



Huntsville SBE Chapter 111



Venue Report #59

Tuesday, September, 23 2008

This was only our fourth time presenting to SBE Chapter 111 and the folks in the Huntsville area. Our presentation took place in a computer training lab at Avocent, our Sponsor's, headquarters. Because of the lab being a "fixed installation" facility, it was not possible to bring in all the equipment and set it up without completely tearing up the room. That said, we did do the Power Point presentation which gave the seventeen folks in attendance all the information on the technologies we have with us this year on the Road Show.

Huntsville is the 84th largest television market. According to the SBE records, this chapter has 16 members listed. I'm always satisfied when the Taste of NAB Road Show can meet or exceed local chapter membership, which we did. I was told that the attendance is better than average for their monthly meetings. This group was predominately folks from the local television stations and as you can see from the spread sheet, all local major network affiliates were represented with a NASA TV engineer thrown in for good measure.

I'd like to thank Matt Nelson of Avocent for his most gracious hospitality which not only included the place where we meet, but also for providing us all with a great box lunch. Matt was the only one of our sponsors represented at this meeting.

For such a small group, much of the technology we have with us this year is in use by many of the facilities represented in our audience. One station bragged about their Omneon Spectrum server system and others spoke about their trouble-free ESE master clock systems. Another of the folks from one of the TV stations spoke about how pleased they were with their AJA FS-1 "anything in – anything out" converter box. Another station spoke of how pleased they were with their new Axcera exciter, while yet another talked about the Telairity encoder they recently put into service.

Although no one from Chattanooga was present at our Taste of NAB Road Show in Huntsville, several present reported that WDEF-TV, part of the Morris Group and the CBS affiliate in Chattanooga, had recently acquired sixteen HD250 cameras like the one we have with us on the Road Show this year. When asked, I was told that the WDEF folks were very please and happy with their new high def cameras for both field and studio work.

I couldn't have asked for a more timely report when one of the stations's represented told us they had an Avocent AMX system in use. It was good to have Matt Nelson present to answer the question from another potential user about being able to have both PCs and MACs on the same KVM system, which you can.

There was interest in the Digi-Data off premises storage services and I was able to field those questions. There was a great deal of interest in the JK Audio Bluetooth technology.

I truly appreciate all the effort that both Matt Nelson and SBE Chapter 111 Chair Joe Kirby put into making our presentation a success. It's always difficult when putting together a list of folks to thank without unintentionally leaving some off. I apologize for anyone

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/2008/62-Huntsville.htm.

Since this report was written at the end of the week, I will post all of the comments received to date in my report #62 on Central Illinois.

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