

Meeting Notice**Thursday, June 9, *Primedia Business***

9800 Metcalf; Overland Park, KS; 913-341-1300

Gather and lunch at 11:30 a.m.; meeting at noon; program to follow



40 Years of Service. The Society of Broadcast Engineers held its first meeting at the NAB convention in 1964. Since that time, the Society has seen tremendous growth in a continuously changing and evolving industry. To mark the anniversary, a special presentation was given during the national membership meeting at NAB2004 last year. This presentation has been made available to SBE chapters, and it will be the focus of our June meeting. This will also be an opportunity to discuss the SBE in general and answer any questions you may have about the Society.

Parking is available in the Primedia Business lot behind the building. Turn west onto W 97th Street from Metcalf and then turn south behind the First National Bank. Pizzas will be ordered for lunch. Please bring a few dollars to help cover the cost. ☺

Certification Exam Dates		
<i>Exam Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>App. Deadline</i>
Aug 12 - 22	Local Chapter	Jun 10
Nov 11 - 21	Local Chapter	Sep 23

Last Month's Meeting*By Ben Weiss*

The May 12 meeting was held at the Majestic Steak House in Kansas City.

The minutes of the April meeting were read and approved, and Ben Weiss provided the treasurer's report. There was no frequency coordination report. Regarding EAS, the monthly schedule noted that an Amber Alert test was scheduled for May 25 to coincide with National Missing Children's Day. It was scheduled for 1:50 p.m. Details were not available at the meeting to confirm that this test would occur.

Regarding future meetings, it was noted that Mike Rogers continues to work to find presenters for programs. Greg Best discussed the plans for a day-long DTV seminar in July. [Information about this seminar appears later in this newsletter.]

Chriss Scherer remarked that the local certification exams to be given in August have a June 10 sign up deadline. He also commented on the new specialist certification levels, the first of which covers AM directional systems. The next one to be offered will cover 8-VSB, and should be available by October.

Tish Boyles of Morrow Technologies provided information about the changing needs of ENG with the refarming of the BAS band. Analog signals could be easily aligned

because signals were captured instantly, and the nature of the analog signal made it possible to observe the peak of the signal quality. Digital signals require a short moment to be acquired and decoded, and it is possible to miss the peak of the signal.

Boyles explained the function of the VC70BMS to provide a spectrum display of the received signal so the shot can be optimized without the latency of the data acquisition.

Lunch was provided by Morrow Technologies.

Chairman's Chat***History, Standards and Education****By Matt Kinnan, CEV CBNT*

The other day I was discussing some wiring plans with a colleague. He is young and is always full of questions. He asked a really simple question, "What does XLR stand for?"

Scratching my head I thought to myself, "that's a good question." I knew Cannon invented it, but I wasn't exactly sure how it got its name or what it stood for.

I dashed off to my computer and in a few moments my Google search found the answer.

"The origin of the XLR connector was the Cannon X Series connector. It was fitting the demands of the audio community except the missing latch. Cannon rearranged the pins and added a latch. The new connector was called Cannon XL Series (X Series with Latch). Later the female version was changed to put the contacts in a resilient rubber compound. The connector was then called Cannon XLR Series.

"This connector soon became the industry's standard, and

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*nearly every connector manufacturer copied the Cannon connector. It became an AES standard in 1982 with the pin assignment: 1: shield/ground, 2: hot pin, 3: cold pin. ***

Just as I finished reading the answer to this simple question, I realized that no matter how much you think you know about your business, there is always room for learning and advancing you career. The SBE is a great way to keep up with our ever-changing profession. Join the SBE, get certified, and make sure others know you care.

* www.proav.de/history/XLR_history.html

VSB Transmission Seminar Scheduled for July

Chapter 59 is working with consulting engineering Greg Best to present the VSB Transmission Seminar on July 13 at Johnson County Community College. The day-long seminar will be presented by DTV consultant Gary Sgrignoli, who previously worked for Zenith for 27 years. Sgrignoli's presentation will cover NTSC and DTV past, present and future technology, a basic data communication and modulation theory review, a brief ATSC system overview, an ATSC VSB transmission system tutorial, an introduction to the FCC channel allocation factors, ATSC cable carriage methodology, ATSC repeater technology, DTV receiver improvements and more.

Registration information will be available on the SBE59 website soon. As part of the registration fee, attendees will receive a 575-page handbook that covers the presentation.

National Candidates Announced

The SBE National Nominations Committee, chaired by Larry Wilkins, CPBE CBNT, has announced its slate of candidates for the 2005 national election. Ballots for the national election will be mailed to SBE members later this summer. The slate of candidates follows. Candidates are listed alphabetically.

President

Chriss Scherer, CSRE CBNT; *Radio* magazine; Overland Park, KS

Vice President

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 Ted Hand, CPBE; WKTR-TV; Norfolk, VA
 Ralph Hogan, CPBE CBNT; Washington State University;
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 Hal Hostetler, CPBE; KVOA-TV; Tucson
 David Hultsman, CSRE; Continental Electronics;
 Birmingham, AL
 John Lyons, CPBE; The Durst Organization; New York
 Mark Olkowski, CPBE; Infinity Broadcasting, New York
 Henry Ruhweidel, CPBE; WYIN-TV; Merrillville, IN
 Jeff Smith, CEA CBT CBNT; Nassau Broadcast Partners;
 Princeton, NJ
 Conrad Trautmann, CPBE; Westwood One; New York

SBE voting members may nominate other qualified members as candidates with the support of 10 or more voting members. Additional nominations must be received at the SBE National Office by July 18, 2005. Address nominations to Ralph Hogan; SBE National Secretary; 9247 N. Meridian St., Ste. 305; Indianapolis, IN 46260, or fax it to 317-846-9120.


SBE Membership Renewals Overdue

If you have not yet renewed your SBE membership, you must do so immediately or your membership will be terminated on June 30. The chapter receives a rebate from the National Office based on the current members assigned to it, so it helps the chapter if you renew as well.

NRSC Submits IBOC Standard to the FCC

The NAB and the CEA, co-sponsors of the National Radio Systems Committee, filed the NRSC-5 standard with the FCC. NRSC-5 is the group's in-band, on-channel (IBOC) digital radio broadcasting standard. It is a voluntary standard and represents more than a decade of work performed by the NRSC to evaluate and standardize a digital radio broadcasting technology for the United States.

The standard is based on Ibiquity Digital's IBOC digital radio technology. Following the release of the FCC's First Report and Order (Docket 99-325) on Oct. 10, 2002, radio licensees were granted interim authority by the FCC to operate with this technology. As a result, there are now stations in most major and medium markets broadcasting IBOC signals with many more planning to do so in the near future. Additionally, receiver manufacturers Kenwood,




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IBOC Tally

Ibiquity Digital, the developer of the IBOC digital transmission system called HD Radio, maintains a list of stations that have licensed the company's technology. Several stations in Kansas and Missouri have licensed the technology, and some have commenced transmissions.

Station	Format	Market	Owner	On Air
KBIA-FM 91.3	News/Clscl	Columbia, MO	University of Missouri	Yes
KANH-FM 89.7	NPR/Cls/Jazz	Emporia, KS	University of Kansas	No
KCFX-FM 101.1	Clsc Rock	Kansas City	Susquehanna Radio	No
KCUR-FM 89.3	News/Talk/Info	Kansas City	University of Missouri	No
KQRC-FM 98.9	AOR	Kansas City	Entercom Communications	Yes
KRBZ-FM 96.5	Rock	Kansas City	Entercom Communications	Yes
KUDL-FM 98.1	Lite AC	Kansas City	Entercom Communications	Yes
KYY5-FM 99.7	Clsc Rock	Kansas City	Entercom Communications	Yes
WDAF-FM 106.5	Country	Kansas City	Entercom Communications	Yes
KANU-FM 91.5	NPR/Cls/Jazz	Lawrence, KS	University of Kansas	No
KANV-FM 91.3	NPR/Cls/Jazz	Olsburg/Junction City, KS	University of Kansas	No
KRPS-FM 89.9	Cls/Jazz/NPR	Pittsburg, KS	Pittsburg State University	No
KTXR-FM 101.3	Easy	Springfield, MO	Stereo Broadcasting	No
KFUO-AM 850	Religion	St. Louis	Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod	Yes
KSD-FM 93.7	Country	St. Louis	Clear Channel Radio	Yes
KWMU-FM 90.7	News/Talk/Info	St. Louis	University of Missouri	No
WIL-FM 92.3	Country	St. Louis	Bonneville International	Yes
KTBG-FM 90.9	AAA	Warrensburg, MO	Central Missouri State University	Yes
KSGL-AM 900	Christian	Wichita	Agape Communications	No

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Panasonic and JVC now have products available in the marketplace with other manufacturers planning to launch products soon. The NRSC hopes that the NRSC-5 standard will help the Commission craft permanent rules for digital radio broadcasting.

In the Ibiquity system, audio source coding and compression are handled by Ibiquity's HDC codec. NRSC-5 does not include specifications for audio source coding and compression. Ibiquity has committed to license all patents necessary to implement NRSC-5, with or without the HDC codec. It also is possible within the NRSC-5 standard to use audio source coding and compression schemes other than Ibiquity's HDC codec.



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The NRSC did not include codec specifications in this standard because Ibiquity, due to a variety of legal restrictions, is unable to divulge the specifications of its codec. Furthermore, because the FCC previously authorized stations—on an interim basis—to broadcast with Ibiquity's system and its inherent HDC codec, the NRSC

Next EAS Required Monthly Test: June 28
The RMT is sent on the last Tuesday of the month

concluded that it would not be necessary to address the codec within the standard. The NRSC expects that to ensure overall compatibility, broadcast equipment manufacturers and receiver manufacturers will use the Ibiqity codec in their products.

Information about NRSC-5 is available on the NRSC Website at www.nrscstandards.org.

FCC Launches E-mail Consumer Information Registry

The FCC's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) is launching the Consumer Information Registry, an expanded e-mail service that will deliver to subscribers customized information about the FCC's actions and related developments in telecommunications and other communications services.

The Registry is an Internet database that can be customized to deliver information on topics the subscriber chooses. To register, go to www.fcc.gov/cgb/contacts.

FCC to Launch Redesigned ULS

The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) has completed an extensive redesign of the Universal Licensing System (ULS) Application Search interface. In addition to the redesigned Application Search, a new search capability in ULS License Search will be available. Users can search for site-based licenses using specialized search criteria such as frequency, Antenna Structure Registration (ASR) number and station class. The new ULS is accessible at wireless.fcc.gov/uls. The new design of Application Search resembles the ULS License Search.

The new function became available May 9, 2005. The previous Application Search function is no longer available.

Synchronized Certification

The SBE National Certification Committee adopted an item of interest to individuals who hold multiple Certifications. In most cases, the different Certifications were awarded at different times, which results in the Certified individual having to recertify 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 levels concurrently, a method has been devised to allow various levels of Certification to be synchronized in their renewal cycle. Doing this is the option of the Certification holder. It is not mandatory.

The specific details will be featured in the June issue of the *SBE Signal*. You can also contact the SBE National Office or Chriss Scherer, SBE59 certification committee chairman, for details.

Triveni Road Show Stops in St. Louis

The free seminar will cover DTV basics, MPEG-2 principles, metadata/PSIP, data broadcasting, cable carriage for off-air DTV and monitoring. The St. Louis seminar will be held on June 7 at the Westin St. Louis, 811 Spruce Street, St. Louis 63103, from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. For information and registration, contact Mark Rushton at mrushton@trivenidigital.com or 720-304-8797. ☺



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Upcoming Meetings and Events

June 9 - 40 Years of Service
 Primedia Business

July 13 - VSB Transmission Seminar
 Johnson County Community College

Upcoming meeting dates
 Mark your calendar now

- August 11**
- September 8**
- October 13**
- November 10**
- December 8**

Do you have a suggestion for a program topic?
 Please share it with Matt Kinnan or Mike Rogers.

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@broadcast.net. Articles published in *The Communicator* will qualify for SBE recertification points.



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