

# *The* Bendix E-Beam

*News from the Bendix Radio Foundation  
working for the Preservation and Presentation of the History of  
the Bendix Radio Division and Bendix/AlliedSignal Communications Division.*

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## Issue Number 25 – March 11, 2016

We, the BRF volunteers, would like to express our deepest thanks for your continuing support of the BRF's efforts to document the history of the Bendix Radio Division and Bendix/AlliedSignal Communications Division. The major news in this issue covers, (1) Completion of the major BRF exhibit in the Museum and, (2) plans for a final full audit and update of the Collection for handoff to the museum.

### **Major BRF Objective of a Permanent BMI Exhibit Accomplished**.by *Bill Scott*

On October 1, 2010, a temporary BRF Exhibit documenting “*Bendix Radio / AlliedSignal – 60 Years in Baltimore*” was opened in the BMI's Communications Gallery. BMI closed this exhibit in June 2015 after approximately 5 years on display. The Home Radio display cabinet and the other physical artifacts from this exhibit remain on the floor of the BMI's Communications Gallery for everyone to enjoy.

BRF/BMI has replaced the two *Allied Chemical* panels in the main Decker Gallery area with a permanent *Bendix Radio* Exhibit, in the BMI Decker Gallery, opened August 2014 summarizing the history and “Technology Firsts” of *Bendix Radio* in the Baltimore area. Our sixteen year presence at the BMI always had the goal of a permanent Bendix Exhibit in the main Decker Gallery. Your strong financial past support has allowed BRF to achieve that goal of a permanent first-class Exhibit we all can be proud of. With your tax deductible contribution to the BMI through our BRF organization we can continue to present the best image of *Bendix Radio* in Baltimore on a par with – if not better than – the other Baltimore organizations in the gallery.

### **BRF Archival Facilities Relocated** .....by *Bill Scott*

During the months of November and December 2015 continuing into 2016, the BRF Archival Facilities were moved from 1414 Key Highway to 1919A Annapolis Rd. warehouse. This was part of the total movement of the BMI Archival Storage facility to this new location. In preparation for the move, we identified our items, took photos, packaged and boxed items, made layouts of the new room and the contents of each storage rack, and oversaw the actual movement activity. The move took place on December 17, 18 and 21 of 2015. In January we finalized the placement of each archival item to its new location in the BRF Archival Room. We gained a few square feet of floor space and went from a rectangle to a square room arrangement. Reference the layout and photos on the last pages of this E-Beam. We are very pleased and satisfied with our new location. This warehouse now contains the BMI and BRF archival storage in one location.

## **Employee Names Database.....by Ken Kidd**

The Employee Names Database includes the names of employees of the Bendix Radio/Communications Division/AlliedSignal Communications from the formation in 1937 to the sale of the division to Raytheon on September 10, 1998. In addition to the names, it contains various bits of information that is available in the different source documents including department number, ID number, hire date, retirement date, job title, personal items, etc., etc. At present the database has approximately 45,000 lines of data. Often, multiple lines apply to one person.

## **Collection Status.....by Bill Mackey**

The BRF Collection is nearing completion of the updating and validation phase prior to turning the Collection over to BMI. The Excel Database provides easy entry and with the BRF designed macro provides easy search capability. This Excel Database is available on the BRF DB computer located at the BMI facilities. Every entry includes the unique location of that entry within the BRF Archive located at 1919A Annapolis Rd. BRF will provide the same Excel data files in our new Website for everyone to search from home (see below). All items in the collection are accessible by contacting the BMI Director of Collections at 410.727.4808.

## **Bendix Drawing Report.....by Ron Sacker**

By the year 2009 the Bendix Foundation had obtained over 4000 drawings, mostly from the former Towson Bendix facilities. After a detailed review of each drawing, 2800 were deemed relevant and added to the BRF Archive. We particularly chose many drawings from the early days of the division in order to learn about product development from that era. Drawings from as early as 1936 by Radio Research Corp. were found. Many drawings of Bendix's radio, intercom and direction finder installations in WWII aircraft along with drawings of early Radar work were also found. The title blocks of the drawings provided equipment names, "used -on" information, and employee names and dates. This data was entered onto worksheets and then "keyed-in" to the BRF computer database in order to be searchable via keywords that identified the drawing and its location. All relevant original drawings were reviewed, retained and archived after the data gleaning process was completed. Many thanks go to the hard work of the BRF volunteers (Bill Stotz, George Walter, Len Bosse, Ron Sacker and Guil Vogt).

## **Web Site Activity.....by Bill Mackey**

Now that the BRF is nearing completion of the validation of our Collection we have established a site layout for our new Website. Over the next 3 to 4 months you will see the progression of the new changes and additions as each new section is finalized. This information is identical to the BRF Database contained in the BRF Database computer located at the BMI. The only variation is the structure of the Search engine included with each. Some of the major new additions are:

- Over 40,000 personnel entries
- Detail listing for each photograph with personnel names
- Data from several thousand drawings
- Several new large collections
- Archival Excel Database listings with search capability.

**BRF Archival Collection.....by Angelo DelNegro, et al**

A listing, presented here, identifies the various quantities of items within the BRF Archival Collection Database. As new items, documents, etc. are received they will be added to the collection. It is from this collection that artifacts, photos, and technical text was formulated for the permanent Bendix Radio Exhibit in the BMI Decker Gallery.

<b><u>BRF ARCHIVAL COLLECTION</u></b>	
674.....	Artifacts (and Photographed)
150.....	Print File Boxes
.....	292,000 ....Sheets
.....	2,680 ....Folders
75.....	Titled Periodicals
.....	1,250 ....Issues
79.....	Audio Visual File Boxes
.....	30,000 ....Negatives
.....	5,000 ....Pictures
.....	3,500 ....Slides
.....	100 ....Large Motion Picture Reels
.....	44 ....Video Tapes
190,000.....	Drawing Release Cards
2,800.....	Drawings
72,500.....	Aperture Cards
15,000.....	Engineer's Log Book Issue Cards
20.....	Photo Albums 2.5" Thick
.....	2,500 ....Pictures
60,000.....	Microfiche Cards
45,000.....	Employee Records
924.....	Manufacturing Specs
1,123.....	Purchasing Specs

**BRF and BMI Joint Membership.....by Bill Scott**

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We are looking forward to your continued support of the BRF through yearly BRF/BMI membership and your donations for the new, permanent Bendix Radio Exhibit in the Decker Gallery. The 2015 BRF and BMI Joint Membership totaled 88 members: 40 Household Family Memberships and 48 Individual Senior Memberships plus an additional 27 persons who made monetary donations. For the previous 2014 year, the membership totaled 94 members. Please keep us informed of any address or email changes.

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