Subject: Unexpected upgrade
Posted by Barryso on Sun, 08 Sep 2024 17:11:25 GMT
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There was a noticeable change in the sound of the system this week.

It runs a Raspberry Pi as a music server with a PI2AES hat allowing a quality connection to the DAC.

Swapped out the hdd spinner hard drive for an ssd solid state drive. The old drive was getting loud and doing strange things. It was time.

Didn't notice a change in sound going from the hdd to the ssd but I didn't really expect to.

But the hdd had been run through a powered USB hub because the Pi wouldn't provide enough juice to run the old drive properly. So after listening to the new drive for a bit playing through the hub it got plugged directly into the Pi USB. That made a noticeable difference in that it seemed to remove a bit of midrange grunge from the sound.

Further, unplugging the switcher from the power strip also removed more grunge. That wasn't unexpected ... I've noticed that sort of change before when removing switchers.

So there's a good deal less grunge in the sound and it's a fine improvement to the system. To use an audiophile term things got more palpable. It's pretty nice given it was unexpected.

Anyone else run into something that turned into an unexpected upgrade?