2019 International Conference in Dublin, Ireland
Workshop/Tutorial Session “Impact and Audibility of Distortion in Automotive Audio Applications” was held and sounds like it was a success! The topic of how to handle autonomous vehicles came up but ran out of time to discuss in length.

Future Vehicle Design
This led to the discussion of autonomous vehicles within the committee. Wolfram Jaehn mentioned that audio will probably not be the primary source of entertainment but used more for background noises or game audio playback. The question is how people will utilize their time when they don’t need to operate the vehicle.

Another comment was made that suggested some manufacturers may then design the vehicle around the entertainment system. Since the occupant will have much more free time, entertainment may/will take a higher priority.

This discussion led to the more immediate future of electric vehicles and audio’s role. Since vehicles will not have combustion engines as part of their sound signature, sounds may be develop to enhance the perceived quality or brand image of the vehicle for example.

NVH Participation
A pleasant surprise was the attendance of the meeting by NVH expert, Laurent Gagliardi. He stated his reason for getting involved in the committee was because of how his role has changed from NVH to now managing all sound in-vehicle. Welcome to the AES!

2019 Automotive Audio Conference, Neuburg an der Donau, Germany, September 11-13

Conference preparations have started! Call for contributions is now active.

http://www.aes.org/conferences/2019/automotive/cfc.cfm
Important dates

Manuscript deadline: 19 May 2019.
Authors informed of decision: 5 June 2019.
Camera-ready submission deadline: 14 July 2019.

The Audi Driving Experience Center will allow dynamic evaluations of vehicles on their test track. This will allow participants to experience audio technology in real use scenarios (ANC, ESE, Pedestrian warning systems, Audio masking, etc).

Seeking suggestions for workshops and tutorials. Please visit conference website to submit your ideas!

Standards

Next Alfred brought up standards. He didn’t hold his feelings back when he said he doesn’t like standards but sees the need for the committee to propose suggestions on what and how to measure, for example in-situ acoustic and max SPL measurements. Laurent mentioned he sees OEMs struggling with such measurements and that suppliers each have their own methods resulting in differing results. Steve Hutt mentioned that a possible avenue to pursue is to suggest best practices, which the AES supports. Alfred is thinking about setting up a subcommittee to investigate.

Next TC-AA Meeting – TBD