



70 Minutes

The Monthly Newsletter of Chapter 70
of the Northeast Ohio Society of
Broadcast Engineers

February, 2005 • Vol. XIII, Number 2



Chairman's Chat

by Mike Szabo

Thanks to MCPc for hosting our last meeting. We had a good turnout and everyone participated in the demonstration of a live video-streaming product called V-Brick.

At the January meeting, Bill Weisinger mentioned that some members are still receiving this Newsletter by US Mail. If you are one of these people and have access to email, please contact Bob Long and provide him with your email address. This will allow you to receive the Newsletter faster and help save the Chapter money by cutting the printing and postage costs. The full color version of the Newsletter will arrive in PDF format attached to your email. The program to view the Newsletter is available free of charge on the Web at www.adobe.com. Just click on the icon that says "Get Adobe Reader". Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

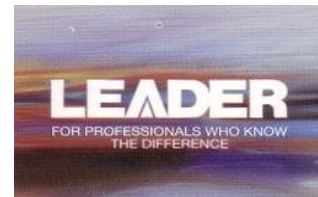
One of the deadlines I mentioned in last

(Continued on page 2)

February Meeting

Tuesday, February 8
WVIZ TV
Gather at 7pm

Our February 8th meeting will be held at WVIZ/PBS and will be sponsored by ProVideo Systems, Inc. and Leader Instruments Corp. They will present a program entitled "Keep an Eye on that Video" which will provide an overview of the "Eye Pattern" in Serial Digital Streams.



ProVideo Systems, Inc.
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The Eye Pattern may not be familiar to people new to the Digital World. This pattern is very useful in monitoring the quality of digital transmissions at the baseband level. It is also the only pattern that provides a direct correlation to the analog world of which most of us are familiar. Gather at 7pm. The meeting will begin at 7:30pm.

**Next Meeting
Tuesday, March 8th**

Chairman's Chat (Continued from page 1)

months Newsletter was the January 27th date for filing of first round channel selections for DTV stations. The Association of Federal Communications Consulting Engineers, on January 14th, requested a 45-day extension to this filing deadline. On January 24th the Commission's Media Bureau granted a partial extension through February 10th.

There have been two resignations at the FCC within the past week. I am sure you have heard that on January 21st, Chairman Powell announced he would be leaving in March. The following Friday, Media Bureau Chief, Kenneth Ferree announced his resignation. He will also be leaving early in March.

Don't forget our next meeting will be at WVIZ-TV on Tuesday, February 8th. This month's presentation will be "Interpreting Digital Eye Patterns". See the meeting notice on the front page of this Newsletter for details.

To receive this newsletter in color via e-mail, please contact Newsletter Editor Bob Long at blong@rock889.com



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Nominations open for SBE Fellow

The Fellow designation is the most distinguished recognition presented to members of the SBE, by SBE. Members may be elected to the Fellow rank through conspicuous service, valuable contributions to the advancement of broadcast engineering or its allied professions, or by disseminating their broadcasting knowledge and promoting its application in practice.

Candidates must be proposed in writing by a voting member to the Fellowship Committee. The nomination must include an appropriate and complete history of the nominee's career and written letters of endorsement from at least five voting members. Nominees should not be made aware of their candidacy.

Submit nominations for Fellow by March 31 to Martin Sandberg, CPBE, Chairman, SBE Fellowship Committee, 9807 Edgecove Drive, Dallas, Texas, 75238-1535 or to sandytex@swbell.net.

The Society of Broadcast Engineers, Inc.

What's Your CQ?

"CQ" is your Certification Quotient!

Periodically, the SBE website will provide a new question from the SBE Certification program, together with an explanation of the correct answer. To check your "CQ" go to the SBE national website at www.sbe.org and click on the "CQ" link in the right column.

If you guess incorrectly, the website will give you the correct answer so you can get it right next time.



Society of Broadcast Engineers

Chapter 70

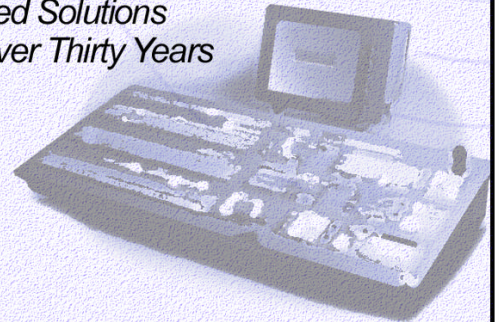
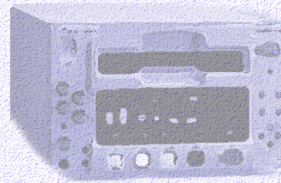
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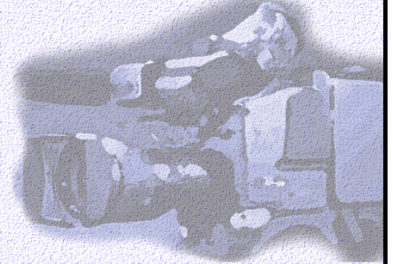
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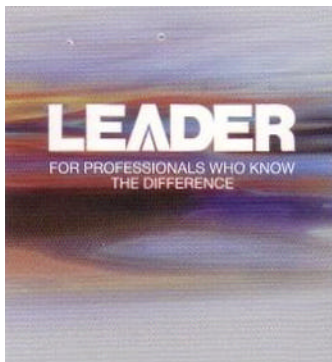
ProVideo Systems, Inc.

Professional Television Equipment Sales & Service

Dave Goldsmith
President

26471 SouthPoint Rd.
Perrysburg, OH 43551
www.provideosystems.com
dave@provideosystems.com

800-832-2367
419-874-2850
Fax: 419-874-8056



JOHN PIERCE
Director of Sales

Leader Instruments Corporation
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SBE assists Nextel with pending spectrum relocation

As first reported in President Ray Benedict's column in the December issue of the *SBE Signal*, Nextel and SBE have signed an agreement whereby SBE will assist Nextel in planning and executing the relocation of broadcasters out of 2 GHz channels 1 and 2.

The FCC has released a Report and Order on the 2 GHz Band which assigns frequencies being vacated by broadcasters to Nextel. Though the FCC proposal has not been formally agreed to by Nextel, the company is already creating a transition team that will work with broadcasters to implement the transition, in anticipation of final approval.

As part of the proposed agreement, Nextel will be replacing virtually all of the analog, 2-GHz microwave and ancillary equipment in use in the United States by television stations, networks, cable operators and licensed itinerants. A small percentage of the existing equipment is digital-ready and will require only the final digital upgrade; an even smaller minority is already digital and will be left alone. The estimated cost of this project is slightly more than a half-billion dollars. It carries a deadline of 30 months from the time the order becomes official and targets more than 1,000 total entities in about 200 television markets.

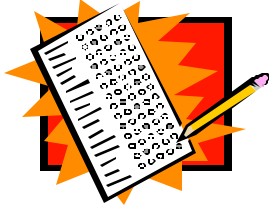
SBE Frequency Coordination Director, David Otey, CSTE, will be SBE's point-person with Nextel and is now working on a full-time basis to handle the additional responsibilities. SBE local volunteer frequency coordinators will play an important role in the transition too, providing guidance on how best to group markets in the overall timeline to minimize disruption to news operations and organizing meetings of local broadcasters. For more information, contact David Otey at dotey@sbe.org or (303) 713-0924.

Master Control topic of Ennes workshop NAB2005

What does the next generation broadcast master control look like? Is it an IT closet? Is it glass and fly by wire? Is it baseband or precompressed? Is it centralized, distributed, multichannel, or is the pendulum swinging back to dedicated ergonomic, operator centric environments? Is it twisted pairs or coax? Are master control routers circuit-switched or packet-switched devices? Does multichannel sound or SCTE 35 have a role? What are the architectural design fundamentals that lend to, or take away from, reliability, maintainability and quality?

The topic for the Ennes Program at NAB2005 is neither radio nor TV centric. Clearly, the bulk of the material is applicable or has implications to broadcasting, with or without pictures, but the program will intertwine the more specific material. As in years past, presenters will include chief technical officers who direct the design and rollout of technology, chief engineers and system's integrators with insights from behind the racks and noted pundits and futurists of our industry.

For 2005, PBS joins the Ennes Educational Foundation Trust and SBE in presenting this one-day program. The event will be held on Saturday, April 16 at the Las Vegas Convention Center beginning at 9 a.m. The Ennes Program is a part of the Broadcast Engineering Conference, co-presented by NAB and SBE at NAB2005. To register, visit the NAB web site, www.nab.org.



SBE Certification Exam Dates

<u>2004/2005 Exam Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Application Deadline</u>
November 12-22	Local	Closed
February 4-14	Local	Closed
April 19	NAB—Las Vegas	March 1, 2005
June 3-13	Local	April 22, 2005
August 12-22	Local	June 10, 2005
November 11-21	Local	September 23, 2005



70 Minutes – Monthly Newsletter
Society of Broadcast Engineers
Chapter 70 - Northeast Ohio
9028-E Portage Pointe Drive
Streetsboro, Ohio 44241

CHAPTER 70 OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN

Mike Szabo
WKYC-TV3
216-344-3391
mszabo@wkyc.com

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Blake Thompson
WZIP-FM
330-972-6221
blake@uakron.edu

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

Gary Bluhm
WVIZ-TV
216-398-2800uijty-0p
gbluhm@wviz.org

SECRETARY

James Hartland
216-535-3386
Jim.hartland@cox.com

TREASURER

Bill Weisinger, CBRTE
Weisinger Engineering Services
wwes@juno.com

CERTIFICATION

Bill Kozel, CSRE/CBTE
WEWS-TV5
216-431-3730
koz@wews.com

FREQUENCY COORDINATOR

> 1 Ghz
Mike Szabo
WKYC-TV3
216-344-3391
mszabo@wkyc.com

FREQUENCY COORDINATOR

< 1 Ghz
Mark Krieger
216-481-1756
mkrieger@visn.net

WEB SITE SERVICES

Ric Cicchinelli, CBT, CBNT
330-484-6471 Ext.2822
ricchick1@yahoo.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Bob Long
88.9/WSTB-FM
330-626-4906 Ext.215
blong@rock889.com