

Meeting Notice**Thursday, December 11, *Don Chilitos Restaurant***

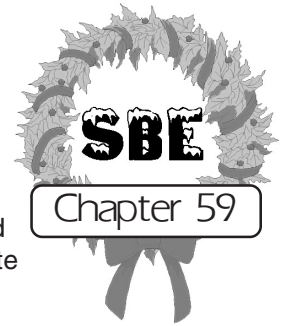
7017 Johnson Drive; Mission, KS; 913-432-4615

Gather at 11:30 a.m.; meeting at 12:00 noon

Planning for a digital audio infrastructure. Digital audio is common in most facilities today, but in some cases a facility's ability to handle the specific needs of digital audio is approached from a legacy wiring point of view. Current technology offers greater flexibility to accommodate changing needs.

RF Specialties of Missouri has arranged for Jay Tyler, sales engineer for Wheatstone, to provide a presentation that will explore the options for broadcasters as they face the transition from traditional consoles and routers to distributed digital audio and control-mix engines. This will include a discussion of the input and output requirements for studios and rack rooms, as well as signal definitions, wiring requirements and wire-termination needs.

Wheatstone will provide lunch. When you arrive, go through the line and order your lunch. Tell the cashier that you are with the SBE/RF Specialties/Wheatstone meeting. Bring your lunch to the banquet room on the east side of the building. A map to the restaurant is available at the SBE59 website. ☺



Certification Exam Dates		
Exam Date	Location	App. Deadline
Feb 6-16, 2004	Local Chapter	Dec 31, 2004
Apr 20, 2004	NAB	Mar 2, 2004
Jun 4-14, 2004	Local Chapter	Apr 23, 2004
Aug 13-23, 2004	Local Chapter	Jun 11, 2004

Last Month's Meetings

November 13. For our November meeting, we met at the Kansas City Emergency Management Operation Center on Woodland Road. The Center, operated by the Kansas City Office of Emergency Management, functions to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters by taking reasonable and affordable measures to save lives, prevent injuries, protect property, safeguard the environment and preserve the local economy. During an emergency this facility coordinates event-driven demands. The facility is not yet completed, but it is expected to be fully functional in the first quarter of 2004.

Our host for the afternoon was Mark Widner, who is overseeing the facility's technical construction. We were also introduced to D.A. Christian, director, Tanya Allen, deputy director, and Barbara Garcia, coordinator, from the Office of the City Manager of Kansas City.

We were given an overview of the expected operational capabilities of the facility, which led to a discussion of technical needs for broadcast stations during an emergency when the center would be at its peak of activity. Several ideas were presented regarding space, power and communications needs, which Widner will try to implement as

the facility is completed. A follow-up chapter meeting will likely be held at the center upon its completion.

A pizza lunch was provided by Mark Widner.

November 17. While not a formal chapter meeting, a second broadcast engineering event was held on November 17. As part of its TV Town Hall tour, SignaSys made a stop in Overland Park at the Primedia Business offices of *Broadcast Engineering* and *Radio* magazines.

Jim Boston, senior director of SignaSys, provided a presentation that highlighted key technological trends for television stations. The overview highlighted a positive movement of digital television consumer purchasing, with sales of non-digital sets down 52 percent in the first half of this year. Viewers now have more than 100 hours of high-definition programming available weekly. Boston predicted that consumers are finally seeing the advantages of HD. For TV stations, the future lies in both HD and multichannel opportunities. Boston also reviewed a series of implementation schemes where TV stations could begin new digital services for little additional investment.

Chairman's Chat

By Kirk Chestnut, CSRE

What Matters Most

When times get tough and budgets tighten, we are forced to re-evaluate our priorities. On a personal level we might forgo eating out or put off extravagances such as premium cable TV or buying a designer jacket. Certainly engineers everywhere are feeling the trickle-down effect from the weak economy, specifically on operating budgets and capital expenditures. Logically, our level of service drops

Audio Test & Measurement Systems

Kansas & Oklahoma representative:

Ron Fisher & Associates, Inc.
 9802 East 37th Place, Tulsa, OK 74146
 Tel: (918) 665-8899 Fax: (425) 930-9128
 E-mail: rfai@swbell.net



5750 SW Arctic Drive
 Beaverton, OR 97005
 US Toll Free: 1-800-231-7350
 (503) 627-0832 Fax: (503) 641-8906
 Web site: www.audioprecision.com

BROADCAST RICHARDSON

**Power Tubes • IOTs • Radio & TV Transmitters
 IP/Digital Satellites • NLE Video Editing
 Webcasting • Studio Equipment**
 Telephone: 800-737-6937 • Fax: 630-208-2662
 Christine Chinchilla (ext. 2738; chrisc@rell.com)
 Greg Whitaker (ext. 2016; gregw@rell.com)

www.broadcast-richardson.com



Rick Jennings
Power Systems Manager

4800 Deramus, Kansas City, MO 64120-1186 • 816-245-5400 • Fax 816-245-5435
www.cometind.com • rjennings@cometind.com

Stand-by, Special Application & Prime Power Systems
 Mobile, RV, Marine & Portable Generators
 24 Hour Generator Service & Maintenance



www.thetapeguys.com

"If You Can Record On It, We Sell It!"

RAY LEAGUE

8387 MELROSE DRIVE
 LENEXA, KANSAS 66214
 PHONE: 913-438-1878
 TOLL FREE: 888-345-8273
 FAX: 913-438-1944
 EMAIL: ray@thetapeguys.com

BROADCAST AUDIO, VIDEO & DATA MEDIA DISTRIBUTORS

while expectations rise demanding that we do more with less. Determining what work is a priority and what is not is key to survival.

How do you cope with the workload? Do projects passed from corporate to the GM seem unreasonable or unattainable? Do you feel that you're running from fire to fire with no hope of catching up? In the months to come, I hope to report on what area engineers are doing to stay focused on success. I also hope to survey area GMs to get a feel for their perceptions and level of knowledge about engineering and the role of the SBE. Can we truly do more with less or should we brace for implosion?

David Letterman may have his top ten, but here are the top five issues facing radio chief engineers that I spoke to here in the metro.

Number 5: Remote Broadcast Woes

Fixed or non-existent remote engineering fees have discouraged many talented individuals from working remotes. A disturbing trend has been the elimination of the engineer position altogether, leaving set-up and operation of remote equipment to untrained promotional staff. This has resulted in the abuse and neglect of equipment and vehicles. Placing station assets in the hands of the unqualified may save money in the short term, but become costly in the long haul. For example:

- Mast replacement \$700
- Repair to restaurant canopy \$1,300
- Legal fees for lost business \$10,000
- The station vehicle stuck in the drive-thru Priceless

Number 4: IBOC Implementation

Digital radio is still a bleeding-edge technology. Only the brave of heart enters this vast technical frontier at his own risk. Experts debate on the best method for incorporating the digital signal with existing equipment. Costly experimentation was expected during radio's infancy, but Wall Street on the other hand does not look favorably on underwriting the yet-to-be-tried methods where failure could cost millions.

Number 3. Sympathetic Corporate Communications

Now this one is a no-brainer. If engineers were successful salesmen, we wouldn't be in engineering. In other words I'm good at fixing the transmitter, but to sell the boss on why he should buy a new one would require a four-year technical degree and about 20 years experience on his part. How do you sell the expert salesman when he doesn't understand or care about the technical details? The art of communication is not our strong suit, but with a little train-

ing and practice, we can succeed in breaking through that glass ceiling. Only one problem...

Number 2: Staffing Issues

Retaining a savvy technical staff requires on-going education. Several chief engineers have had their educational, convention and travel budgets slashed to the bone. To complicate matters, corporations now expect cross discipline between broadcast and IT departments. Where do you find the time to study or the budget to send staff members off to school? If I send my IT guy in for training, will corporate cut his position because he obviously has the spare time to attend such training and is unneeded?

The Number 1 issue facing area radio chiefs: Budgets
Belt tightening is never pleasant, but it does encourage innovative thinking. Sometimes we need to re-evaluate why we keep buying those expensive \$20 cans of compressed air when an air compressor and portable rechargeable bottle would do the job just fine. Keeping spare parts on the shelf is almost becoming impossible. Unless the station is off the air and absolutely cannot go without it, parts are ordered only when absolutely necessary.

What really hurts is when budget cuts into payroll. Losing an engineer in these times really hurts, not just for the individual, but also the department that must take up the slack with no hope of compensation for the additional work.

A lot of questions are listed above with few answers. If you've been scratching your head and wondering "How do I resolve these issues," you're not alone. To be fair to our members on the TV side, I hope to speak to many of you in days to come about the critical issues facing television and the migration to digital. Perhaps we can muddle our way through these times together. After all, two working together can accomplish what three cannot do alone.

EAS Demonstrated for Law Enforcement

On November 5 the Kansas City EAS Committee demonstrated a practical and functional Enhanced EAS messaging system to the Metropolitan Police Chiefs and Sheriffs Association. More than 30 members of the association witnessed the first public demonstration of Enhanced EAS. The EAS Web Portal is designed to allow authorized personnel an effective and expeditious way of accessing the EAS system. This can be accomplished without the necessity of purchasing expensive EAS encoding equipment.

The system breaks down into three parts:

1. The Law Enforcement Interface



www.belden.com

Belden Electronics Division
P.O. Box 686
Lee's Summit, MO 64063

Heather Nichols
Sales Representative

Telephone: 816 524 0073
Facsimilie: 816 524 6295
heather.nichols@belden.com



BURST
COMMUNICATIONS

JIM SHAW

SALES ENGINEER

12012 W. 100 TERRACE

LENEXA, KANSAS 66215

PHONE 913-492-2877 • FAX 913-492-2877

www.burstvideo.com

jshaw@everestkc.net

EVS

**ELECTRONIC
VIDEO SYSTEMS**



- BROADCAST
- INDUSTRIAL
- CCTV
- AUDIO VISUAL

STEVEN R. METZGER

Broadcast and A/V Sales Engineer
1222 Fisk Ave. - Moberly, MO 65270
Phone: Toll Free 877-263-1226
Fax: 660-263-6511
e-mail: srmEVS@missvalley.com

CORPORATE OFFICE

1-800-299-4387

www.evsinc.com

e-mail: evs@evsinc.com



RF Specialties[®]
OF MISSOURI

Christopher L. Kreger
Vice President & Seretary

22406 NE 159th Street
Kearney, MO 64060

'RF IS GOOD FOR YOU!'

FAX# (816) 628-4508

1-(800) 467-RFRF

rmo@uniteone.net

www.rfspec.com

Part Of The C.L. Kreger Companies, Inc.

2. The Server

3. The Broadcast Interface

The Law Enforcement Interface is a Windows-based GUI that prompts the user for specific fields of information such as an abducted child's name and description. Rules of Engagement are built into every question to confirm that every alert created is legitimate.

The Server acts as the point of distribution direct to all forms of media and agencies. Numerous security measures are in the design to prevent tampering.

The Broadcast Interface provides an easy-to-use utility for broadcasters to decide whether the alert is to be aired directly as an EAS message or to be read as live copy. The decision to air or not air an alert remains at the discretion of the broadcaster.

The Kansas City EAS Committee plans to introduce the system over a two-year period in order to test for bugs and minimize risk of false alarms. The six-month plan calls for one law enforcement interface to be installed in the Kansas City, MO, police department's media office to issue AMBER Alerts. Two stations in town have agreed to install computers to receive the alerts via the Internet: KCP-AM (610) and KCMO-FM.

Computer Connection

By Steve Epstein, CPBE CBNT

Allow and Deny

Recently, while working on a remote Internet server, I could not FTP into the box. Although I had not tried to log in to this particular box for several weeks, I used FTP on other boxes daily. As we went through the various parameters, we realized that I had changed ISPs since the last time I logged in. The techs at the server location could get in, others in the Kansas City area could get in, but I could not. The assumption that the problem was on my end could easily be proven false because I could FTP to several other servers. Suggestions were made concerning my FTP client, so I tried several others, still no luck. So where was the problem?

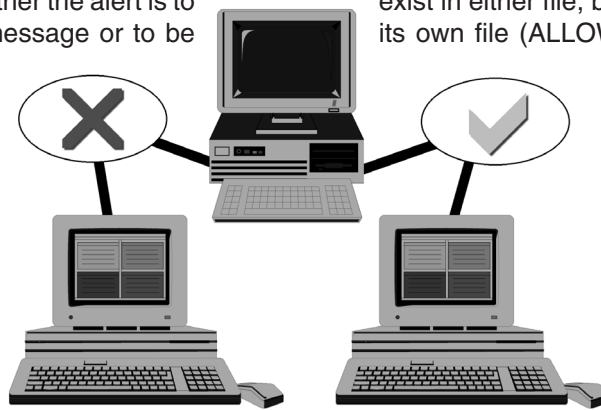
On most *nix (Unix, Linux, etc.) networked computers there are two files you should be aware of. They are the `hosts.allow` and `hosts.deny` files. Beyond connectivity, and beyond firewalls, these two files serve as a last line of defense. They determine who gets in and who does not.

If these files do not exist or are empty, the default behavior is to allow all access to all hosts. To be clear, a host on a TCP/IP network is a computer, not the person logged onto it.

The basic format of both files is:

```
service list : host list : action
```

Each time an external host attempts to access a machine, these files are scanned (first `hosts.allow` then `hosts.deny`) looking for a match. If no "deny" match is found the host is granted access. The service list includes services such as `http` (Web), `ftp` (file transfer), `telnet` (remote login) and others. Actions are `ALLOW` and `DENY`. Both actions can exist in either file, but I find it easier to keep each in its own file (`ALLOW` actions in the `hosts.allow` file and `DENY` actions in the `hosts.deny` file). If you have a server with confidential material on it, one of the first entries you should consider is `ALL : ALL : DENY`. That will keep everybody out of the box. Then, as needed, you can allow individual hosts access.



One very interesting use of these files is to make the machine vanish off the network automatically when any attempt is made to break into it. As soon as the first PING comes in, all network services are stopped, a `DENY` entry is added referencing the offending host, and network services are restarted. By the time the second ping arrives, the machine knows not to respond. All subsequent attempts to access the machine fail because they are ignored.

Going back to my inability to FTP, it turns out the machine did have a `DENY` entry for the entire block of IP addresses that I had moved to. It seemed someone had been trying to break into it, and the files had been modified to prevent access. As there had been no recent activity, the entries were removed and I was once again able to access it through FTP.

Going back to my inability to FTP, it turns out the machine did have a `DENY` entry for the entire block of IP addresses that I had moved to. It seemed someone had been trying to break into it, and the files had been modified to prevent access. As there had been no recent activity, the entries were removed and I was once again able to access it through FTP.

FCC Announces AM Auction and CP Filing Window

The FCC's Media Bureau (MB) and the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) have announced an auction filing window for certain AM station construction permit applications. The filing window will open on Jan. 26, 2004, and will close on Jan. 30, 2004. In connection with this window, the MB also announced that it will not accept AM minor change construction permit applications between Jan. 12, 2004, and Jan. 30, 2004.

The window is available for proposals for new AM stations and major modifications to authorized AM facilities. Proposals submitted in the filing window must protect all minor change applications filed before Jan. 12, 2004. The window will not be available for frequencies in the AM expanded band or for major changes in existing AM expanded band stations.

AM minor modification applications are governed by first come/first served processing procedures and generally may be filed at any time. However, to avoid the possibility of mutual exclusivity with new and major change applications submitted during this auction filing window, the MB will institute a temporary freeze on the acceptance of AM minor change applications at 12:01 a.m. Eastern time, Jan. 12, 2004. The freeze will remain in effect until the close of the window. AM minor change applications filed during this freeze will be dismissed.


NAB Prepares License Renewal Guide

The NAB's *Radio Station License Renewal Guide* is now available on the NAB's website. This manual provides all of the essential materials and information needed to obtain a radio station license renewal from the FCC. New for this renewal cycle: the updated manual is online and interactive, enabling users to immediately link from the *Renewal Guide* directly to relevant FCC rules and decisions, and additional, in-depth advice from NAB and others. The new manual also allows users to quickly and easily go back-and-forth between a detailed "how to" guide to completing the FCC's renewal application (Form 303-S), and the application itself. It may take several minutes for slower connections to download this document. For further information, contact the NAB Legal department at (202) 429-5430.

To view the guide online go to www.tinyurl.com/wnf3.

FCC Demos New ULS Online Filing Interface

The FCC has completed phase one of its redesign of the Universal Licensing System (ULS) online filing software. The new filing environment, called the ULS License Manager, guides applicants with a question-and-answer format through Form 601 and Form 605. The new system allows users to submit filings without remembering application purposes. It also allows different types of filings to be made simultaneously.

Once the FCC has determined the final deployment date for the new software, it will issue a Public Notice with technical information about the system and the changeover to the new interface. 

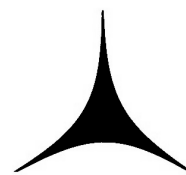
PROFESSIONAL VIDEO SUPPLY INC

Ned Soseman
Sales Engineer



9201 Cody
Overland Park, KS 66214
Cell: (913) 558-4870

(913) 492-1787
FAX (913) 859-0787
E-mail: neds@pvskc.com



RICHLAND
T O W E R S

The Location. The Tower. The Technology.

Two Urban Centre
4890 W. Kennedy Blvd.
Suite 920
Tampa, FL 33609

Phone 800.827.4349
Fax 813.286.4130
Info@rtowers.com

www.richlandtowers.com



www.SundanceDigital.com
kcaruthers@sundig.com

Kurt Caruthers
Director of Sales
Central Region

Sundance Digital, Inc.
4500 Fuller Drive, Suite 205
Irving, TX 75038

(913) 307-0333
(972) 444-8450 fax

BROADCAST AUTOMATION SOLUTIONS

Regional Sales Representative for
 **Shively Labs**

Michael Troje

TDM Broadcast Services, LLC

10 Acorn Drive
Sunfish Lake, MN 55077

Office: (651) 306-1030
Cell: (651) 295-7121

e-mail: mtroje@tdmbroadcast.com

SBE59 Officers

Chairman Kirk Chestnut, CSRE Entercom Kansas City (913) 677-6462 kchestnut@entercom.com
Vice Chairman Michael Douthat KCUR-FM (816) 235-2880 douthatm@umkc.edu
Secretary/Treasurer Ben Weiss, CPBE KMXV-FM/KSRC-FM (816) 931-5506 x546 benw@cbsradiokc.com
Past Chairman Chriss Scherer, CSRE CBNT ... *Radio magazine* (913) 967-7201 chriss@broadcast.net

SBE59 Committees

Programs Michael Douthat KCUR-FM (816) 235-2880 douthatm@umkc.edu
EAS K.C. Operational Area .. Kirk Chestnut, CSRE Entercom Kansas City (913) 677-6462 kchestnut@entercom.com
Certification, Newsletter Chriss Scherer, CSRE CBNT ... *Radio magazine* (913) 967-7201 chriss@broadcast.net
Frequency Coordination Bob Schneider KSMO-TV62 (913) 621-6262 bschneid@ksmo.sbgnet.com
Website Steve Epstein, CPBE CBNT BroadcastBuyersGuide.com (816) 582-4604 . steve@BroadcastBuyersGuide.com

Chapter 59 e-mail: sbe59@broadcast.net

Chapter 59 list server: sbe-kc@broadcast.net

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- December 11** *Wheatstone - Planning for a digital audio infrastructure*
- January 8** *Telos - Audio over IP*
- February 12** *BCS - Program TBA*
- March 11** *RF Specialties Barbecue*

**EAS Required Monthly Test
December 30**

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

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.



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