From time-to-time we produce a Newsletter article to acquaint our readers with some of the software and hardware tools available to audio practitioners. These overviews are also instructive since they provide alternative perspectives on viewing measured data. In keeping with tradition, we are pleased to provide a short overview of a significant entry into the test and measurement arena. The long-awaited measurement application from Software Design Ahnert has been released.

EASERATM (pronounced EASE-rah) is a full-featured measurement application for Win-based computers that utilizes off-the-shelf audio hardware to perform electrical and acoustical measurements of sound systems and rooms. It is aimed at a broad range of users, having a basic feature set as well those expected by users of intensive measurement platforms. We have participated in the beta testing of EASERA for nearly a year, and find the release version well worth the wait. I won’t spend time here covering the basic features that exist on all measurement platforms. Instead I will focus on features that are more platform-specific, and things that might not be obvious from a quick test drive of the software.

Like most measurement platforms, the heart of EASERA is in collecting and processing the impulse response (IR). From the first hand claps to modern FFT-based analyzers, the IR serves as the bedrock of audio and acoustic measurement. Technology has given us IR collection techniques that can produce superior signal-to-noise ratios than the classical methods. The IR itself should be independent of the method used to collect it. Some collection techniques provide better immunity from noise in the environment.

**Measurement Types**

The reader should refer to Figure 2 for the following sections. A variety of measurement types are supported,