



CHAPTER TWENTY NEWS

society of broadcast engineers
pittsburgh chapter

April 2006

Volume 14 Number 4



We let the presenters eat, too. David Russin, Masstech.

Last Meeting

Glenn Romsos
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Eleven members and guests turned out for our first evening meeting on March 16. The start of our meeting was delayed a few minutes because Gaetanoes wasn't expecting us and they had to move us to a small meeting room.

Our guest speaker, Mr. David Russin, Sales Engineer for the Masstech Group, gave us an overview of how his company can assist broadcasters and distribution entities such as CNN and Disney continue their business in the event of a disaster.

Mr. Russin spoke about Masstech's MassDR, which will automatically monitor video servers, automation and traffic systems, and then intelligently harvest material necessary for broadcast in the next 24 hours. This material is collected and continually updated to a secure off-site location using standard network topology. In the event of an interruption in service from the main facility, playout from the remote site can be triggered using several methods.

The MassDR has the ability to record ID's, PSA's and other generic programming material that can be used to maintain a continuous play-out stream when scheduled content has not, or can not be prerecorded, such as live network feeds.

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2006 SBE Membership Drive Inspire Someone to Greatness ...

Invite someone to join the Society of Broadcast Engineers. If you recruit a new member during the 2006 Membership Drive, March 1– May 31, your name will be entered into a prize drawing with more than 60 prizes.

Your name goes into the drawing once for each approved new Regular or Associate member – five times for a new Sustaining member.

You'll also receive \$5 off your 2007 membership renewal for each new member that you recruit, up to \$25.

Check your SBE Membership Drive postcard or www.sbe.org for more details.



First evening meeting.

Next Meeting

April Meeting Cancelled
(Too close to NAB)

May Meeting
Thursday, May 18
7 P.M.
NAB Review



Chairman's Corner

John J. Humphrey, CPBE
AZCAR
john.humphrey@azcar.com

The first evening meeting got off to an "interesting start." By bad luck, Gary Stewart, Blake, Annette and I were all unable to make this meeting for all different reasons. ...and I thought evenings would be easier to attend! The topic of the presentation was "Disaster Recovery" and it was appropriate that Bob Jordan found himself in a sort of disaster recovery mode. Thanks to Bob and Anna Gaetano for their "Disaster Recovery" efforts. They pulled out all the stops and made the dinner take place on zero notice. Seems the projector and dinner "fell in a crack."

Well, the meeting, projector and dinner will all be better in May. What about April you ask? There is no meeting in April, just days before the NAB. Many members and virtually all presenters will be away in Las Vegas. May is the next meeting. We will have a good NAB wrap-up meeting at the May dinner meeting, like last year, but with a projector. If you can't make the NAB show, the SBE May dinner meeting will bring you all the highlights.

The date and location for the Chapter 20 SBE Expo is now set as Oct. 12th 2006. Setup day is the 11th. The location is the Monroeville Expo Mart in the East Hall. This location puts us conveniently close to the Radisson Hotel and the restaurants. The Expo has new carpets and it will cost the SBE substantially less to put on our show at the Expo Mart. We are working on a graphic and logo for the 2006 Expo. The theme of the SBE Expo is something like: "The Line is Drawn, The Future is Here."

Now that the hard shut-off date is established, TV stations are really beginning to plan for DTV. Most are quickly moving to digital technology. Some stations are going to widescreen capability or full HD. The DTV transition is also a major change. Up to four DTV channels are available for multiple streams in different day parts. Every facet of on-air operations needs to be re-examined due to a variety of new technologies.

Please try to make the May 18th dinner meeting at 7:00 PM. I promise it will be an interesting NAB review. I look forward to better participation and a bigger and better SBE for 2006.

Opportunity

WPXI-TV, Inc. is seeking a Maintenance Technician in our Engineering department. Must have demonstrable skills in the following areas: (1) Analogue and digital video and audio, (2) Routing, production control and master control switchers, (3) Broadcast system automation, (4) Cameras, video tape machines, audio consoles, and (5) Server based audio & video systems.

In addition, the successful candidate: (1) Must have strong background in computers and networks. Installs software, updates, performs backups and experience providing Engineering and IT support to broadcast operations, (2) Significant hands-on experience with VHF & UHF transmitters, microwave, and satellite systems, (3) Must be able to trouble shoot electronic equipment to a system level, including repairing, aligning, installing, maintaining and relocating equipment, and (4) Must be competent in the use of electronic test equipment (i.e. waveform monitors, vectorscopes, oscilloscopes, DVM, signal generators and spectrum analyzers) and possess knowledge of applicable FCC Rules & Regulations.

Electronics degree; equivalent education or experience in an associated field. MS and SBE certification a plus. Must be self-motivated, team player able to work well with others. Please submit cover and resume to: Frank Bobro, Engineering Manager, 11 Television Hill, Pittsburgh, PA 15214 or fbobro@wpxi.com.

Masstech Presentation

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The Mass DR also has the ability to maintain a real time, off-air monitoring device for FCC and traffic compliance which can be accessed using a web-based browser.



Chapter Twenty News is published monthly
(except July & August) by

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Pittsburgh, PA 15242-0312

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