

TIP AND RING

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AT&S Scheduled Events



February 16-18, 2010 ~ AT&S Conference - Bismarck

March 2-3, 2010 ~ POTS to Pipes - Front Office - Bismarck

March 23-24, 2010 ~ Radio Systems & Antenna Fundamentals - Bismarck

February's Safety Meeting

This month's safety meeting topic is *Defensive Driving or General Safety.*



Courses

Calling all Courses! If you have any AT&S courses, please complete and send back ASAP!

I will be going through all our courses and sending out request for the materials to be sent back. We have many courses that have been out way too long. With more and more employees requesting courses, AT&S needs to have those all returned in a timely matter. Thank you!!

Courses Completed!

Dickey Rural Networks

James Byerley - Understanding VoIP 2
- Understanding VoIP 3

Nemont

Jared Ming - SONET Basics
Brian Riely - SS7 Basics
- LAN Basics
Jeff Kemp - Grounding Theory & Design
- Cable, Inside & Out

Reservation Telephone

Mary Nielson - Outlook 2007
- PowerPoint 2007
- Excel 2007
- Excel 2007 Advanced
- Word 2007
- Word 2007 Advanced

Polar Communications

Michael Waechter - Telecom Tech 1-4
Donnie Gordon - Calming Upset Customers
- Customer Satisfaction
- Introduction to Cable Television
- Wireless LAN and Local Loop
Corey Tice - Cable Fault Locating
- Telecom tech - DSL
- 10 Base T Ethernet
- VoIP
Julie Thompson - Quality Customer Service
Kimberly Lundquist - Building & Closing the Sale
- Telephone Courtesy & Customer Service

- Introduction to Cable Television
Jessica Wellman - Word 2002
- Excel 2003
Bob Hoffarth - Cable, Inside & Out
Spencer Potts - Understanding Fiber Optics
- VoIP
West River Telecommunications
Casey Blohm - Grounding Theory & Design
- Fiber Optic Fundamentals
- Wireless Basic
Jeff Hanson - Passive Optical Networks
- Structured Cabling Systems
- Testing & Troubleshooting UTP Cabling Systems
Jackson Hagen - /IP Concepts
These courses are available to all member telephone company employees.

Groundhog Day



Feb 2 -What do you think?
Shadow or Not?

It is said that if the groundhog sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of bad weather, and if he doesn't, that spring will be here soon. I vote ~ No Shadow ---- Spring Soon!!! ☺

50th Telecommunications AT&S Conference Agenda

Tuesday, February 16, 2010

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 8:00 am - 4:00 pm | Registration (Coat Room) | |
| 1:00 pm - 1:15 pm | Missouri Room - Downstairs | Opening & Welcome |
| 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm | | Bringing the Child Out and Keeping Him or Her Out Lenette Momerak, Mrs. Giggles |
| 2:15 pm - 2:30 pm | | Break |
| 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm | | FTTP: Where are We Now, What Comes Next Dr. Dave Cleary, Calix |
| 3:30 pm - 7:00 pm | Dakota Ballroom | Welcome Reception & Exhibits Open |
| 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm | | Casino Night |

Wednesday, February 17, 2010

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|---------------------|--|--|---|---|
| 7:30 am - 4:00 pm | Registration (Coat Room) | | | |
| 7:30 am - 8:30 am | Continental Breakfast (Courtyard) | | | |
| | Heart Room | Sheyenne Room | Cannonball Room | Governors Room |
| 8:30 am - 9:30 pm | Home Theater, DTV Service and Equipment - Eric Iverson, Best Buy | Enabling Technologies for Carrier Ethernet: A Test and Measurement Perspective - Jason Chesla, JDSU | Splicing and Testing Ribbon/Loose Tube Cable - Mike Lamb, OFS | IPv6 -The light at the end of the Tunnel - Owen DeLong, Hurricane Electric |
| 9:30 am - 9:45 am | Break | | | |
| 9:45 am - 10:45 am | Lights, Camera, Action - Local Content-Best Practices - Ken Daniels, Dascom | Wireless 700 MHz: The Last Mile Solution Lessons Learned - Eugene Nelson & Joe Puhalla, Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson | DSL vs. FTTP: The Choice is Yours - Dr. Dave Cleary, Calix | FFTH Overbuild - Mark Turner, Corning Cable Systems |
| 10:45 am - 11:00 am | Break | | | |
| 11:00 am -12:00 pm | IPTV: Lessons Learned (Panel) - Brooks Goodall, Reservation Telephone; Paul Berg, Dakota Central Telecommunications; Forrest Mikkelson, Consolidated Telcom; Jeff Symens, BEK Communications | Ask the Expert (McCarty) - Donald McCarty, McCarty Associates. | IP for Technicians - Dan Lech, Border States Electric | Transition to Long Term Evolution (LTE) Networks - Lanny Harris, Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson |
| 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm | Award Presentation & Luncheon - (Courtyard) | | | |
| | Heart Room | Sheyenne Room | Cannonball Room | Governors Room |
| 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm | Home Theater, DTV Service and Equipment - Eric Iverson, Best Buy | Wireless 700 MHz: The Last Mile Solution Lessons Learned - Eugene Nelson & Joe Puhala, Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson | IP for Technicians - Dan Lech, Border States Electric | Transition to Long Term Evolution (LTE) Networks - Lanny Harris, Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson |

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|--|---|
| 2:30 pm - 2:45 pm | Break | | | |
| 2:45 pm - 3:45 pm | IPTV: Lessons Learned - Brooks Goodall, Reservation Telephone; Paul Berg, Dakota Central Telecommunications; Forrest Mikkelson, Consolidated Telcom; Jeff Symens, BEK Communications | Ask the Expert (McCarty) - Donald McCarty, McCarty Associates. | DSL vs. FTTP: The Choice is Yours TBA, Calix | IPv6 -The light at the end of the Tunnel - Owen DeLong, Hurricane Electric |
| 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm | Social & Exhibits Open | | | |
| 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm | Evening Presentation, Dinner & Entertainment (Magician) - (Courtyard) Ryan Ogaard - R.O.M.M. | | | |

Thursday, February 18, 2010

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 8:00 am - 11:00 am | Registration (Coat Room) | |
| 8:30 am - 9:30 am | Missouri Room - Downstairs | Statewide Carrier Grade Ethernet Update Seth Arndorfer, Dakota Carrier Network |
| 9:30 am - 9:45 am | | Break |
| 9:45 am - 11:00 am | | M-A-G-I-C of Life Karl Krabseth, Magician/Comedian |
| 11:00 am - 11:15 am | | Closing and Evaluations |

Thank You Suppliers for the Helping Sponsor the 50th AT&S Conference

Action Battery Wholesalers
 Border States Electric Supply
 Calix
 Clearfield
 Communications Consultants
 Corning Cable Systems
 Dakota Supply Group
 Ditch Witch of ND
 DTE Inc.
 Enersys Battery
 Farmers Union Insurance
 Finley Engineering Co, Inc.
 Graybar Electric
 Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson
 KGP Logistics

Locators & Supplies
 Motorola
 MP Nextlevel, LLC
 National Information Solutions Coop.
 Pelusa
 Power Product Services
 Power & Telephone
 Rep Com International
 Superior Essex
 Telcom Construction, Inc.
 Transition Networks
 V3 Technologies
 Vantage Point Solutions
 Vermeer Sales & Service of MN & ND
 West Dakota Utility Services

AT&S Telecommunications Conference

Topic Description

Home Theater, DTV Video Service and Equipment

This session will cover setting up your own home theater system. Also learn about the Digital Television Video services and the equipment it uses.

Lights, Camera, Action -Local Content-Best Practices

Learn the various ways to provide local content over video systems and the pros and cons of providing such content. Some of the topics include: options available for providing local content (use of contractor, own studio, etc); types of content that can be provided (local news, sports, high school football games, cooking shows, etc), examples of rural telephone companies providing local content and advertising the content on their websites, ways in which providing local content can benefit (distinguishing your company from larger cable companies, greater community involvement and exposure, etc) and pitfalls to consider when providing local content (FCC rules regarding local origination channels, use of copyrighted material, etc).

IPTV: Lessons, Learned

This presentation will focus on the deployment of FTTH/IP Video at the customer premise. We will be discussing what has worked well for ONT & battery placement including how, when and where. We will also discuss home networking options including new cabling, MOCA, HPNA and wireless Ethernet distribution. Lastly, will discuss whether to use internal staff or to outsource the customer installation.

Enabling Technologies for Carrier Ethernet: A Test and Measurement Perspective

Rapid rise in bandwidth requirements and competitive pressure among service providers drive the need for cost-efficient and scalable transport networks. Carrier Ethernet promises to deliver those attributes. Deployment of Carrier Ethernet depends on adequate qualification in vendors and operators' labs and in the field. This presentation delivers an overview of new test technologies for qualification of Carrier Ethernet.

Wireless 700 MHz: The Last Mile Solution Lessons Learned

Covering the 700 MHz general Overview, Planning an efficient coverage, complying with regulatory requirements including environmental concerns, dealing with installation and construction issues, and types of testing that will be beneficial.

Ask the OSP Expert

Have your OSP questions answered by Don McCarty, and hear other solutions shared by seminar attendees, in an energetic, highly popular, and thought-provoking Q&A session.

Splicing and Testing Ribbon/Loose Tube Cable

OFS will address advances in splicing and testing OSP cable as well as the Bend-insensitive fiber deployed in FTTH builds. We will cover both ribbon and loose-tube designs, and the recently introduced splice-on connectors for field applications. Large builds with splitter cabinets have led to the development of a short-reach, low-price OTDR for use from the NID to the splitter cabinet.

DSL vs. FTTP: The Choice is Yours

Presents a vendor neutral analysis of the "competing" technologies including ADSL2+/G.Bond, VDSL2, GPON and Active Ethernet for current and future service needs. It assesses the bandwidth and economic drivers, and looks at how each technology is deployed in the network and what it means from an engineering and construction stand point. It summarizes each of the technologies based upon a total cost of ownership relative to service demands, and provides a perspective on how to make the most rationale choices and decisions.

IP for Technicians

Today's craft /installation and repair technicians need more than drills in their tool boxes. What's in your IP tool kit? This breakout session will cover the necessary IP fundamentals and take a look at some of the freeware IP troubleshooting tools.

IPv6 ---The Light as the End of the Tunnel

Whether it hits you like an oncoming train or delivers you from darkness will depend a lot on how well you prepare in advance for IPv6 deployment and execute before IPv4 runout.

FTTH Overbuild

This presentation provides a review of various network architectures, deployment issues, splitter design consideration, various construction methods, test equipment, and maintenance requirements. This presentation discusses the advantages and disadvantages of centralized and distributed networks.

Transition to Long-Term Evolution (LTE)

The next generation (4G) cell phones will be LTE. The presenter will define LTE, update where LTE is today, and the transition to LTE from an industry standpoint.

Statewide (DCN) Carrier Grade Ethernet - Lessons learned from deploying Ethernet customer to customer - Forum and Discussion.

Happy Valentine's Day!