**SOCIETY OF BROADCAST ENGINEERS, INC.**

***The Association for Broadcast and Multimedia Technology Professionals***

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Society of Broadcast Engineers Authorizes New Canada Chapter**

***September 28, 2023, Columbus, OH –*** The Society of Broadcast Engineers, the association for broadcast and multimedia technology professionals, has most of its members in the United States, but there are members based all over the world. The SBE has a chapter based in Hong Kong and in the Republic of Georgia. The Society's international expansion continues with an action taken by the SBE Board of Directors at its meeting in Columbus, OH, during the SBE National Meeting. The newest SBE chapter will be based in Canada to serve its members there.

The new chapter authorization was announced during the SBE Membership Meeting, held the evening of Sept. 29. Given the wide geographic area of the entire country, the new chapter's plan is to primarily meet virtually, a method that has been used by many SBE chapters during the COVID pandemic.

A group of 27 Canadian SBE members worked together, meeting the requirements to form an SBE chapter. As part of the application process, officers have been selected to lead that group. They are: Chapter Chair Jeff Welton, CBRE; Chapter Vice Chair Jordan Thomas; Chapter Secretary John-Erik Rempillo, CPBE; and Chapter Treasurer Ron Combden, CPBE, CBNT.

On the formation of the new chapter, SBE President Andrea Cummis, CBT, CTO, said, "I'm proud of the work our Canadian members have done to bring members together. With virtual chapter meetings now commonplace, it was a natural step to better serve our Canadian members."

To form a new SBE chapter, at least 10 SBE members must meet three or more times, as well as some other administrative requirements. Once accomplished, an application can be submitted for the SBE Board of Directors to review. The SBE authorized Chapter 148 Eastern Europe at its 2022 National Meeting.

The Society of Broadcast Engineers is the professional organization of television and radio engineers and those in related fields. The SBE has nearly 4,500 members in 116 chapters across the United States and in Hong Kong and Eastern Europe. There are also members in more than 25 other countries. Most chapters meet monthly and offer educational programs and an opportunity to network with other broadcast technical professionals. The SBE offers the preeminent technical broadcast certification program in the U.S. and an expansive list of educational programs for broadcast engineers, operators, technicians, and broadcast IT professionals.

The SBE provides education and training programs to expand technical skills, and its certification program is a standard-bearer for professional competency in broadcast and communications engineering. SBE offers a forum for the exchange of ideas and the sharing of information allowing engineers to keep pace with the rapidly changing broadcast industry. The SBE’s frequency coordination program facilitates the use by broadcast engineers of radio spectrum for program and electronic news production. The SBE also advocates before Federal agencies and the United States Congress on technical regulatory issues that affect broadcast engineers.

For more information about the SBE, contact James W. Ragsdale, executive director, at [jragsdale@sbe.org](mailto:jragsdale@sbe.org) or 317-846-9000, or visit the SBE website, [sbe.org](http://www.sbe.org).

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