

Public Policy and Engineering Solutions



Free Admission



Kerry Cozad

Senior Vice President, Broadcast Engineering
Dielectric Communications

Date: Tue Dec 9, 2008

Time: 12:30 (Lunch/Social), 1:10pm (Presentation)

**Location: Arthur St John Hill Auditorium, Barrows Hall
UMaine, Orono campus**

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Synopsis of the talk

In many cases, commercial interests of companies and individuals will drive innovation and invention. However, public policy can also be a significant factor in the development of new markets and opportunities. A well known example is the desire for a reduction of greenhouse gases and the subsequent development of hybrid/electric cars, solar energy for buildings and fuel cell development. Engineers play significant roles in the development of products, processes and solutions for meeting the demand for changes/improvements in our daily activities. This discussion will use as a case study the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Congressional mandate to implement digital TV transmission which is scheduled to be "complete" on February 17, 2009. The impact on consumers, government agencies and commercial organizations will be discussed and the numerous engineering solutions and ongoing activities that were necessary during the transition will be reviewed.



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Speaker's Bio

Kerry is a native of Jonesboro, Georgia. He received his B.E.E. degree (with highest honors) from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1981. His interests in antenna design and radio communications began while working with his father on commercial two-way radio systems.

He joined the Broadcast Division of Harris Corporation in June of 1981 and became the Lead Engineer for the Antenna Group in 1986. In this position, he was responsible for the electrical design of high power broadcast VHF, UHF, and multiplexed FM antennas.

In 1988 he joined Andrew Corporation. As Engineering Manager for Broadcast Products, he was responsible for the design of high and low power broadcast transmission systems including UHF and VHF antennas, transmitting antennas for ITFS/MMDS (microwave broadcast) services, HELIAX coaxial cable products and rigid transmission lines for broadcast services. Kerry also served on the Technical Advisory Committee for the Wireless Cable Association (WCA) during the transition from analog to digital transmission for the ITFS/MMDS services.

In 1998, he joined Dielectric Communications and has held positions in the marketing, business development, quality and engineering departments. His most recent assignment is Senior Vice President, Broadcast Engineering.

Kerry is a member of the IEEE and served for six years on the Broadcast Technology Society Administrative Committee, as well as serving for four years on the board of the AFCCE (Association of Federal Communications Consulting Engineers). He has written several technical articles published in trade magazines in Europe, Asia and the U.S. and gives presentations regularly at the NAB (National Association of Broadcasters) Engineering Conference and local SBE (Society of Broadcast Engineers) conferences. He is the author of two chapters in the recently published *10th Edition of the NAB Engineering Handbook* (Coaxial Cables and Rigid Coax/Waveguides) and Chapter 19, Coax/Transmission Line in *The Electronics Handbook* by CRC Press.