



HISTORY

Redefining BBC designs

Hand-made in England for over 35 years, Harbeth has remained at the forefront of innovation and technology.



RADIAL™

Sonic purity

Only with a Harbeth loudspeaker will you experience the unbeatable clarity which comes from a RADIAL™ drive unit. The exclusive cone material creates that 'being there' experience not possible with cheap, polypropylene cones.



HOME & STUDIO

Broadcast legacy

No wonder that Harbeth is the first-choice loudspeaker for discerning audiophiles and professional sound directors working on hit TV shows, film soundtracks and CD mastering.

HOMAGE TO THE HEART: factory welcomes global VIPs



We recently welcomed several key international visitors to the factory in Lindfield, including Bernd Hömke from Harbeth Germany (input audio). He is pictured above, with Harbeth's MD Alan Shaw, discovering how RADIAL™ drive units are hand-made. Full story on page 3.

FOUNDER'S PHRASE...

AUDIO TERM FIRST COINED BY HARBETH'S FOUNDER NOW COMMONPLACE

Engineers around the world talk of 'pink noise'. How many know that it was Harbeth's founder Dudley Harwood who invented the term back in 1949 when head of the BBC's illustrious loudspeaker research team based at the now defunct Kingswood Warren

A back issue of *Wireless World* magazine (from November 1972), revealed that Dudley Harwood first used the expression 'pink noise' to describe noise having equal energy per octave.

The published letter, from

the then BBC senior engineer, also shows that he used the term 'red noise' in 1968 for low-frequency noise.

"These terms have become everyday language with so many audio engineers but even I hadn't realised that it was our founder

who had created them until reading his letter in *Wireless World*", says Harbeth's MD Alan Shaw.

"In his 1972 explanation, he remarks how 'it was not permissible to print the term at the time', but that these descriptions 'serve a definite and useful pur-

pose' and that it is 'up to authors and editors to see that this continues'.

"Time has proven that he has not been let down, and we must be thankful for his wisdom and creativity. It is just part of the enormous legacy he has left the audio industry."



CONTACT

Harbeth Audio manufactures high quality loudspeaker monitors which are in demand around the globe by discerning audiophiles and creative sound directors working in radio, TV, recording and post-production.

Send your stories for inclusion in our regular newsletters to the editor, ideally with high resolution photographs.

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Keep up-to-date with news from the worldwide Harbeth family by following us on Twitter @HarbethHQ and liking us on Facebook [facebook.com/HarbethHQ](https://www.facebook.com/HarbethHQ)



TECH TALK



The BBC chose Pudsey, its charity-bear mascot, to promote digital radio

MASS AUDIENCES ARE SATISFIED WITH A LO-FI DIGITAL AUDIO QUALITY

DIGITS NOT QUALITY?

In this increasingly digital age, it's becoming harder to find high-quality broadcast sources to test our hi-fi systems. As mediocrity of sound satisfies so many today, one has to search diligently to find music which matches the quality of the concert hall.

The main problem plaguing digital radio in the UK is a lack of bandwidth. The shortage of space sees broadcasters resorting to a low-quality bit-rate to squeeze in the myriad of radio stations. Or does it?

That may be the engineers' viewpoint but,

from a marketing perspective, it's all about satisfying mass audiences.

To achieve this they consider how most people listen to the radio rather than those interested in the underlying technology.

The brutal truth is

that the average audience doesn't care a jot about the quality. The proliferation of in-ear headphones proves that convenience is king. Digital has brought them more choice, and choice is what they demand.

Some thought new

digital (radio) technology would bring improved quality but, as is so often the case, it did not.

Few brands still judge quality to be key; thankfully Harbeth does, and that's why we will never compromise on quality to win sales.

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW

Benelux praise for monitor

Belgian magazine *Puresound.be* has published a review of the Harbeth Monitor 30.1 compact loudspeaker.

Its reviewer concluded, "The speaker was certainly not difficult to focus on because in all areas it performed well.

"In the living room, Harbeth was a good speaker and in the attic it became even more lyrical and I want them there permanently." "Up there, it was a fantastic, beautiful speaker, and comes at a reasonable price. But then again, you should only buy

a racehorse after a test ride!

"If you are seriously interested, you can do so at Harbeth Benelux (Better Sound & Vision) or any of the other Harbeth dealers in your area. It will be time and money very well spent."





Welcoming global partners to the hub

On his visit to Harbeth, Bernd Hömke from Harbeth Germany (input audio) saw the new Super HLSplus being lovingly made. The model is proving extremely popular around the globe, not least in Germany where it was launched at the Munich high-end show in May.

While in the UK, Bernd began

discussing plans for next May's show which has become a major highlight in the international audio calendar, attracting visitors from several continents.

"We were delighted to welcome Bernd to the factory", said Harbeth's Sales Manager Andy Sinden. "As well as seeing the RADIAL™ drive units being handmade,

he visited Alan Shaw at our remote R&D Centre where future Harbeth designs are created." Bernd said he had a most worthwhile visit seeing Harbeth in action.

Another recent visitor to the R&D hub was Aleksandar Maksimovic from Harbeth Serbia (One-hifi), pictured, who has plans to expand.



PLAY IT AGAIN, AND AGAIN

DEMAND TO HEAR HARBETH AT ORIENTAL SHOW KEPT STAFF BUSY

The annual Hong Kong high-end audio event has become a 'must-visit' for discerning audiophiles. A three-day show each August, it attracts audio brands from across the globe as well as queues of music lovers wanting to hear the very best in sound reproduction – everything from retro reel-to-reel and other analogue sources, to the very latest in the digital arena and, of course Harbeth speakers!

To cater for ever-growing visitor numbers, the organisers extended the opening hours for 2014 and introduced smart-phone Apps to guide people around the exhibition halls and conference centre.

In the Harbeth room, the M40.1s impressed the end-users with a constant crowd clamouring to hear the monitor loudspeakers.

"We played a variety of music: classical, jazz, pop music and rock'n'roll", said Kalson Chan of Harbeth HK. "The magical M40.1s just reproduced the real sound to the audience – nothing added, nothing taken away. We also proved how easy Harbeth speakers are to drive and produced a lovely sound in the process."

Sited on Sound Anchors' four-post 14-inch-high stands, custom-made for

the Harbeth reference monitor, the speakers were driven by Sugden Masterclass MPA-4 mono power amplifiers sourced with Sugden Masterclass PDT-4F CD Player and Sapphire DAP 800 digital/analogue pre-amplifier.

It was a combination which received widespread praise, not only from customers but audio journalists and bloggers as well.

"Harbeth is a sought-after brand in Hong Kong", explained Kalson, "and much in demand. Some of our customers have been life-long Harbeth users, having owned maybe three Harbeth products over time, while some of them have as many as five pairs of Harbeths in use in different rooms and systems. It's not an overstatement to say that it's become a cult brand."



In demand – the Harbeth demonstration room was constantly packed with audiophiles eager to hear the reference Monitor 40.1 loudspeakers



Standing tall – Harbeth's M40.1 proved a real showstopper

VIDEO SUPPORTS THE AUDIO STAR – HARBETH ONLINE

The impact of online videos is becoming more apparent. We are seeing Harbeth featured in an increasing number of promotional films. These range from on-line reviews (in French) by a Canadian magazine (<http://audiolight.tv/harbeth/category/harbeth>), to reports from international hi-fi shows such as one from the Capital AudioFest in Washington: <http://www.frequency.com/video/red-wine-audio-harbeth-loudspeakers/187805909?cid=5-13189>



MEETING EXACTING STANDARDS

A rigorous audit found that Harbeth ran its quality management system "to the highest level" and was awarded certification of the international ISO9001-2008 standard for another year. The inspector noted "excellent leadership and management".



SHOW NEWS

DESTINATION MUNICH,
MAY 2015

Dates have been fixed for the High End event in Munich and Harbeth will have its strongest presence ever. We look forward to welcoming you to the MoC between May 14th and 17th, 2015. Thursday is a trade-only day.



Plans are well underway for Harbeth's exhibit at what's become the UK's biggest hi-fi and audio event. Hear the world's best-loved loudspeakers on the third floor of the Bristol city centre Marriott hotel between 20th and 22nd February. A very warm welcome is extended to join Alan Shaw and the Harbeth team in Room 326 at this event.

"You'll be able to hear the Harbeth sound (subject to the limitations of a hotel exhibition room), meet the designer and talk to those behind the brand", says Trevor Butler from Harbeth's marketing department. "We look forward to meeting everyone."



Don't miss Harbeth at The New York Audio Show between 26th and 28th September 2014 at the New York Marriott Brooklyn Bridge hotel.

HUNGARY FOR NEWS

A Hungarian-language online forum about Harbeth has been very active of late, with many happy users praising the sound from their hand-crafted British loudspeakers

Around the globe, more and more online groups about Harbeth loudspeakers are appearing in local languages, often frequented by members of Harbeth's own popu-

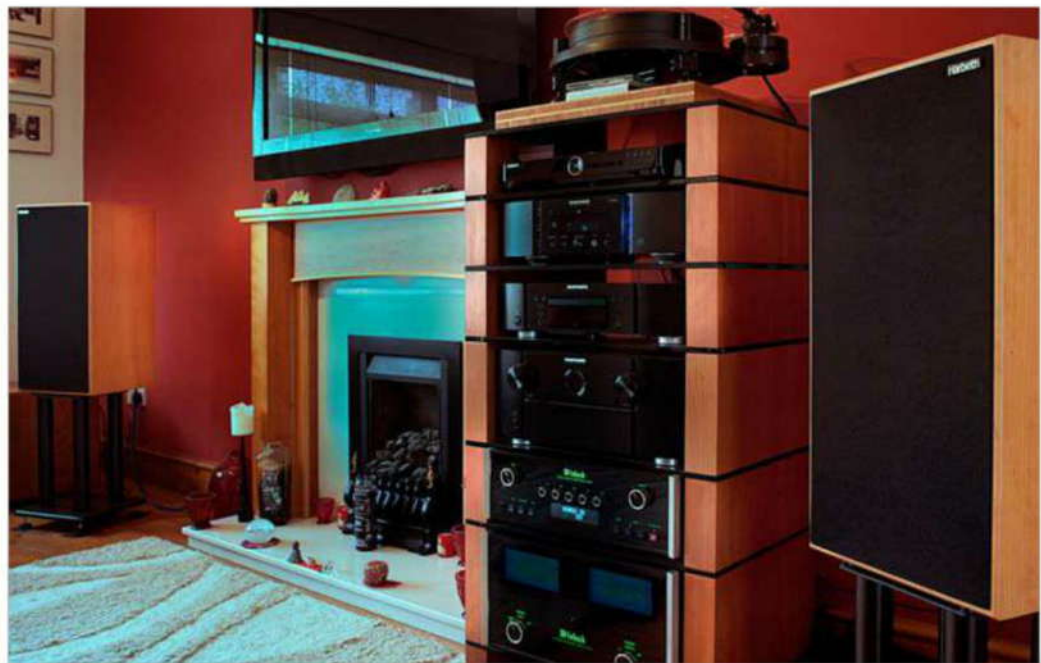
lar User Group, the HUG. Among the latest to come to fruition is in Hungarian and features user reports, members' stories, photos of beloved Harbeth-based

systems as well as items taken from the HUG, or Harbeth's Facebook page, and translated for the benefit of those who struggle with technical English.

It has proved popular with those in Hungary and the country's expats.

View it online at: <http://www.avx.hu/forum>

UK debut for Harbeth's latest model



A web developer has become one of the first UK owners of Harbeth's latest model. Richard Southgate is extremely pleased with his Super HLSplus.

"I've spent many years searching for what I want", he says, "only to find that issues

surfaced with whatever I had chosen, despite auditioning them in my home. Frequently, this related to my sensitivity to listening fatigue, but also issues with my lounge. I managed to get a pair of SHL5s on loan from my local Harbeth dealer, and during this time

I became convinced that the Harbeth sound was for me.

"The new SHL5plus reaffirms this; they are so 'unfussy' when it comes to integrating in my room. They are wonderful things: everyone who's heard them agrees."

USERS' SYSTEMS

Among the many happy Harbeth customers are those who discover the brand concludes a painstaking search for audio excellence. For one, it has been a journey since 2011. "...there was something about the Harbeth that was so good that I kept going back to Harbeth India (Absolute Phase) to simply listen to them. In this regard Prithvi, the owner, was fantastic: always patient, answering my innumerable

questions. He is a guy with passion for the work he does and knows his stuff. This year I made my dream come true. I picked up the 35th Anniversary edition of SHL5 and, boy, oh boy! are these speakers special. Miles Davis is playing on the Harbeths as I write this and it is heavenly bliss. There is something about the Harbeth speakers that I could not find in any other - none came even close to Harbeths."



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