production arts lighting, inc.
636 ELEVENTH AVENUE • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036

August 18, 1986

Dear Colleague:

Enclosed please find copies of two newly adopted USITT standards:

(212) 489-0312 TELEX: 821211

USITT DMX512- A digital protocol for data transmission between controllers and dimmers.

USITT AMX192- An analog multiplex protocol for data transmission between controllers and dimmers.

These two standards were developed by the USITT Dimmer Standards Committee in response to requests from manufacturers, consultants, rental shops, and end users who were faced with interfacing dimmers and controllers made by different manufacturers.

The two standards serve different purposes. USITT DMX512 provides a simple means of digital communications without "bells and whistles". It allows communication between many different types of equipment, and will hopefully be added to all major manufacturers' consoles and dimmers as second communications link in addition to the manufacturer's current standard. Of course, manufacturers just getting started with digital data transmission schemes may adopt DMX512 as their only standard.

USITT AMX192 is primarily directed to manufacturers or users who wish to interface with the large installed base of Strand equipment which uses the "CD-80" protocol.

Now that the standards have been adopted, their success lies in your hands as a consultant or system designer. Consider some of the advantages of widespread adoption of DMX512:

- System designs incorporating the best products of different manufacturers
- Painless interfacing of rental equipment to permanent installation equipment
- Development of DMX512 into a generic digital protocol which would allow communications between many other devices (colorchangers, moving lights, etc.)

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I urge you to specify DMX512 on all consoles and dimmers in addition to the manufacturer's standard protocol. Your specifications are a powerful tool in driving our industry towards an efficient, universal means of data communications between dimmers and controllers.

If you have any questions regarding either of these standards, or would like assistance in specification or application, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Terry Vice President

Chairman USITT Dimmer Standards Committee