

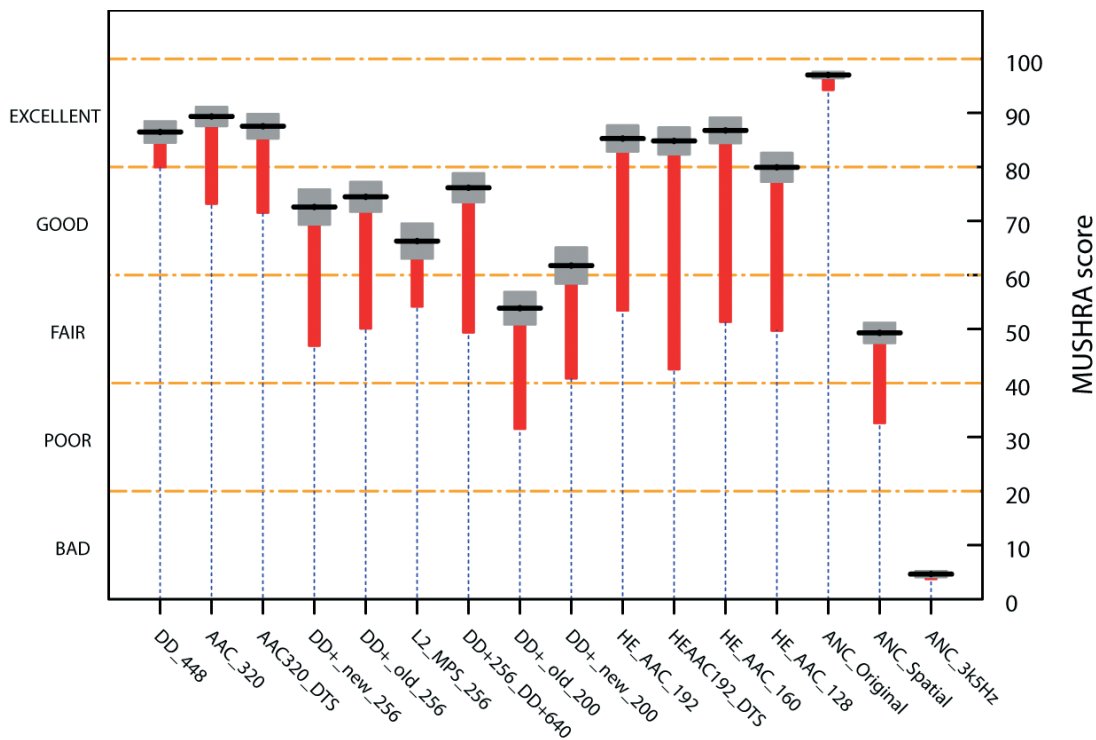
Broadcast HDTV services

Which audio coding system?

Future HDTV services will have to deliver not only excellent image quality but also impressive surround sound quality.

Very efficient coding systems must be used to make best use of spectrum.

Over the past two years EBU members have undertaken a unique, independent, complete and accurate set of subjective evaluations of more than 20 different multichannel audio codecs.



Aggregate test result (Phase 2)

In evaluating the most suitable HDTV audio codec the EBU takes into account the following four criteria:

- **Bitrate** required for "Excellent" quality (above 80 points on MUSHRA scale).
- **Compatibility** of production, contribution and distribution components.
- **Cost** of broadcast infrastructures, operational cost and consumer devices costs.
- **System** features (such as legacy, licensing, metadata, brand awareness, etc.).