

HORIZON AUDIO SERVICES LTD.

Audio System Performance Goals

It is difficult to describe with *words* how a new audio system will *sound*. We can and do provide numerous technical predictive computer printouts and measurement results from our sophisticated digital analyzers, however, to many people these charts and graphs do not convey the reality of how a system will actually sound in the sanctuary. To help the layperson better understand how their new system will work we offer the following system performance goals.



Long term versatility and economy: Your sound system will provide good long term versatility such that it will not be a major impediment to what you may wish to do in the foreseeable future. Occasionally, a church will elect to go with a smaller mixer now, realizing that when their worship team more fully develops in the next two to three years they may need to step to a larger mixer, but the system generally will handle the increased use. The system will also represent good value for the money over the long term.

Excellent sound quality: Your system will provide natural accurate tonal quality with the spoken word and excellent high fidelity sound with live and recorded music.

Freedom from Feedback: When operated properly, with talkers practicing reasonable microphone technique, the system will be free of annoying feedback. You will typically never have a need to operate the system close to or at the feedback threshold.

High level of speech intelligibility: Your system will provide a high degree of speech intelligibility such that the only people who will routinely require the use of a hearing enhancement system will be those with significant personal hearing loss. These people should likely be using a hearing aide.

Equivalent Acoustic Distance: Your sound system will acoustically transport the listener in the farthest seat to an acoustic distance of about eight feet. In other words, to the person in the rear pew, the pastor talking through the sound system will sound as he does when talking face to face at a distance of about eight feet without a sound system. This relates to a high ratio of direct to reverberant sound, which in turn relates to intelligibility.

Remember that there is a degree of subjectivity to judging audio quality, and that different age groups of the congregation will have somewhat different desires from the system. Young people may want a high output music system, forgetting that speech intelligibility will be more important to older members. We design our systems as much as possible to satisfy all stakeholders. We're confident our system will be a great enhancement to your worship services.

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