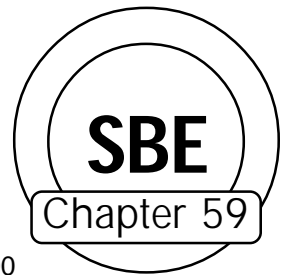


**Meeting Notice****Thursday, April 12, Summit Technology Academy**

777 N.W. Blue Pkwy, Ste 3090, Lee's Summit, MO (816) 524-3366

Gather at 6:30 pm, Meeting at 7:00 pm, Program/Tour at 7:30 pm.



Robin Cross, CSRE, and Bob White of the Summit Technology Academy will be our hosts for an introduction and tour of the school. The school teaches four courses: Networking, Computer Repair (Comptia A+), Basic Electronics and Principles of Technology (physics), and has about 100 students enrolled. Many students have been invited to the meeting as well so we will have a rare opportunity to meet with some fresh technical talent. You may even meet a future employee. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Directions to the School: From I-470, take US50 South to Chipman Road. Head East on Chipman to Blue Parkway. Turn left on Blue Parkway. The building is on the right. Take the second entrance into the parking lot. Go straight to the yellow barricades and past the former guard shack to enter the parking lot. Park in the far Southwest corner of the lot. The school is in the Northwest corner of the building. The front door is marked with a sign for the school. □

Certification Dates		
Exam Date	Location	App. Deadline
April 24	NAB, Las Vegas	<b>Closed</b>
June 8-18	Local Chapter	April 30
August 17-27	Local Chapter	July 9
November 9-19	Local Chapter	September 28

**Last Month's Meeting**

We met at Don Chililo's. The main order of business was the election of chapter officers. Elected to serve for the coming year were:

Chriss Scherer, CSRE, chairman  
 Kirk Chestnut, CBRE, vice chairman  
 Ben Weiss, CPBE, secretary/treasurer

Our program was provided by Rich Altapiedi of Dialight. Altapiedi discussed the advances in LED technology, and then showed his company's latest products: an LED-based tower beacon and sidemarker. Dialight also sponsored several lunches and a drawing was held to determine the four winners.

**Next Month's Meeting**

We tour KCUR-FM.

**Awards Nomination Forms Now Available**

Nomination forms for the 2000 National SBE Awards program are in the March issue of the *SBE Signal* and are available on the SBE website. Winners will be chosen by the National Awards Committee, and awards presented at the national meeting in September.

There is no higher praise than recognition by your peers. Please take a moment to review the nomination form and make your nominations.

**Network Bandwidth**

By Steve Epstein, CPBE, CBNT

When considering a network installation, there are numerous factors, including storage capacity, the number of nodes and bandwidth. Bandwidth relates to the type of network interconnection. As Ethernet is the most common, we will quickly cover the various flavors: 10base2,

10baseT, 100baseT (Fast Ethernet) and 1000baseT or Gigabit Ethernet. In existing installations, 10baseT (the T is for twisted pair) is probably the most

**EAS Required Monthly Test**  
**April 24**

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

common. 10base2 uses coaxial cable (50ohm) and may be found in older installations. For new installations, 100baseT is the norm. Although the network interface cards (NICs), connectors and cabling are reasonably priced, some peripherals either do not support 100baseT or can be very expensive if they do. Many broadband adapters such as DSL and cable modems only support 10baseT. Gigabit Ethernet is still very expensive and is typically found only in high-end installations.

Network bandwidth is not as high as one might expect based on the nomenclature. A 10baseT (likewise, 10base2) network will only support about 1Mbit/s of traffic payload (100baseT supports 10Mbits/s while Gigabit Ethernet supports 100Mbits/s). There are several reasons for this including the number of overhead bits and the nature of the traffic involved. On a typical network LAN, all the devices share common cabling. That means that only one device at a time can talk. When network utilization is low this is not a problem. However, as network traffic increases, collisions occur. If this happens, both devices must re-send their packets after a random delay. This immediately doubles the amount of network traffic, increasing the likelihood of another collision (which of course doubles the network traffic again). The whole thing can quickly avalanche and bring network traffic to halt. Using a switched network can isolate various segments of the network, dividing traffic to reduce the possibility of collisions. Careful (and appropriate) use of bridges and routers can also keep traffic low on individual segments.

**Upcoming Meetings**

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

May 10  
 June 14  
 July 12

*The Computer Connection columns provide information that may help you prepare to take the SBE CBNT exam. For more information on SBE certification, contact SBE59 certification chairman Joe Snelson, go to [www.sbe.org](http://www.sbe.org), or call (317) 253-1640.*

**Hassinger Named Frequency Coordination Director**

Galen L. Hassinger has been hired to serve as the frequency coordination director for the SBE. Hassinger began his duties in this part-time position on April 1. Hassinger will work closely with the SBE's Frequency Coordination Committee to increase support for local volunteer frequency coordinators, represent SBE in the 2GHz transition and manage the SBE event coordination programs.

Rick Edwards, CPBE, SBE vice president and chairman of the Frequency Coordination Committee, remarked on the appointment, saying that he and the committee look forward to having Hassinger on board Hassinger as he is highly qualified for the job. □

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