

Andy Funk, CPBE[®]

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Emmy[™]–award–winning television news technical professional.

Experience

Technical Production Manager, *The Weather Channel*, Atlanta March 2014 to Present

Primarily responsible for *Wake Up With Al*, I coordinate technical requirements prior to air, then manage them from the control room. Book uplink and fiber connections, assign IFB and PL, route feeds, and coordinate remotes, assuring technical quality and readiness for air. Maintain internal website of webcams that are cleared for air. Operate Video Acquisitions Center, as needed.

Senior Video Acquisition Coordinator, *The Weather Channel*, Atlanta 2009 to March 2014

Weekend and relief Technical Production Manager. Booked uplinks and fiber connections. Satellite, fiber and IP transmission, QC, and ingest. Developed new, and improved existing workflows and procedures relating to video acquisition and handling live remotes.

Technical Manager (freelance), *FOX News Channel*, New York 2008 to 2009

Supervised control room and studio technical personnel. Coordinated technical and logistical requirements prior to air, especially live remotes, then managed them from the control room. Maintained technical quality of assigned broadcasts.

News Operations Manager, *KTRK-TV (ABC)*, Houston 2006 to 2008

Implemented non-linear field editing. Converted field acquisition from videotape to digital disc. Changed from engineers to photographers operating ENG vans – with no mast accidents. Retrofitted all existing ENG vans for easier operation, and designed new ENG and automated SNG vans for photographer operation. Converted ENG operation from analog to digital transmission. Implemented computer-based fleet management.

Technical and operational problem-solving, on deadline, often remotely via telephone. Supervised maintenance of technical equipment and fleet vehicles.

Found and evaluated new technologies to add capabilities, improve performance and increase productivity and, when possible, save money. Continually reviewed and updated operations and safety procedures. Determined need for and purchased equipment and supplies. Capital and operations budgeting. Implemented computer-based fleet management.

Technical planning and implementation of special event, routine, and breaking news coverage.

News Operations Supervisor, *WAGA-TV (FOX)*, Atlanta 1995 to 2006

Working closely with news managers, producers, assignment editors, and engineers, handled technical planning and implementation of special event, routine and breaking news coverage.

“Ambassador and translator” between news and engineering departments.

Designed news technical systems, determined requirements and purchased equipment, installed new systems and trained staff in their use. Participated in capital budgeting. Hands-

on operation of ENG Receive and coordination of feeds and live shots. TPM and transmission for complex remotes, including live parade coverage with 24 cameras from ten remote ground locations and two helicopters. Solved technical and operational problems, on deadline, often remotely via telephone.

Managed iNews newsroom computer system. Created and maintained station intranet. Created pages for fox5atlanta.com web site, including first live, automatically tabulated election results in market. Computer support for news department. Created ENG safety procedures, later adopted by several station groups and individual stations. Created and maintained station intranet.

Assisted with news copy, story research, engineering, and non-news production.

Four Emmy™ awards for technical achievement, four Emmy™ awards for best newscast.

ENG Editor / News Technician, WCBS-TV (CBS), New York 1984 to 1995

Supervision of news edit, microwave receive, and playback areas and staff; ENG receive and remote coordination; editing of news and sports video under tight deadlines.

Activities

Frequency Coordinator for Georgia, Society of Broadcast Engineers 2000 to 2006

Assisted local and visiting broadcasters requiring broadcast auxiliary microwave spectrum for special events, news gathering, intercity relay, and other uses by facilitating inter-licensee communications and assisting with selection of frequencies and technical parameters.

Webmaster, Atlanta Section, Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers 1997 to 2006

Maintained presence on the Internet, including web site and electronic mailing list, for regional section of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers.

Technical Producer, Atlanta Press Club "Gorilla Ball" 1996 to 1998

Planned, implemented, and operated audio/visual and videotape playback system for this annual celebration as a member of the event committee.

Atlanta Olympic Broadcast Frequency Coordination Committee 1995 to 1996

Represented the interests of local television broadcasters as member of this committee responsible for all broadcast-related frequency coordination for the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Certifications and Training

Certified Professional Broadcast Engineer®, Society of Broadcast Engineers

FCC General Radiotelephone Operator License with Ship Radar endorsement

Accredited Frequency Coordinator, Society of Broadcast Engineers

Managerial Skills, American Management Association, Atlanta

Supervising Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers, American Trucking Association, Atlanta

Sony Broadcast Equipment Maintenance

Television Lighting, Imero Fiorentino Associates, Providence, RI

Emergency Management Institute Certifications, several courses, FEMA
Advanced Database Programming, Clarion Software, New York
FCC Amateur Extra Class License

Awards

- Emmy™ Award:** Outstanding Achievement: Television Special Achievement Excellence – Technical Achievement (“Peachtree Road Race”), Southeast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 2006
- Emmy™ Nominee:** Outstanding Achievement: Television News Programming Excellence – Daily Newscast (“FOX5 News at 6:00”), Southeast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 2006
- Emmy™ Award:** Outstanding Achievement: Television News Excellence – Daily Newscast (“FOX5 News at 10”), Southeast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 2005
- Emmy™ Award:** Outstanding Achievement: Television News Excellence – Daily Newscast (“FOX5 News at 10”), Southeast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 2004
- Emmy™ Award:** Outstanding Achievement: Television News Excellence – Daily Newscast (“FOX5 News at 6”), Southeast Chapter of the National Television Academy, 2003
- Emmy™ Award:** Outstanding Technical or Engineering Achievement (“RunnerCam”), Atlanta Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 2002
- Emmy™ Award:** Outstanding Television Daily Newscast (“FOX5 News”), Atlanta Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 2002
- Emmy™ Award:** Outstanding Technical or Engineering Achievement (“RunnerCam”), Atlanta Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 2001
- Emmy™ Nominee:** Outstanding Television Daily Newscast (“FOX5 News”), Atlanta Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 2001
- Emmy™ Award:** Outstanding Technical Achievement (“RunnerCam”), Atlanta Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 2000
- Emmy™ Nominee:** Outstanding News Special or Continuous Coverage (“Buckhead Mass Murder”), Atlanta Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 2000
- Emmy™ Nominee:** Outstanding Coverage of an Instant Breaking News Story (“World Trade Center Bombing”), New York Chapter, National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 1993

Publications

- “Advice From: Andy Funk”. *The Publicity Hound* (Joan Stewart Public Relations) Issue 21, July/August 2001: p 8. PR tips in question–and–answer format.
- “Getting Stories On Local TV News”. Public Relations Tips from the Professionals section, American Radio Relay League web site, 1999: <<http://www.arrl.org/local-tv-news>>. Public relations tips geared for amateur radio, but applicable to other organizations.
- “How a Newsroom Intranet Helps the Whole Staff”. *Wired Journalist: Newsroom Guide to the Internet*, Third Edition (Radio and Television News Directors Foundation) 1999: pp. 40–42. Describes the benefits of a newsroom intranet, and how to set one up. Note that this was written in 1999, well before most companies considered intranets.
- “The Rise in ENG Tragedies” (contributor). *Television Broadcast* (Miller Freeman) Vol. 20 Issue 10, Oct. 1997: p. 52. Contributor to this article describing Electronic News Gathering (ENG)

accidents and safety practices to prevent them.

“On Remotes, Look Up And Live”. *Radio World* [IMAS Publishing (USA) Inc.] Vol. 21 No. 9, April 30, 1997: pp. 29–30; also on Internet: <<http://andyfunk.org/professional-info/rw-article.html>>. Describes and encourages safety practices to prevent antenna mast accidents when operating radio and television remote broadcast vehicle.

“Microwave ENG Safety and Operations Guidelines”. *Internet World Wide Web* (FOX5 Atlanta WAGA-TV) 1996–9: <<http://fox5atlanta.com/ENG/>> (Removed from Internet by Fox in 1999) Suggested safety practices to prevent antenna mast accidents when operating Electronic News Gathering (ENG) vehicles. Incorporated in whole or in part in Viacom/CBS, Fox Television Stations, and other station and station group safety policies, and cited by the government of Canada.

“Intro to Packet Radio”. *Connect Magazine* (Pegasus Press) Vol. 1 No. 1, May/June 1993: pp. 44–47. Before BlackBerrys and other commercial mobile data existed, amateur “ham” radio operators experimented with radio data transmission – in fact, we operated an international email network over ham radio before most people knew about email, let alone email via radio (BlackBerrys, smartphones, etc.). This in an introductory article describing how this was done, and encouraging others to give it a try.

“ROSE X.25 Packet Networks”. *QST* (American Radio Relay League) August 1992: p. 74; September 1992: p.114. In 1992 I wrote a description of amateur radio digital communications networks based upon the ROSE X.25 Packet Switch that was published as the August and September "Packet Perspective" columns in QST magazine.

Technical papers on wireless digital (packet radio) communications. Proceedings of the 8, 9 & 11th ARRL Computer Networking Conferences (American Radio Relay League) 1989, 91, 92. Several papers discussing the then-developing amateur radio wireless data network.

Professional Affiliations

Society of Broadcast Engineers

Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers