



# The Society of Broadcast Engineers

**Fox Valley Wisconsin SBE Chapter 80**  
**PO Box 1519**  
**Appleton, WI 54912-1519**

**February 2011**

The next meeting of SBE Chapter 80 will be at the Out O' Town Club in Kaukauna, at Noon on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Our program will be from Baycom about narrowbanding.

### Chairman's Corner

Welcome to our eNewsletter!

Our next meeting of Chapter 80 will be on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at noon at the Out O' Town Club in Kaukauna. Our speakers for the February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting will be Randy Krull and John Kummings of Baycom. They will discuss the 2-way radio narrowbanding requirement and Motorola's solutions and products to meet this need in either an analog or digital radio systems.

Our January meeting of Chapter 80 was held on Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at the Out O' Town Club in Kaukauna. A special thanks to Bill Tessman from Heartland Video



Systems who presented the discussion topic on an inexpensive way to add an IP wayside channel to 7GHz microwave links using unlicensed 5.8GHz radios.



As you are aware, the Newsletter is now switched over to an electronic version. We are still missing email

addresses for a few of our members. We need your current email address if you wish to continue to receive our Newsletter. If you know of any member who is not receiving the new version, please send us their email address. The Newsletter

will also be posted on our website <http://www.sbe80.org>, and archive copies, as well as other Chapter 80 and SBE information are available as well.

### Upcoming events:

- Tuesday, March 15, 2011 – SBE Chapter 80 – TBA
- April 9 -14, 2011 – NABShow 2011, Las Vegas, NV [www.nabshow.com](http://www.nabshow.com)
- Tuesday, April 19, 2011 – SBE Chapter 80 – TBA
- Tuesday, May 17, 2011 – SBE Chapter 80 – TBA

I look forward to seeing you on February 15, 2011 at our Chapter 80 meeting at the Out O' Town Club in Kaukauna.

Regards,  
Timothy J. Laes

### Certification Exams


Exam Dates	Location	Application Deadline
April 12, 2011	NAB Convention	March 25, 2011
June 3-13, 2011	Local Chapters	April 15, 2011
August 5-15, 2011	Local Chapters	June 3, 2011
November 4-14, 2011	Local Chapters	September 16, 2011



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## FCC releases Third Report and Order on national EAS test

The FCC released its Third Report and Order, amending FCC Part 11 rules governing the Emergency Alert System (EAS) to provide for national testing and the collection of data from those tests.

Elements of the FCC national test requirements include:

- Require all EAS Participants to participate in national EAS tests as scheduled by the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) in consultation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA);
- Require that the first national EAS test use the Emergency Alert Notification (EAN), the live event code for nationwide Presidential alerts;
- Require that the national test replace the monthly and weekly EAS tests in the month and week in which it is held;
- Require the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (Bureau) to provide at least two months' public notice prior to any national test of the EAS;
- Require EAS Participants to submit test-related data to the Bureau within 45 days following a national EAS test;
- Require that test data received from EAS Participants be treated as presumptively confidential, but allow test data to be

shared on a confidential basis with other Federal agencies and state governmental emergency management agencies that have confidentiality protection at least equal to that provided by the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); and

- Delegate authority to the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau to determine, in consultation with FEMA and with other EAS stakeholders, as appropriate, various administrative procedures for national tests, including location codes to be used and pre-test outreach.

Damon Penn, Assistant Administrator of the National Continuity Programs (NCP) Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, when asked when he expected the first national test to take place, said, "this fall." Penn was a panelist on a live EAS webinar sponsored by the National Alliance of State Broadcasters Associations and the NAB, held yesterday afternoon.


The complete [Third Report and Order](#) is available.

And a summary at [http://reboot.fcc.gov/blog?entryId=1240565&utm\\_source=twitterfeed&utm\\_medium=twitter](http://reboot.fcc.gov/blog?entryId=1240565&utm_source=twitterfeed&utm_medium=twitter) (fcc.gov)



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## CHAPTER 80 ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS 2010-2011

Chairman	Tim Laes	WGEE WIXX WNCY WROE	920-435-3771	tlaes@new.rr.com
Vice Chairman	Steve Konopka	WPNE TV/FM	920-336-3541	skonopka@ecb.org
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Past Chairman	Keith Kintner	UWO	920-424-7357	kintner@uwosh.edu
Board of Dirs/SBE Liaison	Keith Kintner	UWO	920-424-7357	kintner@uwosh.edu

### Membership renewal time is here

SBE membership renewal time is here! Members in the Member, Senior, Associate, Student and Fellow membership categories are receiving their renewal form in the mail now. Save a stamp and some time and [renew on-line](#). It's quick, easy and secure and you'll receive an automated email renewal confirmation message/receipt.

SBE is the only professional organization dedicated solely to the advancement of the broadcast engineer and the field of broadcast engineering. It is *the* source for certification and education within our field. We're

stronger with you as a member - so please renew your membership today.

There are three ways to renew: on-line via the SBE website, by mail and by fax. Membership dues may be paid using a personal or company check, money order, debit or credit card (MasterCard, VISA or American Express). To renew your membership using the on-line system, you'll need your member number and your SBE website password. If you've forgotten your password, an automated "[forgot my password](#)" feature is provided. Your membership number is on your membership card.

If you have any questions about your renewal, or if you do not receive your renewal reminder by February 15, please contact Scott Jones at the SBE National Office at (317) 846-9000 or [kjones@sbe.org](mailto:kjones@sbe.org). (sbe.org)

The SBE Chapter 80 Newsletter is published monthly. Members are welcome to contribute articles or ideas. Please have your submissions in by the 4<sup>th</sup> of the month to Dave Driessen or Bill Tessman

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## WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO'S 2011 EAS SCHEDULE

The Required Monthly Test (RMT) will occur on the First Wednesday of the month. Wisconsin stations should receive an RMT from their regional NOAA weather station on odd months at approximately 8:50am. On even months stations should receive an RMT either from the Educational Communications Board (ECB) Telecommunications Operations Center or from the Wisconsin Emergency Management office (WEM) at Truax Field in Madison, through the State Relay stations at approximately 11:50pm.

If an RMT is carried by the Wisconsin Public Radio stations, they will normally NOT carry a Weekly Test since only one test per week is required. If for some reason a Required Weekly Test is missed or impaired, it will be "made up" on the Friday of that week at the same scheduled time of day.

DAY/DATE TIME COMMENT.....

W 5 Jan 0850 Routine Monthly Test initiated by NOAA  
R 13 Jan 1259  
M 17 Jan 1459  
T 25 Jan 1059

W 2 Feb 2350 Routine Monthly Test initiated by WEM  
R 10 Feb 1459  
M 14 Feb 1059  
T 22 Feb 1259

W 2 Mar 0850 Routine Monthly Test initiated by NOAA  
R 10 Mar 1059  
M 14 Mar 1459  
T 22 Mar 1259  
W 30 Mar 1059

W 6 Apr 2350 Routine Monthly Test initiated by ECB  
R 14 Apr 1059  
M 18 Apr 1459  
T 26 Apr 1259

W 4 May 0850 Routine Monthly Test initiated by NOAA  
R 12 May 1059  
M 16 May 1259  
T 24 May 1459

W 1 Jun 2350 Routine Monthly Test initiated by WEM  
R 9 Jun 1459  
M 13 Jun 1259  
T 21 Jun 1059  
W 29 Jun 1459

## SBE at the 2011 NAB Show

The SBE is once again partnering with the NAB to present the annual [NAB Broadcast Engineering Conference](#), held as part of the 2011 NAB Show in Las Vegas. The conference begins with the SBE Ennes Workshop on Saturday, April 9 and ends on Thursday, April 14. SBE will be very active with a full slate of meetings and events and will have a busy exhibit booth during the week. [SBE at NAB Show map](#).

### SBE Exhibit Booth

Second floor concourse of the Las Vegas Convention Center South Hall, Lobby Booth 29.

**Sunday, April 10** 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

**Monday - Wednesday, April 11-13** 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

**Thursday, April 14** 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

**SBE Meetings - all held at the Las Vegas Hilton unless otherwise indicated**

### Saturday, April 9

**Ennes Workshop** 8:00 am - 5:00 pm (Conf. reg. required) LVCC South Hall 2nd Fl.

**SBE Certification Committee Meeting** 6:30 - 11:00 pm Conference room 7

### Sunday, April 10

**SBE Board of Directors Meeting** 8:30 am - 12:00 pm Conference Rooms 7 & 8

**SBE Education Committee Meeting** 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm Conference Room 7

**Frequency Coordination Committee Meeting** 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm Conference Room 8

### Monday, April 11

**SBE Certification Exams** 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Conference Rooms 9 & 10

### Tuesday, April 12

**SBE Frequency Coordinators Meeting** 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Conference Rooms 7 & 8

**SBE Spring Membership Meeting** 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm LVCC Room TBA

### Registration Discounts for SBE Members

Members of SBE whose employers are not members of the NAB can register for the full conference (Conference Flex Pass) using the

special "Partner Rate", which provides a \$100 discount off the non-NAB member rate. SBE members should use the Pass Code "BE25" on the on-line NAB Show registration form to get the discount. [To register, visit the NAB website, www.nabshow.com/2011](http://www.nabshow.com/2011). Register before April 8 to avoid paying higher registration rates.

We hope you'll join many of your fellow SBE members April 9-14 in Las Vegas for the 2011 NAB Show and NAB Broadcast Engineering Conference. (sbe.org)

### **Dear Wisconsin SBE Chapter :**

Thank you for your pledged financial support to the **Don Borchert Broadcasters Clinic Fellowship** which kicks off in 2011.

As you know, the Don Borchert Broadcasters Clinic Fellowship affords the opportunity to attend the Broadcasters Clinic to someone who would not have otherwise been able to attend for financial reasons. Each year the Broadcasters Clinic will solicit applicants through the Wisconsin SBE Chapters and through the WBA Membership.

The recipient(s) will be provided the following:

- Complimentary registration to the Broadcasters Clinic by the WBA
- Lodging via receipt reimbursement
- Food and Travel expenses via receipt reimbursement

Attached is the application form that may be duplicated and made available to your membership. Please spread the word at your monthly meetings or in any other way at your disposal. This form will also be available on the web site <http://www.sbe24.org> under the Broadcasters Clinic button.

Thanks again to you and your Chapter for participating in this program and for helping promote it.

(from a communication by Leonard Charles)  
Broadcasters Clinic Program Committee Chair

### **NAB and NASBA Launch EAS Outreach Campaign**

NAB and the National Alliance of State Broadcasters Associations (NASBA) are teaming up to launch an outreach campaign to

educate broadcasters on a variety of issues surrounding the introduction of the next-generation Emergency Alert System (EAS). More Info: [http://www.easalert.org/docs/2010-2011EASInitiatives\\_Nov12final\\_.pdf](http://www.easalert.org/docs/2010-2011EASInitiatives_Nov12final_.pdf)

You can still attend the second webinar. There is no need to pre-register for this event. Prior to the event start time, simply go to <http://www.easalert.org> and click on "Go To The Town Hall." You will be asked to provide your name, affiliation and email address so that we can keep you informed about future events in this series. If you missed the live town hall event on February 3, it will be archived at easalert.org within 72 hours of the live presentation so you can view it at your convenience.

The next town hall will take place on Thursday, March 10, at 4 p.m. EST, and will address the FCC's Part 11 rulemaking proceeding. Future presentations will cover such topics as potential funding sources for CAP-compliant equipment and the upcoming national EAS test. Please watch our newsletters for further details on these events. (nab.org)

Note: You will need to have Adobe Flash Player installed in your browser in order to view the town hall. You can download it at <http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer>.

### **Free Webinar by SBE on Disaster Recovery – April 28**

For most engineers, the disaster recovery plan is a file on their hard drive that is a rarely updated and sketchy plan on what should be done if the station is destroyed. Find out what real world lessons in disaster planning were learned when the CBS and Fox affiliate in Grand Junction, Colorado burned completely to the ground and the Super Bowl was just two weeks away. This webinar also includes checklists and other templates to aid in disaster recovery. (sbe.org)

FREE for SBE Members thanks to Harris Corporation; Non-Members \$39.  
[DisasterRecovery.php](http://www.sbe.org/DisasterRecovery.php)

## Get SBE Newsletters.

### SBE-news

SBE-news is the SBE's semimonthly email subscription of timely news and updates sent straight from the national office to over 4,000 members. For more information about SBE-news contact the SBE National Office.

### Career Advancement Newsletter

Each month the SBE sends out an electronic newsletter where you can find information on upcoming educational opportunities, how to obtain and maintain SBE Certification and more.

<http://www.sbe.org/sections/CareerAdvancementNewsletter.php>

### The Connector

The Connector is the SBE's newsletter to youth members and high schools across the country that have radio or television stations. It is published three times a year and provides students with information on careers in broadcast engineering, post-secondary education, high school student stations, scholarships and technical information.

If you would like to have your high school station added to the mailing list for The Connector, or if you would like to have your student station featured in a future issue of The Connector, contact Holly Essex, Communications Manager, at [hessex@sbe.org](mailto:hessex@sbe.org).

A new white paper from NAB FASTROAD proposes a **transmitter energy efficiency label**. The paper: [Power Efficient Broadcast Facility Transmission Design](#) covers AM, FM and TV broadcast transmitters. Using data obtained from manufacturers, a *Transmitter Energy Efficiency Award (TEEA)* has been formulated to better assist broadcasters in deciding which transmitters to specify going forward. This Award would be available for the top 25 percent most efficient transmitters in each class, so that if a broadcaster were choosing a transmitter that has a TEEA "seal,"

they would know that it is one of the most efficient transmitters available. ([nab.org](http://nab.org))

## FCC TAKES ACTION TO ADVANCE NATIONWIDE BROADBAND COMMUNICATIONS FOR AMERICA'S FIRST RESPONDERS

The Federal Communications Commission adopted a Third Report and Order (Order) and Fourth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that will significantly advance communications interoperability for our Nation's first responders. The rules adopted and proposed in today's Order and FNPRM support the build out of robust, dedicated and secure mobile broadband networks that will enable public safety broadband users to share information, videos, photos and emails across departments and jurisdictions nationwide for day-to-day operations and during large-scale emergencies.

The Order and FNPRM requires all 700 MHz public safety mobile broadband networks to use a common air interface, specifically [Long Term Evolution \(LTE\)](#), to support roaming and interoperable communications and seeks comment on additional rules to enable nationwide interoperability. The FCC's actions today build on the technical requirements that state and local 700 MHz broadband waiver recipients are already subject to in the early build out of their regional public safety broadband networks.

[http://www.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2011/db0204/FCC-11-6A1.pdf](http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2011/db0204/FCC-11-6A1.pdf) (fcc.gov)

The system would appear to preclude the public from monitoring public safety operations as traditionally done with VHF and UHF radio scanners

## TVBD'S MOVE CLOSER TO REALITY

The FCC took two actions that move unlicensed TV broadband devices to reality.

The first took place on December 6th, when the final rules (<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2010-12-06/pdf/2010-30184.pdf>) were published in the Federal Register. In the notice in the Federal Register, the FCC set the date for the rules to

take effect as January 5th. The rules were adopted last September

The second action was on January 26th, when they adopted an order ([http://www.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2011/db0126/DA-11-131A1.pdf](http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2011/db0126/DA-11-131A1.pdf)) that named the entities that would manage the databases to be used to protect both full and low power TV stations, TV translators, receive sites for cable and satellite providers and wireless mic users. The order named all nine applicants as database managers. They are Comsearch, Frequency Finder LLC, Google Inc, KB Enterprises LLC and LS Telcom, Key Bridge Global LLC, Neustar Inc, Spectrum Bridge Inc, Telecordia Technologies, And WSdb LLC. Comsearch and Frequency Finder which includes RadioSoft, a radio spectrum database provider has experience in spectrum database management and Telecordia Technologies makes telecom software. KB Enterprises and LS Telecom include the developer of the FCC's Universal Licensing System. WSdb LLC and Key Bridge Global LLC are creating new database systems for TVBD. Google was a major promoter of unlicensed TVBD's and Spectrum Bridge has developed a number of TVBD demonstration projects.

In the Order, the FCC noted that there were a number of comments questioning potential conflicts of interest raised both by the applicants in relation to the other applicants and by the Coalition of Wireless Mike Users. The FCC said that their oversight could lead to the suspension or termination of the database provider's authority. All of the database providers will have to attend a workshop conducted by the FCC on complying with and implementing the rules and each database will have a 45 day trial period before it can actually be used. Additional Information from Television Broadcast Website (<http://www.televisionbroadcast.com/article/112834>) (sbe24.org by Tom Smith)

### Website of the month

Thinks of changing your career to a different aspect of broadcasting or know someone who

is thinking of broadcasting as a career? Take a free online aptitude test: [free-online-testing.htm](http://www.radio-broadcast-engineer.com) at [www.radio-broadcast-engineer.com](http://www.radio-broadcast-engineer.com)

### Gary Timm analysis for EAS report and order:

Wisconsin Broadcasters & Cable Operators, On February 3, 2011 the FCC released its Third Report and Order (R&O) on the Emergency Alert System (EAS). This R&O provides the guidelines for national EAS testing and collection of post-test data.

My analysis of this R&O is posted on [www.awareforum.org](http://www.awareforum.org).

Gary Timm, Broadcast Chair  
Wisconsin EAS Committee

Direct link to my posting:

<http://www.awareforum.org/2011/02/fcc-report-order-on-national-eas-testing/>

### FCC Report and Order on National EAS Testing

On February 7, 2011, in *In the News*, by Gary Timm

On February 3, 2011 the FCC released its Third Report and Order (R&O) on the Emergency Alert System (EAS). This R&O provides the guidelines for national EAS testing and collection of post-test data. While some decisions were made, many aspects of the testing are still to be decided by the Commission, and in one case by FEMA, and on some issues no decision was made at all. There is also one important item that appears to have contradictory statements within the R&O itself.

Decisions made are that there will be national EAS testing and data collection, all EAS Participants (broadcasters and cable operators) must participate, the first test will use the Presidential EAN Event Code, the test replaces the Required Weekly Test and Required Monthly Test for that week and month, there will be a 2-month notice before the test, and post-test data that will be required

of EAS Participants is considered confidential and for use only by federal and state officials. There are differing statements throughout the R&O as to whether the data collected from EAS Participants must be submitted to the FCC within 30 days or 45 days. The adopted Final Rule says 30 days, but it appears in discussion paragraph 68 that they intended to extend the period to 45 days. It appears this part of the ruling requires clarification.

Aspects of the national test that are to be determined by the FCC sometime at a future date but prior to the test are: EAS Location Code to be used for the test, if the Emergency Action Termination (EAT) EAS Event Code will be sent as part of the test, if there will be any offline closed-circuit testing of various manufacturers' EAS equipment to determine any issues before the test, the time of day and length of the test, and if the 2-month notice period will be extended for the first national test. Also, FEMA is to decide if the test will be conducted in Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the territories.

Other issues decided by the Order are that there will be an electronic option for submitting the test data and that the FCC will collect make/model information of EAS units in use, but that information will remain confidential. In addition, no waivers will be issued to those EAS Participants with EAS units no longer supported by their manufacturer if those units can't comply with the testing requirements; instead, the Commission noted those stations can request NN (Non-participating National) status. In response to a request that EAS Participants reporting problems with the national test not fear FCC violation citations for self-reporting those problems, the FCC said it would "exercise discretion" but it did not make a wholesale statement that there would be no fines.

Issues that the FCC did not rule on are if EAS Participants with NN status will be required to sign off the air for the national test as they would be required to do in a real national alert, and if there will eventually be a national EAS Location Code (such as 000000) adopted.

In the order, the FCC reiterated that the current legacy EAS is not going away anytime soon, saying "we expect that FEMA will rely on the existing EAS daisy chain structure for some time".

In a related story, Damon Penn, FEMA Assistant Administrator, was a featured speaker on a February 3 webinar facilitated by the National Alliance of State Broadcasters Associations (NASBA). He stated that EAS is and will remain the backbone of emergency alerting in our country. He went on to say that the timing of the national EAS test is a White House decision but they are sensitive to avoiding high-revenue periods such as Christmas and will likewise avoid hurricane season; he said they are shooting for Fall for the national test.

Link to FCC R&O:

[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmetch/FCC-11-12A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmetch/FCC-11-12A1.pdf)

### **SBE Recertification**

Whether you have received a recertification notice recently or your certification is due to expire in a few years, here are some tips for recertification.

If you hold a CBNT, Broadcast Engineer, Senior Engineer or Professional Engineer certification you will have the option to recertify by Professional Credits. This means that you have shown that you have continued to progress your knowledge of the broadcast engineering profession through different avenues.

For instance, if you answer "YES" to any of the options below, you have earned credits towards your recertification.

During the five years of your current certification have you worked in the broadcasting field, been a member of SBE, attended local chapter meetings, NAB, Ennes Workshops, factory or in-station schools? Have you participated in the SBE RF Safety or SBE University courses? Have you earned Continuing Education Units or presented a



paper or talk on a broadcast engineering subject? Have participated as an elected officer or committee member in SBE or another technical society?

The above options are only a handful of what the Certification Committee has laid out in the recertification by professional credits process.

There are many ways that you can keep track of your progress during the five years of your certification. There are two options available to you on the SBE website. (sbe)

Please visit the SBE website or contact the Certification Director, Megan Clappe, for more information.