



# SBE

## SBE CHAPTER 49--CENTRAL ILLINOIS

Venue Report #61  
Friday, September 26, 2008

This was only my second time presenting to the Broadcast Engineering community in the Champaign/Urbana area of Illinois and to SBE Chapter 49. Champaign/Springfield-Decatur is the US's 83rd largest TV market serving some 386,000 households. SBE Chapter 49 has 48 members on their roster. Total in attendance was 21.

Our presentation took place in a new, medium sized garage in the rear of the Illini Radio Group complex. I truly appreciate the folks at Illini Radio Group for making their place available for this year's presentation and Mark Spalding, their Chief Engineer.



We all should recognize the effort that Brian Dougherty, SBE Chapter 49's chair put in to help make our presentation such a great success. The barbeque and fries he arranged for and picked up for us were quite good. I noticed no one went away hungry and I was more than happy to write the check for it.

I wish to point out that Brian and his brother, Bill, stayed around several hours after the presentation and helped me and Shawn not only pack up and get on the road, but also helped to remove and install a troubled piece of equipment that hadn't stood up to the abuse of being schlepped in and out of the van so many times. That said, it's always difficult when putting together a list of folks to thank without unintentionally leaving some off. I apologize for anyone I didn't mention here.

There were NO sponsors representatives present at this venue, but a competitor of two of my sponsors was present, Gene Zimmerman of Cobalt Digital. Gene's company has been a sponsor in the past. Their headquarters are located in Urbana, IL. Gene did say he wanted to speak with me about next year. Keep in mind; this Road Show is a Taste of NAB where sponsors are across the way from each other.

The group was rather eclectic in makeup with no strong representation from any one part of the broadcast community. We did have representation from Parkland College. They have offered their facilities should we wish to return to the area next year. There wasn't a great deal of interactivity either. Interest was expressed in the Trilithic EAS system as well as the Telecast fiber technology as it would apply to audio. One of the folks said he'd used the JK Audio Daptor 3 with it Bluetooth technology through his laptop's Bluetooth port with great success. He was very pleased with the result.

If you are interested in who won what door prizes and pictures of the event, you can see them posted on our website at: <http://www.tech-notes.tv/2008/65-Cent-III.htm>.

***The following comments were received since four reports ago 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.***



**Please take the time to read these as some have comments on the technologies we presented.**

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#144

Subject: Saint Louis "Taste of NAB" presentation

From: John Aughey [john\\_w@aughey.com](mailto:john_w@aughey.com)

Date: Sun, 28 Sep 2008 08:24:54 -0500

Larry,

Many thanks to you and Shawn for your presentation of the "Taste of NAB" last Thursday as the special program for our monthly SBE chapter meeting. I very much enjoyed it, as I did when you were here for us in 2006.

Even though my main interest and work area is in radio rather than television and video, I nonetheless enjoyed and received value from your presentations of products primarily geared for the folks in the television area. This was particularly so with the federal mandate to convert to digital television being only five months away. It is truly a whole new world out there.

Two of the vendor presentations most relevant and interesting to me were those on products from Henry Engineering and ESE. Of particular interest was Henry Engineering's new "SixMix".

As I and others may have mentioned to you, most of the active members in our SBE chapter work in the radio area rather than television. With that being the case, a stronger focus on products in the radio arena would be beneficial to us. That is probably true for SBE chapters in general, which tend more to radio than television. And there a lot of us out there. I don't know if the majority of your overall audience nationwide is in television, as the presentation would hint, but an increase in products geared to radio would be more relevant to us. If you could share our needs with potential participating vendors, I'm sure that would help.

Your physical display of the demonstrated products and your presentations on their function and features were excellent! It amazes me that you and Shawn are able to put on a traveling road show as you do with such a high degree of professionalism.

Thanks again for joining us this past week. It was a pleasure seeing you again, and I look forward to future visits!

Sincerely,

John Aughey  
SBE member, CBT, CRO  
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**#143**

Subject: St. Louis Taste Of NAB Road Show  
From: [vern@wa0rcr.com](mailto:vern@wa0rcr.com)  
Date: Sun, 28 Sep 2008 00:38:49 -0400

Larry,  
Thank you for a very interesting and informative program at our SBE meeting last Thursday evening, Sept. 25. Lots of very interesting equipment; I learned quite a lot from the presentations. I also appreciated your tutorial on fiber optics, and what is available.

Thank you for all you do for broadcast engineering. Thanks also for the sandwiches and soda. Glad to help you and Shawn with getting packed up after the program.

73,  
Vern  
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**#142**

**(Note: The following e-mail was sent to all the members of SBE Chapter 49 in Central Illinois from their Chapter Chairman.)**

Subject: [Fwd: Thanks]  
From: Brian Dougherty [abip\\_inspector@react2u.com](mailto:abip_inspector@react2u.com)  
Date: Sat, 27 Sep 2008 23:04:48 -0500  
To: undisclosed-recipients:

I would like to reiterate the appreciation I had from many of you in attendance. I understand the guys at Parkland College Radio Station are interested in hosting Larry next year. If one of them would touch base with me we can work that out.

I know with busy schedules it is difficult to get away. I am glad we had such a beautiful sunshine filled day to have the gathering. I look forward to next year's event.

We are all part of the communications industry, utilize that talent to not only let Larry know what you liked or didn't like about the show, but also let your peers know about the presentation and what they missed, so they may join us for next year.

I especially want to thank Al Wolfe for his volunteer service of supplying the tables we used. Al also went to the rental place at the last minute so we could get chairs. I also would like to thank Illini Radio's GM Alan Beck and Saga's Corporate Engineer Mark Spalding of which without their hospitality the show wouldn't have had a home.

I hope to see all of you at our November SBE meeting which location has not been determined, Thanks again,

Brian Dougherty

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#141

Subject: Taste of NAB Road Show

From: Caluger, Wayne W [Wayne.Caluger@mtvnnashville.com](mailto:Wayne.Caluger@mtvnnashville.com)

Date: Fri, 26 Sep 2008 15:34:32 -0500

To: [sbel103@nashville.sbe.org](mailto:sbel103@nashville.sbe.org)

To each of you on behalf of SBE Chapter 103 I thank you for making the Taste of NAB Road Show possible

A big thanks to Larry Bloomfield for working Nashville in on what seems to be a never ending coast to coast starting each spring in Oregon not arriving back home until November. Without his long standing dedication to educate and inform Broadcast Engineers many of those who attended Wednesday nights event would have never seen, touched much less heard first hand about some of the equipment and technology he brings with him each and every time.

Not only did Larry provide the educational and informative opportunity, he paid for the food and drinks and provide a host of door prizes and the Nashville Show there are more door prize opportunities at the end of his Road Show tour..

A second thank you to Mike Arnold and Bill Spencer, SBE Life member and member of Chapter 103 for making the fine North Star facility available for the Road Show. Not only did they provided the facility they assisted in the load in and load out of the Road Show, providing a bunch of tables they set up as well as assisting in loading in the food for the event. A personal Thank You to both and please thank everyone else at North Star who help make the Road Show possible.

A special note of thanks to Kirk Harnack for providing T shirts for all attendee's ---not a single shirt was left over and Bill Sheffer at Sony

for providing the colorful USB hubs and another Sony Play station as a door prize.

Since the Road Show is a SBE sanctioned event members in attendance Wednesday night and who signed the sign in sheet will get educational credits towards their re-certification.

Again thanks to all for making this years Chapter 103 sponsored Taste of NAB Road Show a success.

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**#140**

Subject: Taste of NAB Roadshow St.Louis 9/25/08

From: Doug Smith [dougrsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:dougrsmith@hotmail.com)

Date: Fri, 26 Sep 2008 13:23:27 -0500

CC: Bob Hoffman [bob.hoffman@bicstl.com](mailto:bob.hoffman@bicstl.com), Doug Smith  
[dougrsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:dougrsmith@hotmail.com)

Hello Larry,

I certainly enjoyed meeting you last night at the SBE-Chapter 55 St. Louis meeting. Your presentation of numerous companies products via an excellently prepared PowerPoint program, was fascinating and extremely interesting. How you are able to set up each program's displays, conduct the meeting, pack up and drive to your next destination is almost incomprehensible. The fine friend and assistant you are so fortunate to have with you, Shawn ( I hope I am correct in the spelling of his name ) , is truly an ace in the hole.

Thank you for your time, talent and excellent presentation. I will be contacting some of the represented companies in order to acquire more information regarding products viewed last night.

Take care in your travels,

Sincerely,

Doug Smith  
Freelance Audio- Video production engineer  
Sappington, Mo. 63128

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**#139**

Subject: St. Louis Taste of NAB

From: Ralph Brancato [rbrancato@stl.emmis.com](mailto:rbrancato@stl.emmis.com)

Date: Fri, 26 Sep 2008 09:45:02 -0500

Larry,

First, thanks to you and the great work of your assistant Shaun. The show delivered on what it promised. Entertaining and very informative.

I can appreciate the time and dedication to put together a road trip of this magnitude, especially on almost a nightly basis and still keep it fresh.

I really enjoyed not being pressured regarding the products. Your years of TV experience really made for some insightful comments. You know I'm a Radio guy but I've been dabbling in TV. A lot of hardware questions were answered and I have a better understanding of what's out there in the TV world.

Loved the Telecast Fiber demo---did you see all the guys get up and walk to the table for more info? We would have preferred a CD over the paper.

Loved the new Henry Engineering Six Mix and the cool JK Audio Bluetooth products. How did you get the Matchbox Master to voice the demo? It was a quick demo that kept my attention. I was unaware Audemat had a remote control that's very comprehensive.

The ATSC monitor was outstanding.

Always love the ESE products and I'll send them a picture with our ESE Master Clock. I liked the Black Magic products and the AJA goodies. I'll be sure to pass this along to our in-house video guy. Yes, a radio station with an in-house, one man video department.

He uses a Mac and Final Cut Pro.

A local Class A, KEFN-CA asked me about the mediaHUB-HD encoder and there it was! The Nverzion, Omneon, Axcera, Compix and Linear products are all great candidates for a future upgrade. They will have first dibs when calling out for quotes.

KEFN already has a Burst logo product. Reliable and easy to use.

Please know that our Director of Engineering, Sam Caputa and I want to try the Broadcast Buyers Guide Workflow Software. We'll be happy to be apart of the continued product development. If all goes well after the trial, we'll have no problem buying the subscription. How did you know we were looking for that exact product?

Larry, what a great service and well worth the time.  
Finally,

-Take care.

Ralph Brancato  
Chief Engineer  
Emmis Communications - St. Louis  
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**#138**

Subject: Thanks

From: Bishop, Curtis W. MSFC-NNM04AA02C HONEYWELL

[Curtis.W.Bishop@nasa.gov](mailto:Curtis.W.Bishop@nasa.gov)

Date: Wed, 24 Sep 2008 11:48:05 -0500

Hi Larry,

Just wanted to thank you for a GREAT show! Is there any chance that you could send me your slideshow? I like to present some of the products to the rest of my staff.

Sorry I couldn't stay until the end of the show but the wife's treatment take the front seat right now. Last Monday she hit the 50% done mark and right now she needs my attention.  
Thanks again!

Curtis W. Bishop  
Lead Engineer  
NASA TV - MSFC  
<http://marshalltv.msfc.nasa.gov>

"May you live as long as you want and never want as long as you live."  
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**#137**  
Subject: Thanks  
From: bernie kunze [berniekunze@yahoo.com](mailto:berniekunze@yahoo.com)  
Date: Mon, 22 Sep 2008 09:38:32 -0700 (PDT)

I just want say that this year's "Taste of NAB 2008" Road Show" was the best yet and Larry as usual, you did a excellent job of representing your customer's products.

Bernie Kunze  
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**#136**  
Subject: The Road Show  
From: John Hardeman [jhardeman@aptv.org](mailto:jhardeman@aptv.org)  
Date: Tue, 23 Sep 2008 09:24:50 -0500

Hello Larry,  
I just wanted to thank you and all the great sponsors for making The Road Show possible. The fellowship, food, and presentation was great. Keep up the good work.  
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**#135**  
Subject: Thank You  
From: Herb Connellan [herb.connellan@cumulus.com](mailto:herb.connellan@cumulus.com)  
Date: Mon, 22 Sep 2008 10:28:53 -0600

Larry,

Just a note to say "Thanks" for the great show.

This was my first Taste of the NAB, and hope you will return next year.

This show gave me a chance to catch up on the latest in TV as well as Radio.



Again thanks

Herb

Herb Connellan, KD4Y  
Engineering  
Cumulus Broadcasting/Montgomery  
Montgomery, Al 36104

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#134

Subject: Taste of NAB in Louisville, KY  
From: Rick Lee [rlee@wllo.com](mailto:rlee@wllo.com)  
Date: Fri, 19 Sep 2008 10:17:05 -0400  
CC: Jeff Paulus [jpaulus@wllo.com](mailto:jpaulus@wllo.com), Fred Vobbe [fred@wllo.com](mailto:fred@wllo.com)

Larry,

Thank you for the show! My co-worker, Jeff Paulus, and I really learned a lot from your presentation of what you consider to be the best of the equipment at NAB. It was well worth the four-hour drive from Lima, and it also gave us the opportunity to spend some time at our sister station, WDRB Fox 41.

A couple suggestions (since you asked):

1. Maybe a couple more scheduled quick breaks throughout the presentation; although we could just get up when needed, I think they would give attendees the opportunity to go without missing any of the presentation.
2. Since you're bringing the best of the show, I realize it's prohibitive to travel with additional equipment, but a thought based on the comments of the JVC camera and its hard drive; you might add to the presentation following the best piece a list of what you consider the #2 and #3 items without necessarily running down the features of the runners-up. That would give us some alternatives should we find out that what we're seeing might - based on field experience - not be what we'd like to have.

Keep up the show...I look forward to attending in the future. And have safe travels.

Rick Lee  
Network Administrator  
WLIO NBC LIMA & the CW Network  
Lima, Ohio 45805

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**END**