

Brief Bio of Robert Orban

In 1970, Bob founded Orban Associates, originally as a manufacturer of studio equipment. In 1975, Orban Associates introduced the original Optimod-FM 8000, which was the first in a long line of broadcast audio processors for AM, FM, TV and digital broadcasting from the company. Orban has also been involved in professional recording for many years and has mixed several records released on the Warner Brothers label, as well as on small independent labels. As a composer, his music has been heard on classical radio stations in New York and San Francisco, and his score for a short film, "Dead Pan," was heard on PBS television in Chicago. He has designed studio reverberators, stereo synthesizers, compressors, parametric equalizers, enhancers, and de-essers under both the Orban and dbx brand names.

Bob Orban has been actively involved in NRSC committee AM improvement work. He has been widely published in both the trade and revered press (including Audio Engineering Society, Proceedings of the Society of Automotive Engineers, and SMPTE). He co-authored the chapter on "Transmission Audio Processing" in the NAB Engineering Handbook, 10th edition. He currently holds over 20 U.S. patents. In 1973 he was elected a Fellow of the Audio Engineering Society. In 1993, he shared with Dolby Laboratories a Scientific and Engineering Award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. In 1995, he received the NAB Radio Engineering Achievement Award. In 2002, he received the Innovator award from Radio Magazine.

Recently Orban introduced the Optimod PCn 1600, the first Optimod that runs natively on the host computer's Intel x86 processor; the software does not use dedicated DSP chips.