

After a year of industry consolidation and restructuring, NABA has responded to the changing environment by developing a strategy designed to be more effective to the new business realities. One of the key initiatives is more effective communications with our members and regular updates on our achievements. This includes the redesigned *NABAnews* - a concise account of NABA's achievements which will be distributed every few months. The detailed *NABAcaster* newsletter will be issued twice a year (Winter and Summer). We'll begin with a brief summary of this year's work:

- **NABA AGM (February 2019)**

NABA's AGM was held on February 5th in New York, featuring content curated from a survey asking members what they would find useful at the AGM including the benefits of ATSC 3.0 for the consumer, the transition to ATSC 3.0, trends in advertising, IP studio facilities, future Cybersecurity issues and the structural challenges to our industry. It was a strong day of current content and business issues our industry is dealing with. The next AGM will be on March 25th in New York.

- **[The Value Proposition of Radio in a Connected World Paper](#) (March 2019)**

The NABA-RC Next-Gen Radio Working Group published this document to address the critical issues facing Radio in North America. In September 2019, NABA Director-General Michael McEwen spoke on the WorldDAB panel at IBC about this paper, sharing the views from North America on a bright and vibrant future for Radio.

- **[Future of Radio and Audio Symposium \(FRAS\)](#) (April 2019)**

FRAS, held on April 7th in partnership with the NAB at their Vegas show, opened with remarks from NABA's Director-General, Michael McEwen, followed by three panels: "The Next Generation of Radio," "Digital Radio Roll Out Around the World" and "Connected Car/Audio on Demand/Advertising and Big Data." FRAS 2020 will again be at the NAB Show.

- **[NABA Statement on Recommendations Associated with Networked Media Open Interoperability](#) (May 2019)**

NABA supported the work of the JT-NM as highlighted by the issuance of TR-1001-1 with a statement.

- **Social Media (July 2019)**

NABA now has a presence on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#), while the WBU is active on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). We are using social media to engage our members and our industry, promote our work, and engage in a dialogue. All accounts continue to increase in followers and interactions.

- **[NABA response to FCC regarding 5G](#) (August 2019)**

NABA has worked to have an effective and meaningful response to the FCC Calls for comments concerning C-Band broadcast spectrum being reassigned for 5G deployment. We have filed two interventions, with the last one this past August, concerning the ACA Connects proposal. The FCC has indicated a public auction of 280 MHz will take place, still leaving the broadcast industry short on the details of how this transition will be handled, including associated costs. NABA will continue work on this file to ensure our industry concerns are taken into account.

- **[NABA-TC Cybersecurity Sub-Committee Cloud & Phishing Documents](#) (August 2019)**

The Cybersecurity Sub-Committee has published three papers: *Initial Cybersecurity Recommendations for Public Cloud Services*, *Initial Cybersecurity Recommendations for SaaS (Software as a Service)* and *Best Practices in an Effective Enterprise Anti-Phishing Program*. A day-long Cybersecurity/Media over IP Symposium will be held in New York on March 24th hosted by Disney|ABC.

- **5G Media Action Group (5G-MAG) (August 2019)**

The EBU, working with European Broadcasters and service and equipment suppliers, have formed a not-for-profit group to explore the broadcast potential in 5G. NABA has committed to joining and will create a sub-committee of the TC to monitor and participate as required. This is a fortunate opportunity for NABA as we will benefit from the results and education of the science/technology exploration done by the 5G-MAG.

- **NABA Resilience and Risk Committee Roundtable (September 2019)**
The NABA-RRC held another Roundtable hosted by Bell Media on September 24th in Toronto. The agenda included lightning protection for crews in the field, Electrical Health and Safety (EHS), environment audits and election planning. The roundtables present the opportunity for members to deal with sensitive health, safety and security issues surrounding both their broadcast centres and events and crews in the field. The next Roundtable will be on March 26th in New York.
- **[Metadata Specifications into both IMF and SMPTE BXF Complete \(October 2019\)](#)**
Chris Homer (NABA Consultant) led the NABA/DPP Media Workflow Group to complete the IMF J2K Specifications: [TSP 2121-4:2019](#) SMPTE Technical Specifications Document Interoperable Master Format — Application Constraint DPP (JPEG2000) and [ER 2121-2:2019](#) Business Requirements. Also completed is the NABA DPP UHD Air-Ready Master for North America to add to the AS-11 family of specifications in AMWA. Chris Lennon (MediAnswers) has completed IMF J2K specification in BXF (with SMPTE EG 2121-4:2018 as an input) and AS-11 UHD specification in BXF (with NABA UHD specification as an input). We have spent a lot of time and treasure in response to our members' priorities to deliver tangible benefits; it is now time to implement.
- **WRC-19 (October 2019)**
NABA continues to focus on protecting broadcast interests in spectrum for collection, delivery, production and over the air broadcast. Through the WBU, we participated in WRC-19, which was less alarming than WRC-15. The most important issues arising from it were in the agenda items for WRC-23, including UHF spectrum, continued C-Band transition to 5G, and increased pressure on the 6 GHz band which will impact wireless mics, cameras, etc. A meeting in late January by the EBU will specifically review these and other potential issues. NABA will be there to focus on how these items are best dealt with by the broadcast community.
- **NABA-TC Ad Spot Metadata Working Group (October 2019)**
Chaired by Harold Geller (Ad-ID) and working with our broadcast members and the TV Convergence group, this working group was formed to define the common metadata specifications for ads, improving both workflow and quality.



- **[WBU-IMCG Forum – hosted by Intelsat in McLean, Virginia \(May 2019\)](#)**
The Spring WBU-IMCG Forum included first-class content with cutting-edge panels on transmission issues, innovation and opportunities, mixed with content/signal security, an ATSC 3.0 update and Amazon closing the Forum with a presentation on Broadcast Playout and Security on AWS.
- **WBU Piracy Sub-Committee Survey (May 2019)**
An informal sub-committee on piracy completed a survey on signal/content piracy which was shared amongst the Unions. An informal meeting was held during the WBU-IMCG Forum to discuss next steps.
- **[Support of the EBU Technical Pyramid for Media Nodes Position and Press Release \(August 2019\)](#)**
The WBU-TC unanimously supported the completion of all standards associated with the EBU's Technology Pyramid for Media Nodes with a document and press release, which garnered much interest from the trade publications.
- **[WBU Position on C-Band and Press Release \(September 2019\)](#)**
The WBU-TC approved a position paper expressing their concerns over the potential reassignment of C-Band Broadcast Spectrum for 5G. A press release was distributed to support the document.
- **[WBU-IMCG Forum – hosted by BBC in Salford, UK \(November 2019\)](#)**
The Fall WBU-IMCG Forum with new Chair Morwen Williams was a successful two days focusing on global business, technology trends and challenges that broadcasters/programmers face. Attendees toured the Manchester United Football Club and observed demos from LiveU, Mjoll and Sony, along with BBC Blue Room sessions on AI, Digital Identities and Next Generation Audio.