



70 Minutes

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

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Chairman's Chat

by Mike Szabo

I hope everyone had a great holiday season and a Happy New Year. May the coming year be a safe and happy one for all.

A quick thank you to Rick Funk for the IBOC presentation at the November meeting and the Staff and Management of WKHR for their hospitality as our host.

The year 2005 is just getting started and we have already passed one digital deadline. As of January 1st, DTV stations must begin to transmit MPEG streams with video, audio and data PIDs (Packet Identifier) that have a value no less than 48.

January 27th has been set as the next deadline. This is the date by which stations with at least one in-core (channels 2-51) assignment must file their first round channel elections to determine their post transition channel. There will be two more rounds before we arrive at a final channel assignment sometime next year.

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January Meeting

Tuesday, January 11
MCP Computer Products, Strongsville
Gather at 7pm

Happy New Year to one and all. I hope we all made it through the holidays in good shape and that we are all ready and anxious to face the challenges of the new year.

Our first Chapter 70 meeting of 2005 will take place at MCPc, Computer Products and Consulting at 21555 Drake Road in Strongsville. (See map.) MCPc is an equipment and services supplier working mainly in the Information Technology and Audio Visual spaces; however, they do also interface with the Broadcasting community supplying Broadcast equipment. MCPc will have representatives from Polycom and possibly from StarBak to present the evening's program which will be a discussion of Video over IP and Video Streaming. After the program MCPc will give us a brief overview of their com-

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Next Meeting
Tuesday, February 8th

Chairman's Chat (Continued from page 1)

DTV Stations will also have to begin “fully populating” their program guide information tables, PSIP (Program System and Information Protocol) as described in ATSC standard A/65B. This deadline is set for February 1st.

For those interested in learning more about the these rulemakings and standards the full text of the FCC's Second Digital TV Periodic Review is available on line at:

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-04-192A1.pdf

The ATSC documents are available at: <http://www.atsc.org/standards.html>

Map to January Meeting

MCP Computer Products
and Consulting

21555 Drake Road, Strongsville

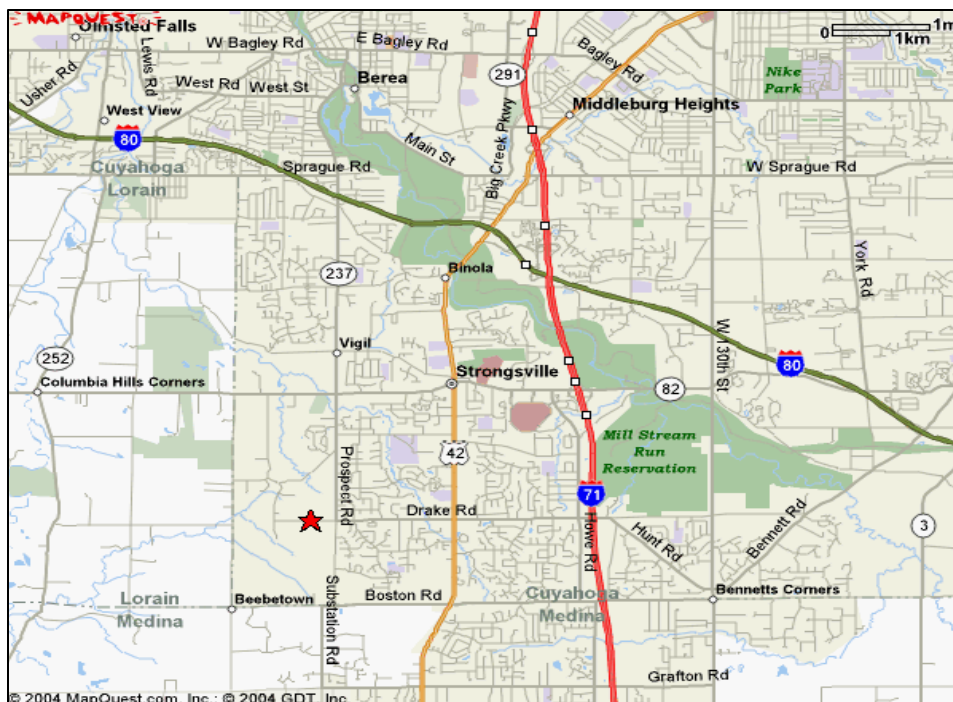
Meeting Notice (Continued from page 1)

pany and will conduct tours of their facility.

As usual, we'll gather at 7:00 for a light dinner and beverages and begin our business meeting about 7:30. The evening's program will follow the Business meeting.

Directions: Take I-71 south to SR 82, SR 82 west to Prospect, Prospect south to Drake and Drake west to MCPc. (see map below)

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. 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 most of us our familiar with.





Society of Broadcast Engineers

Chapter 70

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News from SBE National

SBE to introduce “Cert Specialties”

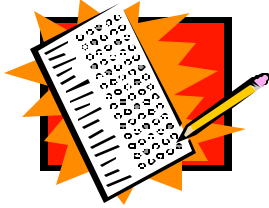
Beginning in April 2005, SBE plans to inaugurate several Certification “Specialties.” The specialties will target areas of broadcast engineering knowledge that are becoming harder to find and/or are of a specialized nature. The first specialty will test on maintaining AM directional antennas. Those wishing to take a SBE Specialty exam will need to already hold a current SBE Broadcast Engineer or higher certification. A one-day seminar on AM directional antennas is also in the works.

SBE compiling break-in occurrences

The recent rash of break-ins at station transmitter sites in some areas of the country has caught the attention of many broadcast engineers and also that of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. There has been speculation that some of these incidents may not be just random acts but pre-planned activities by terrorist operatives. Be sure to report any break-ins or other malicious activities to your local police department and FBI office but also let SBE know. SBE General Counsel, Chris Imlay is keeping a log of break-ins and is sharing this information with the FBI in Washington, D.C. Send any information to Chris at cimlay@sbe.org. You can read more about the recent break-ins in Chris’ column in the December issue of the SBE Signal.

Leader skills 2005 schedules

SBE has scheduled Course I of the SBE Leader Skills Seminar for June 7-9, 2005 in Indianapolis. The SBE Leader Skills Seminar provides management and people skills training for broadcast engineers. Dick Cupka will lead the seminar. The course fee is being determined as of this writing and should be available by mid-December. Please mark the dates and make plans to attend yourself or send someone from your organization. Both the individual and the company will benefit.



SBE Certification Exam Dates

<u>2004/2005 Exam Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Application Deadline</u>
November 12-22	Local	Past
February 4-14	Local	Past
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



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