

NPR Labs Update

- Kyle Evans

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Research Work - NIDRR

“Each [service] has its own points – [The NFB] Newsline is very simple and is awesome for reading, [but] is not very good for archiving or retrieval. Radio Reading is good for grocery ads, but time shifting is not real convenient, you need to listen at a specific time. RFB and D [Reading for the Blind and Dyslexic] has lots of content but is awkward ... [and] their rules and procedures are not user friendly.”

NIDRR Research

- What do consumers want? Suggestions fell into six main categories:
 - Make the listening experience more individualized, portable and accessible (e.g., picking select articles from newspapers and magazines to read);
 - Have the ability to record/download broadcasts for playback at a later time;
 - Create more universal, simpler interfaces to access the services;
 - Convert to digital service, in hopes of better audio quality;
 - Provide more books, magazines, and more choice of programming material in a timely manner, and;
 - Integrate emergency and weather-related announcements from both the local and national perspectives.

PAIS

- ❑ Personal Audio Information Service
 - ❑ A new mainstream system that will automatically assemble a selection of locally relevant, customized audio content from audio information service broadcasts
 - ❑ Combines the established framework of audio information services with the new programming flexibility afforded by HD Radio, creating a powerful on-demand media tool that will substantially improve media access for millions of visual and print impaired American consumers.

Labs Work - Charting the System

- ❑ NPR Labs.org
 - ❑ Online Contact Database
 - ❑ Station Database
 - ❑ Project work

Online Contact Database

- ❑ Opt-In
- ❑ Downloadable
- ❑ Functionality proportional to user-base
- ❑ Launches early May

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Station Database

- A tool for public radio stations and NPR Labs that allows the access and query of an aggregation of public radio technical and regulatory information



Data Organization Scheme

- ❑ Five broad categories:
 - ❑ General Station Information
 - ❑ Station Technical Data
 - ❑ Station Operations
 - ❑ IBOC DAB
 - ❑ Disaster Readiness

General Station Information

- Contact information
- Broad station concerns

General Station Information			
<i>Field Name</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Editable</i>
Call Sign			
Frequency	FCC	Int	No
Service	FCC	Bool	No
Licensee Name	FCC	Str	No
Licensee Type	MPS	Str	No
City	FCC	Str	No
State	FCC	Str	No
Country	FCC	Str	No
Member Status	CPB	Bool	Yes
Primary Contact Mailing Address	New	Str	Yes
Primary Contact Shipping Address	New	Str	Yes
Primary Contact Phone	New	Int	Yes
Primary Contact Fax	New	Int	Yes
Primary Contact E-Mail	New	Str	Yes
Secondary Contact Mailing Address	New	Str	Yes
Secondary Contact Shipping Address	New	Str	Yes
Secondary Contact Phone	New	Int	Yes
Secondary Contact Fax	New	Int	Yes
Secondary Contact E-Mail	New	Str	Yes
On-Air Date	CPB	Str	Yes
Membership Date	CPB	Str	Yes
Cong. Districts Covered	NPR Labs	Str	Yes

Station Technical Data

- Broad operational technical information

Station Technical Data			
<i>Field Name</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Editable</i>
Antenna Directionality	FCC	Bool	No
Directional Antenna ID Number	FCC	Int	No
Directional Antenna Pattern Rotation	FCC	Int	No
Antenna Structure Registration #	FCC	Int	No
Digital Latitude	FCC	Int	No
Digital Longitude	FCC	Int	No
ERP - Horizontally Polarized	FCC	Int	No
ERP - Vertically Polarized	FCC	Int	No
Facility ID Number	FCC	Int	No
File Number	FCC	Str	No
FM Status	FCC	Int	No
HAAT - Horizontal Polarization	FCC	Int	No
HAAT - Vertical Polarization	FCC	Int	No
RCAMSL - Horizontally Polarized	FCC	Int	No
RCAMSL - Vertically Polarized	FCC	Int	No
Station Channel	FCC	Int	No
Station Class	FCC	Int	No
Broadcast Mode	New	Int	Yes
Antenna Make	New	Str	No
Antenna Model	New	Str	No
Multiplexor Loss	New	Int	No

Station Operations

- Specific operational technical information

Station Operations			
Field Name	Source	Type	Editable
Auxiliary Licenses	New?	Mult	Yes
RRS?	NPR	Bool	Yes
<i>STL (950)</i>			
Channel	New	Int	Yes
Type (co, 950, 5.8, etc.)	New	Radio	Yes
If circuit based, what kind? (eq. pair, etc.)	New	Radio	Yes
Colocated?	New	Bool	Yes
Specific Frequency	New	Int	Yes
Emission Designator	New	?	Yes
Make/Model	New	Str	Yes
<i>RPU (450)</i>			
Channel	New	Int	Yes
Emission Designator	New	?	Yes
Make/Model	New	Str	Yes
<i>Translators</i>			
Input Frequency	CPB	Int	Yes
Licensee	New	Str	Yes
Method (Rebroadcast, satellite, etc.)	New	Radio	Yes
Distance to repeated station & bearing	New	Int	Yes
Output frequency	New	Int	Yes
Directional antenna power	New	Int	Yes
Transmitter Output Power	New	Int	Yes
Make/Model	New	Str	Yes
Callsign of station being repeated	New	Str	Yes
Repeat IBOC DAB?	New	Bool	Yes
<i>RBDS</i>			
Injection	New	Int	Yes
<i>SCA</i>			
Frequency	New	Int	Yes
Injection	New	Int	Yes
Modulation Type (FM, digital)	New	Bool	Yes
Leased or sponsored?	New	Bool	Yes
SCA Generator Make	New	Str	Yes
SCA Generator Model	New	Str	Yes
<i>Boosters</i>			

IBOC DAB

- All things HD Radio
 - Regulatory
 - Technical

IBOC DAB			
<i>Field Name</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Editable</i>
IBOC License	New	Bool	Yes
IBOC Status	New	Bool	Yes
MC Status	New	Bool	Yes
Digital Transmitter Power Output	New	Int	Yes
Digital Combiner Loss	New	Int	Yes
IBOC Transmitter Brand	New	Str	Yes
Using Exgine architecture?	New	Bool	Yes
Bitrate/channel	New	?	Yes
STL/channel	New	?	Yes
Audio Processing/Channel	New	?	Yes
Make/Model	New	Str	Yes
Importer Location	New	Radio	Yes
Combining Type (high, low, split, etc.)	New	Bool	Yes

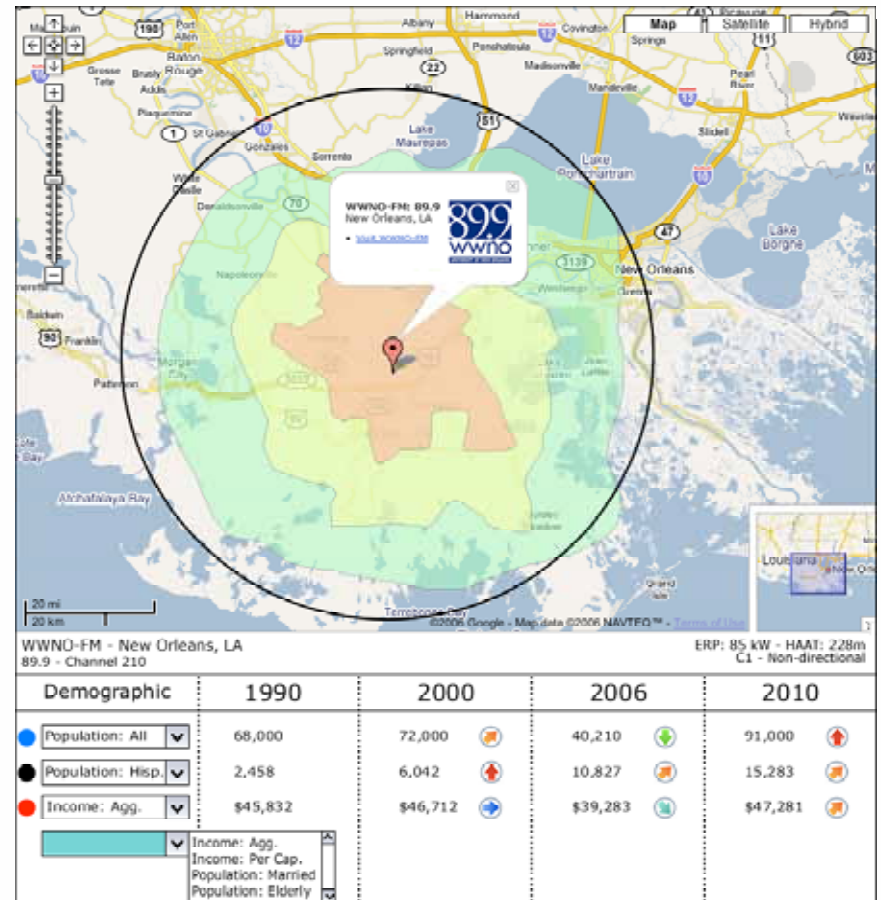
Disaster Readiness

- Adaptation of MSRC Survey

Disaster Readiness			
Field Name	Source	Type	Editable
<i>Contact Names</i>			
Contact Phones - Chief Op./Station H	New	Int	Yes
24 hour contact number	New	Int	Yes
<i>Disaster Recovery Plan</i>			
Do you have a disaster recovery plan?	New	Bool	Yes
Is the plan periodically reviewed and up	New	Bool	Yes
Is the plan periodically tested and rehea	New	Bool	Yes
Does a backup studio exist at an offsite	New	Bool	Yes
<i>Backup Power</i>			
For Studio Facility	New	Bool	Yes
For Transmission Facility	New	Bool	Yes
For Backup studio facility	New	Bool	Yes
For Backup transmission facility	New	Bool	Yes
Can Backup power operate long enough	New	Bool	Yes
Is backup power automatically activated	New	Bool	Yes
Are backup systems routinely tested und	New	Bool	Yes
Once a year is backup power tested whe	New	Bool	Yes
<i>Security</i>			
Are protocols sufficient to prevent unau	New	Bool	Yes
<i>Emergency News & Information</i>			
Agreement to carry emergency news fro	New	Bool	Yes
Alternate plan to get news on the air?	New	Bool	Yes
Can EAS alerts be received and rebroad	New	Bool	Yes
<i>Backup Transmission Facilities</i>			
Backup transmitter and antenna availab	New	Bool	Yes
Backup sites geographically diverse fro	New	Bool	Yes
Backup trans and antenna provide metr	New	Bool	Yes
<i>Redundant Signal Routes</i>			
Backup signal path to the primary trans	New	Bool	Yes
Backup signal path to the backup trans	New	Bool	Yes
Do redundant paths include diverse tec	New	Bool	Yes
Aux TV/Radio tuners that can be used	New	Bool	Yes
Is an RPU system available for remote	New	Bool	Yes
Can the RPU signal be received at the	New	Bool	Yes

Project Work - DRCIA & PTFP

- ❑ Software collaborations with the ITS
 - ❑ Interference prediction
 - ❑ Flexible demographic selection
 - ❑ Online access for dynamic map creation



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