



Philadelphia, PA
Venue Report #36
Monday, August 4, 2008



Philadelphia is not even a hundred miles from New York City where most of Philadelphia's television stations are central-cast from. This reduces the number of television engineers in the Philly area and, correspondingly the number of engineers available to attend our presentation. We presented our Taste of NAB Road Show for SBE Chapter 18 at the facilities of WXPB-FM, a very popular listener supported FM station. With twenty in attendance, the ratio of radio to TV attendees was defiantly tilted in radio's favor. We were also told that the typical number in attendance at one of SBE Chapter 18's meetings is fifteen or less, so I guess we should be satisfied with twenty.

It's always difficult when putting together a list of folks to thank without unintentionally leaving some off. I truly appreciate all the effort that Mark Humphrey, SBE Chapter 18 chair did to help make our show happen in Philadelphia. I also appreciate the help that we got from Bill Gellhaus, Jared Styles, Director of Engineering at WXPB-FM and Andy Davis, also of WXPB-FM for the help they gave us in setting up and stowing the gear we brought with us.

I'd be very remiss if I didn't mention with garlands of gratitude deserved by Brian Szewczyk of Harris' Broadcast Group for the fine spread that he and his company provided all. There was more than enough for all and it was quite good besides. I certainly didn't see anyone go hungry.

For the past seven years, I've worked with Bob Sparks at any number of venues here along the Atlantic coast. He has never failed to be of very great assistance as a presenter for his company and helping with setting up and getting things back into the van and seeing us on our way. This was the last venue I'll get to work with Bob this year and, God willing, I look forward to working with him next year.

If you are interested in who won what door prizes and pictures of the event, you can see them posted on our website at: www.tech-notes.tv/2008/37-Philadelphia.htm.

Despite the fewness of those in attendance, the group was quite interactive, asking a lot of questions. There were several questions about the technology from Telecast Fiber. Questions on the cost of installation were put to rest when we said it would depend on the amount of fiber to be installed, its length and the particular location. We did check

with the “factory” to put to rest questions on the additional costs extra fibers being run in comparison to extra or spare copper wires being installed.

The question came up and was answered about the various tuners that could be programmed in the Trilithic EAS system, in particular the number of FM receivers that are available.

The few television folks that were present expressed interest in the AJA FS1 and the discussion crossed over to the IO-HD. We were able to field those questions to the person’s satisfaction.

There was a question about the Omneon MediaDeck’s ability to have firewire ports where the current BNCs are in the I/O cards. I referred the person to the “factory,” saying that I was user that Omneon could accommodate him, if it was possible.

These same television engineers and several of the radio folks were amazed at the form factor of the BlackMagic Video Hub 72X144 routing switcher. After the presentation, pricing was shared with them. We do not, as policy, share pricing or delivery during our presentations. This is also an SBE policy.

One radio engineer asked if there was a processing jack on the Henry Engineering SixMix console. We told him that any processing had to be done prior to or after this mixer due to its compact size.

Between Bob Sparks and me, we fielded several questions about the Leader scopes. There seemed to be some interest in the Camera Alignment seminar that Leader offers. Sparks will get back to Chapter 18 about this at a future date.

As of this writing, the Red Monster is repaired and we’ll be on our way to North Haven, CT for tomorrow’s presentation. ☺

The following comments were received since our last report from folks who attended our presentations. These e-mails are unedited except as noted. The “To” line has been deleted when it is our address as well as sender’s physical address and phone numbers. Anything in italics has been added for clarification.



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#76

Subject: Thanks

From: John Arndt JArndt@GreaterMediaPhiladelphia.com

Date: Tue, 5 Aug 2008 09:18:53 -0400

Thank YOU, Larry for bringing this presentation to those of use that don't have the opportunity to get to NAB.

John Arndt, BSEE, CPBE, DRB, AMD, CBNT

Assistant Chief Engineer
Greater Media Philadelphia
WMGK 102.9 FM/HD1/HD2
WMMR 93.3 FM/HD1/HD2
WBEN-FM 95.7 FM/HD1/HD2
WJJZ 97.5 FM/HD1/HD2
WPEN 950 AM/HD

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#75

Subject:

RE: Thanks

From: Mark Humphrey mark@xy-mark.com

Date: Tue, 5 Aug 2008 08:44:34 -0400

Larry,

Thanks for working us into the schedule this year. I spoke with several attendees after you left yesterday and they commented that they enjoyed the improved presentation and the addition of more radio products. The Power Point slides were a nice addition, and I think we learned a lot this year about new technologies, particularly what is being done with fiber. Have a safe journey to the remaining stops -- perhaps I'll see you in Rochester on August 19 if I can break away from WCJW for a few hours.

By the way, the Antique Wireless Association is holding their conference in Rochester beginning on August 20, but it looks like you'll be in Buffalo and Erie during most of the presentations:

<http://www.antiquewireless.org/pdf/2008agenda.pdf>

Best regards,
Mark K3XY

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#74

Subject: Thanks

From: Michael Muderick michael@muderick.com

Date: Tue, 05 Aug 2008 01:02:17 -0400

The ROADSHOW was great. I'm looking forward to it next year. Nice mix of video, audio, and integrated products.

thanks,

mm

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#73

Subject: PHila. Road Show]

From: Michael Muderick michael@muderick.com (same gentleman as above)

Date: Mon, 04 Aug 2008 22:19:41 -0400

Great show today.

You mentioned a device which allows transfer of VHS tapes into computer files. I'm looking to convert my old 'home movies' - lots of tracking error, drop frame, etc. Which manufacturer was this:? Is it on one of the cd's? Great session.

thanks for all the info.
mm

Michael Muderick
(The information he was asking about was provided in a return e-mail.)
+++++

END