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## @RADIOMAGONLINE.COM **Telos Founder Steve Church Dies**

Steve Church was an engineer, entrepreneur, talk show host and founder of Telos Systems and the Telos Alliance. Over the past 30 years he created many products that ushered broadcasting into the digital age.

Church was born in 1955 in San Diego, CA. He began his broadcast engineering career in 1975 at WFMK in Lansing, MI. He later worked at WWWW Detroit and WFBQ/WDNE Indianapolis and later became chief engineer at WFBQ/WNDE. He was also the chief engineer at WMMS/WHK Cleveland.

Church's first innovation addressed the poor sound of analog telephone adapters, which led to the creation of the Telos 10 telephone hybrid. Telos Systems was launched in 1985 as a part-time project.

Church's other breakthroughs combined MP3 audio with ISDN in the Telos Zephyr, and packet switching and Ethernet to the routing of audio signals around the broadcast facility. The result was Livewire IP-Audio.

Church died Sept. 28 after a three-year battle with brain cancer.



## Armstrong **Buys Sine Systems**

On Aug. 3 Radio magazine reported that Sine Systems had closed its doors. At the 2012 Radio Show, Radio magazine learned that Armstrong Transmitter purchased Sine Systems and will take on the company's support and manufacturing operations.

## 2,406

The NAB and RAB announced the total number of registered attendees for the 2012 Radio Show held in Dallas. The final number represents an increase of 200 attendees over 2011.

The 2013 Radio Show will be held Sept. 18-20, 2013, at Rosen Shingle Creek resort in Orlando, FL.

## **Bill Could Revise Streaming Royalties**

Reps. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) and Rep. Jared Polis (D-CO) and Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR)proposed a bill to reform music streaming rates called the Internet Radio Fairness Act of 2012. The purpose is to adopt fair standards and procedures by which determinations of Copyright Royalty Judges are made with respect to webcasting, and to stipulate the methods of determining royalty rates for streaming music online, noting that fees should follow competitive market circumstances as agreed to by most copyright users. Fees would also take into account the promotional value and benefit of streaming the music.



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## **SBE Names Scholarship** in Honor of John Battison

The founder of the Society of Broadcast Engineers, John H. Battison, PE, CPBE, who passed away on Aug. 28, 2012, at the age of 96, is being memorialized with the creation of a scholarship in

his name. The John H. Battison SBE Founder's Scholarship will be presented to an applicant who seeks to enter or advance in the field of broadcast engineering. This decision comes today, on what would have been Battison's 97th birthday.

## NRSC Adopts New RDS **Usage Guidelines,** Updates AM Standards

The National Radio Systems Committee (NRSC) adopted a new NRSC guideline focusing on recommendations for broadcasters and receiver manufacturers in the use of the Radio Data System (RDS) data broadcasting technology. NRSC-G300, RDS Usage Guideline was adopted by the Radio Broadcasting Data System (RBDS) Subcommittee, chaired by Dan Mansergh, director of engineering, KQED Public Radio, San Francisco. Approximately 60 pages in length, G300 includes sections focusing on select features of RDS, using RDS for program ociated data, and an Annex listing providers of RDS-based data vices. Service providers may request inclusion in this Annex by submitting a form, which is also included in the new guideline.

In addition, based on NRSC procedures that require that all standards and guidelines to undergo a review every five years, three documents were reviewed and revised slightly by the AM and FM Analog Broadcasting (AFAB) Subcommittee, co-chaired by Stan Salek, senior engineer, Hammett and Edison, and Gary Kline, SVP corporate director of engineering and IT. Cumulus Broadcasting:

- > NRSC-1-B, NRSC AM Preemphasis/deemphasis and Broadcast Audio Transmission Bandwidth Specifications
- > NRSC-2-B, Emission Limitation for AM Broadcast Transmission
- > NRSC-G100-A, Bandwidth Options for Analog AM Broadcasters These documents will be available free-of-charge on the NRSC website, following a final procedural review.

percent for 2Q2012



Radio experienced an-

off-air sectors-up 1

and the first half of 2012. Digital continues to be radio's fastest growing sector-up 3 other quarter of growth percent for the second across spot, digital and quarter and 7 percent for the half.

Beasley Broadcast Group announced the winners of its annual Company Operating Awards. Lamar Smith was named Engineer of the Year; he handles five stations in Las Vegas.



## FIND THE MIC AND WIN!

Tell us where you think the mic icon is placed on this issue's cover and you could win Hosa HDC-800 headphones. Send your entry to radio@RadioMagOnline.com by Nov. 10. Be sure to include your guess, name, job title, company name, mailing address and phone number. No purchase necessary. For complete rules, go to RadioMagOnline.com



## **Finally**

Finally-Sound Forge Pro, the standard-setting, industry-defining audio editor, is available for the Mac. Built from the ground up, it reboots the legacy with a contemporary working environment designed exclusively for OS X. This dynamic lightning-fast production tool provides a fresh outlook on Mac audio editing while delivering the elegant power and functionality you've been waiting for. Sound Forge Pro Mac has everything needed to prepare, process, and render finished audio master files. It further enhances the legendary Sound Forge quality with iZotope™ Mastering Effects Bundle, a suite of essential high-end processing plug-ins, taking your experience farther than you thought possible. Sound Forge Pro Mac redefines your editing experience.

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Scan to see a full list of Sound Forge Pro Mac features.

## VIEW**point**

## **New Life for the Radio Show?**



he 2012 Radio Show in Dallas wrapped up a few weeks ago, and what do we do after a convention? We look back and reflect on how it went, what worked and what might need some improvement. The NAB and RAB have worked together on several Radio Shows now, and they have polished the process. Registered attendance was up from last year, which is always a good sign, but there's more to a successful convention than attendance stats.

I talked to exhibitors during the convention, and for the most part I heard positive comments. Most of them were pleased with the attendees they saw at the convention. The exhibitors want booth visitors, of course, but it's not just about quantity. They like seeing existing customers of course, but they also want to see new customers and get new business leads. At the spring NAB Show, the large number of attendees helps to ensure there are some quality leads in the group. At the Radio Show, it's a smaller pool, so the exhibitors are very focused on seeing a return for their effort. In most cases, it seems they were happy.

The convention offers several conference tracks. We follow the technical track mostly, although there are sessions in other tracks worth attending. FCC Commissioner Pai's talk shed some light on his goals for broadcasting at the FCC. The EAS topic in the management track was a great idea to allow the managers to see EAS and CAP as more than just an engineering task. There were plenty of sessions to get new ideas. As an engineer and technology manager, I think it's a good for those of us on the tech side to get a management, programming or sales session in our schedule. It helps the engineer become a more active part of the station team.

The HD Radio sessions were also well attended. The development of HD Radio continues, although many seem to think it has slowed. Seeing sessions with standing room only shows there is still an active interest in the technology.

The Radio Show (as the NAB Radio Show then) was last in Dallas in 2006, and also held at the Hilton Anatole. Next year, the convention returns to Orlando after many years away. I talked to exhibitors and attendees about the Dallas and Orlando locations, and heard a common theme in their comments. Both locations are great cities, and the convention facilities are wonderful, but there's more to a convention than the convention itself.

Those to whom I spoke noted that cities like Philadelphia, San Francisco, Austin, Chicago, New Orleans and Washington, DC, all have an advantage over Dallas and Orlando: These other cities provide something to do outside the convention location and don't require a car. Walk out of your hotel in San Francisco or Washington, DC, and you're surrounded by restaurants in an easy walking area. And if you need to go farther, it's easy to do so with public transportation. Dallas and Orlando are great cities, but not so pedestrian friendly. At the convention, I heard several mention that Boston would be a good stop for the Radio Show.

Planning a convention is no easy task. I credit the NAB and RAB for their efforts in putting together the convention as well as they do. And while the fall convention has had some rough spots, it still seems to offer some benefit to radio. **Q** 

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Chriss Scherer | Editor



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## COMPLETE REMOTE STUDIO ON TWO WHEELS



We are pretty sure this is a first – an open-air moving studio broadcast on two wheels (well, six, technically).



Dan Jackson, engineer for 92.9 FM in Perth, Australia was faced with a unique challenge. Breakfast hosts Paul Hogan and Lisa Fernandez would be cycling for hours in strong winds and pouring rain as part of the 92.9 Kids Appeal for Telethon.

The unique solution was to equip Dan's bike as a mobile production facility. The talent wore wireless mics AND inthe-ear monitors which communicated with receivers and transmitters in a rack bag on Dan's bike.



All audio was fed to a Comrex ACCESS Portable, complete with optional mixer, which Dan used to mix the live



on-air feed as the trio traversed the winding roads of

Perth. How did it all work out? Absolutely flawlessly – the show went on without as much as a speed bump!

ACCESS Portable lets you send studio-quality live audio, real time over IP using 3G, 4G, Wi Fi, BGAN/VSAT, PSTN or DSL to make any remote broadcast really stand out. Connect with your audience from anywhere, live, with the easy to use, handheld ACCESS Portable!



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## MANAGING**technology**



## Making Money With Multicast

by Kevin McNamara

> few months ago I wrote about some different ideas that could provide a good revenue stream using the HD2 and/or HD3 chan-

nels. The main point of that article was that it is not enough to just provide some programming out there and wait for the listeners to flock all over this new gem, rather there needs to be programming that will make a listener want to listen, or more importantly, want to purchase an HD Radio receiver.

I come from a slightly different perspective than many others who write in this industry trade. My first 25 years of employed bliss was working in radio and television in an engineering capacity, mainly director of engineering positions at the local and corporate levels, primarily in the top markets. I left that to form my own business that focuses on building wireless communications systems for a variety of private and municipal clients. That now makes me a listener in terms of having an outsider's viewpoint and as such, perhaps can provide a different spin to this particular subject.

## THE DILEMMA OF HD RADIO

To understand the money-making opportunities of HD Radio, let's look at the problems that need to be defused.

Problem 1: In researching this article about making money with multicast, I see a lot of buzz words that describe the phenomena of HD Radio like "revolutionary." While that may be true, there are a whole bunch of revolutionary technologies out there competing with it. They may also be able to compete with HD Radio more creatively, since:

> Many are not a slave to qualitative audience measurements. Most broadband services can get real-time data of how many people are listening, what they are listening to, and generally a much broader knowledge of the listener/ subscriber.

> Many services are not constrained by a service area or interference from atmospheric noise, etc.

> Services like Pandora can also tailor content to the listener level and get real-time feedback about their preferences.

Problem 2: Getting enough radios in the market is another challenge. The most recent numbers suggest about 20 percent of new car



models (under \$35K) coming out in 2012 offer HD Radio standard. I've also seen numbers that place total HD Radio receiver penetration well under 5 percent. The last I checked, keeping up with the demand of HD Radio receivers has not been an issue with any manufacturer.

There is a push to make it mandatory that mobile phone manufacturers include FM receivers inside of each phone. While this would certainly increase the count of deployed receivers, it is unlikely that most people would use it, if for no other reason, than phones that do offer FM receivers require the use of earphones, since they use the earphone wires as the antenna. In my personal observations, the only people I have seen (myself included) use the FM receiver are at the gym listening to the rebroadcast TV audio feeds. Another issue to consider is that new car radio receivers are not traditional receivers; you know the kind with buttons? They are now simply command consoles that offer everything from entertainment to control and monitoring of the automobile systems. People are going to need a reason to choose the terrestrial station over the broadband or satellite provider. The radio is essentially going to be buried inside of this console.

> Problem 3: The programming must be compelling. Since the 1920s broadcasters have been good at figuring out what programming appeals to the most amount of listeners within their service area. This usually came in the form of rotations of the same 30 or 40 songs repeated throughout the day combined with a local personality. That worked well until the advent of alternative program delivery platforms that are able to provide greater choices and with fewer interruptions. Providing an alternative format that utilizes the same funda-

mental programming formulas used in radio for the past 80 years, will not draw new listeners to your multicast channel.

## **MULTICAST REVENUE OPPORTUNITIES**

As I pointed out in my previous article, the real opportunities with HD Radio and multicasting are those that can exploit specific types of content, which a terrestrial station can implement, that would not be practical on other platforms. In my mind, the greatest opportunity for multicasting is with highly focused local content. This is what radio does, and has done, better than any other platform in history yet economics has caused the industry to move away from serving the local market in favor of using programming originating from a central

## MANAGING**technology**



Texas has just built a \$60 million stadium for its high school football program. There is a great deal of passion and local interest in high school sports throughout the country,

location and shared among several operations.

From a listener's perspective, here are a few thoughts of what would draw me into the HD Radio multicast world, and hold me there for a while:

> Local sports broadcasts and news: I think this is a huge missed opportunity in several markets. Have you been near a high school stadium on a Friday night? The City of Allen but few stations are seizing the opportunity. Creating a mini ESPN-like format catering to local sports would absolutely draw in listeners and advertisers not to mention something that would drive new HD Radio receiver sales.
Local News channel: This does not mean running a syndicated format, it means creating a full-time local news presence that cater to smaller populations within your service

contour. Partner with the small local newspaper in order to get content.

> Run audio podcasts and blogs: It's not hard to find interesting content provided by the residents in particular areas. Use topics that would have appeal to people in that area. This is along the lines of public access programming, but not limited to specific issues or topics.

> Local entertainment channel: An audio version of the content seen in monthly entertainment guides and newspapers. Report on all local upcoming events inside your service area, these would include local concerts, clubs, fairs, theater, restaurants, festivals, etc. You could also air live broadcasts of local musicians and other events.

I think there is still a great opportunity to generate revenue with HD Radio, but the key is to find that niche that can only be filled by you.

McNamara is president of McNamara Associates, Cape Coral, FL.



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## What Went Down at The Radio Show?

by Lee Petro

he discussions at The Radio Show in Dallas last month reflected the current state of the radio industry. With one eye on the current issues, and one eye looking at possible developments in the future, attendees were able to obtain a well-rounded review of where the industry is headed.

FM chips in smartphones: One of the most talked-about subjects was the activation of FM chips in smartphones. While there are a limited number of smartphones that already have activated chips, most smartphones contain inactivated FM chips, much to the surprise of the average smartphone user.

Both Gordon Smith, the president and CEO of the NAB, and Jeff Smulyan, the president and CEO of Emmis Communications, made impassioned arguments that the activation of the FM chips already present in smartphones would save consumers money by avoiding the costly data usage fees associated with most wireless phone contracts. Since apps stream audio programming over the wireless networks, frequent listening can extinguish a consumer's monthly allowance quickly, and almost all unlimited usage plans have been eliminated by the carriers.

It was noted that none of the top 10 phones have activated FM chips, despite the fact that they have already been installed and sold with the phone. They also noted that the lack of activation limits the reach of broadcasters during emergencies when the wireless networks are overwhelmed or lose power. Since wireless carriers have sent text messages during emergencies to their subscribers to listen to broadcasters for detailed information, one could see that the activation of the FM chips already present in smartphones would greatly serve the public.

*Royalty deals:* Also discussed in Dallas was the recent decisions by Clear Channel and Entercom to enter into royalty agreements with Big Machine Records, a record label representing many country music stars such as Taylor Swift. While broadcasters have traditionally avoided copyright liability to the individual artists for playing their songs on the radio, the deal struck by the broadcasters will give Big Machine Records a share of the revenues from terrestrial broadcasts of songs, in exchange for reduced liability on the streaming of those songs on the Internet.

Broadcasters have fought to avoid industry-wide performance royalty liability for many years, but the decline of non-digital record sales has led artists and recording labels to look for new sources of revenue. Broadcasters who stream their signal over the

Internet are required to pay royalties based on the number of subscribers

that receive the stream. The deals between the broadcasters and Big Machine lower the royalty rate for digital streaming. While this arrangement will likely lead to an increase in payments to Big Machine in the short term, the overall split between terrestrial and Internet revenue is still skewed heavily toward over-the-air service. However, in light of the overall movement toward IP delivery of audio programming, broadcasters are betting that the long-term benefits of this deal will outweigh the initial impact.

Reflecting the evolving copyright treatment of Internet-only radio websites (i.e., Pandora), in late September, legislation was introduced that would reduce the copyright liability for such services. Noting that Pandora paid copyright royalties equaling more than half its revenue in 2011, the legislation would require the recalculation of the royalty payments to bring it in line with other services.

It is likely that we will see more attention to these matters, as more audio programming goes digital, and the delivery mechanisms evolve. Until that evolution is complete, however, one can expect that further skirmishes will erupt, especially if Congress attempts to pass performance tax liability on broadcasters in the future. **Q** 

Petro is of counsel at Drinker Biddle & Reath, LLP. Email: lee.petro@dbr.com.



## DATELINE

Oct. 1: Noncommercial radio stations in Iowa and Missouri were to have filed their Biennial Ownership Report (FCC 323-E).

Oct. 10: Stations place their Quarterly Issues/Programs List in their public file, covering the period from July 1, 2012 through Sept. 30, 2012.

Oct. 16: Stations in Iowa and Missouri file License Renewal Application and EEO Program Report. Commence running License Renewal Post-Filing Announcements, continuing on Nov. 1 and 16.

Oct. 16: Stations in Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, and North Dakota begin running License Renewal Pre-Filing Announcements, continuing on Nov.1 and 16.

## **Red Carpet Ready.**



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## TRENDSINTECHNOLOGY

## Audio F Update

## rocessing

By Doug Irwin, CPBE DRB AMD

e spend a lot of time talking about the newer technologies being put to use in a radio station, but the fact of the matter is that the vast majority of our listeners still use analog radios to hear us. For that reason it's worthwhile discussing air-chain audio processing—the last device ahead of the transmitter.

Instead of rehashing all the standard features, I want to emphasize what makes the different devices from various manufacturers unique. At the end of this article I'll discuss comparison techniques that you can use to help decide which processor makes the most sense for your station. You can't base your decision on price and features alone—how the device sounds over the air should also factor into your decision.

For on-air processing, devices will have these features as standard:

- > Analog and AES inputs
- > Wideband automatic gain control (AGC)
- > Multiband AGC
- > Multiband limiting
- > Clipping
- > Analog and AES outputs
- > Processing presets developed by the equipment designers
- Full remote access to front panel controls (and often more) via Ethernet These are the standard features we've come to expect from this sort of device. On-air processors for FM will of course include a stereo generator and composite outputs.



Omnia.11

## THE OMNIA.11

Omnia is one of the most well-known audio processing manufacturers, and the Omnia. I1 is the current flagship product in a long line of OTA audio processors. In addition to the

standard features, it adds the following features (among others):Livewire ins and outs in addition to AES, analog and composite outputs

- > Built-in composite low-pass filter to protect RDS/RBDS and SCA signals
- > Single rear-panel SCA input
- Parallel processing path for HD, DAB or other lossy-codec streams; has its own final mixer and look-ahead limiting
- > Front panel 10.5" full-color touchscreen GUI
- > Embedded Web-browser for remote access
- > Up to 20 seconds of built-in diversity delay
- > 4RU

Of course probably the most interesting feature of the Omnia.11 is its single sideband suppressed-carrier stereo generator capability (SSBSC). When using this feature, only the lower sidebands (of the suppressed 38kHz carrier) are in composite output. The level of those sidebands in the composite output is increased by 6dB (versus the level of the same sidebands, were the double sideband-suppressed carrier used) so that the overall modulation level stays the same. Your station will need to send an informal letter to the Commission requesting experimental authorization regarding use of SSBSC.

If you don't want to pay for extra features, there is a non-HD version of the Omnia.11 available as well.



Orban Optimod-FM 8600

### **ORBAN OPTIMOD-FM 8600**

The current top-of-the-line product from Orban is the Optimod-FM 8600. Among its many features are:

- Active-matrix, color, liquid-crystal display with front-panel joystick for navigation
- > Dual processing chains for analog and HD/DAB/lossy-codec outputs
- > AGC and stereo enhancement are common, but multiband

## YOUR WORLD

## The new ROC console from Logitek

When Logitek introduced its first ROC console back in the 1990s, it marked a revolution in audio console design. One of the industry's first router-based digital consoles, the original ROC boasted simple wiring and access to multiple sources at each fader.

Over the years, the router-plus-console Networked Audio concept has become the standard in console architecture. Although the original ROC was retired years ago, Logitek has continued to develop systems for both TDM and AoIP audio networking. The new ROC takes the best of the original design and pairs it with the latest technology and styling.

Available in multiples of 6 faders (up to 24), the ROC is housed in an attractive tabletop enclosure. Durable Penny & Giles faders, OLED source indication and intuitive controls make the ROC a natural for on-air, production rooms or even in temporary studio setups. Two monitor feeds, front panel headphone connection and user-assignable softkeys will please even your fussiest operators.

Call today or visit our website for more information.

The ROC is paired with the JetStream, a powerful 128-channel networked audio node.



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## TRENDSINTECHNOLOGY

There are two primary locations for evaluating the devices: in your vehicle, and on a monaural radio in an office environment. Your vehicle is important not only because of the in-car listening aspect that is so important to radio in general, but also because it's probably the source of sound you are most familiar with. That familiarity is important because it makes differences in sound from one device to the other easier to pick out. An office environment is also important in the grand scheme of radio; but more specifically, you'll want to hear the station in mono like so many listeners will. Radios such as these often don't have a lot of bass response, and they don't have a lot of high-frequency response, so you'll probably find the station sounds different on one of these versus a system that has three-way speakers, and

good wideband audio response. (The vast majority of listeners don't hear your station that way.)

When running comparative listening tests between devices, it's important that, at the very least, you hear all the various sources that get sent out. For an FM music station, that might take a couple of hours, or a couple of days depending upon the format. For a talk station, make sure during the A vs. B evaluation period, you hear all the various voices and production sources.

RESOURCE GUIDE BW Broadcast bwbroadcast.com Inovonics inovonicsbroadcast.com Omnia omniaaudio.com Orban orban.com Wheatstone wheatstone-processing.com

This is an iterative process; during this A vs. B period, you may decide to do extra tweaking on one or both devices. Use your remote control to switch processors at any time; during speech, during songs, during spots. Listen to the differences between the devices on all sources and at different times (i.e., different jocks or board operators). This is also a great way to compare your stations' potential new sound to any competitors. I would also caution you not to jump to conclusions too early on. Give it a couple of days at minimum—listen a lot—

and after that amount of time it's likely the winner will have emerged.

As I said before, the decision on what to do with on-air processing should be subjective after you've determined what the practical choices are. There isn't any real point in evaluating the on-air sound that you can get from a device that, ultimately, the station can't afford.

Irwin is transmission systems supervisor for Clear Channel NYC and chief engineer of WKTU, New York. Contact him at doug@dougirwin.net.

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The ARC-IDUP with unbalanced inputs and PC sound card built in is displayed above. The ARC-IOU has unbalanced inputs without a sound card. The ARC-IOBP has balanced inputs with the PC USB sound card.



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### THE LX-24 CONSOLE CONTROL SURFACE FEATURES

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**EVERY BLADE FEATURES** 

destination on that BLADE

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the radio wond. Brilliant, you ask? Nah - just really really intelligent.

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Silent — no fans — can set  $\forall$  be located in a studio with live mics



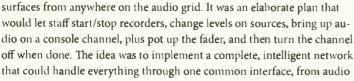
## FACILITYSHOWCASE



would move off the automation to IP routing access units, which promises transparent interoperability between consoles, automation and networking—and on down to microphones, recorders and other elements in the studio. Clear Channel could replace soundcards with software drivers where applicable, and replace much of the hardware I/O switching needed for connectivity previously.

### **BEFORE AND AFTER**

The cluster had been using the SAS 64000 routing system with traditional PR&E consoles before, so IP control surfaces hanging off an AoIP network was an entirely new proposition. Given that they were dealing with a clean slate, management was optimistic that it could take full advantage of the latest routing technology to optimize space and equipment. Working with the engineering staff at Wheatstone, Clear Channel specified a network that could give full remote access and control of devices, automation and



routing, metering, and leveling to mixing control, logic control and processing adjustments.

To make it happen, all these requirements were rolled into a preconfiguration plan, a 5MB Excel Bible of crosspoints, elements and every input, output, IP address and switching designation in the network.

Putting it on paper was one thing. Getting it implemented was another matter entirely especially since Clear Channel had only 30 days to make the switchover due to leasing incentives and penalties that moved up the deadline.

Early on in the project, someone offered the sage advice to take it one day, one studio, and one crosspoint at a time. It was good advice, and this became the refrain throughout the ensuing weeks.

### **PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER**

A lot of equipment needed to come together to make the plan happen.

IP88a Blade access points and E-1 and E-6 control surfaces left the Wheatstone factory in New Bern, NC, labeled and preconfigured for installation. Blade IP access units have the Linux operating system built in, with GPIO, all of which needed to hook into the audio grid. Some were set up to handle all digital I/Os, others analog only I/Os, and others were a combination of digital and analog I/Os with mic inputs.

While equipment was en route, studios were networked together through CAT-6 cable. Large as this network is, gigabit edge switches were used to aggregate the Blades in each studio, and each of the 20 switches was then connected to a core switch. Four Cisco 3750G core switches are stacked together in what Cisco calls their Stackwise technology to spread redundancy over four switches. For extra protection, each switch has separate, redundant power supplies.

All furniture was custom made by Studio Technologies, which it shipped to the facility with some light assembly required. As each studio was built out, engineers dropped in control surfaces and hooked up IP88a Blades as needed. Initial testing was done before moving over equipment from the old studio prior to the final switchover.

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## FACILITY**SHOWCASE**

Clear Channel engineers and contract engineers were brought in from all over the country to help wire the new facility and make the switchover in small steps. Some had never worked with AoIP before, and it was "learn as we go" for the most part. The deadline was pressing, the coordination of details was mind-numbing, and the hours were long. At one point the team was so dogged tired, it took hours to troubleshoot a simple error: Someone had transposed an XLR wire.

When it was all said and done, the facility ended up with more than 77 access points, each with 16 inputs and 16 outputs—or

## ENGINEERING TEAM

- > Erik Kuhlmann, senior vice president of engineering, Clear Channel Media + Entertainment
- > Dan Mettler, senior vice president of engineering, Central Region, Clear Channel Media + Entertainment
- Steve George, regional vice president of engineering, Plains Region, Clear Channel Media + Entertainment
- Bill Major, assistant director of engineering, Seattle Clear Channel Media + Entertainment
- > Terry Ryan, remote coordinator/engineer, Seattle Clear Channel Media + Entertainment
- > And the many other Clear Channel engineers who came to aid in the installation. Their help was greatly appreciated.

leave fader no. 6 up for the Saturday evening show, for example, all the engineer has to do is log into the station's network through a laptop and change it with a couple of clicks of the mouse. It's an easy way to handle all sorts of station upsets and operations from home without ruining an afternoon BBQ or letting the beer get warm.

## **FINAL WALKTHROUGH**

It is still an adventure to walk through the 36,000-square-foot facility. Each music station has an on-air control room with new E-6 control surfaces and accompany-

more than a million crosspoints feeding all 21 studios with soft logic I/Os comprising 4,928 elements and hardware I/O logic of 924 elements. It's a fast operation. One gigabit/second is shuttled throughout, so there are no quality of service (QoS) issues; there's no need to prioritize audio. Fortunately, gigabit Ethernet hardware, which offers point-to-point audio latency of less than two milliseconds, has come down significantly in price in the past five years.

If it's on the grid, it's as good as an arm's reach away anywhere in the facility—and sometimes outside the facility. If the weekend jock forgets to

ing producer studio, some with Wheatstone SideBoard mixers for the occasional producer mix-in during a live show. The sports AM, KJR-AM, has a control room with an E-6 console along with producer studio and a talk studio with a SideBoard surrounded by microphones.

In addition, KJR-AM has a Sports Update studio with an E-1 console that can go directly to air, or to the KJR-AM control room as needed. The sports complex also has two sports edit workstations, each with Side-Boards and Blade X-Y controllers, so sports updates and other audio can

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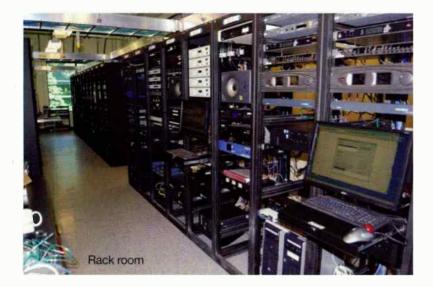
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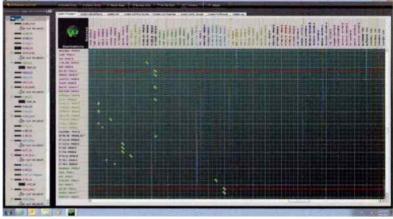
## FACILITY**SHOWCASE**

### Wheatnet Navigator



be routed to any one of the control rooms that want to grab them. A dub studio is for voiceover recording and for general purpose use; it can be switched to air if need be from its E-1 control surface.

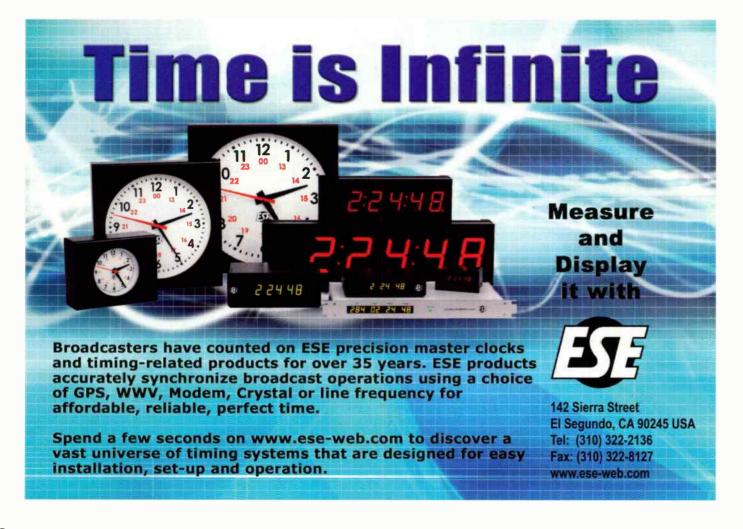
Edit 1 and Edit 2 studios are typically used for editing production or voicetracks. Another studio called the Multipurpose Studio has an E-I



console, which is used for production but is also configured as a backup should an on-air studio need to be taken offline for any reason.

Off to the far end of the building is the traffic center made up of 17 cubicles that monitor traffic in Seattle, Portland and other large cities in the region. Each cubicle is outfitted with newsroom mixers, which are networked through IP88a Blade access units to bring up audio from anywhere in the network and to route audio directly to air if needed.

A nearby bullpen for traffic news has controllers so that producers can grab audio feeds from anywhere they want, and there's another IP88a



## FACILITYSHOWCASE

Blade that routes the microphone from these guests into the system so any one of the studios can pull up any one of these workstations to get a traffic report. The bullpen and traffic center are currently being retrofitted to move in the Traffic Network operation, an entity that was recently purchased by Clear Channel.

Four ProTools studios with ProTools consoles round out the studio complex. These studios have all the I/O wired up to IP88a Blade access units to bring audio in and out in the eventuality that Clear Channel retires the ProTools consoles and puts in new IP control surfaces.

Along the hallway in the center of the studio complex and separate from the rack room is what is called the Remote Broadcast Rack. All ISDN, POTS codecs, Marti RPUs, and any other remote equipment is located here for shared access by staff and stations. Staff can select any of the gear from their E-1 or E-6 consoles anywhere in the studio, allowing them to share existing gear rather than Clear Channel having to buy new equipment. Instead of buying new ISDN units, for example, the cluster has six ISDN units that staff from any of the seven stations can use on a rotating basis.

The physical and operational changes that come with an IP operation this size are significant. For starters, the control surfaces are a huge departure from the older consoles, which you couldn't possibly manage without moving from one end of the board to the other. Now, operators can stand in front of the E-1 or -6 and have full range of control—controls that can

## EQUIPMENT LIST

Cisco 3750G Stackwise switches Comrex Access, Matrix Fostex CR500, RM-1 PreSonus ACP88 ProTools consoles RCS NexGen automation Studio Technologies furniture Telos Zephyr Xstream, 2101 Wheatstone E-1 control surfaces, E-6 control surfaces, IP88a Blades, SideBoard mixers

had the team finished installation when they began making changes. Two studios have changed function entirely, and currently, Clear Channel is in the process of converting another multipurpose studio into a dedicated studio for a syndicated country show.

Once the networking was laid out, though, the rest was easy because it's just a matter of changing crosspoints around and relabeling a few connections. Now changes are made as a matter of routine, which is pretty remarkable considering the size and depth of this networked operation. **Q** 

Major is assistant director of engineering, Clear Channel Seattle.

## THE TECHNOLOGY BEHIND CLEAR CHANNEL SEATT

be changed at any time by

different board operators.

ing on under the hood, too.

It's a very dynamic environ-

ment. Devices are always

talking to each other about

command and control, and

not just streaming audio

between them. This gives

the studios unbelievable flexibility. In fact, no sooner

There's obviously a lot go-

Wheatstone LX-24

Wheatstone's newest award-winning radio console is the LX-24. A traditional layout design, the LX-24 is a digital control surface that interfaces with the Wheatnet-IP Intelligent Network. It's hot-swappable modules can be easily configured to end-user requirements. Place any network signal on any fader. Access Vorsis-grade signal processing for every input channel. Included GUI software allows extensive programming to station requirements; the console then runs day-to-day operations standalone, no PC required. Features include event storage, programmable buttons, four output busses, aux sends and mix-minuses, A/B source select, CR, headphone and studio 1&2 outputs plus a host of additional functions.

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## Tool cases and Site Security

by Doug Irwin CPBE AMD

> ach neighborhood has its own gearhead who has a wall in the garage with the outlines of tools drawn on it, and hooks to hang

them on. I suppose "shadow-boarding" is a good name for this technique. The trouble is that not every tool really has its place there, and besides, you may not have a whole free wall that you can use that way. Kaizen Foam is a product designed to provide a different way to organize your tools.

Kaizen Foam is basically a sheet of foam with a sticky backing on one side. You do make the outline of the particular tool then you cut it out. If you need additional depth (the foam comes in different thicknesses) you then cut an additional piece exactly the same as the last, and you stick them together. The entire sheet (along with multiple cut-outs) then goes in a drawer.

If you carry tools out into the field (like so many broadcasters do) then a different means of keeping organized is needed. When I was in junior high, I made the classic tool box in woodshop (A frame on either end and handle between the two). When I got into the business I needed a tool case—it had pallets inside to hold the tools in place. Of course those wore out in short order. What is available today? DeWalt has a couple of products that look good. For big projects—ones that are going to have you on-site for a substantial period think about the DeWalt DWST20800. For every day running around, the DeWalt DWST08203 might be more appropriate.

If you combine the tool case and Kaizen Foam ideas, then you could make a solid carrying case, inside of which could live delicate items such as condenser microphones.

## WE NEED YOUR TIPS

Tech tips may be suitable to earn SBE recertification credits. Send your tips to radio@RadioMagOnline.com.

Another means of carrying tools around while keeping them organized is the Husky Tool Tote. I see these frequently now. Instead of carrying everything, they roll—giving your arm and shoulder a break.

Husky Tool Tote



Pelican 1085cc laptop case

DeWalt DWST08203

Nowadays, though, one of the most important tools to carry around is a laptop or a tablet of some sort. If you need a protective case for a device such as this, you should look at Pelican. The company has a page dedicated to its protective cases for tablets and laptops: pelican.com/hardback/fit\_guide.php.

DEWA

## **REMOTE SITE SECURITY**

Clearly site security has always been important, and due to copper thefts, it may be more important now than ever. With typical Internet access at a transmitter site, it's easier than ever to know what's going on when you're not there. For example, DB Power has a Wi-fi/IP camera that can be used outdoors. It has night vision out to 20 meters, with motion detection; it has a built-in Web server, and can send alarms via e-mail. It can also upload images to an FTP site, which could be handy later on for prosecution ... But how well does it work in an RF environment? That would be a question I would put to any users. Have you developed a remote site security system that you'd like to share with other Radio magazine readers? 0

Invin is transmission systems supervisor for Clear Channel NYC and chief engineer of WKTU, New York. Contact him at doug@ dougirwin.net.

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## SIDE**BY**SIDE

## **Nearfield Monitors**

pair of speakers. The announcers can turn it up and get into what they are playing. In production, producers can get a feel for how something sounds at low and higher levels. But for voice-over booths, news workstations and production workstations, something smaller is often needed.

ur main studios often have a large

In these cases, a pair of nearfield monitors works well. Typically placed around the console meter bridge, these smaller monitors still provide an accurate listening environment, but at more modest levels. Their placement is important, and the center of the speaker axis should face the listener, either by raising the speaker if it's mounted flat, or by tilting the speaker if it's on the counter top. Each speaker should be placed at a 30 degree angle from the listener (60 degrees total for the pair) in an equilateral triangle.

For our comparison, we chose models that are self-powered. This saves mounting a power amp in a rack, which helps when rack space is at a premium in smaller studios. We also picked bi-amped models with 5" woofers that also had tweeters about 1" in size.

All but one model use medium-density fiberboard (MDF) for the enclosure. Two of the models have threaded inserts to aid in mounting. All the models are magnetically shielded, which is important when the speaker is placed near a video monitor to reduce interference to the video. All the models also offer some audio adjustment controls to adjust for placement near a wall and other variations in equalization.

As always, the suggested retail price is shown, but street prices are often substantially less.











124		MININE STREET,			
Model	Genelec 8030A	JBL LSR2325P	KRK Rokit 5 G2	Mackie MR5mk2	Yamaha HS50M
Inputs	1× XLR	1× XLR, 1× 1/4" TRS, 1× RCA	1× XLR, 1× 1/4" TRS, 1× RCA	1× XLR, 1× 1/4" TRS, 1× RCA	1× XLR, 1× 1/4" TRS
Outputs	1× XLR				
Woofer	5"	5"	5"	5.25"	5"
Tweeter	0.75"	1"	1*	1"	0.75"
Enclosure	Reflex port	Waveguide	Waveguide	Bass reflex	Bass reflex
Material	aluminum	MDF	MDF	MDF	MDF
Frequency Response	58Hz - 20kHz	43Hz - 20kHz	53Hz - 20kHz	50Hz - 20kHz	55Hz - 20kHz
SPL	108dB	101dB	106dB	104dB	N/A
Amplifers	2	2	2	2 ·	2
Amp Power	40W LF 40W HF 80W total	55W LF 35W HF 90W total	30W LF 15W HF 45W total	55W LF 30W HF 85W total	45W LF 25W HF 70W total
Input Level Control		1	1		1
EQ	HF Tilt: -2dB LF Tilt: -2/-4/-6dB Bass Roll-off: -6dB	HF: -2.5/0/+2.5dB LF: -3/0/+2dB	HF: -2/-1/0/+1dB	HF: -2/0/+2dB LF: 0/+2/+4dB	Mid: ±2dB @2kHz; High ±2dB; Room Control: 0/-2/-4dB <500Hz; Low Cut: Flat/80Hz/100Hz
Power	120Vac	115 or 230Vac	110-120 or 220-240Vac	115Vac	120Vac
Shielded	1	1	1	1	1
Mounting	back and base threads	4-point threads	Section 4 - Citeria		i de Spielse e Statio
Size (H×W×D)	11.25" × 7.44" × 7.06"	11.9" × 7.4" × 10"	11.1" × 7.28" × 9.06"	11.5" × 7.8" × 10.6"	10.5" × 8.74" × 6.5"
Weight (lb.)	12.3	16	14	14.3	12.8
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## You are here.

Z/IP ONE IP Codec with ACT (Agile Connection Technology) Consistent, drop-free connection for all live remotes through intelligent internet bandwidth management. Now anywhere sounds right here.



ZPAND

## NEWPRODUCTS



## Harris I Audio codec

**Intraplex IP Link 200:** The new IP Link 200 adds a second bidirectional stereo input for multi-channel capability and an intelligent front panel user interface offering simple steps to change audio settings and establish IP addresses for network transport.

This gives engineers and technicians the freedom to use the IP Link 200 for multiple purposes, from remote broadcast contribution to studio-tostudio or studio-to-transmitter links. The codec otherwise offers entirely analogous audio and streaming capabilities to its predecessor, including support for multiple audio formats and its unique multicoding ability. This feature enables simultaneous delivery of audio in many formats for efficiency in streaming bandwidth. **broadcast.harris.com** 

## Sonifex | IP extender

Redbox RB-IPE: The RB-IPE has 16x general purpose inputs on eight RJ-45 connectors, consisting of eight isolated current sink inputs and eight



pull to ground protected inputs; and 16 general pur-

pose outputs on eight RJ-45 connectors using eight isolated relay change-over contacts and eight opto-isolated contacts. These rear-panel RJ45 connectors have an LED for each GPIO, which shows its state. On another set of eight RJ-45 connectors there are also eight 0 to 3.3V/5V/12V input signals and eight output signals nominally at 0 to 3.3V output, with other output voltage configurations possible. The outputs can all be controlled from the inputs of another RB-IPE, or from Ethernet commands, allowing any tallies and control signals, together with analog potentiometer movements, to be sent across a network. When two units are connected at different sites, if a general-purpose-input state changes at one site the unit sends the new state to the other site and the appropriate opto-isolator output changes on that unit. Similarly input voltage controls are monitored and the changing voltage is sent to the remote unit where an output voltage changes accordingly. **sonifex.co.uk** 

## International Tower Lighting (ITL) I SNMP-enabled monitoring system

**MON-950:** The MON-950 SNMP-enabled monitoring system can utilize direct-wired Ethernet or wireless cellular communication technology to provide monitoring of tower lighting systems. The MON-950 works with SNMP manager software to provide real-time and historical reporting on tower lighting systems. It supports virtually all existing medium intensity lighting systems and is easily adaptable to new systems.

iti-llc.com

### Enco Systems I DAD library access tool

**Weblib2:** An option for DAD Presenter, Weblib2 offers a set of browser-based tools for library preview, management and sharing along with playlist preview and manipulation. **enco.com** 





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## **NEWPRODUCTS**

## Digigram I Audio IP codec

IQOYA \*CALL/LE: IQOYA \* CALL/LE is designed for any real-time audio contribution application over IP networks that requires end-to-end, full-duplex audio quality with a high level of reliability. Providing 24-bit audio quality with input THD greater than -90dB and low power consumption of under 11W, the codec offers quick and easy phone-like connection to remote talent. At the core of IQOYA \*CALL/LE is the same audio transport technology found on all the IQOYA family of IP audio solutions by Digigram: The FluidIP audio transport technology ensures a robust connection with efficient management of jitter, loss, drift, QoS and FEC, and the unit's low latency and Fraunhofer error concealment deliver exceptional quality. Symmetrical RTP mode with auto-answer makes it particularly suitable for simple infrastructures without SIP, and the unit supports easy creation and use of profiles for both audio and network formats. digigram.com

## acouStaCorp | Portable acoustic absorber

**acouPoP:** This portable acoustic absorber is designed with two folding side arms that straighten to support a 4' × 6' section of acouStac. Built with 26oz DFR wool, the panel easily expands/ collapses from/to its travel bag to provide sound absorption for location-based performances/ recording. Designed completely using customer wishlists/feedback.

the acouPoP allows increased focus and effectiveness for performance/recording on or offsite. Backed by independent sound lab testing, the coefficient properties are certified. One person can set the acouPoP into position and setup/break down in less than three minutes. Use one or multiple units depending on performance space requirements. acoustacorp. com



## Why does Axia outsell every other IP console? We've got connections.

Did you know that there are over 2,500 Axia consoles on the air? That's more than all other AoIP consoles — combined. Is it because our ads are so irresistible? Our marketing guys think so... but, no. It's because broadcasters know that a network's value increases with the number of devices that talk to it. And nobody connects to more IP-Audio devices than Axia.

With this huge installed base of broadcast studios around the world, we've attracted dozens of partner companies, all offering Livewire<sup>TM</sup>-compatible products. A device with a Livewire port is instantly available to any other device on the network. So, if you're shopping for IP consoles, be sure you ask: "How many partners do you have?" Because a network that only plays with itself isn't very well-connected... is it?





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## DPS-100D True RMS Digital RF Power Meter

The DPS 100D raises the bar for broadcast PF power meters with accurate reliable TRUE RMS detertion and industry leading features and performance. Capable of measuring analog or digital signals in transmission lines from Type N to 9" EIA the DPS-100D also provides state of the art 3-strike VSWR protection and a flexible set of user configurable alarms.

flexible set of user configurable alarms. Setup and monitor the DPS-100D using the easy browser based interface. Monitor RF power, temperature, line pressure and user defined general purpose inputs with a web browser or via SNMP.



bdi

## www.broadcast-devices.com Broadcast Devices, Inc Phone: 914-737-5032 sales@broadcast-devices.com



## **NEWPRODUCTS**

## Line 6 | 3-way speaker system

StageSource L3t: StageSource L3t combines multi-function design, powerful DSP and precision components to deliver a blend of high-powered performance and true scalability. A compact, threeway speaker system with integrated multi-channel mixer, the StageSource L3t features a tri-amped design that delivers 1,400W of balanced, clean and articulate audio. With embedded Smart Speaker technology and L6 LINK digital networking, StageSource systems use six DSP-based Smart Speaker modes. Loudspeakers will automatically self-configure for vertical or horizontal use, pan stereo signals, adjust Smart Speaker modes and perform system-wide optimization. Add StageSource L3s subwoofers to the mix and the system automatically sends them the summed signals and sets the crossovers. line6.com



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## www.hosatech.com

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# NEWPRODUCTS

## NewTek | Desktop video production

**TriCaster 40:** TriCaster 40 creates a new entry point for broadcasters and producers who need full-resolution, HD, multi-camera live production and streaming capabilities. TriCaster 40 is a turnkey, desktop video production studio that makes it possible for virtually anyone to create live television for delivery to broadcast, Web and projectors. TriCaster 40 simplifies live multi-camera video production and streaming by eliminating complicated setup and cabling between production components, while integrating video switching, graphics, titles, effects, media playback, virtual sets, keying, recording and streaming in one compact, professional solution. **newtek.com** 

## **Acoustics First | Acoustic baffles**

**Cloudscape Finish Additions:** These acoustical baffles reduce reverberation in larger spaces and can be suspended from open truss and pre-engineered suspension systems or mounted directly to a roof deck or wall. A 2" thick option in sizes up to 4'  $\times$  10' is now available. The 2" thick version uses environmentally friendly Ecose glass fiber. The standard 4'  $\times$  2'  $\times$  1.5" PVC-encapsulated Echo-nomical baffle is now joined by three alternate finishes. New finishes include a durable rip-stop nylon sailcloth (CSBF2S) with nine color choices, a fabric-encapsulated Cloudscape Baffle (CSBF2F) sewn with Guilford of Maine FR701, and an exterior grade fabric for outdoor applications.

acousticsfirst.com



## Myat I N+1 switching matrix

**SS201XWA2-1, SS301XWA2-1:** Myat coaxial transfer switches offer a high-quality motor and an engineered drive movement to provide consistent operation. Electrical performance provides high isolation and low VSWR across all the broadcast frequency bands. Precision fit silver-plated and beryllium copper current paths ensure maximum power handling capacity, low loss and long service life. The switch drive can be configured for either 120 or 240Vac and the control can be either 12 or 24Vdc. In the case of power loss, the switch will remain in position when power is restored. Manual override can be performed when ac power is disconnected.

myat.com

## Burk Technology I Remote control meter interface

PlusConnect BDI DPS-100D: This interface allows the Burk ARC Plus to connect directly to the Broadcast Devices DPS-100D power meter. The unit links up to four BDI power meters to an ARC Plus using an existing network connection. By eliminating the need for parallel wiring, the PlusConnect allows broadcasters to better leverage their investment in remote control and power monitoring equipment. **burk.com** 





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# NEWPRODUCTS

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## Wheatstone | Wheatnet-IP bridge

MADI Blade: The MADI Blade bridges the gap between any MADI-capable audio gear/network and the WheatNet-IP Intelligent Network. Users will be able to add on to their existing infrastructure with inexpensive WheatNet-IP equipment. The blade will make it possible for WheatNet-TDM Bridge users to add WheatNet-IP control surfaces and Blades to their existing networks. In fact, any system that utilizes MADI can now install WheatNet-IP gear and have the full functionality that MADI permits. wheatstone.com

## **Davicom I AES/EBU detector switcher**

AEDS: This digital audio detector and switcher has the capability of sensing errors and silences in the digital audio input stream and of automatically switching to a second AES signal or to a third analog source. Besides operating automatically, the AEDS can also be operated manually, either locally or remotely, through its rear panel parallel I/Os or through a USB connection. The AEDS has three inputs and one output: The first two inputs are digital audio inputs with automatic sensing of the data sampling rates. The third input can accept an analog audio source, which is internally sampled at 48kHz. The AES output sampling rate follows the input sampling rate. davicom.com

## **Altinex | Tabletop** interconnect packages

Cable-Nook, Cable-Nook Jr.: These interconnect packages are designed for installation into a table and provide a means of connecting audio, video, and other multimedia sources into a presentation system.



The Cable-Nook Jr. includes the CNK261, CNK271, and CNK361 packages as well as the larger CNK260 Cable-Nook interconnect box. Each Cable-Nook Jr. or Cable-Nook interconnect package installs into a table's surface and includes a dual ac power plate and a set of retaining grommets (two holes in Cable-Nook Jr. models, six holes in standard Cable-Nook CNK260). The retaining grommet sets contain the plates, nylon bushings, and cover caps to securely position the various cables. altinex.com



## Auralex Acoustics | Acoustic panels

SonoFlat Grid: Each SonoFlat Grid measures 2' × 2'  $\times$  2" and is composed of nine 8"  $\times$  8" beveled squares. Made from Auralex's Studiofoam, these panels offer mid- and high-frequency absorption as well as an elegant look. The panels are available in charcoal coloring and are made from Auralex's melamine-free formula, which won't crumble with age. auralex.com

# ARRAKIS SYSTEMS INC.

# ARC-8X Compact Radio Console



Eight channels Stereo Program output 2 mic. 4 stereo line, PC. & Phone in USB interface for play and record from a PC Mix minus in-out for an akternal Telephone hybrid BOTH balanced and unbalanced inputs and output for flexibility

All ARC concoles have conductive plantic faders and long He switches for reliability & Socketon für for fast de nite repair

# ARC-10 Advanced Radio Consoles

Ten mixing channels Two Stereo Program outputs 2 mic, E stereo line, PC, & Phone in USB PC sound card on ARC-10UP & ARC-10BP Mix minus in-out for an external Telephone hybrid Multimillion operation switches with long life LED lamps

The ARC TOUP with unbalanced inputs and PC cound client is displayed. The ARC TEU has in the arc of inputs without a sound card. The ARC TOBP has balanced inputs with the PC UPB sound name ARC-10U... \$1,599 ARC-10UP... \$1,999 ARC-10BP... \$2,495

> CAT 5 cables included on the ARC 108P

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CONSERVICE DIRECTORY

# NEWPRODUCTS

## Society of Broadcast Engineers | SNMP course

Use of SNMP in Broadcast Monitoring and Control Systems: The SBE is offering a new course on SBE University, "Use of the Simple Network Management Protocol in Broadcast Monitoring and Control Systems." This course provides an introduction and overview of the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP). The course describes how SNMP works, including the structure and types of SNMP messages, how they are transported over the network, and how they can be used to monitor and control remote equipment. Students will learn about the data distant equipment might return, and how best to integrate it into an overall facility control plan. Also covered are the types of equipment that support SNMP communications, as well as using the protocol for site-to-site communications. Tony Peterle, CSRE, of WorldCast Systems, is the author of the course. To register, visit sbe.org/sections/SNMP.php. sbe.ora

## **Glensound Electronics | Twin commentator unit**

Express Box: Two identical full commentary positions each have their own mic inputs with selectable 48V phantom power and compressor/limiter. There are two common talkback circuits available to each commentator along with four common inputs and a sidetone control for headphone monitoring. Each commentator can then make his own desired monitor mix from these five inputs. A mixed program output is provided along with direct outputs of both mic inputs. A seven-LED PPM meter completes the specification. glensound.co.uk

## UPGRADES AND UPDATES

The Inovonics David IV (Model 719) now has rev. 2 firmware and corresponding updates for the controlling PC software, which provides additional features and improved performance. (inovonicsbroadcast.com)... WorldCast Systems APT has added SureStream technology to the entry-level Stream-In and Stream-OutSilver audio-over-IP units. (aptcodecs.com ... Broadcast Software International (BSI) has released Simian Pro 2.2 that supports Simian Gateway and a Simian Remote application that will enable users to remotely access their on-air or production Simian Pro radio automation, (bsiusa.com) ... V-Soft Communications has released a new geographic census database update for Probe 4, the TV and FM communications coverage and interference mapping program, and FM Commander, the FM allocations analysis and mapping program. (v-soft.com)





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- with a digital readout

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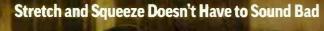
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NEWPRODUCTS

## Mackie | Powered loudspeakers

DLM Series: DLM speakers each feature 2,000W of power, proprietary Mackie TruSource technology and a full-featured integrated digital mixer/processor. This potent technological combination not only allows for the small form factor of DLM, but also delivers a high level

of performance and fidelity. The powerful DLM system includes two full-range models (DLM8, DLM12) along with a high-output compact subwoofer (DLM12S). The fullrange DLM8 and DLM12 are equipped with Mackie's TruSource driver that incorporates the high-output woofer and 1.75" compression driver into an incredibly compact common-magnet design. Powerful TruSource DSP delivers clarity, consistent dispersion and fidelity. Both the DLM8 and DLM12 feature the Mackie DL2 integrated digital mixer, providing a dual-channel mixing solution for a wide array of possible connections with channel features like three-band EQ and 16 effects. **mackie.com** 

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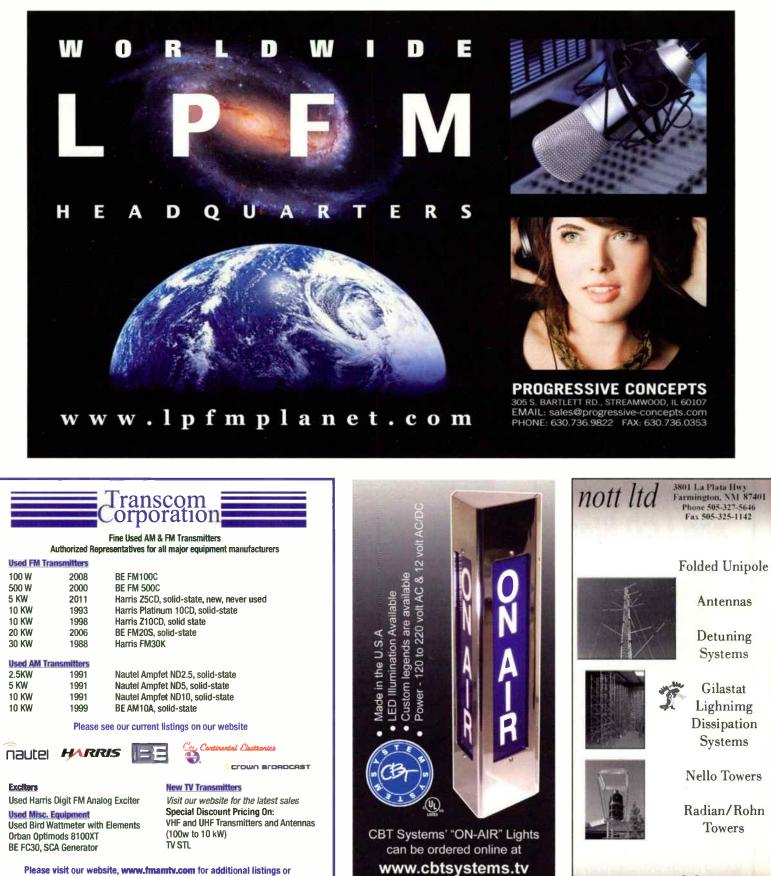


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# SIGN**off**





Higgs calls himself a "way too serious" kid news reporter in 1967.

1965 in the control room at WHTC in Holland. This photo was taken by Holland radio legend, Juke Van Oss.

# REAL PROPERTY IN

Photos courtesy of Jim Higgs' Facebook page.

Award from Elektra-Asylum for breaking The Eagles "Best Of My Love," with Rip Pelli (I) and Burt Stein (r).

# **Jim Higgs: 50 Years**

n August 1962, just two months out of high school, 18-year-old Jim Higgs went into a 12' × 60' house-trailer on the banks of the Kalamazoo River, west of Otsego, MI, for a job interview. The building was marked with the radio station call letters WDMC-AM980. The next day, he started his illustrious career as one of the most noted voices in West Michigan radio. Fifty years later, Higgs remains an integral part of the morning drive radio time for listeners throughout the greater Kalamazoo area on AM980, WAKV.

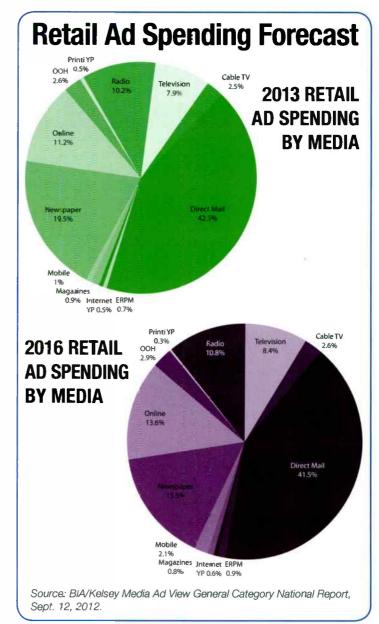
Jim's stint in Otsego was brief and by the following summer, he'd accepted an announcer position with WHTC-AM/FM in Holland. After four years in Holland, Jim made the move to WKMI in Kalamazoo, MI, serving multiple roles including news director, program director, music director and on-air personality for the morning drive.

During his years at WKMI, Jim and his cast of characters, including Wolfman Jack, put Kalamazoo radio on the map—drawing a large fan base and recognition from industry leaders, both regionally and nationally.

During Jim's years at WKMI, he helped the band The Eagles land their first #1 record. In August 1974, Elektra-Asylum released the single "James Dean," from the "On the Border" album. The band, which formed in 1971, had earned a few Top 10 hits, but really wasn't a household name—yet. While the label was aggressively pushing "James Dean," Jim says he chose to play the flip side, a soft ballad written by Don Henley, Glenn Frey and J.D. Souther. The song became an instant hit in the Kalamazoo market; local record stores couldn't keep "On the Border" in stock.

While "James Dean" struggled (it never ranked higher than #77 on the charts), Jim was trying to convince executives at Elektra-Asylum to release this flip-side as a single. They ignored his recommendation. Yet, before long, other stations in Michigan—including some in the high-powered Detroit market—started getting requests for this non-released single. It took Michigan by storm. Label execs finally took notice and in November 1974 officially released this single nationally. The song flew up the Billboard Hot 100 charts and by March 1975, The Eagles had landed their first #1 of many hits: "Best of My Love."

The album itself never went platinum, but representatives from Elektra-Aslyum later that year presented Jim with an autographed copy of the cover of "On the Border"—which still hangs proudly in his office. **Q** 



# ARRAKIS SYSTEMS INC.

15

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all ARC consoles (except ARC-IDU) feature built in PC USB sound cards and come with 'Xtreme -Studios' live on air software

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ACCENT is a contemporary blend of brushed metals, pleasing colors, and interesting textures. The metal structure is artfully integrated into the visible design decor of the cabinetry. Cabinetry and electronic equipment complement each other to create a bold visual environment for talent, guests, and clients alike.

www.arrakis-systems.com



## modular design + ease-of-use + value



## Audioarts IP-12 = enlightenment

The IP-12's modern, modular design moves all audio, logic and control outside the control surface and into a single rackspace audio interface/mix engine (called a BLADE). This gives you much greater mixing/processing capabilities as well as the ability to cost-effectively add on incredible functionality (more audio sources, automation feeds, STL capabilities, multi-channel processing, more consoles, etc). And, if you've already got the WheatNet-IP Intelligent Network, it fits right in,(or, if not, what better place to start?).

Speaking of modular design, the IP-12's construction is exactly that. Need to replace a channel? Two screws and a connector is all it takes. Got automation? IP-12 is hardware-ready. We offer a software driver that works seamlessly with the most popular automation platforms to give you control right from the console! And here's how easy it is to set up the new IP-12 console: Unbox it. Plug it in. You're ready to go. But don't let its simple setup fool you. It's one very powerful little console...

Ready for enlightenment? Contact your Audioarts dealer, give us a call or visit us on the web today to learn more about the power, flexibility and affordability of the IP-12.

> IP-12 PLUG & PLAY POWER

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