

the **Stereo Times**
Most Wanted Components
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The Acoustic Revive RST-38

Also identified as an Acoustic Isolation Board, is unique among audio accessories. As I reported in two Random Noise columns, the board consists of a wooden base into which the purchaser pours a provided bagful of clear quartz-crystal bits ranging in size from coarse sand to fine gravel which he spreads out smoothly and covers with a wooden lid. With no little trepidation (I am among the meekest of audiophiles), I removed my Series 8 WATT / Puppies' spikes and positioned the speakers atop the under-boards. I left in place the tapered, puck-like assemblies into which the spikes screw, thus closely approximating the minimum recommended distance between Puppies and floor.

Acoustic Revive's Ken Ishiguro incorporates silk, tourmaline, quartz and several other minerals into a number of his designs, these quartz isolation boards being the latest additions to AR's product line. A smaller board, the TB-38 at 14" x 9" (\$725), is intended for use, among other applications, with Acoustic Revive's power-distribution boxes.

In evaluating the quartz under-boards' effectiveness, one relies on his memory of how the speakers sounded on their spikes. Great then, even better now — a tad richer with a soundfield to die for. And I can move the speakers about in quest of the perfect position, which, prior to the boards' implementation, was a far more difficult procedure.

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