E.A.T.

EXPERIMENTS IN ART AND TECHNOLOGY, INCORPORATED, A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, WAS FOUNDED BY ARTISTS AND ENGINEERS IN 1966 TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR ARTISTS AND ENGINEERS TO WORK EFFECTIVELY TOGETHER UNDER INDUSTRIAL SPONSORSHIP.
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RAISON D'ETRE

The purpose of Experiments in Art and Technology is to catalyze the inevitable active involvement of industry, technology and the arts. E.A.T. has assumed the responsibility of developing an effective collaborative relationship between artists and engineers.

The collaboration of artist and engineer under industrial sanction does not fill a sociological need or want, but emerges as a revolutionary contemporary process. Engineers are becoming aware of their crucial role in changing the human environment. The artist, in turn, desires to create within the technological world in order to satisfy the traditional involvement of the artist with the relevant forces shaping society. Engineers have perceived how the artists' insight can influence his direction and give human scale to his work and the artist recognizes richness, multiplicity and human necessity as qualities of the new technology.

The raison d'etre of E.A.T. is the possibility of a work which is not the preconception of either the engineer, the artist or industry but a result of the exploration of the human interaction between these three areas.
BACKGROUND

Experiments in Art and Technology is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization formed out of the collaborative effort that resulted in the "9 Evenings: Theatre and Engineering" at the 69th Regiment Armory in New York City in October 1966. The "9 Evenings" was the culmination of ten months interaction between 40 engineers and 10 artists. As a result, equipment was designed and built for ten new theatre, dance and music works, and was viewed by an audience of 10,000. The equipment was designed and built at a cost of $35,000, not counting contributed services. It is now the property of E.A.T. and is being made available to other artists. M.I.T. Technology Press will publish a book on "9 Evenings". A 25-minute film of the performance is also available.

In December 1966 a meeting was announced to artists in New York City to find out if E.A.T. could act as an organization for bringing artists closer to the technical world. Over 300 artists, critics and engineers participated in this meeting. Seventy-five artists had immediate technical problems. Since then, E.A.T. has received 300 applications from artists with technical projects, all over the world.

The interest in E.A.T. has not been limited to the artistic community. Numerous educators, universities and individuals have expressed their interest. To keep everyone informed of the progress in establishing E.A.T., a newsletter is published.

The program and organization of E.A.T. has developed out of some 10,000 hours experience from "9 Evenings" and subsequent artist-engineer collaborations.

A grant of $30000 has been given to E.A.T. by the New York State Council on the Arts to cover initial administrative expenses.

An agreement has been entered into with the American Foundation on Automation and Employment in which E.A.T. will receive executive office space and the Foundation's new building at 49 East 68th Street. The Foundation will also assist E.A.T. by contacts within industry and labor unions.

PROGRAM

Industry

Obtain active involvement and support from industries and labor organizations.

Present technically realizable projects and areas of exploration to industry.

Work for the appreciation and involvement of the employees of industry in the products of the artist-engineer collaboration.

Engineers

Establish a section of the technical community with positive awareness of the artists' role in contemporary society.

Work for the professional recognition within the technical and art communities of the contribution of the engineer in the artist-engineer collaboration.

Artists

Assume the responsibility of bringing the artist into an effective and rapid contact with technical processes and engineers, and to bring an awareness of the new technology.

Seek support for artistic technical projects.

Maintain the artists' freedom in determining the character and esthetics of his work with in frame physical limitations.
SUPPORTING MEMBERS AND PATRONS

An industry, labor union, engineering society, school or any other interested organization can become a supporting member of E.A.T. if it:

Makes a yearly contribution of $1000 for the administrative costs of E.A.T.

Appoints a man or committee who will act as contact to E.A.T. representing the supporting member.

Considers and sponsors technical projects and suggestions of areas of investigation.

All patents, commercial ideas and other benefits that may derive from the artist-engineer collaboration will be the property of the supporting member under whose sponsorship the patent, commercial idea or other benefit was developed.

E.A.T. will, on request, arrange exhibitions, performances and talks on the premises of the supporting member.

By a yearly contribution of $1000, individuals may become supporting members of E.A.T.

A subscription form is enclosed.
LOCATION

The executive offices of E.A.T will be located at 49 East 68th Street in a building owned by the American Foundation on Automation and Employment. E.A.T. will have access to meeting rooms, exhibition space and lecture halls in this building.

E.A.T. also maintains 5,000 square feet of space at 9 East 16th Street for use of engineers and artists.

E.A.T. owned equipment is located here.

ADMINISTRATION

The administration of E.A.T. will consist of an Executive Administrator, secretarial staff, an artists’ coordinator and an engineer.

A number of committees formed among member engineers will handle the various technical relations of E.A.T.

Some of the activities of the administrator are to:

- Establish an effective working relationship with industry.
- Submit proposals to industry for support.
- Recruit member engineers.
- Seek support for artists’ projects.
- Coordinate talks, demonstrations, bull sessions, and tours for artists.
- Handle relations with the professional technical community.
- Publish the Newsletter.
- Handle artist’s applications and match artists and engineers.
- Coordinate special projects and exhibitions.
- Supervise use of E.A.T-owned equipment.
- Work for the professional status of the collaborating engineer.

PROCESSING OF ARTIST’S TECHNICAL REQUESTS

Matching of Engineers and Artists

An administrator will receive and initially sort the artists’ requests into areas of needed technical guidance. Members of the engineering Standing Committee will examine the requests at regular intervals and suggest matches between engineers and artists. They will then place the request with a project engineer.

Actions of the Project Engineer:

The project engineer will contact the artist to discuss the project and provide information. He will acknowledge meeting the artist by sending a brief report on the project to E.A.T. At this point he will then either (1) help the artist if he can, or (2) write it up as a project for industry and forward it to the Standing Committee. The project engineer will become the promoter of the project in guiding it through industry.

INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS

Industrial Projects can be dealt with as follows:

- Artists meet with engineers on a single visit basis.
- Artists reside on industrial premises for a predetermined period.
- Production of a work according to artists specifications.

If the Supporting Member company cannot finance the artists’ request, E.A.T. will seek funds for the project.
Experiments in Art and Technology, Inc.
c/o Mr. Franklin Koenigberg
52 East 66th Street
New York, New York

Gentlemen:

On the basis of your stated purposes and the understanding that your operations will continue as evidenced to date or will conform to those proposed in your ruling application, we have concluded that you are exempt from Federal income tax as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Any changes in operation from those described, or in your character or purposes, must be reported immediately to your District Director for consideration of their effect upon your exempt status. You must also report any change in your name or address.

You are not required to file Federal income tax returns so long as you retain an exempt status, unless you are subject to the tax on unrelated business income imposed by section 511 of the Code, in which event you are required to file Form 990-T. Our determination as to your liability for filing the annual information return, Form 990-A, is set forth above. That return, if required, must be filed on or before the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of your annual accounting period indicated above.

Contributions made to you are deductible by donors as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers or gifts to or for your use are deductible for Federal estate and gift tax purposes under the provisions of section 2055, 2106 and 2522 of the Code.

You are not liable for the taxes imposed under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) unless you file a waiver of exemption certificate as provided in such act. You are not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act. Inquiries about the waiver of exemption certificate for social security taxes should be addressed to this office, as should any questions concerning excise, employment or other Federal taxes.

This is a determination letter.

Very truly yours,

District Director

If distributions are made to individuals, case histories should be kept in accordance with the provisions of Revenue Ruling 56-304, Cumulative Bulletin 1956-2, Page 306.
SUBSCRIPTION

I (We) agree to become a Supporting Member of Experiments in Art and Technology, Incorporated (also known as E.A.T.) Enclosed is my (our) annual contribution of $1000.

Company ____________________________

By _________________________________

Address ______________________________

Experiments in Art and Technology, Incorporated is a non-profit, tax-exempt foundation incorporated in New York in 1966. The tax-exempt determination letter is included.

Experiments in Art and Technology, Incorporated
9 East 16th Street
New York, New York 10003