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March 28, 1994

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Mr. William F. Caton
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Ex parte presentation in
ET Docket No. 93-7

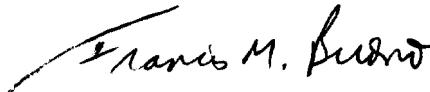
Dear Mr. Caton:

Dan Akerson, Quincy Rodgers, Stan Besen, Jeff Krauss, and I met today with Chairman Reed Hundt and his special assistant, Merrill Spiegel, in connection with the above-referenced proceeding on behalf of General Instrument Corporation.

In the course of this meeting, we reiterated arguments presented in General Instrument's comments and reply comments filed in the above-captioned proceeding regarding: (1) the Commission's statutory obligations under Section 17 of the 1992 Cable Act; (2) the adoption of a Decoder Interface standard; and (3) the initiation of an FCC proceeding to establish digital video standards. The positions presented during this meeting are reflected in the attached summary.

The attached diagram was also handed out at this meeting.

Sincerely,



Francis M. Buono

cc: The Honorable Reed Hundt
Merrill Spiegel

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List ABCDE

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Issue: FCC NPRM on Equipment Compatibility - Docket # 93-7

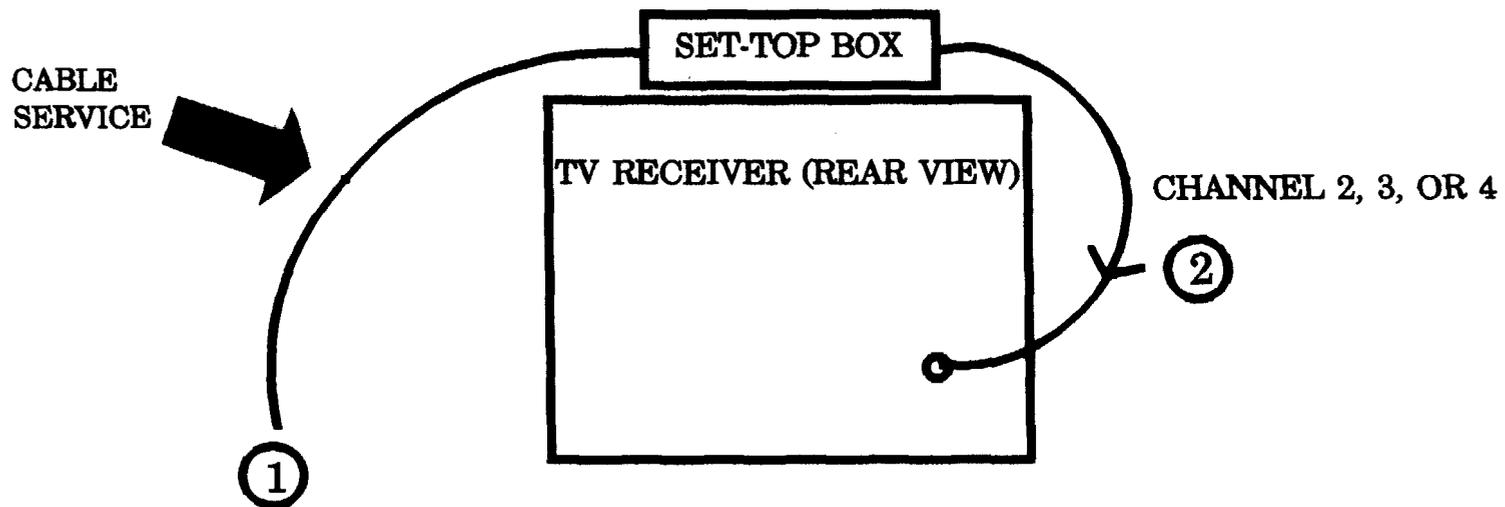
Near Term

1. Sec. 17 of the 1992 Cable Act requires FCC to adopt near term solutions w.r.t. equipment compatibility
 - All parties (consumer electronics and cable) agree on solutions which allow full use of TV set features such as picture-in-picture, taping one descrambled program while watching another (watch 'n record), taping two consecutive programs as separate channel.

Long Term

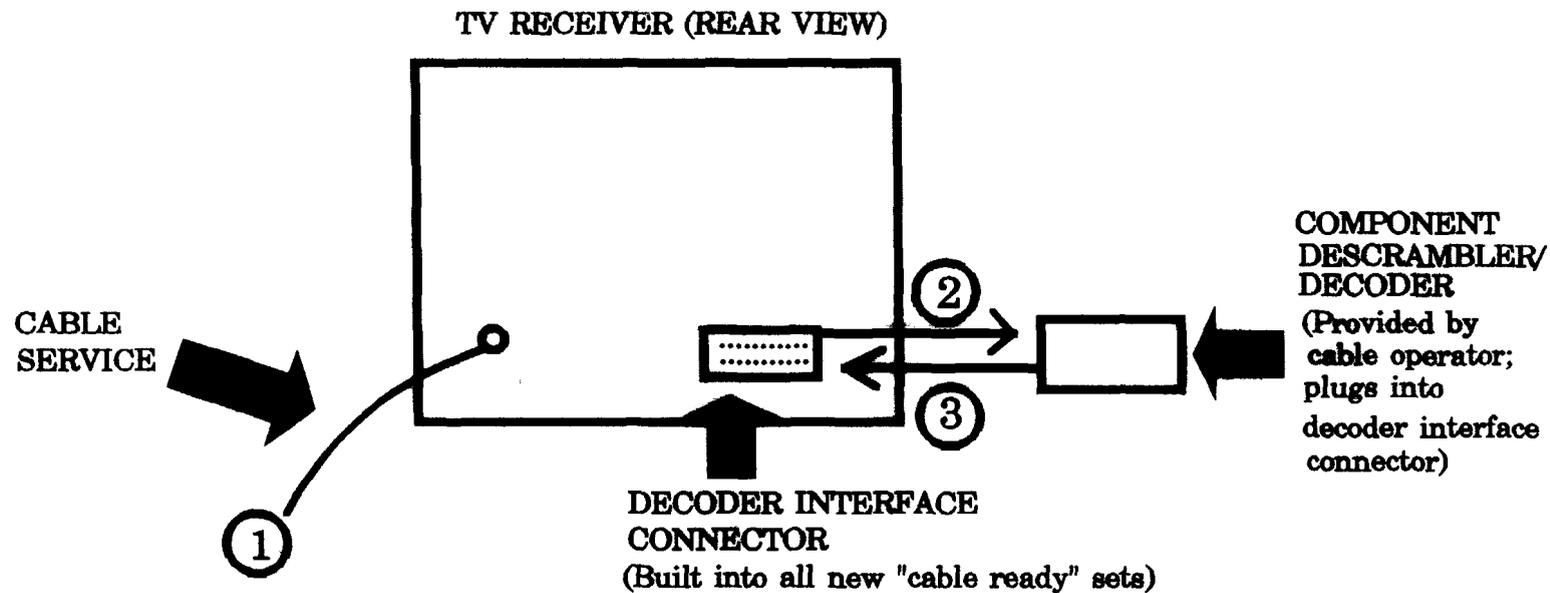
2. Consumer electronics group and cable operators have not achieved final agreement on the decoder interface by the deadline imposed by the NPRM
 - Agreement still possible - FCC should continue to press parties for agreement
 - We would urge that the FCC not proceed with default position (ANSI / EIA 563 / analog only) proposed by the staff.
3. FCC staff has proposed starting a proceeding to establish digital video standards
 - Too early - cannot readily identify critical interfaces
 - Cripples innovation - locks-out competition, improvements
 - Could impede investment - delay roll out of NII

CURRENT CONFIGURATION



- ① Cable service connects to set-top box, and signals are selected by tuner in set-top box and descrambled (if necessary).
- ② Tuned/descrambled signal is sent to TV receiver on channel 2, 3, or 4.

COMPATIBILITY SOLUTION



- ① Cable service connects directly to TV, and signals are selected by the TV's tuner and remote control.
- ② After a signal is tuned, the signal may be passed through the decoder interface connector to the component descrambler/decoder for further processing, e.g., to be descrambled.
- ③ The component descrambler/decoder processes the signal and passes it back to the TV through the decoder interface connector for display on the TV screen.

= Because the component descrambler/decoder processes signals after the TV's tuner and remote control circuitry, the consumer regains the functionality of his TV, e.g., use of the TV remote control and picture-in-picture.