



NASB NEWSLETTER
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TDP joined the NASB as an Associate Member in July 2002.

INTRODUCTION OF TDP... by Ludo Maes---TDP

The intention of this article is to give you a brief introduction to TDP and Ludo Maes.

We got involved in shortwave radio in 1982 when we discovered by accident the shortwave band on our portable radio and heard programs from faraway international broadcasters.

Since we always had a passion for transmitters, we started in 1985 a

research of what transmitters are being used by the different shortwave radio stations with all possible details. After years of collecting sometimes hard to find material and information, and when the world situation allowed publishing such kind of information, the first printed edition of the TDP, the "Transmitter Documentation Project" was published in 1994. In total, 5 printed editions of the "Transmitter Documentation Project" were

published. The publication is now available on the internet for free, at <http://www.tdp.info>.

Thanks to our knowledge about transmitters, we started in 1997 a small company, called TDP, to market and sell shortwave radio broadcast transmitters. It is obvious that in order to be able to offer services to a worldwide public, a legal frame is needed and the most logical way to do this is by creating a company. Besides the transmitter business, TDP also supplies a lot of interesting information free of charge about transmitters, antennas and tubes used in shortwave radio broadcasting, intended for people who want to start a shortwave radio station or are looking for some documentation about new or older equipment. More information about these activities can be found at <http://www.broadcast.be>. In 1999, TDP started to offer airtime on shortwave to stations that did not want to build their own shortwave radio station but nevertheless wanted to be heard on shortwave. The service started with just one customer, but has now grown to a service of more than 16 hours per day for more than a dozen radio stations. As a recognized frequency management organization,

TDP does its own frequency planning, management and registration with the HFCC.

This year, TDP celebrates its 5th anniversary. The first 5 years have been very successful for TDP with an expansive growth year after year. Our team of experts looks forward to helping you with your shortwave broadcast needs.

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HFCC/ASBU & ABU-HFC

*Bangkok, Thailand
August 2002*



The Conference opened at 10:00 am, Monday, August 26, 2002 on the 7th Floor of the Landmark Hotel in Bangkok.

There was an Introduction by Rory MacLachlan, Commercial Director of Merlin Communications, who noted that VT Vosper Thornycroft Group had purchased Merlin. In the interests of commercial branding there will soon be a logo change.

Oldrich Cip, of Radio Prague, Chairman of HFCC and Temporary Conference Chairman, welcomed the delegates to the High Frequency Conference Committee (HFCC), the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) and the Arab States Broadcasting Union, (ASBU). Oldrich then turned the meeting over to the permanent Chairman of this joint conference, Turgay Cakimci of Turkish Radio.

Turgay pointed out that this occasion was only the second time in seven years that the three groups: HFCC, ASBU & ABU had come together. After a few brief comments he turned it back to Oldrich.

Oldrich observed "*...for the first time we are going to coordinate in a single global database*". Oldrich offered his thanks to NASB for the collection of Latin American frequencies that have been included in the database to assist in the identification of collisions. He strongly urged everyone to discontinue the practice of "over-submission" of frequencies. Oldrich welcomed a new HFCC Frequency Management Organization (FMO); the Caribbean Beacon (CBB) in Anguila represented by George McClintock of Nashville, Tennessee.

This was followed by comments by Horst Scholz of Deutsche Welle, Vice- Chairman of HFCC.



Left to right: Rory MacLachlan, Oldrich Cip , Horst Scholz

The coordination process then began. Vladislav Cip had set up twelve computers at the rear of the conference room. The computers were networked together to share a common printer and also had access to the Internet through an ISDN line. Hai Pham of the ITU had loaded ITU propagation software into the computers to aid the delegates.

There were four members in the FCC delegation:

Tom Lucey, FCC, head of the U.S. delegation. Tom has attended many of these conferences since 2000. Tom Polzin was unable to attend the Bangkok Conference.

Dennis Dempsey, WEWN, of Global Catholic Radio of Birmingham, Alabama.

George Ross, KTWR of TransWorld Radio of Guam. George has attended numerous coordination meetings over the years. He offered me many helpful tips on the use of VOACAP.

And myself, *Doug Garlinger*, LeSEA Broadcasting, WHRA, WHRI & KWHR, of Noblesville, Indiana; also representing NASB. This was my second conference, I attended the Montreal meeting in August 2001.



Left to Right: Doug Garlinger, Tom Lucey , George Ross, Dennis Dempsey

In addition, the interests of WMLK were represented by Bernd Friedewald of BFM / ILG software, Hamburg, Germany.



Bernd Freidewald

(photo courtesy of Milan Prezelj, HFCC)

Each afternoon at 4 pm, 3.5" computer disks were turned in to Vladislav Cip so that the revised submissions could be placed into the combined HFCC database. Vladislav worked late into the night running the 55 dBu and 65 dBu collision lists for the next day's session. Hard copies of these lists, customized for the individual submitter's station, were placed in the delegate's mailbox for the next morning. The 3.5" disks were returned containing the entire revised HFCC database file and a separate file of the individual delegate's schedule to be modified for the next day's submission.

At 6:30pm, Pham Nhu Hai, of the ITU gave a presentation on ITU CAL 0.4. This is software that allows the importation of the current HFCC database and then displays the pertinent frequency requirements in graph form and on a World Map. Specific bands, CIRAF Zones and times can be entered to aid in the analysis of collisions on a desired frequency. Hai told me the newest version of this software will soon be available at: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/terrestrial/broadcast/hf/download/index.html>



Left to Right: Vladislav Cip, Hai Pham
(photo courtesy of Milan Prezelj, HFCC)

On Monday evening I e-mailed the WINB and WRMI schedules to Jeff White as appearing in that day's HFCC database. I also included the 65 dBu FCC Collision list for the first day of the conference.

On Tuesday, I had the pleasure of meeting Sharad Sadhu, Senior Engineer for ABU (Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union). In our conversation I learned once again just how small the world is. Sharad has a daughter living in Fishers, Indiana just 5 miles from my home. His wife was visiting their daughter in Indiana during the conference.



Sharad Sadhu

On Tuesday evening at 5pm, after the coordination activities had ended for the day; Daniel Bochent, Telediffusion de France (TDF) introduced a presentation on DRM. Peter Gordon, Programme Manager Digitalisation, VT Merlin Communications delivered a power-point presentation. Peter said that DRM now had 76 members, 50 as full members and 26 as associate members.

Peter reported on the DRM April 2002 test from the Nakhon Sawan, Thailand Relay Station near Bangkok, to Beijing. The presentation included test recordings of shortwave *stereo*. The broadcast sounded very good. Peter also demonstrated a Multimedia shortwave transmission with audio at 16.5 kbps, accompanied by a slide show at 4.4 kbps. One new slide can be transmitted approximately every 30 seconds along with the audio narration.



Left to Right. Peter Gordon, Daniel Bochent
(photo courtesy of Milan Prezelj, HFCC)

DRM plans to make a low cost FhG (Fraunhofer Institute) receiver available on a limited basis to radio amateur and DX listeners to participate in testing. Formal announcement of the details of this offer will be made at IBC in Amsterdam.

DRM plans to launch broadcasts at ITU WRC 2003 in Geneva. Leading broadcasters from around the world will begin transmitting their first official DRM broadcasts at that time.

On Wednesday, Merlin Communications hosted an amazing dinner cruise on the Grand Pearl of Siam Yacht. The entire group of 130 delegates was picked up in air-conditioned buses. I had the privilege of sitting next to Oldrich Cip for the 35- minute ride across town in heavy traffic. We had a nice conversation and he seemed quite pleased when I told him of my 1965 QSL card from Radio Prague. I told him that when I was 13, I often listened to the English language broadcasts from Czechoslovakia. We also discussed the possibility of NASB hosting a conference in the United States if the visa issues could be worked out. The proximity of the U.N. to New York was mentioned as helpful to the problem from a diplomatic standpoint. Oldrich plans to consult with the ITU for assistance. Another U.S. venue mentioned by Oldrich was Denver due to its proximity to Boulder.

We disembarked the bus at the River City Pier Sripthraya. There was a brief 25-minute opportunity to do some shopping before boarding the 3-hour evening cruise.

A Thai and international buffet with beverages and entertainment were provided. The HFCC attendees had an opportunity to become better acquainted and view the dazzling nightscapes along the river. This included the Grand Palace, the Temple of the Emerald Buddha and several other Buddhist compounds known as a "wat". Unfortunately, the night cruise offered few photo opportunities of these magnificent structures.

On Thursday evening, there was a Report of the Joint Steering meeting of HFCC/ASBU and ABU-HFC. There was general agreement that there would be increased cooperation between the groups and that they would try to alternate the venue of future February meetings between the groups.

The place and date for the A03 meeting will be Sandton, South Africa near Johannesburg on 3-7 February 2003. The final date for submission of A03 requirements is 6 January 2003.

Delegates seeking contact information for Latin American stations approached me on two occasions. Radio Nacional de Espana inquired about a collision with Radiodifusion Argentina (RAE) and Giuseppe Allamano of Radiotelevisione Italiana (RAI) asked about a collision with Radio Mexico. I e-mailed the inquiries to Jeff White and he provided some helpful contact information for the next morning's session.

I am not aware of any FCC collisions for NASB members that were not resolved. I did not see any problems with George Jacobs' clients and I noticed that Tom seemed to have detailed collision information in advance from Stanley Leinwoll for his clients.

The final deadline for the collection of data for the approaching B02 schedule is 18 October 2002.

Merlin Communications is to be congratulated for hosting a successful conference. Ken Gibson, Merlin Managing Director, Asia, did much of the local planning.

Friday was a half-day and the delegates tried to work out some final collisions before the conference ended at 12:30. A group picture was taken in the hall of the 7th floor. Everyone then went up to the 31st floor for lunch and a final farewell.

The 31st floor offered a beautiful view of the afternoon city skyline. The very name Bangkok conjures up images of a steamy, tropical Asian metropolis. Before it became the capital of Thailand in 1782, it was known as Bang Makok "Place of Olive Plums". It was formally given a new seventeen-word name that roughly translated meant "Great City of Angels" The new name never caught on with foreign traders and the city became known as Bangkok.

The rivers of North and Central Thailand converge in the Mae Nam Chao Phraya River delta surrounding Bangkok, creating a huge, flat and very fertile area known as the "Rice Bowl of Asia". This is the river we cruised on Wednesday in its snakelike journey through the city.

August is a rainy season in Bangkok; Merlin Communications anticipated that possibility by providing all attendees with a very nice umbrella in the conference bag. As it turned out, the weather was sunshine and 90 degrees most days. On Thursday evening it did rain quite hard for several hours.

The Thai people are very warm and courteous, and provided the highlight of my visit to Bangkok. I shall never forget their frequent "wai" gesture. This graceful gesture is a combination of greeting, display of respect and statement of a person's rank in the social hierarchy. The subtle nuances of the wai are far too complex for the first time visitor to fathom. The "wai" is the Thai custom of pressing the palms together just below the chin and bowing graciously.



-Doug Garlinger
31 Aug 2002

NASB Members:

Adventist World Radio
Assemblies of Yahweh
Family Radio Network
Far East Broadcasting Co.
Fundamental Broadcasting Network
Herald Broadcasting Syndicate
High Adventure Ministries
LeSea Broadcasting Corp.
Radio Miami International
Trans World Radio
World Christian Broadcasting
World International Broadcasters
World Wide Catholic Radio

NASB Associate Members:

Antenna Products
Continental Electronics Corp.
George Jacobs & Associate
HCJB World Radio
IBB
TCI/Dielectric



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