



**For Release 4:00 p.m.
October 1, 2003**

ERI Announces First Dual Input Side Mount FM Antenna Designed for IBOC Operation

Chandler, Indiana – October 1, 2003 – Electronics Research has completed a working prototype of a dual input side mounted FM antenna designed specifically for FM IBOC applications. This new antenna is capable of transmitting both the analog and digital FM signals without requiring a high loss hybrid combiner or the use of a circulator to attain the required isolation between the digital and analog transmitters. The design meets the current Federal Communications Commission requirement for informal notification of IBOC implementation requiring that all the elements in an FM antenna array be excited by both the digital and analog FM signals.

While specific details of how the antenna is implemented were not given, Tom Silliman, ERI's President and CEO, characterized the antenna as follows:

- The antenna is a true dual input antenna that excites all radiating elements with both analog and digital signals in compliance with the existing FCC IBOC Notification Procedures.
- Allows the use of a single antenna while eliminating the combining loss as is present in the 10-dB hybrid combining method.
- Able to achieve 1.05:1 VSWR for both analog and digital inputs
- Able to achieve in excess of 30-dB isolation between analog and digital inputs without using an isolator/circulator – no analog signal lost to circulator reject load and no additional insertion loss from circulator.



- Since the same elements are used for both analog and digital signals, both formats have the same horizontal and vertical patterns and therefore the same gain.

Silliman said “We have been focused on developing the optimum antenna solution for simulcasting the FM IBOC signal. We believe that this new product represents the ideal solution for many FM stations”.

A beta test is now being planned for a Greater Media facility. Milford Smith, Vice President of Engineering for Greater Media, says, "Over the years, Greater Media has worked closely with ERI to provide test sites for several antenna products that were leading edge for their time. This new antenna could prove to be the 'Holy Grail' that FM digital radio has been waiting for."

ERI expects production models of the new antenna to be available by the second quarter of 2004.

About ERI

Electronics Research is an engineering-oriented company that has manufactured state-of-the-art commercial and telecommunications broadcast products since 1943. From our 145,000-square-foot facility in Chandler, Indiana, we offer innovative engineering, meticulous fabrication and unsurpassed customer satisfaction. Attention to these details makes ERI the standard by which others in the industry are measured.

ERI Products and Services include:

- Television Broadcast Antennas
- iBOX™ digital radio systems
- Single and multi-station FM antennas



- Filters and combiners
- Grounding and lightning protection products
- Guyed and self-supporting towers
- Turnkey installation services
- After-sales maintenance and inspection services
- Structural analysis on towers regardless of tower origin
- Tower reinforcement regardless of tower origin
- Tower rescue and repair assistance

#####

For more information:

Bill Harland

Telephone: +1 (812) 925-6000, Ext. 214

E-mail: bharland@eriinc.com

For more information on Electronics Research:

<http://www.eriinc.com/>