



The Society of Broadcast Engineers

Fox Valley Wisconsin SBE Chapter 80

PO Box 1519 Appleton, WI 54912-1519

May 2019

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Our next meeting is Tuesday, May 21st at noon at the Out o Town Club in Kaukauna. Our guest presenter will be Jeff Welton from Nautel.

Chairman's Corner

I'd like to make you all aware of an issue facing the SBE – in particular, the certification program right now. As you know, the national office of the SBE encourages members to become certified and to that end, we in Chapter 80 have started our own program to help subsidize members who take certification exams or want to buy the study guides for the exams.

I have recently become aware of legislation being proposed in several states that might in effect nullify the ability of the SBE to run a useful certification program. The legislation takes different forms in different states, but the upshot is that some individual state governments want to reserve the right to issue professional certifications. I assume that is because a few unscrupulous individuals have misrepresented themselves, and the legislatures are rushing in to try and prevent that from happening.

The most serious cases right now are in Michigan, Pennsylvania and North Carolina. If you know a broadcast engineer in one of those states who is SBE certified, please encourage them to find out more about this and contact their state legislators about the reasons these bills should not be adopted.

The SBE has joined with other similar organizations in a group called the Professional Certification Coalition. It is hoped that by a number of smaller organizations joining together, some pressure can be exerted on the legislators to prevent poor legislation from being made into law. Sadly it is already too late in a few states, where efforts have to be made to overturn new bills already signed into law. It is always harder to undo something than to prevent it in the first place.

Should something like this be proposed in Wisconsin in the future, I'll be asking all of our certified members to take a moment to contact their state legislators and educate them about the many successful certification programs already in place.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support and attendance at our events!

Steve Brown

Chairman, Chapter 80

Nautel Presentation in May

Nautel is currently celebrating its 50th birthday. As author of the company's popular Tips'n'Tricks articles for broadcast engineers, Jeff Welton was tasked to come up with "50 tips for 50 years". This presentation covers aspects pertinent to any broadcast organization, from IT security through RF safety, presented in short bullet point slides that can be augmented by a recently published article and references to previous sources. It's a great source of information for anybody involved in engineering to any level.

Since graduating college in 1985, Jeff has performed component level repair, field installation and service, technical support and quality assurance roles with various companies. He has been with Nautel for almost 30 years, the first 17 of which were spent in field service and technical support positions, as well as assisting Engineering with design review of new products and improvement of existing systems. Even after moving to Sales in 2007, Jeff keeps finding ways to get his hands dirty and can frequently be found assisting in the install of a transmitter he's sold, as well as performing site inspections and the occasional repair.

An honouree (he's Canadian, so that spelling is correct!) of the SBE James C. Wulliman Educator of the Year Award in 2018 and the Association of Public Radio Engineers Engineering Achievement award in 2019, Jeff performs several presentations every year on the topics of lightning protection, grounding, transmitter site safety and various other subjects of interest in the broadcast engineering field.

We hope you will help us welcome to Jeff to our May meeting, but if you can't make it you can always contact him directly at:

Jeff Welton, CBRE
Regional Sales Manager, Central U.S.
Toll Free: 877-662-8835, ext. 5127
Quincy: 217-919-0189
Mobile: 902-489-1635

National SBE News

1. If you haven't yet, participate in the SBE Compensation Survey. The survey is open through **May 16**. Results will be available to all SBE members for free in early July. Go to the SBE website homepage and click on the survey link.
2. Nominations for SBE individual and chapter awards are open through **June 14**. Chapters can nominate their own chapter and members for various awards. That includes the Chapter Engineer of the Year. Each chapter's Chapter Engineer of the Year winner is then in the running to be named the national James L. Flanders SBE Engineer of the Year.
3. SBE AM Tower Webinar is **Thursday, May 16, at 2 pm EDT**, led by Bobby L. Cox, PhD EE, Senior Staff Engineer with Kintronic Laboratories.
4. SBE ATSC 3.0 Networking Webinar Series, Module 1: Introduction to ATSC 3.0 Station Architecture, Networking Standards and the Physical Layer, is **Wednesday, May 22 at 2 pm EDT**. It will be presented by Wayne Pecena, CPBE, 8-VSB, AMD, DRB, CBNE. Register for all SBE webinars on-line at the SBE website. Cost for Members is \$59, For SBE MemberPlus Members, they are FREE! Cost for non-members is \$89.

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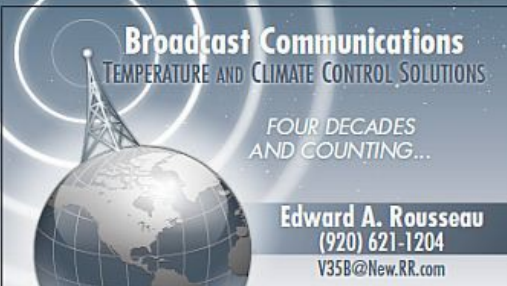


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