SBE announces national awards winners

The SBE has announced the recipients of the 2013 SBE National Awards. The awards recognize excellence and achievement by individual members, SBE chapters and Sustaining Member companies. The two highest individual awards are the Robert W. Flanders SBE Engineer of the Year and the James C. Wulliman SBE Educator of the Year.

The Robert W. Flanders SBE Engineer of the Year award is presented to a member who has excelled in his or her career while furthering the mission of the SBE. Candidates are nominated by their peers. Winner of the award for 2013 is Edward J. Miller, CPBE of Broadview Heights, Ohio. Miller is an SBE Fellow and member of Chapter 70 in Cleveland. The recipient of the James C. Wulliman SBE Educator of the Year award is recognized for outstanding service and excellence in sharing knowledge through teaching other broadcast engineers. The winner of the 2013 James C. Wulliman SBE Educator of the Year award is Dennis Baldridge, CPBE, 8-VSB, AMD, DRB, CBNT of Hillsboro, Wis.

Ed Miller is a retired broadcast engineer, but not retired from his SBE activity. He’s a past national president of the SBE, serving from 1997 to 1999 and has been an SBE frequency coordinator for northeast Ohio since 1972. He recently completed his second term as chapter chairman, served on the program committee for the Ohio Association of Broadcasters fall engineering conference, was the driving force in 2012 behind the first Ennes Workshop held by Chapter 70 and participated in the SBE Strategic Planning Meeting in Indianapolis in June 2012. Miller retired as vice president of engineering at ProVideo Systems in 2003 and had earlier served 28 years with WEWS-TV, the Scripps Howard Broadcasting Company flagship station and ABC affiliate in Cleveland. SBE President, Ralph Hogan, CPBE, DRB, CBNT said of Miller, “Ed has truly been one of the principal leaders of the SBE over the past 20 years; nationally and within his chapter. My congratulations to him on an award well deserved.”

As a member of the SBE Technical Presenters Group, Dennis Baldridge has represented the SBE twice at the Tennessee Association of Broadcasters Annual Conference as well as at the Michigan Satellite interference costs your station time and money. If you or your operations staff has not received formal training for operating your uplink facilities, sign up for the NAB/SBE Satellite Uplink Operators Training Workshop. The course will be offered September 30 - October 3, 2013, at NAB’s headquarters in Washington, D.C. The workshop begins each day at 8 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m.

Instructing the course is Sidney Skjei, who has more than 30 years experience in engineering, operating and developing a wide range of hardware and software for satellite communications systems and services and is highly knowledgeable in all major satellite communications operational areas: global, U.S. domestic and military.

This workshop provides in-depth information on the theory of satellite communications and all operational aspects of the ground equipment for uplink and downlink facilities. It is applicable to distributing signals for both analog and digital
Always ON.

The engineer is the “behind the scenes HERO” that makes sure radio stays ‘ON’. He’s on call around the clock—weekends, holidays, every day—because he has to be. Radio is always ‘ON’ and he is the one that makes sure it stays that way. At BSW, we salute this hero of radio and are dedicated to serving him.

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Photography by Mike Pappas, Denver, CO.
television and radio. Because it is useful for satellite operators to have a basic understanding of all parts of the broadcast system, this workshop provides significant background information on digital television (DTV) and, in particular, high definition television (HDTV), which has increasing importance through all parts of the broadcast television chain, from production to distribution to the home.

The Compressed Digital Television and Transmission section of the workshop covers the theory of digital video with an introduction to compression techniques and systems, concentrating on MPEG-2 but also including new technologies such as MPEG 4 Part 10 (AVC) and JPEG 2000, both of which are increasingly being used for broadcast digital video backhaul and distribution. The various standard definition (SDTV) and HDTV formats in use are also discussed, with detailed analysis of how these are carried in satellite transmission systems. In addition to classroom instruction, students will receive hands-on training in a satellite newsgathering (SNG) truck. On the following day there is an all-day field trip to a nearby, large satellite teleport and operations center.

The training is designed to instruct students in the proper technical and operational practices that will ensure safe, successful and interference-free satellite transmissions. The workshop fee is $1,250 for members of the NAB or SBE and $1,550 for all others. The workshop fee includes a Satellite Uplink Handbook, continental breakfast and lunch. Space is limited, so if you don’t want to miss this opportunity, please register soon. If you need more information about the workshop contact Cheryl Coleridge at NAB at (202) 429-5346.

For more information, visit our website at www.sbe.org.
Education for Everyone

Do you know of a young aspiring individual who has an interest in a technical career in broadcasting? The SBE offers a number of ways that can help him or her get the technical training or financial support. The SBE, through its certified schools program, provides a list of SBE Certified Schools [www.sbe.org/sections/cert_schools.php] that offer technical training in broadcast engineering and/or related fields. These programs have been reviewed and approved by the SBE National Certification Committee. For a school to remain on the SBE Certified Schools list it must re-qualify every five years. Upon completion of the program, the student is offered the opportunity to obtain the Certified Broadcast Technologist (CBT) certification. Some institutions because of its curricula offer the CBT for those students who obtain a B or better average; others require the student to take the national CBT exam.

The SBE, through the Ennes Educational Foundation Trust, offers scholarships [www.sbe.org/sections/documents/EnnesScholarshipAPPLICATION2014.pdf] on an annual basis to deserving candidates who are interested in continuing or beginning their education in broadcast engineering and technology. The scholarship awards are used for tuition, room and board or textbook costs at post-secondary educational institutions, or for other technical training programs approved by the Ennes Scholarship Committee. Preference is given to applicants who are members of the SBE; however, any individual otherwise eligible is encouraged to apply. Available scholarships are:

- John H. Battison SBE Founder’s Scholarship
- Harold E. Ennes Scholarship
- Robert D. Greenberg Scholarship
- Youth Scholarship (for graduating high school seniors)

Scholarship applications must be filed each year by July 1. Announcement of the recipients will be made by August 1, with grants available for the fall semester of the same year.

A number of members have also taken advantage of another SBE partner education program. For many years now, the SBE has collaborated with Excelsior College of Albany, NY to offer opportunities to earn college credit for the SBE certifications you hold. Most SBE certifications will qualify. For more information, visit the Excelsior College website [http://partnership.excelsior.edu/sbe]. To request a verification of your SBE certification be sent to Excelsior College, complete the Certification Verification Form at [www.sbe.org/documents/ExcelsiorTranscript2.pdf].

The SBE University, Ennes Workshops, and SBE webinars also offer opportunities for you to increase knowledge and learn new technologies. With SBE’s online learning model, you can take courses where and when they fit into your schedule.

So how do you justify Professional Development to your company?

Some find it difficult to get approval to spend money and time away from work to learn or develop a skill. Taking the time to explain how a professional development opportunity can be beneficial for your employer can help. Here are some suggestions to assist you in getting approval from your manager or company.

**Presenting to Your Manager**

- **Purpose of Attendance** - make a list of the things you would like to accomplish
  - How will your company benefit?
    - Will any part of the program help solve a current issue at your company?
    - Can you find one idea that will increase revenue and/or decrease costs?
    - How else might your company benefit?
  - **How will you benefit?**
    - Expand your personal and professional network
    - Learn new skills
    - Solve a specific issue
  - Create a memo or complete a standard request form
    - Review how the training opportunity is relevant to your company and/or you by reiterating the points you noted above
    - Commit to and follow through in writing a detailed account of your experience upon your return and publicize it. Managers will appreciate and be likely to approve future funding if you share the wealth of your knowledge with co-workers.
    - Schedule a follow-up meeting with your boss to discuss the request

**Expenses and Budget Considerations**

- What other costs are involved in this opportunity? (travel, hotel, etc.)
- Of those costs, which ones am I willing to cover, if necessary, and which ones will I ask the company to finance?
- Does the company need to have dollars in the budget right now?
- Is there money in another departmental budget that is unused?

**Other Points to Ponder**

- Professional development can prove extremely beneficial to companies
  - Increased morale
  - Decreased turnover
  - Enhanced job performance
  - Efficiency improvements
- Even in lean times, workforce development is a necessity for forward-thinking organizations
- Regarding the leadership courses offered by SBE - convey to your manager that you have an interest in working in a more productive way with others in your organization and that leadership training is beneficial to help you accomplish this
- SBE programs are seen as an excellent value based on SBE’s reputation for quality and relevant programming
- Identify revenue opportunities for your organization as well as ideas on how to reduce costs in specific areas - describe those areas

The SBE offers a number of educational opportunities and it is up to you to take advantage of them. Membership does have its privileges since many of the SBE webinars are either free or reduced cost to members; also SBE University and Excelsior College offer reduced tuition credit. By taking a couple of courses each year, the SBE member savings can easily cover the cost of your annual dues. Knowledge is power, so take advantage of your membership and sign up for additional training today.
Heavy Metal and Trucker TV

I have written before about metal theft at broadcast transmitter sites, and how the problem has become epidemic, especially at remote sites in the west and southwest. My conclusion at the time was that there were some new state laws on the books to make metal harder to “fence” and that was all to the good. But now some recently introduced Federal legislation has come along that might further stem the tide of copper and other metal theft. Although it was not specifically intended to apply to broadcast stations, and in fact broadcast stations are not among the examples of sources of metal theft listed in the Bill, it is broad enough as it reads now to apply to metal stolen from broadcast stations. This is legislation that is worthy of support and it is hoped that perhaps it can be amended to clarify its application to broadcast stations specifically.

On February 27 of this year, United States Representative Erik Paulsen of Minnesota introduced H.R. 867, the “Metal Theft Prevention Act of 2013.” This Bill would prohibit the theft of specified metal being used in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce, the theft of which harms critical infrastructure, including (but not limited to) metal used as part of an electrical substation, power line, cellular tower, telephone land line, highway equipment and facilities, railroad equipment and facilities, water well, reservoir, or sewage line. The Bill sets penalties of a fine, 10 years’ imprisonment, or both, for violations. The Bill defines “specified metal” so as to include metal that is: (1) marked with the name, logo, or initials of a city, county, state, or federal government entity, a railroad, an electric, gas, or water company, a telephone company, a cable company, a retail establishment, or a public utility; (2) part of certain infrastructure items, such as a street light pole, guard rail, storm water grate, or grave marker; (3) a wire or cable commonly used by communications and electrical utilities; or (4) copper, aluminum, and other metal that is valuable for recycling or reuse as raw metal (except for aluminum cans).

The Bill also prohibits a recycling agent from purchasing such metal: (1) unless the seller provides documentation of ownership of, or other proof of the authority of the seller to sell the metal and there is a reasonable basis to believe that the documentation provided is valid (The Bill does not require the agent to independently verify the validity of the documentation though); OR if (2) the agent knows, or has a reasonable basis to believe, that the metal has been stolen. The Bill subjects violators to a civil penalty of up to $10,000 per violation. It also sets forth recycling agent record-keeping and confidentiality requirements. These include prohibitions on a recycling agent paying cash for a single purchase of such metal of more than $100. More than one purchase in any 48-hour period from the same seller to be a single purchase. The Bill specifically does not supersede state or local law; it is supplementary instead. It exempts from such documentation requirements or purchase limits any recycling agent that is subject to a state or local law that requires obtaining such documentation or that limits such purchases. Enforcement would be by the Attorney General and state attorneys general or equivalent state regulators. Finally, the Bill directs the U.S. Sentencing Commission to review and amend the Federal Sentencing Guidelines and policy statements applicable to a person convicted of the theft of such metal.

H.R. 867 was initially referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce (the same Committee that has jurisdiction over telecommunications and the FCC) and from there to the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade. However later, the Bill was referred also to the House Committee on the Judiciary, and specifically to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations. There are three Cosponsors of this legislation as of this writing. Rep. John Kline of Minnesota, Rep. David Cicilline of Rhode Island and Rep. Aaron Schock of Illinois.

Meanwhile, a companion Bill was introduced in the Senate, S.394, early this year. The Senate Bill was sponsored by Senators Klobuchar, Graham, Schumer, Coons and Hoeven. It was reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee with amendments and is now on the Senate’s legislative calendar. All to the good. While it would have been nice had the sponsors of this legislation recognized that a principal victim of metal theft is broadcast stations, and especially AM Radio stations, and featured broadcasters among those that the Bill was intended to protect, nonetheless the protections against metal theft seem to be on the increase. The penalties in the Bill for metal theft may create something of a deterrence effect. SBE will do what is possible to get the House and Senate versions of the Bill passed.

On another subject, we hear that just today, the FCC has finally released an order putting the final nails in the coffin of the ill-conceived plan of Clarity Media Systems, LLC, to operate video transmission facilities in the 2 GHz BAS band at Flying J Travel Plazas. This proposal, dating from before 2007, involved requests for waivers of numerous Cable Television Relay Service (CARS) Part 78 rules. Clarity had sought to operate multichannel television distribution systems in the 2025-2110 MHz band at Flying J travel plazas throughout the country. The Media Bureau rejected Clarity’s request on the grounds that granting the waivers would not serve the underlying purpose of the Part 78 rules, which is to provide for the licensing and operation of CARS stations. Furthermore, Clarity posed a risk of interference to the primary users; and there were alternatives that didn’t require waivers. Clarity filed an Application for Review in 2007 claiming that the Media Bureau was incorrect as a matter of law and fact.

The FCC’s July 2, 2013 Order affirmed the Media Bureau’s decision to deny Clarity’s waiver requests. The FCC found that Clarity had presented additional engineering information and modified its proposal to reduce the interference to BAS and CARS licensees. However, it failed to demonstrate that the waiver would serve the public interest, because the Trucker TV service could be offered using other spectrum for which waivers would not be required - such as unlicensed or leased spectrum, or by wire-based delivery methods that would not require spectrum licenses. While this removes a very longstanding “Sword of Damocles” over BAS users of the 2 GHz band, the newer threats to 2 GHz about which we have written recently make this a potentially pyrrhic victory.
Are You Qualified for CPBE and Don’t Know It?

While there are many SBE members certified to the highest and most prestigious level within the organization — Certified Professional Broadcast Engineer (CPBE), we find many members actually qualify for this but fail to realize it! Read on and it may surprise you to find that you are eligible to apply.

An important aspect of the CPBE qualification process is that there isn’t an additional examination. The CPBE certification is based upon your many years of experience and references from your peers.

There are two ways to initially qualify. If you already hold Certified Senior Radio Engineer (CSRE) or Certified Senior Television Engineer (CSTE), then you simply need some paperwork to show that you meet the criteria. If you are not currently certified as a CSRE or CSTE, you need to first sit for either the radio or television senior level exam. Once you hold a senior certification, and have the requisite qualifications as outlined below, you may then apply for CPBE. The second way you may qualify to apply for the CPBE is if you hold a state Professional Engineers license in electrical engineering.

Note, that at the CPBE level, there is no distinction between radio and television. Once you have qualified by holding a state Professional Engineers license in electrical engineering.

Note, that at the CPBE level, there is no distinction between radio and television. Once you have qualified by holding a senior certification or a state PE, you will need to also qualify by having the required experience as follows:

- Twenty years of professional work employment experience within the broadcast technical industry. Education time does not count unless you hold a state issued registered Professional Engineer (PE) license (electrical engineering only). This counts towards four years of experience. If you hold a PE license and wish to not take the CSRE or CSTE exam, you may do so as long as you can verify that you have 20 years of experience in broadcast engineering or a related field.
- Evidence of sufficient knowledge in:
  - Maintenance
  - System design
  - Management/supervision of employees
  - Continuing education

All candidates must submit the following along with their application and payment:

- Two letters of reference from an SBE CPBE or senior certification holder or a PE per above
- One additional letter of reference from a person who has supervised your work
- If the supervisor you use is certified at the senior or CPBE level, then only two letters will be required as it can count for both categories.

While not required, SBE strongly recommends that a resume be attached to more easily verify your qualifications and years of employment experience. As members of the committee charged with evaluating applications, we can attest to the value of as much relevant information, particularly a resume that an applicant can provide.

Finally, the applicant should supply a brief written statement which explains why you believe your professional experience, educational background and training qualifies you for certification based on the published criteria.

Currently the SBE has 743 individuals who have applied and qualified for certification at the CPBE level. Undoubtedly there are many of you among our membership and others who are at a place in their careers where you would qualify for CPBE certification. We urge you to apply if you meet the criteria.

Our wonderful certification staff is always happy to answer your questions and they can always refer to the Certification Committee for answers and further information if necessary.

New pin is now available for those with the CBNE certification.

To order yours, visit the SBE website, sbe.org.
The overall data rate for the U.S. 8-VSB digital television system is:

A. 1.44 Mb/s
B. 9.3 Mb/s
C. 19.4 Mb/s
D. 44.0 Mb/s
E. 270 Mb/s
AWARDS from page 1

Association of Broadcasters Annual Conference. He has conducted popular webinars for the SBE on the FCC Self Inspection Checklist, An Analysis of Broadcast Violations and Chief Operator Responsibilities. Baldrige is a member of the national SBE Education Committee and previously served as chairman of Chapter 24 in Madison, where he helped organize educational programs for the chapter. When speaking of Baldrige, last year’s Educator of the Year recipient and current chair of the SBE Education Committee, Wayne Pecena, CPBE, 8-VSB, AMD, DRB, CBNE said, “SBE members like Dennis are critical to the success of the society by contributing their expertise, their knowledge and their time to benefit the society’s professional development mission.”

Vislink Broadcast is awarded the 2013 SBE Technology Award for its NewStream system, the industry’s first CNG, ENG, SNG multi-mode mobile transmit system. The NewStream combines both licensed and unlicensed RF technologies together within a user friendly platform. As the newest addition to VISLINK’s LiveGear brand, the NewStream provides multiple ways to transmit up to two simultaneous live videos; anytime, anywhere.

Chapters are the lifeblood of the SBE, and earlier this year the SBE Awards Committee introduced the Chapter Engineer of the Year Award to highlight the achievements of members within their chapters. In this inaugural year of the award, 12 chapters selected their own award recipient. Each winner will be presented with a special certificate and be recognized nationally on the SBE website. See the list of chapter winners on this page of The Signal. The twelve chapter winners also were automatically nominated for the national Robert W. Flanders SBE Engineer of the Year Award. This year’s national winner, Edward Miller, represented Chapter 70 as its Chapter Engineer of the Year Award winner.

The winner of the Best Technical Article, Book or Program, for his Tribute to John Battison, a PowerPoint presentation with his own narration, presented at the SBE National Awards Dinner in Denver, Colo. in October 2012, is Christopher Scherer, CPBE, CBNT. Scherer, of Overland Park, Kan., is editor of Radio magazine and a past national president of the SBE.

Chapter 70, Cleveland, Ohio is receiving the Best SBE Chapter Newsletter award. The chapter’s newsletter is edited by Robert Long. Four of Ohio’s SBE chapters: 33, 52, 70 and 122, have collectively won the award for the Best Regional Conference or Convention for the 10th Annual SBE/OAB/SMPTE Fall Engineering Conference held in September 2012.

Several SBE National Awards recognize chapters for growth in membership, percentage of certified members and highest average attendance at chapter meetings. These awards are based on statistics kept at the national office, as submitted by chapters all across the US and Hong Kong. Two awards for each category are presented, based on chapter enrollment. Class A represents chapters whose membership is less than the national median. Class B includes chapters with a membership greater than the national median.

Greatest Growth in New Members Award
A - Chapter 96, Rockford, Ill.
B - Chapter 68, Birmingham, Ala.

Most Certified Chapter Award
A - Chapter 96, Rockford, Ill.
B - Chapter 131, Inland Empire

Highest Average Member Attendance Award
A - Chapter 146, Fox Valley, Wis.
B - Chapter 131, Inland Empire

All the awards will be presented during the SBE National Awards Dinner on October 30, at the SBE National Meeting in Indianapolis, Ind. The meeting is being held in conjunction with the Indiana Broadcasters Association Broadcast Engineering and IT Workshop and is open to all SBE members. Those wishing to attend may register at the IBA website, www.indianabroadcasters.org, beginning August 1.

SBE Chapter Engineer of the Year winners

The Society of Broadcast Engineers congratulates the members listed below for being recognized by their chapter with the SBE Chapter Engineer of the Year award.

Chapter 5, Atlanta, Ga.
William Magliocco, CPBE, 8-VSB, CBNT

Chapter 9, Phoenix, Ariz.
Ralph Hogan, CPBE, DRB, CBNE

Chapter 15, New York, N.Y.
Conrad Trautmann, CPBE

Chapter 17, Minneapolis, Minn.
Donald Heppelmann, CBNT

Chapter 36, San Diego, Calif.
Gary Stigall, CPBE

Chapter 38, El Paso, Texas
Warren Reeves

Chapter 54, Tidewater, Va.
Charles Stutsman, CSTE, 8-VSB, CBNT

Chapter 70, Cleveland, Ohio
Edward Miller, CPBE

Chapter 78, Blue Ridge, Va.
Richard “Al” Stephens, CSTE

Chapter 80, Fox Valley, Wis.
William Hubbard, CPBE, CBNT

Chapter 109, Des Moines, Iowa
William Hayes

Chapter 131, Inland Empire, Calif.
Paul Claxton, CPBE, CBNE

All SBE chapters are encouraged to select a Chapter Engineer of the Year for 2014. All chapter winners will be included among the nominations for the national Robert W. Flanders SBE Engineer of the Year. Details are available at the SBE website, www.sbe.org.
Election underway for national officers and directors

Balloting began July 26 for the annual election of national officers and directors of the SBE. For the second year, voting is being conducted via the Internet. Web-based candidate information, board member voting record and the ballot are accessed by voting members at a special election website. An email message was sent to voting members on July 26 that contained a link to the election website unique to each member. The balloting period lasts through August 27 at 5 pm EDT. Members who opted out of electronic voting at renewal time and those who have not provided a current email address to the SBE were mailed ballots on July 26.

Voting members of the SBE, which include the membership categories of Member, Senior Member, Fellow, Life, Honorary and the official representatives of Sustaining Members, are eligible to vote. The national SBE Board of Directors consists of 17 members, including four officers, 12 directors and the immediate past president. All four officers and half of the director seats are up for election each year.

Candidates for officers include:
- President - Joseph Snelson, CPBE, 8-VSB
- Vice President - Jerry Massey, CPBE, 8-VSB, AMD, DRB, CBNT
- Secretary - James Leifer, CPBE
- Treasurer - Andrea Cumniss, CBT, CTO

Director Candidates include:
- Kirk Harnack, CBRE
- Tom Ray, CPBE, AMD, DRB
- Ted Hand, CPBE, 8-VSB, AMD, DRB
- Kim Sacks, CBT
- Mark Heller, CPBE, CTO
- Ched Keiler, CPBE, 8-VSB, CBNT
- Dennis Wallace, CBTE

Complete information about each candidate is available at the SBE website and on the dedicated SBE election page.

Those who plan to vote via the Internet who did not receive the special election announcement on July 26, or those voting by mail that have not received a ballot by August 6, are asked to contact John Poray at the SBE National Office at (317) 846-9000 or jporay@sbe.org. All ballots, via the Internet or by mail, must be cast by 5 pm EDT on Tuesday, August 27. Those mailing their ballots should allow at least five days for delivery to the SBE so that they arrive no later than August 27. Those outside the United States should allow two weeks for delivery.

SBE instituted electronic balloting in 2012 to make voting more convenient and secure for members and to reduce printing, mailing and postage costs. Prior to 2012, elections were conducted entirely through the mail. Member participation in the 2012 election jumped 64% over 2011, with a total of 1,313 ballots cast. Ninety percent of the ballots cast were done so through the election website.

This year’s election will be verified the evening of August 27 by the official Board of Tellers, consisting of members of Chapter 25 of Indianapolis. Candidates are notified the following day of the results. Those elected will take office at the SBE National Meeting on October 30, in Indianapolis, Ind. The National Meeting is being held in conjunction with the Indiana Broadcasters Association (IBA) Broadcast Engineering and IT Conference, hosted by the IBA and SBE Chapter 25.
Upcoming webinar explores a new feature available on HD Radio™

An exciting development in HD Radio™ systems is the ability to transmit images that correspond with the audio programming on any FM HD radio channel. A common use for this is to deploy Artist Experience, or album art, on stations that play music formats. Many new receivers are coming to market that support this feature. In particular, automotive manufacturers are already including this feature in many of their radio designs.

To help broadcasters stay relevant and keep up with the competition from other mediums, the SBE is offering a webinar on September 12 titled, “Deploying Artist Experience (Album Art) via HD Radio™”. This Webinar by SBE provides an overview of this technology, as well as exploring receivers that already support this technology to give background on what support is currently available and what is on the horizon. The webinar will explore the technical concepts of the Artist Experience and what is required to set this up successfully.

An important aspect of this new technology is to review best practices for implementation. Several options are available to broadcasters, from designing a custom system, to identifying one of many commercial products currently on the market. From there, deployment strategies and suggestions for scaling this implementation across multiple stations will be discussed in this webinar.

This webinar will benefit those looking to implement the technology, and will be helpful to managers, broadcasters and technical personnel.

Presenting this webinar is SBE member Alan Jurison, CSRE, AMD, DRB, CBNE. He has been in the radio industry for 18 years and offers a unique prospective on the convergence of IT and Broadcast Engineering. Jurison works for Clear Channel Media and Entertainment as a Senior Operations Engineer for the corporate Engineering and Systems Integration group. Much of his focus has been on deploying and advancing Clear Channel’s digital HD Radio™ data services.

About Webinars by SBE

Webinars by SBE consists of online seminars on subjects of interest to broadcast and IT professionals, and can range from 60 minutes to an hour and a half or more in length, depending on the topic. Webinars can be viewed at the time they are presented or the recorded webinar can be viewed from our website. Available over the Internet, the instructor speaks as the presentation is shown. Recorded webinars can be viewed multiple times.

Special pricing on SBE University course through September 16

SBE University’s most popular course, Computer Networking for Broadcast Engineers, is being offered at a discounted rate for SBE members only through September 16. This introductory course explores the fundamental concepts of computer networking, and covers computer topologies (both physical and logical), media types, the OSI model, and local area networking. Some legacy material is covered but is primarily about Ethernet, TCP/IP and other current computer networking protocols. Hardware such as switches and routers will be covered and software such as VLAN, VPN, and NAT as well. Some basic troubleshooting, security, and administrative procedures will also be reviewed. The course covers many subjects at a high level in order to assist the broadcaster in passing the Certified Broadcast Networking Technologist exam. There are several quiz questions at the end of each chapter to help the student ensure he/she understands the material.

SBE member Todd Creamer of Marion, Illinois, said of the course, “The Computer Networking for Broadcast Engineers interactive course offered through SBE is a high value course that seeks, if anything, to reinforce what the broadcast engineer should know and helps identify weaknesses in our personal knowledge base. I know in my case it did. I look forward to other challenging material offered by SBE University.”

The special rate for SBE Members is $79 (normally $99). The cost for non-members is $169. Act now to save money, and don’t forget, you will always have access to any of the courses you purchase on SBE University, including any course updates that are made.

About SBE University

Web-based courses on SBE University are set up like textbooks, and normally include 8-14 chapters. At the end of most chapters are quizzes, as well as a final exam at the end, all to help you confirm your knowledge of the material. There is a glossary, as well as graphics to compliment the course. One great thing about this Internet-based program is that it keeps track of where you have been in course, including noting the last chapter you viewed. Students can access the courses from any computer, and study as time permits. There is no limit to accessing the courses on SBE University.
Working with others

The SBE has more than 5,000 members, most of whom are affiliated with one of the 114 chapters located in the U.S. and Hong Kong. I think most members are pretty aware of the activities of the society. At the chapter level, you know about regular meetings and the opportunities they bring for expanding technical knowledge, and the opportunities to visit with other broadcast engineers who understand what you do and the challenges you face. Most of you are also aware of SBE education and certification programs produced at the national level, as well as the advocacy work done on your behalf with the FCC, FEMA and on Capitol Hill.

What may not be apparent to many members is how often and the variety of other organizations the SBE works with within the broadcasting industry to achieve some of the objectives outlined within the SBE mission. They include, but are not limited to, “The creation of working alliances” and “promoting the advancement of broadcast engineering.” The SBE has worked diligently over time to develop positive and productive working relationships with these industry organizations. It’s good for the SBE of course, or we wouldn’t do it, but it’s also beneficial to each individual member of the SBE, even if sometimes in an indirect way.

Some of the industry organizations that the SBE works closely with include the NAB, as a partner organization with their NAB Broadcast Engineering Conference and the spring NAB Show. The SBE has also worked many times with the NAB on regulatory issues when the interests of both organizations have aligned. The SBE has had a long relationship with, and is a member of ATSC (Advanced Television Systems Committee), collaborating on educational programs and participating and voting in industry standards discussions. Prior to its folding into the NAB, the SBE worked regularly with MSTV (Maximum Service Television) on regulatory issues, again, when our objectives were aligned. The SBE has also worked with two organizations dedicated to developing broadcasters at the college level; College Broadcasters, Inc. and the National Broadcasting Society/AERho.

The national SBE has worked with many of the state broadcast associations, mostly on educational programs, but sometimes too, on regulatory issues. Among the associations we have worked are those in Alabama, Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin, and I’m sure I’ve missed a few. Many of our chapters have also worked with their respective state associations, usually in connection with education programs, including the DTV public education effort in 2009.

The SBE’s work also reaches beyond the borders of the U.S. The SBE has affiliation agreements with eight broadcast engineering organizations in seven other countries. We’ve recently met and worked with our friends at AMITRA (Mexico), KOBETA (S. Korea) and BES (India), and our certification program is used heavily by SBE members in Canada.

The SBE has also worked with the corporate world, including ten years with the NFL and its gameday coordination program, and with Sprint/Nextel in the mid-2000s during the 2 GHz wireless equipment transition. Our 120 Sustaining Member companies that provide products and services to the broadcast engineering community also provide human and capital resources for SBE educational programs and recognition events. Finally, there is the industry press; those professional magazines and newspapers that cover the broadcast industry so well. The SBE values its relationship with each one of them as each publication contributes to the industry in its own style and manner.

So how do all of these activities, contacts and relationships help the SBE member, the SBE itself, or the field of broadcast engineering? The SBE serves as a single point of contact to the broadcast industry on issues of broadcast and media technology. The collective expertise and knowledge held by 5,000-plus broadcast engineer members is accessed best through the SBE. Through its organizational and corporate relationships, the SBE expands awareness and appreciation of the importance of the broadcast engineer, including to broadcast station and group management. The SBE Program of Certification and the collective educational programs of the SBE demonstrate to the rest of the industry that skilled and knowledgeable engineers and technicians are the key to continued technology advancement and implementation that continues to make broadcasting the primary source of news, information and entertainment for the public.

Sometimes it may be hard to realize first hand the value of an SBE contact made with a staff member of a U.S Senator or the importance of developing a professional relationship with broadcast engineers in other countries, but these and many other relationships developed over time all serve to do the same thing; raise the awareness and respect for broadcast engineers and create opportunities for members of the SBE to grow professionally and prosper.

SBE Leadership Development Course

“I highly recommend this course to all levels of management.” - 2010 Attendee

August 2-4, 2011 • Atlanta, Georgia
Emmis CTO Brenner to Keynote SBE Awards Dinner

Paul Brenner, senior vice president and chief technology officer for Emmis Communications, will be the featured keynote speaker at the annual SBE National Awards Dinner, Oct. 30. The dinner is the highlight event of the SBE National Meeting, to be held in Indianapolis, Ind. on October 29-30 in conjunction with the Indiana Broadcasters Broadcast Engineering and IT Workshop.

Brenner is an innovative visionary and the originator of the HD Radio® data distribution consortium business model. He currently serves as president of the Broadcaster Traffic Consortium, LLC (BTC), a partnership of more than 24 radio companies throughout the United States and Canada, formed to distribute data and advertising via FM and HD Radio® technology. BTC serves millions of consumer devices and automobiles with FM and HD Radio® data services.

Brenner’s most recent leadership role is related to getting FM Analog and HD Radio® standard in Smartphones and using terrestrial radio as the next generation of radio listener and advertiser engagement. His Chicago based development team continues to develop the broadcaster integrated (Tagstation) and FM radio synchronized application (NextRadio) for Smartphones.

Brenner was the recipient of the 2012 NAB Radio Engineering Achievement award for his work in developing the BTC and was previously listed as one of the Radio Ink 2010 Best Engineers in Radio. In 2010, he served on the FCC CSRIC council, enlisted to write the revised C.F.R. Part 11 for new EAS CAP standards and is currently an active member of both the NAB Radio Technology Committee as well as the NRSC.

As Emmis Communications’ SVP/Chief Technology Officer, Brenner’s work focuses on technology business development, industry partnerships, broadcast engineering strategy and the development of new broadcasting and Internet content distribution systems.

The SBE National Awards Dinner will be held at the Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel at Keystone Crossing. Admission to the dinner is included with registration for the Indiana Broadcasters Broadcast Engineering and IT Workshop. The dinner begins at 6 pm and is preceded by a reception, sponsored by VISLink Broadcast, at 5 pm. Visit the IBA website, Indianabroadcasters.org, to register.

The SBE National Meeting begins on October 29 with meetings of the SBE Board of Directors and committees. On October 30, the schedule includes, in addition to the reception and awards dinner, the annual SBE Fellows Breakfast, sponsored by the Scala Division of Kathrein and the Annual Membership Meeting. The membership meeting will be streamed live around the world so members of the SBE may tune in.

The IBA Broadcast Engineering and IT Workshop includes four technical presentations, lunch with a speaker and exclusive time with exhibitors. The cost for Broadcast Engineers to attend is $100 and includes all sessions, trade show, IBA continental breakfast, lunch, the SBE Awards Reception and Dinner and refreshment breaks.

Sessions include, New Technologies for TV Distribution by Paul Romo, Northeast Broadcast/Satellite Sales; Ensuring Your AOP Infrastructure Stays in Place During Disasters by Mary Ann Seidler, Tieline, the Codec Company; Care of Towers, Structural Evaluation of Pipe, Leg Tower, and Engineering and Executing Controlled Demolition of Guyed Structures by ERI; Facility Phone Systems by Logicalis; and 50 Things You Forgot When Designing a New Facility by Steve Lampen, Belden.

The Radio Breakout session is, Planning Your Transition Away from ISDN by Mary Ann Seidler, Tieline, the Codec Company. The Television Breakout session is, Bonding Technologies by Bill Nardi, Dejero.

SBE Members recruit 53 new members

Forty-three current SBE members were directly responsible for recruiting 53 new members during the three-month period of the recently concluded SBE Membership Drive. Of the 53 new members, three were Sustaining Members; companies that provide products and services to the broadcasting industry. An additional 105 members joined the SBE during the drive without indicating a sponsor’s name.

Each member who recruited a new member was directly responsible for recruiting 53 new members during the three-month period of the recently concluded SBE Membership Drive. Of the 53 new members, three were Sustaining Members; companies that provide products and services to the broadcasting industry. An additional 105 members joined the SBE during the drive without indicating a sponsor’s name.

Each recruiter will receive $5 off their 2014 SBE membership renewal for each new member recruited during the 2013 drive. Thank you to all of the Sustaining Members and bookstore publishers that donated prizes and to all of the members who recruited one or more new members.

Other Prizes include:

- **BRIC-Link Audio IP Codescs** courtesy of Comrex (two available)
- **Lance Cratty**, Tallahassee, Fla.
- **Mark Heller**, CPBE, CTO, Two Rivers, Wis. Chapter 80
- **Ebtech Swizzarmy Cable Tester** courtesy of Broadcast Supply Worldwide (BSW)
- **Mark Heller**, CPBE, CTO, Two Rivers, Wis. Chapter 80
- **Mic Adapter** courtesy of Tieline
- **Michael Marno**, Alexandria, Va. Chapter 37
- **Tool Bag with logo shirt, construction hat and multi-tool** courtesy of Middle Atlantic Products Inc.
- **Gil Akyroid**, Phoenix, Ariz. Chapter 9
- **Logo shirt** courtesy of Heartland Video Systems
- **Allen Miller**, CSRBTE, Alloway, N.J. Chapter 18

Directional Antennas Made Simple by Jack Layton, CPBE courtesy of Layton Technical Services Paul Wiren, Culver City, Calif. Chapter 47


SBE CertPreview download (one exam) courtesy of SBE
- **Mark Heller**, CPBE, CTO, Two Rivers, Wis. Chapter 80

SBE University course (your choice) courtesy of SBE
- **Jerry Massey**, CPBE, 8-VSB, AMD, DRB, CBNT of Chapter 86, in Greenville, S.C. Chapter 86

Acrylic Tumblers courtesy of SBE (two available)
- **RJ Russell**, CPBE, CBNT, Tucson, Ariz. — Chapter 32

Each recruiter will receive $5 off their 2014 SBE membership renewal for each new member recruited during the 2013 drive. Thank you to all of the Sustaining Members and bookstore publishers that donated prizes and to all of the members who recruited one or more new members.

The Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel at Keystone Crossing; headquarters for the 2013 SBE National Meeting.
Alan Alsobrook, CSRE, AMD, CBNT

is best known for being a night person. He runs his own company, Alsobrook Electronics, with his normal work day beginning around 3 pm and not ending until between 4 and 6 am. Alsobrook lives in St. Augustine, Fla. and is a member of SBE Chapter 7 in nearby Jacksonville. He’s been a member of the SBE since 1991.

Alsobrook got started in broadcasting the way many members of the SBE have. “I was always interested in electronics and radio,” he said. “When I was 15, the principal at my junior high school introduced me to the owner/engineer of WAOC, a 1KW day-timer at the time. He asked if I could come in and help out with some studio work. That soon led to doing all the engineering work for the station.”

Alsobrook mentions George Pass and Sidney Daniel from Plough Broadcasting in Atlanta, Ga. as influential mentors. He explained, “While I was going to college in Atlanta, I thought I’d see what a ‘big city’ radio station was like. I called WPLO and was connected with George, the chief engineer, who offered a technical tour of the facility. After the tour was over, I should have realized this was a trap, he asked if I could repair an ITC cart machine that was on the bench. I said I’d take a look. Thirty minutes and a few capacitors later it was working just fine. The next thing I knew I was working temporary/part time, 60+ hours a week.”

Alsobrook’s nicknames include The Bat and Vampire, because of his nocturnal preference, and Megawatt, for always playing with radio. His job is seldom boring, and says, “There is always something new or different that has to be learned and accomplished.” Though he tries to keep it a secret, he says he can climb towers when he has to. In the photo, he’s seen here hanging a blue LED star he had made, 150’ up a tower, where it could be seen across town during the Christmas season. He says his favorite gadget is the Power Aim because of how much time it saves compared to using an OIB to make antenna measurements.

Alsobrook enjoys Amateur (HAM) Radio and has added news videography to his list of fun things to do. He’s also a certified Hammond organ technician and has repaired organs for several nationally known recording artists. He’s volunteered in fire rescue for more than 35 years. Most people don’t know that he has pulled three people from burning buildings, all before any apparatus or other personnel were on the scene. He also saved three other people after doing solo CPR for more than five minutes before help arrived. He said all three walked out of the hospital on their own.

After his 22 years of membership in the SBE, we asked him what do you enjoy or value most about your involvement with the SBE. He said simply, “The fellowship.”

Our Chapter Spotlight shines in the direction of the Pacific Northwest this issue as we take a look at Chapter 124, North Oregon, which is centered in Portland and extends to Salem to the south and to the north, across the Columbia River to Vancouver, Wash.

Everett Helm, CPBE serves as chairman of chapter, which boasts 50 members, 23 of which hold SBE certification. The chapter meets on the second Tuesday of each month, and has a good mix of TV and radio engineers.

Asked what makes the chapter successful, Helm replied, “I think it is successful because we have a really good meeting place that is centrally located, has a separate room with full video facilities, good programs, and good food that is provided. Free lunch is always a good draw!” A recent example was the meeting held this past April. Though delayed a week due to the NAB Show, it had a huge turnout. The presenter was Charles Rhodes, formerly of Tektronix and AT&T, and frequent contributor to Television Technology magazine. Helm said Rhodes gave a great presentation on his tests of DTV interference and band repacking potential problems.

Helm explained that the chapter has a really fine record of good technical programs presented by a variety of radio and television vendors. Usually the vendors cover the lunch cost. Chapter 124 works with the two other SBE chapters in Oregon, in Eugene and Medford, to schedule programs so that they can be presented on three consecutive days in all three cities. He says the vendors seem to like that approach! Chapter 124 often has a door prize drawing at the end of each meeting that adds some fun and tends to keep people attentive until the presentation is over.

Asked what benefits members receive from participating in the local chapter, Helm said, “… we are able to keep somewhat current on current products, technologies and systems affecting us in the broadcast industry.” In the past, the chapter has had the opportunity to host or co-sponsor half-day or full-day educational seminars with more in depth content than would be possible at a normal meeting.

A tradition that Helm says is particularly popular is the annual December holiday meeting hosted by the chapter. It includes plenty of nice prizes to give away. Helm says it’s, “a good social networking time that is very well attended.” He says the chapter qualifies each year for the dues rebate available from national and the money is usually used for hosting the lunch meeting if needed, providing door prizes at most meetings, and supporting the December holiday party.

Asked how the chapter communicates to members, Helm said, “We have a mailing list that goes out to each of the members and other regular attendees. We are fortunate that, generally speaking, we have a very good, cooperative group of broadcast engineers that are not afraid to talk and share information.”

History shows that Chapter 124 is a great group of broadcast engineers who learn from each other and enjoy each other’s company. And, as chairman Helm says, “We try to keep all of our stations on the air!”

Members of Chapter 124, North Oregon attend a meeting earlier this year.
The trust offers scholarship and educational programming and grants that benefit broadcast engineering and the broadcast engineer. Submit tax-deductible donations, payable to the Ennes Educational Foundation Trust, to the Society of Broadcast Engineers, 9102 N. Meridian St., Suite 150, Indianapolis, IN 46260.

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING SUPPORTERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS:

ENNES
SBE Chapter 15, N.Y.
SBE Chapter 74, Omaha, Neb.

GREENBERG
Martin Hadfield, Auburn, Wash.

YOUTH
James Quinn, Riverton, N.J.

MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

Ian Owens, CBTE is now Broadcast Engineer at WPEC-DTV in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Have you recently made an employment change or received a promotion? Let your fellow SBE members know about it. Send your news to jporay@sbe.org.

Members of Chapter 16 at Seattle’s Safeco Field for a recent meeting. Note the scoreboards!

NEW MEMBERS

Robert L. Allen - Pleasant Garden, NC
Robert D. Bryan - Gainesville, FL
Lloyd D. Carroll - Humble, TX
Thomas Cocks - Riverview, FL
Scott C. Mason - Schenectady, NY
Scott L. Mink - DeForest, WI
James Strauss - San Francisco, CA
Brian Vogt - Whitehouse Station, NJ
Yeshi T. Girma - Redondo Beach, CA
Mark A. Schulz - Canton, OH
Shawn D. Ferguson - South Mills, NC
Dennis R. Finn - High Point, NC
Matt Gergen - Denver, CO
Dennis Kidder - Dayton, OH
Nestmannuanu. A. Ogumuyiw - Austin, TX
Mindy Hoffman - East Brunswick, NJ
Marvin Luke - Tulsa, OK
Jason Beaton - Valley Glen, CA
Jonathan Zane - Mount Laurel, NJ
David Campman - Midway, FL
Cin Khal - Midway, FL
Ken E. Martin - Jacksonville, FL
Rodger J. Roth - Eaton Park, FL
Dale W. Adkins - Murphysboro, IL
Louis B. Caesar, Jr. - New York, NY
Thomas W. Cline - Richmond, VA
Andy Gavel - Berkley, MI

RETURNING MEMBERS

Craig Schlicher - Huntsville, TX
Bryan D. Hubert - Kenmore, WA
Robert E. Timpone - Clearwater, FL
Douglas Durkee - Greenville, SC
Sabry M. Abdeen - Phoenix, AZ
Ross S. Campbell - Las Vegas, NV
Junius E. Warriner - Virginia Beach, VA
David L. Slamnck - Reno, NV
Oscar D. Romay - Mount Clare, WV
Brian R. Williams - Taos, NM
Wilkins Xavier - Baltimore, MD
Scott M. Hower - Fort Myers, FL
Joseph A. Kees - Durham, NC
James C. Lien - Gilbertsville, PA

NEW STUDENT MEMBERS

Andrew Gayton — Lakeland, FL
Ethan Abraham — Tacoma, WA
Jeremy J. Drake — Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Aly T. Gustafson — Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Calvin Hamilton — Calgary, Alberta, Canada
James Hill — Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Kurt E. Kluwe — Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Christopher J. Lapp — Chatham, Ontario, Canada

NEW YOUTH MEMBERS

Isaac S. Morse - Kalamazoo, MI

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Adam BC Lederer - Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Tyler F. Sansom - Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Zac J. Schlinker - Rosebud, Alberta, Canada
Vaibhav Shetge - Valencia, CA
Dustin T. Sledge - Rome, GA
Joshua A. Bush - Indianapolis, IN
Tyson J. Conrady - Shelbyville, IN

NEW STUDENT MEMBERS

Andrew Gayton — Lakeland, FL
Ethan Abraham — Tacoma, WA
Jeremy J. Drake — Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Aly T. Gustafson — Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Calvin Hamilton — Calgary, Alberta, Canada
James Hill — Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Kurt E. Kluwe — Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Christopher J. Lapp — Chatham, Ontario, Canada

NEW YOUTH MEMBERS

Isaac S. Morse - Kalamazoo, MI
not all bricks are the same

finally, bricks done right.

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