

May 1991

IMAGINE I W W G I N E

Dear Theatre Manager and Operator,

We are pleased that you are showing **BACKDRAFT** and wish you a very successful engagement. In the presentation of this film, the sound is very important! To give the audience the full benefit of the experience, it is necessary that the film be played at the sound levels we employed during the mixing of the track. The action scenes are quite intense, and the sound levels should reflect that intensity. (See notes on fader settings below.)

In addition, please note that all prints are designed to be projected at the SMPTE standard of 16 footlamberts for screen illumination.

35mm Prints

The 35mm prints for **BACKDRAFT** were struck from an anamorphic negative. Frame lines may sometimes be noticeable at either the top or bottom of the image if the film is framed incorrectly. Please be sure to frame the film correctly.

The optical sound track is Dolby® Stereo. It contains important information in all channels, including the surround channel, and should be presented at a standard fader setting--for example, 7 on a Dolby® system. The stereo optical track is compatible with mono sound systems. If you have a mono sound system, please raise the level of your fader the equivalent of 2 to 3 dB's higher than your normal setting for the playback of mono prints.

70mm Prints

The 70mm prints were blown up from an anamorphic 35mm negative. The image fills out the normal 2.2:1 aspect ratio of the 70mm frame. Again, frame lines may sometimes be noticeable, so be sure to frame the film correctly.

The magnetic soundtrack was recorded in 70mm 6-track Dolby® Stereo with **stereo surrounds**. (The surround channels have been recorded with stereo surround information.) While these prints are compatible with conventional 70mm equipment, you may take advantage of this sound enhancement through the use of stereo surround decoding equipment. Please consult your service technician for information on how to properly decode the stereo surround channel.

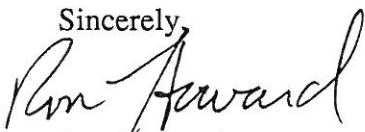
Your 70mm magnetic print should be presented at a standard fader setting--for example, 7 on a Dolby® system.

Note about automated film-handling mechanisms

If you are using a platter, please use clear tape rather than opaque tape to join the reels of your print when you are building it up. Be careful not to mark on the image of the film when identifying the joins. Although these procedures may take some extra time, they are plainly in the interest of our audience.

I sincerely appreciate your cooperation in the effort to make this film as powerful as the filmmakers intended. If you have any questions or problems with your presentation of **BACKDRAFT**, please call the toll-free TAP HOTLINE number, 800 545-2525.

Sincerely,



Ron Howard
Director

ATTENTION PROJECTIONIST:

The filmmakers of BACKDRAFT are requesting your assistance in the presentation of this exciting motion picture. **THE SOUND IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT!**

PLEASE play the film at the levels the sound mixers employed when they were mixing the soundtrack. For stereo sound systems, please set your fader at the standard setting (for example, on a Dolby® system, set it at 7). For mono systems, please raise the level of your fader the equivalent of 2 to 3 dBs higher than your normal setting.

The action scenes in BACKDRAFT are quite intense and the sound levels should reflect that intensity. **By setting the sound levels as the filmmakers intended the audience will not only experience the excitement but THEY WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO HEAR AND UNDERSTAND THE DIALOGUE!**

Lowering the fader setting could prevent the audience from being able to understand the dialogue.

Thank you for your assistance.

If you have any questions, please call the
Theatre Alignment Program/THX HOTLINE 800 545-2525