

# CFA Test Aimed at Its Skeptics

by Paul J. McLane

Developers of the controversial Crossed Field Antenna plan to erect a 1 kW demo unit in the United Kingdom this fall to convince skeptics that it can deliver what it promises.

"It is our goal to demonstrate that without question, the CFA can be an efficient alternative to existing quarter- and half-wave mast antennas," said Robert Richer, president of

Crossed Field Antennas Ltd. in Connecticut.

The company has an agreement with CFA patent holder Dr. Fathi Kabbary. This agreement, Richer said, grants the company worldwide distribution rights to the CFA, with the exception of Egypt.

### Availability

The CFA is available now to medium- and long-wave broadcasters any-

where in the world except the United States, where it would have to meet transmission rules established by the FCC for AM radio.

Richer said he hopes to be able to start offering the CFA to U.S. broadcasters within the next 12 months.

## The U.K. site was favored because it is 'clean.'

According to Richer, developers were offered a number of testing sites, including several within the United States, but the U.K. site was favored because it is "clean."

"By clean, we mean one that has no towers and no significant buildings nearby, has decent soil conductivity, and is on a fairly flat piece of land, to allow easy measurements. One of the nice parts of the CFA is that it requires a very small piece of real estate, usually no more than 3 percent of lambda, but we would still like to have a fairly large tract available to us."

Richer said the CFA will be subjected to a number of tests under various conditions, including tests for skywave suppression, antenna efficiency and nearfield radiation characteristics.

"We want an open, clear area so that there will be no questions concerning re-radiation or antenna coupling."

Richer said eight CFAs are operating in Egypt. RAI, the Italian state broadcasting company, has installed a 10 kW CFA in San Remo, Italy, he said.

"Along with the virtual elimination of nearfield radiation interference, RAI has been able to demonstrate that this 9-meter-high CFA, powered with only 3 kW, is achieving as good, if not better, coverage that it had with its former 6 kW, 75-meter active mast antenna."

Two CFAs are being assembled in Brazil, and should go online within the next couple of months.

See past RW articles about the Crossed Field Antenna at the Web site [www.rwonline.com](http://www.rwonline.com)

"First, of course, we need to take the results of our proposed testing to the FCC for examination, and hopefully, for approval," he said.

The purpose of the test in the United Kingdom, he said, is to satisfy any regulatory questions that might exist around the world, and "to demonstrate once and for all the viability of the CFA to a certain number of skeptical broadcast engineers. ... We chose the U.K. because it is fairly central to the world, it is easy to fly into, and there is considerable interest in the device by many U.K. broadcast organizations," he said.

## NEWSWATCH

Continued from page 2

eased ownership caps. Limited access to capital, increased competition and high station prices continue to be barriers to minorities who want to become first-time station owners, according to the 1998 report.

NTIA cited a 1995 decision by Congress to eliminate a minority tax certificate program for broadcast ownership and a Supreme Court decision that year that applied a stricter standard for government affirmative action programs, in addition to the effects of the Telecom Act, as reasons for the decline in minority ownership. Minorities owned 322 of 11,475 stations in 1997, said NTIA, a 3 percent drop from 1996 (RW, Nov. 12, 1997).

### Nassau Re-Brands Sales

**PRINCETON, N.J.** Coming on the heels of solid second-quarter results, Nassau Broadcasting Partners L.P., with 21 stations, has re-branded its national sales division with a new name and Web site.

Formerly Jersey Radio Network, the new name is Nassau Radio Network to reflect Nassau's expansion into Allentown, Pa.; Westchester County, N.Y., and Fairfield County, Conn.

Nassau posted net revenue for the second quarter of \$8.7 million, a 16.4 percent increase over the second quarter of 1999.

Broadcast cash flow increased to \$5 million — 26 percent over last year's comparable period.

Nassau recently backed off plans to conduct an initial public offering, citing volatility in technology stocks (RW, Sept. 1).

To see the new Web site, go to [www.nassauradionetwork.com](http://www.nassauradionetwork.com)

### Ceridian to Vote on Split

**MINNEAPOLIS** Ceridian Corp. stockholders plan to meet Oct. 5 to vote on the proposal to split off Arbitron into a separate company.

If approved, Ceridian would declare a reverse stock split at a ratio not to exceed 1-for-5 following the proposed reverse spin-off.

The stockholders will meet at Ceridian's headquarters in Minneapolis.

### NRB 2001 Conference Set

**MANASSAS, Va.** The National Religious Broadcasters Convention and Exposition has been scheduled for Feb. 10-13, 2001, at the Anatole Hotel in Dallas.

More than 200 exhibitors are expected to participate in the event, which the NRB touts as "the world's largest nationally and internationally recognized event dedicated solely to assist those in the field of Christian communications."

The 58th annual convention and expo will feature approximately 40 educational sessions and boot camps for radio, TV, Internet and stewardship.

For more information visit the NRB Web site at [www.nrb.org](http://www.nrb.org)

### SBE Announces Award Winners

**INDIANAPOLIS** Winners of the SBE's National Awards for 1999 will be recognized at the National Awards Dinner Oct. 4 during the association's national meeting in Pittsburgh.

SBE's Broadcast Engineer of the Year is Clay Freinwald, senior facilities engineer for 11 Entercom stations in the Seattle market. He is active in SBE Chapter 16, Seattle, and writes a regular column for "Waveguide," the Chapter 16 newsletter. He has served as a chairman of the Washington state EAS committee, the National SBE EAS committee and serves on the National SBE board of directors.

The association's Educator of the Year is Steven Keeler, associate professor of telecommunications and broadcasting at Cayuga Community College in Auburn, N.Y. He created and administers the SBE certified Telecommunications Technology Degree program.


SBE's Technology Award goes to Videotek in Pottstown, Pa., for its SpyderWeb Unattended Network Monitoring System for centralized verification, monitoring and remote control of multiple nodes in any location by a single operator.

To see the full list of winners, go to [www.sbe.org](http://www.sbe.org)

# Dependability

## Quality, Simplicity, Value

Gadgets! - Today, everyone wants the newest thing.

But,  for me - if it works, I hang onto it.

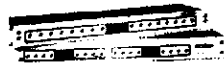
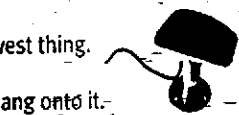
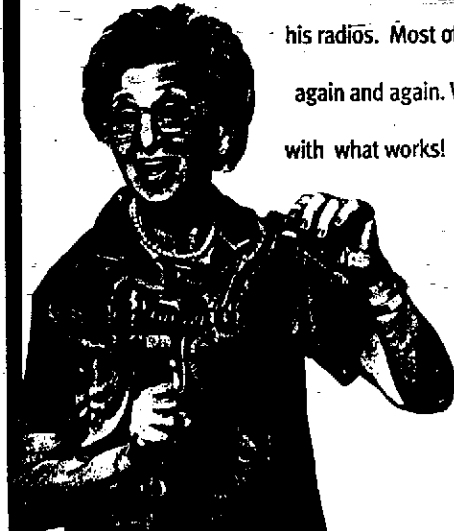
My mother used to say to me, "You think money grows on trees?"

My son tells me that it's the same with

his radios. Most of his customers buy

again and again. Why not? They stick

with what works!



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