Minutes of Automotive Audio Technical Committee Meeting 13/Oct/2003

Richard Stroud welcomed group, and the meeting agenda was discussed, Mission Statement (which is used as an outline for meeting discussion).

There was a solicitation for future workshops for Berlin & San Francisco.

- -David Clark suggested a Tutorial on basics of automotive audio. Jonathan Lane suggested the topic of broadcast audio.
- -Steve Hutt suggested automotive multichannel & issues of off center listening vs. recording studios & home theater.
- -Tom Brehaupt suggested a topic of how much power is enough. How much "horsepower". What are recommended performance criteria?

Discussion followed

- Neal House How do you address vehicle noise masking & how does the buss system relate with bit stream capability. Concern expressed about reserving space on buss protocols
- Automotive Standards mutichannel reference room how might we address it. ITU room mentioned
- David Clark hoping for standard drafts for Berlin & discussed question of appropriateness to automotive listening. Jonathan Lane commented that since so much listening is done in the car, maybe a car should be the standard.

There was a brief mention of "Museum of Sound"

Trends Report was presented and updates proposed

- Mp3 has been done in a vehicle by Rockford-Fosgate.
- Change "flat speaker" to "thin speaker" Alan Philips no thinner loudspeaker in production.
- Steve Hutt the group should focus on what can be shared without proprietary risk.
- Neodymium magnet weight vs. cost ratio is improving.
- Broadcast encoded quality is disappointing.
- Mark Navarre Ford will release Sirus & market perception is not well known. Are there trends?
- Matt Watson We should re-evaluate it.
- Jonathan Lane all to be fixed with low bit-rate (laughter)
- Databuss .: multichannel is "in" the car. Remove "DVD" reference.

Jonathan Lane: Vehicle noise floor assumptions by broadcasters are influencing their decisions.

Item: Steve Hutt - We need to set deliverables for the Berlin meeting.

A post-meeting note: Mr Tim Nind, Vice-chair of our TC, was planning on hosting a workshop on multichannel sound in vehicles in Berlin. I haven't seen it on the schedule as of this writing, but if not in Berlin, we should do it in San Francisco.

Minutes by Steve Hutt/Edited by R. Stroud