**ALL ABOUT LEADERS**

**HEADS-OUT**

- SMPTE head leader
- 4 white leader
- 6 white leader
- "Splice Here" frame line
- "Splice Here" frame line
- Hole punch
- Extra sync mark

Picture reels are wound with the "negative" side out facing up, in this diagram for reversal stock, and the "positive" side out for negative stock.

Sound reels are wound with the "base" (non-magnetic) side out.

Beep frame (in under weave, i.e., facing the sound head)

Notice on which side of the leader the sync marks should appear...

They are on the "outside" of the leader at 0 frame off the reel.

**TAILS-OUT**

- SMPTE tail leader
- 0 white leader
- 2 white leader
- "Splice Here" frame line
- "Splice Here" frame line
- Beep frame

Notice on which side of the leader the sync marks should appear.

Beep frame (on opposite side)

- Always use single-per leader for sound and double-per for picture. Particles passing over the sound heads can damage them.
- Always use the single-per leader with the side "emulsion" side mated to the base side of your mag stock, i.e., the side away from the sound heads. The soft plastic can scrape off and clog the heads.
- Label your leaders CLEARLY at the head and tail. These labels must be legible on the outside of a wound reel, in a darkened room, by a person of average eyesight under conditions of moderate darkness, etc., etc.
- Each and every soundtrack must have complete head and tail leaders as above. Label them clearly "TRACK 1," "TRACK 2," etc.