

train.pdf – update June 18, 2009

Project: Freight train

Location: Near Austin White Lime plant at McNeil, Texas

Date recorded: January 30, 2009

Microphone: Core Sound TetraMic

Recording Equipment: Focusrite Saffire Pro 26i/o interface, MacBook Pro with Logic Pro.

Placement of microphone: on a desk stand on top of my vehicle

Download files: ambisonic b-format

Calibration and equalization:

Core Sound TetraMic a-format outputs are converted to b-format with VVMic software with the Core Sound calibration tables.

Comments: Freight trains do not run on a regular schedule, and waiting for one can be a long day by the tracks. On the other hand, a train may pass by (actually on two instances a few days before) while waiting for my computer and Logic software to boot up. Such was not the case in getting this recording.

This sample was recorded north-west of Austin, near the crossing of two major freight rail lines. When the Union Pacific train passed by that afternoon, the train's engineer was kind enough to blow his horn a couple of times on his approach. The train was made up mostly of empty automobile carriers and did not have the variation of sounds often heard from freight trains with multiple car types and lengths. There is a highway to the back side of the microphone. The noisy drone is from the lime plant machines.

Length: 03:15

Thank you for your interest in this project. Comments are welcome. Please feel free to look around the ACTLab website.

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