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http://www.cscmgt.com/news/2005-05-25-wfdu-armstrong-broadcast.html

Teaneck, NJ The clock will be turned back on Saturday, June 11, 2005, when a transmitter broadcasting on an original FM frequency will be switched on at the Alpine Tower in Alpine, NJ, to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the first public demonstration of FM radio by its inventor Major Edwin Howard Armstrong.

A special program, hosted by WINS Anchorwoman Judy DeAngelis, will originate from the site of the world's first FM station in Alpine. The broadcast will begin at 12 noon. It will tell the tale of the difficult birth of FM radio through personal recollections by some of the people who worked with Major Armstrong - including Mr. Renville H. McMann Jr., former VP, CBS Technology Center. McMann worked for the Major at age 14 while in school. Mr. Tom Lewis, author of Empire Of The Air, is slated to offer his insights into Armstrong's struggles with industry giants of the time as well as the inventor's remarkable impact on all forms of present day communications. The book served as the basis of the Ken Burns PBS special of the same name.

Included in Saturday's broadcast will be excerpts from a recording of a special 1941 test broadcast of the original New England Yankee Network - the first such network to use FM radio links instead of telephone lines to connect stations. A radio dramatization of Empire of the Air, originally produced by David Ossman for American Public Radio, will be broadcast.

The commemorative broadcast day is scheduled to conclude with the 1954 signoff of the Alpine station W2XMN following the death of Major Armstrong. For those who do not have an FM radio on the 42.8MHz (75 khz deviation – Wide FM) frequency, the broadcast can be heard through the facilities of WFDU(FM) 89.1 MHz.

WFDU(FM) will receive the Alpine transmission in Teaneck, NJ, from the replica transmitter built by

Steve Hemphill of Solid Electronics Laboratories. The broadcast will be carried both on the air and on the Web at www.wfdu.fm. The entire program will be rebroadcast on the Web at 7 p.m. on June 14 and June 16. A recording of the complete broadcast will be available for download in the following weeks at www.cscmgt.com.

The special broadcast was organized by Steve Hemphill, owner of Solid Electronics Laboratories, a Pennsylvania broadcast equipment manufacturer and the Sackermann family, the owners of the Alpine Tower located in Alpine, NJ. Audio production, engineering and transmission will be provided through WFDU(FM) under the direction of Barry Sheffield. WFDU(FM) is the global radio voice of Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Additional information about the commemorative broadcast and about the Alpine Tower site can be found on the CSC Management website.

<Editors Note: Just a few days ago I received permission to attend. Assuming I'll be allowed to take some photos, I'll include a few in the next issue – WA2SQQ.>

WATCH FOR ROADCASTING RAGE!

Stuck in traffic and sick of Howard Stern, you may soon be able to tune in to the music collection of the person in the car in front of you.

Researchers at Carnegie Mellon University are developing an ad hoc networking system for cars that would allow any driver to broadcast music to any other vehicle within a 30-mile radius.

Developed by a group of current and former master's students at the Human Computer Interaction Institute, the Roadcasting project would allow drivers to stream their MP3 music collections by Wi-Fi or similar technology to any other vehicle within range that is equipped with compatible hardware and software.

The system -- still largely theoretical -- will also feature a collaborative-filtering mechanism that compares music in a recipients' collection to that of

the broadcaster. The filter will pump out a mix of songs matching the listener's tastes.

"What's really cool about this is that while you're busy (driving), Roadcasting will just pick songs that you enjoy," said Mathilde Pignol, one of the Roadcasting developers, "and then it will let you influence the songs with your music taste without you having to do anything."

Roadcasting was commissioned by a "major automaker" looking for applications to make use of mobile ad hoc networks that will be included in production cars in the next few years. Pignol would not say which company the team had worked for, but Carnegie Mellon researchers have a history of working for General Motors on so-called cars of the future.

According to Dan Benjamin, senior analyst with ABI Research, several automakers and the Department of Transportation may implement mobile ad hoc networks as early as 2007.

Using 802.11p technology, a Wi-Fi variant designed for vehicles, mobile ad hoc networks would serve two important purposes, Benjamin said. First, vehicles with built-in 802.11p could serve as nodes in mesh networks and send each other safety notifications in case of accidents, or potential accidents. Acting as nodes in a mesh, each car would extend the network's signal a mile at a time.

Secondly, Benjamin said, vehicles with such technology could serve as nodes and pass on traffic information that would help drivers choose the most efficient routes to their destinations.

"It definitely has a societal benefit," Benjamin said.

Some auto industry experts think that while the technology is a ways off, car companies will be eager to adopt projects like Roadcasting.

"I definitely can see a carmaker jump in, just like General Motors jumped in with XM Radio," said Walter Keegan, the author of Autoblog. "Just to tout the next big thing or to have something different.... That would be a big selling point."

Roadcasting has been compared to two similar personal-audio projects: SoundPryer, which lets people create mobile ad hoc networks for eavesdropping on music being played on nearby MP3 players, and tunA, a similar system employing Wi-Fi to jack into nearby music gadgets.

Of course, given that Roadcasting calls for a nontraditional approach to broadcasting, some worry it will cross legal boundaries; after all, broadcasters must pay licensing fees to The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

But Pignol and her four teammates on the project think Roadcasting is on solid legal ground.

"We've noticed a lot of people blogging about it calling it pirate radio," Pignol said. "But there's no reason it has to be illegal. It's your own music that you're broadcasting."

Jason Schultz, a staff attorney at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, agreed, but said the Roadcasting team might want to prepare itself for being contacted by the recording industry's lawyers.

"I'm sure the RIAA is going to have problems with this," Schultz said. "But that doesn't mean it's illegal."

In fact, he explained, because Roadcasting uses streaming technology to broadcast songs and doesn't result in the permanent transfer of music files, it is probably safe from infringing behavior.

"It's quite similar to how (Apple Computer's) iTunes works, with its subnet sharing," Schultz explained, "in that they can stream the music and listen to it, but as soon as they log off, it all disappears. Many people consider that to be fair use, because of the ephemeral nature of the music."

In fact, he said, Roadcasting is at the forefront of what he called "me-to-me" technology, in which small networks of dozens of users utilize new broadcasting media instead of massive networks of millions of users.

"This is the next big challenge for the RIAA," said Schultz. "If they thought file sharing over P2P networks was a threat to their business model, then this is a whole different challenge that they have to adapt to, because there's no way they can police this."

ROCKLAND COUNTY CONSIDERS 21.5 MIL UPGRADE

Rockland taxpayers might take out a $21.5 million loan so fire, police and ambulance workers can better communicate with each other during emergencies.

Two panels of county legislators' tomorrow night will consider borrowing the money to build a new countywide radio system for public safety officials. Rockland does not have a coordinated radio communications system, and officials say many departments are using antiquated equipment, preventing direct communication among agencies. The money would replace equipment and buy new portable and mobile radios for every police, fire and ambulance station in Rockland.
Suffern resident Estelle Horwitz said improving public safety was a good use of tax dollars, as long as the county could afford it. "If it's going to increase people's taxes, then it's going to be a problem," she said.

The county approved about $4 million to start the project in 2003. If the legislative committees approve the $21.5 million loan, the full county legislature could vote on the project as early as June 7.

"This would be the final piece to get this thing up and running," said retired South Nyack-Grand View Police Chief Alan B. Colsey. "I know it's big money. But we're wiping the slate clean and putting in an entirely new infrastructure." Colsey, as a member of the Rockland Police Chiefs Association, has been leading the effort for a countywide communications system for more than five years. At emergency scenes, Colsey said, firefighters must communicate with dispatchers, who then deliver the messages to police and medical crews. He said Rockland's all-volunteer fire departments used low-band dispatch equipment that was at least 50 years old.
The new, digital equipment would allow all emergency personnel to communicate instantly at long distances. The equipment would be similar to Nextel's two-way radios, and Colsey said there would be special features geared for public safety use.
"We can operate more efficiently with more modern technology," he said.
Colsey said the county should be ready with contracts for firms to provide the equipment and build the system by early next year. He said the county should be ready to test the system by mid-2007.
"It's been a long-term project," county fire coordinator Gordon Wren Jr. said. "This is a real partnership."
Wren said emergency services workers had no trouble dealing with most incidents, but in big

events, such as a hurricane, there could be difficulty coordinating agencies. It would be the second time this year the county legislature borrowed money to improve communications. Earlier this month, county lawmakers agreed to spend $750,000 to buy an enhanced 911 system that could locate cell phone callers and to expand and renovate the Fire Training Center in Ramapo.

WEST POINT RUNKED RADIO SYSTEM
LOWELL, Mass. , May 23, 2005 - M/A-COM, Inc., a business unit of Tyco Electronics and a leading manufacturer of critical radio systems deployed around the world, was awarded two separate contracts by the U.S. Army for P25IP Land Mobile Radio communications systems.

The U.S. Army CECOM Acquisition Center awarded M/A-COM a $2.4 million contract for Fort Sill, OK, for a UHF Project 25 Internet Protocol (IP) Trunked Land Mobile Radio system. The system will include M/A-COM's NetworkFirst Switching Centers, Interoperability Gateway and IP consoles. M/A-COM is providing turnkey services, including system engineering, project management, installation maintenance and training. The system will provide radio frequency communications for over 2000 base support personnel. Interoperability between Ft. Sill and surrounding Public Safety first responders will be provided with the NetworkFirst Switching Center

The U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York awarded M/A-COM a $1.2 million contract for a VHF P25IP Trunked Land Mobile Radio system. This system will include a NetworkFirst Switching Center, a Interoperability Gateway and IP consoles, as well as turnkey services including system engineering, project management, installation, maintenance and training. The system is designed to provide radio frequency communications for over 1500 base support personnel.

Both the Fort Sill and West Point systems will be built on M/A-COM's IP-based network solution, facilitating fully interoperable communications. P25IP combines the P25 air link standard with the power of IP packet technology in a trunked voice and data communications system, thus dramatically improving communications capabilities while providing a more secure, reliable and interoperable digital communications system.

"Our end-to-end P25IP digital system is the technology of choice for mission critical

communications," said Chris Fauser, Regional Sales Manager, M/A-COM. "As these two organizations respond to issues of national defense, they require reliable, secure communications and M/A-COM's fault-tolerant P25IP technology ensures full interoperability today and scalability for tomorrow's growth."

M/A-COM, Inc., a business unit of Tyco Electronics, is a leading supplier of critical communications systems and equipment for public safety, utility, federal and select commercial markets. Products range from some of the most advanced IP-based voice and data networks, to traditional wireless systems that offer customers the highest levels of reliability, interoperability, scalability and security. M/A-COM is also a recognized leader in the design and manufacture of radio frequency (RF), microwave and millimeter wave solutions for the commercial wireless telecommunications, aerospace and defense industries. Headquartered in Lowell, MA, M/A-COM has offices and manufacturing facilities worldwide. Information about M/A-COM can be found on the Web at www.macom.com or www.macom-wireless.com

UNIDEN MANUALS ON LINE
Own a Uniden scanner? Misplaced the operating manual? Stop looking…
http://uniden.custhelp.com/cgi-bin/uniden.cfg/php/enduser/std_adp.php?p_faqid=104

UNIDEN BR-330T WIDEBAND SCANNER
http://universal-radio.com/catalog/widerxvr/0330.html
The Uniden BR330T wideband receiver covers 100 kHz to 1299.995 MHz (less cellular) in AM, FM wide and FM narrow modes. That means traditional scanner coverage plus reception of AM, FM and shortwave! The BR330T is the first wideband portable radio to offer TrunkTracking III technology. Uniden's exclusive dynamically allocated memory system allows the user to program its 2500 channel into any desired configuration. This allows for 50 or more systems to be programmed and scanned simultaneously. And systems can be quickly enabled or disabled using up to 100 quick keys. The Fire-Tone Out Operation allows the scanner to operate in a standby mode are respond when a fire tone-out or a two-tone sequential page is issued. The illuminated LCD display and keys are easy to read.

The BR330T will come with antenna, three

internally rechargeable NiMH AA cells and charger. PC programming and control is available via optional, downloadable software.

Uniden has indicated this model will be available Fall 2005. We will provide pricing and further information as it becomes available. All stated features, appearances and specifications may be subject to change.
Features:
- 2500 Dynamically Allocated Channels
- Trunk Tracking III (Motorola, EDACS, LTR analog)
- Fire tone-out Operation
- Quick Key Operation
- Close Call™ RF Capture Technology
- SAME Weather Alert
- 13 Preprogrammed Service Searches
- 10 Programmed Search Ranges
- CTCSS/DCS Rapid Decode
- AM and shortwave coverage

NEW MODULE HERALDED AS DRM BREALTHROUGH
http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,1564,1604391,00.html
A new module for multi-standard, digital radio receivers promises to bring DRM reception within easy reach for price-conscious consumers.

"This is the breakthrough DRM has been waiting for" says Peter Senger, Deutshe Welle's technical director and chair of the DRM Consortium.

He was referring to the new RS500 module manufactured by the UK-based company RadioScape, which can receive DRM as well as DAB, FM with RDS, LW, MW, and SW. The company says receivers based on this module could have end user prices below $250 dollars, almost a quarter of the current market price.

Peter Senger (right) and Andrew Moloney, marketing manager at RadioScape were guests on Deutsche Welle radio's Update Europe on Friday 3rd June.

Update Europe, a three hour music-and-chat lunchtime program was launched on November 1st 2004 for a pan-European audience and was specially conceived for the new DRM digital shortwave technology.

Click below to hear Update Europe's Marianne Yahilevich talking Peter Senger and Andrew Moloney.

ANONAMOUS CONTRIBUTION

This afternoon I received an envelope in the mail from one of our anonymous contributors. These tips are usually the best. Understand that I've not been able to verify the accuracy of these reports – we're passing them on for your further investigation.

"***ICE Narcotics Operations***" have been hear in the Newark / Elizabeth NJ area running in Apco 25 mode on **165.825**

US Customs at Newark Liberty Airport has been heard on **165.4625** in both Simplex and Repeat mode.

On the **NJSP system**, **TG B2-23** has been carrying a lot of narcotics traffic from the Northern New Jersey area. The activity suggests they may be watching hotels or large apartment complexes. You'll have to listen for yourself if you want more details.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Several people notified us reporting receipt of an e-mail containing a virus that appeared to originate from our mail server. Upon investigation it was found that the e-mail did not originate from our mail server, nor was any e-mail sent out from this group on the date indicated. Regrettably, there are people who find enjoyment using technology for non-productive purposes. Both my PC and the mail server used to distribute this newsletter are scanned several times a week using the latest virus definitions. While it's certainly possible that a virus released before the definitions can updated could penetrate our system, the chances are very unlikely. In today's e-mail intensive world we cannot forget that it's each person's responsibility to purchase, run and maintain virus protection on each PC you use.

Urban DX'er would like to thank all those who contributed to this month's issue!
Charlie - N2NOV, Dave, KE2SL, Bob, N1MLZ, "*Anonymous*"