

What is an Acoustical Consultant and why do I need one?

An Acoustical Consultant has the educational background as well as experience to guide you through most any acoustical problem. We use a combination of theory, experience, sophisticated test equipment, and computer modeling to analyze problems and provide advice. Acoustical Consultants are not architects nor are they mechanical or structural engineers. We simply deal in acoustics and using our knowledge we can guide the project architects and engineers. Most Acoustical Consultants do not sell an products or materials and most sound contractors know very little about acoustics. Consultants work for the client to ensure the most efficient use of time and materials. Since we are not watching profit margins or working to meet sales figures, we are free to pick and choose equipment and materials that will best suite the client's needs at the lowest possible cost. Most consultants will provide complete documentation consisting of drawings and specifications for bidding and project construction. We provide advice during the bidding process and advise the client which bids are acceptable, which items are acceptable alternatives and which are not. We are the eyes and ears of the client during the construction phase to ensure that all specifications have been met and that all materials and equipment are installed properly. Finally, we are there for the final testing to make certain that all of the design specifications have been met.



Acoustik Musik, Ltd.

**DSM & Associates
3939 Canterbury Road
Brunswick, OH 44212**

Consultants in:

- Acoustics
- Sound Systems
- Audio/Visual Systems
- Recording/Production Facility Design



Bath United Church of Christ

**3939 Canterbury Road
Brunswick, Oh 44212**

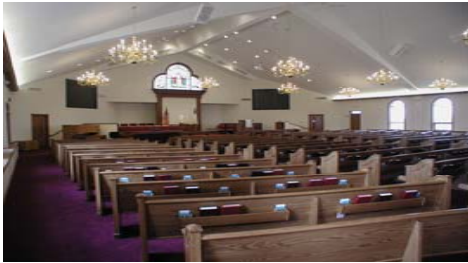
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www.dsmassociates.com

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Consultation and Planning
- Architectural Acoustics
- Sound Systems
- Audio/Visual System Design
- Recording/TV/Radio Control Room/Studio Design
- Documentation
- Project Management



Brunswick United Methodist Church



Third Federal Savings - Auditorium



Commercial Recording - Studio #3



Masonic Auditorium - Cleveland

A typical acoustical project starts with a meeting with the client to determine project goals. If the project is an existing facility, an acoustical evaluation is performed and the information is used to enhance the modeling process. If this is a new facility or renovation, we would proceed directly to the modeling phase.

The client will supply DSM with a complete set of construction plans for a new facility or the documentation plans of an existing facility. From these plans, we can determine the physical properties of the space and input them directly into our acoustic software. DSM uses a software package called EASE (Enhanced Acoustic Simulator for Engineers) to construct a computer model of the facilities. When the modeling is complete, we then can "look" at the room acoustics. If any acoustical remedies are needed, we can interface with the client and/or architect to determine the best possible solutions. **No Sound System can overcome poor acoustics.** When we are satisfied with the acoustical parameters, we can then turn our attention to the design of the sound system. Using the completed acoustical model we can "insert" several brands / types of speaker and evaluate how the devices interact with the acoustics of the facility. **Not all speakers are created equal.** Several "similar" models will have very different effects on the generated sound field. This is where the experience and expertise of the consultant can make a substantial difference in the outcome of your project. Selecting the right equipment for the job is critical and should in no way be dictated by sales quotas. After the speakers are selected, the rest of the amplification equipment can be determined; once again specifying only equipment that is best suited for the project.

Please See Our Web Site at www.dsmassociates.com for more information.

When the model is completed and the equipment list is determined, a second meeting is scheduled with the client. At this meeting, we will present the findings of the study and finalize any remaining issues.

Once this process is completed and a clear plan is established, DSM will prepare a Request for Quote and obtain bids from several local contractors on behalf of the client. When the bids are returned, DSM will evaluate all bids and advise the client as needed. After the bid is awarded, DSM will act as Installation Supervisor to ensure that all specifications put forth in the design are met. Upon completion of the project, DSM will assist the contractor in the final testing and acceptance process.

DSM & Associates does not sell any equipment and/or acoustical treatments. We do not represent any product lines and do not receive and/or accept any commissions.



St. Augustine Chapel - Richfield, OH

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