

Meeting Notice

Wednesday, January 9, Entercom

4925 Belinder Road, Westwood, KS, (816) 236-9800

Gather at 11:30 am, Lunch and Meeting at 12:00 noon.

Note that we are meeting one day earlier than our usual meeting day.



This month's meeting features an engineering appreciation luncheon. We will be treated to Kansas City barbecued beef brisket, turkey and spareribs, courtesy of RF Specialties and prepared by John Sims. John noted that this will be prepared using native Missouri hickory. The invitation is open to everyone regardless of SBE membership or company affiliation.

Please RSVP to John Sims by Friday, January 4 at (816) 628-5959 or rfmo@sky.net. RF Specialties will provide a door prize grab bag with items from various manufacturers, including equipment, gift certificates and logo items. Entercom facility tours will also be available. A link to a map and directions is available on the SBE59 website. □

Certification Dates		
Exam Date	Location	App. Deadline
February 9-19	Local Chapter	CLOSED
April 24	NAB	March 12
June 8-18	Local Chapter	April 27
August 17-27	Local Chapter	June 16
November 9-19	Local Chapter	September 29

Last Month's Meeting

Several points were discussed at the business meeting, the highlights being a preview of upcoming meeting programs and a reminder to provide updated frequency usage information to Bob Schneider so the local database can be as accurate as possible. This is even more important with the NFL Game Day Coordinator program that the SBE is operating.

The SBE national office has created a relief fund to assist the families of the six engineers who lost their lives in the World Trade Center collapse on September 11. A motion was made and accepted for the chapter to donate \$500 to this fund. An additional suggestion was made for chapter members and guests to make an additional donation of \$10 as part of a fund matching effort. To do this, make your check payable to "Ennes Educational Foundation Trust" and write "Relief Fund - SBE59" in the memo section. Mail it to the SBE national office at 9247 North Meridian Street, Suite 305; Indianapolis, IN 46260.

Mark Dreiling, account services engineer for Kansas City Power and Light, was our host at the December meeting, where we were treated to a tour of the dispatch facility. When a service interruption occurs, this office springs into action to restore service as quickly as possible. We were

shown the call center and given a demonstration of how the entire power grid is monitored. Lunch was provided by KCP&L.

A New FM Station for Kansas City

The FCC has granted an application for KCSX-FM to change its city of license from Moberly, MO, to Lee's Summit. KCSX is licensed to Best Broadcasting. As part of the move, the station will remain on 97.3MHz but will increase its facilities to C1 status.

Station	City of License	Old	New
KNDY	Marysville, KS	103.1	95.5
KNMO	Nevada, MO	97.7	97.5
KJCK	Junction City, KS	94.5	97.5
KINZ	Humbolt, KS	94.3	95.3
KSNP	Burlington, KS	95.3	97.7
KNCY	Auburn, NE	94.7	103.1
KCHI	Chillicothe, MO	103.9 (C3)	97.5 (A)
KPOW	La Monte, MO	97.1 (C3)	97.7 (C2)
WBW	Topeka, KS	97.3	94.5
KAYQ	Warsaw, MO	97.7	97.1
KNM (relocate)	Maryville, MO	97.1	97.1
New	Madison, MO	New	97.3 (C3)

Several stations will change frequencies to accommodate the move. The table above shows the stations, their cities of license, and the old and new frequencies.

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Get Ready for Spring Cleaning

If you have or your station has some extra equipment sitting in storage and you would like get rid of it, let SBE59 help. Start putting your list together and we will print a special section in the March issue listing all the available equipment. Send your equipment list to the chapter at sbe59@broadcast.net.

SBE Organizes Strategic Planning Meeting

The SBE will hold a special strategic planning session on Saturday, January 12, in Indianapolis. The purpose of the meeting is to help focus the Society's programs and services to meet the needs of members in the coming years. The chapter chairman or other representative from each SBE chapter is invited to attend. Also participating will be the national officers, directors and staff. The session will be led by professional facilitator, Tom Zoss of Bloomington, IN. Chriss Scherer, chapter chairman, will represent SBE59 for this event. If you have any specific ideas, questions or concerns, please notify Chriss as soon as possible.

SBE Leader Skills Seminars Set for 2002

SBE will once again present the Leader Skills Seminars for Broadcast Engineers with seminar leader Richard Cupka. The three-day Course One will be held at the Marten House Hotel and Conference Center in Indianapolis on June 5-7, 2002. The seminar is open to anyone interested in learning the skills necessary for managing the broadcast engineer function at a station or similar facility. The seminar is appropriate for both current and aspiring managers. The follow-up Course II seminar will be held August 7-9, also at the Marten House in Indianapolis. Participants for Course II must have completed Course I or any of the previously held five-day Leader Skill Seminars. A minimum of ten and maximum of 18 participants insures a quality program with plenty of individual attention. Cupka has led the Leader Skills Seminar for Broadcast Engineers for more than 30 years. More than 1,000 graduates can be found at stations, networks and cable facilities across the country.

EAS Required Monthly Test January 29

The EAS RMT is sent on the last Tuesday of the month.

To register, call the SBE National Office or watch for more information and a registration form in the December issue of the *SBE Signal*.

ATSC Reschedules Seminar

The ATSC DTV Standards Seminar scheduled for October in St. Louis, MO has been rescheduled for February 20-21, 2002. To register, go to www.atsc.org.

FCC Seeks Comments on NRSC IBOC Report

On December 19, the FCC issued a Public Notice seeking comments on the NRSC's report. The NRSC report evaluates the extensive laboratory and field testing of the iBiquity hybrid mode FM IBOC DAB system, and contains conclusions and recommendations concerning this FM IBOC DAB system to the Commission. On December 6, 2001, Ibiquty submitted its FM IBOC test results to the Commission. Both the NRSC and Ibiquty filings are available at www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html under MM Docket No. 99-325.

The FCC seeks comments on the NRSC report, conclusions, and recommendations concerning the Ibiquty hybrid mode FM IBOC DAB system, as well as on the Ibiquty FM IBOC test results, with respect to the Commission's stated DAB policy goals and selection criteria. Submit comments on or before February 19, 2002, and reply comments on or before March 21, 2002.

FCC Speeds the Transition to DTV

In order to enable more broadcasters to get on the air with a digital signal and to help speed the transition to DTV, the Federal Communications Commission modified a number of its Digital Television (DTV) transition rules.

The Commission said that after a review of the transition rules, it was concerned that some of its initial requirements may be slowing the transition to DTV. The Memorandum Opinion and Order on Reconstruction said "mid-course corrections" would help prioritize elements that are the most important to the DTV transition, serve the goals of maximizing the number of DTV stations on the air and provide an incentive to consumers to purchase DTV equipment.

The Commission temporarily postponed the following DTV station requirements:

- Replicating a station's entire current grade B NTSC analog service area with their DTV signal by December 31, 2004 (or December 31, 2005 for non-commercial broadcasters) or lose interference protection to the unreplicated areas. Instead, stations can construct and operate facilities that offer DTV services to at least their license community, while retaining interference protection to its allotted service area.
- Stations are now allowed to change their construction plans and build less than the maximum facility if construction permits have already been granted.
- Commercial stations with both analog and digital channel assignments within channels 2 to 51 could select by December 31, 2003 (December 31, 2004 for non-commercial stations) which channel they will use for their post-transition digital channel. □



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Upcoming Meetings

The regular meetings of SBE Chapter 59 are the second Thursday of every month.

January 9 - *note change*
 February 14
 March 14