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NEWS RELEASE

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JBL DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM DESIGN SOFTWARE FOR CONSULTANTS AND COMMERCIAL SOUND CONTRACTORS

FRANKFURT, GERMANY – MARCH 13, 2002 – JBL Professional has announced the availability of a new updated version of its DSD Distributed System Design software. JBL's Distributed System Design program allows system designers to determine the number, model and tap setting of speakers in distributed systems. Version 1.3.2 added functionality for JBL surface-mount speakers pointed downward in venues with open architecture ceilings. With subwoofers becoming popular in commercial applications, the latest version 1.3.3 adds a new Subwoofer Utility for computing the number of distributed subwoofers required to create wide bandwidth sound systems. By answering a few questions about the venue and the system, the program calculates the optimum number of subwoofers to use. DSD version 1.3.3 is now available as a free download from the JBL Professional website, www.jblpro.com.

The original DSD program, released in 2000, allowed users to determine the performance results of applying various speaker spacing conventions, layout patterns, speaker models and tap settings. "All loudspeakers cover a more narrow angle in application than their polar coverage spec would imply because in the real world the sound doesn't get projected onto a sphere – it gets projected onto a flat listening plane," says Rick Kamlet, Senior Director for Installed Sound. "The consequence of not making this often-overlooked adjustment –from the spec sheet's spherical 'polar coverage' spec to the actual 'listening plane' coverage – is an incorrect design with holes in the system coverage. The DSD program automatically makes this conversion, allowing the program to compute design parameters and very precise performance results."

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The program computes row and column spacing between speakers and the appropriate distance to place the speakers from the side walls. It also computes the expected SPL variation from the hottest spot in the room to the coolest spot, recommends amplifier power required to drive the system, and provides a pictorial diagram of where the speakers should be placed. DSD is unique in computing the SPL capability of the system, presented in three ways: Maximum Average SPL for pink noise; Maximum Short-Term SPL capability; and the most useful reality figure of “Maximum Average Long-Term Continuous SPL for Music or Speech”.

“DSD was created for system designers who may not have the time to invest in creating EASE files for each of these venues,” stated Kamlet. “The DSD program allows them to create highly accurate designs, with all of the engineering and performance information they’ll need, in just a few minutes.”

The DSD program is provided free of charge on JBL Professional’s website at www.jblpro.com by clicking on Software Downloads and then Distributed System Design.
http://www.jblpro.com/pages/software_downloads.htm

Headquartered in Northridge, California, JBL Professional is the world’s leading designer, manufacturer, and marketer of professional loudspeakers for recording and broadcast, musician, cinema, touring sound, commercial sound and contracting applications. JBL Professional is part of the Harman International network of professional and consumer audio companies. For complete product and company information, go to the JBL Pro website at www.jblpro.com.

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