



Meeting Notice

Thursday, April 10, KMBC-TV/KCWE-TV

6455 Winchester Ave.; KC, MO

Gather at 11:30, lunch and meeting at 11:45, program at 12:15

Facility Tour. KMBC and KCWE recently completed construction of a new studio facility. The 52,000 square-foot facility was built to produce news in HD on both of Hearst-Argyle's Kansas City TV stations. Program and commercial playback is all server-based. A server-based news editing system has also just been put online.

Parking is available in the visitor area of the parking lot or on the street. Please enter through the front door.

A pizza lunch will be provided by the chapter.

Last Month's Meeting

By Ben Weiss, CPBE

The March meeting of SBE59 was held March 13 at the studios and offices of Cumulus Media in Mission, KS. There were 16 in attendance. Robin Cross, chapter chairman, called the business meeting to order. He thanked Cumulus Media and host Dennis Eversoll for hosting the meeting and providing the pizza lunch.

Ben Weiss read the minutes of the February meeting. The motion to accept the minutes was made by Ken Cox and seconded by Chriss Scherer. Motion passed. Ben then provided the treasurer's report.

Chriss Scherer reminded us that certification exams will be given locally June 6-16 and the application deadline is April 18. Regarding the newsletter, Chriss stated there are still sponsorships available. He also reminded everyone that SBE members can register for the NAB Show at the partner rate, which is a \$200 savings from the NAB nonmember fee.

Kirk Chestnut, Kansas City EAS chairman, reported that the annual national test issued by the National Weather Service was sent normally. The test used the EAS/NWRSAME code for a tornado warning (TOR), but the message was billed as only a test.

Roy Baum, program committee chairman, stated that the April meeting may be held at KMBC-TV9 and that arrangements are pending. He said that a meeting with the National Weather Service is possible for the month of September and other programs are pending. It was mentioned that the annual picnic will be held in late September or early October and will be scheduled around Ed Treese's schedule.

The motion to adjourn was made by Chriss Scherer and seconded by John Gray. Passed

The program consisted of a tour of the Cumulus Media facilities. Dennis Eversoll and Ken Cox provided the tours and highlighted the continued expansion of the facility. A variety of technologies are in use, and Dennis and his engineering team have integrated these various systems into the facility's operation.

EAS Update for March RMT

By Kirk Chestnut, CPBE

On March 25, Kansas City area LP-1 KCSP-AM inadvertently sent a Required Weekly Test (RWT) instead of a Required Monthly Test (RMT.) As a make-good for the test, the station sent an RMT on March 26 around 1:45 p.m.

The Kansas City Required Monthly Test is sent on the last Tuesday of each month. The schedule of times and originating sources is available at the SBE59 website.

More Inside:	
SBE @ NAB	2
HD Radio Book	2
RF Safety Seminar	2
Membership Drive	3
Sat Radio Merger	3
Smarter Switches	4
Upcoming meetings	6
Info Wanted	6

KAB Seeks Topics for Engineering Sessions

The Kansas Association of Broadcasters is starting to plan its 2008 convention to be held in Wichita Oct. 12 - 14. Kent Cornish, president and executive director of the KAB, is looking for engineering topics and assistance in arranging the engineering sessions. Contact him at kent@kab.net or at 785-235-1307.

Certification Exam Dates		
Exam Date	Location	App. Deadline
Jun 6 - 16, 2008	Local Chapter	Apr 18, 2008
Aug 8 - 18	Local Chapter	Jun 6, 2008
Nov 7 - 17	Local Chapter	Sep 19, 2008




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SBE at the 2008 NAB Show

The SBE has a full slate of meeting and activities scheduled for the NAB Show April 12-17. The SBE booth, L-27, will be in the same location as last year, which is on the South Hall second floor concourse near the Broadcast Engineering Conference rooms. The booth will be open on Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Wednesday it will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. It will be open on Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The SBE will host the following meetings and events.

April 12

- Certification Committee meeting (partially closed meeting), 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., Hilton Conference Room 7

April 13

- Board of Directors meeting, 8:30 a.m. to noon; Hilton Conference Rooms 4-5

- EAS Committee meeting, 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Hilton Conference Rooms 1-2

April 14

- SBE/NFL Game Day Coordinators meeting, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Hilton Conference Rooms 7-8

- SBE Strategic Planning Committee meeting, noon to 1 p.m., Hilton Conference Room 11

April 15

- SBE Certification Exams; 9 a.m. to noon; pre-registration required

- SBE Frequency Coordinators meeting, 10 a.m. to noon, Hilton Conference Room 7-8

- SBE Membership meeting, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., LVCC S226

SBE Publishes HD Radio Implementation

The SBE and Focal Press will introduce their first coproduced book during the NAB Show. *HD Radio Implementation* is written by Tom Ray. The SBE/Focal Press book includes in-depth information about HD Radio installation and operation. The book is available through the SBE Bookstore and other retail outlets. It will also be available at the SBE Booth, L-27, during the NAB Show. The SBE non-member cost is \$89.95. The SBE member cost is \$71.96.

SBE Schedules More RF Safety Courses

The SBE has added two more opportunities to take the SBE RF Safety Course: April 30 and May 20. Both courses will be held from 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. EDT. The courses will be presented via live webcast and are designed for broadcast station personnel including chief and assistant chief engineers, transmitter site engineers, ENG and SNG maintenance personnel and management that need an understanding of RF safety issues and regulations. Instructing the SBE course will be RF safety expert, Richard Strickland of RF Safety Solutions.

The interactive course allows for questions to be asked at any time during the program. Those who complete the course will receive a certificate of completion from the SBE.

To reserve a space, contact Debbie Hennessey at the SBE National Office at dhennessy@sbe.org. The cost is \$75 per person for sites with four or more participants, and \$125 per person for sites with less than four participants. The registration form is available on the SBE website.

SBE Membership Drive Runs Through May 31

"Be a Part of a Winning Team" is this year's membership drive theme. You have a chance to win in this year's SBE Membership Drive and help someone you know win the benefits of being a part of the SBE team.

Though new members are welcome all throughout the year, now is a particularly good time to recruit new members for the SBE. Any member who recruits a new member will be eligible to win some of the prizes that have been furnished by SBE sustaining members and the SBE. Recruiters will also receive a \$5 discount on his 2009 membership renewal for each new member recruited (up to \$25). This year's grand prize is a trip to the SBE National Meeting in Madison, WI, from Oct. 14 – 16.

The SBE is the only organization devoted to the advancement of all levels and types of broadcast engineering. Through its members, the SBE provides forums for the exchange of ideas, where sharing information helps you keep pace with the rapidly changing industry.

A special post card mailing was sent to all members in February. To participate, be sure your name is on the "sponsor" line of the new member's application. Send your new recruits to the SBE website, www.sbe.org to use the on-line membership application.

Sirius, XM Merger Clears DOJ

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has completed its investigation of the pending merger of the satcasters, concluding that the merger is not anti-competitive. The pending merger is still subject to approval of the Federal Communications Commission.

From the DOJ's ruling: "After a careful and thorough review of the proposed transaction, the Division concluded that the evidence does not demonstrate that the proposed merger of XM and Sirius is likely to substantially lessen competition, and that the transaction therefore is not likely to harm consumers." Many speculate that the FCC will not defy the DOJ's decision, although the FCC could impose certain restrictions to appease the opponents.

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Smarter Switches

By Steve Epstein

Last time we discussed the differences between hubs, switches and routers. This time we will look a little deeper at switches. Larger, higher end switches such as those by Cisco or Foundry offer extensive configuration capabilities. Configuration can be interpreted as both flexibility and security. These switches offer both a craft (RS-232) port as well as in-band IP addressability. Initial configuration is accomplished through the serial connection and everything else is typically done through the in-band management of the IP ports.



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Capabilities vary by switch, but most offer the ability to configure security on the device as well as individually on each port. Command line interfaces are universal, and Web access is common. Both interfaces typically offer password protection. For the security conscious, instead of using Telnet (which sends everything in the clear), use Secure Shell (SSH), as it offers better security. Web access may or may not be as secure as SSH, again based on individual switch capability and configuration.

Let's look at a simple switch configuration that offers some security. Consider two locations that need a variety of traffic between them such as a remote sales office where they also provide edited media. The different types of network traffic are kept separate for security, and also because the media is sent as multicast. Consider three different types of traffic; control, media (using multicast) and business (including payroll). For those unfamiliar with multicast traffic, it will spread to all ports and flood the switch unless it is contained.



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David Denton
Chief Marketing Officer

400 N. Ashley Drive
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ddenton@rtowers.com
www.rtowers.com

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Fax: 813.579.4236

Cell: 813.334.8833

Toll Free: 800.827.4349

To securely handle the traffic across a wide-area network (WAN), it can be packaged into virtual LANs or VLANs. All traffic is bi-directional, so the concept of input/output is not accurate, but can be helpful when visualizing traffic. For each VLAN, we tag traffic on the way in, and then untag it on the way out. To keep things simple, we will put 24-port switches in each office so additional switches are not needed. Ports 1-4 will be for the control LAN, ports 5-8 will be media and ports 9-12 will be for business. Port 24 on each switch will be connected to the WAN. The control VLAN (10) includes ports 1-4 and 24. Ports 1-4 are configured as admin-edge ports. This means that traffic entering the switch on that port is tagged and traffic leaving the switch is untagged. The config file (in both switches) might look something like this:

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owner

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Next EAS Required Monthly Test: April 29
The RMT is sent on the last Tuesday of the month

```

vlan 10 name CONTROL by port
tagged ethe 24
untagged ethe 1 to 4

```

```

vlan 20 name MEDIA by port
tagged ethe 24
untagged ethe 5 to 8

```

```

vlan 30 name BUSINESS by port
tagged ethe 24
untagged ethe 9 to 12

```

As time goes on, other unused ports can be added to the appropriate VLANs. In the meantime, unused ports can be disabled for security:

```

interface ethernet 1
port-name booth 1 an to mixer
admin-edge-port
!

```

```

interface ethernet 2
port-name booth 1 an to editor
admin-edge-port

```

```

interface ethernet 3
port-name booth 1 an unused
admin-edge-port
!

```

```

interface ethernet 4
di sable
!

```

```

interface ethernet 5
port-name media storage
admin-edge-port
!

```

```

interface ethernet 6
di sable
!

```

```

interface ethernet 7
di sable

```

```

interface ethernet 24
port-name port-to-WAN
dual-mode

```

Switch and router config commands are quite simple. However, the config file can grow very quickly as it seems there is always some way to improve the switch operation. Don't forget to save the configuration once it works. Most switches have a running config in memory and a stored config, cycling the power cycle get it back to the last saved config. Having a backup copy of the config on your hard drive is also a good idea. ●

Kurt Caruthers

Director of Sales, Central Region

kcaruthers@sundig.com
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Newsletter Sponsorships Available

The SBE Chapter 59 newsletter is mailed to more than 120 broadcast engineering professionals in the Kansas City area every month. Let your message be seen. Contact a chapter officer or e-mail cscherer@sbe.org for more information.

<p>Upcoming Chapter Meetings and Events</p> <p>April 10 <i>Television Facility Tour</i> KMBC-TV/KCWE-TV</p> <p>May 8 June 12 <i>The Pick Hits of the 2008 NAB Show</i> Chriss Scherer Location TBA</p> <p>July 10 August 14</p>
<p>Do you have a suggestion for a program topic? Please share it with Roy Baum.</p>

Wanted: Your News and Information

The SBE59 newsletter, *The Communicator*, is published every month as a service to the members, sponsors and guests of SBE Chapter 59. We are always looking for information on what is happening at stations and facilities around Kansas City. Have you hired someone new? Have you received a promotion? Have you installed some new equipment? Tell us about it and share it with your engineering colleagues. Send any of your stories or ideas to a chapter officer or e-mail them to sbe59@yahoo.com. Articles published in *The Communicator* will qualify for SBE recertification points.

SBE59 Officers

Chairman Robin Cross KCUR-FM ... 816- 235-2880 crossr@umkc.edu
 Vice Chairman Dave Buell, CEV University of Central Missouri ... 660-441-7421 dbuell@ucmo.edu
 Secretary/Treasurer Ben Weiss, CPBE Weiss Enterprises ... 816-353-1792 bhweiss@comcast.net
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SBE59 Committees

Certification Chriss Scherer, CPBE CBNT *Radio* magazine ... 913-967-7201 cscherer@sbe.org
 EAS K.C. Operational Area Kirk Chestnut, CPBE Entercom Kansas City ... 913-677-6462 kchestnut@entercom.com
 Frequency Coordination Chris Castro, CBT KSHB-TV ... 816-932-4304 castro@kshb.com
 Newsletter Chriss Scherer, CPBE CBNT *Radio* magazine ... 913-967-7201 cscherer@sbe.org
 Programs Roy Baum, CSRE CBNT WIBW Radio ... 785-228-7250 roy.baum@morris.com
 Website John Gray V-Soft Communications ... 913-693-7744 jgray@v-soft.com

Chapter 59 e-mail: sbe59@yahoo.com

Chapter 59 list server: sbe-kc@yahoogroups.com



SBE Chapter 59
c/o Radio magazine (Scherer)
 9800 Metcalf
 Overland Park, KS 66212