Subject: Center channel design with line arrays
Posted by brucemck2 on Tue, 19 Sep 2006 17:22:18 GMT
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I'm considering changing my home theater from three matched MTMs across the fronts to a line array based setup.I've got a severe height limition for the center channel, as it has to go below the screen. That means approximately 39" max. Ears are at 42".Figure I've got four options: (1) Go with a stereo configuration. I've been avoiding this, as I've strongly (very strongly) preferred Trifield and similar synthesized center channels for two channel music, and, have found even great stereo setups up front suffer with (apparent) center channel fill when playing true multichannel movies.(2) Reconfigure the room to allow three matching arrays across the fronts. My Wife might shoot me, so I'm avoiding this as well.(3) Build a third array, but install it horizontally. Has advantage that if I ever go with (2) above I'd have the third already in hand. (4) Build a "traditional center channel" with identical woofer and tweeter as the arrays, and voice it as closely as I can to the left and right arrays. I've had zero luck in the past getting a design that wasn't very close to identical to sonically match a left and right. (A variant of this was on the Raw Acoustics web site: a horizontal array of mids/woofs with a single ribbon as the center channel.)What would be your advice?

Subject: Re: Center channel design with line arrays
Posted by Marlboro on Sun, 01 Oct 2006 11:47:02 GMT
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BUiLD THE LINE ARRAY FIRST. Then, see if you actually need the center channel. The sound field of an array is so broad that you probably won't even think about it.Point source speakers don't match line soource ones.What is the configuration of your array?Maslboro

Subject: Re: Center channel design with line arrays
Posted by Rick Craig on Sun, 01 Oct 2006 23:42:45 GMT
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Actually well-executed point source center channels work very well with arrays.