

ALMA Winter 2001 Symposium Review
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ALMA's Winter Symposium this year was held in conjunction with the Las Vegas CES and was a successful, well-attended event. OEM exhibitors featured include Acoustic Systems Inc., Advanced Elastomer Systems, Audiomatica S.R.L., Aurasound, Alpha-Core Inc., Bohlender & Graebener Corp., CoDrive, Dupont Kapton, EFD, Engineered Fibers Technology, Ferrofluidics Corporation, Hernon Manufacturing, Klippel, JQM Magnetic Systems, Loudspeaker Component Corporation, Lord Corporation, Listen Inc., Menlo Scientific, Nike IHM, NuWay Speaker Products Inc., NXT, Polytec PI, Inc., Richmond Aircraft Products, Slab Technologies, Transilwrap and WBT-USA. While many of the exhibitors featured new products, the Symposium also featured three very informative paper presentations.

Starting off the papers session was Dr. Earl Geddes describing his non-perturbation parameter measurement methodology for loudspeakers. This was followed by Pat Turnmire (Red Rock Acoustics) presentation of the recently released Reverse SpeaD, the highly useful companion to Red Rock Acoustic's SpeaD software. This software allows the user to derive a useful T/S parameter set from a description of enclosure performance parameters. Last, was a presentation by Wolfgang Klippel describing his recently released loudspeaker analyzer system. This new analyzer performs large and small signal analysis, loudspeaker simulation, non-linear distortion analysis and auralization that allows investigation of non-linear aspects of loudspeaker performance.

The Symposium closed with a panel discussion hosted by Dr. Floyd Toole titled "The Bridge Between Design and Manufacturing." Panelists included Tom Wethern-Cambridge Soundworks, John Stewart-Harman Automotive, Mike Paganini-JBL Professional and Mike Klasco-Menlo Scientific.