

**Convergence**  
The impact of computers and networking on future audio technology

**Summary**

As audio and computer technologies converge, what does the future hold for the audio business? More choice, convenience and realistic home theatre experiences? Or a descent into audio quality hell where price and low bit-rate rule? This Conference explores audio quality (MP3s through to high-end DVD-A/SACDs), delivery mechanisms (is the physical disc dead?) and convenience (use of audio in the home, the car and on the move).

This AES UK Section Conference presents a lively programme of talks from respected engineers, designers and academics, with plenty of opportunity for both formal and informal discussion.

**Who Should Attend?**

Audio equipment designers and manufacturers; anyone delivering audio into the home – record companies, broadcasters; IT and telecom companies – ISPs, computer manufacturers, mobile phone designers and operators; audio system installers.

**AES Dinner**

The AES Annual Dinner will be held on Friday 1st April, after the Conference ends. This will be at Magdalene College, a short walk from New Hall. Dinner in the College Hall with its gallery, stained glass windows, portraits and 16th century panelling in dark green and gold, lit only by candlelight, will be an atmospheric experience.

All are welcome to join the Dinner. The cost is £38.30 + VAT.

**Conference Information**

This two-day Conference will be held at New Hall college, Cambridge, UK starting at 09.30 on Thursday, 31st March 2005.

The registration fee is £298.00 + VAT for AES members, £348.00 + VAT for non-members and £84.00 + VAT for AES student members. This includes Conference documentation, lunch and refreshments. Registration must be made in advance together with payment in full. Further details will be sent with your booking confirmation.

A one-day Audio Technical Education day follows on from this Conference on Saturday, 2nd April. The cost for the day is £28.50 including lunch and refreshments. A discounted rate of £8.00 is available for people also attending the Conference. Places are limited on the Audio Technical Education day and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

A registration form is enclosed and is also available on the AES UK Conference website [www.aes.org/ukconference](http://www.aes.org/ukconference) for booking by post or fax. Bookings may also be made by phone. The closing date for bookings is 23rd March.

Overnight accommodation is available at New Hall college – see the registration form for details. Staying in the college will give you more opportunity to mix with other delegates and to experience the full ambience of a Cambridge University college.

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# Audio Engineering Society

## 20<sup>th</sup> UK Conference



## Convergence

### The impact of computers and networking on future audio technology

Co-Chairmen

David Errock and Steven Harris

31 March – 1 April 2005

New Hall, Cambridge, UK

## Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005

Introduction  
Steven Harris, Conference Co-Chairman

### Session 1: The integrated home environment Chairman: Steven Harris

Right content - wrong room: networking is coming home  
David Sturge, Pace Micro Technology [www.pacemicro.com](http://www.pacemicro.com)

Total home solutions  
Phil Solomons, Crestron [www.crestron.com](http://www.crestron.com)

The PC in your living room - Microsoft's eHome strategy  
Tom Blank, Microsoft [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com)

### COFFEE

### Session 2: Business models for success Chairman: John Grant

The future of hi-fi equipment in the connected home  
John Dawson, Arcam [www.arcam.co.uk](http://www.arcam.co.uk)

Learning from iPod: four rules for succeeding in digital consumer products  
Nelson Phillips, Judge Institute of Management, Cambridge [www.jims.cam.ac.uk](http://www.jims.cam.ac.uk)

### LUNCH

### Session 3: Professional audio Chairman: Mark Yonge

Overview of computer technology in the professional market  
Joe Bull, SADiE [www.sadie.com](http://www.sadie.com)

System design for audio record and playback with a computer  
Klaus Buchheim, BridgeCo [www.bridgeco.com](http://www.bridgeco.com)

### TEA

### Session 4: Phones and background music Chairman: David Errock

When is a phone not a phone - mobile media becomes reality  
Simon Garth, Symbian [www.symbian.com](http://www.symbian.com)

Convergence propels background music into the foreground  
Roy Campbell, Colroy [www.colroy.com](http://www.colroy.com)

Dinner at New Hall (included)

*The organisers reserve the right to alter the programme without notice*

## Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2005

### Session 5: High resolution audio Chairman: John Dibb

Developments in high definition audio and video  
David Walstra, Sony [www.sony.com](http://www.sony.com)

High resolution audio  
Bob Stuart, Meridian Audio [www.meridian-audio.com](http://www.meridian-audio.com)

### COFFEE

### Session 6: Networking and compression Chairman: Steven Harris

Networked consumer electronics products  
Markus Rutz, Philips [www.streamium.com](http://www.streamium.com)

Synchronization strategies for IP networked home audio equipment  
Tom Blank, Microsoft [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com)

A comparison of audio compression algorithms  
Markus Erne, Scopein Research

5.1 audio over a low bit rate channel  
Stefan Meltzer, Coding Technology [www.codingtechnologies.com](http://www.codingtechnologies.com)

### LUNCH

### Session 7: Digital radio and automotive Chairman: Paul Troughton

Digital radio - quality or quantity  
Adrian Pickering, Southampton University [www.ecs.soton.ac.uk](http://www.ecs.soton.ac.uk)

Digital radio - benefits and challenges  
Andy Baker, BBC [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

Automotive audio technology leads the way to integrated, easy to use,  
entertainment systems  
Tim Nind, Harman [www.becker.de](http://www.becker.de)

### TEA

### Session 8: Music distribution methods Chairman: Timothy Harris

DRM schemes  
John Lettice, The Register [www.theregister.co.uk](http://www.theregister.co.uk)

How people find music they like: p2p, piracy, freebies & annoying 30 second previews  
John Buckman, Magnatune [www.magnatune.com](http://www.magnatune.com)

Close of Conference

Dinner at Magdalene College (optional)