

Vol 20, No 7

Radio's Best Read Newspaper

Via Subcarrier: It's Digital Audio Radio

by Lynn Meadows

BOSTON A new digital audio broadcasting concept may steal the show this year — the NAB '96 spring show that is.

Last fall, WCRB(FM) and Sanders, a Lockheed Martin Company, introduced the idea of digital broadcasting on a subcarrier at the Radio Show. On April 14, during the "DAB: U.S. and Worldwide Planning" conference, they will present actual data gathered while lab and field testing their on-carrier digital system, FMdigital (FMd).

David Maxson, vice president, director of engineering for Charles River Broadcasting Co., and Dr. David Murotake, project manager at Sanders will present the paper. They will also have a booth in the Special

WME Draws Fire; NAB Splits Hall

by Bob Rusk

WASHINGTON The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) needs to make some dramatic changes if it wants continued support from audio exhibitors at the combined Fall Radio Show/World Media Expo.

That is what many exhibitors, who have a long list of complaints, are saying.

The convention brings delegates of the NAB Radio Show together with those from the Society of Broadcast Engineers. Radio Television News Directors Association, and Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers.

The NAB is aware that the mix of audio and video interests at the



Technologies Exhibit hall.

"We don't want to jump ahead and make claims that we haven't proven yet," said Maxson. "What we've done so far is a development testing program."

Sanders and WCRB developed and are testing what Maxson calls an "extra high speed subcarrier" that operates reliably at about 200 kilobits per second (kbps). That is 10 times faster than the systems the National Radio Systems Committee is considering for a high speed data standard.

How it works

The idea is straightforward: Scratch the traditional 57 kHz, 67 kHz, and 92 kHz subcarriers and use that 40 kHz to send a digital signal.

Sanders developed a modem that transmits approximately five bits/ second/hertz. With 40 kHz of bandwidth, the modem can pass 200 kbps — enough to carry a compressed, digitally coded, stereo audio signal.

So far only raw data has been passed through the FMd system. Sanders and WCRB put a repeating random pattern of bits through a series of hoops — multipath, low signal level, interference — to check for errors. Maxson will bring that data to the spring show. Once they see how the modem behaves with raw data, Maxson said they plan to talk to companies with perceptual audio coders and decide on variables like error correction.

"Obviously, there is a little more development to go on here," he said. He added that a couple things are working in their favor.

The same inexpensive chips and technologies that have taken 300 baud modems to 28.8 kbps and beyond in just 10 years are similar for this FM digital signal.

Another plus for the subcarrier system,

said Maxson, is that receivers could be made inexpensively.

Subsystem design

"Instead of designing a whole new receiver from the antenna to the speaker, all we need to do is just design this subsystem that would go in a receiver that would attach to the FM front end that is already there," he said.

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1.200

April 3, 1996



Tower and antenna calamities are easier to solve than you think. Check out Buyers Guide, pp. 59-73

Father of ENDEC EAS! Gerald M. Le Bow

Jerry knows more about ENDEC EAS than anybody else on the planet, because he created it. Meet Jerry and enjoy his presentation as he walks you through a step by step introduction to the ENDEC, and how easy it is to comply with the FCC's mandate, at **NAB in Booth 3517** in Radio Land Monday through Friday.



Beginner's Lecture on the hour 10a.m.-1p.m. Advanced Lecture on the hour 2p.m.-4p.m. Master's Lecture on the hour at 5 p.m.



Prestholdt To Receive Radio Award

by Bob Rusk

WASHINGTON The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) selected Ogden Prestholdt as the 1996 recipient of the NAB Radio Engineering Achievement Award. That award and two others will be presented April 17 at the engineering luncheon during NAB '96.

Prestholdt, 79, began his career in 1937, working in local radio, before joining the CBS network. He later became a partner at the Washington-based engineering firm A.D. Ring & Associates from 1969 until his retirement in 1984.

"I am surprised and pleased to receive this award," said Prestholdt from his home in Sarasota, Fla., where he has been based as a consulting engineer since retiring. His projects include the development of two

Circle (2) On Reader Service Card

See us at NAB Booth 3517 & 5809

World Radio History

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NEWSWATCH

Santamaria said that during the testing

time, he heard from DXers in Arizona

KXBT Moves To Expanded Band

SAN FRANCISCO On March 19, KXBT(AM) started broadcasting in the expanded band. The Federal Communications Commission granted the station a special temporary authority to begin broadcasting at 1640 kHz.

KXBT joins WJDM(AM) 1660 kHz in the much-coveted expanded band. General Manager Andy Santamaria said the station will simulcast its soul oldies format at 1190 kHz.

The station retuned its Continental Transmitter to 1640 and is using a unipole antenna to broadcast both stations.

Radio Hall of Fame Nominees

and Oregon

CHICAGO The Museum of Broadcast Communications announced the nominees for the Radio Hall of Fame. The winners in four categories will be inducted into the hall on Sunday, Oct. 27. Casey Kasem will host the event.

The nominees for the "Network or Syndicated - Active" category are Rick Dees, host of ABC's "Rick Dees Weekly Top Forty"; Karl Haas, classical music commentator and host of "Adventures in Good Music"; Eddie Hubbard, veteran disc jockey on ABC Radio's Stardust format; Tom Joyner, morning host on ABC's Urban Contemporary Network; and Susan Stamberg, reporter and anchor for National Public Radio's "All Things Considered."

"Local/Regional - Active" nominees are Paul Berlin, who has been "Mr. Music" in Houston for over 40 years. first at KNUZ(AM) and later at KQUE(FM); Gordon Hinkley, talk show host at WTMJ(AM) in Milwaukee; Hy Lit, disc jockey at WOGL-FM in Philadelphia; Larry Morrow, who wakes up Cleveland on WQAL(FM); and Jerry Williams, talk show host for WRKO(AM) in Boston. The five nominees in the "Network or Syndicated Pioneer" category are Eddie Cantor, deceased, known as the "King of the Clowns"; William Conrad, deceased, the actor who played Matt Dillon on radio's "Gunsmoke"; Bing Crosby, deceased, whose radio career lasted over three decades; Wolfman Jack, deceased, the quintessential rock 'n' roll disc jockey; and Kate Smith, also deceased, the singer who introduced the song "God Bless America."

In the "Local and Regional Pioneer" category, the five nominees are Jack Brickhouse, voice of the Chicago Cubs and Chicago Bears on WGN; John Gambling Sr., host of "Rambling with Gambling" from 1959 to 1991 on WOR(AM) in New York; Harden & Weaver, the most popular radio team in

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STUDIO SESSIONS

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Mic & Line, +16dBu	.005%
IMD (SMPTE)	
Mic & Line, +4dBu	.004%
DIM	
Mic & Line, +16dBu	.005%
DYNAMIC RANGE	
Line	114dB
Mic	98dB
HEADROOM	
ref +4dBu	24dB
OFF & ASSIGN ISOLA	TION
1 KHz	-110dB
20 KHz	-105dB
	-10500
BUS CROSSTALK	_
1 KHz	-100dB
20 KHz	-75dB

## 

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California

American Samoa

Gulf of Mexico

Mariana Islands

U.S. Virgin Islands

Louisiana.Maine

Rhode Island

Colorado

Minnesota

Nebraska

Florida

Indiana

Delaware

Washington

New Hampshire

Kansas

Oregon

Wisconsin West Virginia

Pennsylvania

Ohio

lowa Virginia

Georgia

Guam

Radio World

#### NEWSWATCH

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the history of the nation's capital on WMAL(AM): Ernie Harwell, long-time voice of the Detroit Tigers on WJR(AM); and William B. Williams, deceased, WNEW(AM) disc jockey who brought music to life in the "Make Believe Ballroom."

Ballots have been mailed to over 5,000

#### NEWSWATCH

radio executives, broadcast historians and members of the Radio Hall of Fame. The voting deadline is August 1.

#### **Run off Results Announced**

**WASHINGTON** The National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) run off elections are over.

## **REGULATORY UPDATE**

**WASHINGTON** Uncle Sam wants you to register your antenna structure.New owners or those planning to alter their existing structures must register them before any alteration or construction begins according to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). However, owners of existing antenna structures with no alteration plans should use the FCC timetable published below. Owners with a large number of structures in multiple states can make arrangements with the FCC to register them all at once. Call (202) 418-0680 for information. Stations should file FCC Form 854 to register. The form is brand new and is expected to be available on the FCC's fax on demand service starting in June. Here are the dates for registering existing antenna structures that will not be altered anytime soon.

STATE	WINDOW	Alabama Washington, D.C.	Dec. 1-31, 1997
Michigan Montana	July 1-31, 1996	Maryland	. Dec. 1-31, 1997
Arizona Hawaii North Carolina	August 1-31, 1996	Arkansas North Dakota Utah	Jan. 1-31, 1998
Alaska New Mexico New York	Sept. 1-30, 1996	Idaho Mississippi South Dakota Vermont	Feb. 1-28, 1998
Massachusetts Missouri	Oct. 1-31, 1996	Kentucky Tennessee	March 1-31, 1998
Illinois Wyoming	Nov. 1-30, 1996	Connecticut New Jersey	Apr. 1-30, 1998
Nevada Oklahoma	Dec. 1-31, 1996	South Carolina	тра. 1-20, 1990
Puerto Rico		Texas	May 1-June 30, 1998

Jan. 1-Feb 28, 1997

March 1-31, 1997

April 1-30, 1997

May 1-31, 1997

June 1-30, 1997

July 1-31, 1997

Aug. 1-Sept. 30, 1997

Oct. 1-31, 1997

Nov. 1-30, 1997

William Poole, general manager of WFLS-AM-FM in Fredericksburg, Va., will represent district four — Delaware, Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia Stephen C. Davenport, presi-

Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia Stephen C. Davenport, president of WKXG(AM) and WYMX(FM) in Jackson, Miss., won the district eight seat and will represent Louisiana and Mississippi.

NEWSWATCH

Mark Hedberg, vice president, general manager of KRIB(AM) and KLSS-FM in Mason City, Iowa, won the runoff in district 14 and will represent Iowa and Wisconsin.

#### Multi-Market Radio Works Wall Street

**NEW YORK** Multi-Market Radio (MMR) recently filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for a public offering of five million shares of Class A Common Stock.

The company will file another registration statement with the SEC for a public offering of \$110 million of Senior Subordinated Notes due in 2006.

MMR will use the money to consolidate and pay down indebtedness. The group operates radio stations in medium-sized markets and has a purchasing agreement with SFX Broadcasting to acquire 11 of the Liberty Broadcasting stations that SFX is buying.

#### **IRT Issues Invitation**

MUNICH, GERMANY The IRT (Institut für Rundfunktechnik) has invited all manufacturers interested in enhancing compatibility and interoperability of products using the ISO/MPEG Audio Layer II standard to a meeting at 1 p.m. April 14 in the Kyoto Room of

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World Radio History

#### NEWSWATCH

the Imperial Palace Hotel in Las Vegas. The meeting will address seven key

areas: sampling frequencies of the PCM audio input/output signal; basic I/O interfaces: minimum common structure of optional ancillary data field; definition of transport layer; file formats and conversion between them; multichannel protocols and extra error protection.

IRT hopes to promote a common vocabulary and refine guidelines to ensure interoperability and compatibility of MPEG Layer II products at various levels.

Along with increasing customer awareness and understanding of Layer II technology, the Institut hopes to encourage broader implementation of MPEG Layer II.



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## **EARWAVES**®

## **SBE Publishes Emergency Alert System Primer**

**WASHINGTON** The Society of Broadcast Engineers seized the lead

early at a local level in the push to help broadcast stations comply with the new Emergency Alert System (EAS) mandated by the Federal Communications Commission in its new, Part 11 rules. As early as February 1995, the Houston chapter of the SBE exemplified grassroots broadcast teamwork at its best when it put its money where its goals were and voluntarily EBS modified decoders to receive an eight-second emergency warning tone instead of a 22-second

warning tone for 67 Southeast Texas radio and television stations.

Each station saved about \$120 in fulfilling the FCC July 1, 1995, tone conversion deadline. The Houston chapter, in one helpful day, elevated the stature of engineers to radio and television management by proving them (the engineers) to be clear and bottom-line thinkers. That in turn helped reaffirm the idea that engineers should always be part of the strategic-planning team at a station.

Fellowship among engineers, demonstrated by chapter member Dave Biondi allowing the SBE to use his business, the Broadcast Service Co., as the conversion site, is overwhelming evidence of the technical and financial benefits that can be brought to the management of a station — if only the engineers are allowed to participate in the decision-making process.

Houston's efforts were seconded by Washington's SBE Chapter when it, too, had an EAS day. With the support of Bud Aiello and the National Public

the lead SBE voluntarily modified stations gear THE SOCIETY OF BROADCAST ENGINEERS Emergency Alert System

Radio facility in D.C., Washington's



from the tri-state area to help bring them into compliance.

The national SBE applauded both chapters' proactive approach at the time. It also started a new committee to help with conversion to the new EAS system. The charter is and was ideated to help managers, engineers and owners make the best choice for their stations when selecting an EAS system. The SBE EAS Committee

(in cooperation with the

Ennes Foundation) just delivered "The Emergency Alert System Primer." A product of the joint effort of Leonard Charles. chairman. W1SC-TV Madison. Wis.; Fred Baumgartner. TCI National Digital Television Center. Denver: Dane Ericksen PE. Hammet & Edison Inc., San Francisco: Paul Montoya, Broadcast Services, Lakewood, Colo.; John Price, KMTT- AM-FM, Seattle; Richard Rudman, KFWB(AM) Los Angeles and Gary Timm, of WTMJ(AM)-WKTI(FM) Milwaukee, it is available from the society's headquarters for \$25 (for SBE members) and

\$35 (for non-members). The primer is

exhaustive. Topics covered include: EAS basics. system requirements, operational options, operational procedures, technical specifications, diagrams, developing a local plan, guide for SECC

chairs, questions and answers, summary, EAN network chain, part II information and EAS-related releases.

NAB '96 is the ideal place to shop for

#### **Broadcast stations** 7/1/95 1/1/97 1/1/98 Required two-tone encoder timing 8-25 seconds 8-25 seconds 8-25 seconds* no de-mute two-tone 3-4 seconds tone required decoder timing 3-4 seconds digital decoder and encoder not required use is required use is required * two-tone signal used only to provide audio alert to audience. before EAS emergency messages, and during the required monthly test

Source: SBE EAS Primer red "The the gear you need to bring your station

the gear you need to bring your station into compliance. As a quick reminder, radio broadcast stations' timetable for EAS was decided as in the chart:

As you can see, the Jan. 1, 1997, only is eight months away. Time to go shopping. Recently certified EAS equipment will be on display in Las Vegas April 14-18. Be sure to add it to your shopping list as well as your station budget.

Among the players at the show with EAS gear is TFT Inc. It offers the EAS 911 encoder/decoder, the EAS 930 multimodule receiver; the EAS 940 program/transmitter interrupt unit; and EAS 941

the EAS 941 remote control/status module for EAS 911

Gorman-Redlich is planning to showcase its brand-new EAS encoder/decoder and its line of NOAA weather radios on hand —

a good companion for EAS. Many of you familiar with the FCC text on EAS know that the commission encouraged the use of RBDS with the new EAS. If you are interested, look

Lucia

Cohe

for Sage Alerting's ENDEC — fully compatible with RBDS and scheduled to be on display at the Harris booth.

Of course, if you own a Class D FM you are not required to have an EAS encoder.

Also, any FM station used as a translator or booster entirely dedicated to rebroadcasting programming of another local broadcast station is not required to have any EAS gear and neither is it required to comply with the EAS.

The SBE EAS Committee has put together a terrific publication. Its intent, according to SBE, is to "offer this publication as a guide to building that EAS."

"That EAS" is a reference to an alerting system that is flexible in the transmission of emergency messages yet not vulnerable like the old EBS serialrelay system.



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## OPINION

## **Readers** Forum

If you have comments for Radio World, call us at 800-336-3045 or send a letter to Readers Forum (Radio World, Box 1214, Falls Church, VA 22041 or e-mail at 74103.2435@compuserve.com). All letters received become the property of Radio World, to be used at our discretion and as space permits

## **DOS Platform Simpler, Faster, More Dedicated**

#### by Larry Lamoray

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. I read with great interest Kevin Lockhart's recent Guest Commentary and staunch support of Windows as a stable operating platform for digital audio. He makes several valid points, but in my opinion, a few need further examination

The DOS vs. Windows issue has many hidden facets.

To reiterate a statement of mine as quoted by RW in an earlier issue, "Windows is one of the best software packages available for typical desktop applications." Windows was developed specifically to manage the launching and operation of literally thousands, if not tens or hundreds of thousands of unrelated software programs for various home, office, and proprietary applications.

By the very nature of that fact, it is optimized for one, and in fact does not even permit the programmer of application software access to critical areas for optimization of memory and other resources. While this is of minor concern for typical desktop applications, it is a major issue if you are attempting to run an entire broadcast facility, where even minute delays in network transfer or file access are unacceptable, and support of multiple workstations performing a wide variety of tasks is mandatory.

Any engineer who runs the numbers on the required amount of memory caching and network overhead to properly manage such operations in a large scale system quickly realizes that to do so efficiently requires absolute control of the optimization parameters.

I note that several digital audio system manufacturers get around this by spreading

## Radi®W@rld

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critical management duties over several PCs. But with DOS, the optimization control is available to permit integration of more dedicated functions into a single PC. That is not only inherently more economical, but leaves fewer points of potential failure as well. Granted, you lose the ability to play games or write letters home on your on-air workstation, but that is not the reason that you bought it. (I wonder how many systems were knocked of the air for just that cause — and nobody can verify it?)

One of the major concerns in choice of an operating system is ease of support. Of course, given a perfect world, all of the many digital audio products utilizing various computer platforms and operating systems would work well right out of the box everytime — all the time. Unfortunately, such is not the case, and when a broadcaster's audio system goes down he or she cannot wait for assistance.

Faced with an existing user base that is often not as computer literate as it would like to think, this presents many unique challenges to manufacturers attempting to provide a cost-effective and user-friendly product, plus support the substantial level of customer assistance required.

While Windows setup configurations can be complex for the uninitiated, and support from Microsoft is never immediate, DOS configurations are far more straightforward and easier to support via telephone or fax.

The operating system is the primary contributing factor as to how easy it is to create a truly intuitive GUI (Graphic User Interface). Windows is infamously frustrating for novice users, with the required "double clicks," overlays, and delays. Windows is easier to program for, but DOS permits a simplified and faster reacting dedicated GUI that strips away all but the functions actually required for the task at hand, and provides programmers far greater flexibility in designing the GUIs that they envision

I am amused by Mr. Lockhart's reference to Windows being today's technology, As-Windows is merely a protected mode environment that rides on DOS, isn't DOS in the same category? I might refer your readers to a similar Guest Commentary in the May 1995 issue of Upside Magazine, a monthly publication widely read by computer professionals, titled In "Praise of DOS." The author refers to Windows as "a 500 pound gorilla ... that you can't hide." and expounds on how "It's a memory hog that turns a large, fast computer into a small, slow computer," The unusual number of ensuing letters to the editor in support of those statements can only indicate that there is wide agreement among those most knowledgeable concerning such matters.

But ultimately, it is of course, each individual customer who must decide on what is best for his or her specific application. I submit that there is adequate market acceptance reflecting both schools of thought, those who buy into the Windows phenome**Protect Radio's Interests** 

The upcoming NAB Conference and Exhibition underscores the health of the different electronic media, and the rapid pace of revenue growth for all of them.

If you look at radio, television, cable, and multimedia, just about each and every segment can boast a successful yearly "show" where leading professionals gather to disseminate the latest information, and leading manufacturers gather to exhibit the latest wares,

Not so for the oldest medium; radio.

Two years ago, the fall radio-exclusive show, a remnant of the old NRBA (National Radio Broadcasters Association) became one of four conferences held together by a combined exhibit floor, World Media Expo. Equipment manufacturers were initially pleased. Where they once had to attend four different conferences (or at least three for those that were radio-only), they could now handle all four with one trip.

But the reality of the event has left many radio/audio companies and attendees unhappy. The largest NAB Radio Show, with its record-breaking radio/audio pavilion exhibit, was dwarfed in its very first WME by the television exhibits.

While the spring NAB show boasts incredible exhibits for radio/audio interests, the agenda for attendees is diminishing year by year. For radio/audio exhibitors, costs-per-qualified-lead are making the fall gathering uneconomical, thus creating a catch-22 - which show do you attend if you are in radio?

In the spring show, more and more "audio" companies are opting to locate their booths on the video side of the convention center. In 1995, the industry's largest radio equipment supplier. Harris, followed that route. These companies are drawn by the bustling traffic in the video hall compared to the audio hall.

Now the NAB tells us that it will be splitting the World Media Expo floor into audio and video sections. Could spring's trends repeat themselves in the fall?

NAB needs to watch this situation carefully, and make sure that radio/audio is well represented. Radio is a distinct and separate medium. Its business, programming and technical interests and needs should be well-served and protected by the association that represents it. -RW

non and are comfortable with its peccadillos, and those who realize that the true measure of a system is performance, reliability, and support.

#### **Require community service**

#### Dear **RW**,

I have been following the story of WJDM(AM), Elizabeth, N.J., and can hear the station's 1660 kHz broadcasts quite well during the day and night 85 miles from the station. As a native of Elizabeth, I am very disappointed to see that WJDM has abandoned its promise of full-time local service in favor of Radio AAHS, a national, satellite-delivered children's format service.

Some background information is in order here. Several years ago, the owner of WJDM, then a daytimer on 1530 kHz, lobbied Congress with the promise of providing Elizabeth with its first and only full-time radio service. The city of 125.000 people is the county seat of Union County, one of the nation's most densely populated counties.

Union County is also a black hole when it comes to news coverage. It has no local daily newspaper. The county's only daily newspaper, the Elizabeth Daily Journal, folded in 1992 after a run of 212 years. The county's only other radio station. WERA(AM) in Plainfield, has a directional pattern that puts a null over much of Union County, including Elizabeth.

Although Elizabeth is practically in sight of the New York City skyline, the stations in New York have neither the time nor the desire to cover news in Union County. Moreover, most businesses in Union County cannot afford to advertise on New York stations. So, WJDM's lobbying efforts have

Larry Lamoray is vice president, sales and marketing of Enco America in Farmington Hills, Mich.

worked. WJDM got its expansion band frequency, higher power and permission to operate 24 hours on the new frequency. But Elizabeth and Union County remain woefully unserved.

It is time to smash the deregulation idol to which altars have been erected all over Washington and require broadcast stations to serve their communities of license. It seems hypocritical indeed to hear broadcasters complain about the advances being made in direct broadcast satellite technology while they are using their stations to provide the same thing: homogenized, national satellite programming without a shred of localism.

> Philip E. Galasso West Creek, NJ

#### **Stay local**

Dear RW.

I can understand why radio station owners, especially FM radio station owners, are afraid of what satellite digital audio radio services (DARS) would do to their radio listeners.

Why would I listen to a radio station that plays seven, 10, 12 or more songs in a row, separated only by a slug of commercials - no news, no weather, no information --- when I could listen to digital, maybe even without commercials? When I get nothing local from my local FM station. I might as well listen to digital radio.

## Separate WME Audio Floor

continued from page 1

show has upset some long-time audio exhibitors. Haidee Calore, NAB senior vice-president, conventions and exhibitions, admitted that the NAB is "concerned about losing exhibitors," and added that "we have spent a lot of time with people trying to learn how to improve the event."

At the top of the list of complaints is the disappointing business some companies say they do at this convention.

"It is the most over-sold show on earth," one exhibitor said. "The NAB sells it like it's a major event, and it isn't."

Industry heavyweight Harris Broadcast

is scaling back its participation in the show to match the lukewarm response the company has received in recent years.

"The fall show is a nice, small show. It merits a nice, small appearance," said Dave Burns, Harris studio product manager. He added that "the spring show merits as much money as you can possibly budget."

The high cost of attending both shows is too much for some companies.

Ernie Belanger, marketing vice-president at Energy-Onix, said, "I can understand and appreciate the need for the NAB to serve the many facets of the broadcasting industry. However, I truly believe that it is not fair financially that there are two separate venues for radio people to attend."

Belanger suggested that there be just one show for radio.

Many industry insiders who made scathing comments about the fall show spoke only on the condition of anonymity. As one person confided, "It's very difficult for an exhibitor to be open and honest without the fear of retribution. The biggest dilemma that any exhibitor has in offering constructive criticism is that the NAB owns the ballpark."

One company that decided not to participate in the fall show this year cited disappointing attendance and sales in the past — even when there were four separate shows.

"It should have been successful (with



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"I walked booth-to-booth last year and asked exhibitors if they were happy with what they paid and what they got. They said no."

That opinion was shared by Tim Schwieger, vice-president, marketing at Broadcast Supply Worldwide which will be at the show this year.

"We have been an exhibitor for over 10 years," he said, "and there has been a noticeable decline in (the number) of customers coming to our booth" since the fall show became a combined event.

"We first noticed this in Los Angeles in 1994. We thought people were nervous about going to California because of the recent earthquakes," he continued. "Last year in New Orleans we assumed there would be more customers. We were shocked to see that the attendance was very light.

"Although the reported attendance figures were healthy, we did not see those people at our booth. We don't know where they were. We know that the NAB is working on getting more of the attendance into the exhibit hall. We applaud them for that."

One change is a splitting of the halls this year. There will be a television/video/film hall and a radio/audio hall.

"Our goal is to create a show-within-ashow," explained Calore.

"This allows us to put the appropriate conferences near the appropriate exhibit hall. It allows us to create a focused environment for each of the two communitics, while still having it under the umbrella of a larger event. All of our promotional campaigns for 1996 will highlight that. We'll have a special message for people in the radio industry."

Additionally, there will be exclusive exhibit hours from 3- 6 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, with no conferences to compete with the exhibits.

Calore used last year's attendance figures, which included 4,450 qualified radio buyers, as evidence that the combined show is growing. She compared that to 1993 when it was just the radio show and there were 3,400 buyers.

Calore is aware, that many exhibitors would prefer to return to the radio-only format, eliminating video from the fall show.

"There are people from the television/video side that aren't real thrilled about being connected with a bunch of radio/audio exhibits," she remarked. She went on to say that some audio companies like being part of the combined show. However, the head of one of the firms that she said gave the NAB positive feedback on the show questioned Calore's statement.

"I find it surprising. I never told them anything like that," the executive insisted. "It's not a very worthwhile show. Unfortunately, if you don't go, people say 'What's the matter with that company? Why didn't they go?' We'll probably end up attending this year, but haven't made a commitment yet."

Attempting to reassure the audio attendees, Calore stressed, "We want this to work for everybody, especially the folks who have been involved in our fall event for quite some time which are all of our radio people. The radio industry is very important to NAB."

Circle (57) On Reader Service Card

## **Infinity, Stern Create New Network**

#### by Alan Haber

**NEW YORK** Howard Stern - radio and television mogul, best-selling scribe, and soon-to-be shining star of the silver screen - has re-upped with Infinity Broadcasting for five years.

Sweetening the deal is an agreement between Infinity and Stern to create the Howard Stern Radio Network. There has already been a lot of interest in the network from stations. According to Stern's agent, Don Buchwald, there has been interest from stations in small markets "which heretofore we were not making deals in for the Howard Stern morning radio show.

Stern, announcing the re-signing and agreement to his listeners on the air on Tuesday, March 5, told sidekick and perpetual voice of reason Robin Quivers that he "signed for another couple of years." "Another couple?" asked Quivers. "Yeah," Stern answered, slowly, "another-" He hesitated. "-technically five." Quivers laughed hysterically.

Stern noted during the March 5 broadcast that he'd "been talking to a bunch of companies that wanted to hire us. As a matter of fact, I'd even had the financing put together to start our own radio network, where we wouldn't have to work for anybody."

"And?" Quivers asked.

"I had it in place," Stern answered. "And?" Quivers repeated.

"But it was like so much hassle," Stern suggested, "and I just said, eh, 'Forget The King of All Media laughed. He said he was going to stay where he was. "It was like, I could see this one blowing up in my face," he said.

There don't look to be many explosions taking place, however - at least not any of the destructive kind. Stern is not likely to look for a way out of what arguably is the best radio deal in town - any town. Stern is currently carried in 24 markets, on big stations like home base WXRK in New York, WYSP in Philadelphia, and KLSX in Los Angeles. Big stations, big markets. And now,

other size markets.

"We've started to make some deals," said Buchwald. "We've made three deals in the last week, and we have a number of other conversations going on. These same stations, and other stations as well, who are in our affiliation at the moment, are interested in other product that would come through on the Howard Stern Radio Network.

Buchwald said the programming for the network will not be developed "in any quick fashion.

We're going to take as much time as necessary until it reaches Howard's standards, which for radio are high."

It is not yet known whether any of the 24 stations currently affiliated with Stern will be part of the new network.

Buchwald said that, in the past, he had not been looking at stations in other than the top 50 markets to carry Stern's show.

Although Buchwald didn't name any of the interested stations, he did say that one station in York, Pa., had been signed slightly before the new deal with Infinity was announced.

Buchwald noted that there is "a whole bunch of other things (going on) that we're not even talking about yet." Stern is talking on the air about the celluloid

version of his first book. "Private Parts." which is about to go into production.

Stern, who has been in New York radio for about 15 years, is "generally pleased with things," Buchwald said. "I think

#### Stern is currently carried in 24 markets, on big stations.

he's turned on — he's turned on by the radio business. And he is vitalized by the idea of the network and is vitalized by the last rating book. The fall rating book was probably the best rating book he's ever had in 20 years of broadcasting. That's pretty amazing."

Buchwald ran down some of the New York numbers. Persons 18-34, number one with a 16.3. Men, 18-34, number one with a 23.5 — the next highest ranking being at 9.9. Men 25-54, number one with a 16.9. Stern keeps on keeping on. "Not only is this guy able to ride it out," said Buchwald, "but, as you see, he's at the top of his game. And he is very enthusiastic about his radio show and his radio future.

Stern's listeners, tuned into his March 5 broadcast, might be excused for thinking otherwise. "I didn't even tell my wife I signed a new contract," Stern said. "I was just moaning and, like, 'Oh, no, 1 signed another contract.' And she was like, 'Why? What did you do? 1 don't understand. Weren't you going to discuss this?"

"I even remember you saying you had this discussion with her and she said, 'Well, why don't you sign for another year?" said Quivers.

"Yeah," Stern said, "but you can't. Not with this company." Quivers and Stern laughed. "It's like the army," he said. ""Cause we make a lot of money for the

company and now they know they've got us for five years, and they'll make a lot of money with their stock."

Stern, putting the brakes on his humor train in order to be momentarily serious. had nothing but praise for Infinity. "I'll tell you," he said, "if you're going to stay in radio, this is the company to be with. They're real good guys. I'm glad for their success. They deserve it. They took some balls-out chances, especially on us. Yeah.



Howard Stern

They definitely took chances on me."

Five days a week of alarm clocks going off at unholy hours for five more years? The news wasn't all bad. "I did get us 51 weeks vacation, though, a year." Stern told his on-air compatriots.

"Well," said Quivers, "we only have to work a week, then."

"Yeah," Stern announced. "This week, and then we're off. We're off 'till this week next vear." 

## **PCS No Threat to Radio for Now**

#### by Angela Novak

WASHINGTON Most of the buzz about PCS (Personal Communications Service) licensing revolves around the billions of dollars the PCS auctions have brought in and the potential for cheaper wireless phone services.

What few people are talking about is the impact PCS will have on radio broadcasting.

The FCC has issued 141 PCS licenses since July 1994. PCS auctions have brought in over \$7 billion. That money, according to the FCC, "is deposited with the U.S. Treasury to reduce the national deficit."

PCS operates in a digital rather than analog format, which is used with cellular systems. It is a wireless medium that can be used to send audio to multiple receivers in any location.

Broadband PCS providers can provide digital audio channels through subscription-based or other for-pay services, and the services could be coupled with PCS two-way communications capability.

Rick Ducey, senior vice president of the Research and Information Group at the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), said that while PCS is certainly a potential competitor for radio broadcasters, "the emphasis is on potential."

"PCS is not a head-on competitor in the short run," he said. Ducey pointed out that because of the amount of money being spent on licenses, PCS operators initially will target the markets that will bring the biggest and fastest returns.

"The telephone market is clearly their bull's eye," he said. Ducey said that PCS is not likely to take away advertising revenue in the short or medium term because PCS cannot deliver the large audiences that radio advertisers demand.

PCS licenses range from broadband to narrowband, regional to national and licensees are free to offer any of a wide variety of services. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) implemented rules intended to "ensure that competition and market forces drive business and consumer decisions.

The commission allocated 120 MHz of spectrum for broadband PCS, which the FCC expects will offer "primarily mobile telephone services." The 3 MHz of spectrum allocated for narrowband PCS will be used for "advanced messaging and paging" and the 20 MHz of spectrum allocated for unlicensed PCS will be used for "short range communications, such as local area networks in offices."

Believing that the industry itself will be quick to adopt PCS standards, the FCC has not adopted technical standards for PCS.

The FCC included a build-out regulation that requires licensees to make their service available to one-third of the population in their service area within five years and twothirds in 10 years.

New licensees can start building their systems immediately. Rules governing PCS can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Vol. 47, Part 20-39.  $\bigcirc$ 



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## NAB to Honor Robinson for Achievements

#### by Bob Rusk

**WASHINGTON** Each year the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) presents an Engineering Achievement Award to a radio engineer who has made contributions in the following categories: inventions, development of new techniques, dissemination of technical knowledge and literature, leadership in broadcast engineering affairs or an outstanding contribution that warrants recognition.

This year's Achievement Award will be presented to Gerald R. Robinson, 65. Robinson was vice president, director of engineering for Hearst Broadcasting until his retirement last year.

While based in Milwaukee, Wisc., Robinson directed and managed the technical operations of six Hearst radio stations and six television stations. In addi-

tion, he started the Hearst Washington News Bureau and Hearst Broadcasting Productions. He championed

stereo and digital compatibility for all

Hearst stations and has been an active participant in recent industry efforts to develop data broadcasting standards. Robinson, who now lives in Fort Myers Beach, Fla., said receiving the special Achievement Award was "the last thing I thought would happen. It comes as a complete surprise. I'm extremely happy." Robinson started in engineering while

in the Air Force dur-

ing the Korean War,

where he worked on

radio and radar

When asked to

equipment.

#### He championed stereo and digital compatibility for all Hearst stations.

recall his proudest achievement during the many years he worked in radio, he said he took great pride in overseeing the Hearst stations.

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For your FREE new TFT EAS Handbook (A \$29 value) Call: 1-800-347-3383 ties was up to date with technology and in compliance with FCC regulation," said Robinson. "We trained our people to read the meters and made sure they always followed the rules."

Now, as a consultant to the Hearst properties, Robinson is passing his vast knowledge on to the younger generation of engineers.

"I enjoy that and look forward to their phone calls," he said.

## En Banc Hearing on Spectrum

#### by Christopher Nicholson

**WASHINGTON** Broadcasters should be aware that spectrum use is on everyone's mind in this town.

On March 5, the FCC conducted a day-long en banc hearing on spectrum policy to gather information and spur debate from panelists representing various perspectives related to spectrum.

Congress is planning its own hearings on spectrum use. Senator Larry Pressler (R-S.D.), chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Trans-portation, scheduled two hearings on spectrum policy in March and two more in April.

The FCC hearings studied spectrum use from a regulatory standpoint. Panelists answered questions from each of the commissioners and then participated in an open discussion where they debated topics suggested by the commission.

The hearings were divided into four panels with different panelists discussing various aspects of spectrum policy. The panels focused on future spectrum demand, technology trends, spectrum allocation and spectrum assignment.

Congress will take an informational and policy perspective on spectrum while gathering information to determine its policies on spectrum. The FCC will be invited to testify at congressional hearings.

According to Pressler, the hearings will "involve all aspects of the spectrum including civilian services, scientific and medical use, maritime emergency and navigation systems, cellular phone services and data communications systems, as well as radio and television broadcasting."

Pressler said the hearings are necessary because, "we must do everything we can to make sure the interests of the American taxpayer are protected while preserving our nation's security and technological leadership."



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Record Your Own CD's PAGE 5

Preview Of Events BSW's NAB Booth PAGES 8-9

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Tony Griffin Productions has provided distinctive audio signatures for clients from WCBS to the BBC, from ESPN to Honda, from IBM to Dr. Pepper...and now your station! will merge talent and technology in creating a live digital recording session of station IDs from the show floor. A Telos Zephyr in BSW's booth will be

linked via Sprint ISDN lines to another Zephyr at Griffin's Dallas recording studio. Listen-in as the singers adapt the lyrics and sing your ID. You'll walk away with an air quality, customized jingle on DAT...recorded live from the show floor! See and hear history in the making....**only at the BSW booth.** 

#### BSW Booth 1400 Event Schedule*

#### Mon: 4/15 12-3pm

3-7pm

The Gary Burbank Show 104FM Select

#### Tue: 4/16

9:30-11:30am 12-3pm 3-7pm Tony Griffin Productions The Gary Burbank Show 104FM Select

#### Wed: 4/17

12:30-2:30pm 3-7pm Tony Griffin Productions 104FM Select

**Thr: 4/18** 10-12 noon

Joe Cipriano Promos

Daily equipment giveaway drawings 15 minutes before show close

*Schedule subject to change. Stop by booth 1400 for updates

#### **Special Show Pricing**

BSW will make it worthwhile to purchase your equipment during the show with Special NAB Pricing.

#### **Daily Prize Drawings**

Stop by each day and register to win free gear such as Symetrix Mic Processors and Mackie Mixers....to name a few.

9

## **D**ESIGN YOUR OWN STUDIO LAYOUT AND Save HUNDREDS!

BSW Introduces Configurable Studio Furniture From Middle Atlantic Call BSW For Complete Details.

Multi-bridge, available in 4 or 6 space versions comes with complete hardware to configure with one or two rack bays or with open workspace.

Multi-rack wedge shaped tops can reverse to create multiple system configurations.

Thirteen space rolling multirack can be used with slant

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48 x 30" multi-desk with gentle-curving top.

Complete 4-piece Configurable Studio System Under \$1,000* (*includes 2 side racks, center desk and 4 space multi-bridge)

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BETTER Signal-To -Noise Ratio : 97dB.

BETTER mic preamp utilizing the SSM 2017 chip

VOICE PROCESSOR

both mic and line (wireless)

#### Knock Down Racks Ship UPS -Assemble In Minutes Soundolier 900 Series Knock down equipment racks

Perfect utility rack ideal for use at the transmitter or in areas not requiring side panels.

- Easy to assemble
- All hardware included
- UPS shippable to save on freight charges
- Available in two sizes

900-19 19" high \$113.95 900-28 28" high \$124.95

## Light & Power For Your Rack

Lighted Power Strip

Protect all your studio equipment from power surges, spikes and noise.

- 8 protected outlets on back
- Pull-out light modules illuminates rack
- Overload protection breaker

#### **BSW Price \$79.00**





Tough, Lightweight Cases Made For The Road SKB Rack Cases

- Ultra tough polyethylene shell keeps your equipment safe.
- Easy access front and rear
- 1/2 the weight of plywood cases
- Air Transport Association (ATA) approved
- 14" deep in 2 to 12 space sizes All Models Sale Priced Under \$200

## MOUTHTRAP

BETTER EQ section with each band covering 20-20K with filters in series.

BETTER output section with main and aux to feed 2 devices or a stereo input.



## RANDOM ACCESS CONVENIENCE FOR ON-AIR or PRODUCTION

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Now you can get an MD recorder/player with the familiar look, feel and durability of Tascam. The MD801R MiniDisc Recorder is really a versatile, self contained editing station with a number of useful features that make it ideal for radio.



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- RS-232C and parallel interfaces
- Enter data via any standard PC keyboard Mfr. List \$2499.00

#### **Call For BSW Sale Price**

#### DAP-1

Features: top rated transport • XLR and RCA inputs • phantom power • mic limiter • 20 dB pad • 3 sample rates • S/PDIF digital I/O • rechargable battery included Mfr. List \$1899.00

# XLR

Portable DAT Recorder

**Call For BSW Sale Price** 



Features: balanced output, pitch control, fader start, auto-cue with selectable sensitivity • single/repeat play modes • digital output

Mfr. List \$1049.00 Call For BSW Sale Price

#### 122MKIII 3-Head Cassette Deck

Features: balanced & unbalanced I/O • bias & level calibration • pitch control • 2 auto-locator points plus RTZ • Dolby B, C and HXPro • built-in 400Hz/10kHz oscillator • external or fader start capability • gear & clutch-coupled input level control Mfr. List \$1349.00 **Call For BSW Sale Price** 





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#### Mfr. List \$2300.00 Call For BSW Price

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#### Beyer DT290 Broadcast Headset

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#### EASY CELLULAR REMOTES!



13

#### Conex CellJack Cellular Phone Interface

Turn your cell phone into a remote broadcast center

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- Send & receive level controls
- Powered from cell phone
- Works only with Motorola bag phones

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#### **Budget Solutions**

Line Level st

59

59

9

RADIX at-

Headphone Amp - 5 separate amplifiers for individual level control of 5 headphones. One input signal can feed all 5 outputs or two signals can be split between outputs. Fostex PH-5 ONLY \$159.00

#### Portable Cassette -

Great for note taking or recording actualities. Includes built-in condenser mic and jack for external mic. Operates on two "AA" batteries.

Panasonic RQL340
ONLY \$49.95

#### Signal Converter

2-channel or 8-channel rack mount units convert back and forth between -10dBv and +4dBu, eliminate ground loop hum and convert between balanced and unbalanced signals at either end.

#### LLS 2-Channel ONLY \$77.00 LLS8 8-Channel ONLY \$239.00

Line Amp – Dual channel line buffer/amp is ideal for use as a gain block, attenuator, level and impedance converter, signal splitter or stereo summing amplifier. **Re**auires WA100-3 Power Supply \$10.00



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red LED digits, remote

Will also count up or

down from memory presets.

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Radix ST500

Counts up or down in hours, minutes

The Teac V375 (single) and W416 (dual) are the least expensive rack mount cassette decks available. Both units feature Dolby B NR, 2

Studio Cassettes

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color LED meters, 3-position tape selector and BSW custom RK2 rack kit.

V375/RK2 ONLY \$119.95 W416/RK2 ONLY \$134.00

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### **Budget Solutions**

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#### SLPG350/RK1 ONLY \$159.95 SLPG450/RK1 ONLY \$169.95





#### Circuit Identifier

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#### Carrying Bags - Protective

padded cases great for hauling all kinds of equip-

ment from remote mixers, portable recorders to microphones, cables etc.

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Mic Processor – Includes a mic preamp, compressor/limiter, notch filter, and 10-band graphic EQ. Compact, easy to use with surprisingly good specs considering its low cost. 9 1/2" inch size. *Rolls HR11C* ONLY \$169.00



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#### BACK PAGE SPECIALS!

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## **NFCB Discusses Funding, Future**

#### by Stan Barr and Patricia Lawrence

**SAN FRANCISCO** Federal funding cuts and preparing for the future were hot topics during the National Federation of Community Broadcasters (NFCB) Annual Conference this winter.

*> addition to workshops on production iques, FCC rules and regulations, iternet, and converting from an anab a digital system, there was much bout federal funds and the upcomtart of satellite digital audio radio res (DARS).

ommunity broadcasters face some enges in regards to federal funding There are more program choices ially on the satellite delivered sersuch as DARS and this service is 1 it's infancy," said NFCB President 'EO Lynn Chadwick in one of the workshops.

is NFCB conference reaffirmed unity radio's commitment to local No satellite service can serve the community like the community station," Chadwick said.

dwick also said Congress needs to d that not all of the money from auctions should go towards reduction.

e have to give some back to the emmunications infrastructure," she

#### ent providers

note speaker Gigi Sohn, deputy or of the Media Access Project in washington, startled the nearly 400 delegates in attendance during her opening nemarks at the conference.

"I'm going to propose a radical idea for some of you. You are no longer just casters," she said.

"Cose your eyes. What you are for the century is a 'content provider' (augnter from the audience). And, as a correct provider, you want to reach as many people as possible. That's critical when you're fighting for funding. If in

ears you're just on your little trans-, I can assure you that you'll be in trouble."

n spoke about telecommunications ... s facing community radio with

ty and humor. She explored ways community broadcasters can gain access to  $r_{\infty} + v$  listeners.

For one, Sohn suggested going beyond ansmitter to advanced telecommuons networking including the inforn superhighway and the developof broadband fiber optics.

and ... there is another option: Ask the government in this era of mega mergers indate some sort of access on new

ology. The first and probably most

al audio radio services (DARS)." + RS is the multichannel digital satel-

me based radio service that will permit one entity to send 40 channels or more of CD quality sound nationwide. Unlike cable radio, DARS technology can be received in the car.

#### Free access

Sohn said the NFCB has asked the FCC to set aside a portion of a channel on the DARS system for free access by non-commercial entities.

According to Sohn, someone in the

general council's office at the FCC said the commission was 'very interested' in adopting such a provision.

Digital television spectrum, Sohn suggested, could also provide low cost

access for community broadcasters. She pointed out that television broadcasters will be able to broadcast four, to six different programs or other services in the same space as one program is now delivered.

"I suggest in exchange for that privilege television broadcasters should set aside twelve hours a day of their capacity for low cost public access. Just like the cable systems, multichannel providers should have public access.

#### Bits are bits

"I'm not talking only about television. Bits are bits.

When we're talking about digitizing it doesn't matter. Television programming isn't the only medium that can be transmitted over that spectrum. Radio can. World Wide Web pages can. Information, paging, cellular telephone services can. So in fact NFCB's participation in this proceeding is very appropriate and very right."

Sohn highlighted what she said was one of the most important aspects of the

in the media did not discuss.
 "Nobody, but nobody talked
 g- about the digital spectrum
 giveaway to the broadcasters

telecommunications bill that



The Red Thunder Band is presented by American Indian Radio on Satellite (AIROS)

> that was in this bill and what this could mean to funding social programming or funding public broadcasting."

The Media Access Project position is that broadcasters should not get digital television spectrum for free but should pay for it with extra public services like free time for candidates, noncommercial speech and more and better educational programming for children.

"If they don't pay for it with public

Keynote Speaker, Gigi Sohn, deputy director, Media Access Project Washington, and Lynn Chadwick, president and CEO of NFCB

service," said Sohn, "they should have to pay for it with money."

Delegates from the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and the African countries of Senegal and South Africa attended this year's conference.

Stan Barr and Patricia Lawrence produce Innocents Abroad, a weekly travelrelated show heard on public radio.

## **Digital Audio Via Subcarrier**

#### continued from page 1

Jeff Andrew, project manager at USA Digital Radio (USADR), agreed that implementation of a subcarrier system would be simple. USADR's in-band, on-channel DAB systems are being tested in San Francisco as part of the Electronic Industries Association's efforts to find a DAB standard.

"The way they are proposing it, you wouldn't need to get any additional license and there probably wouldn't be a standard because there is no standard really now for the way you use your subcarrier," he said. "I would assume they could just present it. If the broadcasters wanted to use it, they could go ahead and do so."

The big question is whether or not broadcasters would use a system that replaces existing subcarriers. Subcarrier uses are unlimited and often profitable — reading services for the blind, intelligent vehicle applications, global positioning services, RBDS.

Andrew said that subcarrier compatibility was important to USADR when they developed their DAB system because many stations have long-standing contracts for their subcarriers.

"The FM broadcasters have always looked at the subcarrier portions of our bandwidth as being a secondary service something that's opportunistic," said Maxson. "While it's a way to make a little extra money, it's not really the primary business."

Michael Rau, co-chair of the NRSC's high speed subcarrier committee, said that there must be a business reason for a broadcast station to use its subcarrier.

"If the technology could not show how stations could make additional money with it, then it would likely not be very well received," said Rau. He estimated that half the stations in the top-25 markets use their subcarriers — some leasing them for upwards of four or five thousand dollars a month.

Sanders may build a flexible data protocol into the new system, however; a flag on the data channel could tell the receiver how to interpret the data. That way, Maxson said, the new system might eventually be used to broadcast stereo digital, send images or data or even reallocate the data channel to have several narrow band mono channels.

#### Working group

Sanders and WCRB have been working on this project for over a year. It began when Murotake and Dr. David Herrick who listen to WCRB's classical music format gave Maxson a call.

"We put their peanut butter and our chocolate together and came up with an idea," said Maxson.

The DAB proponents are interested in the technology but uncertain what its future is.

"It'd be good to find out how the new technologies (such as the one from Boston) can join the mainstream effort in a useful manner without creating a new 'proponent' all over again," e-mailed Nikil Jayant, director, multimedia communications research laboratories, Lucent Technologies, sponsor of two DAB systems.

Jayant added "anything that impedes the current DAR process is not conducive to the overall effort."

Andrew said USADR has swapped notes with Sanders and he is very interested to hear their paper at the show. WCRB and Sanders have started what Maxson called a "fledgling" working group to put together ideas on how to make the best use of their technology.

"What we'd like to do at the show is to get people who are interested to volunteer to give their two cents worth," he said. He invited people to stop by their booth in the lobby of the Las Vegas Convention Center.

Aside from details on flexible protocol for the data packet, the working group will also look at how to tune the digital signal.

"Do you have a 102.5-D for digital?" Maxson pondered. "Or would you have a second FM dial that is the digital FM?"

DAB proponents have been anticipating that question for a long time. Now, a newcomer may answer it before they do.

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The following is Radio World's quarterly listing of RBDS stations, equipment and receiver manufacturers, and service providers. If you would like to be included in the next listings, contact Lynn Meadows at 703-998-7600.

#### RBDS Equipment Manufacturers/Distributers

AEV (Encoder) Via Saviolo Budrie Di S. Perisceto Bologna Italy

> Belar Electronics Labs Inc. PO Box 76 Devon PA 19333 Contact: David Hirsch 610-687-5550 Reader Service 56



Broadcast Supply Worldwide (Encoder) 7012 27th St. West Tacoma, WA 98406

Circuit Research Labs (Encoder) 2522 W. Geneva Tempe, AZ 85282

Harris Allied (Encoder) 3712 National Road West Richmond, IN 47374



Modulation Sciences (Encoder/Monitor) 12A World's Fair Drive Somerset, NJ 08873

RDS Diagnostix (Test/Decoder) 74 Hanover Road Mountain Lakes, NJ 07046

Audio Broadcast Group (Encoder) 2342 S Division Ave Grand Rapids, MI 49507

AZTEC S.A. (Encoder) 31 Rue Du Chemin de Fer 67200 Strasbourg France

> RE America, Inc. (Encoder) 31029 Center Ridge Road Westlake, OH 44145 Contact: Soren Pihlman 216-871-7617 Reader Service 118

Rohde and Schwarz (Encoder) 4425 Nicole Drive Lanham, MD 20706

SCA Data Systems (Encoder) 2912 Colorado Ave. Suite 200 Santa Monica, CA 92404 Teli AB (Encoder) 14980 Nunashamn Sweden

Tectan (Encoder) Box 27157 Concord, CA 94527

VG Electronics (Encoder) Theaklen Drive Hastings East Sussex TN34 1YQ England

> RBDS Receiver Manufacturers (with current U.S. models

Advanced Digital Systems (PC RDS Receiver) 13909 Bettencourt Street Cerritos, CA 90701 Contact: Mike McCoy 800-888-5244 Reader Service 167



Axcess (Paging) 6620 Riverside Drive, Ste 200 Metairie, LA 70003

AZTEC S.A. (Mobile Data Receiver) 31 Rue Du Chemin de Fer 67200 Strasbourg France

Delco Electronics (Car) 1 Corporate Center MS CT-16A Kokomo, IN 46904

Denon (Car/Home) 222 New Road Parsippany, NJ 07054

Grundig (Portable) 3520 Haven Ave., Unit L Redwood City, CA 94063

Indy Automotive Electronics 2420 E 55th Place Indianapolis IN 46220

Modulation Sciences (Data) 12A World's Fair Drive Somerset, NJ 08873

Nokia Paging, Inc 12345 Starkey Rd, Ste K Largo FL 34643

Onkyo (Home) 200 Williams Drive Ramsey, NJ 07446

Philips Car Stereo (Car) 9600 54th Avenue N. Minneapolis, MN 55442

Pioneer (Car) 2265 East 220th St. Long Beach, CA 90810 RBDS Service Providers

Axcess/Spartan (Paging) 6620 Riverside Drive, Ste 200 Metairie, LA 70003

DCI (Global Positioning) 10121 Miller Ave, Cupertino, CA 95014 Contact: Jim Bradley 408-446-8350 Reader Service 94

Coupon Radio (Information Services) 10 Rockefeller Plaza New York, NY 10020

Sage Alerting (EBS) 700 Canal Street Stamford, CT 06902

SATX (Data Broadcast Software) Milestone Technologies 2221 Mariner Circle Raleigh, NC 27603



Terrapin (IVHS Services/Diff-GPS) 11958 Monarch Street Garden Grove, CA 92641

To feature your company's logo and information on the RBDS Roll Call page, contact Christopher Rucas at 800-336-3045

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אסגוס Morld Radio History

## **Riding the Tide at MAB Conference**

#### by Sharon Rae

LANSING, Mich. Convergence in the telecommunications industry took center stage at the 1996 Great Lakes Broadcasting Conference and Expo where the theme was "The Changing Tides of Broadcasting.'

Consolidation was on everyone's mind. In panels like "Merger Mania," "Mergers: The Artful Deal," and Surfing Your Future: Tips from Winners & Wipeouts," industry leaders gave their predictions on what to expect.

For engineers, Terry Baun, president of the Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE), said that the bottom line in radio is that technical support is being outsourced.

Baun predicted mergers would cause some outfalls of people in the industry. He stressed that engineers should focus on how they fit into the mission of their station and how they can contribute to the station's bottom line.

#### Survival of the fittest

Mergers may produce a survival of the fittest, Baun suggested. The "fittest" engineers will be those with extra skills who know how to read a balance sheet and how to be a positive element at their station, he said.

David Bartlett, president of the Radio Television New Director's Association (RTNDA) said that despite rumors to the contrary, more news organizations and news jobs are being created rather than eliminated.

Bartlett said that whatever consolidation is taking place was inevitable. He said the new telecommunications bill is not deregulatory or regulatory but a "reorganization" of regulation.

According to Bartlett, anything that enables or contributes to the possibility of more voices or more niches is good from the standpoint of the public. In the end, he said the public will be better served by the new bill as long as deregu-

lation is really "deregulatory" and not just a "reshuffling of the same tattered old deck of government control on content."

It is tough for any one program to survive simply because it has a monopoly franchise, said Bartlett. He pointed out that it is important to look at broadcasting in the context of everything else that is happening in telecommunications.



The Great Lakes Broadcasters Conference and Expo featured a busy exhibit floor.

Michael Walenta, general manager of West Michigan Public Broadcasting, said he believes mergers will strengthen the industry overall. Like Bartlett, he stressed that merger mania and the Telecommunications Act go beyond broadcasting.

Broadcasting is moving rapidly away from being a passive activity for listening or watching to an interactive activity, said Walenta. He said people seek out interactiveness citing the high hit rates for the X-Files on the Internet happen when the show is on.

#### Act now or else

Larry Patrick of Patrick Communications said his brokerage firm has a basic message for radio and TV stations thinking about selling: buy, sell or find an unassailable niche, said Patrick.

Those who do not, "are going to be

killed and killed relatively quickly," he continued.

He warned that the markets are consolidating and if a station is competing by itself against eight radio stations, it is hard to imagine how it will survive without a unique niche. But there is some good news.

"The good news is if you don't have the resources to play at that level, you proba-

> bly will become a very wealthy person quickly, because your stations are worth a lot to somebody else to gain market share," said Patrick.

Patrick said what he sees are clients who want to acquire at least 60 percent of market revenues. He encouraged broadcasters to go for strategic buys that would generate a good chunk of revenue.

During his luncheon address, John Parikhal, CEO of Joint Communications, used a

surfing metaphor to talk about keeping some balance while riding the "giant wave of change.

"There's nothing we can do to stop (the wave) — it's coming," he said. "What surfers can do is get up on the wave and get a good ride."

He gave some predictions of how things might change starting with changing demographics. "The baby boom is aging and that creates new niche opportunities. This, however, also creates a large group of people who feel there's nothing out there for them," Parikhal said.

Parikhal encouraged attendees to be willing to change themselves. "The days where you could learn something and never get any better at it or any different are over.

He told his audience to define what their skills are, look at what expertise are

est from both broadcasters and data services providers. NTL is working on an agreement with a Japan-based company that is interested in joining the multiplex with a data service.

NTL also is considering becoming a multiplex provider on its own, which will probably involve a new license separate from those for radio stations or transmission providers.

"DAB is an important advancement in technology for radio. Where we are able, we will continue to provide opportunities for industry to carry out these experiments," said Tony Stoller, chief executive of the Radio Authority.

To that end, the U.K. government just announced an amendment to the Broadcasting Bill that extends licenses for existing FM radio stations that provide programming via DAB multiplexes.

Stoller said he could not see an end to FM licenses for radio stations presently simulcasting on FM and DAB. According to NTL, national DAB coverage is expected to cost a radio station about 2 million British pounds (approximately \$3 million) per year for transmission facilities. In the short term, that kind of money will be hard to rationalize without an audience to advertise to.

Bev Marks is a broadcast consultant based in England who contributes regularly to Radio World.

necessary for success in the future, and develop those skills.

"Keep an eye more on where you want to go and less on what's happening around you," he said. "It's a good world. It's a safe world. The only thing we do know is that things are going to change some people will get bigger. However, some of the smaller ones are actually going to be more successful." 

Sharon Rae heads up Rover News Services out of Lansing, Michigan - she can be reached at SCohon@aol.com or at 517-339-3253.

## Radio Engineer Honored

continued from page 1

directional antenna systems in Australia.

Prestholdt's many other achievements include a U.S. patent for a method of detuning guy cables on TV structures that are near AM directional antennas. He also has a patent pending for a medium wave antenna.

Prestholdt, the author of numerous articles on broadcast antennas. graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1938 where he taught for two years as a graduate student.

"During the latter part of that time, I met someone who was building a radio station WLOL(AM) — in the Twin Cities," Prestholdt said. "They needed someone to help guide construction of the station and be in charge of technical operations.

"We went on the air on June 14. 1940, which was my first wedding anniversary," he happily recalled. Prestholdt joined the engineering

department at CBS Radio in New York in 1943 and served as director of engineering from 1960 to 1969. After a career that has

spanned nearly 60 years, Prestholdt said that his proudest achievement has not yet been fully realized.

"It is a rather novel scheme that I believe has many uses for radio stations, would not be an expensive thing to do, and would improve the interference-free nighttime coverage of high-powered stations," he explained.

Without giving away all the details, Prestholdt said that "this is an idea I have exposed to the engineering community only briefly.'

Not one to put down his soldering gun, he added that "if a project came along that interested me, yes, I would take it on."

Prestholdt's counterpart receiving the Television Engineering Achievement award is Charles W. Rhodes. Rhodes recently completed his tenure as chief scientist of the Advanced Television Test Center. (5)

## **England Begins DAB Multiplex Experiment** by Bev Marks

CAMBRIDGE, England Last month, NTL (National Transcommunications Ltd.), the U.K. private-radio transmission services provider started a year-long Eureka-147 digital broadcasting trial from a single DAB transmitter at its Croydon site in South London.

The trial comes after a DAB test transmission of commercial radio stations last November at the Sound Broadcasting Equipment Show (SBES) in Birmingham, England.

The U.K. Radio Authority, the British equivalent of the FCC, granted NTL a license to provide a longer term "marketing test-bed for commercial services."

NTL already provides transmission services for eight analog FM radio stations from the Croydon site. Now, some of these stations are being used in the DAB trial.

The radio stations currently on DAB are Classic FM, Heart 106.2, Kiss 100 FM, Melody FM, Sunrise Radio, Talk Radio UK and Virgin 105.8. Two of the participants have AM-only licenses.

Participants are granted monthly licenses for the multiplex experiment, leaving open the possibility that more stations could be allowed into the multiplex later this year. The trial is expensive for participating radio stations, however, and other willing participants may be hard to find.

"We want to help independent radio explore the great opportunities presented by DAB while saving them the worry of the technicalities," said Jon Trowsdale, NTL DAB product manager.

The trial is the result of close collaboration between NTL, the Radio Authority, radio stations and Harris Corporation.

Harris provided a DAB 2000 transmitter that is running at about 400 W and gives an ERP of 1 kW via a two-panel Kathrein-Werke antenna, NTL chose 192 kbps for stereo services and 92 kbps for mono services, which they said will provide adequate audio performance.

NTL is uncertain about the final multiplex configuration, which will depend upon inter-

## **Candidates Enjoy Talk Radio Time**

#### by Lee Harris

**MANCHESTER, N.H.** Primary election battles have traditionally been fought at rallies, pancake breakfasts, and visits to senior citizens' centers.

This year talk radio has been the battleground of choice for most of the Republican candidates. On much of talk radio these days, the primary fight isn't just the major topic, it's the only topic.

In the early primary states, talk radio listeners couldn't escape politics even during the commercial breaks. At New Hampshire's leading talk operation, WGIR(AM), Manchester, Program Director Dan Pierce noted that the candidates were on the air with interviews and paid advertising earlier and heavier than ever before. "This was outside the window for the

"This was outside the window for the FCC's lowest unit charge rule, so they were paying full freight," Pierce said. "When Steve Forbes came in, he was buying up everything he could and that was definitely different from previous primaries. These are testaments to the perception that talk radio speaks to the people the candidates want — the people who are likely to go to the polls on election day, especially for a primary."

Ed Walsh, director of programming and news at KFYI(AM) Phoenix fears that even die-hard political junkies were burned out by the relentless parade of negative political advertising.

"With the political spots, we were running up to 19 minutes an hour in AM drive and 16 minutes the rest of the day, and many of those hours contained two or more Forbes ads."

The candidates were on KFYI with amazing regularity. Walsh estimates that Pat Buchanan was interviewed no fewer than 36 times with Forbes putting in nearly as many appearances. At WGIR, the experience was similar.

"Buchanan was here early and often and he was able to recruit the kind of people that gave him the grass roots support and organization that enabled him to win in New Hampshire," said Pierce.

Programming consultant Valerie Geller who specializes in news/talk sees these appearances as a key tactic of Buchanan's highly effective but low budget campaign.

"It's easy and cheap. A candidate doesn't even have to leave his hotel room. He can sit in his bathrobe and slippers and be on the phone with the host, taking calls from listeners."

Buchanan, of course, brought a wealth of media experience to the campaign including an intimate knowledge of talk radio gathered both as a guest and as host of his own syndicated show.

Candidates Alan Keyes and Bob Dornan also know their way around talk radio. For a time, Dornan was a frequent guest host on the Limbaugh show. Keyes lists "radio talk show host" as his profession.

Even Forbes did commentaries on his magazine's now-defunct syndicated radio program, "The Forbes Report." The one candidate who seemed to shun talk radio in the early primaries was Bob Dole. Walsh said Dole turned down frequent requests for interviews in Arizona. And according to WGIR's Pierce, the only radio interview Dole did in New Hampshire was on the syndicated Don Imus show which originated from Manchester on the morning of the primary. As powerful as local radio proved to be for Buchanan in New Hampshire, it presented problems as the multistate primary days came along. On 'Junior Tuesday,' March 5, eight states held primaries and two more conducted caucuses.

Pierce theorized that there was simply no way the tireless Buchanan could cover all that ground with one-on-one local radio interviews. Buchanan also created the most heat for the stations.

Walsh said the switchboard at KFYI was busy with callers split down the middle half complained the station was too pro-Buchanan while the other half complained they were being too hard on the candidate. The primaries were definitely hard on talk radio personnel. In addition to taking care of his own product, Pierce helped lots of outof-towners.

"We had Mike Siegel from KVI(AM) Seattle broadcasting from our conference room. We had Westwood One's Tom Leykis and Jim Bohannon in there plus I don't know how many television news crews. I can't even count the number of TV interviews I did. These reporters were looking for every possible angle and lots of them came up with, 'Hey, maybe Dan Pierce knows what he's talking about.""

Pierce doubts that President Clinton and his GOP challenger will make as much use of local talk radio, but he expects politics to continue to energize the format.

"The format enables the audience to get a more direct access to a discussion of the issues, and that makes them feel more involved in the process."

Valerie Geller wouldn't be surprised if Mr. or Mrs. Clinton popped up on a leading local show from time to time.

"The talk shows were effective last time around. While then-president Bush was perceived as being out of touch, the Clintons seemed happy to be on-the-air talking to and with the people."

Although some see this fractious primary process as the worst thing to hit the GOP since Lincoln's assassination, Walsh disagrees. "Its a wide open party and this sort of give and take is probably good for the Republican party and certainly great for talk radio."

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neat addition to their lineup, but that was before they saw the exciting new members of Continental's complete line of AM and FM transmitters. The guys in

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Circle (16) On Reader Service Card

## **Billion Dollar Trust Fund for CPB**

#### by Lynn Meadows

WASHINGTON Congress is ready to push Big Bird out of his federal nest with a one billion dollar golden parachute. The Public Broadcasting Self-Sufficiency Act of 1996 as introduced by Congressman Jack Fields (R-Texas) would create a one billion dollar trust fund for public broadcasters with money earned by auctioning 351 vacant noncommercial channels.

The licenses would be given a 'commercial' status and be moved to enhance their value. Bidders would be assured that they would have ATV spectrum assigned to them whenever that decision is made. Fields proposed a three-year transition period to self sufficiency ending Sept. 30, 2000. The bill earmarks appropriations of \$250 million for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) for 1998, 1999 and 2000.

#### **CPB** oversight

If the bill passes, the CPB would be the administrators of the trust fund once the annual appropriations cease. Public broadcasters who spoke at a hearing last month repeatedly asked Congress to continue federal oversight of the CPB once appropriations stop.

"To leave the governance of the Trust solely up to the bylaws of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting is a risk," said Lynn Chadwick, president of the National Federation of Community Broadcasters (NFCB).

Delano Lewis, president and CEO of National Public Radio (NPR), said,

"Our concerns with the bill are that it reverses 25 years of vesting financial control and decision-making at the local level, by moving both to a Washington institution. Speaking on behalf of the National Public Broadcasting Minority Consortia, Deann Borshay asked that federal legislation mandate that the

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CPB board be accountable to the public and that there be a mechanism for annual oversight and review.

#### Transition period

Lewis called the three-year transition period too short and the one billion dollar trust fund inadequate. He calculated that with today's rates, the interest generated by the trust would provide less than 30 percent of current appropriated levels.

"My first response is that in these lean economic times, 'when' and 'for what' has Congress created a trust fund of any size

little yet for a billion dollars?" Fields had said in his opening statement. Fields told the panelists that the President would appoint the CPB board filling it with people who "should be capable of investing wisely.

Reviews were mixed on the expanded underwriting opportunities authorized in the bill. If it passes, stations could broadcast "well-established" corporate logos or slogans even if they include a call to action by the viewer or listener. Stations could also broadcast "strictly quantifiable comparative descriptions of products, services, or providers of products or services."

"The NFCB believes that this support will help many stations to develop increased financial support from their local communities," said Chadwick.

Lewis, however, said that the bill would fundamentally change the nature of public broadcasting by commercializing it.

Borshay said the Consortia was concerned that unserved and underserved communities "will become buried in a drive towards commercialization and privatization."

#### **Overlapping stations**

The bill allows licensees in markets with two overlapping television stations to operate one as a public broadcasting station and the other as a commercial station with the profits from the commercial station funding the public broadcasting station.

The licensee could also sell one of the overlapping stations if the proceeds from the sale went to the retained public broadcasting station. In either of the two examples, the station would no longer be eligible for grants from the CPB.

The bill would allow noncommercial, educational broadcast stations to accept compensation for broadcasting programs produced by somebody else. In Fields' example, stations could form partnerships with commercial entities like The Discovery Channel.

Under the proposed bill, the CPB could produce programming. Lewis said that would mean the CPB could compete with local public radio and television stations and independent producers.

The bill would also eliminate many of the mandates on CPB imposed by Congress including set-asides and unnecessary reporting requirements. Richard Carlson, president and CEO of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, praised that idea.

"Like everyone else, we're doing more with less. Our appropriation has dropped almost 20 percent over two years. We simply must have the flexibility to respond to those changes in a creative and intelligent way

"If we don't act now, with dispatch," warned Fields, "I believe that we will lose the 'golden opportunity' of the vacant, noncommercial licenses. This spectrum will be taken and auctioned by the Budgeteers - and, with the cold reality of our country's budget deficit, funding for CPB will get more problematic each year."  $\bigcirc$ 

Costal Control Panel Deployed Foundy @Sound Foge (1288) Spectrum Analysis Plug-In And if you need to identify that particular frequency component, you'll find the Spectrum

# Studio Sessions

Equipment and Applications for Radio Production and Recording

#### PRODUCT EVALUATION

## **SAW Plus Adds New Features**

#### **Bruce Bartlett** th Jenny Bartlett

KHART, Ind. Many people already the Software Audio Workshop (SAW) n IQS. Now meet SAW Plus V.2.0; / to use yet very powerful for its price 999. It is full of convenient features.

hat does SAW Plus do that SAW did ' Some amazing things. Depending on speed of your computer and hard driyou can mix up to 16 mono or stereo ks in real time with level changes, e, solo and panning. By the way, 16 eo tracks is equivalent to 32 tracks.

ne program can convert sample rates different soundfile formats in real 3. SAW Plus also has realtime graphic echo effects, noise gate, compressor, ter, polarity invert, reverse, looping, and pitch-shifting. It does all this with any Windows-compatible soundcard.

I was knocked out by the colorful, futuristic screens. Each screen is uncluttered and the faders and buttons are artfully shaded. Most buttons are text rather than icons, so you do not forget what they do. SAW Plus has several windows:

•The Recording Control Panel is where you set the sampling rate and levels and initiate recording. You can change the level of a digital input signal in realtime. The 120-step level meters have realistic action. • The Remote Transport Window has stop, play, markers, looping, and much more.

• The Full View Window shows the entire soundfile at a glance. You can skip instantly to any part by clicking on it.

• The Soundfile View shows the waveform of the sound you recorded. In this

ROM with video and graphics can be

created in-house by the marketing and

promotions staff. Video and sound

clips of the jocks' best moments can

go to disc as an annual "video

aircheck." Heritage stations can make

a CD showing the timeline of the sta-

tion's long history, complete with pic-

tures and sound bites of an earlier

Corel CD Creator 2 is compatible

Philips, Ricoh,

Macintosh

CD

with CD recorders from Kodak,



Stations interested in creating CDs as nultimedia sales tools, jock "greatest it" collections or historical retrospecives should know about Corel CD **Creator 2** 

This audio editor/graphics program builds upon the original 1994 version of Corel CD Creator by bringing it ap to Windows 95 compatibility. CD Creator 2 lets users develop compact liscs for audio, data, video or photo mages and allows custom creation of jewel case artwork. All elements

of CD creation ncluding "jacket rt" can be hanlled in-house on usingle machine. Enhancements

.nd new applicaions include a 32-bit audio edior which perorms click and op removal ades, equalizaion and format :onversions.

Drag-and-drop arrangement of track order is possible and audio tracks can e merged.

Jewel-case art can be created on the ame computer generating the CD. A lefault insert is automatically built, ased on the layout. Users can dragnd-drop in clip art and graphics from other applications to customize the insert. Fonts and character sizes can be scaled and modified to fit the insert

Because CD Creator 2 can also write video to a CD, radio stations can use it for numerous marketing applications.



time.

running on a 486/33 PC with 8MB RAM (16MB recommended) or Windows NT 3.51 on a 486/66 with 20 to 24MB RAM. Macintosh system requirements are System 7.1, a Mac 68030 or better or Power Mac. A built-in system analyzer checks for compatibility and validates the the system requirements for users.

The suggested price of Corel CD Creator 2 is \$495. Original CD Creator users can upgrade for \$95. For more information, contact Corel Corporation at 613-728-8200 or circle Reader Service 200.



Main screen of SAW Plus

screen, you mark regions - sections of sound that you want to keep. You can also delete unwanted sounds, cut and paste, and undo edits.

•The Region View is a list of the regions you defined.

•The Multitrack View shows the tracks and what is on them. You can place regions from a list into tracks, or record directly to the multitrack screen. When you click on the fader icon for each track, a pan pot and fader pop up. You can set the level at any point in a track, and fade from one level to another. It is easy to do and works well.

•The Sequence View shows the ordered list of regions in any one track, along with their times and lengths. Displays keep you updated on timing information. Level and pan changes show up as curved lines within each track.

As for minimum requirements, a Pentium 90 is recommended. Slower machines will result in fewer tracks or less realtime DSP. Other requirements are 16MB RAM, SVGA monitor with a resolution of 800 x 600 and 256 colors, at least 7,200 rpm SCSI hard drive and a Windows-compatible 16-bit sound card.

My computer and hard drive are on the slow side: a 486-66 with 20MB RAM and



2,200 kilobits per second (kbps) drive. As IQS predicted, SAW Plus could not reach its full potential with my system.

Go Inside an NPR

**Jingle Session** See page 22.

You can use up to four sound cards for multiple I/O. Windows 95 will work but Windows 3.1 is pre-

ferred.

Thanks to assembly language coding, SAW Plus is incredibly fast. Zooms, signal processing and waveform redraws are nearly instant. All operations are intuitive and well thought out.

I could mix up to seven stereo tracks without glitches on my 486, but when I added realtime fades and graphic EO. not even two stereo tracks would mix in real time without errors. Still, I could listen to

the EQ to check it, then have the computer calculate a new soundfile with this EQ. It then played with no problems.

I used SAW Plus with a Digital-Only CardD card by Digital Audio Labs. Sound quality was excellent. Playback is a clone of the original signal.

I liked many convenient features of SAW Plus. For example, you simply doubleclick a region in a track to expand it into a large waveform for editing. Function keys can be programmed so that each one brings up a different view of your choice. Changing from a soundfile view to a multitrack view is a keystroke away.

Editing and region-defining are well done. You accomplish most work with mouse clicks and keyboard shortcuts. The manual is first-rate. It is well organized, easy to read and thorough.

Although it lacks an index, the manual offers a tutorial along with helpful tips on applications, optimizing performance, and help resources. You have all the tech support you need, such as free software updates from the IQS BBS.

SAW Plus is really better suited for multitrack production than for album assembly. Someday I would like to see IQS do a continued on page 20

# The First Name In Digital, The Final Choice In MiniDisc



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The first name in digital, Denon has also become the premier manufacturer of MiniDisc products for broadcast and post production applications. Denon not only offers the most comprehensive line of MiniDisc products on the market, they are the only ones totally committed to MD technology.

The MiniDisc format has proved to be the most convenient and reliable medium available. MD can literally be used millions of times without any signal degradation. The sonic quality is equal to Compact Disc and immensely superior to celluloid, while offering unsurpassed portability. More and more digital audio users are turning to MD for archival purposes due to drop-outs caused by DAT over the years.

From recording and replication to MD Carts and ENG MD recorders, Denon has a full family of products to integrate MD technology quickly and economically. Contact your favorite distributor and find out why Denon is the "final choice in MiniDisc".



**DN-1100R MD Recorder** The DN-1100R MD recorder offers 74 minutes of stereo recording time with a 44.1 kHz sampling rate, 16-bit linear (A/D converter) quantization and ATRAC compression. The unit also features 10 independent "Hot Start" buttons to which any 10 tracks from a total of 255 can be assigned. This feature is ideal for sound effects libraries, sound bytes and announcements.

**DN-80R Portable MD Recorder** The DN-80R is the most advanced ENG recorder on the market, allowing up to 148 minutes recording time in mono and 74 minutes in stereo, per disc. The portable unit provides news gathering personnel and reporters who are on-the-move with shock-proof recording and playback capabilities from a 40 second memory buffer. Further time-saving production features include field editing on a single disc. A standard 23dx video camera battery provides maximum power for a full 148 minutes.

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**DN-045R MD Replicator** The DN-045R MD replicator performs exact digital-to-digital dubs, up to 3.5 times faster than realtime witbout the cascade of ATRAC compression. The included WindowsTM software also allows fool-proof editing during replication.



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## **Demeter VTCL Has Vintage Sounds**

channel, as well as an input sensi-

#### **by John Diamantis**

**FREDERICKSBURG, Va.** Tubes have certainly become the hot audio ticket — pun intended — of the '90s.

Some manufacturers these days seem to be shoving a tube or two into a box in place of op-amps just so they can jump on the Golden Glow bandwagon. Most of it is the same stuff we have seen all along, except now it has tubes.

Luckily, there are manufacturers utilizing tubes because they appreciate their audio characteristics, and they design their circuits to perform with state-of-the art specs and unique and desirable operating characteristics, thereby creating a useful, brand new product.

#### Squeeze the tube

The Demeter Vacuum Tube Compressor Limiter (VTCL 2A) is such an item. If you're looking for a box that will give you effects from clean limiting to crunchy compression, and every point in between, then look no further. This baby does it all.

The audio path is completely tube, with no transistors and no ICs. Jensen transformers are an option if you desire balanced ins and outs. This circuit is tivity control to optimally match your source output level to the VTCL 2A. A lighted VU meter for each channel can display input level, output level, or compression level. A switch allows a 10 dB increase in meter drive sensitivi-

ty to better view low levels. Connections can be made via XLR connector (pin 2 or 3 hot, switch selectable), tip and ring connector, or mini-plug. The power cord is a detachable IEC type.

Although I did not receive an operator's manual, there was an instruction sheet that

described basic operation of the unit. Also included was a chart showing typical attack/release settings to make the VTCL 2A mimic the characteristics of Teletronics LA-2A or the notorious Fairchild 660 series.

#### **Plug-in test**

I set up a pair of vintage LA-2As for a quick A/B comparison. The Demeter's dynamics could be made to sound close to the LA-2A, but its overall character was cleaner and had more deep low end;



#### Demeter VTCL 2A

comprised of five dual triodes: one 12AX7 and one 12BH7 per channel with one shared 12AU7. It appears to be fairly conventional — no schematic was provided, but my curiosity drove me to tracing out the circuit by hand.

The side chain is entirely solid state, and gain reduction is accomplished via a photocell opto-isolator, similarly to the infamous Teletronix LA-2A. The DC supplies for filaments and high voltage are regulated.

Parts quality is good, with a lot of point-to-point wiring between the three circuit boards and front and rear panels. Construction is mostly very good, but during shipping, my unit had a bent rear panel where the power transformer mounts.

While it did not affect the operation of the box, it could be a source of future problems.

The VTCL 2A is a dual-channel compressor/limiter with the usual attack/release/threshold front panel controls. There are bypass switches for each thing. Would I sell my LA-2As? I don't think so. But, I admit the Demeter is one flexible piece of gear.

a nice

always

Not having a Fairchild 660 on hand much less 15 grand to purchase one — I was unable to make a direct comparison to the VTCL-2A. Fortunately, I have used a 670, and I was able to closely replicate the overall flavor and feeling that box imparted to a performance.

The big difference with the Demeter is you do not need to balance variable-mu tubes for minimum thump feedthrough or even try to find some matched 6386s to do the job. There are no matching or adjustment requirements, and the VTCL-2A's audio path is definitely cleaner.

By the way, if you actually *remember* minimum thump feedthrough, you really must get out more.

I ran a variety of audio through the VTCL-2A and was struck with how easy it was to get the sound I wanted.

Voice tracks could be cleanly leveled, or run hard and fast without sounding bad. In my testing, at least two announcers liked the resultant mic sound with the VTCL-2A running with moderate

World Radio History



attack and fast release. It gave them what they felt was a real punchy and upbeat sound.

In the airchain as a mic processor, I was able to get any type of effect I wanted out of this unit, but it sounded best adjusted for that elusive warm intimate mic sound.

#### Going to tape

In the production room, full mixes were run through Demeter with great results. Just a bit of gain reduction gave some needed leveling

without smashing the dynamics to bits, a syndrome common to lesser devices.

A couple of car dealer spots

dilemma even when running the attack and release controls at full tilt fast.

A small complaint is that the controls feel touchy and very sensitive. The attack control, for instance is scaled reverse log.

This means a whole lot of change occurs from full fast (completely clockwise) to a relatively slow 25ms (less than one-quarter turn). It takes practice to line up both channels in this range if you want to process stereo without linking the channels.

The Demeter VTCL-2A acquitted itself very well on the test bench, with no more than 0.05 percent THD under normal operating conditions.

As you increase the input level, the front panel green light activates and distortion increases to a still-imperceptible 0.1 percent. Max input level is greater than +20 dBm, and maximum output level was +32 dBm.

I ran a variety of audio through the VTCL-2A and was struck with how easy it was to get the sound I wanted.

produced in-house really benefited from being run 15 dB into gain reduction with the release set fast. It made them loud and obnoxious ... just the way we love 'em.

The "soft knee" or gradual increase in compression ratio with increasing input allows the use of more gain reduction than usual in some cases, and no matter what the setting of the controls, the VTCL-2A's dynamics were clean and controlled.

Unlike most other units, the VTCL-2A's attack control feels more like an audio zoom lens, allowing you to get close by slowing the attack and adding punch to the audio, or zoom back by speeding the attack and shrinking the audio peaks.

Despite the wide range of control, it was very difficult to get into a dynamic

Frequency response was 7 Hz to 22 kHz and the -3 dB points were 3 Hz and 41 kHz. The extended low-frequency response — especially for a tube unit — added to the great sound of this unit. Square wave response at 5 kHz was excellent, with no ringing and square corners. Noise was better than 85 dB below +4 dBm, which is outstanding for a tube unit.

The Demeter VTCL-2A impressed me with its audio and dynamic performance, and I would recommend it to anyone looking for a great sounding, high-quality, and extremely flexible compressor/limiter.

John Diamantis is chief engineer for WBQB-FM and WFVA(AM), Fredericksburg, Va. He can be reached at 540-373-7721.

HENRY FM Broadcast Power Amplifiers is the low-cost way to upgrade to "Class A" service or new construction or backup service at high power stations. Eimac ceramic triodes are used in grounded grid ... a design that is conservative, reliable, stable and very economical. Type accepted for use with any type-accepted 10 watt exciter. Input and output low-pass filters are built in for service as a primary or backup transmitter.

Roadcast Power A



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#### 20 Radio World

**STUDIO SESSIONS** 

## New SAW Plus Software

#### continued from page 17

2-track editor for album assembly, with crossfades in the playlist. A possible limitation for SAW Plus' role in radio production is the lack of time compression, but updates are always in the works. And after all, a little pitch shifting can always bring a 32-second spot down to a 30.

Here is how you might put together a typical spot with SAW Plus. Begin by opening the Multitrack (MT) View and lay down your stereo music bed to stereo track One. Next, open the Soundfile View and record your voice-over. Define regions of correct sentences that you want to keep or simply delete unwanted sentences and noises.

Now open the Multitrack View and Regions List. On track Two, point the

cursor to where you want the first region of voice-over to go. Highlight the first region in the list, and click on the "Add to MT" button. The selected region pops into place. Now repeat this for other voice-over regions. The highlighted region goes at the end of the previous regions each time you click "Add to MT." Repeat the process for sound effects and put them on track Three. Use the fader tool to duck music under voice, then fade

out at the end. Play back the mix by clicking the right mouse button. The automated mixer will remember all your settings. Thanks to

non-destructive editing, you can redo almost any change. Did a sound effect come in a little late? Drag it to the left to shift it earlier in time. Does the voiceover sound too tubby? Select Graphic EQ and pull down the 100 Hz knob. When you are done, archive your project to DAT.

What if you wish to play audio tracks along with MIDI sequences? SAW Plus will sync or trigger to MIDI and SMPTE. All functions work smoothly and sound terrific. SAW Plus just seems to do everything the way it should be done. Quite an efficient, elegant piece of work.

IQS is at 4680 S. Eastern Ave. Suite D Las Vegas, NV 89119. The telephone number is included in the product capsule accompanying this article. Access the IQS home page at http://www.iqsoft.com/ on the World Wide Web.

Bruce Bartlett is a mic engineer,



writer and recording engineer and author of "Practical Recording Techniques," published by Howard Sams. Jenny Bartlett is a technical writer. Bruce can be reached at 219-294-8388.

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**World Radio History** 

April 3, 1996
**STUDIO SESSIONS -**

# **All-tube DAW Astonishes Industry**

Ollafi Pro's New Digital Workstation Redefines the Role of Tubes in Production

### by Lord Euphell Forrit

**EXCUSEME, Miss.** Ollafi Pro (Audio) caught the broadcast industry completely by surprise on April 1 with its inaugural product: the 04-01 all-tube digital audio workstation (DAW).

This is the very first DAW to completely replace conventional digital silicon circuitry with vacuum tubes. The 04-01's A/D-D/A conversion, RAM buffering and processing is performed entirely by eight million 12AX7 dual-triode tubes split-configured as 16 million logic gate circuits. Another 28 tubes are used in the audio circuitry along with eight green "magic eye" VU tubes.

The only silicon found in the 04-01 is in the IDE hard disk controller, one rectifier bridge in the power supply and one LED. Everything else is a tube.

The company secretly collaborated on

### 'It's obvious if one tube sounds good, 14 will sound better. The 04-01 sounds warm. Real warm.'

the development of the 04-01 with reclusive computer innovator Heywood U. Nockitoff.

Nockitoff said, "It's the natural evolutionary route. The tube revival is at a fever pitch in the audio community. The only area left to improve with tubes was in the roots of logic circuits."

### Circuitry

Tubes imported from the tiny Baltic nation of Kräkur-Zinnbed provide the 04-01's brainpower. The entire one-year factory output and existing inventory of the Kutcher-Noezov company was purchased for the inaugural 04-01.

The design draws on Univac and Eniac computer circuits of the 1940s, combined with popular starved-plate audio circuit concepts of the present. Nockitoff increased the cycling speed of 12AX7 tubes to a degree unheard of five decades ago.

"Tubes are easy to fool," said Nockitoff. "Optimize the symmetry of both plate outputs, stagger the phase so one signal arrives at the next stage before the other and they'll believe anything."

There are 14 tubes per channel in the audio chain. "Lots of people love the soft distortion characteristics," commented Nockitoff. "It's obvious if one tube sounds good, 14 will sound better. The 04-01 sounds warm. Real warm."

The first 04-01 was beta-tested at a project studio in Watering, Kan. "We had to build another 11,000 square feet to the existing physical plant to accommodate the 04-01 in our multitrack machine



### The 04-01's front panel

room," said studio manager Howie Doohan, "Do you have any idea the footprint eight million tubes takes up?" Power consumption and heat output are not as big a problem as in tubes' glory days. Starved-plate tubes require 40 V instead of several hundred. Still, the thermal output of eight million 12AX7 tubes makes the studio warm. Real warm.

### **Tube distortion**

The sound of the 04-01 was judged superb by the studio engineers. Soft-clip distortion as high as 50 percent can be dialed in as desired by the operator. According to Doohan, "That's warm. Real warm."

Unfortunately, analog-to-digital conversion was less than spectacular. In spite of the improved speed of the 12AX7s, processor speed was considered inferior to even the old Zilog Z80 microprocessor. A one-minute, 44.1 kHz stereo soundfile took over two hours to transform and render. The screen redraw took 1.1 seconds.

The original 04-01 will remain at the studio for recording long-form shows for a station in CurlyLarry. Mo. The heat output of the 04-01 will be recovered to run a water desalinization plant.

Cost of the Ollafi Pro 04-01 DAW should be \$21 million, including wallwart power supply. Plans are now being made for a broadcast laptop model to be released in time for next April Fool's Day.

Happy April Fool's Day, folks. "Ollafi Pro" is an anagram for "April Fool." All names and places speak for themselves, including the author's.



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### **In-house Jingle Production at NPR**

Wynton Marsalis' Studio Band and a World-Class Facility Team Up to Create New NPR Theme Music

### Part I of II

### by Rich Rarey

WASHINGTON Every afternoon at 4 p.m., EST. NPR listeners hear a familiar melody. arranged in an unusual style: "Dah-de-dah-dah (rest) dahde-dah-dah da.'

This may be a poor text translation of the "All Things Considered" (ATC) opening theme, but the melody has been the program's signature for decades. Don Voegeli composed the original melody in the 1970s. It recently got a facelift in a recording and mixdown session that involved world-class musicians and NPR's large multitrack performance studio, Studio 4A.

#### Once from the top

This is the story of that session, a product that originally did not meet expectations, and the time and effort it took to Sunday)" and "Talk of the Nation." ATC would also begin an hour earlier at 4 p.m. As the format clock was developed, we noticed there was not enough

Details were made so part of the group would remain an extra day. Trombonist Wycliffe Gordon would lead and arrange the ATC music for the nine-piece jazz group.

This project marked the first time that NPR had the ability to record and mix down themes - in house - for one of its own news programs.

> **Calling the shots** NPR engineer Mark Greenhouse was chosen to direct the session on Aug. 26, 1995. Prior to joining NPR. Mark owned and worked in recording studios for two

decades. His production philosophy is KISS (Keep It Simple, Stupid): short mic lines without the use of snakes, as few patches as possible and good preamps.

Using Studio 4A's SSL G+ series console. Mark and NPR engineer John Carrillo routed signals like this:

Drums on tracks 1 through 8. acoustic bass on tracks 9 and 10, piano on 11 and 12, brass on 13 through 16, reeds on 19 through 21 and a stereo overhead pair on 23 and 24. The recording deck was a Sony 24 track digital.

Greenhouse and Carrillo like "bright" recordings, but do not like achieving it through EQ. Sennheiser and Neumann mics were used throughout to achieve that desired crispness. An EV RE-20 went on the kick drum and a spaced overhead pair of B&K 4006 omnis rounded out the mic plot.

### **Musical chairs**

Positioning musicians is a critical step for a quality recording. Greenhouse said, "We had risers in the room and put the brass section one level up from the floorlevel reeds. The piano and drums were kept in the same room with the band mainly for the groove."

The physically closer together you put the musicians, the better they play. That's "groove." Acoustic leakage between performers is less apparent because there is minimal time-delay.

Marsalis' 1923 Steinway "B" Grand had the lid opened wide. facing away from the band. Greenhouse said large dense foam blocks snuggled against the piano side facing the band minimized leakage through the soundboard.

A pair of Sennheiser MKH40 mics in an ORTF arrangement was positioned just above the opened side of the piano. One mic faced the tuning pins and the other mic faced the piano's belly. The drums and bass had foam

blocks placed in a V shape around them. with enough room to maintain sightlines to conductor/player Wycliffe Gordon.

The most stunningly beautiful acoustic bass sound was captured by careful mic placement. Says Carrillo, "One MKH40 mic aimed at strings on the neck captures a lot of the definition and slap. Another MKH40 mic on the bottom near the bridge or off to one side on the body adds 'phatness' to the sound. I seldom point a mic at the hole, because it makes the sound too boomy."

The result was a deep, rich acoustic bass texture that oozed from the speakers like a rich sugary molasses. Heady stuff that greatly impressed me.

With the mics set up and the band in place, it was time to roll the Sony and lay down the new ATC theme ... which is entirely another story. One I will save for the next Public Domain.

Rich Rarey is the technical director for National Public Radio's "All Things Considered." He can be reached at rrarev@npr.org

> So What Is an **ORTF**?

The ORTF placement technique we used to record the piano was the result of experiments done by the French National Broadcasting Organization (Office de Radiodiffusion-Television Francaise). Like many things in French culture, the ORTF technique is simple and elegant.

Two cardioid microphones are placed 6.7 inches (170mm) apart, with the microphone backs at a 110-degree angle. Because low frequencies have long wavelengths, both mics essentially inhabit the same space inside a wave under 500 Hz. Above this point, the mics' placement in space detects time delays in sound arriving from different points in the stereo spread.

The ORTF technique yields a natural stereo sound with good mono compatibility and a pleasing openness superior to conventional X-Y placement. In conversations with NPR recording engineers, I found they regard mic spacing and angle values as guides only. They will move the mics and alter the



angle to achieve the best sound for the situation.

Refer to "Stereo Microphone Techniques" (Bruce Bartlett, Focal Press, Stoneham, Mass., 1991) or "The Microphone Handbook" (John Eargle, Elar Publishing Co., Plainview, N.Y., 1981) for details on ORTF and many other mic techniques you should know about.

-Rich Rarey

Warming up in studio 4A at NPR headquarters

rehabilitate that product.

The story begins in September 1994 at a public radio program directors' meeting, where a newly-expanded two-hour ATC program was announced.

NPR member stations and news management felt the time was right to make the change: making it consistent with "Morning Edition," "Performance Today." "Weekend Edition (Saturday and



week of August 1995. Turn off the lights; lock the doors; go home. A

few short years ago this

two-hour format would be implemented

earlier in June 1995, to give the staff a

music in spring and early summer of

1995, he discovered a band Wynton

Marsalis put together to record "Harlem

Suite" for NPR's "Making the Music"

would be working in studio 4A the last

chance to iron out any format bugs. While director Bob Boilen arranged

level of automation at radio stations was impossible. But thanks to rapid advances in technology it's now an everyday occurrence. Anyone can go home, but to go home legally it takes specialized equipment. If you're contemplating a walkaway, you need to call about our RFC-1 Dial-Up Remote Control and our DAI-1 Dial-

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theme package to fill the spaces. Worse, NPR did not have full usage rights to the music: RealAudio and worldwide distribution outlets had to have the ATC themes excised from the

music in the

existing ATC

PUBLIC

Plans for a new theme arrangement were made, and a 4 p.m. start date in September 1995 was established. The

transmission.

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With Gentner's SCREENWAIR software and a PC, the screener uses a keyboard and headset instead of the control surface and preselects calls for on-air and adding names, comments, etc. An additional monitor is placed in the studio where the talent can see who is on screened hold.

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# **PRODUCT GUIDE**

Companies with new product announcements for Studio Sessions Product Guide should send them to: Radio World, c/o Studio Sessions Editor, 5827 Columbia Pike, 3rd floor, Falls Church, Va. 22041

### **Soundelux Microphone**

Group One Ltd. is distributing the U.S.made Soundelux U95 tube microphone.

The U95 is made in Hollywood, Calif. to the standards of the tube mics of the 1950s, with a one-inch-diameter capsule and 6072A vacuum tube electronics. The two-pound microphone body is made from brass, chrome and nickel and mic patterns are switchable between omni, cardioid and figure-eight with six intermediate steps

Suggested price for the Soundelux is \$2,900 and includes power supply, shock mount and wooden case.

For more information, contact Group One Ltd., at 516-249-1399 or circle Reader Service 108.



### Sound Forge Plug-ins

Sonic Foundry announced new QSound plug-in modules for the Sound Forge 3.0 audio software package. The collection is called QTools and are used to add the OSound 3D audio localization effect to

ordinary stereo speakers.

Sonic Foundry is also preparing to release Waves L1-Ultramaximizer, allowing users to maximize the final digital signal on the way to mastering. It offers look-ahead limiting and three noise-shaping curves. The product is designed for any application requiring limiting or requantization of the digital signal.

For more information, contact Sonic Foundry at 608-256-3133 or circle Reader Service 146.

### **Korg Music Module**

Korg U.S.A. introduces the compact i5M Interactive Music Module. This is a MIDI music module appropriate for radio jingle production and creation of professional-sounding music for other broadcast production.

An interactive composition mode allows auto-arranging of 192 musical



styles such as Reggae, House, Latin, Pop and more. The 6MB waveform memory of the i5M contains 384 sounds and 16 drum programs. An internal digital effects processor provides 47 types of effects, including reverb and chorus.

For more information, contact Korg U.S.A. at 516-333-9100 or circle Reader Service 160.

### **New Killer Tracks CDs**

New music CDs from Killer Tracks include the NJJ Production Music Library and Chronic Trax vol. 1.

NJJ is "Not Just Jingles" and has an upbeat street sound from New York City. The library consists of 25 CDs in 15 different musical

### The "Doctor" is in! Gerald M. Le Bow

Jerry knows more about ENDEC EAS than anybody else on the planet, because he created it. The "Doctor" will see you at NAB in Booth 3517 in Radio Land Monday through Friday and let you examine the first EAS system to be certified by the FCC, ENDEC.



Beginner's Appointments on the hour 10a.m.-1p.m. Advanced Appointments on the hour 2p.m.-4p.m. Master's Appointments on the hour at 5 p.m.



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styles. Updates are shipped periodically.

Chronic Trax was produced by Chronic Music - producers of the L.A. Riot sample CD series - and is available as a three-CD collection of acid jazz, hiphop and deep house cuts. Chronic Trax vol.1 is available as a buyout.

For more information and a demo CD, contact Killer Tracks at 800-877-0078 or circle Reader Service 135.

#### Fostex Hard Disk Recorder

Fostex announced the availability of the D-80 eight-track hard disk recorder/ editor.

The unit occupies three rack-spaces and

contains an 850MB hard drive for approximately 18 minutes of uncompressed recording time. The D-80 features eight-track simultaneous recording, Copy/Move pasting across different tracks, MIDI and digital I/O connections. The D-80's front panel is removable and

serves as a full-function remote control; a feature shared with Fostex' popular R8 analog tape recorder. The D-80 can be cascaded with other D-80s or the Fostex DMT-8 for up to 24 tracks. Suggested retail price of the D-80 will be \$2,195.

For more information, contact Fostex at 310-921-1112 or circle Reader Service 139.



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### April 3, 1996

### 

# **Avoid Those Cheap Imitation Radio Voices**

Oh Nooo, Mr. Bill! Avoid Another Fine Mess When Creating Radio Characters So You Won't Have to "Play It Again, Shweetheart."

### by Alan R. Peterson

**WASHINGTON** "Hey, you know, I can do lots of impersonations ... how can I get into radio commercials?"

I get this question a lot. People feel the bug bite them hard after a couple of radio commercials for their uncle's car dealership, after cracking up their buddies with impersonations or just the idea that "I can do that too" after watching MTV.

I enjoy meeting these folks. They have real desire and a raw ability that can be honed into a marketable product. But impersonations? How do I put this delicately?

How about: If you know someone asking this, clip this column and give it to them.

#### Well excuuuse me

A fellow back in my high school and college days claimed he could impersonate several hundred celebrity voices. He did okay on each one's most famous

### Folks who do celebrity voices need to get contemporary and concentrate on hot voices.

phrases; Kermit the Frog's "Hi-ho," Moe Howard's "Spread out" and John Wayne's "Awww, listen up, pilgrim" were plausible. But he could not sustain a character beyond that one magic phrase.

Attempting the Gettysburg Address as Ed Sullivan was impossible. His imitation of Arte Johnson's German soldier from the old "Laugh-In" show never made it past "verrry interesting." Result: his list dropped way down very fast. Humbling, but it made him work harder. I hope he is doing well today.

What is the point? Most vocal impressionists I meet today only do the buzzphrases of classic (dead) performers. We overlook variations and imperfections because our hazy memories accept the blemishes.

But is there a market for these voices? Take a look at radio's demographics. Why put a Jack Benny or Walter Brennan on a radio spot? Howard Cosell and Richard Nixon were enormously popular voices, but are not in demand now.

### You dirty rat

Folks who do celebrity voices need to get contemporary and concentrate on hot voices. Male voice talents should be doing Jerry Seinfeld, Homer Simpson, John Madden, Dick Vitale, Bob Uecker, Jay Leno, Beavis and/or Butthead, Robin Leach and Howard Stern.

It helps to take on "contemporary classics" too. Johnny Carson, Ted Kennedy, Yosemite Sam, Gary Owens, Jack Nicholson, Jimmy Stewart, Arnold Schwarzenegger, William Shatner and Sly Stallone round out a good mimic's bag of tricks.

Women performers can take a lead from Nancy Cartwright (Bart Simpson) and develop a little boy's voice. After that, tack on Roseanne. Princess Diana, a Gabor sister, Barbra Streisand, Tyne Daly's Mary Beth Lacey.

Joan Rivers, Julia Child, Mary Tyler Moore's "ohhh, Mister Gra-a-aant," Olive Oyl and Wilma Flintstone for one dynamite demo package.

The biggest headaches regarding impersonations are these. One, you risk sounding really lame if your character is only a few degrees off. Dead celebrities are easy, but living legends take a sharp ear. Two, they could lead to

a lawsuit from the actual person or his or her estate, so be careful.

Of course, what is wrong with inventing *original* characters?

My two favorite voice talents are Billy West (Nickelodeon's Ren and Stimpy) and Mike O'Meara of the syndicated Don and Mike

show. West's Stimpy is basically a brainimpaired version of Larry Fine of the Three Stooges. O'Meara's double-jointed voicebox recreates Fine, Harry "M*A*S*H" Morgan, Werner

### 

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Klemperer and a number of original voices.

These guys know how to listen and experiment and are not mentally locked on the American Movie Classics channel. Both are constantly evolving and creating new variations.

"Saturday Night Live" alumni Martin Short created Ed Grimley ("oh, I must say!") by blending the vocal quirks of two former classmates. Dan Castallaneta came up with Homer Simpson the same way. This is what anybody who

wants to experiment with voices should be doing.

Merge Maxwell Smart with John Houseman. Combine Larry Linville's "Frank Burns" character with Ringo Starr's Liverpool accent. Graft the Sally Struthers squeak onto Carol Channing's big smiley voice. Remember, anything original always has its roots in something previously established; all that is needed is to add onto it.

Finally, a voice talent has to be ready *at any time* to show he/she can pull it

off. Take the scenario that happens when fresh talent calls a radio station:

"Hi Mr. Manager. I'm Sammy Somebody. I want to do commercials for your station; I do lots of voices."

"Really? Let me hear you do your three best."

"What, right now?"

"Sure. Pretend the tape is rolling. Go!" "...Uh, well, I do W.C. Fields, Stan Laurel, Edward G. Robinson..."

"Fine. Do one now."

"Uh, well, I need to have some copy..."

"Do you have a tape you can send me?"

"Uh, no... I just figured I could come in when you needed me."

"Tell you what: I have a client who wants a Jerry Seinfeld voice. Can you do Seinfeld?"

"Who's he? ... (click) ... hello?"

#### Well isn't that special?

This is not an uncommon occurrence. If you know someone who really wants to use his or her voice creatively and does not know where to begin, better let him see this column.

It may help him or her avoid a few mistakes on the way to his or her dream. Radio always needs talented, disciplined players ready to move when the call goes out.

And — in my best Baretta voice — dat's da name a' dat tune.

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# **Products & Services Showcase**

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**READER SERVICE NO. 109** 

#### April 3, 1996

### - STUDIO SESSIONS -

# **Desktop CD Authoring Is Reality**

Part I of II

### **by Bruce Bartlett** with Jenny Bartlett

ELKHART, Ind. At last, cutting compact discs on a desktop is affordable.

LINE OUT

You "burn" each disc one at a time, using a a CD-R recorder and blank discs. On these discs, you can archive IDs, themes, jingles, commercials, sound effects, and so on --- all with digital clarity

Compared to DAT, the CD-R format is more robust and gives you random access to any track on the disc. Once recorded, a CD-R is not erasable, but your audio program is safe from magnetic fields and accidental erasure. CD-R (Compact Disc Recordable) is a write-once optical medium that will play on any audio CD player or CD-ROM drive.

CD-R discs should last about 70 years. Their sound quality can be excellent; every bit as good as a standard compact disc. There are many other uses for the CD-R format:

· Record custom sound libraries of samples, sound effects, and production music.

• Make digital-quality demos to send to A&R people.

• Record a CD-R premaster to send to a CD replicator. Most CD replicators can take CD-R premasters. CD-R is more robust than DAT.

• Create a reference disc of your finished stereo mixes. This is also called a test copy or one-off copy.

• Archive existing recordings in the rugged optical format.

### What you need

To get started making CD-Rs, you need either a self-contained consumer CD-R recorder or an add-on CD-ROM recorder which you add to an existing computer system.

Discs from both types of recorders sound the same, and both play on any consumer CD player, but a disc from one type of recorder will not play on the other. A self-contained CD recorder is a complete system in one box. It includes a CD transport, laser, microprocessor, analog and digital audio I/O, display, keypad, volume control and level meters.

Because it needs no computer, the recorder is easy to use. Just start with an edited program on DAT or analog tape. Plug in your audio source, play your edited program, set levels, and start recording

Self-contained recorders write audio only. They use blank discs in the "CD for Consumer" format, which cost about \$20 and last 63 minutes. The recorder costs about \$1,700 and more.

In contrast, an add-on CD recorder costs upwards of \$800 and connects to a SCSI connector or to a spare expansion port in your computer. The unit can write computer data or audio, and uses discs in the "CD for Professionals" format. The discs cost \$7 to \$10 and come in lengths of 18, 21, 63, and 74 minutes up to 650MB.

Maximum program length is 71.5 minutes

With the add-on unit you need a CD recording program, which is usually supplied with the recorder. If you do not like that program, you may find a better one that is compatible.

Your hard drive should be a fast A/V type of at least 1GB capacity. Usual minimum requirements for the computer are a 486DX2-66 with 16MB RAM. Another necessity is a quality 44.1 kHz, 16-bit soundcard and recording software. You can daisy-chain recorders to write more than one CD at a time.

disc contains a lead-in, program area, and lead-out.

Each session has its own TOC. Some CD-R recorders allow "single-session" or "Disc-at-Once" recording. The entire disc must be recorded nonstop. Once you write to the disc, you cannot add more later. Disc-at-Once lets you control the layout of each track on the disc, and the length of the silence between tracks.

On the other hand, most CD-R recorders permit "Track-at-Once" recording. You can record one track, or a few tracks, at a time — up to 99 tracks. A partly-recorded disc will play on a CD-R



Figure 1

CD-Rs follow the Sony-Philips Orange Book part II standard, which defines the recordable CD format. Audio CD-R discs can play on conventional CD players, which conform to the Red Book standard.

A recordable CD looks like a standard compact disc, but has a gold layer on the top and a blue dye recording layer on the bottom. The blue layer looks green because of the gold layer behind it. Highspeed CD-R discs use a yellow dye.

From top to bottom, the layers of the disc are: 1. Clear plastic protective layer with a printed label. 2. Gold reflective layer. 3. Dye recording layer. 4. Clear plastic substrate layer. See Figure 1.

A spiral groove is etched in the substrate to guide the laser. The dye fills the spiral groove. During recording, the laser melts holes in the dye. The plastic substrate flows into the holes and makes pits. During playback, the same laser reads the disc. Laser light reflects off the gold layer behind the pits, and the optical reader detects the varying reflectance at each pit.

#### More data area

A CD-R disc has two more data areas than a regular CD. The Program Calibration Area (PCA) is used by the CD recorder to make a test recording. This determines the optimum laser power for the disc; typically 4 to 8 milliwatts.

There is the Program Memory Area (PMA), which stores a temporary table of contents (TOC) until the recorder writes the final TOC. The TOC is a list of the tracks, their start times, and the total program time.

Before we go over the differences among CD-R recorders, we need to explain the term "session." A session on recorder, but will not play on a regular CD player until the final TOC is written.

The multisession feature lets you write several sessions on a single disc at different times. Multisession is useful when you want to add information to a disc a little at a time, but each time you write a session, you waste 13MB of disc space. Only the first session on disc will play on an audio CD player. If you want to hear the other sessions, you need to play the disc on a CD-R writer.

When buying a CD-R writer, look for a buffer of 1MB or larger. Some CD-R writers are unreliable, and some write SCMS copy code, so be careful before vou buy.

#### Standalone writer

Suppose you have a DAT filled with promos and want to transfer them to CD using a standalone CD-R writer. First, edit your promos into a finished program. You will need a sound card and two-track digital editing software.

Now, here is the procedure. Plug the DAT into the sound card. Copy your promos from DAT to hard disk. Define each promo as a region, or a selected section of audio. Trim the start and stop points of each region to remove noise between promos

Put the promos in a playlist — an edit decision list (EDL) or cue sheet --- in the order you want them to appear on the CD. Make sure the total playing time is less than the CD-R length of 60 minutes.

Put silent spaces or crossfades between promos and adjust the level of each promo as needed. Now set your DAT in record mode, and play the playlist off the hard disk.

Once the program is transferred back to DAT, write a start ID one half-second before each cut. Renumber the program numbers. Now your edited DAT is ready to play into the CD-R writer.

Plug your audio signal into the CD-R writer's input, set levels, and start recording. Your program will transfer in realtime. Many CD-R writers will convert the DAT's start-IDs to track numbers. If not, add track numbers manually while recording.

Next time: Computer CD-R procedures and vendors of hardware and software.

Bruce Bartlett is a mic engineer, writer and recording engineer, and the author of "Practical Recording Techniques" published by Howard Sams. Jenny Bartlett is a technical writer. Bruce can be reached at 219-294-8388.



Circle (60) On Reader Service Card

### - FEATURES -

April 3, 1996

**Silly Survey Tests Your Airchain** 

### by Chip Diggers, C.E.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This humorous "survey" has been circulating among radio engineers in an unnamed market in the Carolinas and was sent to us.

Any engineer who has ever had to mutilate a station's audio quality based on inaccurate research or the whims of a new program director will recognize and appreciate the following questions.

To all area radio station program directors and managers:

Radio engineers are conducting an Audio Processing Satisfaction Survey in your market. Engineers need your help in determining who among you are most satisfied with the overall sound of your radio stations. For your participation, your station will receive a Golden Greenie screwdriver, suitable for display in your lobby or reception area.

Please answer the following questions with a number from 0 to 9, with 0 meaning "least satisfied" and 9 meaning "most satisfied." Please begin.

[] My station's high end is boosted enough.

[ ] My station's high end is reduced enough.

- [] My station's high end is limited, clipped and smeared enough.
- [] My station's bottom end is just muddy enough.
- [ ] My station's bottom end is so compressed it sounds like a jet engine.
- [ ] My station's modulation monitor meter never deviates more than two percent and may as well be superglued to the scale.
- [ ] At last, I have enough separate bands of compression.



#### **250 Programmable 5-band Processor**

Gated AGC, 5-band Compression and EQ, split-spectrum Limiting all with colorless gain control. Manually pre-program 4 processing presets or place entirely under RS-232 remote control.

### 255 "Spectral Loading" Processor

Triband-PWM Stereo Processor for contemporary music formats. Includes gated AGC and 3-band Compressor/Limiter. Our unique "Spectral Loading" feature gives a very aggressive sound.

### 260 Multifunction "Utility" Processor

This simple stereo AGC/Compressor/Limiter is ideal for budget-FMs, uplinks, TV-aural and many other station chores. Split-spectrum processing utilizes PWM dynamic control.

NAB Booth 1300 Radio/Audio Hall

### 708 Digital-Synthesis FM Stereo Generator

A basic Stereo-Gen with outstanding specifications. Built-in, adjustable Composite Processing, RDS/SCA combining, and accurate front-panel metering for easy setup.

### 716 "DAVID-II" FM Processor/Stereo-Gen

A gated-AGC/Compressor/Limiter, plus clean digital synthesis of the multiplex baseband signal. This second-generation design features PWM gain control, an adjustable Composite Processor and RDS/SCA combining. A fantastic performer!

### 630 FM "Relay" Receiver

A tunable, single-channel re-broadcast receiver for FM translator service and similar, critical off-air pickups. Features both composite multiplex and left/right audio outputs. IF bandwidth, auto-mute and auto-blend functions may be remotely selected; alarm outputs for loss of carrier and loss of program audio.

Call today for complete technical information on these items, plus our line of AM, Radio-Data and Measurement products.



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### World Radio History

- [] All external parameters of our audio processing chain are at the maximum grunge position.
- [] Processing is set so high you can hear our jocks' nose hairs brush against the mic screen. Research shows listeners like that.
- [] All air talent men and women have the USDA recommended allowance of testosterone.
- [] My station is definitely bright enough.
- [ ] My station is definitely "thumpy" enough.
- [] We have achieved the "louder than everyone else in the market and I don't care how we do it" plateau.
- [] Our spatial enhancer artificially replaces lost separation stripped away during previous processing to our satisfaction.
- [ ] The engineer tells me our sound is fatiguing to women, which means our airchain is adjusted exactly right.
- [] I can still hear the station when I turn the radio all the way down, which means our airchain is adjusted exactly right.
- [] Every instrument and voice in every song has that wonderful "wall-ofsound" texture which means our airchain is adjusted exactly right.
- [] Our listeners both of them have ears that bleed often and they purchase lots of replacement speakers.
- [] The jock's sealed headphones adequately feed back through the mic during pauses and breathing.
- [] Our processing makes CDs sound better than when they were recorded.
- [] I know what dynamic range is and also know that nobody likes it.

Please add up your totals and place them on the bottom of the page. A total of 189 means your Golden Greenie (an old chewed-up Greenie screwdriver and can of Testor's model spray-paint) will be sent immediately.

A total of 10 or less means you probably have a decent-sounding radio station. Who'da thunk it?

#### 

Chip Diggers is a pseudonym for a chief engineer working several stations in the Carolinas. His true identity has been withheld so he still has a job.

Watch for the following in upcoming Studio Sessions:

- Roland SRV Space
- Tascam DA-20 DAT Recorder
- Earthworks OM1
- Microphone
- Monitors From Mars

Only in Radio World

ABOUT THE ONLY THING

IT CAN'T DO FOR YOUR TALK SHOW HOST IS MAKE EVERY CALLER SOUND INTELLIGENT.



orld Radio I

ATTENTION: GROUP OWNERS, LARGE STATIONS, LMA'S-THE TS612 NOW EXPANDS WITH YOUR NETWORK.

Occasionally, every talk show has to deal with an out of touch caller. But that's probably not the worst of your talk show host's problems. Chances are, your host is also trying to screen calls, conference multiple lines and make smooth transitions to commercial breaks - all while trying to come up with a snappy comeback for the space cadet on line 3. That's why we've updated the old talk show phone with the TS612. All the important functions are clearly marked and the phone lines color coded to make on-air decisions hassle free. Want to screen calls? Press SCRN. Want to conference up to



THE TS612 CAN NOW HANDLE YOUR MULTI-STATION, MULTI-STUDIO APPLICATIONS.

four lines? Press CONF. Don't want to lose a very important caller? Press VIP. Your host can even call for pastrami on rye while on-air some caller explains the finer points of cloud-watching. The point is, the TS612 is simple, versatile and lets your host concentrate on the show rather than the phone system.

To find out more, call us. Circle (41) On Reader Service Cord

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### **FEATURES** -

### April 3, 1996

# Secrets of Saving and Storing Tapes

### by Frank Beacham

**NEW YORK** At Tom's bake shop, the sensual pleasure that comes from the sweet aroma of rising dough is missing. This is a place more prone to nervous energy. One crisis follows another. Things are so tense that Tom rarely even fires up the oven without having a nail-biting, distressed customer waiting anxiously in the wings.

SIGNAL-TO-NOISE

Tom Neuman's peculiar brand of baking goes on in a high-tech industrial oven at the Ampex Recording Technology Group (now Quantegy, after the recent company sale) in Redwood City, Calif. As senior

staff engineer, one of Tom's roles is to save valuable information on damaged magnetic recording media.

Through his doors have passed nervous representatives of the Grateful Dead and the FBI, the "Ed Sullivan Show" and tabloid TV's "Hard Copy." All had one thing in common. Their audio and video tapes had a problem.

#### A gummy mess

In many cases it was sticky tape syndrome, a phenomenon where magnetic recording tapes - mostly from the '70s and '80s - become sticky and resist moving through a tape recorder without squeaking and gumming up the works. A result of faulty binders on some tape stocks, Tom solves this problem nicely with a patented process where tapes are "baked" in an oven for 24 to 48 hours at a temperature of about 121 degrees Fahrenheit

Because Tom claims a success rate of "about 100 percent" in baking sticky tapes and then transferring the recordings to new media, we asked his advice for today's recordists who want to preserve their work for the future with the latest generation of recording tape.

First of all, Tom recommends archiving on the old standby: analog reel-to-reel tape.

### If our marketing department had been as talented as our engineers, you'd probably be using a Prisma workstation riaht now. The alternative workstation. Get the whole, hitherto untold

Okay, granted, there are already a lot of digital audio workstations out there. Some are so expensive that you can only afford one for six editors. Some are little more than PC sound cards that can't lock to picture without timecode drift. Some are so complicated that after you've bought a Mac[™], 5 add-in boards, a bus expansion box and 12 pieces of software, it almost nearly works most of the time.

That's why you should explore our radically different approach. Admittedly, we're guilty of spending far more time perfecting our products than advertising them. But today, a growing number of major post production facilities and recording studios are reaping the benefits of our meticulous engineering. They also rave about our great service and quick support - available worldwide via internet, fax, or phone without having to wait on hold for hours.

### One hardware platform; three software solutions.

Prisma[™] is our one-card hardware platform that frees up your CPU by handling all processing and signal flow on board. Its DSP capabilities are so massive that plug-ins aren't even an issue. Invest in Prisma hardware and then choose the Windows®-based software package that fits your applications and budget. Each has an elegant, hands-on interface that's free from frustrating drop-down menus, and floating window clutter



### **EXPRESS** for PRISMA

Express[™] presents a simple, 2-panel interface all the tools you need on-screen - instead of with hidden in a mass of annoying pulldown menus. Perfect for broadcast, commercial production, multimedia and small home studios.

8 tracks - Over 250 markers & 99 Auto Locate points • 10-level Undo/Redo • Fader automation Directly-draggable fades & cross-fades • Easy head & tail trim • Fast bi-polar waveform views Snap anything to markers, current position or other sounds • Compatible with & upgradable to Producer[™] • Networkable

Express[™] is a creative tool for broadcast and commercial production with a no-frills interface so simple to use that even a program director could learn it. It uses Producer's hot-key shortcuts to reduce the learning curve if you upgrade.

**Producer**^{** ‡} takes the software recording studio paradigm to a new level. Its studio-friendly look and feel removes the impediments to creativity found in many current workstations.

StudioTracks" XP has the tools you need for serious, heavyweight film and video post production, sound design, dia log editing and Foley work. XP stands for Cross Platform: StudioTracks runs on both Prisma and Spectral's even-more-powerful AudioEngine™ hardware, too.



Radically different from any other workstation software, Producer™ is a "virtual studio" with direct access to familiar audio tracking and mix down tools including an automated mixer. Free from drop-down menus and nested windows, Producer's direct interface boosts productivity & creativity. 99 virtual tracks, each w/4 layers • 8/16*/24* or more tracks • 4 sends & returns + 2 remix tracks • Rich DSP features • 10 Undo levels • Automated fades, pans, mutes, aux sends • 2 EQs per mixer channel • Default cross-fades & buttsplices or custom via built-in editor • Markers • Snap anything to anything • 3 waveform views incl. fast bi-polar waveform display • Grid can be set to bars/beats,frames etc. • Direct VITC lock • Can add timecode burn-in to video • Networkable *via linked CPIIs

Circle (110) On Reader Service Card

### Spectral workstation story.

Prisma™, Express™, Producer™ and StudioTracks™ are just part of our product line. They all come from an established company that specializes in digital audio workstation and connectivity solutions. Call, fax or e-mail for complete, detailed information on our practical approach to enhanced productivity.

We've been keeping it a secret for far too long.

[‡]The software program Formerly Known As Prisma Music. Our previous Marketing Department did it.



Spectral's advanced, cross-platform* solution for film & video dialog editing, sound design and other edit intensive workstation applications.

256 virtual tracks - 12 tracks w/2 sends & returns Internal track bouncing - Auto-Conform**•
 Direct VITC lock • Drag & drop SFX & dialog snips from library to project • Spectrum analysis • Flexible dynamics processing • Silence-stripping • Envelope editing • 2 EQs per channel • Digital patchbay • Textual play list for mix-to-pix or mastering • Machine control • Networkable *Runs on Spectral's Prisma'" & AudioEngine " hardware *Ontional



"No, I don't recommend archiving on DAT," he said. "I can't say that's the official company position. We do sell DAT and a lot of people archive on it, but if it were me, I wouldn't. As a matter of fact, DAT scares the hell out of me.'

In real-world usage, Tom said, he is amazed how few problems we have with DAT cassettes, because "the tracks are so tiny and the tape so thin that it doesn't take much to cause damage.

A recordist using DAT is squeezing information onto a tape surface 1/200 smaller than that allowed by quarter-inch analog tape, said Tom.

"A little piece of dust on an R-DAT could cause you to lose half a second, where on the analog tape you wouldn't even notice it. So it's prone to damage because it's so tiny."

When using analog tape for archiving, Tom recommends storing the tape tails out.

"There are two reasons for that," he said. "One is when your tape recorder is in regular mode, the tape is wound on the reel at the best possible tension conditions. The tape is laid down uniformly so you don't have edges sticking up damaged and you don't have very high tensions.

"If you were to rewind the tape first, the rewinding puts an enormous amount of strain on the tape and all those built-in stresses are going to sit there for the next five or ten years and it could distort the tape," he said.

### Did you hear that?

"Another reason is, if over long storage, print-through occurs, you'll have a postecho rather than a pre-echo. A pre-echo would be like I say (a quick) 'hello.' And just before I say hello you'll hear it. 'Hello, Hello,' But because every sound has a decay if the echo comes after the word, you'll never hear it because the real word itself is still decaying and it gets hidden. Post-echo print-through is never noticeable."

It's also better to record archival tapes at the highest possible recording speeds, Tom said. A voice recording would be sonically OK at either 7-1/2 or 3-3/4 IPS, he said.

"But if you record at 7-1/2, the wavelengths on the tape — the dimensions of the frequencies — are going to be twice as big."

By stretching the audio information over a greater tape surface area, Tom said, it's easier to recover it.

"Archivally, the higher the speed, the better off you'll be," he said. "The downside is every time you double the speed, you spend twice as much money on tape." As for sticky tape syndrome on the latest generation of recording stocks. Tom is hopeful the problem is licked, but cannot guarantee it's a thing of the past.

"The new formulations have been out three or four years and we've had no trouble," he said.

lronically, with 3M's announcement that they are leaving the recording tape business, only two manufacturers of professional-grade analog reel-to-reel tape remain. They are Ampex and BASF. Ampex's most archivally advanced formulations are 456 and 499 Grand Master. At BASF, it's 911 Studio Mastering Tape.

Frank Beacham's address is 163 Amsterdam Ave. #361, New York, NY 10023. E-mail: beacham@radiomail.net. Visit his Internet web site at: http://www.beacham.com

**Use CAD Software for Engineering** 

### by Andrew Ellis and David Wigfield

**SAN FRANCISCO** No one would consider sending a business letter with erasures and typographical errors. Word-processing and Spellcheck software have raised the quality standard for business mail.

Yet, the engineering documents at many stations are still hand-drawn on notebook paper. Worse, many of them are seriously out of date. Some stations have no meaningful documentation of their systems at all.

### Write it down

This was once regarded as a crude form of job security by some engineers. If you wrote nothing down, the manager had no choice but to depend on you. The design of many stations existed only in the heads of the people who built them.

The reason this unprofessional approach worked for a time is that few chief engineers had managers who understood engineering. Today, though, many formerly independent stations are parts of groups and most groups have knowledgeable engineering managers. Up-to-date local station managers often know the technical side of radio, too.

Radio stations have been growing far more complex as new technologies add equipment to once-simple layouts. There is a greater need than ever for clear documentation and a huge pent-up demand

a greater need than ever for clear docnentation and a huge pent-up demand patch fields a Figure 1

for updating drawings not revised in many years.

Fortunately, the same desktop computer that cleaned up business letters can help produce quality engineering drawings of your station. With inexpensive computeraided design (CAD) software and some practice, you can turn out better drawings than those many equipment manufacturers provide with their products.

CAD software can let you make accurate scale drawings of things that you are only considering. It is a tremendous timesaver to show someone a drawing of what you have in mind before you build it. It demonstrates your concern for users' needs and may help you, too.

Perhaps that box you are about to build for remotes needs another input or indicator light. No problem, but you find that out only if the sports director looks over your design. Revising the drawing is simple. Changing the equipment after building it is much harder.

CAD software is similar to computer "paint" programs, but has some special features that make it easier and faster to use. Most CAD software has built-in functions to draw circles, arcs and polygons, as well as lines, but the handiest features of CAD software are stored symbol libraries and grids.

A symbol library stores frequently used symbols and images. A schematic library, for example, would have drawings of resistors, capacitors, op-amps and so forth stored for instant insertion in drawings. A mechanical library would include pictures of XLR connectors, knobs, buttons and other physical parts.

#### Easy revisions

Schematic libraries are not useful if the connections between parts do not line up. Grids and "snaps" make sure that they do. A grid is represented by a matrix of dots on the screen. When you insert a library part into the drawing, the software "snaps" it to the nearest grid point. This ensures that adjacent parts line up perfectly and eliminates the tiny location adjustments that plague painttype drawing programs.

Just as word processors let you fix mistakes you might have ignored in the old days, CAD software lets you redo drawings until they are perfect. Later, the drawing can easily be called up and revised when new gear is added or changes are made to equipment already in use.

Finally, CAD software makes it easy to create labels for distribution amplifiers, patch fields and so forth. Arrays of switches usually are not

spaced at intervals convenient for word processing programs. But printing a label for a row of buttons using CAD software is, well, a "snap."

Figure 1 is the schematic diagram of a dual-headphone amplifier drawn using CAD and our schematic parts library. One secret to a useful parts library is to have each object stored in the proper scale. Mechanical parts are

easy — just store them life-sized. For schematic libraries, we drew parts proportional to one another and sized for 1/4-inch grid spacing.

Many CAD programs allow plotting "unscaled" drawings. You can begin drawing immediately, then have CAD fit the finished drawing to the page. Of course, the drawing may end up so squeezed that you cannot read the labels. If that happens, break the drawing into two or more pages.

#### Swapping parts

We keep drawings of our parts libraries on the wall next to the computer. When you insert a part, you need to know where the insert point is on the part and its orientation. For example, our diode symbols insert at the left-hand end of the diode symbol and at the cathode side. If you need to insert the diode the other way, you can rotate it by 180 degrees before inserting it.

Figure 2 is the same headphone amplifier drawn with our mechanical parts library. Most of our mechanical parts are stored with insert points at their centers. Because all parts are stored actual size, you can quickly tell whether that front panel is big enough for what you want to put on it. We also store blank 19-inch



rack panels of various heights for bigger projects. You can also store studio rooms and furniture to help shoehorn new equipment into tight spaces.

While unscaled drawings are handy for schematics, mechanical drawings are often most useful when plotted actual size. Your front-panel drawing can do double duty as a drilling template — just tape the drawing to the panel and drill through it. A life-sized drawing also helps you judge ergonomic issues, such as control spacing,, before you build.

Industry-leading AutoCAD by Autodesk in Sausalito, Calif., still costs around \$3,000. More limited programs, including Autodesk's own AutoCAD LT, cost only a few hundred dollars. The program we use, EasyCAD by Evolution Computing based in Tempe, Ariz., costs less than \$200 in its Windows 3.1 version. (EasyCAD is available at larger software stores or factory direct from Evolution Computing.)

If you decide to upgrade later, most of the low-end CAD programs can export files to AutoCAD or other top-line programs by using drawing exchange (.DXF) files. The DOS version of EasyCAD will run well even on old slow computers.

#### CAD packages

CAD packages provide the raw materials for drawing. You can draw lines and simple shapes. Parts libraries, however, are the most valuable aspect of CAD programs. After all, no one would want to draw the squiggly lines for a schematic resistor more than once. Having stored resistor symbols means inserting one is just a matter of a mouse click or two.

CAD packages support many output devices. Windows-based programs allow for the use of any output device with a Windows driver. CAD drawings for architecture are usually made on largeformat pen and raster plotters, which can crank out blueprint-sized drawings. But small-sized drawings of acceptable quality, 300 or so dot-per-inch, can be made on standard office laser or inkiet printers. If you need a large-format, color or highresolution print, many desktop publishing programs will read .DXF files. That means your local print shop can easily turn out 2,400, or more, dot-per-inch drawings for your disk files.

#### 

Andrew Ellis is assistant technical supervisor of CBS Radio's KCBS and KRQR in San Francisco. David Wigfield is an engineer at KCBS and KRQR. Both can be reached at 415-765-4055.

### High Fidelity SSB Is Not at All an Oxymoron

#### by Al Parker

**HICKSVILLE, N.Y.** While my primary interest in amateur radio is amplitude modulation, I have come to appreciate the need for SSB.

As much as we all love the dulcet tones produced by a well tempered plate-modulated rig, only single-sideband will cut the mustard when the HF bands aren't propagating. At this ignominious juncture in the 11-year sunspot cycle, we often find ourselves running the legal limit just to be heard.

AM would be up to the challenge if not for the dirty trick played on the AM community many years back. In a thinly veiled effort to crush AM, the Feds imposed an arbitrarily low ceiling on maximum AM input power. I'll be talking more about that in the future. Suffice it to say, as things stand, many of us are forced to revert to SSB when conditions are bad. I've discovered that this is not the end of the world.

### **Tight budget**

World Radio History

After obtaining my amateur ticket, the first thing I did was make a beeline to the nearest hamfest. I was on a tight budget, but I was hopeful nevertheless that I could latch onto an old AM rig for a song. Living in New York may have some advantages culturally, but in terms of finding cheap, classic ham gear, it's a black hole. The vendors and buyers are just too savvy about the market.

That fateful Saturday it looked like the greenbacks were going to stay in my pocket. At my lowest point of despair, on my way out in fact, I spied a hapless-looking hairy chap with two enormous, gray boxes.

The two identical transmitters were incomplete, but impressive nevertheless. I looked closer and noticed, under the grime, the "Hallicrafters" name. I didn't know what that meant. Then something even more important caught my eye, three letters: DSB — doublesideband. Wow, AM!

I tried to look cool, not wanting the guy to know I was interested. I had 50 bucks. I cut to the chase. "Would you take 50?" I braced for a harsh rebuff. Much to my surprise he smiled, "Pull your car around." I wondered which one of the impressive looking rigs I'd continued on page 45 ▶

### We let Rick Dees use one and now he won't give it back!

### "Nope. No way. Forget it. This Instant Replay is mine."

Hey, we understand. After all, Instant Replay puts 1,000 of his favorite noises right in front of him — ready for instant playback. No other audio player makes it so easy to be spontaneous and creative. It's fast, it's easy and it's fun.

Check it out. One Instant Replay can store up to 16 hours of stereo sound. That's 16 hours of sound effects, spots, promos, even entire songs — anything — and you can play any of them back instantly just by pressing one of 50 Hot-Keys! There's no need for a computer and no need for training. It's self-contained and it works right out of the box — just push the buttons and go!

### Try Instant Replay Free Call 818-991-0360

To prove how Instant Replay can make your

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Transfer one cut or one Pr thousand between machines stu using the D-NET high-speed digital audio network.

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If you're a call-letter station, you can try Instant Replay for 10 days with no obligation. If you decide to buy Instant Replay, we'll make arrangements through one of our authorized dealers. Offer good in the continental US only. Offer expires July 1, 1996. *Suggested retail prices: \$2995 for 4 hours of storage; \$3495 for 8 hours of storage and \$3995 for 16 hours of storage. 360 Systems Instant Replay is a registered trademark of 360 Systems. ©1996 360 Systems.

Circle (86) On Reader Service Card

TALT REPLAY

World Radio History

See Us at NAB Booth 1605

### April 3, 1996

### - FEATURES -

I suspect that anything this elegantly simple might haveoother uses. I have

Now about the low noise block (LNB).

I knew that the connector that was open

in the building was such, because I

inserted my body in the circuit and

Hearing no increase in sound, I knew

that there was no wire beyond the con-

nector. Of the lines that toned out (indi-

cating lots of wire downstream of the

sniffer), the one without continuity had

Then, reversing the continuity checker,

I could see from the brightness of the light-emitting diode (LED) that a good

LNB conducted better in one direction

The LNB that did not exhibit that trait

The expensive LNB spectrum analyzer

said the same

thing after a

few trips to

the roof and

removing and

reconnecting

connectors a

few times. But

worth much

to have an open connector on the roof.

found many that I can't list here.

touched the center pin.

than the other.

was, of course, bad.

## Famous Team of Toner and Sniffer

#### by Frederick M. Baumgartner

**DENVER** The other day, while check- a ing out some L-band feeds on RG-11 c

from several roofmounted dish antennas, I pronounced one bad connector on the ground, one bad LNB and one open connector on the roof. The folks upon whom I laid this pronouncement were understandably skeptical, considering I

spent only a few minutes and used only a toner and a sniffer and never went up on the roof.

Most of us who work in the technical side of broadcasting find puzzle-solving enjoyable and useful. I delight in trying to glean all of the information a situation has to offer. Given that, you might not be aware of all the information a toner can give, and maybe you know a trick or two that I've missed and you can share.



#### What is it

If you stretch wires for fun or profit, you either have or need a toner and sniffer. The toner is the easy part. It is a simple audio oscillator and continuity checker built into a small plastic box. The sniffer is a larger "inductive" pickup device with a high-gain amplifier and speaker. The pair are often available for under \$100 at most electronic tool and communications supply distributors and catalogs.

In the most simple application, the toner is connected to a pair of wires as in Figure 1. Bringing the sniffer close to the pair of wires anywhere along their path allows you to hear the toner signal. Touching the sniffer to the exposed wire produces a much louder signal. If the pair is shorted, the continuity checker built into the toner will light. You will have to switch from the toner mode to the continuity check mode for this. If the pair is shorted, the signal received will be so weak as to be useless. This is the classic use of these tools: toning a pair of wires and sniffing it out along its path. It makes finding a pair of wires among other pairs easy, especially if the wires are undocumented. It also works on coax cable

This does take a little practice, largely because wires running among the toned wire will inductively pick up some of the tone. For example, if you tone a single pair of a 500-pair telephone cable, after a few feet, every pair will have some signal on it. The directly toned pair will still be considerably louder and experience counts. A thousand feet down the line, the difference in levels may not be so pronounced.

On occasion, there is only a single wire, a wire is shorted or you can only

reach the shield of a mult or coax. Figure 2 shows the use of a ground (or any large area of mostly conductive material) as a counter poise.



In this way, the sniffer will pick up the toned wire's signal even though there is only one conductor. Bleed from one wire to another is much more pronounced with this method.

The real art of toning comes when you understand your body's role as part of the circuit. The sniffer already is capacitively coupling itself to you. You are the return path for the sniffer. This is all high impedance stuff (inductive coupling if

you will). To the sniffer, you are a convenient path to ground or, at the very least, a capacitive path that is coupled to one end of the toner. This relationship is the basis

for most serious testing. If you need to increase the coupling, wrap one wire of the toner around your wrist (or the sniffer for really tough situations). Keep in mind that there must always be a complete circuit. The least obvious part is the coupling between the wire and ground (even if not grounded), and the sniffer's connection through your body (and other things) back to the toner. Figure 3 illustrates this. You can be creative establishing this path. Take advantage of capaci-



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Thanks!



tive coupling.

You can use the sniffer to find things other than the blessed toner.

The sniffer is great at finding AC wires behind walls and under floors; simply pass the sniffer near the AC wire and listen for the hum.

It can also be used as a signal tracer on PC boards and even fairly high voltage (be cautious!) circuits without harm, given its insulated nature.

Looking for interstate audio and, to a degree, IF signals takes a bit of practice. Still, there is no single tool that can help you divide the working part from the nonworking part more quickly.

Toners make a distinct audio sound. They also make distinct video on a mon-

Toner Solifier Figure 2: Using a ground return to trace wiring

itor, which is useful when tracing video display lines. There is also a certain amount of harmonics from the toner reaching well into the IF and RF regions. Sometimes these can be useful signals to have around. No RF generator? Try the toner. trace wiring of course, the sniffer wasn't

when it came to aligning the dish.

Fred Baumgartner is a special projects engineer with TCI's National Digital Television Center in Denver, Colo. He

has served as chief engineer at KDVR/KFCT and WTTV/WTTK. "IF YOU DON'T SICAL. YET OWN ONE AND YOUR COMPETITION DOES, WORRY." Review in Line Up - The Journal of the Institute of Broadcast Sound February/March 1996 + unity the world's best-sounding FM & AM processors CUTTINGEDGE TEL: (216) 241-3343 • FAX: (216) 241-4103 • E-MAIL: INFO@CUTTINGEDGE.ZEPHYR.COM

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World Radio History

### April 3, 1996

# **Cu-SeeMe Software for the Internet**

### by Tom Vernon

**HARRISBURG, Pa.** The World Wide Web is having an increasing impact on broadcasters, as it is on business in general. A growing number of stations are putting up Web pages, many complete with real-time audio. In fact, broadcast-

STATION SKETCHES

ing a station's audio over the Internet is becoming commonplace. However, a

However, a lesser-known technology exists to broadcast both audio and video on the



Internet, and a few pioneering broadcasters are putting it to good use.

CU-SeeMe can be used over the Internet to make connections to any other desktop using the same software. It works in the same manner as e-mail, except that with CU-SeeMe you have a real-time meeting with audio, video and written messages.

### **Commercial version**

Originally developed at Cornell University and available as freeware, a more robust commercial version has recently been made available through White Pine Software in Nashua, N.H.

This enhanced version of the software features color capability over higher bandwidth connections, improved audio and video algorithms and a whiteboard for collaboration during conferences. It is available on both Windows and Macintosh platforms with equivalent feature sets.

CU-SeeMe works through low bandwidth Internet connections that are facilitated via software-only video algorithms that reduce data transmission. The protocol was designed specifically for TCP/IP networks and the Internet. It can also run over ISDN networks that provide TCP/IP network support. Modem connections using SLIP or PPP are also supported, although you must have at least a 28.8 k baud connection.

While person-to-person conferencing is possible with this simple setup, broadcasting audio and video to large numbers of viewers requires a bit more. Figure 1 shows a typical setup.

Reflector technology is at the core of reaching the masses. Reflectors are really just high-end servers running the CU-SeeMe reflector software. They receive the transmission and rebroadcast (reflect) the packets to a number of connected clients.

### **Event viewing**

Promoters of noncommercial events often get others to volunteer the use of their reflectors to maximize the number of people who can view an event. Currently, reflectors for numerous platforms are available for free distribution and may be downloaded from White Pine's Web site.

Teleconferencing technology has existed for years; it was first demonstrated at the 1964 World's Fair. At that time, there was no infrastructure to support global or even national transmission of video. Satellite technology made video-teleconferencing feasible, although it was an expensive proposition. It wasn't until 1993 that researchers at Cornell University unveiled CU-SeeMe as a means to economically deliver what was first shown almost 30 years before.

A few innovative stations have been using this technology to broadcast live concerts on the Internet. KVR-9 at the University of Texas at Austin the Internet. Following the concert, the band interacted with fans via the Internet, making it a truly interactive event.

In addition to entertainment uses such as techno-rock concerts and comedy club acts, individuals and organizations are using CU-SeeMe for a variety of innovative applications. NASA-TV uses it to broadcast transmissions from the space



collaborated with MuchMusic, the allmusic television network, to launch the first CU-SeeMe rock concert.

Toad the Wet Sprocket performed live at a club in Austin; the event was videotaped and broadcast later that evening on

shuttle. Students from grade school through college are connecting globally with this technology.

In New York City, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani used it for his first interview on the World Wide Web.



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These are exciting times for the media business. Standards are currently being developed for interactive multi-user data sharing, application sharing, conference management and other video conferencing technologies.

Although a ground-breaking technology today, video conferencing and real-time multimedia will soon be as commonplace as Web browsers and e-mail.

For more information about CU-SeeMe, call White Pine Software at 603-886-9050, or check out their Web site: http://www.wpine.com.

Tom Vernon divides his time between consulting and completion of a doctoral degree. He works for the award-winning WXPN in Philadelphia. You can e-mail Tom at tlvernon@aol.com or call 717-367-5595.



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#### 38 Radio World

**KEYBOARD CONNECTION** 

- FEATURES -

data files and passed along via LANs and the Internet.

# **Inoculate Your PC against Viruses**

### by Barry Mishkind

**TUCSON, Ariz.** Perhaps you remember four years ago in March when there was a worldwide scare over the potential effects of the Michelangelo virus. Some people shut down their computers or changed the system date.

### Be prepared

Others ran anti-virus programs and kept working. A few did nothing, and of that group there were a few reports of lost data. Overall, it was proclaimed to be an example of media hype valuable only in alerting people to the potential disaster they faced if they did not pay attention to computer security. Cynics called it a good sales job by the anti-virus software writers.

While there is no reason to panic, it is necessary to consider the effect on your station if one or more of your computers was suddenly wiped clean. Hopefully you are backing up your critical data on a regular basis.

Yet, even with a backup, it can take hours to restore normal operation after a virus attack, and you could still lose valuable data.

A good virus detection and cleaning program is very important for every facility. **New factors** 

This is truer today than ever before. While many companies felt they could keep their computers clean by staying with commercial software and not allowing diskettes to come in from outside, there are three new factors that should not be overlooked.

The first threat comes from a new breed of viruses that attack from what might appear to be a different direction, from inside your applications.

They are known as macro viruses because they are usually written using the scripting language found in programs like Microsoft Word or Excel. These macros can be hidden inside An unsuspecting user can be infected while reading e-mail. Some of the macros have already been identified and can be fixed with up-to-date versions of programs like Dr. Solomon's Anti-Virus Toolkit or the Norton AntiVirus.

These macros range from the inconvenient "Colors," which randomly changes in Word documents, to "Concept," which attaches itself to the template that sets the standards for every file produced on the computer.

### **Gift horses**

A worrisome variant is the macro Trojan horse. While they do not replicate, they can be set to delete key files or reformat a hard drive while appear-

continued on next page

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ing to do the expected task.

The second sort of problem worth attention is the potential for viruses that are written to attack 32-bit operating systems like Windows 95. These would not be detected by older 16-bit virus scanners.

Both Dr. Solomon's and Norton's programs have been updated to detect and fix these new hazards, and upgrades are available from the manufacturers.

Finally, hackers have been reported to hide viruses and Trojan horses in some applications using the Internet. Instructions can be embedded in Web pages to automatically download files and programs to your computer, either for immediate activation or for future infection.

If you do a lot of surfing on strange World Wide Web sites, you may consider isolating the computer from any local network in your building. That way, if you do get hit, no virus or Trojan horse will be able to migrate through your entire facility.

Similarly, watch your incoming email, especially any unfamiliar files in your download directory. Before running them, it is a good idea to scan them with a virus scanner.

 $\star \star \star$ 

Most people really do not care how the computer does what it does. All they want is to be able to turn it on and have the necessary programs come up so they can get on with the job at hand.

File management is not a real problem; when problems do come up, such as a missing file, they just ask someone for help.

Others want to know as much as possible about what goes on inside the computer, especially in regard to the files that accumulate (under Windows, a directory can contain 400 or more files).

Within the limits of the hard drive's capacity, power users often save most of the files and e-mail that finds it way onto the system. Locating a specific file can be a job.

Personally, I am pretty picky about the file manager I use. I have tried a number of them over the years, and once I find one I like, it is hard to get me to move on.

Magellan was great. It was fast, and could rapidly scan through files ---even .ZIP files — searching for any word pattern. However, it is no longer supported, and some newer file formats stump Magellan.

XtreeGold was also nice and fast, especially the DOS version. But it too is no longer being developed, and chokes on long file names generated by the latest programs.

#### **Flexible options**

The Norton Navigator (NN) seems to be one of the best file managers now available. Complete with utilities, including one to add long file names to older applications, the Navigator has several features that really speed up maintenance chores.

For example, you can archive files simply and quickly by dragging them to a viseclamp icon to "squeeze" the files into a zip file. Want to make them a self-extracting .EXE file so you can give a copy to someone who might not have PKUNZIP?

Just change the extension from .ZIP to

### A good virus detection and cleaning program is very important for every facility.

- FEATURES -

.EXE and Navigator instantly makes the file changes for you.

To get a zipped file is just as easy; NN displays the files in any zip file. All you do is drag the file you seek to the Decompress icon.

### $\star \star \star$

If you have been to your local bookshop, you may have noticed the tremendous increase in computer books. Part of this is due to the trend

away from unlimited free technical support. However, there are also efforts to produce clear, understandable books. so that the reader can find the needed help and get back to work.

Osborne/McGraw-Hill is one of the publishers bringing out new books aimed at getting you to the key information quickly.

First, the "Certified Tech Support" series offers answers to the most frequently asked questions with short steps and pictures. "Windows 95

Answers" is one such book. Other titles cover Excel, 123, Word, Netware, OS/2 and more. For those with no time at all for hunting answers, the "For Busy People" series really boils down the essentials of such topics as the Internet, Windows 95, Word and others.

Full color screenshots make sure you can duplicate what you see in the book and get the most of your computer time. 

For information from S&S, makers of Dr. Solomon's, call 617-273-7400. For Norton users, call Symantec at 800-441-7234. Barry Mishkind can be reached at 520-296-3797, or barry@broadcast.net via the Internet. Check out his home page at http://www.broadcast.net/~ba rry/



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World Radio History

### April 3, 1996

- FEATURES -

Radio World 43

Digital Audio Needs an 'Eye' Test

### by Jim Somich

**BROADVIEW HEIGHTS, Ohio** As we move into the digital era, it is important that we develop a solid technical foundation. The testing and troubleshooting of digital audio is no more difficult than that of analog audio, once its basics are understood.

The Audio Engineering Society/ European Broadcast Union (AES/EBU) format is the most popular digital-audio format used today. To test and troubleshoot audio equipment that uses the AES/EBU format, you need special test equipment. Conventional analog test equipment will not work because it is not designed to work with digital signals. Digital-audio test sets are becoming more common and are available from companies such as Tektronix. Unfortunately, prices are still quite high, but that will change as digital totally replaces analog in our systems.

The AES/EBU format supports two channels of multiplexed digital audio with embedded clock and data in a serial data-stream. The location of rising and falling edges of the signal determines the logic state of the bits. Resolution can be as high as 24 bits, although most systems use only 16 bits (consumer version) or 20 bits (professional version). Sample rates can range from 32 kHz to 48 kHz, and the maximum data rate is 3.072 Mbps.

In analog systems, we are used to dealing with audio signals that are continuous. AES/EBU digital-audio equipment sends and receives digital audio in individual 64-bit packets called frames. Each frame contains two sub-frames, A and B, each having 32-bit intervals. The first 4bit intervals are synchronization characters. The next 24-bit intervals are the digital-audio data arranged from Least Significant Bit (LSB) to Most Significant Bit, (MSB) in 2's complement format. In applications that use less than 24 bits, unused bits are 0s. The final 4-bit intervals contain control information.

Timing problems are common in digital-audio systems and can result in ugly digital distortions. Signal transitions must occur within a small interval or else the signal may become corrupted. Short-term deviations cause jitter, which propagates throughout the digital-audio system, getting worse at each link. Long-term deviations affect sample-rate accuracy, making system clocks unstable and inaccurate.

Noise and interference can also cause problems with the high-bandwidth signal. This is especially true for the consumer AES/EBU systems, which use an unbalanced signal with amplitudes ranging from 200 mV to 1 V. Noise degrades the signal amplitude, and systems may not be able to lock onto a signal and recognize data transitions. Interference, such as reflections and ringing, can also degrade amplitude and affect performance.

To prevent noise and interference from obscuring signals, you must use cables designed for digital systems and be sure they are properly terminated. Industry standard connectors for digital systems are the common XLR microphone connector for professional (balanced) systems and the RCA phono connector for consumer (unbalanced) systems.

Consumer systems are based on the SDIF (Sony Digital Interface Format) or SPDIF (Sony-Philips Digital Interface Format). These consumer formats are almost identical to the AES/EBU professional format for the actual digital program data, but are quite different in the details. What this means is that you can usually establish compatibility between AES/EBU and SDIF or SPDIF, but you will lose some of the peripheral data in the process, such as indexing information.

A third type of problem is equipment incompatibility. Incompatibility may occur if transmitting and receiving devices operate at different sample rates. For example, if you try to use a digital tape recorder with a 48 kHz sample rate to record audio from a CD player with a 44.1 kHz sample rate, the recording may contain "clicks," other periodic artifacts or no audio at all. This can happen even though the inputs and outputs are electrically compatible. Transmitters and receivers using different data formats cause similar incompatibilities.

continued on page 50





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### - FEATURES -

# High-Fidelity Single Side Band

#### continued from page 33

bought. I got my answer when the Grizzly Adams lookalike overburdened my car's rear suspension with both monsters. I didn't realize it at the time, but that old duffer had launched me on an odyssey.

#### Little power

When I got home I took a closer look at what my 50 bucks had bought. I grimaced. Two weeks and three cans of tuner cleaner later. I had one working unit hobbled together out of the two. It was a

The audio is split into two components, 90 degrees out of phase. The carrier is suppressed in the balanced modulators. Because the sidebands are out of phase, one is canceled out and the other enhanced. This system can produce better audio than crystal filter systems. Filters depend on a kind of brute force, sliceand-dice approach. Even the best crystal filters knock off lows and highs, imparting the usual restricted SSB sound.

Some might wonder why all manufacturers eventually opted for "inferior" crys-

### The old rig was only capable of producing about 20 W of "screen-modulated" AM. So big and so little power.

Hallicrafters HT-37. I was ready to go on AM. About the time I had the unit all wired-in and teamed-up with a disreputable National NC-109 receiver, I received a copy of the HT-37 instructional manual. I discovered, much to my horror. that the old rig was only capable of producing about 20 W of "screen-modulated" AM. So big and so little power.

It was really just an SSB rig with a provision for low-level AM. Now I really felt cheated. After a few frustrating attempts to be heard at that puny power level. I turned my efforts toward finding a real AM transmitter. I eventually found a Johnson Ranger. The HT-37 languished.

I had hi-fi, plate-modulated audio and all was well - for a while. As the number of sunspots waned, I started having more and more trouble communicating with my friends on 50 W of AM. I thought about upping the ante; maybe I could homebrew a bigger plate-modulated rig. I had lots of big ideas, but no modulation transformer.

I also wondered about the advisability of running a high-power AM rig in my congested suburban neighborhood. One of my buddies remembered that I had the HT-37. Sideband would be better than nothing at all, at least until I could get more AM power.

### **Slop-bucket**

I fired up the 37 and decided to do something a little unconventional. After experiencing the impeccable audio of the Ranger, I couldn't just go cold-turkey on "slop-bucket" (the AMers' nickname for SSB). I moved the electret mic and miniature equalizer I'd been using with the Ranger over the HT-37 position. If I couldn't have AM audio, at least I could play DJ with a boom mic.

After customizing the EQ to suit the characteristics of the rig's audio chain, 1 checked in with my regular group, apologizing profusely for being on SSB. Much to my amazement. I didn't receive any cat calls. To the contrary, I got raves. Imagine raves from dedicated, prejudiced AMers.

I'd stumbled into something called "phasing sideband generation." A friend and avid Hallicrafters collector, Scott Richards (WB8 RAV), explained that the HT-37, and a few other rigs manufactured in the 1950s and '60s, featured a system of sideband generation based on the phase relationships between the carrier and sidebands in a modulated signal.

tal SSB generators? The answer is simple. Phasing systems produced better audio but were more likely to go out of adjustment. Every time I change a tube or even move the HT-37, I have to make some minor tweaks on the phasing unit to keep the opposite sideband properly suppressed.

Even on its best day, I can only achieve about 35 to 40 dB suppression of the opposite sideband. Even a slight misalignment can result in the unwanted sideband zooming up in signal strength. Hallicrafters rigs of the same vintage featuring crystal filters could achieve better than 50 dB suppression, even after being dropped off a cliff.

Having been weaned on AM, I am more than willing to make an occasional adjustment to achieve SSB audio reproduction approaching the quality of amplitude modulation. Because most of my communications are with members of the AM community, a little unsuppressed opposite sideband isn't a big deal. It's about as noticeable as a leper colony.

The Hallicrafters HT-37, Central Electronics 20A and other such phasing rigs are gaining in popularity, stimulated by the new emphasis on hi-fi audio. Vintage SSB equipment is slowly gaining in popularity as AMers set higher standards of audio for everyone.

It's important to remember that early SSB rigs were competing in an AM market. The manufacturers had to soften the shock of transition by making their sideband rigs sound full-bodied. Only after AM went into its temporary period of darkness or "suspended animation" in the '70s did manufacturers get away with building sideband rigs with dreadful, almost telephonic, audio. Fortunately, we're coming full circle, back into the light.

#### Name that transmitter

One afternoon, a few months back, I was in for another one of those ham radio learning experiences. I was in my usual scheduled QSO, on AM due to the improved afternoon 75-meter propagation common to December. A sideband station broke in. I was feeling particularly selfsatisfied that day. On hearing the distinctive, crystal-clear audio, featuring extended highs and lows. I boasted of my ability to identify the breaker's rig by ESP. The dignified gentleman played along. "Sir, I'll bet you're transmitting on a Hallicrafter HT-37." I was undaunted. "OK, then it's a Central 20A." He laughed again and I was stumped.

When he revealed that he was running a Kenwood 950 DSP, I practically fell off my chair. The darn thing sounded like a vintage phasing rig. Of course, the Neumann mic didn't hurt either.

Puzzled, I did some investigating. It turns out that those clever folks at Kenwood were smart enough to leap forward by looking back. Incredibly, that 950 DSP is a phasing rig. Using modern solid-state digital electronics, they have produced an amazing, albeit pricey, machine that generates SSB the

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same way a classic HT-37 does, sans the fussy adjustments.

Thanks to advanced technology, the superior audio comes at no cost in reliability or opposite sideband suppression. In fact the 60 dB suppression beats most modern crystal filter rigs. Other bonuses include digital readout, built-in receiver and all the automation most of us vintage users put down in public but secretly admire.

In an imperfect world there are times when one must compromise. The important thing is to compromise in a way that preserves one's dignity. Thanks to a wonderful old idea married to new technology, single sideband can be a very dignified way to compromise.

Al Parker writes about amateur radio and photography. He can be reached at 516-681-6733

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### BOTTOMLINE BROADCASTER **Bare Bones Telephone Box**

you do something?!"

modem, plug in a mic and headphone,

Figure 1 shows the circuit, which, you

will agree, is simple and unsophisticated.

The design criteria were minimum com-

ponents, maximum battery life and

The unit has its own dialer, so you don't

even need a telephone. There are two

inputs, one microphone and one high lev-

and you are back in business.

straightforward circuitry.

### by Jim Murphy

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. With all the remotes and sporting events nowadays, the modern broadcast engineer may spend more time on location than in the office or at the workbench. At these sites, challenges abound as the engineer pokes about, trying to find power - hopefully properly grounded — and places to set up mixers and hang wireless antennas, and, well, you know how it is. You've been there, right?

### Lots of needs

Even though electronic boxes are getting smaller, for some reason the equipment needs are greater; now we have headphone mixers and amps, foldback equipment, wireless mics, tiny tape recorders, referees' mics, crowd mics, floor mics, links to locker rooms and talkback circuits. All this is in addition to the main remote console. Then, there are the codecs and the ISDN modems ... and Switched 56 ... whew!

So we set up this backbreaking array of equipment, connect all the wires, establish the link to the studio and patiently await the kickoff, or tipoff or the beginning of the remote.

As the broadcast gets under way, you settle back at your mixer to cruise through the first segment. Suddenly all this wonderful, modern equipment goes dead. Plop. Nothing. ISDN and SW56 are dead. Mixer is dead.

Now, there may be hundreds, even thousands, of people around you, but not a single one of them can help. You try to find someone to go find someone, somewhere, and fetch them to help you get power back. Maybe even to tell you what is wrong, when it will be fixed - anything to give you answers for the announcers. And even though these malfunctions are clearly out of your control,

and even though you had absolutely nothing to do with their demise, and even though you are miles away from a friendly body to help you, the program people

el, and a single headphone output that can monitor both transmit and receive. If your studio has the capability, you can receive talkback down the line during commercial breaks.

Although I have used the AMI S2559 chip, any DTMF encoder could be used. These are even sold as a keypad unit, but



the cost is usually above \$65. You can always toss you a look that asks, "can't build it cheaper. The S2559 chip utilizes a readily available TV colorburst crystal. Our Bare Bones Telephone Box might just help out, and could get you out of a Others use a 1 MHz crystal and work just jam by keeping the broadcast going, as well, although they may be a bit hardalbeit telephone quality. The box is small er to find. Also, make sure your keypad is enough to fit in any corner of your travel a matrix type; i.e., one that connects rows to columns. There are others on the marcase and the setup is quick and easy; just find an old analog line, such as a fax or ket, so be aware of the configurations.

> during the dial time extends battery life. Output circuitry utilizes an SSM-2142 line driver made by Analog Devices. This chip is designed to work into a low impedance load and has no trouble driving a telephone line. The mic and tape amplifiers are OP-275s, but an ordinary op-amp could be used. I would highly recommend that you graduate from the

> Pressing the Push-to-Dial switch only

741 family and move into the later generations. Working with a 741 is analogous to operating an 8-bit computer or using a green screen monitor.

Nine-volt batteries provide the differential voltage for the operational amplifiers, and four AA cells can power the dial circuitry. Battery life is excellent if you place a dual SPST switch in the +9 and -9 lines.

This project can be built in a 5-inch by 7-inch box of normal depth, unless you want to get fancy and use VU meters, a microphone switch, large knobs or extra headphone jacks. If you desire all these features, choose a larger box, but be aware of your battery life. Of course, you could substitute larger batteries, which would require a larger box to house them, and on and on. Soon you will be housing the unit in a circus trunk.

Point-to-point wiring works fine. You might want to protect the input to the OP-275 by placing diodes in both directions from the input terminal to ground. This will keep spikes from destroying the chips.

Note that the 50 mf caps in series with each leg of the telephone line must be nonpolarized types. If you can't get them, you can simulate them as shown in the inset. Just make sure they can handle at least 100 volts. Making your own does use up valuable space, so try to get the NP types.

Remember that this is a bare bones unit with no fancy frills and is intended to act as an emergency set, or maybe as a news stringer's interface on occasion, like every other presidential election. The box should be as small and rugged as possible, with easy access to the battery packs.

When everything goes dead, haul out your box, plug in a plain old telephone (POT) line, press and dial. When the studio answers, flip the hold switch, pass the mic to the announcer, and resume your broadcast. Never again will you get "the look" or hear those words, "can't you do something?!" Because now you can!

James Murphy is the director of engineering for West irginia Radio Corp. Reach him care of RW.





### AM EMISSIONS Examining Your AM Emissions

by Thomas G. Osenkowsky

April 3, 1996

**BROOKFIELD, Conn.** The annual ritual of performing AM emissions measurements has recently passed. Some owners groan about spending money to make annual emissions measurements; however, it must be realized that some laws do have their merits.

While installing new transmitters on a south Caribbean island, I noticed considerable interference on our 1270 kHz frequency. I located a station on 1320 kHz splattering over 100 kHz either side of carrier. A government telecommunications officer The offi-

Equation 1 F(Mhz) Reject = -	1					
r (lunc) Kejeci =	2 * 11 * Cuf *Luh					

cial told me he was aware of the splattering, but that the government had no emissions regulation in place that he could enforce.

Why do we measure emissions in the field instead of at the transmitter site? Let's consider an actual station. The antenna tuning unit (ATU) is shown in Figure 1. Given the component values, what is the expected amount of second harmonic signal at the antenna terminals given 1000 W of transmitter power and a second harmonic power of 100 W (assume the harmonic filter in the transmitter failed) being fed into a 180-degree radiator at 1490 kHz. The answer: theoretically zero at 2980 kHz.

Examining the ATU design, I specifically chose the shunt-leg capacitor and inductor to series-resonate at 2980 kHz, thereby shunting all second harmonic energy to ground while providing the correct capacitive reactance at 1490 kHz for a -59 degree Tee network. Equation 1 is used to calculate the series-resonant frequency, Equation 2 is used to design the shunt branch to resonate at a higher frequency than Fc for a lagging Tee or a lower frequency than Fc for a leading Tee.

Failed or misadjusted transmitter output network components, loose ATU or antenna hardware, and a host of other anomalies can cause out-of-band emissions. In one station, I found roasting mice that had been laid upon an ATU coil and were causing intermittent second and third harmonics in excess of 30 dB above FCC limits. These problems would show up in the field and be evidenced on a radio receiver.

Harmonic measurements can yield different results depending on the measuring instrument. If we measure harmonics at 1 kilometer using a spectrum analyzer or communications receiver and a calibrated field intensity meter, the data may not correlate. The spectrum analyzer or receiver is typically fed from an untuned antenna that has different characteristics at different frequencies given a fixed length.

Different monitoring locations can produce drastically different results as well. External influences such as underground pipes, power lines and fences can have widely different propagation characteristics at different frequencies, i.e., fifth harmonic.

A good starting place for harmonic and spurious emissions is at the transmitter while playing into a dummy load. Any

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	$4 * \Pi^2 * Ft^2 * Cuf$	
	Fc = Carrier Frequency, Mhz	
	Ft = Trap Frequency, Mhz	
	Xs = Required Shunt Reactance, ohms	

problems noted in the field can be due either to a faulty antenna/coupling system or an external influence at the measuring location. Tom Osenkowsky is a Connecticut-based engi-

neer. Reach him care of **RW**.



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### **U.S. Border Stations Cash In on Canada**

Radio Stations Along the U.S.-Canada Border Are Taking Advantage of Their Listeners to the North

### by James Careless

OTTAWA There are a lot of stations clustered along the U.S.-Canada border. And the smart ones are taking advantage of that fact, by formatting themselves not just to serve domestic tastes, but those across the border as well.

Ironically, it is the Canadian broadcast regulator that has given these stations a competitive edge.

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) has done this in two ways. First, it requires all radio stations to play Canadian songs at least 30 percent of the time. Second, the commission forces FMs to play "non-hits" at least 50 percent of the time, in order to preserve AM as a music medium.

### Much in common

In order to get a handle on cross-border broadcasting, RW contacted four stations along the U.S.-Canada border. Although they are located in different locations, all four have much in common.

KISM-FM is located in Bellingham, Wash., right across the border from British Columbia. Its 50,000 watts allows KISM to cover much of Seattle and Vancouver.

Sixty percent of the station's audience is Canadian, according to general manager Rick Staeb.

"Our main listening area is all along the

rock-style format. Hence, when it comes to programming, Kingston is "as important a market to us as is the Watertown area.'

WQHR-FM (AC) and WBPW-FM (Country) are both 100,000 W powerhouses located in Presque Isle, Maine, across the border from the Canadian province of New Brunswick. Their audiences are split roughly 50/50 between the two countries.

Both stations are run by General Manager Keith Mede. He's an expatriate Canadian, as is the primary owner of WQHR and WBPW.

### **Know the rules**

Mede himself is "very familiar with the limitations (imposed on stations) by the CRTC." That's why he moved to Maine, where it's easier to do business, "yet have an impact on the Canadian market."

As mentioned earlier, all of these stations use similar tactics to attract Canadian listeners and advertising revenues.

The first thing they do is to "de-Americanize" their call sign, to make it sound more domestic to Canadian listeners.

For instance, KISM is identified on-air as "The Independent Rock Station." WQHR is simply "Q-86," and WBPW is "Hot Country 97.

"We really play down our positioning," says Mede. "We never say the 'W' except

presentation, so that the Canadian listeners really don't know which country they're listening to.

"We're very generic about the times and our location," said Keith Mede, "even how we program ourselves from a news and sports standpoint. "We try to ride the fence. We don't carry



local high school basketball because when you are in Presque Isle, what does that mean to someone in Edmundston, New Brunswick?'

Staeb added, "We do our temperature in both Fahrenheit and Celsius. We will also do regional news stories, both Vancouver and Washington.'

Next, the stations take advantage of their freedom from Canadian content and hit-tononhit ratios to play the music Canadians want to hear. Interestingly, this doesn't mean that they ignore Canadian artists, just the ones that are obscure.

For instance, WQHR and WBPW give

airplay to Canadians like Bryan Adams, Alanis Morrisette and Shania Twain.

**Bionic Broadcaster** 

Works 106-hour Week

page 51.

"It's Canadian content, but it's recognizable to our American audience as well," savs Mede

The fourth tactic these stations employ is to aggressively pursue Canadian sales. In fact, all four have sales teams in both coun-

tries, reporting differing degrees of success in closing deals in Canada.

### Great percentage

For instance, Bilodeau said that "we get a great percentage of revenue and ratings from Kingston, for the most part ... you just go out and sell.

Mede also reports success, helped by the fact that his stations aren't unionized, while his competitors across the border are. Because of this, "our rate structure is lower

than our Canadian counterparts, who have less audience.3

However, Rick Staeb said that covering two countries, plus fighting the interference problems caused by the Rocky Mountains, can make sales difficult. "The geography is such that it is challenging to get McDonald's of Canada and Mcdonald's of the United States to look at our total coverage.

The fifth thing these stations do is to promote themselves in Canada, not just with PSAs, but appearances, concert sponsorships, and community good works.

We've had the chance to present continued on page 50



border," said Staeb, "all the way from Victoria on Vancouver Island, all the way east into Abbotsford, Chilliwack and up the Fraser River Valley.

WCIZ-FM is located in Watertown, N.Y., across Lake Ontario from Kingston, Ont., and a host of other smaller towns in Canada's most populous province.

### **Cross-border action**

Established in 1988, "CIZ" was created with the cross-border audience in mind, according to program director Ted Bilodeau. That's because CIZ reaches 250,000 Canadians with its 100,000 W transmitter, said Bilodeau, as opposed to 200,000 Americans.

As well, Kingston is a university town, which is a natural target for CIZ's classic

the once per hour that we have to."

Meanwhile WCIZ is simply known as "CIZ Watertown-Kingston," a trick that plays on the fact that Canadian callsigns all start with "C."

This tactic was chosen when the station first decided on its call sign, recalled Bilodeau. Station management knew that they had to start their U.S. callsign with a "W," so they decided to "make it 'W-Csomething' and use 'C-da-da-da' on the air, just to help our Canadian audience relate a little better to the station." (Ironically, CIZ's use of the letter "Z" is a dead giveaway. That's because station announcers pronounce this letter "Zee," while Canadians pronounce it "Zed.")

The second tactic is to extend this generic approach to all aspects of on-air

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### - RUNNING RADIO -

### **Border Stations Cash In**

(Canadian) people like Tom Cochrane, Jeff Healey, Kim Mitchell — people like that — at shows even in Kingston," says Bilodeau. "We also try to do a lot for the community ... we employ Canadians and we pay Canadian taxes. We do everything we can to help the community and, as they say, 'give back,'" a strategy that includes collecting 4 tons of food for a Kingston charity.

### On remote in Canada

"We go on location," said Mede. "We'll do contesting, we'll stop in malls. We'll take station vehicles to different trade shows and events, and broadcast from them." In order to satisfy Canadian law, Mede does this with Canadian talent.

And the final tactic these station use? They keep their noses clean with the



Canadian government, especially Customs. "It's a challenge," said Bilodeau. We've had to learn the requirements for crossing the border, but it's easy, y'know: follow the



Despite buzzards, RF interference, and abandoned coul mines, the crew at K-LAKE 97.7 FM broadcast 24 hours per day, 7 days per week in Mount Pleasant, Texas. Clockwise from left, Bobby D. Moore, morning DJ and Program Director; Mary O'Connell, Traffic Coordinator and Office Manager; Donna Hill, Sales Manager and Co-Owner; Bob Hill, Co-Owner and General Manager.

### The Buzzard Damaged Everything, But We Still Kept Broadcasting

"...One time, a buzzard landed on a power line and snapped it. That line fell into another line and voltage just shot through this end of town. We had \$10,000 worth of damage to the transmitter and almost every piece of equipment we owned was damaged. We had the SMARTCASTER plugged into a wall, not even through a surge protector, and it worked great. It survived "The Buzzard Incident' and kept us on air.

"But not only are they reliable, SMARTS products are intelligent as well. A friend of mine who's in the business was visiting from out of town. He was listening to us while driving in from the Dallas-Fort Worth airport. The first thing he said when he saw me was, 'Man, I thought you guys were live.' He just couldn't tell. The SMARTCASTER handles the satellite feeds, logging, and local hard drive programming seamlessly. And because we have our sound card broadcasting at 16 MHz, we have rich digital sound without any digital hiss or popping.

"SMARTS is a class company with dependable, reliable products. And it's all because they're all former broadcasters themselves, so they already know the challenges we face.

"Hey, I've got plenty of stories about John and Jan at SMARTS. Call me at (903) 577-9770, and I'll tell you how SMARTS has been instrumental to our success." –Bob Hill

World Radio History

rules and it's great."

As noted off the top of this article, all four of these U.S. border stations have a substantial Canadian following; in fact, it makes up 50 percent or more of their total audience.

Sometimes the impact of this market penetration can be astounding.

For instance, Canadian ratings show that "Hot Country 97" is "the number one station in the Canadian market, with the exception of Fredericton (the provincial capital and only major city in the region), of course," said Mede. Meanwhile, "on my AC station (Q-96) I have a 1-800 line, and I take anywhere from 9-12,000 Canadian request calls per month."

The bottom line: chasing listeners in Canada pays off for U.S. border stations, thanks in no small part to the CRTC.

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continued from page 43

To troubleshoot digital-audio problems, you need equipment designed specifically for digitalaudio testing. Confidence monitors, for example, verify that signals are making their way through patch panels and cable harnesses. You also use them to monitor and modify the control bits. Digital-audio monitors are the modern equivalent of VU meters, which measure signal levels. In addition, digital audio monitors measure data-stream activity, including data format, sample rate and channel status.

### Eye diagrams

For detailed testing and analysis, you need an instrument that can generate eye diagrams. Eye diagrams (Figure 1) show bit transition activity and the shape of the waveforms. With eye diagrams, you can detect jitter, interference and frequency response problems. Jitter shows up as a smearing of the normally crisp edges of the eye diagram. Attenuation in long cable runs shows up as a reduction in overall eye height.

Because eye diagrams measure only peak-to-peak jitter, you may also want to analyze the frequency content of the jitter. By measuring the jitter spectrum with a digital-audio measurement set, you may be able to find the source of the jitter. Fluorescent lights, for example, often cause jitter with a 120 Hz frequency component.

Digital-audio sets can also let you monitor individual bits in the datastream. You can monitor the amount of time a bit interval is logical 0 or logical 1. Because AES/EBU digital-audio systems use the 2's complement format, each data bit should be a "1" 50 percent of the time and a "0" 50 percent of the time. If your measurement varies significantly from 50 percent, you have a problem with one of your system's components. You can also monitor the status of the control bits with the digital-audio set. The use of these bits is not standard. For example, some units set the validity control bit when they use error correction. Other units may not use this bit in the same way and refuse to reproduce the audio when this bit is set. The only way to diagnose this type of equipment incompatibility is to monitor the control bits.

Understanding the basics of how AES/EBU datastreams work and how digital-audio devices communicate is important when dealing with digital-audio products. This understanding, and the knowledge that the right test equipment is available, will help unravel the mysteries of AES/EBU equipment and make troubleshooting considerably easier.

Jim Somich is a radio broadcast engineering consultant and president of MicroCon Systems Ltd., a manufacturer of broadcast equipment. He can be reached at 216-546-0967.

### April 3, 1996

OFFBEAT RADIO

### - RUNNING RADIO -

### Illinois Broadcaster Works 106-hour Week

### by Lee Harris

**NEW YORK** Who is the favorite air personality at WDUK(FM) in Havana, Ill.? You'd have to say it's Win Stimson.

While his voice is a little on the creaky side, Win gets a lot of airtime on WDUK. He pulls the 6 to 10 shift at the station. That's 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Saturday. He also works a little on Sundays, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Five days a week

You see, Win is really the only air personality at the 3 kW class A station. He's also the general manager, sales manager, program director, traffic manager and every other job title you can think of, including owner.

You're probably thinking WDUK is automated, and Win cuts voice tracks or takes a satellite service. Wrong. Win is actually on his little five-channel Sparta board 16 hours a day (10 on Sunday)

tisers, does the logs, writes the copy, handles the sales orders, puts the bills in the mail and tries to grab a bite to eat now and then.

It may sound like radio hell, but Win is not an unhappy man. All the usual questions (like, how can you stand it?) bring rather unusual answers.

The heyday of Havana, Ill., was back in the 1920s, when the small city was a major port of operation for bootleggers running their booze up and down the Illinois River. The big money left town with the repeal of prohibition, and the years haven't been kind to Havana. When Win joined WDUK in 1970, the then new station had a small but reasonable complement of employees. Win bought out the owners in 1973, and continued doing business as usual. Then really hard times hit Havana and surrounding Mason County. Major employers shut down and the county suffered one of the highest unemploy-

Win is actually on his little five-channel Sparta board 16 hours a day (10 on Sunday) unless his wife or teenage daughter steps in to relieve him.

unless his wife or teenage daughter steps in to relieve him for awhile.

He does the news, he spins Country and Pop hits, keeps an eye on some syndicated shows, plays the spots (mostly voiced by him), answers the phone, calls adverment rates in the nation. The local economy suffered enormously and as employees left, Win couldn't afford to replace them. By 1989, it was down to Win and his wife, Mary.



It was mid-day. Win was tracking albums and calling out for fresh ad copy in between cuts. He was also compiling information for his noon report. Win looked a little pale, but as he explained his work schedule, it became clear that he didn't get much sun.

Not much has changed in the past seven years. WDUK did relocate to a new house-like building at the transmitter site, but the studio equipment is the same. The Sparta board, a couple of old Tapecaster cart-machines, a pair of rumble-bucket turntables, a consumer grade cassette deck, and Win's sole concession to changing times ... a CD player, also consumer grade, all going out over the air in glorious mono. There's a little production studio too, with an even smaller Sparta board and a Tapecaster cart record unit.

### Done by hand

For Win, far removed from the multitrack glamour and union regulated hours of major market radio, it's enough. The AP wire service became too expensive, so it's gone. There's no computer. All traffic and billing is done by hand. Mary used to help with the paperwork, but she developed a hereditary retina disease and she's now legally blind.

Daughter Jennifer, however, is now 18, and having grown up in the radio station, can fill in for her father in virtually any capacity. She even pulls all of Dad's hours when Win and Mary try to get away for a day or two every few years.

Most operators faced with Win's challenges would opt for the obvious solution - some sort of automation or satellite service. Win's not interested. He said WDUK is primarily a local information station.

"I never want to give up control over the music," Win said. As for the impossible hours he imposes upon himself, he said, "I really don't mind. I like listening to the music we play, and the information we broadcast. I don't even mind the paperwork. Before I got into the business I used to listen to the radio, and that's what I do now.'

WDUK is about 30 miles southwest of Peoria. Surely in the age of duopolies, Win has had decent offers for the station?

'Oh yes, we've been approached. But I don't know what else I'd do. I have no ambition to operate another station. I don't think I'd be a good manager. I'm real happy with what we're doing right now."

Well, there's one you don't hear every day in this business, all the more amazing considering the source. While economic pressures and competing technologies continue to hammer the radio business, Win Stimson sits serenely at the helm of WDUK, holding the wheel steady, hardly noticing the storm of change crashing all around him.

Lee Harris, former station owner/manager, is currently morning anchor at allnews WINS(AM) in New York

# Running Radio Marketplace For information on the services shown below, circle the Reader or contact the advertiser directly

I visited Win about that time, and found



on affordable advertising call Simone at 1-800-336-3045.

Recording Studio owners/managers and engineers with your message. For information

Direct From Music City, USA The Nashville Record Review, hosted by Katie Haas and Bill Cody, counts down Country's Top 40 with a four-hour weekly syndicated radio program produced on compact disc.

For more information contact: East: Ken Mullane (203) 965-6423 West: Lynn Wells (303) 771-9800

**Reader Service No. 195** 

### **RUNNING RADIO** -

### PROMO POWER Learn from Disastrous Promotions

### by Mark Lapidus

**FAIRFAX, Va.** Fun! Isn't that why you got into radio to begin with? If you're not having fun doing radio, then your attitude and approach deserve a little modification.

A friend of mine and I were recently swapping stories about unusual promotions we've done and the funny (and sometimes not so funny) things that have gone wrong with them. We concluded that there are lessons to be learned.

Hey, this sounds like a great excuse for telling tales and having a few laughs. If after reading some of these you remember something you'd like to share, drop me an e-mail or a fax. When I get enough stories, I'll write a follow-up column. Meanwhile, check out this array of promotions gone awry and hopefully they'll spark an occasional grin.

**Pizza Speed Eating Contest:** The concept was to draw attention to a new restaurant and its delicious pizza. The on-air promotion part worked: every booth was filled with picture-perfect families. The contestant who ate the most pizza in 20 minutes would win the grand prize: a big \$105 in cash!

Stacks of pizza were brought out and the stop-watch was started ... ready, set ... eat! Ten minutes later the first contestant threw up. He was discreet, vomiting into his napkin behind the table. Okay ... that's reasonable ... maybe he wasn't feeling too well before he started eating. Two minutes later, things got a little out of hand when contestant number two lost his cookies in his lap. Less than a minute after that, contestant number three puked directly into the pizzas laid out on the table. Contestants four, five and six promptly added their freshly chewed morsels to the fray. And that's when I noticed the pretty families leaving in mass numbers.

You win \$5,000 dollars: The day this happened the group president was visiting. The timing was great! He was going to hear us give away a huge prize live on the air to a very happy listener. We only did this once a week. The contest was easy. Listen for the Song of the Day, be the 10th caller after the song ends and win \$5,000.

The song ended. The DJ went on the air live and counted up the callers: You're caller one ... thanks for calling! You're caller two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, thanks for calling ... you're caller number 10! YOU WIN \$5,000 IN CASH! WHAT'S YOUR NAME? You may have noticed he skipped number nine. He went from eight to 10. I heard it. The general manager heard it. The group president heard it. I rushed into the control room while the DJ was still live on the air and told him that not only did that caller win \$5,000, because he just told her she did, but to go back to the phone and award the next caller \$5,000 as well, because that guy was the real caller number 10.

The car's yours!: Ten keys were given away for a brand new four-wheel-drive vehicle. Only one key worked. The winners were in position at intermission each to try their key on the car. Over 5,000 people were watching this beautifully staged event at the raceway. The DJ built the excitement with the crowd as each key failed to start the car. The crowd went wild when the ninth key didn't work, because everyone knew that the 10th person had to have the winning key.

Just as a formality, that contestant got in the car, put the key in the ignition — the crowd noise died down to hear the engine start and nothing happened! The DJ lost his cool when the crowd starting throwing trash. He couldn't help himself; he started cussing out the audience. Meanwhile, the contestants were all trying the keys again, but nothing worked. Nobody told the contestants that with this particular model, they had to push in the clutch or the car wouldn't start.

Fill up the food truck: It's the old fill a truck with food for the homeless promotion for Thanksgiving. A DJ camps out in a moving truck, all set to live there until it's filled from top to bottom with food for the homeless. The listening audience to this particular station either didn't understand the concept or just didn't care. The station begged and begged, but only piddling amounts of food showed up. After a week, the jock missed having a life and the station was tired of being publicly humiliated. In the middle of the night, they pretended to have met their goal and moved out.

Free Food: I was doing a remote from a car dealership. The owner made it clear to the radio station that he felt having free food to attract customers was extremely important. We arranged for a sub shop to deliver a bunch of foot-long subs.

While I was still meeting with the owner, the car dealership's sales staff spotted the food. They ate every last morsel in 10 minutes. The owner was so mad, he had to leave his own dealership. I never saw him again even though four cars sold during the broadcast.

Live from ?: On "The Best of Don & Mike" syndicated show, I recently heard them tell an outrageously funny story about going to Ireland to do a live broad-cast back to the United States, sponsored by a major beer. They described getting ready for the show before departure, the plane ride over, renting the car and finally heading for the broadcast site.

They only had one problem. Nobody knew where they were going and after spending hours driving around the Irish countryside, they gave up. The broadcast never happened. Is this a true story? It sounds too much like real radio to be made up. Can't you picture someone on your air staff doing this?

Send me your stories! As Les Nessman once said on WKRP in Cincinnati: As God is my witness ... I thought turkeys could fly.

Mark Lapidus is the vice president of marketing at Liberty Broadcasting. Send him your stories at fax: 301-899-6218; or e-mail libertyhq@aol.com



World Radio History

### Language Can Work to Your Advantage

### Part IX

### by Ty Ford

**BALTIMORE** As I round the final turn with this series of articles about copywriting for radio, it's time to dig deeper into the bowels of language.

From the creative side, the more you know about the language, the better you can fine-tune the client's message. From the defensive side, the more you know, the better prepared you are to steer the client away from language that obscures the message, makes them sound unprofessional and leads to tune-out. Even if you are not a copywriter or production person, getting a better handle on language can help identify a piece of problem copy.

Radio is a spoken-word medium. Copy that isn't written for the spoken word usually sounds stiff. The best copy sounds as if it was written effortlessly, because of the natural flow of ideas and the cadence of the speech. With single voice copy, what you end up doing is writing copy that talks to the listener rather than at the listener.

with an "M." When you run into these contradictions and recognize them, you're no longer an apprentice copywriter.

The most frequently abused concept in radio copy is the screaming, fast, repetitious spot. Listeners will probably remember the first three seconds of the spot; just enough for them to tune out. The only time this kind of spot works well is if it is a parody, and

the parody better be strong enough to overcome the presentation.

The next most irritating spot is one that runs too many times within the same period or in the same spot break day after day, week after week. Comedy

spots also have a much shorter shelf life.

### Slogans

Good slogans are very important. They give the listener a "handle" that will help them retain the client's name. If you don't finish the line "Just for the Taste of It" with "Diet Coke." you've been on another planet.

### Good copy has a rhythm, and the different ways you combine words and phrases create different impressions.

There are several other conventions. Have something to say. Say it clearly. Say it more than once. Tell them what you're about to tell them, tell them, and tell them what you just told them. Put the client's name in as many as seven times in a 60, especially if they don't have name awareness. The most creative production is useless if the listeners don't remember the client's name and what the basic offer is.

Good copy has a rhythm, and the different ways you combine words and phrases create different impressions. A series of short words or phrases works better than long ones for creating a quick dynamic impression. Longer phrases indicate luxury or relaxation. Long complex sentences force the listener to pay too much attention to your train of thought.

Make a point of using strong verbs. Verbs of being - is, am and are - do not contain the same energy component that more active verbs like buy, drive. feel, smell, own and taste do.

In general, words beginning with the hard, plosive consonants, B, C, D, F. K, P, Q or T, are more powerful than those beginning with A. E. I. L. M. N. O. U and W. This doesn't mean you should go for overly aggressive words for every piece of copy, especially if the image you are trying to create is one of luxury or splendor. That "Big. Bad. Barbados Vacation," for example, might be better expressed as a "Wonderful, Warming, Tropical Tour.

After a while, you'll run into situations where these rules don't seem to apply. The word "great" has more power than the word "large," but neither are as powerful as the word "massive," which starts

The following list from the NAB's Copywriting book offers 10 different kinds of word play, which should give you a great starting place.

Alliteration: Syllables and words sound alike: Sell Simpson and be Sure. Metaphor: Words suggest a resemblance:

A rainbow of flavors, or a cloud-filled mattress.

Simile: A resemblance using "like" or 'as'': Fresh as a daisy. Pun: A play on words: Johnson Radiator

Repair, There's no better place to take a leak

Condition Terms: Using "if" ... then ...": If you like chocolate, you'll love Chunky. Allusion: A literary reference: The muf-



fler with the Midas Touch.

Hyperbole: An exaggeration: A Million **Dollar Smile** 

epithet: Transferred Unusual adjective/noun use: Fly the Friendly Skies

Analogy: Creating similarities in dissimilar things: Our Homes Are Your Castles. Chiasmus: from the Greek mean placing crosswise: We plan our work, and work our plan.

#### Performance

When I started doing free-lance voice work for advertising agencies, one of the first pieces of direction I got was not to sound so much like a radio announcer. I thought I had dropped most of the pushed inflections that I used on the air, but they were still hearing it.

Talent that doesn't sound "announcery' is one of the many strengths of a good agency-produced spot. To make this work at your station, you need to work with your on-air staff to encourage it to develop different performance abilities. I'm not talking about character voices; I'm talking about developing different attitudes and real sounding reads.

As broadcasters, you can close your eyes and see the picture. There's a stack of copy that has to be cut before the talent can get out of the station. You record the spot, dump it to cart or to the hard drive system and split.

The worst abuse of the announcer style read is "The Puker" delivery. I'd like to get my hands on the person who set the tone for many of our on-air talent today. What they were after was more excitement. What they got was something very unnatural and uncon-"The Puker" delivery, by vincing.

itself, sends a strong negative message to the listener. Would you be interested in listening anything that someone who spoke this way had to say?

That's not to say that talent with more narrow abilities should be discounted. If that's the case, you write to their performance strengths. If your pro-

duction director is the only one with any voice versatility, you will burn that voice out. Even if he or she does have a broad range of delivery styles, the styles will lose impact when they are played together in a spot break.

You really need the versatility of different good voices to keep the breaks from bogging down. If you're hiring airstaff because they have a great street sound but no production chops, you are taking away from the depth needed to produce high-quality commercial breaks. You end up contributing to the tune-out.

These people don't have to be production wizards, but they do need to have versatile voices and the ability to maintain a character throughout a spot. My final installment in this series will deal with the production and technical aspects of how to reinvent your radio station's commercial sound.

Ty Ford's "Advanced Audio Production Techniques" can be found on the Web at http://www.bh.com/bh/fp/2408_0082.htm. You can download his AIFF voice demo via FTP at ftp.jagunet.com from the pub/users/tford directory.



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MX-50II Tape

World Radio History

Recorder

RADAR Disc

Recorder

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MR-10 Mini-Disc

Recorder/ Player

DTR-8 DAT Recorder

1

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CDC-600

CD Changer

### **Free Help to Enhance Your Web Site**

### by Alan Haber

**ALEXANDRIA, Va.** Yup, there's nothing like parking yourself in front of your PC and listening to your favorite radio stations while you work, collect your e-mail, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera. In fact, there's nothing I like better.

Oh ... hi there. loyal Haberspacers! Didn't see you comin' in the cyber-door! I was listening to some cyber-radio and chatting to my fellow Web watchers here in the global Haberspace headquarters about loving the "live broadcasting on the Web" thing! The revolution — and make no mistake about it. it *is* a revolution is here, and it's coming to your town, or, more accurately, to your station.

Yeah, you'll be there on the Web with

Musictown's Web servers linked to the station's current Web site"; and "Global Stage live chat room access on Musictown's Web servers," among other goodies.

### Web advertising

What else will Musictown do? Gold said the 'Town'll "create Web-based advertisements to expand the array of products that can be sold by a radio station's sales department." Also, he said, "Musictown may be able to secure advertisers for a station's Web site." Sounds like a potential winner for stations looking to maybe bump up their bottom lines with their cyber-activity! And that's not all: Musictown will put together and do the upkeep for a new site for your station for one year at no charge — if you don't already have a site, that is.

### There's nothing like listening to your favorite cyber-stations while you work.

Check out Musictown, but watch out for stray cyber-beams and slippery floors. You can buzz Gold at 1-800-800-2786.

There's nothing I like better than bumping into something completely unexpected and wonderful on the Web. Linking from here to there, as I'm often wont to do, brought me to "Gerard's Radio Collection" at http://www.cs. ruu.nl:80/ people/gerard/radi os/#radios. Gerard's got himself a tres neat-o overseas site that serves up eye-poppin' pix and detailed descriptions of 24 radios of varying

styles. You'll find all sorts of great vintage radios here. Seen a cigarette box-style radio recently? Gerard's got one could be from around 1970, he said. You'll be

able to check out a radio built this year in the Netherlands. You'll see what Gerard says "was probably the cheapest radio that could be bought in 1961" — the continued on page 68



your station's signal. Maybe not next week, but sometime in the future hopefully sooner than later. And, when you do take the live broadcasting plunge, you'll be searching out sites that offer links to your station's site so people from around the globe can easily find you and hear what you're cooking up in your studios.

### A town called Musictown

Yup, yup, it's real handy to be listed on a site that provides a link to your bag of tricks. I've come across a real promising one that isn't open for business as of this writing, but soon will be — Jeff Gold, the owner, told me the doors would be swinging wide for the general public on May 15th. Oh, yeah — the site's called Musictown, and I was able to take a tour of it in its pardon-our-dust state (the URL: http://www.musictown.com).

Really cool graphics, folks, and lots of radio stuff on the way, such as links to stations broadcasting live on the Web. And, at FM.NET (http://fm.net), a part of Musictown that is billed as "The New Standard for Finding Radio Stations on the World Wide Web," it looks like there's going to be a whole lot of radio goin' on.

As part of the FM.NET enterprise, Musictown is giving radio stations "free World Wide Web site enhancements," said Gold, so they can enhance their Web sites. Like what, you ask? Well, Gold said that Musictown will work with a station's Internet service provider to serve up, for the best price of all — free — a link to a station's URL: "StreamWorks real-time audio and video delivery from Getting your network up and running with us will put you on top



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World Radio History

# **Prophet Systems Inc. announces**

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### Version 5

### Live Show Interface (LSI)

The centerpiece of Version 5 is the new Live Show Interface (LSI). This new interface allows the D-J to run even the most high energy shows smoothly. Fully utilizing the power of Windows, the Live Show Interface features:

### Drag and Drop Commercials and Songs

Audio events can be easily moved around in the log using the mouse or touch screen. They can also be moved to the button bar and the holding bin.

Audio Source Management

Version 5 allows the D-J to specify which audio card a commercial or song will play out of ahead of time. It is easy to pre-position sliders and to crossfade items. Plus, Version 5 actually allows six stereo audio events to play simultaneously for each control room!

### • Fully Touch Screen Compatible

The Live Show Interface was designed from the ground up to be totally touch screen compatible.

Expanded Button Bar

Forty-two pages of buttons for immediate access to 1008 liner, jingles, laughtracks, etc.—PER SHIFT! And you can have up to 99 shifts!

Auto Roll of Buttons

Auto roll allows the D-J to mark buttons that will playback one after the other automatically. Mark up to 24 buttons which will all play back in order.

### Quick Record

Take phone calls, edit them with our wave form editor, and place the event on log...all in just seconds.

Holding Bin

The holding bin is temporary storage for items that the D-J can't get to immediately. He can move them to the holding bin for easy retrieval later in the shift.

Macro Buttons

Accomplish complex tasks in one click of the mouse with macro buttons. Tasks such as changing from manual to satellite or auto control, changing the active station, turning on and off sources or relays, etc. become effortless with Version 5.

Pause/Reposition

Pause a spot or song, fast forward or rewind to a new point, begin play from a designated point using the pause/reposition button.





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Windows is a Registered Trademark of Microsoft Corporation. Novell is a Registered Trademark of Novell, Inc. Intel is a Registered Trademark of Intel Corporation.
# You asked us to design a

Markets of all sizes are taking advantage of the new FCC ruling that allows multiple station ownership within a market. This means groupings of stations-2, 3, 4, 6, 8 even up to 14 or more- can share all of their audio and data out of ONE system that was **built** to handle multiple stations. Plus, with our new Version 5 with the Live Show Interface even the biggest, high-dollar market will sound better and run smoother than ever! Prophet Systems has Windows-based systems ranging from a single workstation system to a 100 workstation Goliath running 14 radio stations all out of a one system. There is absolutely no system better suited to running multiple stations than Audio Wizard CFS for Windows.

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We had another DOS digital system that didn't fit our needs. It was clunky and couldn't handle even basic functions well. Now we have purchased four systems from Prophet. We have not found any limitations of the Audio Wizard for Windows system. The Audio Wizard for Windows is the most live sounding system I have ever heard.

- Jeff Hutton, KLTI/KWMQ, Southwest City, MO, KTLQ/KEOK, Tahlequah, OK

# Live Show Interface.

We're proud to show people our system. Everyone who has seen the system is impressed. Audio Wizard for Windows is extremely easy to use. It's unlike any other system that is our there. It will handle any format, even news. The Windows platform is easy to operate. It has been extremely stable which is important for a walk-away station. We're very pleased with the system and would definitely buy it again if we had to do it all over. This is the only system I've heard that sounds live.

tion

- Norm Laramee, KKPT/KSYG/SRN, Little Rock Arkansas

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> Circle (47) On Reader Service Card World Radio History

# **BUYERS GUIDE**

Antennas, Towers & Cables

#### USER REPORT

### WNWC Profits from Cellular One Deal

by Gordon Govier **News Director** WNWC(FM)

MADISON, Wis. The digital radio connections that allow cellular phone users to call from virtually anywhere to anywhere across the United States are based upon a network of 10,000 radio towers. But that is just the start.

Next on the horizon is personal communication services with which you will be able to fax, phone or e-mail from anywhere to anywhere. Over 100,000 antenna sites will be needed for the PCS revolution, says Jim Crooks, the CEO of **Broadcast Communications in New** Glarus, Wis

Standing in the way of all those towers sprouting up across the landscape are the FCC, FAA, state and federal environmental agencies, local zoning codes and assorted NIMBYs (Not In My Back Yard).

#### **Boost bottom line**

Radio broadcasters who already own and operate towers can boost their bottom line by expanding the use of their largest asset.

Broadcast Communications specializes in tower siting and construction. When Cellular One came to Madison, the company contracted with Broadcast Communications to establish its cellular network. It soon became apparent a tower was needed to cover the rapidly growing west side of Madison.

Finding a site for a new tower would have been nearly impossible. Almost all of the existing towers were already fully utilized. A 350-foot tower belonging to WNWC(AM) presented the best opportunity for Cellular One.

There were two options: tear down the old tower and build a new one or modify the existing tower to handle the additional

load. Space considerations prevented the former choice. Next, it had to be determined if the existing tower was up to the challenge

"Cellular One agreed to handle the engineering study," says Crooks. The study determined heavier guy wires were needed and the mast would have to be replaced with a tower section to handle the new WNWC antenna.

#### **Respective needs**

Negotiations between Cellular One and WNWC identified the respective needs of the new joint operation. The former needed a tower that was tall enough and strong enough to cover the west side of the city; the latter wanted to upgrade its antenna and transmission line to improve coverage.

It was determined that Cellular One would front the cost of strengthening the tower and the transmission line at no expense to WNWC. WNWC would permit the tower rental for 10 years, pro-rated to reflect the upfront improvements.

Cellular One engineers determined they needed four antennas at the 250-foot level on the tower and a microwave dish at the 125-foot level. The engineering study determined that some guy wires needed to be replaced, but the guy anchors were

adequate. WNWC was able to decrease the antenna size from an old eight-bay horizontally polarized to a new six-bay circularly polarized ERI antenna, which decreased the windload on the top of the tower.

Cellular One also needed space for its

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radio and telephone equipment and

would normally have brought in a pre-fab building. However, WNWC had its old, unused studio at the base of the tower. Cellular One remodeled the concrete block building and installed its equip-

WNWC and Cellular One happily share a tower.

ment. Cellular One's section of the building is now completely separate from the WNWC transmitter building and permits the security needed for its operation.

Cellular One and WNWC are both happy with the arrangement and have discovered that cellular and broadcast can make good partners. WNWC Station Manager Greg Walters is pleased with the arrangement.

"The timing on this project was perfect," he says. "Each company achieved mutually satisfying goals. The Cellular One people have been very cooperative and helpful." It was also through the negotiations for this project that WNWC news department obtained its first cellular phone. Cell phones at that time cost hundreds of dollars more than they do now

In recent years a new candelabra antenna has been raised on another old antenna site on Madison's west side, providing space for three TV antennas, three FM antennas and one-hundred two-way radio antennas. But such cooperative projects are very sensitive and rare.

Crooks himself attempted to site an 1100-foot tower in the Madison area several years ago. He negotiated agreements that would have brought in \$14,000 per month from renters but could not find land for it.

Clients typically will pay from between 75 cents to \$1.50 per foot of tower height per month

"A lot of income can be generated from this one source of revenue, if they can work it out," said Crooks.

As the current lease expires in 1997, WNWC and Cellular One are discussing the possibility of continuing their working relationship on a joint project to further improve the WNWC tower.

Communications, contact the company in Wisconsin at 608-527-5670; or circle Reader Service 128.

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USER REPORT

#### **BUYERS GUIDE**

personnel and listeners noticed the

improvement and let us know about it.

It should be noted here that not only were certain anticipated delays overcome by a fast manufacturing process by Shively

Labs, but the FCC approved the request

quickly because the replacement antenna

matched or met the original pattern

requirements and necessary protection to

other FM stations. Because workloads at

the FCC vary, any planning should allow

Subsequent to this installation project,

the station has had snow and icing condi-

tions on this radome enclosed antenna.

Our old antenna also had radomes, how-

ever it was an internally fed, helical style

with several parasitic elements per bay. It

had exhibited high VSWR under such conditions, but the new Shively antenna

showed almost no change in operating

constants. This demonstrates that not

only did Shively get us our antenna

I understand that Shively Labs uses "It

pays to be heard" as a slogan. I think what

they accomplished in our situation shows

For more information from Shively Labs,

contact the company in Maine at 207-

647-3327; or circle Reader Service 100.

that they know what those words mean.

quickly, but it is a good performer.

adequate time for commission response.

April 3, 1996

## **Shively Labs Exceeds Expectations**

#### by Martin D. Hadfield Vice President - Engineering Entercom

**SEATTLE** It started with a phone call from Portland, Ore. Larry Holtz, chief engineer at KNRK-FM (then, KMUZ-FM), one of the Entercom stations that serves the Portland area, gave me the bad news: our directional FM antenna was failing. A choice had to be made between repairing the old antenna or replacing it with a new one. Considering the long-term implications, we decided to replace the antenna.

Recognizing that it can take months to

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finally replace a directional FM antenna, we selected a vendor known to us for high quality and quick response. We chose **Shively Labs**, located near Portland, Maine. They outdid our expectations and our new antenna was on the air in under a remarkable two weeks.

#### We can do it

When we first inquired about turnaround time, Bob Surette, manager of RF engineering at Shively said, "Fax me copy of the (construction permit) pattern that's on file (at the FCC), and I'll let you know in a couple of hours if we can match it or improve it." I faxed him a copy of the original pattern, and then came the news: "We can do it."

Within a day of giving Shively the order, Dennis Butterfield, Shively's mechanical designer, ordered construction to begin on a new two-bay directional FM antenna that met the directional characteristics that were on file with the FCC. Shively keeps pre-manufactured scale models of its antenna line in stock that can simply be tuned to your frequency

USER REPORT

for range-testing purposes, so 1 was able to fly back to observe the tests and finetune the order within nine days of our first phone calls.

Range testing not only confirmed that the pattern met the FCC requirements, but further experimentation allowed us to actually improve the pattern envelope over the previous antenna by manipulating the directional elements of this polemounted antenna.

Six days after testing and certification, the antenna was fully fabricated and shipped from Portland to Portland. But before we could install it. we needed FCC permission. Surette express-mailed the test results so that Shively's fast manufacturing turnaround would not be undermined by documentation delays.

#### Notable improvements

Three days after submission to the FCC, we received permission to proceed. The antenna was installed the day after the FCC's thumbs-up. Supplemental documentation followed. Immediately after the new operation began, both station

WCIL Benefits from LBA

by Joey Helleny Director of Operations and Engineering WCIL-AM-FM

**CARBONDALE, III.** At WCIL-AM-FM, we decided to investigate the installation of a folded unipole AM antenna for two reasons. First, we were having continuing problems with lightning damage to our solid-state main AM transmitter. Second, we had been approached by a local paging company about leasing space on our tower.

It seemed like a win-win situation and

the timing was right, so we contacted the folks at LBA Technology about their Tunipole line of products.

Our situation was fairly straightforward without any complicating factors, so LBA was able to recommend one of its basic, low-cost designs in the UP-310 model. LBA was able to fabricate and ship the antenna in about six weeks. Try to arrange for the antenna to be delivered directly to your tower site. The boxes are fairly heavy so you should avoid having to lug them from your studio location.

Physical installation of the Tunipole only took about half a day with a two-man tower



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World Radio History

crew. All the hardware was well-fabricated and easy to assemble. The UP-310 installs as three foldwires.

The UP-310 installs as three foldwires, one each along the corners of the triangular tower. Brackets at the top and bottom of each wire hold them in place with a spring tensioner at the bottom. Fiberglass standoffs on each side keep the wires from flapping in the wind.

Because we did not have the proper equipment to measure antenna resistance on the day the tower crew was there, we just moved the shorting jumper up and down the tower a couple of times looking for the best SWR to match. We then returned to series-fed transmission at reduced power for a couple of days until our consultant could arrive with an impedance bridge.

Our Harris ATU was easily adjusted to accommodate the new antenna. We only replaced one capacitor and removed the static drain choke. Eventually we plan to double-check the position of our shorting jumper for best bandwidth, but we have no complaints about how the signal sounds so far.

The contours do not seem to have been affected much. Our ground system and antenna were in good shape though, so there were not any real deficiencies for the Tunipole to overcome in those areas.

The best improvement for us has been in protection for our AM transmitter. We went through the entire 1995 storm season without any damage. The previous season we had replaced several RF power transistors. Plus, we now have additional monthly income from the paging company.

The only side effect we have noticed from the change is an occasional occurrence of static snapping on one guy wire. We also plan to install a PVC conduit for the feed wire that runs from our ATU to the unipole. The wire tends to move in the breeze, sometimes causing minor VSWR.

The LBA Tunipole has proven an easy and cost-effective solution for WCIL.

For more information from LBA Technology, contact Jim Bradshaw in North Carolina at 800-522-4464; or circle Reader Service 77. re·li·a·ble (ri lī/ə bəl), adj.
1. that may be relied on; trustworthy.
2. dependable in achievement, accuracy.
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#### **BUYERS GUIDE**

April 3, 1996

## **ERI Softens Blow of Hurricane Opal**

#### by Charles Harrell Vice President and Technical Director McClure Broadcasting Group

**COLUMBUS, Ga.** The optimum situation for the use of a directional antenna system for FM is when the station you must protect lies somewhere near 90 degrees away from the direction you want to move. Our case was a very good example. We have a C2 facility that was operating non-directional 25 miles from the main area we wanted to serve. By using a LP-6E-DA-HW-SP directional antenna made by **Electronics Research** 

(ERI), we were able to move more than eight miles closer.

I met with ERI in Las Vegas at the NAB and was shown some examples of what its antenna systems could do. Although directional antenna systems are complicated to design, build and install, education is the key to effectively using them. The first thing I noticed about ERI was the willingness of everyone to help with the educational process.

The decision was made to use halfwave spacing instead of the standard full-wave spacing. The directional pattern is much more controllable because the vertical and horizontal patterns match very closely. Another advantage of this system is a 9 MHz impedance bandwidth. This is important for stereo separation and even more important for subcarrier use. This also minimizes the adverse effects of radial ice or fog.

#### **Major factor**

Another major factor affecting my decision to purchase from ERI was that it manufactures its own towers, including the now famous "lambada" sections. These are used behind the antenna systems to keep the effects of the tower on the antenna pattern close to zero. ERI also has its own installation crews. I inked the deal with ERI and acquired the land for the new transmitter site. Everything was going great. Then came along hurricane Opal. I had a 570-foot tower on the ground, no antenna, no coax, no building, no transmitter and not much hope. Imagine driving through heavy rain and high winds at 4 a.m. and seeing this. When the sun came up, I discovered that the tower had fallen across the building no less than four times on its way down.

I have another FM station in the market, so my thoughts turned to using its backup transmitter if it could be retuned. I would need a backup anten-



Opal's power had devastating effects on radio towers in Columbus, Ga.

na and a piece of coax line. What happened next explains why ERI is such a succesful company.

I called ERI and explained my situation. I was asked what frequency the station was on and how long the coax needed to be. After being on hold for about three minutes, I was told an antenna and a piece of coax could be loaded and a crew would be on the way within the hour. Service just does not get any better than that. I was back on the air in 35 hours. That is four hours before the competition made it back on the air with nothing more than a power failure.

#### **Great signal**

Now that we were back on the air with a great-sounding temporary signal, it was time to persue the new transmitter site. I called ERI again and found that it had already stepped up delivery of the tower and antenna systems. The anchor crew showed up first. That is all this crew does and they have made an art of it.

In a few days, the tower and antenna arrived. Part of the installation crew met the truck to unload the steel. The rest of the crew arrived the next day. The erection of the tower went smoothly. The antenna system was handled with great care as I realized another advantage of hiring the people who manufacture the antenna to install it.

When the antenna system installation was complete, the tower crew broke out the RF bridge, network analyzer and such to tune the antenna system to perfection. When is the last time you saw a tower crew do this? The antenna system met specs, but the crew felt that they could improve it, so they did that for the next three hours.

We now have a signal and programming that allows us to take most of the advertising revenue that the competion use to get. If I could think of anything critical to say about this company, I would. The fact is that ERI is perhaps the most professional company I have ever dealt with. When a company performs this well, it deserves respect.

For more information from ERI, contact Max Brown in Indiana at 812-925-6000; or circle **Reader Service 132.** 

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#### April 3, 1996

#### USER REPORT

#### - BUYERS GUIDE

## **Crawford Couples with Kintronics**

by W.C. Alexander Director of Engineering Crawford Broadcasting Company

**DALLAS** Back in 1989, Crawford Broadcasting Company purchased an unbuilt construction permit for a 10 kW-D/1 kW-N five-tower DA-2 AM station in Dallas. We would have to build the station from the ground up. All we had was a piece of paper giving us authority to construct, so we had a real challenge ahead.

When the phasing and coupling system design was completed, I sent it to several manufacturers for bid. When I received the proposals back from the manufacturers, I compared them carefully and consulted with several trusted colleagues. Based upon merits, features, reputation and recommendations of others, I chose Kintronic Laboratories to provide the phasing and coupling system for the project.

#### Nothing left to chance

As the project moved forward, the equipment arrived from the Kintronic plant in Bluff City, Tenn. by dedicated truck. The first indication I saw of the care with which Kintronics equipment is manufactured was the way it was crated. Nothing was left to chance. As I recall, there was no shipping damage — it looked like our equipment had been rigged for an air-drop. The phasor, antenna tuning units and control system went together flawlessly. Everything worked right the first time, and the RF components and plumbing were exactly as I had specified them. Tuneup and proof went like clockwork. When all was completed, we had a site that we were — and still are — very proud of.

The next year, the time came to upgrade and rebuild our Southern California AM station's transmitter plant and directional antenna system. A new transmitter, remote control system, phasing and coupling system were planned. This time I did not even solicit proposals from other manufacturers. Kintronic Laboratories got the order.

The equipment arrived on time and we somehow managed to install it while remaining on the air. We did this by shifting non-directional operation from tower to tower while we swapped out the antenna tuning units (ATUs) at the individual towers. The phasor itself was connected at night while the station was off the air.

Like in the Dallas project, tuneup was a snap. The RF components and plumbing were all as I had specified, and there was no problem getting everything to work. We set the operating parameters on the antenna monitor, checked the monitor points and went home.

Last spring, a capacitor failed in an ATU at our diplexed AM site in Portland, Ore. This caused a fire that, fed by a 50 kW transmitter, destroyed the center tower tuning house, our ATU and the other stations phasor. (This was not a Kintronics phasor/ATU.)

All those involved in the situation — the engineers from both stations, corporate chiefs and consulting engineers — put our heads together to decide which direction to proceed. It was not surprising that there was no argument over who the manufacturer of the replacement equipment would be. We called Kintronics.

#### Looks, sounds great

In a short time, Kintronics built a new phasor, ATU and diplex filters for the other station and a new ATU and diplex filters for our station. I recently visited the site. It looks and sounds great.

Last spring, Crawford Broadcasting Company purchased another unbuilt CP, this one for a 50 kW-D/1.4 kW-N fourtower DA-2 in Denver. Again, I did not even solicit bids from other manufacturers. This project was a little different from the others that I had done in that I used moment-method techniques to design the phasing and coupling system. As the project progressed, I found that Kintronics also has the capability of utilizing the same moment-method nodal analysis circuit design techniques.

After the towers were built, measured data was used to refine the design of the system. All the ATU and phasor networks were preset at the factory to the values predicted by the nodal analysis routine. The result was that when the system was fired up, the parameters were quite close to the desired values. We saved days of tuning time by using nodal analysis techniques.

As with the other projects, the Denver project turned out great. Final tuneup was a snap. All the phasing and coupling equipment is well-constructed, looks and works great. The site is a real showplace. Our chief engineer there plans to invite the local SBE chapter out this spring to hold its meeting there. He is as proud of the site as I am. When the next AM project comes along,



The interior of the Kintronics phasor

there is no question that I will call on Kintronic Laboratories to manufacture the phasing and coupling equipment. I can do so with the assurance that the equipment I receive will be built exactly to my specifications with care and quality.

For more information from Kintronic Laboratories, contact the company in Tennessee at 423-878-3141; or circle Reader Service 153.

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#### **BUYERS GUIDE**

### **Antenna Concepts Is Eager to Please**

KKJT(FM) Looked to Antenna Concepts to Provide a High-quality Antenna that Was Reasonably Priced

#### by Greg S. Carpenter **Owner/Operations Director** KKJT(FM)

JOSHUA TREE, Calif. April, 1994 found my partner Gene Headley and me at the NAB Convention looking for equipment to use with our construction permit to build a new 6 kW FM station serving Joshua Tree, Calif., a small community about 30 miles north of Palm Springs.

We were talking to all the antenna manufacturers present, as I was looking for someone who was nearby, willing to make any modifications that I might need without hassle and could supply a high quality product at reasonable price. We found Antenna Concepts in Placerville, Calif., could do just that.

#### **Cost considerations**

We needed a four-bay antenna and decided to purchase the FM Tracker

ACT4L. This is a four-bay, circular polarization, cable-fed antenna capable of 6 kW ERP. This antenna is available in either line-fed or cable-fed versions. We chose the cable-fed model simply for cost considerations, however, I think it is better to spend a little extra on the line-fed model.

Later that year when I contacted the company, I spoke to Jeryl Schooler who is acquainted with the product and intensely helpful when it came time to pick up the completed antenna. Throughout the project, Mark Cunningham, the owner of Antenna Concepts, kept in touch with me as we



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made changes to our plans.

We found out that we were not going to be able to use an existing tower at the site and decided to install a 70-foot telephone pole as the antenna support. Mr. Cunningham designed a method of supporting the antenna even though about six feet of antenna structure extended above the pole.

In January, the antenna was ready to be shipped. Gene and I decided to take a little time off and drive up to Placerville to pick it up. I told Jeryl Schooler that we would be arriving in our pick-up truck and she made sure that everything was packed to fit. After a few nervous moments, the Antenna Concepts crew had the antenna loaded and we drove south to Joshua Tree with a very heavy truck.

When the time came to install the antenna on the pole, I contacted John Hignite, owner of Hignite Construction, a rigging company in Bellflower, Calif., John and a partner arrived early one morning and we began to install the antenna. I had previously checked all the

### **Overall**, I found Antenna **Concepts** makes a good product at a fair price.

parts against the parts list provided with the antenna, but was still worried that something would be missing or would not fit or something would prevent us from finishing the job. However, everything went fine and by the end of the day we had the antenna up on the pole and ready to test.

#### The real test begins

I remember holding my breath as I slowly applied power. I was relieved to see the VSWR meter measuring 1:1:1 at full power. Now the real test of the antenna was about to begin.

We contacted our consulting engineer, Fred Volken of Sierra Madre, Calif., to make the power density measurements to insure compliance with ANSI requirements. It took a few days to complete the measurements, but everything measured safely within the limits. 1 did however, have some fun de-tuning a section of barbed-wire fence.

KKJT(FM) has been on the air since November of 1995 and so far we have had no problems with the ACTL4L. I have recently learned that Antenna Concepts is now making an even better product called the Ultra Tracker that has a "twist in the wrist" feed to improve the pattern.

Overall, I found Antenna Concepts makes a good product at a fair price. The company seems eager to please and will work with you to provide the product you need in the time frame you need it.

For more information from Antenna Concepts, contact the company in California at 916-621-2015; or circle Reader Service 133.



### **World Standard Digital FM Exciter**

hen we introduced the DIGIT[™] we knew it was going to be a world class FM exciter. In a little over a year the DIGIT[™] has proven to be the world standard with over 500 DIGIT exciters shipped.

The DIGIT[™] FM exciter can convert studio standard digital audio (AES/EBU) directly to FM stereo with no analog steps. Additionally, an analog input module is available to accept analog composite stereo for those who have not yet upgraded to digital.

Direct Digital Synthesis is accomplished with a numerically controlled oscillator. This digital implementation of FM assures you of the highest quality sound that your station is capable of producing.

Included with the DIGIT[™]'s digital input module is a DSP based digital stereo generator which provides lower distortion and greater separation than any competing exciter.

Also, included is a digital composite limiter (DCL) which is an implementation of the WAVES L1

Ultramaximizer[™], used by digital recording studios. Harris exclusive DCL allows DIGIT[™] to sound louder than competing FM exciters without over-modulation. The DCL uses "look ahead" circuitry to predict and correct overmodulation peaks before they can occur.

The DIGIT[™] FM exciter is capable of N+1 operation and is completely frequency agile with modulation level and linearity independent of carrier frequency.

Besides the DIGIT[™], Harris has a wide range of "Clearly Digital[™]" products for all your broadcast needs whether AM, FM, or TV. For more information, contact Harris.



Harris DIGIT[™] Signal Blocks shows that although DIGIT[™] is revolutionary, its technology is easy to understand.

#### Harris Corporation Broadcast Division

U.S. and Canada: TEL: 217-222-8200 FAX: 217-224-1439

Elsewhere: TEL: 217-222-8290 FAX: 217-224-2764

http://www.broadcast.harris.com



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Digital FM Generation for 16 Bit Sound Quality

Proven Reliability backed by a 3 Year Warranty

- Drift Free Digital Circuits
- Immunity to Subsonic Transients
- Compatible with all RDS/SCA requirements
- Full N+1 capability
- Manufactured under ISO 9001 Quality System

FEATURES:

**BUYERS GUIDE** 

## **Enhance Your Web Site**

ADNAUD383

0

#### continued from page 55 Philips B0X15U/01E. And so on.

Gerard is apparently connected in some way with the Department of Computer Science at the Utrecht University in the Netherlands; he's done a heckuva job with this neat-o site. So neat-o, in fact, that it's my Neat-O Site of the Month. Well done and bravo, Gerard!

Time to dip into the Haberspace Cyber-Mail Bag. Let's see what the postal folks have brought our way, shall we?

Over at "DJ Domicile, The Hub of the Internet Radio World," which James Cholke, who e-mailed the global Haberspace headquarters, hopes will eventually become "a great place for

radio stations and DJs like myself to share ideas, news, audio, etc.," there's a lot happening. Don't worry about a thing, James. The site looks pretty good already

What's here? Lots of links to stations, links to the RealAudio and Xing sites, and plenty of room for expansion. Check it out at http://www.webcom.com/jada /prod/dj.html

From time to time, I've mentioned sites that offer links to regional broadcasters. Scott Roberts, a broadcast technician at Butte College in Northern California, did the e-mail thing to let me know about his site. Here you'll find, among other stuff, a list of broadcaster links in the Chico

ave The Rest Behind

XER, HEADPHONEAM

Codec Buddy

PA FEED, TELET

area of California.

Nice job, Scott. By the way, Scott bears a rather striking resemblance to the main guy at Microsoft (check out the side-byside pictorial comparison and be amazed, be truly amazed). URL away at http://www.cin.butte.cc.ca.u s/~scott/.

I heard from Richard Kenadek, chief engineer at two AMers in the great state of Massachusetts - WSRO in Marlboro and WGAW in Gardner. The stations carry a LOT of sports, said Richard, "especially local high school sports.'

The stations' site offers schedules for NCAA basketball and Boston Red Sox baseball games carried on WSRO (the Sox are also carried on WGAW), a coverage map for both stations and handydandy links to the very latest stats on the current populations of the United States and the World (handy, I'm thinking,

Actual size: 11.25 W x 11.5 D x 4.5 H

**Call us for details** 

http://www.comrex.com

especially if you're looking for people to invite to your birthday party, or you just want to know the potential audiences for your station's live Web broadcasts hint, hint).

April 3, 1996

#### Vegas prep

As I write this, I'm about five weeks away from placing my cyber-bags in the peculiarly spacious (and nicely carpeted, I might add) trunk of my hovercraft, ever-so-aptly dubbed the HaberHover. I'll be reporting on the generous cyber-related goings-on at NAB '96 in future Haberspace articles.

One nice thing about traveling in the HaberHover is I can make a beeline for somewhere else if I'm double-parked and a guy in blue bearing a ticket with my name on it should be heading my way!

Anyhoo, keep the e-mail comin'. I love to hear from you folks at zoogang @ix.netcom.com. I've gotta go and park myself back in front of my PC. Y'all come back next month, y'heah?

### 64 Years Ago

Reprinted from Radio World April 16, 1932. Editor's note: The RW of old, printed for a time in the 1920s and 1930s and today's RW are unrelated except in name

## **BRITISH TRY DUAL SYSTEM**

Washingto

Washington. A British company has worked out a type of wire radio system by which radio programs can be received with loud-speakers over a line from a central radio receiver of high power, according to a report from Trade Commissioner Floyd E. Sullivan, London, to the Department of Commerce. The company engaging in this business is Standard Radio Relay Service. Service.

Service. Selective radio receivers with high power amplifiers are located at central points in each district and the programs are picked up and sent out over wire lines which are tapped at intervals to serve subscribers. Dealers as well as in-dividuals are taking advantage of the service.

dividuals are taking advantage of the service. The subscribers are required to pur-chase the usual post office license, which is compulsory in England, and a charge of 1 shilling six pence per week is made for the service. Loudspeaker may be either purchaser outright or rented. Freedom from interference and the an-moyance of maintenance are the induce-ments held out to prospective subscrib-ers. Only programs of English origin are picked up and sent out over the system, and those who prefer to listen to distant stations in Europe and elsewhere cannot take advantage of the service.

#### J. L. Baird Is Nearly **Ready with New Set**

London. A new type of television receiver will soon be placed on the market by the Baird Television, Ltd., according to re-

Baird Television, Ltd., according to re-ports. This new receiver is said to operate on the mirror drum principle and to be capable of throwing a large picture on a screen. The device is still in the experi-mental stage. It has been in the labora-tory stage for some time, for when Mr. John L. Baird, the inventor, was in New York last Fall he told newspaper repre-sentatives that he was then working on such a system. It is also recalled that he did not consider it necessary to have a wide frequency band necessitating going into the higher frequencies to get quality pictures. It is not known at this time whether the new system will utilize broad-cast frequencies or higher frequencies.

Circle (27) On Reader Service Card

COMREX Corporation, 65 Nonset Path, Acton, MA 01720 USA Tel: 508-263-1800 Fax: 508-635-0401 Email: info@comrex.com Fax-on-Demond: 508-264-9973 Toll-free: 800-237-1776 in N.A. or 0-800-96-2093 in the U.K

World Radio History

#### **Travel light** to your next remote.

The Codec Buddy is a high-quality remote mixer that will work with any delivery system from POTS to RPU to ISDN. The Buddy handles program mix, headphone feeds, communications, codec return, and PA feed...with a built-in one-line frequency extender as a bonus.

All of this in a rugged 8 lb. package for only \$1900!



We make great connections

## **TECHNOLOGY UPDATES**

#### CORTANA CORP.

#### Lightning Strike Protection System

**FARMINGTON, N.M.** A Thailand consultant reported that stations with the

#### Antennaco

#### **Heavyduty Yagi Antennas**

**MILFORD, N.H.** Antennaco is now delivering extremely rugged RPU antennas that can survive the challenges of multiple field deployments. Antennaco's full line of Heavy Duty Yagi antennas were designed to make the installation process quick and painless and the transportability of the antennas a non-issue.

The antennas have a broad bandwidth (typically 5 - 10 percent of Fc) and are individually factory-tuned, obviating the need for field tuning with each use. Gamma match feeds have been eliminated with the use of a fully-balanced, center-fed driven element. Additionally, the fed element is epoxy sealed, eliminating any incur-

sion of moisture and the degradation of signal associated with exposed feeds.

Mechanically, the Heavy Duty antennas are ruggedly constructed using thick-walled square aluminum tube



Stati-Cat system from

frequent strikes."

Corporation received no lightning dam-

age during monsoon season. This was in

an area described as having "heavy and

How does the Stati-Cat system prevent

a strike? During a storm, a high DC volt-

as the core of the boom structure. The individual elements are each solid aluminum rods that can be rapidly broken down and reassembled if required. Stainless steel hardware is used throughout. These antennas should easily survive repeated installations, cross-country tours in the back of the truck or a permanent home in some remote location.

The antennas are available in various configurations from VHF through 1000 MHz.

For more information from Antennaco, contact Dennis McGivern in New Hampshire at 603-673-3153; or circle Reader Service 186.

#### SSAC INC.

#### Solid-state Beacon Flasher

**BALDWINSVILLE, N.Y.** The FA155-2 from SSAC Inc. is a totally solid-state beacon flasher auxiliary module. The module provides a method of synchronously flash-

ing additional beacons on structures such as radio, TV, cellular telephone and mobile radio towers among others.

The FA155-2 is designed for long life in a rugged outdoor environment. The module is enclosed in a small molded plastic package to protect against shock, vibration and humidity. The package includes a molded in-heat transfer plate to facilitate heat transfer to the mounting panel.

A Quick Mount pack-

aging approach simplifies installation by only requiring one screw while screw terminals are replaced by quarter-inch male quick connect terminals. Also included in the FA155-2 is a 2500 W rated triac output device capable of

Also included in the FA155-2 is a 2500 W rated triac output device capable of handling high inrush currents drawn by incandescent beacon lamps. Electronic zero voltage switching circuitry triggers the output device on each half-cycle of the AC voltage to reduce the stress on the filament, thereby increasing the lamp life by 10 times. Zero voltage switching also eliminates RF interference energy emitted from mechanical type flashers.

The FA155-2 is designed to meet or exceed FAA or FCC requirements for fail safe design. If the unit fails, the lamps remain on continuously.

For more information from SSAC, contact the company in New York at 800-377-SSAC (7722); or circle **Reader Service 178.**  age charge develops between the bottom of the storm cloud and the earth. Research shows that the region of greatest negative charge determines the lightning path. The many sharp points provided by the Stati-Cat function as resistors by ionizing the air around each sharp point, thereby providing an electric current path between the tower and the cloud. By reducing the negative charges in the cloud above the tower with a small continuous current, the potential for a sudden, massive discharge is greatly reduced.

In manufacturing the Stati-Cat line,

Cortana has chosen to use materials approved for corrosive atmospheres — 6061-T6 aluminum and stainless steel 304. Stati-Cat system's sharpened points are constructed of 1/8-inch stainless steel rods which have proven their ruggedness in the most severe climates.

The cost of a Stati-Cat is usually recovered during the first lightning season and a design and quote are available without obligation.

For more information from Cortana Corporation, contact the company in New Mexico at 505-325-5336; fax: 505-326-2337; or circle Reader Service 161.



he sweetest sounds in today's Spanish music, soft ballads to hot dance, spell success for your station. Now make your signature sound - and your ratings - soar with StereoMaxx from MSI.

StereoMaxx sets you apart from your competition by making your stereo sound fuller, bolder. It'll make the other stations sound flimsy - "mono" not **macho**.

With StereoMaxx, your listeners will swear you've improved the audio gear. The engineer won't mind the easy set up. The PD will be all smiles. And the GM won't complain about the cost.

StereoMaxx is "simpatico"; it won't give you the headaches you get with other processors. Mariachi, Tejano or whatever comes next, your music—and listeners—rate the best.

Call MSI, the stereo authority at (800) 826-2603 and **fire up your sound**.



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See Us at NAB Booth 1517 & 1518

## MARKETPLACE

#### Recently Introduced Products for the Radio Broadcast Professional

#### **ISDN Audio Codec**

Comrex has introduced the Nexus to its family of ISDN Audio Codecs. A built-in terminal adapter and NT1 make the unit easy to set up and use for remote applications. The Nexus can send 15 kHz bidirectional audio on BRI ISDN and is also compatible with all standard G.722 codecs. Setup is accomplished with an LCD and memory dialing is featured on the Nexus for frequent connections. The input is switchable between microphone and line levels and the output is a vari-



able mix of local program and codec return. Nexus also provides ancillary data capability for linking a laptop with the station. The small, rugged unit weighs less than three pounds and can easily fit into a briefcase.

For more information from Comrex, contact the company in Massachusetts at 508-263-1800; fax-on-demand: 508-264-9973; e-mail: info@comrex.com; or circle Reader Service 181.

Information from Comrex is also available via the World Wide Web at http://www.comrex.com

### WHY SETTLE FOR A FEW TOOLS WHEN YOU CAN HAVE THEM ALL?

Most digital audio systems provide the basic tools to accomplish specific functions, but only DAD486x gives you all of the tools you'll ever need to perform virtually any task imaginable: On-Air, Production, Library Management, Interface with Scheduling & Billing - and for any

format; Live Assist or Automated - small or major market. It offers the ultimate in flexibility without stifling creativity.

Any digital audio system is expected to provide immediate operating efficiencies and improve the bottom line. But systems are often selected without giving proper credit to the role as a platform for future capabilities and expansion.

Can the system adapt when you decide to change formats or automate overnights via satellite... or accept and delay more external feeds? What if you do your own in-house automation? Can it handle an LMA or duopoly, integrate a new station. maybe even simulcast with the present one? How flexible will it be for the new PD, or that hot morning jock... both of whom will likely have strong opinions on how to best utilize the system? Most digital

audio products just don't adapt very easily, and you will most certainly be faced with additional software and/or hardware expenses for any changes... not with DAD. DAD486x is the ultimate Master Toolchest for broadcast professionals. Your staff may not use all of the tools at first, but as proficiency is achieved, they'll come to apply them in more and better ways to improve your entire product. DAD doesn't dictate an operational structure.

For any given task there are multiple tools and solutions. It runs on standard, non-proprietary computer

hardware, easily interfaces with other professional equipment and systems, and can implement various levels of redundancy and fault tolerance. Featuring a completely open architecture, it maximizes future adaptability, is easily maintained, and can readily be configured as anything from a stand-alone workstation to any number of networked workstations, each optimized for specific tasks.

Best of all, DAD486x costs about the same as systems with far less features. Software upgrades and improvements are free for the first year, plus there are no hidden monthly fees. Call ENCO and find out why so many stations and groups throughout the world have standardized on DAD486x, the Ultimate Broadcast Audio Toolchest!



24403 Halsted Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335 USA • Tel: 800-ENCOSYS (800-362-6797); 810-476-5711; Fax: 810-476-5712

#### Telecommunications Products Catalog

Trompeter Electronics is introducing its new 40-page "Telecommunications Products Catalog." The catalog serves as a complete product selection guide



for Trompeter's telecom, broadcast and broadband products. Included are coax connectors, assemblies, patch cords, tools and DSX products.

For more information from Trompeter, contact the company in California at 818-707-2020; fax: 818-706-1040; or circle **Reader Service** 202.

#### **Technology Update**

#### Flash Technology Offers Paint Alternative

**BRENTWOOD, Tenn.** A popular misconception is that only painting a tower and using red incandescent light will fulfill the FAA requirements for marking an aviation obstruction. The truth is that if a strobe lighting system is used, painting a tower is not necessary.

Since the late 1960s, strobe lighting systems have been a FAA-approved method for marking aviation obstructions such as towers. Until recently, if a tower proponent filing with the FAA did not specifically indicate the intent to use a strobe lighting system, the FAA automatically assigned that the tower be marked with red lights and alternating bands of aviation orange and white paint.

The cost savings of using a strobe lighting system varies slightly by the tower height, utility rate and frequency of painting. However, a typical savings of over 60 percent is accomplished after five years following the purchase and installation of a strobe lighting system.

Incidentally, even the FAA has recently started converting its existing red light and painted towers to strobe lighting systems.

For more information from Flash Technology, contact either Ron Brown or Sean Clare in Tennessee at 615-377-0600; or circle Reader Service 177.

## THE ONLY TALK SHOW DELAY THAT CAN MAKE THESE STATEMENTS.

Bad words, #@\$`&*%! like bad news, often come in threes. The new Eventide BD500 is the only obscenity delay in the world that can eliminate them. Now, when you hit the Dump button, you don't lose the whole delay and the obscenity %#?!@*\$!protection that goes with it. You can divide the total available delay time into not one, or even two, but several discrete segments. You still have protection even after dumping two consecutive &*\$%@#! no-no's.

You also get the cleanest, quickest delay catch-up you can buy. Because there's only one way to maximize audio quality and still catch-up rapidly after a delay dump... and Eventide owns the patent. Over the years, several other brands of delay have come and gone. But the simple fact is that the catch-up methods others use must be painfully S-L-O-W to avoid serious audio problems.



And, because you may not be using that analog console forever, the BD500 is also the only broadcast delay that's digi-

tal-ready with optional AES/EBU digital audio inputs and outputs. It's stereo, of course. A convenient new "sneeze" button allows the talent to sneeze, cough, etc. without being heard on air, <u>and</u> without dead air. All front panel switches (except configure) and all status indicators can be remoted (both RS-232 and dry contacts are provided.) Plus, only the BD500 gives talent both a digital readout of delay time <u>and</u> a "quick read" LED bar graph that shows "you're safe" at a glance.

For all these features and quality, you'd expect top-of-the-line pricing. But surprise! The BD500 costs <u>thousands</u> less. It's the best value ever in a broadcast talk show delay. Exactly what you'd expect from the people who invented digital broadcast delays in the first place. Call your distributor, Eventide direct, or check it out on the Web at http://www.eventide.com



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Circle (79) On Reader Service Card

### CABLE REFERENCE GUIDE

The following is a list of companies that produce transmission line, cables, line connectors, RF line filters and cable management devices. It is not an exhaustive list, and other companies listed elsewhere in Buyers Guide may also manufacture cable products.

#### Company

Andrew Corp., Orland Park, IL contact: Robert Leonard phone: 708-873-2859 fax: 708-349-5915

Belden Wire & Cable, Richmond, IN contact: Kip Coates phone: 317-983-5200 fax: 317-983-5257

Cablewave Systems, North Haven, CT contact: Mary Ann Dixon phone: 203-239-3311 fax: 203-234-7718

Canare Cable Inc., San Fernando, CA contact: Barry Brenner phone: 818-365-2246 fax: 818-365-0479

Clark Wire & Cable, Mundelein, IL contact: Carlyn Buchanan phone: 800-222-5348 fax: 847-949-9595

EXIT 5809

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### This Year, We're Way Ahead of the Competition

TL

CB





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Hold onto your LMA...

Fasten your seatbelt...

The only industry supplier resourceful enough to equip and staff two booths at NAB is Harris Corp. **Broadcast Division. We will** feature the most extensive line of Clearly Digital[™] products to be found under the Las Vegas sun!

See us in TV Hall #5809 (Out in front, of course)

See us in Radio Hall #3517

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### **EIGHT IS GREAT!**

Circle (17) On Reader Service Card



**Come to the Harris Booths and find out** how to win this Mackie 16-8 Mixing Console plus these 8 Oktava **Recording mics!** 



World Radio History

WM Company CB CN FL WM TL Cole Wire & Cable, Lincolnwood, IL contact: Lee Abramson phone: 800-323-1403 fax: 708-673-2243 Communications and Energy Corp. East Syracuse, NY contact: Steve Shafer phone: 800-882-1587 fax: 315-452-0732 Gepco International Inc., Chicago, IL contact: Larry Smith phone: 312-733-9555 fax: 312-733-6416 Lemo USA Inc., Santa Rosa, CA phone: 800-444-5366 fax: 707-578-0869 Microwave Filter Co., East Syracuse, NY contact: Terry Owens phone: 800-448-1666 fax: 315-463-1467 Myat Inc., Norwood, NJ contact: Philip Cindrich phone: 201-767-5380 fax: 201-767-4147 Nemal Electronics International North Miami, FL contact: Benjamin Nemser phone: 305-899-0900 fax: 305-895-8178 Panduit Corp., Tinley Park, IL phone: 800-777-3300 fax: 708-532-1811 RF Industries Ltd., San Diego, CA contact: Les Perlman phone: 800-233-1728 fax: 619-549-6345 Rip-Tie, San Francisco, CA contact: Michael Paul Fennell phone: 415-543-0170 fax: 415-777-9868 Times Microwave Systems, Wallingford, CT contact: Robert Perelman phone: 800-TMSCOAX (867-2629) fax: 203-949-8423 Trompeter Electronics, Westlake Village, CA

contact: Cameron Selogie phone: 800-217-2020 fax: 818-706-1040

TL=transmission line CB=cables CN=connectors FL=RF line filters WM=wire management



Gircle (3) On Reader Service Card

### MARKETPLACE

#### Recently Introduced Products for the Radio Broadcast Professional

#### **Ergonomic Crimping Tools**

Panduit now offers a new series of ergonomically engineered crimping tools that are designed to fit comfortably in the contour of the human hand and reduce the force necessary to properly crimp terminals by up to 50 percent.



Panduit's Contour Crimp tools are available in three different styles so that operators may select the tool with the optimal die configuration. As an added feature, the crimping tools automatically emboss inspection dots into the crimped product.

For more information from Panduit, contact the company's terminals product manager in Illinois at 800-777-3300 x2241; fax: 815-485-5839; or circle Reader Service 75.

#### **Digital Audio Master Cassettes**

Sony has introduced its DARS-MP Series Metal Particle Tape that features a coating technology wherein the metal particles in the magnetic layer are aligned diagonally, allowing the tape to record smaller wavelengths. Additionally, a newly developed binder system improves tape durability and lowers dropouts, especially during overdubs, when tape is frequently shuttled.

Available in 30-, 60- and 113-minute lengths, the Sony DARS-MP cassette will be on shelves early this spring.

For more information, contact Sue Faber or Jen Revis at Technology Solutions in New Jersey at 212-696-2000; e-mail: jrevis@tsipr.com; or circle Reader Service 138.

#### **Nearfield Performance Monitor**

Available from Klipsch Professional is the KP-110-B compact performance mon-



itor designed to accommodate a variety of nearfield applications including keyboard, stage monitoring and recording. The monitor features a Tractrix Wave horn that provides a controlled beamwidth of 110 degrees in both the vertical and horizontal plane. The low frequency component is a high performance longstroke woofer for tight low end response.

The KP-110-B can be mounted with the optional SB-101 bracket on a microphone stand permanently installed to the wall either vertically or horizontally.

For more information about Klipsch,

contact Jesse Walsh Public Relations in Michigan at 616-695-5948; or circle Reader Service 104.

#### **Digital Audio Processor**

New from Orban is the Optimod-FM 2200 digital audio processor. The 2200 is intended to bring quality sound and features to smaller broadcast radio stations at an affordable price.

Features on the 2200 include eight programmable presets, two-band processing with HF enhancement, all digital stereo



encoder/generator and a digital AES/EBU input/output option. Also included on Orban's Optimod-FM 2200 are LED input/output gain reduction meters, alignment tone generator, remote control and nonvolatile memory.

For more information from Orban, contact Amy Huson in California at 510-351-3500; fax: 510-351-0500; or circle Reader Service 183.

## FAMOUS LAST WOLDS:

"I don't need a backup transmitter."



Crown's FM500 500 watts of fully integrated RF output. There when you need it.

Available at new lower pricing through your broadcast dealer today.



1718 W. Mishawaka Road, PO Box 1000, Elkhart, IN 46515–1000 Phone: 800–294–8050; Fax: 219–294–8222 See us at NAB (Booth #2523)

Circle (78) On Reader Service Card

## **Radi®W®rld Broadcast Equipment Exchange**

"Broadcast Equipment Exchange" accepts no responsibility for the condition of the equipment listed or for the specifics of transactions made between buyers and sellers.

#### AMPLIFIERS

#### Want To Sell

Bogen DB-10 mono hi-fi tube amo, voc. \$35; Bogen J-50 tube public address amp, vgc, \$50; Eico HF-61 mono pre amp, tube, vgc, \$25; Scott 121-C mono hi-fi preamp, exc cond, no cabinet, \$50; Scott 330-B hi-fi tuner, AM & FM, vgc, cabinet, \$50, all items +shpg. B Leslie, Pro Rcdg Srv, 13709 Mapleleaf Dr, Cleveland OH 44125. 216-662-1435.

RTS-405 stereo TT preamps (2), \$140 ea +shpg. B Lord, Lord Bdctg, 3824 SW Myrtle St, Seattle WA 98126. 206-932

Crown D 150-A stereo pwr amp, \$250. D Lundy, 606-546-6650.

#### ANTENNAS/ TOWERS/CABLES

#### Want To Sell

290' Utility towers, 2-1/4" iron, 18" face, 20' sections, all lights working, must be dismantled, \$2000 ea/\$3000 both. JJ, WVKV Radio, 304-765-7373.

Celwave CFM-LP-3 3 bay on 100.9, \$1000 +shpg or pick up. J Crawley, Group Radio, POB 185, Campbellsville KY 42719. 502-465-8884

Celwave CFMHP-4 4 bay FM w/deicers & matching transformer, removed for site change, stored indoor, on 93.9 MHz, 3-1/8 input w/1-5/8 reducer, excel cond, BO. B Shotwell, WPVQ, POB 939, S Deerfield MA 01373. 413-665-0939

Price Reduced! (2) 3 tower phasers 5 kW, \$2000/ea, you pick up. 805-237-6111 or 818-446-3468.

#### **3" HELIAX STANDARD** COAXIAL CABLE 50-Ohm, unused, cut to length. Priced below market. Shipped instantly. Call Basic Wire & Cable

(NANCY) 800-227-4292 FAX: 312-539-3500

325' Utility tower, 36" face, on ground in Minneapolis, ready to ship, with all lights, junction boxes, base insulator, guy insulators, turnbuckles & hardware. exc cond, \$10,000. J Thibodeau, Childrens Bdctg Corp, 612-925-8896.

Bird 43 wattmeter with 1-5-10-25-100-500 W elements, (2) 25 W loads & case; Texscan reflection coefficient bridge with elements; (2) 1/2" coax to Nfemale connectors, new; (2) Andrew flange waveguide assy, new; (3) Andrew 2' flex/twist waveguide section. new; Andrew 2' flex/twist waveguide #wftp137-24, new; Mitec 3' flex/twist mini waveguide section, new; Macom video low pass filter, new. Ron, 540-896-9256

Harris ERI FML-2E 2 bay at 99.3, \$1500. R Warwick, KLLY/KKBB, 3651 Pegasus Dr #107, Bakersfield CA 93308, 805-393-1900.



Phelps Dodge CPFM HP 6 BX 6-bay FM antenna. S King, KMML, 1703 Avondale St, Amarillo TX 79116. 806-355-9777

Tower phasers 5 kW (2), you pick up, \$1200 ea. 805-237-6111

Scala 450 (2) STL antennas + 200' 7/8" foam feedline, will separate, \$800/BO, D Ernewein, KCHK, 25821 Langford Ave, New Prague MN 56071, 612-758-2571,

NEW & USED: 1-5/8 & 7/8" coax cable on spools, will cut to length, guaranteed. Goodrich Enterprises, 11435 Manderson St, Ornaha NE 68164. 402-493-1886

RF ANTENNA SYSTEM COMPO-NENTS - Coils, Capacitors, Contactors, Switches, Jacks, Cable, etc. Refurbished, Reconditioned, Guar-anteed. For FREE catalog and price list contact: UNITED SYSTEMS @ (303) 980-6813.

#### Want To Buy

Rohn 45 10' sections. K Diebel, KTJC, 1707 Louise St, Rogville LA 71269. 318-738-5852

#### AUDIO PRODUCTION

Want To Sell

Pultec EQH-2 tube EQ; RCA BA-11 vintage mic pres; UREI 535 stereo EQ, \$350; White 4400 EQ; Orban 245-E stereo synthesizer: Altec 352-A mixer amp, \$150; Gates M-5576 vintage tube program amp; Allison Labs variable filters. T Coffman, 619-571-5031.

dbx 224 type II simu, encode/decoder, \$193; dbx 21 type II disc/tape decoder, \$39; Burwen DNF-1201A dynamic noise filter, \$147; Burwen TNE-7000A transient noise elim, \$271; Aphex aural Exciter type B. \$139: ADC Sound-shaper graphic EQ (3), \$46 ea. D Peck, House of Music, 5050 Laguna Blvd #112, Elk Grove CA 95758. 916-684-8000.

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Revox B225 CD player, \$300. B Pace, KMXQ, POB 30570, Albuquerque NM 87190. 505-881-7002.

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Roland DEP-5's (5) digital delay lines, \$225 each. 1-616-782-9258.

Ursa Major 8x32 reverb was \$6000 new/now \$650. W Gunn, 619-320-0728.

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IGM EC w/2-24 Go-Carts, complete unit, working, BO. K Smith, KYCN, 450 East Cole, Wheatland WY 82201. 307-322-5926.

ITC 750 R-R's (8), \$100 ea; SMC stereo Carousels (4), \$100 ea; IGM 24 tray Carousels (5), \$200 ea: IGM 78 tray Go Cart, \$100. T Beschta, WAQE, POB 703, Rice Lake WI 54868. 715-234-9059.



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ITC 3D mono, \$400; Harris RP mono, \$250; ITC RP mono, \$350; Audicord RP stereo cart (2), \$300. B Pace, KMXQ, POB 30570, Albuquerque NM 87190. 505-881-7002.

ITC Delta - new pinch rollers: Mono playback (2), record/play (2), stereo record/play (1). MOTIVATED! Spotmaster series 2000 record (1). Wes, 818-798-9128.

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ITC 3 deck (6) w/WRA recording amp; BE 6000 (6), J Phillips, 414 Washington Ave, Defiance OH 43512, 419-782



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APT ACE 100 Pro, pro audio card with balanced in and out 4:1 compression. \$900. S King, KMML, 1703 Avondale St, Amarillo TX 79116. 806-355-9777.

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Carvin 18 channel console, \$250. 1-616-782-9258.

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Orban 9000AM, 8000, 8100, ST, xtfm DAP, Modulimiter. J Phillips, 414 Washington Ave, Defiance OH 43512. 419-782-8591

Clark Communications Cobalt Blue processor #5 replacement card for Optimod 8100, \$600/BO. D Nadon, WNNH, 501 South St, Concord NH 03304.603-225-1160.

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