

W R T A



REMOVABLE LABEL GUIDE

Cat. No. 4550L

Patent No. 1390199

B S 1702

# BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed 8-22-47

Call letters WRTA  
LOCATION: ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

ALTOONA TRANS-AUDIO CORPORATION, INC. (AL 3-21-56 EFF: 4-1-56)

Name of licensee x ROY F. THOMPSON tr/as THOMPSON BROADCASTING COMPANY

Transmitter location x1421 - 12th Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania (CP & MP 3-25-47)(Lic. 8-22-47)  
26th Street between 13th Ave. and 14th Ave., Altoona, Pa. (CP 2-12-57)  
(Lic. 5-8-57)

1417-19 Twelfth Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania (LETTER - 12-3-81)

X Penn-Alto Hotel, 1420 - 12th Ave., Altoona, Pa. (BL 5-8-57)

x Penn-Alto Hotel, 12th St. & 13th Ave., Altoona, Pa. (ltr. 11, 21, 56)

Main studio location x1421 - 12th Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania (CP & MP 3-25-47)(Lic. 8-22-47)

R.C.

# CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From - To
2-P-3703	8-28-46	1240	250w	U	
	Order issued - CP for new station granted subject to filing MP for T site and antenna (Conditional Clause)				
B2-P-3703 BMP-2289	3-25-47	1240kc	250w	U	5-25 11-25-47
	Mod. of C.P. (3703) for approval of antenna and transmitter & studio site (Conditional)				
BL-2512 BZ-2331	8-22-47	1240	250w	U	8-22 8-1-49
	Lic. to cover CP (3703 as mod.) for a new station and determine operating power by direct method. (Condl.)				
BR-1702	7-27-49	1240	250	U	8-1 8-1-52
E-7643	6-13-50	1240	250w	U	8-13 8-13-51
	To install new antenna (COND. CLAUSE)				
R-1702	7-7-49	Modified lighting spec. changing from A-3-a to short diameter form.			
L-4355	3-6-51	1240	250w	U	3-6 8-1-52
	Lic. to cover CP (7643) which auth. new transmitter (CONDL. CLAUSE)				
R-1702	7-2-52	1240kc	250w	Un(ConClse)	8-1-52 8-1-54
BR-1702	7-14-54	RENEWAL OF LICENSE			8-1 8-1-57
AL-2254 EFF:	3-21-56 4-1-56	Vol. assignment of license to Altoona Trans-Audio Corporation, Inc.			
RC-1055	11-30-56	Modification of license to operate transmitter by remote control from 1420 - 12th Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania			
BP-11064	2-12-57	1240kc	250w	Un	4-12 10-12-57
	CP to change antenna-transmitter location and make changes in antenna system.				
BL-6613	5-8-57	1240kc	250w	Un	5-8 8-1-57
	Lic. to cover CP (11,064) to change antenna-transmitter location and make changes in antenna system. (Cond'l Clause)				
BR-1702	7-18-57	RENEWAL OF LICENSE			8-1 8-1-60
EP-11548	9-25-57	1240kc	250w	Auxiliary	11-25 5-25-58
	Construction permit to install new trans. as an Auxiliary Trans. (page as for Main)				

June 1954

# BROADCASTING STATION LICENSE RECORD

Date first licensed .....

Call letters W.R.T.A.

Name of licensee See Card #1

Transmitter location .....

Main studio location .....

# CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AND LICENSE RECORD

Appl. No.	Date Issued	Freq.	Power	Time Div.	Period From- To-
BL-6926	2-5-58	1240kc	250w	Aux.	2-5 8-1-60
		License to cover CP(BP-11,548) which authorized installation of a new transmitter (W.E. 451A-1) as an Auxiliary transmitter at present location of main transmitter and to be operated on 1240kc, 250w, for Auxiliary purposes only.			
BR-1702	7-7-60	Renewal of License			8-1 8-1-63
BP-12973	9-5-61	1240kc	250w, 1kw	LS U	11-5 5-5-62
		CP to increase daytime power to 1kw and install a new transmitter (GATES BC-1T) (Cond'1)			
BMP-9847 (1)	11-2-61	Mod. of CP(BP-12973) to Change type trans. to Type Bauer-707			
BL-9090	5-8-62	1240kc	250w, 1kw	U	5-8-62 8-1-63
		License to cover CP(BP-12973, as mod.) which authorized incr. daytime power and install new transmitter. (Bauer, 707) (Cond'1)			
BR-1702	7-10-63	Renewal of license (Main)			8-1 8-1-66
BR-1702	7-29-66	RENEWAL OF LICENSE			8-1 8-1-69
BR-1702 (S)	7-24-69	RENEWAL			8-1-72
EBSA	5-22-72				
BR-1702(L)	9-22-72	RENEWAL			8-1-75
BS-1702(1)	11-10-72	Delete obstruction markings			8-1-75
APPL.	9-6-74	Main trans. CCA 1000-D			
BL-13,789					
BZ-8694(L)	12-23-74	Direct Measurement & Lic to use former main for aux.			8-1-75
BR-1702(S)	7-23-75	RENEWAL (MAIN & ALT.)			8-1-78
BZ-9607(L)	2-28-78	Direct Measurement (Alternate transmitters)			8-1-78
BR-1702(S)	7-12-78	RENEWAL (MAIN & ALT. MAIN)			8-1-81

\* Lic. not renewed

#3

# BROADCASTING STATION HISTORY RECORD

First licensed .....

Call Letters .....

Station Location .....

Name ..... SEE CARD ONE

Transmitter Location ..... SEE CARD ONE

Main studio location ..... SEE CARD ONE

## Authorization Record

File No.	Granted	Facilities	Expires
LETTER	<del>22-27-82</del> 12-3-81	SL & RC now Located at: 1417-19 Twelfth Avenue, Altoona, Penn.	

## APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call W R T A  
Letters XNEWName ROY F. THOMPSON, trading as THOMPSON BROADCASTING COMPANYP.O. 310 Pine Avenue,Altoona, Pa.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
B2-P-3703	9-15-44	C.P. for a new standard broadcast station to	DOCKET NO. 6698	
Rec'd	9-22-44	be operated on	Granted after a hearing	
Filed	9-22-44	Frequency - 1240 kc	Order B-260	8-28-46
		Power - 250 watts	Granted subject to filing	
		Hours - Unlimited time	MP for approval of T	
		Trans. & Studio - Site to be determined,	site and antenna.	
		Altoona, Pa.	and Conditional re	
		(Filed by Geo. Sutton) Lohnes & Culver, Engrs.	waiver 3.55(b) and 3.60	



COMPOSITE

## APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

#2

Call

Letters W R T AName ROY F. THOMPSON tr/aa THOMPSON BROADCASTING COMPANY.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
B2-MP-2289 Rec'd Filed	10-26-46 11-18-46 12-2-46	Mod. of C.P. (B2-P-3703, which authorized a new standard broadcast station) for approval of antenna and approval of transmitter and studio locations at 1421 12th Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania. (Filed by John H. Midlen, Atty.: Ronald H. Culver, Engr.)	GRANTED Conditional re waivers 3.55(b) and 3.60. The permittee must install & maintain at his expense any necessary filter circuit in the antenna system & in the antenna system of WFEG to prevent cross modulation between the 2 stations and to pre- vent the generation of sum & difference spurious radiations.	3-25-47

## APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

~~XXX~~ #3Call  
Letters W R T AName ROY F. THOMPSON tr/as THOMPSON BROADCASTING COMPANY

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BL-2512 Rec'd Filed	6-14-47	License to cover C.P.(B2-P-3703, as mod.,) which authorized a new standard broadcast station.  and Authority to determine operating power by direct measurement of antenna power.  (John H. Midlen, Atty.)	GRANTED	8-22-47
	6-16-47			re waivers 3.55(b) and
	6-16-47			3.60 and licensee must install & maintain at his expense filter circuits in antenna and in antenna system of Station WFPG to pre- vent cross modulation between the two stations and prevent generation of of sum and difference spurious radiations.
BZ-2331 Rec'd Filed	6-14-47	Authority to determine operating power by direct measurement of antenna power.  (John H. Midlen, Atty.)	GRANTED	8-22-47
	6-16-47			re waivers 3.55(b) and
	6-16-47			3.60 and licensee must install & maintain at his expense filter circuits in antenna and in antenna system of Station WFPG to pre- vent cross modulation between the two stations and prevent generation of of sum and difference spurious radiations.

## APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

XVI #4

Call  
Letters W.R.T.A.Name ROY F. THOMPSON tr/as THOMPSON BROADCASTING COMPANY

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BR-1702 Rec'd	5-28-49 5-31-49	Renewal of license.  (William Thomson, Atty.)	GRANTED	7-27-49
BP-7643 Rec'd Filed	4-27-50 5-1-50 5-1-50	Construction permit to install a new transmitter (W.E. 451A-1).  Counsel - None  John H. Midlen, Atty. per letter of 5-16-50.	GRANTED	8-18-50 re permittee must install & maintain necessary filter circuits in antenna sys. & in antenna system of WFBG to prevent cross-modulation & generation of sum & difference spurious radiations.

## APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

ALTOONA TRANS-AUDIO CORPORATION, INC. (AL 3-21-56)

Call  
Letters W R T AName x ROY F. THOMPSON tr/as THOMPSON BROADCASTING COMPANY

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BL-4355 Rec'd. Filed	2-7-51 2-9-51 2-9-51	License to cover construction permit (BP-7643) which authorized installation of a new transmitter.  John H. Midlen, Atty.	re/GRANTED	3-6-51 lic. must install & main- tain necessary filter circuits in antenna sys. & in antenna sys. of WFBC to prevent cross-mod.
BR-1702 Rec'd Filed	4-22-52 4-28-52 4-28-52	Renewal of License Filed by John H. Midlen, Atty.	GRANTED	7-2-52
BR-1702 Rec'd Filed	4-19-54 4-23-54 4-23-54	Renewal of License Filed by John H. Midlen, Atty.	Granted	7-14-54
BAL-2254 Rec'd Filed	2-18-56 2-23-56 2-23-56	Voluntary assignment of license from Roy F. Thompson tr/as Thompson Broadcasting Company to Altoona Trans-Audio Corporation, Inc.  E. Stratford Smith, Atty.	GRANTED EFF:	3-21-56 4-1-56

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call Letters WRTA

Name ALTOONA TRANS-AUDIO CORPORATION, INC.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BRC-1055 Rec'd Filed	11-27-56 11-29-56 11-29-56	Modification of license to operate transmitter by remote control from 1420 - 12th Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania  E. Stratford Smith, Atty.	GRANTED	11-30-56
BP-11,064 Rec'd Filed	1-29-57 1-31-57 1-31-57	Construction permit to change antenna-transmitter location from 1421 - 12th Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania, to 26th Street between 13th Avenue and 14th Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania and make changes in antenna system.  Vincent A. Pepper, Atty.	GRANTED	2-12-57
BL-6613 Rec'd Filed	4-16-57 4-16-57 4-16-57	License to cover Construction Permit Construction Permit BP-11,064 which authorized to change antenna-transmitter location to 26th Street between 13th Avenue and 14th Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania and make changes in antenna system. Atty: Vincent A. Pepper.	GRANTED	5-8-57 Lic. must install & maintain at his expense any necessary filter circuits in antenna sys. & in antenna sys. of WRTA to prevent cross-mod. & generation of sum & difference spurious radiations.

F. C. C. - WASHINGTON, D. C.  
Station now represented by Smith & Pepper, Atty.  
Let 4-18-57.

#7

FORM BC-121  
FORMERLY FORM A-170

## APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call  
Letters

WRTA

Name ALTOONA TRANS-AUDIO CORPORATION, INC.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BR-1702 Rec'd Filed	4-24-57 5-3-57 5-3-57	Renewal of license Vincent A. Pepper, Atty	GRANTED	7-18-57
BP-11,548 Rec'd Filed	9-6-57 9-13-57 9-13-57	Construction permit to install a new transmitter (W.E. 451A-1) as an Auxiliary transmitter at present location of main transmitter and to be operated on 1240kc, 250w for Auxiliary purposes only. Atty's: Smith & Pepper.	GRANTED	9-25-57
BL-6926 Rec'd Filed	11-14-57 11-21-57 11-21-57	License to cover construction permit (BP-11,548) which authorized installation of a new transmitter (W.E. 451A-1) as an Auxiliary transmitter at present location of main transmitter and to be operated on 1240kc, 250w, for Auxiliary purposes only.  Vincent A. Pepper, Atty.	GRANTED	2-5-58

FORM BC-121  
AUG. 1955 # 8

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call  
Letters W.R.T.A.

Name ALTOONA TRANS-AUDIO CORPORATION, INC.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BP-12,973 Rec'd Filed	3-26-59 4-1-59 4-1-59	Construction permit to increase daytime power from 250w to 1kw and install a new transmitter (Gates BC-1T) (Requests waiver of Sec.3.28(c) ) Atty.- Smith & Pepper Engr.- George C. Davis	GRANTED Cond'l re: Permittee shall accept such interf. Altoona Trans-Audio Corp., Inc. shall install appropriate filter circuits. After Hearing Docket No. 13135 Order Issued	9-5-61
BR-1702 Rec'd Filed	4-29-60 5-13-60 5-13-60	Renewal of License (MAIN & AUXILIARY)  Thomas G. Shack, Jr., Atty.	GRANTED	7-7-60



AUG. 1955

Call  
Letters .....Name Altoona Trans-Audio Corporation, Inc.  
Altoona, Penna.

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BP-9847 BAF	9-22-61 10-4-61	Mod of CP (BP-12973 which auth incr day power and install new trans) to change type trans (Bauer 707). Atty: Smith & Pepper	GRANTED	11-2-61
BL-9090 R. & F.	12-16-61 12-19-61	Lic to cover CP (BP-12,973 as mod) which auth. incr. in daytime power and installation of a new trans. ATTY* SMITH & PEPPER	GRANTED Cond'l:1)	5-8-62 accept interference from other 250w Class IV stations if granted incr. in power to 1 kw., 2) install & maintain filter circuits to minimize interactions with electric power distribution in trans. site
BR-1702 R & F	4-25-63 5-1-63	Renewal of license. (main) Atty: Smith & Pepper	GRANTED	7-10-63
BR-1702 R & F	3-24-66 3-24-66	Renewal of License Atty: Smith & C.C. - WASHINGTON, D. C. Pepper	GRANTED	7-29-66

FORM BC-121  
Aug. 1955

\$10

APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

Call  
Letters ..... W R T A .....

Name ALTOONA TRANS-AUDIO CORPORATION, INC.  
ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BR-1702 R & F #509382 \$75. PRESS MAY 5 1969	4-5-69 4-25-69 4-25-69	Renewal of License Atty.-Smith, Pepper, Shack & L'Heureux (Arthur V. Weinberg) AMENDED 7-1-69 re: commercial matter	GRANTED	7-24-69
BR-1702 R & F PN Recd. PRESS MAY 26 1972	4-3-72 5-3-72 " "	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Mark S. Fowler, Atty. (Smith & Pepper) AMENDED 7-26-72 re: employment policy AMENDED 8-9-72 re: employment policy AMENDED 9-11-72 re: employment practices	GRANTED	9-22-72
BL-13,789 R & F \$50#342456 PTA PRESS 7 DEC 1974	9-3-74 9-5-74 9-10-74 9-13-74	Lic. to use former Main trans. for Alternate Transmitter, BAUER 707  Atty: David Meyers (Smith & Pepper)	GRANTED issued with BZ-8694	12-23-74
BZ-8694 R & F DM PRESS 17 DEC 1974	9-3-74 9-5-74 9-13-74	Direct Measurement (Main Transmitter) Att: David Meyers (Smith & Pepper)	GRANTED issued with BL-13,789	12-23-74

#11

Form BC-121  
September 1969

## APPLICATION RECORD - BROADCASTING

1240 kc

8-47

Call  
Letters W R T AName ALTOONA TRANS-AUDIO CORPORATION, INC.  
ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

File No.	Dated	Application for	Action	
			Nature	Date
BR-1702 R & F PN Recd. PRESS	3-7-75 3-14-75 " <b>23 APR 1975</b>	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (MAIN & ALTERNATE TRANSMITTERS) Jas.L.Oyster,Atty.(Smith & Pepper)	GRANTED	7-23-75
BZ-9607 R & F DM PRESS	11-28-77 11-30-77 1-5-78 <b>FEB 23 1978</b>	Direct Measurement Atty: Robert J. Buenzle(Smith and Pepper)	GRANTED	2-28-78
BR-1702 R & F PRESS	2-28-78 3-31-78 <b>MAY 5 1978</b>	RENEWAL OF LICENSE (MAIN & ALTER. TRANSMITTERS) Jas.L.Oyster,Atty.	GRANTED	7-12-78

#12

## APPLICATION RECORD-BROADCASTING

Call Letters: WRTA

Name: ALTOONA TRANS-AUDIO CORPORATION, INC.

Station Location: ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

File No.	Date	Description	Action and Date
BR810327UN PRESS	MAY 6 198	RENEWAL OF LICENSE Atty. Robert J. Buenzle	GRANTED 7-7-81

RECORD OF APPLICATIONS REQUESTING FACILITIES OF BROADCASTING STATION WRTA

Licensee

File No.	Date	Call Letters	Name and Location of Applicant	Remarks	Disposition



## About the History Cards ...

History Cards were first used by the Department of Commerce to keep track of applications filed by, and changes to, the earliest AM broadcast stations in the early 1920s. The records were subsequently transferred to the Federal Radio Commission in 1927, and after that to the Federal Communications Commission when that agency was created in 1934. These cards gradually grew into a large card file. History Cards remained in use until the creation of the first computerized database in 1980 to track broadcast applications, the Broadcast Application Processing System (BAPS). However, the Commission did not transfer the data from the History Cards to the new system. Instead, it retained the History Cards in their original form – 3" by 5" filing cards – for reference.

In 1999, the Commission moved to a new location (445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW), and also at that time created the successor database to BAPS, the Consolidated DataBase System (CDBS). The History Cards were transferred to microfiche by a contractor (only a few sets of microfiche exist), and the original paper cards were destroyed. The History Cards were stored on the microfiche as negative images, like those you see above. Generally, they have been left as negatives as those are often easier to read.

History Cards contain very brief entries and notes about station facilities, applications, and ownership. They are not, and never were intended to be, a comprehensive record of a station's operations. Nevertheless, they can be useful to help determine, for example, when a station first went on the air and its call letters at that time. History Card comments were generally typed onto the cards, and thus some records will show more faintly or with more smudging than others, depending on the quality of typewriter and ribbon then used. Occasional handwritten comments, corrections, and strikeouts may also be found. Cards may be incomplete, missing, or occasionally out of sequence.

The History Cards are presented here as they were copied to microfiche, to preserve this record for public use, and with the hope that they will be of value to future researchers of radio station history.

