

Audio Quality Benchmarking

Rev 1.0

Intel Corporation



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In anticipation of audio products based on the Audio Codec '97 specification, Intel is currently proposing to work with this market segment of the industry to develop an audio quality benchmarking specification. The main goals of the effort behind this audio quality benchmarking standardization project are to provide industry unified benchmarking tools for audio hardware vendors to measure the quality of their products, and to provide PC users an easily understandable reference standard to differentiate PC audio subsystems' quality based on cost/performance factor.

At present, there is no unified way in which to measure audio quality in a PC. The audio quality benchmarking specification will standardize the methodology in benchmarking PC audio quality at the platform level (measured from the jack), and also create a standardized way to measure/interpret total audio quality in a PC. The specification will specify the testing system setup, the measurement equipment setup, the list of tests to perform and the quality measurement methodology. The specification will also define and provide interpretation of a sliding scale of score on audio quality based on a set of weighed testing scores of different aspects of audio quality in a PC.

Intel audio quality benchmarking team intends to solicit feedback and comments. Intel welcomes and appreciates any feedback and/or participation from audio hardware vendors and system OEMs who are interested in working on the specification. Please contact the Intel audio quality benchmarking team at audio97@intel.com.