



Charlotte, NC Venue Report #30 Wednesday, July 23, 2008

This is our seventh year in Charlotte. They've been with us since the start. This year we were back in the studios of PBS member station WTVI. The studio there is a great place to hold SBE meetings as it permits the space necessary for nearly any kind of presentation. It is my understanding that this is the first SBE meeting of Chapter45 since the last time the Taste of NAB Road Show was in Charlotte on July 31st of last year. It's sad to see a chapter that has such great potential to educate their membership when they are not quite so active. On the other hand, I think it speaks well for our Taste of NAB Road Show to bring a little life to them. Nonetheless, with eighteen in attendance, it was good seeing some very familiar faces and to meet some new folks as well.

I'd like to thank the folks at WTVI and in particular: Mike Smith and Tom Green for all the work they did in putting this event together and providing the location. I also appreciate the very hard work that Terry Johnson does tying it all together. When trying to remember all those who helped, it is inevitable to unintentionally leave someone out. I apologize for that. I'd also like to thank all those who pitched in to both help us set up and pack our things when we were done.

I'd be remiss if I didn't thank Gary Ballard of Technical Video Systems for sponsoring lunch for us. It is truly appreciated. You can see what TVS has to offer at: www.techvid.tv. They are reps for several of the Taste of NAB's sponsors and are interested in taking on some of our sponsors they don't rep. Gary brought with him a JVC camera like the one we have. He had some additional options with him that he was able to demonstrate such as the different kinds of lens mounts. He pointed out that the Leader 5330 as a feature they can offer with the JVC cameras.

Despite the small numbers in attendance, interest was expressed in many of our sponsor's technologies: Telecast Fiber, for one. One of those present said that they used this technology in doing remotes. One person said they have and use the Audemat Golden Eagle HD Radio monitor and are very much interested in the ATSC monitor as well do to the fine performance with the HD Radio gear.

As we discussed the various technologies, one person said that his facility was very pleased to have an Omneon Spectrum Video Server in service and love it. Another made comments about their Axcera transmitter. Avocent's technology is also being used in this market with one person commenting that it made life more convenient and it saved time. Not to be out done, one person said they had seven Tiernan encoders and they work fine. He'd recommend them to anyone interested in an encoder.

Many of the PBS stations have multiple streams and they feed several extended areas. Interest was express here in Charlotte, as it has been in many areas, in the capabilities of the Trilithic EAS system to serve these requirements. As with all my sponsors, I do my best to answer all the questions. I have no doubt that this technology will fill those needs, but it's too bad we don't have anything more than just business cards to give to these folks. CDs, like most all of our other sponsors provide, would go a long way to help in teaching this technology to those in attendance and give the attendees something to refer back to.

I tried to stir the pot in getting Charlotte's SBE chapter interested in more than just one meeting a year. To that end, interest was expressed in hosting on of Leader Instrument's Camera Alignment seminars. If any of my sponsors have similar types of seminars, this chapter would certainly appreciate your participation. Just contact me or the chapter using the information on Tech-Notes website. <http://www.tech-notes.tv/2008/31-Charlotte.htm>. You can see who won door prizes and pictures of this event at this URL as well. Many stayed after to checking out all the technologies we had with us.

E-mails/comments received to date will be shared in the Hampton-Roads report which will be written over the weekend.

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