

1 Ur-kintronic
2 RW, BG Dec. 15

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4 Standing head
5 User report

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12 stations switched over to the new equipment at full power. The only
13 adjustment: moving one tap on a coil to eliminate a small amount of
14 reflected power to our solid-state transmitter.

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16 Hed:

17 Kintronic Keeps WBIS On Air

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19 Sum Hed:

20 *Diplexer Enables Business Radio to Room*
21 *With Full-Time Host Nearby After Lease*
22 *Ends*

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24 by James Weitzman
25 President
26 New World Radio

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28 ANNAPOLIS, Md. It was every broadcaster's nightmare — a certified
29 letter bearing our landlord's return address. Its message: "Your lease is up.
30 Vacate the transmitter site."

31 In a matter of weeks the bulldozers would be coming, but our planned
32 relocation to a new community had been delayed by various contractual
33 and regulatory issues. Unless we could quickly build out new studios and
34 antennas at a temporary site, our station would go silent.

35 The Baltimore/Annapolis market's WBIS(AM) Business Radio 1190
36 broadcasts only business and financial news. With a 10,000-watt
37 transmitting signal at 1190 kHz on the AM dial, it reaches from
38 Washington, D.C., to the Eastern Shore, south to Virginia Beach and north
39 as far as Wilmington, Del.

40 My 30 years of lawyering for literally hundreds of radio stations, coupled
41 with our company's experience in operating two other high-power major-
42 market AMs, gave me the solution: find a nearby transmitter site to share
43 temporarily until our new facility was ready.

44 The choices were few — several area stations that seemingly had no
45 particular interest in keeping us on the air. Of these stations, two seemed
46 to hold the most promise. The first was a flea-power facility with aged,
47 compromised ground radials, a neglected transmission system and part-
48 time management. Quick field measurements confirmed our impressions
49 of a significantly degraded radiation efficiency — in short, an engineering
50 disaster-in-waiting.

51 The second choice, however, was a full-service full-timer with good
52 facilities and 1/4+ wavelength towers at our frequency. Perfect! The
53 question was, would they let us come aboard?

54
55 Business as usual

56 Fortunately for us, the general manager was a seasoned broadcast veteran
57 and businessman, whose firm grasp of the technical principles of a diplex
58 and whose graciousness in extending a hand to a fellow broadcaster
59 recalled the kinds of relationships and camaraderie common in our
60 industry in an earlier pre-consolidation era.

61 His only conditions were a transparent technical setup and minimal
62 downtime during installation.

63 My second call was intuitive — to **Kintronic Labs** in Bluff City, Tenn.
64 During my many years representing countless AM stations in markets
65 from Punxsutawney to New York, I'd worked with virtually every major
66 manufacturer of RF broadcast equipment and most major consulting
67 engineering firms. Unique among these is Kintronic, as the company's
68 steadfast devotion to quality and responsive customer service has earned it
69 a hallowed position in the industry.

70 To meet our host station's conditions, and thereby avert dead air on our
71 frequency, we needed ATUs and pass-reject networks that would: (1) be
72 well-designed, electrically stable and mechanically robust; (2) fit within
73 restricted-space tuning houses; (3) perfectly match the host station driving
74 and feedline impedances; and (4) exhibit high isolation between stations
75 and flat response across each station's respective bandwidth.

76 Additionally, we needed them to arrive on time precisely on the day
77 when engineers, field crews and riggers were scheduled to do the install;
78 and work flawlessly out of the crate, with no or minimal adjustment, to
79 facilitate a quick problem-free installation.

80 Kintronic met our challenge in every respect.

81 In the planning stages, longtime President Tom King and his engineers
82 worked with us to collaborate on the proposed physical and technical
83 layout, and to check and double-check the electrical operating constants of
84 the host station's then-transmission system, in order to perfect the design.

85 During this process, in the interest of promoting ease of installation and
86 minimal downtime, we decided to replace the host's ATUs, and
87 incorporate that circuitry into the Kintronic equipment. Everything would
88 be matched, pretuned and tested at the factory before shipment and set
89 into position upon delivery.

90 Kintronic's truck from Tennessee arrived 12 hours early. The driver,
91 offered a hotel room, insisted on sleeping with the load so he could keep
92 an eye on it. The packing and crating of the equipment would have
93 qualified for air or sea shipment.

94 Once unloaded and unpacked, the physical dimensions of the enclosures
95 manufactured by Kintronic were correct to the inch, and they fit into the
96 designated spaces. The circuitry, components, layout, connections and
97 ease of access were described in superlatives by the engineers on site.

98 After the connections were made to the towers and transmitters, both
99 stations switched over to the new equipment at full power. The only
100 adjustment necessary was to move one tap on a coil to eliminate a small
101 amount of reflected power to our solid-state transmitter.

102 Both stations sound better than before the consolidation of the two sites,
103 and enjoy stable operation. Three days after our move, the towers at our
104 old site came crashing to the ground as we handed over the keys to the
105 landlord. But WBIS was still "standing," thanks to Kintronic Labs.

106 *For more information, including pricing, contact Kintronic Labs in*
107 *Tennessee at (423) 878-3141 or visit www.kintronic.com.*

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