**SOCIETY OF BROADCAST ENGINEERS, INC.**

***The Association for Broadcast and Multimedia Technology Professionals***

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**SBE Launches Mentoring Program**

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It has often been lamented that the average age of a broadcast and media technology engineer continues to advance, while fewer new people are entering the field as a career choice. To encourage new people to join the field and provide a fast-track for them to gain valuable practical knowledge, the Society of Broadcast Engineers has launched the SBE Mentor Program.

The SBE Mentor Program partners a new engineer with a more-seasoned professional. This allows the more-experienced person to share his or her gained knowledge, both empirical and practical, with someone new to the field. The SBE Mentor Program provides a means for SBE members to share knowledge and experience. For the seasoned mentor, it's a chance to give something back. For the freshman mentee, it's an ideal way to gain inside knowledge and understanding that can sometime take years to accumulate.

The partnership will last for one year beginning on Oct. 1, 2016. Mentors and mentees can establish a schedule that works best for the pair but the SBE asks that they connect by phone at least once every two weeks.

To participate, certain qualifications have been set for mentors and mentees.

**Mentee Qualifications:**

* Current SBE member.
* Currently in the profession of broadcast engineering.
* Fewer than five years experience in broadcast engineering, or new assignment or responsibility in your position.
* Ability to commit to phone calls every other week with your mentor for one year.
* Desire to grow and excel in your career.
* Positive attitude toward the profession and learning.
* Open to constructive feedback.

**Mentor Qualifications:**

* Current SBE member; values the organization, its mission and its work.
* Currently in the profession of broadcast engineering.
* Minimum of five years working in the profession.
* Ability to commit to calls every other week with your mentee for one year.
* Desire to help others grow and excel in their careers.
* Positive attitude toward the profession and learning.

SBE President Jerry Massey, CPBE, 8-VSB, AMD, DRB, CBNT, has stressed education and career advancement during his term as president. "The SBE Mentor Program is an ideal way for those who are new to broadcast and media engineering to quickly gain knowledge and understanding in a field of many seasoned individuals. This program allows SBE members to give something back to our chosen career field."

Applications to participate in the 206 program are due in the SBE National Office by Aug. 31, 2016. The application form for mentors and mentees is available on the SBE Mentor Program page at sbe.org/mentor.

The Society of Broadcast Engineers is the professional organization of television and radio engineers and those in related fields. SBE has more than 5,400 members in 115 chapters across the United States and in Hong Kong. There are also members in more than 30 other countries. Most chapters meet monthly and offer educational programs and an opportunity to network with other engineers. SBE offers the largest and most recognized certification program for broadcast engineers, operators and technicians, with more than 4,500 certifications currently active.

For more information about the SBE, contact John L. Poray, CAE, Executive Director, at jporay@sbe.org or 317-846-9000, or visit the SBE website, www.sbe.org.

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