

September Meeting Announcement **Personal Listening Environments - Headphones/Headsets/Earphones**

Presented by
Rob Baum
AES PNW Section Committee / Microsoft Corporation

September 30, time: 7:30pm
Microsoft Studios, Redmond, WA

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Although headphones have been with us for many years, the iPod has made these items nearly ubiquitous. Today, people have myriad choices for their personal listening environment: bluetooth devices, iPod ear speakers, headphones for private listening, headphones for recording, live sound, stage communication, in-ear monitors, the list goes on (and on).

Join with us at our September meeting as PNW AES Committee member, Rob Baum, takes us on a journey across a lush field of different headphone types. Rob will touch on some of the technical details and then he'll explore different applications with an ear to why they may be different and/or unique.

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About Rob Baum

Rob received a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania in 1985, and an MBA from NYU in 1990. After college he was an audio engineer at CBS Records, where he worked in manufacturing establishing quality control standards and procedures for the manufacture of records and tapes. Later, at Apogee Sound, a professional loudspeaker manufacturer, he worked between manufacturing and engineering on pro audio speakers. At Menlo Scientific, he undertook a wide range of consulting projects in transducer materials, design, manufacture, and test and measurement - mainly for large factories in Asia on behalf of American clients, as well as focussing on the test and measurement of transducers and systems.

In the business arena, Rob has consulted for a variety of clients within the audio supply chain, such as firms looking for help introducing new materials, intellectual property (such as signal processing or novel ICs), market analysis or simply finding an appropriate manufacturer in Asia. Clients have included material manufacturers, component suppliers, as well as system suppliers across multiple markets: pro audio, hi-fi, home theater, consumer electronics, musical instrument, commercial and portable sound.

Recently Rob's work has swung towards personal audio: design and testing of headsets and headphone speakers and microphones, as parts and as systems working together. Rob has written for a variety of audio trade magazines for over a decade, including "Sound and Communications", "Voice Coil" and "Multi Media Manufacturer". Rob is currently working as a contract engineer for Microsoft.

Meeting Topics

Meeting topics are not the exclusive purview of the officers and committee. Some of our best meetings have begun with a topic suggested by one of you, our audience group. If you have a topic that you'd like to see presented, or (even better) you have a topic that you would like to present, please contact any officer or committee person.

Steve Turnidge

AES PNW 2009-2010 Section Chair

n.b. *The material presented at our meetings is the opinion of the presenter and not necessarily that of the Society. You are encouraged to conduct your own research and to form your own opinions before adopting the presented material as Truth.*

Our meetings are open to anyone interested in Audio. AES membership is NOT required for you to attend our meetings.

Last modified 09/12/2009.