

# Sound Systems: Design and Optimization: Modern Techniques and Tools for Sound System Design and Alignment

By Bob McCarthy



**Sound Systems: Design and Optimization: Modern Techniques and Tools for Sound System Design and Alignment** By Bob McCarthy

With this definitive guide to sound reinforcement design and optimization, Bob McCarthy shares his expert knowledge and effective methodology developed from decades of field and teaching experience. This book is written for the field professional as well as the consultant or student, in a clear and easy-to-read style and illustrated with color diagrams and screenshots throughout. McCarthy's unique guide reveals the proven techniques to ensure that your sound system design can be optimized for maximum uniformity over the space.

The book follows the audio signal path from the mix console to the audience and provides comprehensive information as to how the sound is spread over the listening area. The complex nature of the physics of speaker interaction over a listening space is revealed in terms readily understandable to audio professionals. Complex speaker arrays are broken down systematically and the means to design systems that are capable of being fully optimized for maximum spatial uniformity is shown.

The methods of alignment are shown, including measurement mic placement, and step-by-step recipes for equalization, delay setting, level setting, speaker positioning and acoustic treatment. These principles and techniques are applicable to the simplest and most complex systems alike, from the single speaker to the multi-element "line array."



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#### **Editorial Review**

#### Review

"Pro Audio needs more tools like this, well thought out, well researched and well written, a valuable tool!" - Sam Berkow, SIA Acoustics

"Writing a meaningful book on live sound loudspeaker system measurement & optimization is perhaps one the most daunting tasks one could ever dream up. Bob McCarthy has accomplished this and his new book provides very detailed guidelines for those of us who are involved in the design and commissioning of live sound loudspeaker systems." Tom Young Electroacoustic Design Services

Bob's new book is not like other books on general sound system design. It focuses on loudspeakers and their interaction with each other, and the rooms they are installed in. The result is that the reader will not only have a clear idea of what the difficulties are in designing systems, but have at hand some well thought out suggestions on handling the exceptions. Recommended without reservation. Thorny (Alexander Yuill-Thornton II) Solstice Company

Unlike the many other books that offer fine discourses on theory, this book also provides you the intellectual tools you need to make the tough calls in the field, when time is tight and things haven't gone exactly according to plan. Setting priorities is the hardest part and Bob McCarthy lays it out - loud and clear. Dave Clark, Engineering Harmonics Inc.

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## Tim Vazquez:

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