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# SMPTE STABLE DOCUMENT

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# SMPTE RECOMMENDED PRACTICE

**RP 56-2002**

Revision of RP 56-1995

## Safe Action and Safe Title Areas for 8-mm Release Prints



Page 1 of 3 pages

### Introduction

Early in the development of the 8-mm type S program, it was recognized that the format would be used both for direct front and rear projection systems. Some committee members were concerned that the usable projectable image area might be different without specific standards for the two systems. It was, therefore, decided that it would benefit producers and laboratories if safe areas were developed for the 8-mm type S and 8-mm type R formats. This concept became more important as the image area documents changed from the concept of specifically defined areas with tolerances for size and positioning to the internationally agreed to system of developing a minimum camera area and a maximum projectable image area.

When the minimum and maximum area concept was accepted, the restatement of the positioning tolerances for the width caused a slight change such that the precise ideal format of 4:3 was lost in most cases. However, during the development of the initial committee document, it was recognized that there may be future application of the 8-mm type S system in television. Therefore, the need to maintain a precise 4:3 format for telecine use is significant. To derive the most useful areas, the committee proposes to utilize the standardized maximum projectable image area height for each format as the basis for all measurements.

For clarity and ease of understanding, a value of 100% for both the height and width has been established as shown in figure 1. Because an ideal format does not exist, the 100% image area height is established as the basic parameter and the 100% width is derived by a ratio multiplication of 4:3 times the height. All other values shown in the table are percentage ratios with the exception of those in the last column, which are derived from the related American National Standards (see annex A). By applying the above principle, the document achieves maximum usefulness while losing only 2% of the standardized width which can, when needed, be available for direct projection application.

### 1 Scope

**1.1** This practice specifies the dimensions of the nominal safe action and safe title image areas for 8-mm release prints. The information provided applies to the use of these prints by either direct front or rear screen projection.

**1.2** The specifications are also applicable to reversal original photography.

### 2 Definitions

**2.1** The safe action image area is the area within which all significant action should take place to ensure visibility of the action in the usual projection situation.

**2.2** The safe title image area is the area within which the graphic information (e.g., titles, credits, tabulations, etc.) must be confined to prevent loss of this information (cropping) in the usual projection situation.

### 3 Specifications

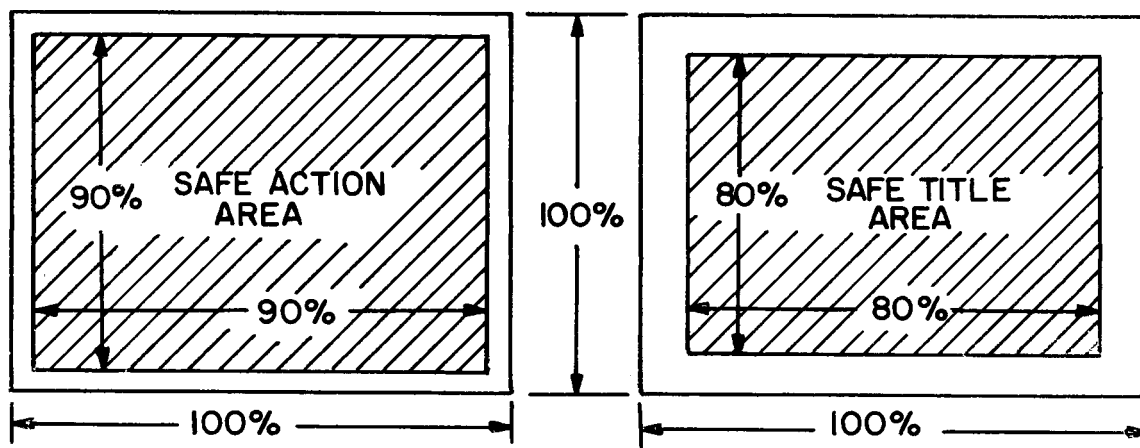
3.1 The dimensions shall be as given in figure 1 and table 1.

3.2 For convenience, the dimensions are also expressed as a percentage of the nominal maximum projection image height and width.

3.3 The safe action and safe title areas are nominally centered within the maximum projectable image area.

3.4 The dimensions of image areas are derived from the standards listed in annex A.

3.5 A format ratio of 4:3 is maintained for all areas. The maximum projectable image height is considered as the basic parameter for each format.



NOTE – Safe areas are centered. True centers for all areas are established by an intersection of corner-connecting diagonal lines.

**Figure 1 – Maximum projectable image area**

**Table 1 – Dimensions**

	Maximum projectable area		Safe action area		Safe title area		Minimum camera image area	
	in	mm	in	mm	in	mm	in	mm
8-mm type S								
Height	0.158	4.01	0.142	3.61	0.126	3.20	0.163	4.14
Width	0.211	5.36	0.190	4.83	0.169	4.29	0.224	5.69
8-mm type R								
Height	0.130	3.30	0.117	2.97	0.104	2.64	0.143	3.63
Width	0.173	4.39	0.156	3.96	0.138	3.51	0.184	4.67

**Annex A** (informative)

**Bibliography**

ANSI/SMPTE 154-1998, Motion-Picture Film (8-mm Type S) — Projectable Image Area and Projector Usage

ANSI/SMPTE 234-1998, Motion-Picture Film (8-mm Type R) — Projectable Image Area and Projector Usage

SMPTE 157-1999, Motion-Picture Film (8-mm Type S) — Camera Aperture Image and Usage

SMPTE 231-1999, Motion-Picture Film (8-mm Type R) — Camera Aperture Image and Usage