



2009 “RTA Freq Out” Format[©]

Intended for Sound Quality League Competitors to Rank Real Time Analysis Scores

A. Vehicle/Owner Requirements

1. Vehicle must be street legal (registered and licensed, with seat belts, automotive seats, glass in vehicle, brakes, lights, etc).
2. Audio system must qualify for Sound Quality League formats.
3. Only the owner/member or Support Team member may sit in the passenger seat during the test.
4. Test may be performed with Competitor outside of the vehicle.

B. General Judging Criteria

1. Any RTA meter may be used for Single (1X) and Double (2X) Point Events. The AudioControl SA-3055 is the official MECA “RTA Freq Out” meter for all Triple (3X) point Soundfest events and MECA World Finals. The MECA approved software (with a 40 point scale) in the RTA analysis program will be used at 3X Events and World Finals to determine score.
2. Doors and windows are to be closed, Engine must be off.
3. Test source is Mono Pink Noise, MECA SPL Test CD track #14.
4. Competitor, with Judge’s help, sets reference level at 90 dB using the number scale.
5. Competitor is given 2 minutes to make adjustments. Adjustments can only be made one time. If there is a tie, the tiebreakers are made with no additional adjustments, other than the main volume control.
6. Testing interval is determined by the scoring program, but not to be more than 30 seconds.
7. Judge takes 3 tests per round and the Competitor keeps the highest score in that round.
8. Scores are ranked from highest to lowest. Highest score wins.
9. Ties for 1st, 2nd, and/or 3rd place will be settled by a re-test. For the first re-test, volume is increased to 96 dB. Each round of re-tests, thereafter, will be performed at increases of 3 dB i.e. 1st tiebreaker would be at 96 dB, 2nd tiebreaker (if necessary) would be at 99 dB, 3rd would be at 102 dB, etc. Highest score wins tiebreaker. Scores in tie breakers do not effect scores set in 1st passes and cannot be used to earn a place higher than the tie for which the tie breaker was done.

C. Additional Judging Criteria for 3X Events and World Finals (SA-3055)

1. The dB Input Sensitivity is to be set at 80 dB with the calibration (CAL) set at zero (0) and the dB per Step set at 3. Settings should never be moved or adjusted during a round.
2. Using the SPL portion of the SA-3055, the competitor, with Judge’s help, sets reference level at 90 dB.
3. The Competitor is then given 2 minutes to make adjustments with the SA-3055 set at Medium speed.
4. Still set at Medium speed, the Judge takes 3 tests by freezing the read-out on the screen. Competitor keeps the highest score.
5. For tiebreakers, the dB Input Sensitivity on the SA-3055 is to be set at 90 dB with the calibration (CAL) set at zero (0), the dB per Step set at 3, and the speed is increased to Fast. Competitor then begins a 2nd and 3rd round if necessary.
6. If a 4th and/or 5th round tie breaker is necessary, the dB Input Sensitivity on the SA-3055 is to be set at 100 dB with all other settings remaining the same.

D. Microphone/sensor Placement

1. Standardized microphone/sensor placement: 26” high in the center of the driver’s seat.
2. Microphone/sensor placed on MECA approved mic/sensor stand.
3. The Mic/Sensor Stand will be placed in the Driver’s seat with the stand slid to the rear of the seat as close to the seat back as possible and sitting flush against the seat bottom.

- Some unique situations may arise that disqualify vehicle or system from “RTA Freq Out”, determined by MECA Judges