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# SMPTE STANDARD

## SMPTE 223M-2001

Revision of  
ANSI/SMPTE 223M-1996

# for Motion-Picture Film — Safety Film



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## 1 Scope

This standard defines and specifies safety film for motion-picture use.

## 2 Normative reference

The following standard contains provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this standard. At the time of publication, the edition indicated was valid. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the standard indicated below.

ISO 18906:2000, Imaging Materials — Photographic Films — Specifications for Safety Film

## 3 Definition

The term safety film as used in this standard includes all perforated film used in the motion-picture industry. Specifically included are leaders, including unperforated leaders; sensitized stock based on the silver halide, dye transfer, vesicular, or other image-

producing systems; raw and processed stock; and magnetically coated perforated film.

## 4 Specification

**4.1** Safety film, as applied to the motion-picture industry, shall comply with ISO 18906.

**4.2** All films intended for the motion-picture industry shall be manufactured in compliance with ISO 18906.

**4.3** ISO 18906 includes in the nitrogen analysis not only the support film but also the emulsion and any other applied coating or treatment such as protective lacquers.

**NOTE** – 35-mm nitrate motion-picture film is no longer manufactured in the United States. However, there are existing nitrate films still in use or in storage and there are others existing or of future manufacture which may be imported. There is no intent in this standard to limit the use of such 35-mm nitrate films but, by designating them as nonstandard, it is intended to emphasize that the hazard involved in their handling requires the observance of adequate precautions and safeguards (see NFPA 40).

## Annex A (informative) Nitrate film

Because of its attendant fire hazards, nitrate film has never been manufactured in the United States in 16-mm and 8-mm widths since these are traditionally for amateur and non-theatrical use. However, small quantities of nitrate film may

be in existence as a result of foreign import or from slitting operations of certain intermediate laboratory processing films.

**Annex B** (informative)

**Bibliography**

NFPA 40-2001, Standard for the Storage and Handling of  
Cellulose Nitrate Motion-Picture Film