal containers used to protect and hold film during shipping and storage. Also known as shipping cans.

FILM CLEANER

A device used to clean a print. The most common variety used in the theatre will clean the print while it runs and uses a dry cleaning media.

FILM CURL

A condition when there is a difference in the moisture content in the emulsion and the base causing each to contract at a different rate.

FILM SPLIT

The separating of the film lengthwise. This type of film damage is usually caused when a glue splice tears one half way through and usually will only stop when the next splice comes through. The split-roller failsafe will usually catch the condition and stop the projector. If this type of damage is not detected, an entire 2000ft reel can be ruined.

FILM STOCK

Another term for BASE or STOCK.

FILM TRANSPORT

The system used to hold, deliver and take-up the film that you are showing your patrons.

FLAT FILM

A film whose frame image appears undistorted when viewed without a lens. Some aspect ratios of flat film are 1.66:1 and 1.85:1.

FORMATS

The terms used to describe film. Film formats are based on the width of the film expressed by millimetres. Sound formats describe the type of sound imprinted on the film: mono, stereo, etc.

The individual images that make up the print. Frames are 4 sprocket holes high on 35mm film and 5 sprocket holes high on 70mm film.

FRAMES

G GSAIN

The small particles or dots an image is made of.

GLUE SPLICE

A splice made by overlapping two pieces of film and gluing them together. Also known as a Cement Splice, Lab Splice and Wet Splice.

H HEAD

1) The piece of film attached to the beginning of a reel of film.

2) The actual start of a reel or snipe.

HEADS UP

When the film is wound in such a manner that the start of 'head' of the film is on the outside of the reel.

HORIZONTAL SCRATCHES The side to side scratches in a film's emulsion. This may have been caused by straightening the wrap of the film when it has been wound unevenly.

HOUSE REEL

Film reels that are owned by the theatre. These reels are of a better quality construction than the shipping reels.

7 IMAGE

The specific pictorial area of a frame.

T, LAB SPLICE

See GLUE SPLICE.

LEADER

A short piece of film stock connected to the beginning and end of all reels to protect them from dirt and damage.

D PRINT

Another name for the feature.

PROJECTOR

A mechanical device to show film at a rapid rate of speed to create the illusion of continuous motion.

R REEL

Device used to hold film. 2000ft reels are generally used to ship and store films, each holding approximately 20 minutes of film. They are also called shipping reels. 6000ft reels, holding approximately 60 minutes of film, are used for reel-to-reel shows and in the make-up and break-down of film for platter systems.

RESOLVING POWER

The ability of the film's emulsion to reproduce fine detail on screen.

REWIND

The process of winding film from one reel to another.

REWIND BENCH. The work station that contains the mechanical

equipment necessary to wind film from one reel

to another.

ROPING When a film 'jumps off' a sprocket and rides up

on the teeth causing the sprocket teeth to damage the base or emulsion. This is also

called Sprocket Override.

S SAFETY FILM A type of film stock that doesn't burn. This

type of film will have the words 'Safety Film' every 12 inches along its edge. Safety Film is the only type of film used in theatres today.

Triacetate is safety film.

SCOPE See CINEMASCOPE.

SCREEN The materia, located in the front of the

auditorium, that the image is projected on. Also the term used to describe a critical

viewing of a film.

SHIPPING REELS 2000ft reels made of metal or plastic that hold

film during shipping and storage.

SNIPES Short pieces of film that contain a message

such as 'No Smoking', 'Feature Presentation'

and 'Coming Soon'.

SOUNDTRACK The part of a print that contains the sound

information. It may either be in photographic (optical) or in magnetic form. Depending on the type of soundtrack, as many as 6 'channels of sound' may be contained in a single soundtrack.

SPLICE Any method of joining two pieces of film to

form a continuous piece of film. Usually tape

or glue is used.

SPOKING The type of damage that occurs to film with a

high degree of curl when it is loosely wound

onto a reel.

SPROCKET HOLES The holes along the side(s) of the film through

which the film is pulled along. The size, number and shape of sprocket holes differ depending upon the film format. They are also

known as perforations.

STOCK See BASE.

The end of a reel of film or a piece of leader

placed at the end of a reel of film that is

usually labelled 'foot'.

TAILS UP

When a reel is wound in such a way that the tail is on the outside of the reel.

TAPE SPLICE

A splice made by putting the film together and covering both sides with tape. These splices are safest when made at a frame line.

TRANSPORT SYSTEM The system used to hold, feed and take-up the film as it is being projected. It is also called the 'Film Transport System'.

TRIACETATE

The plastic-like material that safety film is made of.

TWIST

May occur if a new print is loosely wound under very dry air conditions.

V VERTICAL SCRATCHES

The vertical lines seen on the screen. This may be caused by either misaligned platter guidance rollers or dirt lodged in the film gate area, scraping off the emulsion.

W WET SPLICE

Also known as GLUE SPLICE or LAB SPLICE.

X XEKOTE

A liquid used to clean and lubricate the gate area.

ELECTRICAL TERMS

A AMPERE The quantitative measure of the flow of electrons. Amperage is also called current.

ANODE The positive electrode or terminal.

An electrical device that stores electrons.

CATHODE The negative electrode of terminal.

CIRCUIT

A circuit must contain three things. A source of electrical energy, a conductor (wire) for the electricity to follow and a load (some electrical device). The proper attachment of

these three things forms the 'circuit'.

COIL A circular winding of wire around a core.

CONDUCTOR Something that allows electrons to flow

through it easily.

D Direct current. The constant flow of electrons

in one direction.

DIODE An electrical device that allows electrons to

flow through it in only one direction.

E ELECTROMOTIVE The quantitative measure of the push behind

the electron flow. Commonly called the

Voltage.

FORCE

ELECTRON A negatively charged subatomic particle.

ELECTROMAGNET A metal core with a coil around it that

becomes magnetic when electricity is applied

to the coil.

F FUSE An electrical device made of a resister with

a specific, low, melting point. Fuses are used

to protect most electrical devices.

H HERTZ Hz. The name given to the frequency of the

electrical cycle in Alternating Current.

T INSULATOR A material that does not allow the flow of

electrons. Just the opposite of a conductor.

OHM The quantitative measure of electrical

resistance.

OPEN CIRCUIT

A circuit with a break in the path of the electron flow.

R RFLAY

A device that uses an electromagnet to make the contact for the proper flow of electrons.

RESISTER

An electrical component that restricts the flow of electrons. A resister generates heat in he process.

S SINE WAVE

The pictorial graphic of an electrical cycle.

SHORT CIRCUIT

An electrical circuit that has a defect; ie: somewhere in the normal path of the electron flow, something has allowed the electrons to go astray. This defect is a 'short' and can cause severe damage to equipment and people alike.

T/ VOLT

The quantitative measure of the Electrical Force behind the electron flow. It is the 'push' that moves electrons.

TAT WATT

The quantitative measure of electrical power.