



Society of Broadcast Engineers **Chapter 62 – Utah**

Venue Report #72
 Tuesday, October 21



This was my fourth time bringing the Taste of NAB Road Show to the fine folks in the Salt Lake City area and Utah's SBE Chapter 62 and my second time to be hosted in the US Satellite facilities. Salt Lake is the nation's 33rd largest television market serving some 919,390 households. Utah is one of three states that have over six hundred translators extending the range of their full service stations to rural areas. In this case these are from Salt Lake's full power television stations. This extension goes well beyond Utah into parts of each of its bordering state: Idaho, Colorado, Arizona and Nevada. The transmitter site serving the greater Salt Lake Valley is located atop of Farnsworth Peak, named for Philo T. Farnsworth, native of Utah and father of electronic scan television.

For those of you who don't know, Farnsworth was born in a log cabin in 1906 near Beaver City, Utah. At age 12, his family moved to a ranch in Rigby, Idaho, which was four miles from the nearest high school; thus necessitating daily horseback rides to get there. At the age of 14 and without the benefit of a university degree, Farnsworth conceived the idea of electronic television. He had always been intrigued with electrons and electricity. According to legend, the moment of inspiration came while tilling a potato field back and forth with a horse-drawn harrow and realized that an electron beam could scan images



Farnsworth with his invention, the first electronic television, Sept. 10, 1928 in San Francisco

the same way – line by line – just as one reads a book. The sad part of his story is that he spent most of his adult life in litigation with one of America's largest and most powerful corporations over his idea.

There are thirty-one members listed on the official SBE roster. We had a total of twenty-seven folks in attendance. I'd like to thank Scott Nix, Regional Sales Manager in the Pacific Northwest for Omneon, Tom Veite, Broadcast Specialist for Avocent and Reed Haslam, Director of Sales, Phil Reid, Director of Engineering and Scott Murphy, President – all three from Nverzion for attending and helping to field questions on their technologies. It's always a good thing when our sponsor's have in-person representation to assist with questions and covering those parts of their technologies we've not been educated in.

During the presentation, one of those present was please to share that they have an AJA IO-HD in service and that it performed very satisfactorily. Another was glad to share his very positive experiences with his Audemat Golden Eagle HD. We heard that Salt Lake City channel 66 has an Axcera transmitter in use and one of the attendees spoke up about Axcera's policy to use only standard, non-proprietary serviceable parts in their equipment. Many present spoke to the fact that they have ESE equipment in service at their stations. Tom Veite, Broadcast Specialist for Avocent was able to address a question that was asked about the Avocent technology about DSU and bandwidth.

I'd like to thank Michael Hansen, Chapter 62 Chair, for all the work he did in putting this event together and the folks at US Satellite, in particular, Glen Worthington, Vice-President of US Satellite, for once again providing the location. Last, but not least, I appreciate the help that Marty Olsen of US Satellite gave us in setting up and to Scott Nix of Omneon, Tom Veite of Avocent and Reed Haslam, Phil Reid and Scott Murphy – all three from Nverzion for helping us to pack up and get us on our way. This kind of assistance is truly appreciated. Whenever you do a thank you list, there is always the chance that some are unintentionally left out. To those that may fall into this category, I'm truthfully sorry and extend to them my thanks as well and deepest apologies.

If you are interested in who won what door prizes and pictures of the event, I'll have them posted on the website soon: www.tech-notes.tv/2008/76-Utah.htm.

Since I drove from Salt Lake to Bozeman by way of Yellowstone National Park, I didn't get this written until after Bozeman. I will include the comments received to date in my Bozeman report. BTW: even though most everything in the way of shops etc in Yellowstone was closed, the geysers were in full swing as were bison running across the road. Doing this Taste of NAB Road Show does have its perks.

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