

**World Trade News: Agreement on disc camera specifications**

By YOKO SHIBATA

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Page 4

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A GROUP of 20 companies making electronic cameras and magnetic tapes in Japan, the US and the Netherlands has agreed basic specifications for a magnetic disc to be used in electronic still camera systems.

Sony Corporation, speaking for the group, said the planned standardisation will make the disc, like a roll of film for ordinary still cameras, compatible with all electronic still cameras made by the companies concerned.

Major members of the group include Sony, Canon, Hitachi and the Matsushita Electric Industrial Company of Japan, Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing and RCA of the US and Philips International of the Netherlands.

In an attempt to avoid worldwide confusion as was caused by incompatible specifications for video tape recorders and video discs, Sony called on the other companies for a series of technical discussions on the disc camera system.

Under the basic agreement the size of the disc pack will be set at 60mm in length, 54mm in width and 36mm in thickness, weighing approximately 8 grams.

The number of recordable pictures will be set at 25 for frame recording and 50 for field recording.

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