



Meeting Notice

Thursday, January 12, Don Chilito's Restaurant

7017 Johnson Drive; Mission, KS, 913-432-4615

Gather at 11:30 a.m., meeting and lunch at noon

Raun Hamilton, Vice President / General Manager of Electronic Video Systems located in Springfield Missouri, will be talking on the topics Multi Channel Audio Monitoring, including Audio Compression, Dolby AC-3 and Dolby E. He will have other vendors on site for discussion.

Lunch is self provided. Please give yourself time to order and meet in the gathering room on the East side of the Restaurant.

Certification Exam Dates

<i>Exam Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>App. Deadline</i>
November 11-21, 2005	Local Chapters	Closed
February 10-20, 2006	Local Chapters	December 30, 2005
April 25, 2006	NAB - Las	June 2-12, 2006
June 2-12, 2006	Local Chapter	April 21, 2006
August 11-21, 2006	Local Chapter	June 9, 2006
November 10-20, 2006	Local Chapter	September 22, 2006

↓ Last Month's Meeting

By Ben Weiss

The **December** meeting of Chapter 59 of the **Society Of Broadcast Engineers** was held December 8, 2005 at Zarda Barbecue in, 11931 West 87th Street, Lenexa Kansas. There were 13 in attendance. Matt Kinnan, chapter chairman, presided over the business meeting.

Matt opened the business meeting at 12:32PM. Ben read the minutes of the November meeting. Chriss Scherer made the motion to accept the minutes as read and Darrell Nickolaus the second, passed. Ben reported that there was \$2492.41 in the chapter checking account.

Regarding EAS, Kirk Chestnut, Kansas City EAS chairman, reported that Clay Freinwald and the SBE National EAS committee are currently drafting a response to the FCC's Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making. This is in response to the notice released including wireless devices into the EAS alerting pie. Any comments that you wish to forward for SBE consideration into this reply should be directed to Clay Freinwald at K7CR@wolfenet.com

Locally, the iBAS software development group is currently researching the possibilities to shorten the spoken text of an

AMBER Alert to approximately 30 seconds so as to be more universally accepted for both EAS Broadcast and Kansas DOT "511" information line notification during an AMBER.

No comments were received concerning duplicate Monthly tests or tests received from WIBW via the LP-1 KCSP.

Regarding future programs, Mike Rogers, program chairman, stated that he is working on several future programs but nothing is definite yet.

Chriss Scherer reminded us that certification exams would be given locally in February. The deadline for signing up for them is December 30th.

Chriss was given kudos for a job well done producing the chapter newsletter for many years.

Chris Castro will take over publication of the chapter newsletter with the January edition. He told us that he had already mailed letters to the sponsors asking for their continued support in 2006.

Chriss Scherer made a special note that the chapter had sent flowers to the home of Bob Leedham for his memorial service. Matt suggested that the chapter send \$100 to the American Diabetes Association and Chris Castro made the motion with Chriss Scherer making the second, passed.

The motion to adjourn was by Chriss and the second by Mike Rogers.

Chairman's Chat

Thankful

By Matt Kinnan, CEV CBNT

Well, it's that time of year again. The weather gets cold, the ground gets snowy, and my mailbox is packed with catalogs. The holidays are among us, the radio stations play nonstop Christmas music, the neighborhood houses are decorated in miles of colored lights, and the inflatable Santas seem to be everywhere. I often like to reflect on the past year, and the year to come. I think about projects I've worked on and people I've worked with. I also like to think of things I'd like to do in the coming year. This leads me to a list of things I'm thankful for, and here are a few work related ones.

- Audio wire that I don't have to peel the foil shielding off of when stripping. (This is a big one)

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- Test equipment that is smart enough to turn itself off when left forgotten. (This has saved me more times than I want to admit)
- Printers that don't use cartridges (Thank You Xerox)
- Auto sensing inputs (This is another favorite of mine)
- Foot markings on cable (Too many ways this makes sense)
- Any remote software (This alone has saved more gas and time than anything)
- DHCP (Another headache reliever)
- Having a good group of friends and colleagues (Nothing is as important)
- SBE (A standard for all of us)
- MapQuest (I get lost a lot less often)
- Ebay (Who hasn't used this site to help find a part to fix a dinosaur piece of equipment, and then sell it?)

After writing this list I realize that what I'm really thankful for is my health my family and having the chance to work with so many talented people. I hope you all have safe and happy New Year. Matt

Tech Corner

"What is a rootkit anyway?"

-Andrew Wong, Systems Admin

Sony recently had implemented in their newly produced audio CDs a simple program called "rootkit." 5 years ago, this wouldn't have been a problem - but the RIAA had enough of people distributing licensed music across the web. Now, we all feel guilty for listening to any music. Sony, thought they'd help exterminate the music pirates by putting a small program called rootkit on their audio CDs (last I checked, they got slapped on the hand for this...but they don't feel too bad.) What is a rootkit anyway? A rootkit, defined by Wikipedia.org, is "... a set of software tools frequently used by a third party (usually an intruder) after gaining access to a computer system. These tools are intended to conceal running processes, files or system data, which helps an intruder maintain access to a system without the user's knowledge. Rootkits are known to exist for a variety of operating systems such as Linux, Solaris and versions of Microsoft Windows. A computer with a rootkit on it is called a rooted computer."

What's bad about this? Well, these knuckle heads that get their jollies by writing viruses can now write their virus/trojan/spyware/malware/etc, into a rootkit program. Or, even without implementing a virus in to the rootkit, they can have the rootkit run other processes. It's up to the discretion of the programmer.

Viruses and Trojans generally have the intent

to screw up the software and spread itself, where as, the rootkit's intent is to take complete control of the computer. This isn't 1980's WarGames style. Control doesn't necessarily mean to 'control visual functionality'. A rootkit programmer can get your computer to run processes at certain times, find and retrieve secure information, etc.

All this happens behind a closed door while you're playing Solitaire.

This wasn't ever an issue, as rootkit programming has been around for a longtime. Only recently, thanks to Sony, has it been an issue. I first heard about it a year ago, but even I didn't think it would be a big deal. Supposedly, Sony's rootkit disabled your PCs ability to copy CDs. Now that this has come out, Microsoft, Symantec, and other anti-malware companies have gotten busy in trying to develop scanners and removal tools. Why? Their software didn't do it before. It wasn't an issue. Now it is, and we have more to worry about.

For information on finding removal tools, Google "rootkit removal tools"

Laptop Care

Chris Castro, CBT

Laptop has become a popular item for all of us. Many of us will hopefully get one for Christmas or sometime in the near future. Keep this in mind as we enter our winter season, never turn on your laptop outside if it's below 32 degrees it can damage the LCD screen when starting up and the surge power to the LCD itself. And that is our tip care for this month.

New Sponsors

We would like to thank Electronic Supply Inc. and Wholesale Battery for becoming a new sponsor of the SBE 59 newsletter.

Also we like to thank all sponsors for renewing their sponsorship for this year.

Remember if you ever need or require any services for broadcasting always keep in mind our sponsors first and drop a thank you letter or email to each one when you get time.

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Cox Focus Groups Provide Insight to Multicast Tuning

Dallas - Dec 12, 2005 - Following a qualitative research study conducted during November 2005, nearly nine out of ten consumers would prefer seeing HD Radio supplemental -- or multicast -- stations displayed as expanded bands instead of layered bands. In other words, instead of displaying a frequency's multicast streams as 100.7 HD1 and 100.7 HD2, the station would use a radio display of 100.7 for the HD1 stream and 120.7 for HD2.

In the national study, conducted by Bob Harper and Company and funded by Cox Radio, consumers in 12 separate focus groups were asked to discuss two possible options to display the new radio station streams made possible with HD Radio technology.

In each of the focus groups, consumers overwhelming preferred the expanded band approach of displaying new HD Radio stations. The combined results of the focus groups showed that 136 of the 156 (87.2 percent) respondents chose the expanded band approach over the layered approach.

"This is a somewhat unusual result from focus groups in general," says Bob Harper, president of Bob Harper and Company, an independent research organization specializing in radio broadcast. "An overwhelming percentage of respondents chose the expanded band over the layered approach.

In fact, in four of the sessions, the scores were 12-0, 13-0, 13-0 and 13-0 in favor of the expanded band. Typically in a focus group setting -- where there is a lot of open dialog and give-and-take -- respondents often can see the positives in more than one alternative; especially as they hear the pros and cons of one option over another. But there was very little equivocation in our three cities."

Harper adds that the findings are so conclusive that, "broadcasters and equipment manufacturers would only ignore them at their peril."

The multi-market research study was conducted between Nov. 7 and 15, 2005.

A total of 156 radio listeners between the ages of 18 and 54 participated in 12 focus groups moderated by Bob Harper. Three focus groups were conducted in both Los Angeles and Washington, DC, and six focus groups were held in Detroit. A number of radio broadcasters and receiver manufacturers responded to the invitation to advise Bob Harper and Company on the study's design as well as view the focus groups in person or online.

"As the industry moves aggressively to launch HD Radio, it is important for radios manufactured in the future to be consumer friendly and clearly display the...new stations," says Bob Neil, CEO of Cox Radio in explaining the rationale for the consumer research. In a statement, Neil noted that the first consumer HD Radio receivers will have the layered display, but he believes that "that the industry, working closely with receiver manufacturers, will use this research to develop an orderly transition plan to the expanded band as the HD Radio receiver evolves and develops."

Harper has been invited to present the results of this study at the next National Radio Standards Committee meeting in January 2006 at the Consumer Electronics Show.

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Next EAS Required Monthly Test: January 25
The RMT is sent on the last Tuesday of the month

Senate Confirms FCC Commissioners

Washington - Dec 21, 2005 - The United States Senate has confirmed Tennessee regulator Deborah Tate to fill the Republican seat on the Federal Communications Commission and Michael Copps to serve another term in a Democrat seat. A voice vote confirmed the nominations. President Bush has not yet nominated anyone for the remaining Republican seat.

Tate fills the remaining portion of a five-year term that expires June 30, 2007. She has been a director at the Tennessee Regulatory Authority and previously served as its chairman. She also served in various roles for two Tennessee governors.

An FCC commissioner since 2001 and previously an aide to retired Sen. Ernest Hollings, Copps begins a new five-year term that expires on June 30, 2010.

House sets Feb. 17, 2009, DTV transition date

Dec 22, 2005 8:00 AM, News Technology Update e-newsletter

The U.S. House of Representatives approved the budget reconciliation bill, which included the DTV Transition Act, early Monday morning setting Feb. 17, 2009, as the date certain for the close of the transition from analog to digital television.

By a vote of 212-206, the vote set the hard date for cessation of analog transmission and allocated \$1.5 billion to assist the owners of the estimated 73 million television sets used for over-the-air viewing with the purchase of a digital-to-analog converter box.

The bill eliminated a provision that would have allowed cable operators to down convert HDTV signals to SD.

A letter dated Dec. 19 to Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-TN) from NAB president David Rehr urged the Senator and his colleagues to support passage of the budget reconciliation bill.

The Senate is expected to take action on the bill as early as this week.

NAB News

NAB Says Hotels are Going Fast for NAB2006 Las Vegas, Dec 14, 2005. The NAB reports that its reserved room block for preferred hotels at NAB2006 in Las Vegas is now booked at 53 percent capacity, and reservations are running 30 percent ahead of last year. Because the demand is higher, the NAB suggests making hotel reservations sooner those attendees might have normally done in the past.

NAB2006 travel and hotel reservation information is available online at www.nabshow.com or at 888-622-8830.



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Upcoming Meeting and Events

January 12

Raun Hamilton with E.V.S at Don Chilito's

Upcoming Meeting dates

Mark your calendar now

February 9

March 9

April 13

May 11

June 8

Do you have a suggestion for a program topic?
 Please Share it with Mike Rogers

Synchronized Certification

The SBE National Certification Committee adopted an item of interest to individuals who hold multiple Certifications. In most cases, the different Certification were awarded at different times, which result in the Certified individual having to recently various items at various times. In many cases, the same point credits are claimed for the various Certifications.

To reduce the burden of tracking various periods concurrently, a method has been devised to allow various levels of Certification to be synchronized in their renewal cycle. Doing this is at the option of the Certification the SBE National Office for details on synchronizing your Certification.



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