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TOE-IN

The necessity for canting or toe-in of flanking speakers in a stereo array has been recognized for some 20-odd years. Pointing the axis of maximum radiation near the diagonally opposite corner of the room has the effect of reducing the lateral shift of the virtual sound source as the observer's position is laterally changed. Corner speaker placement lends itself most naturally to this and other features of good stereo.

Steinberg and Snow established the "Physical Factors" of stereo during the years 1931-1933, reporting their work as part of the famed Symposium on Auditory Perspective in 1934. Snow's Patent 2 137 032 of 1938 (application September 1936) discloses the correct principles of toe-in of the flanking speakers. Those opposed to corner speakers, or those proposing toe-out and other bizarre speaker geometrics, should be subject to scrutiny for motive, for certainly their views are the opposite of the scientists who have been mainly responsible for the creation of the art and of evaluation and advancing its features.

Our own philosophy is that any speaker is a corner speaker; that the sacrifice of non-corner application is too great to be endured, and this applies alike to stereophonic and monophonic sound reproduction. Part of the reason behind this philosophy is the natural toe-in of corner speakers.

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