

# Radio World®

BUYER'S GUIDE

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USER REPORT

## Premiere Radio Expands With Telos

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**Premiere Radio Networks**  
**Sherman Oaks, Calif.**

Premiere Radio Networks is responsible for network programming at Clear Channel Communications and syndicates many national talk shows including Rush Limbaugh, Dr. Laura, Art Bell, Mike Reagan, Jim Rome, Dr. Dean Edell, and "The Group Room."

Premiere's live country programming roster includes "After Midnight," "Heart to Heart" and "Club Country Live." Premiere also provides 14 comedy networks. The combined talk and comedy networks total more than 6,000 non-duplicated affiliates across the United States.

These shows are produced in studios in Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco, Nashville, Florida and Medford, Ore. The majority of Premiere's live on-air telephone calls are done with **Telos** telephone hybrids.

Premiere's first telephone hybrid system was a Rood hybrid. In 1989 it was

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the best in the world and did its job reasonably well.

We purchased our first Telos hybrid, a model One-Plus-One, in 1992 when the corporate headquarters and L.A. studios were relocated from Hollywood to their

present location in Sherman Oaks, Calif. At that time, Premiere's only live programming was a 30-minute daily feed.

Telephone hybrid needs were for comedy production effects and for taped telephone interviews.

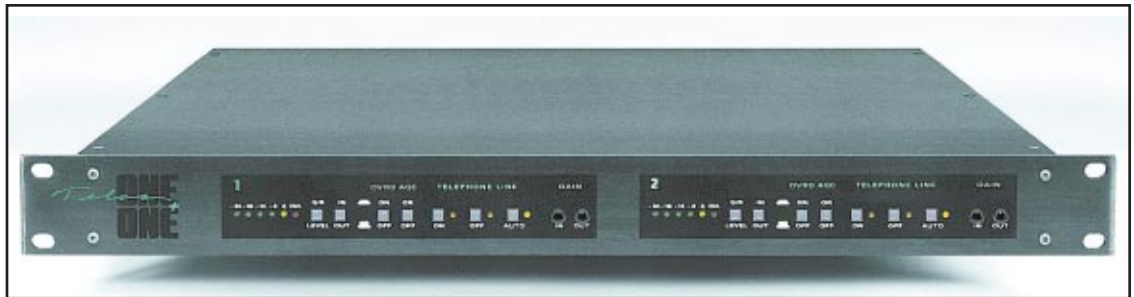
As we grew, the demands for telephone hybrids grew as well. Telos was able to provide the right hybrid for the right use.

Premiere now has in its inventory Telos 1A2 controllers, One-x-Six

the highest quality audio to be derived from the telephone system.

There are neither the analog-to-digital nor the digital-to-analog conversions that take place in modern PBXs. The telephone lines are interfaced directly from the telephone company and the 1A2 key system allows as many multi-line telephone sets to be installed as needed.

The Telos 1A2 controller is matched with the 100 Delta for the best quality live on-air sound.



Telos One-Plus-One

hybrids/controllers, 10 line Direct Interface Modules, Telos One hybrids, One-Plus-One hybrids and 100 Delta hybrids.

These devices are used for a variety of different shows and needs.

The decision as to which hybrid to utilize is based on the audio quality that is required, the amount of nulling that is needed and the intended end product the hybrid will provide.

Premiere has handled many multi-station remote broadcasts ranging from 10 stations to 100 stations during special events. When a live telephone interview is required, the Telos One is in our remote kit.

Its compact size and ease of use with a single-line telephone make it a winner for remotes.

Most of our talk studios utilize standard 1A2 key telephone equipment for on air usage. The 1A2 key equipment allows

Premiere has come across a small problem using the 100 Delta with our 1A2 controller.

We found that the 100 Delta was trying to null before the 1A2 controller was able to fully switch the telephone line on. The on-air problem that resulted was that the 100 Delta did not null the telephone call all of the way until the host spoke for a few seconds.

This problem was rectified with help from the Telos tech-support specialist for hybrids. A pulse stretcher was constructed using a 555 op-amp and inserted between the 1A2 controller output and the 100 Delta input.

This circuit increases the pulse width to around 750 milliseconds. This gives the 1A2 controller the time it needs to switch the telephone circuit to the hybrid, allowing the 100 Delta to fully null the call before being put on the air.

The 100 Delta works so well, in fact,

that when a new studio was put into service some time ago, it was not discovered for several hours that the audio console input module that was being used for the hybrid output had not been selected for mix-minus operation.

The hybrid was able to reject itself and the operator had not noticed anything unusual during the show.

### **Direct interface**

Premiere utilizes the Telos One-x-Six hybrid/controller and the Direct Interface Module interface for several studios where 1A2 telephone equipment was either not necessary or unavailable at the time.

The down side of using these units is that you can only have two locations where the incoming telephone lines can be accessed or answered without tricky interfacing. Also, you are limited to the number of telephone lines that can be accessed, six with the One-x-Six and 10 with the Direct Interface Module.

The positive side is that the One-x-Six is a small, high-performance, easy-to-connect self-contained system.

Premiere uses Direct Interface Module with a 100 Delta hybrid for the highest quality on-air usage without utilizing a dedicated 1A2 key system.

Premiere uses the Telos One-Plus-One mainly in our production studios. The hybrids contain the optional Super Auto Answer circuit, which allows the hybrid to auto answer the telephone line. They are connected with an on-premises analog station line from our PBX (on a regular 1Mb digital circuit).

support staff was up front with real answers, and fast response times with replacement equipment and/or solutions to problems. Nobody is perfect and I haven't found the perfect telephone hybrid yet, but Telos seems to improve on theirs with every new software release.

## **Premiere has handled many multi-station remotes, ranging from 10 stations to 100 stations during special events.**

This allows Premiere's production people to initiate telephone calls that originate from within the studios and then transfer them to the hybrid for use in candid calls and telephone interviews. The One-Plus-One is located in the tech area and can be connected to any studio via audio patch bays.

Overall, Premiere's eight years of experience with Telos telephone hybrids has been very good.

When there were problems, the Telos

*Barry Victor soon will leave his position at Premiere to devote full-time energies to his contract engineering firm, The Victor Group, which he founded in 1981. He will continue his relationship with Premiere Radio as a consultant.*

*For more information contact Telos Systems at (216) 241-7225, fax (216) 241-4103, visit [www.zephyr.com](http://www.zephyr.com) or [www.audioactive.com](http://www.audioactive.com)*