Subject: Re: Discussion on waveguides / horns
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sat, 10 Sep 2011 03:33:01 GMT
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I wouldn't wait. The H290 isn't lacking anything in this design.

I will definitely give the SEOS horns a proper evaluation but I won't be changing the line for at least two years, even if I should choose to do so. I can't see prioritizing this over other projects and more pressing matters, there's just no need. I think the SEOS horns are excellent, but they can't offer much advantage over what I am using now for this application, because there are no weaknesses in my current models that need to be addressed. My current speakers' measurements are impressive and they sound great.

I consider the fully upgraded models of my speakers to be the best implementation of a horn/waveguide loudspeaker on the market today, commercial or DIY. Whether they are the matched-directivity two-way speakers with flanking subs or the constant directivity cornerhorns, they are able to do everything I want in a speaker, without any compromises.

Changes at this point are mostly just to say "I have something new." The truth is, there isn't anything new about this kind of design. I've been building them this way for decades. The whole waveguide fad is something I've been doing since the 1980s. There have been incremental improvements in drivers over the past three decades, mostly thermal handling and flux control. The computer modeling and acoustic measurement systems have become better and cheaper, giving more visibility and allowing incremental improvements in crossover design. But the truth is, if you look at my crossover documents and Spice models through the years, or if you examine speakers I've made in the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s, you'll see nearly identical crossovers in cabinets that have the same configurations as they do now.

My speakers haven't changed much over the years. They do everything I want them to do. I've been doing this for a long time, and I haven't seen anything that made me say, "Eureka, that's what I've been missing!" There's nothing to chase, these speakers have been doing it right all along. So there's not really any point in waiting for the "next best thing." It's what we've been doing here the whole time.
High-Fidelity Uniform-Directivity Loudspeakers