EBU Technical Statement D83-1999 Flat panel and other new displays for 625-line television pictures

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EBU Members use the 625/50-television production standard, which, in its digital version, has 576 lines and 720 pixels per line [1].

The active image area in this standard covers all the 576 active lines, and the centre 702¹ pixels of each line. This has recently been clarified in EBU Recommendation R92 [2]

The EBU emphasises that 625-line television displays for professional use and for the consumer, especially modern flat panel displays, must be designed in such a way that they can display all the 576 lines and 702 pixels/line of the active image area without the need for down-conversion at the display. This requirement is essential to ensure that the picture quality achieved in production can be maintained through to the end-user.

Bibliography

[1] ITU-R Recommendation BT.601-5: Studio encoding parameters of digital television for standard 4:3 and widescreen 16:9 aspect ratios

[2] EBU Recommendation R92-1998: Active picture area and picture centring in analogue and digital 625/50 television Systems

Some video compression systems process 704 pixels to ease DCT processing but only the centre 702 pixels carry active picture content.