



Contact:

Reegan Koester
Corporate Communications Manager ARRI
+49 89 3809 1768
rkoester@arri.de

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SMPTE honors ARRI Image Science Engineer Harald Brendel

- **Harald Brendel to receive the Natalie M. and Herbert T. Kalmus Medal Award**
- **SMPTE recognizes his outstanding contribution to the color management system of the ARRI ALEXA camera family**

September 17, 2021; White Plains, NY/Munich – The Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers (SMPTE) awards Harald Brendel, Head of Center of Competence Image Science at ARRI, with the Natalie M. and Herbert T. Kalmus Medal Award. With this prize, which has been handed out since 1956, the industry association recognizes outstanding technical achievements in film production, post-production, and film distribution.

According to SMPTE President Hans Hoffmann, Harald Brendel receives this prestigious award “for the design and implementation of the color management system used in the ARRI ALEXA family of cameras, including the underlying Log-C capture encoding, the specification of the ARRI Wide Gamut color space, and the creation of the K1S1 filmic viewing transforms.” “These were instrumental in assisting cinematographers and postproduction facilities with the transition from film to digital image acquisition, providing both confidence on set and reliable outcomes in postproduction, and remain industry standards. During his long tenure as an image scientist for ARRI, Harald was a main developer of image processing for the ARRISCAN film scanner and a core contributor to the AMPAS Academy Color Encoding System (ACES).”

Harald Brendel explains: “There are very few places in the world where something like this could have been created—ARRI is one of them. Because this concentrated know-how hardly exists anywhere else. I am very pleased about this award and, in addition to the SMPTE, I would like to thank the colleagues



involved, who have contributed to the success of this project with their experience and expertise.”

The award ceremony will take place in November 2021 as a part of the virtual SMPTE Annual Awards Gala.

ARRI Executive Board member Dr. Michael Neuhaeuser congratulates in advance: “This award is really something special! Harald, you and your team have created things that were groundbreaking for the industry and have endured to this day. For this achievement and out of deep respect, I tip my hat to you. Bravo!”

Harald Brendel began his career at ARRI in 1994 in the then new Digital Film department of ARRI Film & TV. After holding positions outside the company, he moved to the Research and Development department as an engineer at the beginning of 2004, where he has worked ever since. On behalf of ARRI, Harald Brendel has already accepted top awards, including an Engineering Emmy from the Television Academy for the development of the ALEXA digital camera system. However, with the Natalie M. and Herbert T. Kalmus Medal Award, the SMPTE honors Harald Brendel personally.

All 2021 SMPTE Awards winners at a glance: <https://www.smpte.org/blog/smpte-announces-annual-award-recipient-for-2021>

About ARRI:

“Inspiring images. Since 1917.” ARRI is a global player within the motion picture industry, employing around 1,200 staff worldwide. Named after its founders August Arnold and Robert Richter, ARRI was established in Munich, Germany, where the headquarters is still located today. Other subsidiaries are in Europe, North and South America, Asia, and Australia.

The ARRI Group consists of the business units Camera Systems, Lighting, and Rental, all dedicated to connecting creativity and future technologies for moving images. ARRI is a leading designer and manufacturer of camera and lighting systems as well as system solutions for the film, broadcast, and media industries, with a worldwide distribution and service network. The portfolio includes digital cameras, lenses, camera accessories, archive technologies, lamp heads, and lighting accessories. Along with offering exclusive technologies, ARRI Rental’s first-class services and equipment provide camera, lighting, and grip packages to professional productions around the world.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has recognized ARRI’s engineers and their contributions to the industry with 19 Scientific and Technical Awards.

For locations and more information, please visit www.arri.com.