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**DATE AGREED TO FOR IBOC DAB TEST RESULTS**

NRSC and IBOC DAB Proponents Agree to December 15, 1999

LAS VEGAS, NV - Sunday, April 18, 1999 - The National Radio Systems Committee (NRSC) and the in-band/on-channel (IBOC) digital audio broadcasting (DAB) proponents yesterday announced the date of December 15, 1999 for proponents' submission of laboratory and field test results.

At an April 17 meeting of the NRSC DAB Subcommittee, the three active IBOC proponents (Digital Radio Express, Lucent Digital Radio, and USA Digital Radio) and the Subcommittee participants all agreed to the date. The NRSC is the technical standards setting body for the radio broadcasting industry jointly sponsored by the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) and the Consumer Electronics Manufacturers Association (CEMA).

Submission of this information to the NRSC will allow it to continue its work on this evaluation of IBOC DAB, the goal being to establish whether this new digital radio broadcasting technology represents a significant improvement over existing AM and FM analog radio services. In recent months, the NRSC has adopted a series of documents in support of this goal, explaining to proponents the specific information the NRSC needs in order to conduct an evaluation as well as how the evaluation itself would proceed.

Milford Smith, Vice President of Engineering for Greater Media and Chairman of the DAB Subcommittee, commented on yesterday's developments saying he was "gratified by the fact that the proponents could come to a consensus agreement on a deadline. This agreement will definitely help move the process along."

Also at yesterday's meeting, the DAB Subcommittee adopted the major portion of its Evaluation Guidelines document, outlining the NRSC's evaluation process and explaining some of the factors involved in trying to determine if an IBOC system represents a significant improvement over AM and FM radio. The DAB Subcommittee had previously adopted its Laboratory and Field Test Guidelines for IBOC systems last March and December, respectively, offering IBOC system proponents a detailed description of the information and test results needed for the NRSC's evaluation, as well as suggested test procedures for obtaining those results. The adoption of the Evaluation Guidelines completes the suite of NRSC guidance documents for IBOC DAB system assessment.

The National Association of Broadcasters serves and represents radio and television stations and all the major broadcast networks.

CEMA is a sector of the Electronic Industries Alliance (EIA), the 75-year-old Arlington, Virginia-based trade organization representing all facets of electronics manufacturing. CEMA represents more than 500 U.S. manufacturers of audio, video, accessories, mobile electronics, communication, information and multimedia products that are sold through consumer channels.

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