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Jens Blauert awarded Gold Medal by the Audio Engineering Society

Jens Blauert was awarded the Gold Medal of the Audio Engineering Society at their 124th Convention held in Amsterdam, Holland in May 2008. The award citation reads: "For outstanding contributions to audio engineering, communication acoustics, electroacoustics and spatial hearing, sustained over more than 40 years. Following the presentation of the award, Dr. Blauert delivered a 90-minute lecture titled "Concepts in Sound Quality."

The AES Gold Medal Award (formerly The John H. Potts Award) is given in recognition of outstanding achievements, sustained over a period of years, in the field of Audio Engineering. Previous recipients include Leo L. Beranek, Cyril M. Harris, Hugh Knowles, Manfred Schroeder, and Floyd K. Harvey and Eberhard Zwicker.

Jens Blauert studied communication engineering at Aachen, where he received a Doctor-of-Engineering degree in 1969. In 1973, he delivered an inaugural dissertation to the Technical University of Berlin (habilitation), and in 1994 he was awarded an honorary degree (Dr. Tech.) by the University of Aalborg (DK). Since 1974 he held a chair in electrical engineering and acoustics at the

Ruhr-Universität Bochum, where he founded the Institute of Communication Acoustics (IKA) which he headed until 2003. Subsequently, he was assigned emeritus professor status.

Dr. Blauert is the author/coauthor of more than 145 papers and monographs, supervisor of 52 successful PhD projects, and has been awarded several patents. His major scientific fields of interest are spatial hearing, binaural technology, aural architecture, perceptual quality, speech technology, virtual environments and telepresence.

He has served as chairman of the board (and cofounder) of the European Acoustics Association, president and vice president of the German Acoustical Society, associate board member of the International Commission for Acoustics, board member (and cofounder) of the European Speech-Communication Association, now ISCA, and board member (and cofounder) of the section on noise and vibration, NALS, of the German Standards Association, DIN.

He has received various scientific medals and awards and was elected fellow of the Acoustical Society of America, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, IEEE, the

Institute of Acoustics, and the Audio Engineering Society. Further, he is honorary member of the German Audiological Society, DAGA, and the Polish Acoustical Society.

Acoustics team honored by the Royal Society

A team of acousticians was honored at the Royal Society, London, on 3 October at the 2008 Awards ceremony of "The Engineer." "The Engineer," a journal founded in 1856, began last year to award a prize in each of five technical categories: Automotive, Energy, Aerospace & Defence, Environmental Technology and Medical & Healthcare.

The judging panel awarded the 'Medical & Healthcare' prize to a collaborative team, consisting of Tim Leighton of the Institute of Sound and Vibration Research (ISVR), University of Southampton, Andrew Coleman and Fiammetta Fedele of Guy's and St Thomas NHS Foundation Trust (GSTT), and Andrew Hurrell of Precision Acoustics Ltd. Tim Leighton is a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA). He currently serves as the Associate Editor for Biomedical Ultrasound/Bioresponse to Vibration



Recipients of "The Engineer" Medical & Healthcare Prize (l to r): Andrew Hurrell, Andrew Coleman, Timothy Leighton, and Fiammetta Fedele.

to ASA's *Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics* (POMA).

The award was for their 'smart stethoscope,' a passive acoustic sensor for the real-time monitoring of extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy (ESWL). During ESWL, thousands of shock waves are transmitted into the human body to fragment kidney stones, but current monitoring systems

are insufficient for determining when stone fragmentation has occurred, such that 30-50% of patients require re-treatment. Two clinical trials at Guy's Hospital have shown how the 'smart stethoscope' can ameliorate this problem by providing, during treatment, feedback on the effectiveness of the shock wave treatment.

Precision Acoustics Ltd. has

received requests for units from Europe, USA and Asia. The clinical results have been published in *Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology* (34(10), 1651-1665, 2008) and the first of the CFD studies was published in *Journal of Fluid Mechanics* (598, 1-25, 2008). Further details can be found at: [http://www.isvr.soton.ac.uk/fdag/Litho_07/litho_07\(main\).htm](http://www.isvr.soton.ac.uk/fdag/Litho_07/litho_07(main).htm)

International Meetings Calendar

2008			
26-29 October	Inter-noise 2008, Shanghai, China [www.internoise2008.org]	23-26 March	International Conference on Acoustics (NAG/DAGA 2009), Rotterdam, The Netherlands [www.nag-daga.nl]
27-31 October	XX Session of the Russian Acoustical Society, Moscow, Russia [rao.ankin.ru]	5-9 April	Noise and Vibration: Emerging Methods (NOVEM 2009), Oxford, UK [www.isvr.soton.ac.uk/NOVEM2009]
30-31 October	Autumn Conference of the Swiss Acoustical Society, Lansanne, Switzerland [www.sga-ssa.ch]	13-17 April	2nd International Conference on Shallow Water Acoustics, Shanghai, China [soon: www.apl.washington.edu]
2-4 November	IEEE International Ultrasonics Symposium, Beijing, China [ewh.ieee.org/conf/ius_2008]	9-24 April	International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing, Taipei, R.O.C. [icassp09.com]
5-7 November	Iberoamerican Acoustics Congress (FIA 2008), Buenos Aires, Argentina [www.adaa.org.ar]	5-9 July	16th International Congress on Sound and Vibration, Krakow, Poland [www.icsv16.org]
14-18 November	20th Session of the Russian Acoustical Society, Moscow, Russia [www.akin.ru]	23-28 August	Inter-noise 2009, Ottawa, Ont., Canada [www.internoise2009.com]
20-21 November	Reproduced Sound 24, Brighton, UK [ioa.org.uk]	6-10 September	Inter-Speech 2009, Brighton, UK [www.interspeech2009.org]
24-26 November	Australian Acoustical Society National Conference, Geelong, Vic., Australia [www.acoustics.asn.au]	19-23 September	IEEE 2009 Ultrasonics Symposium, Rome, Italy [e-mail: pappalar@uniroma3.it]
30-5 November	18th Biennial Congress of the Australian Institute of Physics, Adelaide, Australia [www.aipc2008.com]	23-25 September	TECNIACUSTICA2010, Cádiz, Spain [www.sea-acustica.es]
9-12 December	19th International Acoustics Emission Symposium, Kyoto, Japan [www.iaes-kyoto.com/index.html]	26-28 October	Euronoise 2009, Edinburgh, UK [www.euronoise2009.org.uk]
17-19 December	Symposium on the Acoustics of Poro-Elastic Materials (SAPEM 2008), Bradford, UK [sapem2008.matelys.com]	2010	
		13-16 June	INTERNOISE2010, Lisbon, Portugal, [www.internoise2010.org]
		23-27 August	20th International Congress on Acoustics (ICA2010), Sydney, Australia [www.ica2010sydney.org]
2009		26-30 September	Interspeech 2010, Makuhari, Japan [www.interspeech2010.org]
11-17 January	International Congress on Ultrasonics, Santiago, Chile [www.icaltrasonics.com]		