

# **Harmonic's Position Statement on the Enhanced 8-VSB Ballot**

(Formally "Proposed Standard A/53C Amendment 3")

Harmonic has technical concerns regarding the potential changes to a user's Compression System (encoders and multiplexers), along with the yet-to-be defined necessary signaling to permit coordination of the E-VSB exciter to the Compression System upon E-VSB service changes.

Harmonic's position is also predicated by this proposal being balloted as a "Proposed Standard", rather than having first become a "Candidate Standard", along with other current Candidate Standards CS/T3-606, CS/T3-608, CS/T3-609 and CS/T3-613. This would have permitted appropriate trial systems by independent parties, validating any major technical issues that may or may not be resolved by current documentation. Harmonic also advocates caution when considering changes in the ATSC Standards to permit including non-MPEG-2 video compression at this time.

Harmonic wishes to clearly state that we are not against E-VSB per se. We wish to be able, along with the rest of the ATSC membership, to evaluate it as a complete system, rather than an isolated change to A/53 Annex D. As a result, Harmonic intends to abstain at this time, recommending that the E-VSB Proposed Standard be returned to T3S9 for further refinement (as proposed by others at the most recent T3 meeting), and then be elevated by T3 to a Candidate Standard along with its peers for appropriate review and trials.