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Subject: Re: Getting test system soon

Posted by [Earl Geddes](#) on Thu, 27 Jan 2005 13:28:28 GMT

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Wayne I am going to take this opportunity to criticize, again, a point that you keep making regarding measurements. Physical measurements are not a subjective thing and if done correctly are not subject to variations based on the implementers bias. Now that said, interpretation of the data is more subjective AND making "correct" measurements is not easy. But I take strong exception to your position that someone making their own measurements is invalid and/or not believable. If the test setup, technique, equipment, etc. are all described, then I will look at anyones data because the validity can be critiqued from this information (assuming that it is honest and accurate!). I am not a big measurements person (contrary to past posts), I am far more theroretically inclined. Proposing a design - based on theory or models - testing it and finding a high degree of correlation lends a great deal of validity to design concepts. Far more than if the design had not been tested. Now I am strongly opposed to testing as a means to a design. That does not necessarily ever lead to an optimum - one simply gets tired of testing and says "Well, looks good to me!" Testing should simply be a confirmation of what you expect - you should not see anything unexpected - the results should be completely predictable. If they are not then there is something that is not understood and that aspect needs further investigation until it is understood. The iterative work to the optimum is done with theory (models, math, whatever) and simply confirmed at the end with some measurements.

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