The Society of Broadcast Engineers



Fox Valley Wisconsin SBE Chapter 80

PO Box 1519 Appleton, WI 54912-1519

August 2022

Like us on FaceBook <u>facebook.com/sbe80</u>
Our website <u>sbe80.org</u>
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The next SBE Chapter 80 meeting is Tuesday the 16th of August at the Out O Town Club.

Chairman's Corner

July Summer Picnic Success!

Thank you to everyone who played a part in making our July Summer Picnic a success. I have heard so many great comments about the day. It is great to be a part of such an active chapter of the SBE.

FEMA Releases Notification of EAS Vulnerability

I've seen a lot of communication regarding the need to update their EAS to the latest software versions and security patches. I felt it was best to share the exact email we all received from the national SBE.

On Aug. 1, 2022, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) released an IPAWS advisory noting a vulnerability in the Emergency Alert System (EAS). EAS encoder/decoders that have not been updated to the most recent software versions, could allow unauthorized access to issue EAS alerts. The vulnerability is public knowledge and will be demonstrated to a large public audience in the coming weeks at a trade convention.

FEMA strongly encourages EAS participants to ensure that:

- 1. EAS devices and supporting systems are up to date with the most recent software versions and security patches;
- 2. EAS devices are protected by a firewall;
- 3. EAS devices and supporting systems are monitored and audit logs are regularly reviewed looking for unauthorized access.

CNN reports that the issue is specific to Monroe DASDEC units. The Indiana Association of Broadcasters (IAB) has confirmed this with FEMA and the NAB.

The IAB notes that this vulnerability is not new. It was first reported in 2013 during the so-called zombie attacks, however, it appears that the security patch provided by Monroe at the time did not completely resolve the problem. Several software updates have been issued since then, and stations that have updated to version 4.0 or higher are secure. However, any device that has not been updated to version 4.0 remains vulnerable. The cybersecurity researcher referenced in the CNN article was apparently able to identify a number of EAS devices that could be hacked. He is

apparently planning to share his finding at a public conference on Aug. 11-14.

If you are not sure if your EAS device is operating with the correct firmware, contact your equipment manufacturer or your state SECC.

Upcoming Webinar

Audio Streaming for Broadcasters: Fundamental Techniques and Technologies August 25, 2022 | 2 p.m. ET

Streaming audio is everywhere, and the importance of streaming continues to grow for broadcasters across the globe. This webinar will cover the most important technical topics. Instructor: Kirk Harnack, CBRE, CBNE, Senior Solutions Consultant, Telos Alliance

National Elections are Coming to a Close

The annual election of the national offers and half of the directors continues through August 17th. If you haven't already please check your email and click the unique link sent specifically to you.

Chapter 80 August Meeting This Tuesday

Our August meeting will be in the standard location(s) and time, this Tuesday August 16th at noon at the Out O' Town Club and online using our chapter Zoom account.

Our program presenter will be Mike Thompson, Vice President of Sales for LumenServe speaking on Bringing to Light: The Changes in the Tower Lighting World. (Plus he is offering to buy lunch).

You can also join us via Zoom using the link and information below:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88130325690? pwd=ZWJTR0JYWIQ5cEt2V0IrY3UzL0xzdz09

Meeting ID: 881 3032 5690

Passcode: 333076

Marty Jury Chapter 80 Chairman

CHAPTER 80 ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

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