

NEWS LETTER

AUGUST 2, 2011

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PROBE 4 WINNER IS PICKED

JARED M. STYLES, WXPN—DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING IS THE WINNER

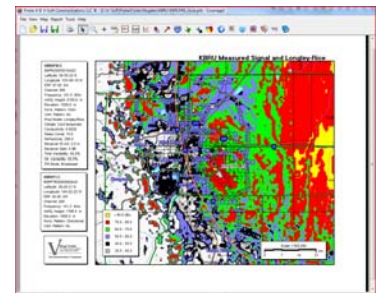
Jared Styles, director of engineering for WXPN was the lucky winner of V-Soft's Probe 4 propagation software package during the spring NAB conference. Jackie Neal, of Precision Communications, shown above, picked Mr. Style's business card out of several hundred entries. (Also pictured above is John Gray, V-Soft V.P.)

Jared Styles, had already returned home when his name was drawn. When he received our call to be

informed his win, he was just stepping off a plane in his home town.

The probe packaged consisted of Probe 4, the US FCC terrain database, 2010 census files and the extensive polygon mapping files.

We congratulate Styles. His win is convincing evidence that it is possible to go to Las Vegas and leave with something more than you brought.



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- WXPN's Styles wins
- Training in Las Vegas at April NAB Conference.
- Free download program
- Tech Support ticket system
- MW-Pro Evolves
- Tech Support levels
- New program features

JOIN US FOR TRAINING AT THE 2012 NAB CONFERENCE.

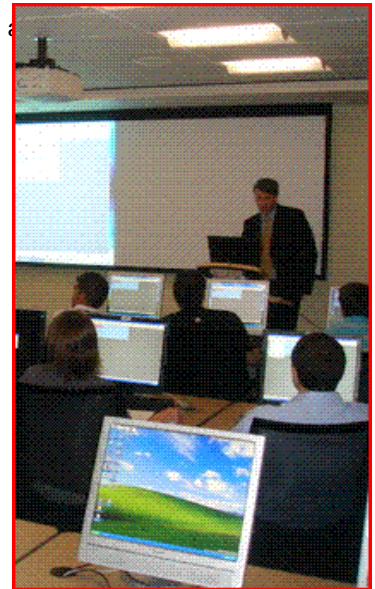
Many of our clients and friends have asked for another in-depth V-Soft training seminar. Write down the date, as V-Soft will hold a training session in Las Vegas immediately in advance of the NAB show. Breakfast and lunch will be provided for the two days.

V-Soft can provide temporary software installs on the attendee's laptop, so you can follow along using the software. A limited number of hotel rooms will be reserved for those enrolled in the training. The hotel in which the training will take place will be

in one of our next newsletters. The training will cover broadcast allocation engineering using V-Soft's Probe4, FMCommander, AM-Pro, Microwave Pro and other programs. This is a perfect opportunity to learn how to use V-Soft's powerful features and capabilities and to link up with your colleagues who also use the software.

If you are interested in attending, reserve your space now by calling Kate English at 319 266-8402.

V-Soft Broadcast Engineering Training , April 14-15, 2012 at the NAB conference in Las Vegas.



V-SOFT'S NEW FREE DATABASE UPDATE APPLICATION

V-Soft is pleased to announce that a new system for updating various dynamic databases used by our company's AM, FM, TV and microwave allocations software is now available. In performing frequency allocations studies, it is extremely important to always use the latest FCC or Industry Canada data. In the past, the processing of downloading, unzipping and updating numerous databases to different folders was time consuming and prone to operator error.

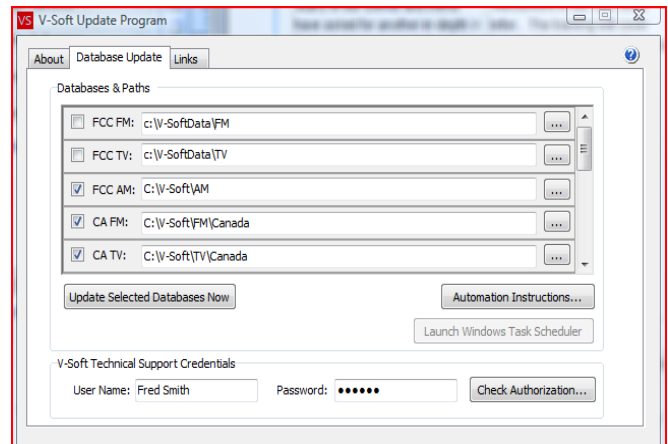
The new system uses a Windows based interface for configuring data downloads and is intended to make the process of updating data extremely fast and easy. This program is free of charge to all client users on V-Soft's technical support program.

In addition to transparently updating the program executables, the new program will automatically determine which databases the

client user is authorized to download. An initial setup is required where the user enters the user name and password. A click of the "Check Authorization" button will show a list of databases that the user is subscribed to and authorized to update. Once the program has been set up by the user it can be programmed to automatically update the user's entire set of data through the computer's task scheduler.

The new system has been built into the "V-Soft Update Program" that is currently required to be used by technical support clients for in-program software updates. This program now has a user interface and can be used for updating data and some other technical support purposes. To perform these additional functions you must have version 1.07 or later.

To get the latest version,



download and run the setup program "V-SoftUpdate Program_setup.exe" found here:

<http://tinyurl.com/4xbsx73>

Note: You do NOT need to uninstall the previous version, you can install right over the top.

Specialized software for Radio, TV and Microwave

V-Soft Update Program

... intended to make the process of updating data extremely fast and easy.

MICROWAVE PRO FREQUENCY SEARCH CONTINUES TO EVOLVE

Microwave Pro - [C:\new\sample_path.mwp]

File View Help

Proposed Path

Edit **WDBC3115, 949.125 MHz** ^Notes Show Path Layout >

Affected Paths [Database Date: 5/29/2011]

Call	Freq	Svc	Parent	EIRP	C/I In	C/I Out	Margin In	Margin Out ...	Notes
WOG95	949.0	AS	WXYT-FM	48.1	58.7511	20.8182	-6.2489	-44.1818	
WQGJ653	949.0	AS	WMIM	50.0	56.2175	46.4581	-8.7825	-18.5419	
WLE937	949.375	AS	WRVF	53.9	60.5252	55.9498	-4.4748	-9.0502	Inc/GT/GR
WPOU487	948.875	AI	WPFX-FM	50.6	90.5457	66.2623	25.5457	1.2623	GT/GR
WPOU487	949.125	AI	WPFX-FM	50.6	90.5457	66.2636	25.5457	1.2636	GT/GR
WLO967	949.0	AS	WPON	59.0	44.5288	68.9427	-20.0712	3.9427	Inc/Rx1km/GT
WDD615	949.5	AS	WYCD	41.1	64.5414	35.4092	34.9414	5.4092	
WLJ582	949.0	AS	WUF	59.0	66.2477	70.581	1.2477	5.581	Inc/Rx1km/GT
WCX630	949.375	AI	WKFR-FM	52.2	100.3348	74.4145	35.3348	9.4145	Inc/GT/GR
WPUR992	949.0	AS	WNLK	49.0	67.6636	80.7072	2.6636	15.7072	LS
WRQ20	948.5	AS	WVKS	55.4	54.1071	49.9124	24.1071	19.9124	GT/GR
WLI405	949.0	AS	WKKY	47.3	94.3425	87.5309	29.3425	22.5309	GT/GR
WAB990	948.625	AS	WAAM	49.8	47.6316	52.7238	17.6316	22.7238	Inc/GT/GR
WAB990	948.375	AS	WAAM	49.8	47.6316	52.7243	17.6316	22.7243	Inc/GT/GR
WOG90	949.0	AS	WWWM-FM	50.6	54.5867	88.0762	-10.4133	23.0762	GT/GR
WHS702	949.125	AS	WLEC	36.4	102.3386	89.7941	37.3386	24.7941	Inc/GT/GR
WLE937	949.5	AS	WRVF	53.9	60.5252	55.952	30.5252	25.952	Inc/GT/GR
WLE937	949.625	AS	WRVF	53.9	60.5252	55.9541	30.5252	25.9541	Inc/GT/GR
WDP92	949.0	AS	WEGE	54.8	101.2449	92.1714	36.2449	27.1714	GT/GR
WQIT490	949.0	AS	WLCM	58.7	87.6566	93.8201	22.6566	28.8201	GT/GR
WPNG753	949.0	AS	WLBV	56.0	54.6496	95.7657	-10.3504	30.7657	
WAC257	948.875	AS	WZAK	56.5	101.5243	95.9774	36.9243	30.9774	Inc/GT/GR
WAC257	949.125	AS	WZAK	56.5	101.5243	95.9788	36.9243	30.9788	Inc/GT/GR
WLE343	949.0	AS	WCZY-FM	58.9	101.0721	99.6315	36.0721	34.6315	Inc/GT/GR
WHS533	949.5	AS	WLUN	58.1	97.5525	70.0456	67.5525	40.0456	GT/GR

Edit Add Remove Path Report... Print Table Address List...

The first version of Microwave Pro was released in late 2007. Since that time, with input from users, the program has continued to improve and evolve. For those are unfamiliar with the program, Microwave Pro uses the FCC's ULS database to identify usable microwave frequencies and to examine paths over terrain elevation plots while acknowledging interference to and from other microwave links. The program uses terrain based analysis in conjunction with methodology found in TIA-EIA Telecommunications System Bulletin TSB10-F. When supplied with the parameters for a proposed path, Microwave Pro can quickly load all stations that have a potential interference relationship and calculate

Carrier to Interference (C/I) ratios. A list of contact information for paths within the "keyhole" radius from the proposed path can be generated to be used in the prior notification process.

The program can also be used to search for an available frequency in a given band. It can display the path geometry for both interfering and protected paths. A terrain profile plot can be generated for any of the paths considered in an interference relationship. Microwave Pro can also generate a standard link budget report for a microwave system.

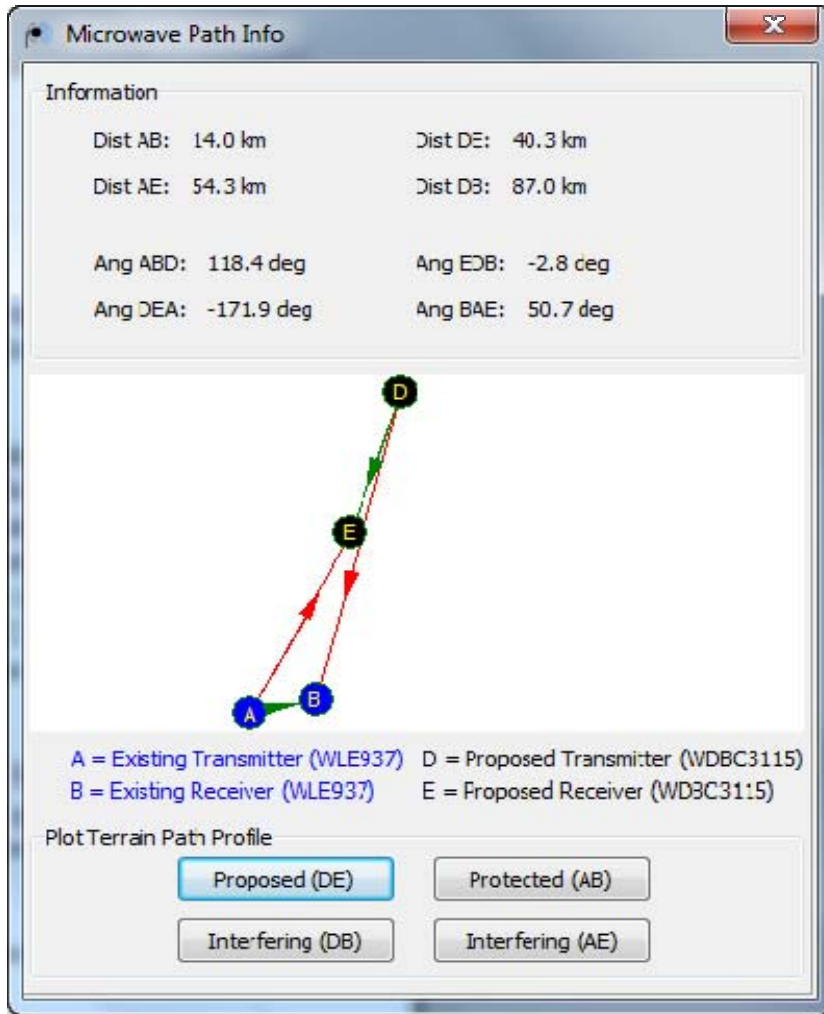
The current version of Microwave Pro is 1.11. Here are some of the changes that have been recently made :

For MW links loaded from the ULS database the program will open the main ULS web page for the associated record with a single click.

The included microwave antenna discrimination pattern database has been enhanced with more patterns and the ability to calculate and specify beam width for patterns.

The ability to generate a custom link database that is searched in conjunction with the ULS data has been added. This allows the user to easily protect new paths that are not yet in the ULS. The parent station call sign has been added to the main interference table.

(Continued on Page #4)



MW-PRO'S PATH LAYOUT

The path layout window showing the relative locations of the transmitters and receivers in a particular interference scenario has been updated to use color coding and to show arrows representing the directions of propagation for the outgoing and incoming radio paths.

For more information on Microwave-Pro click on to our web site: WWW.V-Soft.com/MWavePro/.



TECHNICAL SUPPORT LEVELS

There are two levels of V-Soft technical support, **Standard** and **Professional**. The standard level provides toll-free and email/ticket support with monthly FCC database downloads. The professional support levels provides priority technical support and daily access to your selected FCC database. Professional support also offers special privileges and discounts from time to time on V-Soft products and/or training.

It should be noted that database downloads are now fully computerized. The number of and time sequence of 'standard support' level downloads is governed by our new servers and strictly confined to one each month.

OUR NEW FAX NUMBER :

319 432-7275

V-SOFT'S NEW TECHNICAL SUPPORT TICKET OPTION

V-Soft clients currently enrolled in technical support can now use our new ticket system. This is not a replacement for the toll-free call-in line, but to be a convenience to technical support users who like to send emails. The system will be helpful to weekend users since the entire technical support team will be sent a copy of the ticket.

To use the system simply send your email to "support@v-soft.com". Your issue will be automatically transferred to our ticket system and you will receive a response with your ticket

number. A response will then be forthcoming from the support staff. You may also use an email link on our web page; v-soft.com/web/databases.htm, to submit a ticket.

The new ticket system stores all your communications and our responses in your account on the new osTicket web page, so they can be retrieved by you at a later time. We are confident this will improve our response time to and it will help you and our support staff keep track of your issue and its resolution.

The new system is among a number of V-Soft's new initiatives so improve the speed and quality of the technical support we offer to clients.

CANADIAN STATION DATA



Many U.S. database users have benefited by loading the Canadian FM and TV station data into their programs to compare with U.S. FCC station records. The Canadian database gives more up-to-date information on Canadian licenses and applications and it includes directional antenna patterns, which are often missing from the U.S. database of Canadian stations. Recently, V-Soft has added the set of Industry Canada HAAT files and distance to contour files to this database. (These are the official coverage and protected Canadian contour files and the HAAT files that are to be used to construct the protected and interfering Canadian station contours for all Canadian domestic and cross-border applications.)

For several years V-Soft has been processing the Canadian databases and offering them without charge to technical support users of the U.S. databases. As of January 1st, 2012, V-soft will begin charging a modest fee for the Canadian databases which are updated daily. The AM, FM or TV database, purchased individually, will cost \$125 on a quarterly basis. All three databases are available for \$250. A similar arrangement for Canadian users will also be

implemented. There are no increases planned for the other databases V-Soft offers.

V-Soft's new automatic data downloading system will download Canadian AM/FM and TV data if the user is subscribed. (See Page #2.) Until January 1st, users may continue to download the regular Canadian databases (without EHAAT files) the old fashioned way by downloading them manually from our client database web site.

USING CANADIAN EHAAT FILES

The Industry Canada EHAAT files are files of HAAT values as submitted by consultants as filed within Canadian FM and TV applications. EHAAT files of U.S. stations are derived by Canada from the information provided by the FCC's International Bureau when coordinating a station with Canada. Starting with Version 4.2, Probe 4 can load these EHAAT files, which take the place of local terrain based HAAT values. For Probe 4, these files are loaded from the "Transmitter properties" screen under the "Custom HAAT" tab. FMCommander users, starting with version 6.3.79, will find a new menu item on the "Find Information" screen under the "Tools" menu, called "Load Canada's EHAAT File". Once loaded into the reference station record or any of the job file database station records, the EHAAT values will be saved to the job file and will be used with all subsequent loads of the job file.

NEW FEATURES - FMCOMMANDER

Build 79 now has the ability to load Canada's EHAAT files and store them with the job file.

Build 78: We have added 'Show Version History' under "Help" menu, Main Screen.

Section 73.213 FCC rounding for license issuing assistance has been added. There are three ways to get this information:

- 1.) Find the FCC authorizing power on the "Fine Information" Text screen when the reference station is listed
- 2.) When a station is a C.P. and the CDBS power is not equal to the FCC rounded authorized power, a new label will be displayed immediately next to the ERP power on the Database Screen showing the FCC rounded power.
- 3.) The ERP tooltip on the Main Screen will now show the 73.213 authorized ERP. Hold your cursor over the power text, in the reference station text block at the top of the screen to see the tooltip.

Build 77, program now calculates the equivalent minimum power required for the class if the antenna height is over the class maximums. The program now calculates the equivalent minimum power needed for the class if the combination of ERP and HAAT is below class minimums

Build 76, optional airports database overlay now contains the names of the airports rather than call signs or abbreviations.

Build 75, new FMCommander Manual and FMCommander Help files included in this update.

Build 74, added ability to use new 2010 U.S. Census. The words "Treaty Values" show up on Main screen when Canada treaty values are selected. We have added the "Before Max class" or "Default" ERP, HAAT, COR to the "Find information" text screen. This information only appears when the station has been max-classed.

NEW FEATURES PROBE 4

Here are just a few of the things your technical support pays for:

Build 31, added "Contour Area Coverage Report" to the "Report" menu. The report will show which of the 'Contours' defined in the study cover all or part of a user defined reference area (this can be a contour, polygon, or polygon set).

Build 30, added "Reference By" option to arrow options that allows arrows to be reference by projection rather than page position (so the end points stay at the same lat/long when map scale/position is changed).

Added contour import for .VML (V-Soft XML) format file.

Added "Update Databases" item to the 'Help' menu. This will launch the V-Soft Update Program which can be used to download and install database updates. Note - you will need to have version 1.07 or later of the V-Soft Update Program installed for this to work properly.

Build 29, Added Load/Save buttons on the "Custom HAAT" tab of the transmitter editor. These can be used to save/restore custom HAAT data to a CSV format file.

Build 28, added the ability to add an "Inverse" of an overlap area to an overlap region. This only applies to "intersection" regions. When an area is added as inverted then all areas that are not included in that area are included in the intersection.

Added the ability to add a "Limit" area to an overlap region. This only applies to "union" regions. This will cause the overall union region to be limited to the area defined by the 'limit'.

Added option to create a duplicate of a transmitter in the study when using the map information tool's 'move transmitter' function.

Build 26, changed methodology used for calculating contours using "8 radial HAAT" to more closely match how the FCC's

OET 69 software handles it. HAAT values below 30 m are now snapped to 30 m before interpolation of HAAT is performed.

Added support for optional 2010 US Census data.

Build 24, Added "Plot terrain over water" option to the "Basic Terrain Plot" backdrop.

Build 22, Added an indication of the type of overlap area to pop report (either Intersection or Union) and made it so that when a "Union" is reported the percentages shown in the individual summary table represent the percent of the total union for that area.

Build 21 - Added save/load to scheme file for field strength cutoffs.

Added new preset scheme options for IBOC interference model for mobile, portable, and indoor receiver types.

Updated default IBOC settings to use new "Mobile Receive @ 1%" preset as default.

Revamped the way that Tools -> "Service Counting" works. Made it so that the reference area is no longer counted as the first 'service'. Added the ability to not fill selected areas and specify custom labels for each service level.

Changed the population reporting to include both a service-by-service count summary and a 307b style summary

Added Map -> "Add To Map" -> "Service Count Legend" for adding service count legends to the map.

Added save/load scheme for service count area properties.

Added the ability to add a Title to color legends. Also added the ability to not plot the color box for selected lines in the color legend.



NEW FEATURES AM-PRO

Build 47, added option for "Clip protected at Intl boundary" to daytime allocation study. If turned on, then if two stations are in different countries the protection will be set up to clip the protected contour of each station at the international boundary.

Build 46, added "Export Data to KML File" to the "Coverage Study" menu which is shown when running a coverage study. This allows for a KML (Google Earth) file to be generated that contains contours and site locations in the study.

Added the ability to append the CDBS facility ID to the call letters in the database. Turn this on using the check box on the "General" tab of the "Program Defaults" window.

Build 45, added "All Contour Population Report (w/ Breakdown)" to the "Report" section of the "Coverage Study" menu. This generates a population report that shows population, housing units, and area in a table, and a county breakdown for all contours defined in the study,

Build 43, added support for optional 2010 US Census database.

Build 37, added option to daytime allocation study for "Apply NARBA Rules for CU & DR" which causes the program to use NARBA if checked or use Region II rules if unchecked. (Applies only to Cuba and Dominican Republic protections)

Added % of coverage information to county break down report in the grid based interference study.

Build 35, added Akima interpolation option for contour display.

Added US/CA Expanded Band Agreement sky wave model. This model is basically the same as the Region2 (standard US/CA agreement) curves but has a constant SWFF for 0 to 200 km (as indicated in the expanded band agreement).

Added an option to the Conductivity Report to only show conductivity out to the distance-to-contour (as opposed to only the maximum search distance).