

SEPTEMBER 2005

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*Presentation*

# A Perspective on Power Amplifier Design

Gary Attwood and Gene Strzelecki, Yorkville Sound

**Date:** Tuesday September 27, 2005

**Time:** 7:30 pm

**Where:** Yorkville Sound  
550 Granite Court  
Pickering, Ontario

**Directions:** From Toronto, take 401 East to White Road exit, go south to Granite Court, turn right on to Granite Court. Enter Yorkville Sound at the NE corner of the building (new section) right up against the 401

Pre-meeting Dutch-treat dinner at Lone Star Café 705 Kingston Rd. SE corner of Kingston Rd and Whites Rd.

## Have you ever wondered...

- What makes one amplifier sound louder than another of equal power rating?
- Has power amplifier technology improved over the last 20 years?
- What is the advantage of having a switching power supply in a power amplifier?
- Which technology suits the studio versus a live application?
- Where will power amplifier technology be 10 years from now?

These questions and more will be answered on September 27th when Gary Attwood and Gene Strzelecki host an evening at Yorkville Sound to show you some of the realities and challenges of audio amplifier development in today's multinational competitive marketplace. The focus will be on the technical aspects of product design and performance and will include displays and demonstrations of amplifier operation.

The meeting will be held at Yorkville Sound in the new sales area of the recently expanded facility. The entrance will be the far North-East corner of the building and will be marked with AES signage.

The Toronto AES Section Bulletin is published ten times yearly by the Audio Engineering Society Toronto Section and is available on the Internet at [www.TorontoAES.org](http://www.TorontoAES.org)

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**PLEASE POST - MEMBERS AND GUESTS WELCOME**

## About this month's presenters...

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### Gary Attwood

A 10-year AES member, Gary Attwood has been involved in new product design at Yorkville Sound for 21 years, specializing in audio power amplification, and mixer console development. Presently he is the project manager for the power amplification, and switching power supply product group. Gary is a graduate in Electrical Engineering Technology, and previously has worked for audio installation companies in Canada designing and installing audio and lighting systems for live and playback applications.

### Gene Strzelecki

Gene Strzelecki has been an Electrical Engineer with Yorkville Sound for over ten years and specializes in the design of analog circuits, switching power supplies and power amplifiers. He has designed products and managed design teams and production departments for Canadian manufacturers of scientific analytical instruments, test and measurement equipment for power utilities and aerospace components. He has additional experience in the design and construction of broadcast facilities and as chief engineer of FM radio stations in the United States. He is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley and has been a member of the AES for over 25 years.

### Yorkville Sound

Yorkville Sound is a privately owned Canadian Company located near Toronto in Pickering, Ontario, Canada. Currently employing 265+ people, Yorkville designs and manufactures all of its products at the 150,000 square foot Pickering facility. Founded in 1963 in downtown Toronto, Yorkville was formed out of the back room of a music store called Long & McQuade. The repairman at that time (Peter Traynor) developed a Bass Guitar amplifier (the Traynor Dyna-Bass) that was rugged and could withstand rentals. Shortly thereafter, Jack Long started "Yorkville Sound", a small company that soon had more than just bass amps. By the end of 1963 Yorkville was making P/A columns. After incorporating in 1965, Yorkville expanded its sales into the USA and soon after added a guitar amplifier (the YGA-1) and a P/A mixer (the YVM-1) to the line. Throughout the 1960's Yorkville continued to grow and become a serious force in North America for P/A and instrument amplification products.

In 1972 Yorkville expanded distribution into Europe with representation in the UK and Sweden. Growth continued in various phases through the 1970's and early 1980's, when the Yorkville design lab had an influx of new blood. In 1986, Yorkville introduced elite speaker cabinets and Audiopro mixing consoles which proved to be incredibly successful, pumping new life into the company. Since 1986 Yorkville has become even stronger. The addition of the Audiopro amplifier series in 1987, the continued growth and refinement of the elite series speaker systems, the addition of the TX-Series concert loudspeakers in 1996, and new up-to-date versions of the Audiopro powered mixers helped bring Yorkville to its present day prominence. The re-introduction of Traynor all-tube guitar and bass amps was witnessed in spring 2000, beginning with the Custom Valve40. Always ones to push the boundaries of modern loudspeaker technology, Yorkville introduced the Unity™ loudspeaker horn and cabinets in late 2003 as part of a two year joint development project with renowned loudspeaker designer Tom Danley. This marked a significant leap forward in horn technology, arguably the first major advancement in horn development in the last 60 years.

### Mark Your Calendars: Upcoming Confirmed Toronto AES Meetings

- Tuesday, October 25: Dr Stan Lipshitz, "Digital Audio: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly"
- Thursday, October 27: Digidesign Presentation, Metalworks
- Tuesday, November 8: Joint AES/SMPTE on Audio for HDTV and Surround
- Tuesday, December 13: Sean Olive and Floyd Toole, Harmon International