



The Society of Broadcast Engineers

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

February 2014

The next meeting of SBE chapter 80 will be noon, Tuesday, February 18 at the Out O' Town Club.

Greetings Everyone,

The next Chapter 80 SBE meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at the Out O' Town Club in Kaukauna.

Our presentation will be given by Mr. Jeff Holdenrid of DoubleRadius, Inc., regarding the creation of merged IP connectivity between radio / TV studios and transmitter stations using existing STL antenna facilities for 950 mHz and GHz, and managing redundancy utilizing Performant Networks.



Our last meeting was our annual holiday party on Jan. 21 at the Out O' Town Club where we enjoyed a presentation by guest speaker Mr. Duke Wright, President and CEO of Midwest Communications, Inc. of Green Bay.

Please visit our Chapter website, www.sbe80.org for items of local interest and a host of other SBE informational postings.

Regards,
Steve Konopka

Upcoming Meetings

March 18th John Pichitini from Ensemble Designs is presenting in March on combining HDMI and HD-SDI in station routers.

Certification

Exam Dates	Location	Application Deadline
February 7- 17, 2014	Local Chapters	December 31, 2013
April 8, 2014	NAB Convention	March 31, 2014

CHAPTER 80 ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS 2011-2012

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New SBE University Course

The SBE is pleased to announce that a new course; **Perspectives I - Broadcast Engineers and Station Management**, has been added to the SBE University on online, on-demand courses. This is the first of three courses to be released that deal with management issues for station engineers.

This course is intended to provide the broadcast engineer with an explanation and description of the responsibilities of financial management within the station, and more specifically, the engineering department. The course covers basic business operational structures and financial management. All engineers, whether they work at commercial or non-commercial stations, must achieve positive cash flow and engineers play a large part in making that happen.

This course also covers time management, work environments and working with the next generation of engineers. Reasonable job expectations and the definition of what an engineer is, and is not, can help minimize frustration and unsafe work environments.

Taking this course requires no technical pre-requisite and is designed for all who wear the Broadcast Engineer or related title.

Course content includes:

- Where the Buck Stops
- Budgets, Forecasts, and Estimates
- Cash is King: Managing the Station Credit Card
- Engineering in Isolation or a Team Approach
- You Want Me to Do What?
- Always on Duty: How to Avoid Burnout
- Roles, Goals and Responsibilities
- Working with Assistants - The Next Generation

The course is written by SBE member Gary L. Ellingson, CPBE. Ellingson is Director of Engineering for Northwestern Media, a subsidiary of the University of Northwestern in St. Paul, Minn. His broadcasting experience, which includes announcing as well as engineering, began in 1969. Ellingson taught electronics technology at a technical college for 14 years and served as a consultant to the State Board of Technical Colleges for curriculum program development in technical content areas.

Perspectives I - Broadcast Engineers and Station Management is available to SBE members at \$89. The cost for non-members is \$139. Registration and information about all of the SBE University courses are available by visiting the SBE website, www.sbe.org.

SBE University courses are designed to bring expert instruction on a variety of technical and other topics to radio and television engineers and IT technicians at an affordable price. The SBE now offers 13 online courses through SBE University.

2014 Leadership Development Course

The 2014 SBE Leadership Development Course is a three-day intensive study of successful leadership and management. Participants are challenged to refine their leadership skills as they better understand and improve how to interact with and lead others.



The course is designed specifically for broadcast engineers. Attendees will take a leadership style assessment to help identify their leadership behaviors and learn how to utilize that style when leading others. Students will also explore how to motivate others, how generational differences have an impact in the workplace, how attitude plays a vital role in the workplace, how to manage conflict and so much more. Whether you are currently a manager, or striving to take on a leadership role, the SBE Leadership Development Course can help.

Instructing the course for the fifth year will be Rodney Vandever, Professor of Organizational Leadership and Supervision at Purdue University. The course will be held August 12-14, in Atlanta, Ga. Registration is now open. Visit the Leadership Development Course page on the SBE website. The course fee is \$599 for members of the SBE and \$650 for non-members. Director questions to Kristin Owens, SBE Education Director, at kowens@sbe.org.

SAGE Issues (from the WI-SBE list)

Hi everyone. I wanted to keep you updated on discussions with SAGE on the two issues noted in Del's message below. Here is what we were able to learn and a possible change you may wish to deploy on your SAGE units.

The ability to decode and filter the two tone attention signal from an incoming alert is highly dependent on the level of that incoming audio. In the latest versions of software SAGE has included a configuration setting under the "LEVELS" tab. It is called "Attn Threshold" and is defaulted at somewhere between 23 and 35 depending on your version of firmware. SAGE suggests this setting be changed to a lower number like 7. In pre 89 releases the detector would be easily overloaded with a low setting but that has been corrected. Please make sure you have version 89 or higher before changing this setting to a lower value. Also be aware that only the attention signal of the previous station can be filtered. If the previous station has recorded then retransmitted the attention signal of yet another previous station, that recorded attention signal can no longer be filtered. In other words, if you are receiving a message that already has two attention signals, you are only going to be able to filter the first one.

Concerning the second issue, the logging of a CAP reception. Stations that received a legacy RMT first see the logged time stamp of the CAP duplicate as after the legacy RMT was re transmitted by the station. This looks like the unit may have stopped polling while the legacy message was being held for retransmission. In fact that is not when the CAP duplicate was detected but rather when the unit logged it into the main log. Indeed if a user explored the IPAWS log inside their unit they would see the actually time (in UTC) that the unit discovered the duplicate CAP message which actually was within the units polling time from when the legacy message was first received. So in fact this is a logging issue, not a polling issue.

This has to do with two different way alerts are handled. Legacy alerts are handled by priority, a later alert will override a stored alert if the filter priority is higher. Because there is recording of legacy alerts there is only the ability to hold one for retransmission. With CAP alerts however, all CAP alerts are received and stored as XML/text. SAGE is trying to eliminate operator confusion into which alert to send by holding the logging of a duplicate CAP alert until the legacy alert is gone. CAP logging in the SAGE is in ongoing discussions at this point.

Thanks.

Leonard Charles

"Best Practices" is theme for Ennes program at NAB Show

This year's full-day Ennes program, held as a part of the NAB Broadcast Engineering Conference and NAB Show, will feature topics that provide guidance and information on station best practices. Kicking off the program, which begins at 8:00 am on Saturday, April 5 in Room S-225 of the Las Vegas Convention Center, is Broadcast Engineering Budgets, Finances, Rules, Regulations, Tips and Tricks, by Paul Latham, Director of Finance at KMGH-TV in Denver, Colo.

Most Broadcast Engineering roles involve some financial responsibility. Paul's one-hour tutorial provides a broad survey of the topics ranging from basic P&L management, trending, tax implications, Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) requirements, budget planning methods, reporting, and projecting expenses and revenues. This tutorial is designed to survey the tools and techniques you need to successfully manage your department's finances and to have and hold some standing with your business or finance department.

Though not a technical presentation, this topic is one that most every radio and television engineer needs some level of familiarity with to be part of a successful station team.



The Las Vegas Convention Center, site of the 2014 NAB Show

Access to the Ennes Program is part of the full conference NAB Show registration.

Register on-line at the [NAB Show website](#). If your employer is not already a member of the NAB, members of the SBE can get a \$100 discount off the non-NAB member price. Use special code E06 on the registration form. Attendees of the PBS TECHCON and APRE Public Radio Engineering Conference also have access to Saturday's Ennes program.



Discount Registration to NAB Show Available to SBE Members

Through a special arrangement with the NAB, members of the SBE who are not eligible for the NAB member rate through their employers, are able to receive a \$100 discount off full-conference registration for the 2014 NAB Show.

Register at the NAB show website. Use the special SBE code, **EP06** in the appropriate field when completing your registration. The same code may also be used to get a free exhibits-only registration. The SBE is a conference partner with the NAB, helping to produce the NAB Broadcast Engineering Conference at the 2014 NAB Show.

Media Bureau Extends AM Revitalization Reply Comment Deadline

Extended Reply Comment Deadline: March 20, 2014

By this Public Notice, the Media Bureau extends the deadline for filing reply comments in the above-referenced proceeding. On October 31, 2013, the Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, FCC 13-139, in Revitalization of the AM Radio Service, MB Docket No. 13-249.1 In the AM Revitalization NPRM, the Commission sought comment on a number of proposals intended to enhance the AM broadcast service or ease regulatory burdens on AM broadcasters. On November 20, 2013, the Media Bureau released a Public Notice announcing that a summary of the AM Revitalization NPRM had been published in the Federal Register.² In the AM Publication PN, the Bureau announced a comment deadline of January 21, 2014, and a reply comment deadline of February 18, 2014. On January 29, 2014, the Association of Federal Communications Consulting Engineers ("AFCCE") requested a 60-day extension of the reply comment deadline.³ AFCCE explained that it had formed a committee to review and reply to the approximately 150 comments received in the proceeding, but that more time was needed to review and respond to the comments. We grant AFCCE's request in part, and extend the reply comment deadline for an additional 30 days.

BROADCAST STATION TOTALS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2013

The Commission has announced the following totals for broadcast stations licensed as of December 31, 2013:

AM STATIONS 4727

FM COMMERCIAL 6612

FM EDUCATIONAL 4019

TOTAL 15,358

UHF COMMERCIAL TV 1030

VHF COMMERCIAL TV 358

UHF EDUCATIONAL TV 289

VHF EDUCATIONAL TV 107

TOTAL 1,784

CLASS A UHF STATIONS 377

CLASS A VHF STATIONS 51

TOTAL 428

FM TRANSLATORS & BOOSTERS 6054

UHF TRANSLATORS 2927

VHF TRANSLATORS 1119

TOTAL 10,100

UHF LOW POWER TV 1598

VHF LOW POWER TV 388

TOTAL 1,986

LOW POWER FM 776

TOTAL BROADCAST STATIONS 30,432

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