



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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## Tutorial on Field Studies of Digital Television Translators

The FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology is hosting a tutorial on recent field studies of digital TV (DTV) translators Monday, March 22, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Commission Meeting Room (TW-C305), 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Washington, D.C.

TV translators are low power television stations that re-transmit the program service of full power TV stations on a different channel and are typically used to provide television service to communities located in less populated areas. DTV translators will be used to enable rural and other underserved communities to participate in the transition to digital TV service. Highlights of the tutorial will include a presentation by R. Kent Parsons on his work with experimental digital television translator stations in the mountains of Utah. This information should be of interest to engineers and managers who are involved in efforts to provide DTV service to rural America. Mr. Parsons is the State of Utah TV Translator Coordinator and is Vice President of the National Translator Association.

Tutorial topics will include: 1) Coverage achieved with very low power TV translators. Such low power operation will provide cost savings to translator operators and open the door for potential conversion of existing analog TV translators to digital TV operation; 2) Transport of 8-VSB signals using fixed microwave stations, UHF translator relays, and on-channel boosters; 3) Retransmission of 8-VSB translator signals on a small local cable distribution system; 4) Adjacent channel operation using a combination of digital-to-digital and digital-to-analog channels. Such adjacent channel operations are likely to be a key factor in facilitating the availability of the additional channels needed for digital translators.

In addition to Mr. Parsons, Dr. Byron W. St. Clair and Mr. Gary Sgrignoli will also be presenting. Dr. St. Clair is a technical consultant who frequently represents TV translator interests before the FCC and is President of the National Translator Association. Mr. Sgrignoli is a principal engineer for research and development at Zenith Corporation and holds 35 television patents, of which many are for the design of VSB television transmission.

Members of the general public are welcome, and no reservations are necessary. For additional information, contact Young Carlson at (202) 418-2427, [Young.Carlson@fcc.gov](mailto:Young.Carlson@fcc.gov).

RealAudio and streaming video access to the tutorial will be broadcast live on the Internet via the FCC's Internet audio broadcast home page at [www.fcc.gov/realaudio](http://www.fcc.gov/realaudio). Videotape of the tutorial may also be purchased from the FCC contractor, CACI Productions Group (formerly InFocus), 341 Victory Drive, Herndon, VA 20170, by calling at (703) 834-1470.

