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EAS CAP compliance

Broadcast, cable groups ask FCC for six-month extension on EAS CAP compliance

A variety of broadcast and cable associations, including 46 state broadcast associations, asked the FCC Oct. 21 to extend the deadline by 180 days to comply with new regulations requiring them to be able to receive Common Alerting Protocol (CAP)-formatted Emergency Alert System (EAS) alerts.

Currently, thousands of companies participating in EAS nationwide are required to be able to receive CAP v1.2-formatted EAS alerts by March 29, 2011.

On Sept. 30, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published technical standards for CAP-formatted EAS alerts to be used for the Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS). Under existing FCC EAS regulations, publication of the standards started a six-month clock for all EAS participants to acquire, install and test CAP-compliant equipment.

The petition requests that the commission extend the deadline until at least Sept. 30, 2011, to comply with the CAP requirement. It also asks the commission to consider "other appropriate relief, including but not limited to, a longer extension" and holding the deadline in abeyance until the commission decides whether it will establish its own process for certifying CAP-compliant equipment, as recommended by the Communications Security, Reliability and Interoperability Council (CSRIC), as well as finish an anticipated rulemaking proceeding to modify its rules to reflect CAP implementation. The filing also points out that the request for more time is consistent with a CSRIC recommendation to the FCC.

The petition points out that it is unlikely vendors will be able to meet demand for CAPcompliant equipment in time for the thousands of EAS participants to comply. "Indeed, it is estimated that many vendors will require three to six months of actual testing of the new CAP-capable equipment before it can be relied upon," the filing said. Additionally, current lead times on new electronic components are "substantially longer" than normal "and are often as long as six months," the petition says.

Those filing the petition include 46 state broadcast associations, NAB, the National Cable and Telecommunications Association, the Society of Broadcast Engineers, the American Cable Association, the Association for Maximum Service Television, National Public Radio, the Association of Public Television Stations and the P.B.S.

NEWS CONTINUES IN PAGE 2

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THE BROADCAST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONTRACTORS, INC. -PAUL TERRY

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TIME WARNER CABLE

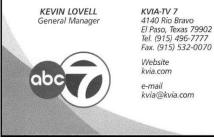
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Digital Alert Systems offers free

CAP-compliant firmware upgrade.

Digital Alert Systems (DAS), a division of Monroe Electronics and provider of enhanced emergency alert systems (EAS), will provide a free firmware upgrade to support Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) compliance in all of its DASDEC EAS units. This upgrade, which will now be included as a standard part of each new DASDEC system, is available at no charge to existing customers, allowing them to fulfill the anticipated EAS CAP requirements easily (all in a single box) and without the need to purchase any additional equipment

SBE CHAPTER 38 OFFICERS

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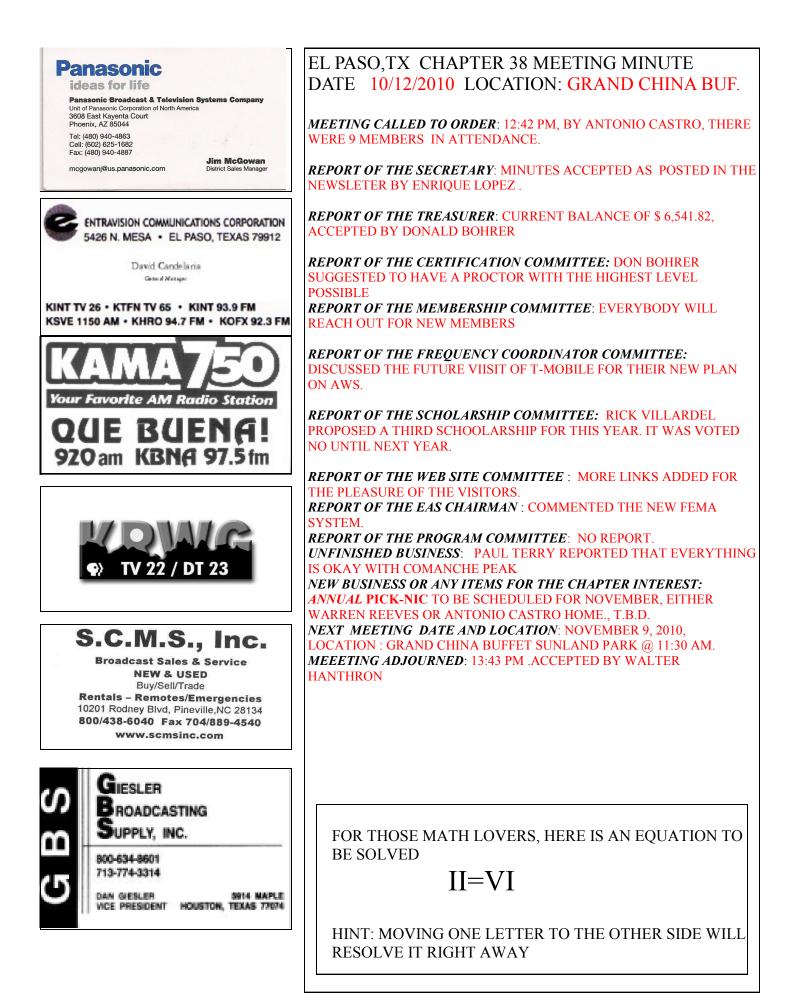
Sustaining Membership: TBD

Program Chairman: Enrique Lopez

Newsletter: Antonio Castro

EAS Chairman: Ron Haney

Executive Committee: Antonio Castro Enrique Lopez Marvin Haney





OCTOBER MEETING HAD NO PRESENTATIONBUT...

FOR THE MEETING OF THIS MONTH WE ARE GOING TO HAVE THE PARTICIPATION AND HOSTING OF THE T-MOBILE PEOPLE WITH THE VERY INTER-ESTING AND NEW DEVELOPING ISSUE OF THE "AWS A" FRE-QUENCY BAND, RIGHT ABOVE THE NEW ENG BAS CH-7AR.

THIS INVITATION IS MAINLY DI-RECTED TO THE TELEVISION PEOPLE, AND MORE SPECIFI-CALLY TO THOSE THAT OPERATE IN THE NEW BAS ALLOCATION. BUT EVERYBODY IN OUR CHAP-TER IS WELCOME. THE MEETING WILL BE AT THE GRAND CHINA BUFFET, SUNLAND PARK PRIVATE ROOM ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER THE 9TH AT 11:45 AM FOR LUNCH AND MEETING, AND THEN 12:30 PM FOR THE PRESENTATION









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