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CEO's Corner

Dear Colleague,

The last thing any original equipment manufacturer wants to hear is that their product caused damage to a customer's facility, someone got hurt, or the product stopped working due to a nearby transmitter. And, if an operating product emits unacceptable levels of electromagnetic energy, that can affect the operation of other devices close by. What if you are in law enforcement and the phone or laptop evidence you have in your hands gets remotely wiped out?

Read on for EMI isolation advice and products!

Alan Lowne
CEO, Saelig Company Inc.

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 <p>Test Equipment</p>	 <p>Automotive</p>	 <p>Cables / Converters</p>
 <p>EMC Test</p>	 <p>Components</p>	 <p>RF Shielding</p>
 <p>Data Loggers</p>	 <p>Displays</p>	 <p>Embedded</p>
 <p>Industrial PCs</p>	 <p>PCB Test</p>	 <p>Ultrasonic</p>



* Founded Saelig in 1988 to search the world for unique electronic control and instrumentation equipment including environmental test chambers, PC and RF spectrum analyzers, USB and logic analyzers, EMC test RF sources, EMC test sources, RF and EMC controllers, PCB test, high-end industrial panel PC, EM enclosures, USB serial converter cables, etc.*

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EMC Testing

EMC testing has become important to ensure that manufactured products are robust enough to operate in multiple application environments in a safe and reliable manner. The challenge is that formal EMC testing is usually done off-site at a third-party lab where their schedule dictates the timeline of completion. Hence the growing need for in-house pre-compliance testing with an in-lab EMI-quiet environment.

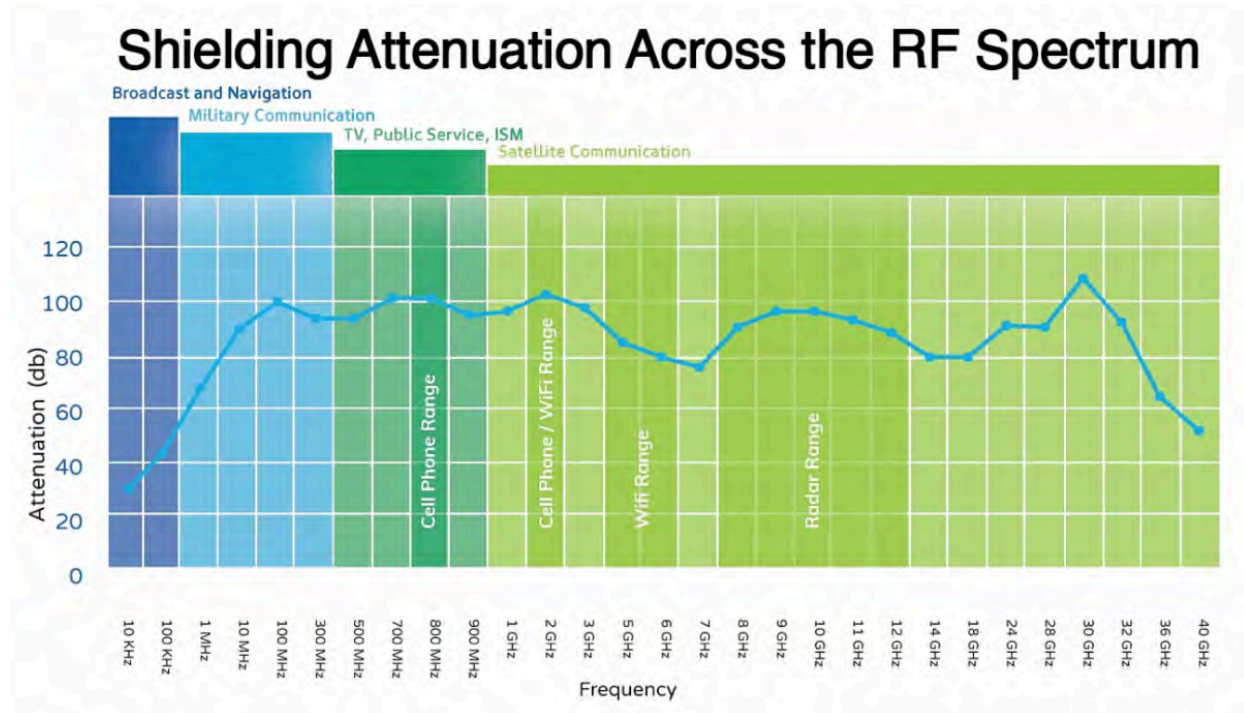


Designers of radio devices need to perform tests which must be done in a controlled environment, or for RF immunity of parts to be used in a system. At one extreme, small RF isolation boxes and pouches make benchtesting procedures convenient and cost-effective, but shielded environments can be made big enough to hold a complete airplane or large equipment.



Advancements in electronics and optoelectronics have made communications interception fairly simple. All electronic products inadvertently radiate some level of signals. Nefarious persons may be able to detect that signal information for their own use.

Electromagnetic barriers that block radio frequency electromagnetic radiation are known collectively as RF shielding. The shielding can reduce the coupling of radio waves, electromagnetic fields, and electrostatic fields. A Faraday cage is another name for a conductive enclosure that blocks electrostatic fields. The amount of EM reduction depends on many things: the materials used, its thickness, the number of layers used, size of the shielded volume, the frequency of interest and the size, shape and orientation of apertures (or leaks) in a shield to an incident or emerging electromagnetic field. The attenuation (or reduction in power) of a signal is represented in the logarithmic scale of decibels (dB).



Does RF shielding need to be grounded? Only when shielding low frequency electrical fields. Shielding is typically used to isolate electrical devices from their surroundings, and to isolate wires from the surrounding environment. It's also essential when doing forensic investigations, to isolate a portable device from being remotely compromised, and to keep secure the evidence contained.



At Saelig, we offer a wide range of EMI-suppressing solutions, from pop-up EMC tents for pre-compliance testing, to desktop forensic investigation enclosures, down to small boxes for circuit-level shielding. We have different pop-up and semi-permanent frame styles to fit a particular space constraint or application; enclosures made to custom specifications making for unique requirements, with custom options for ventilation, filtered connections, lighting, etc.; portable tents, housed in suitcases for creating instant SCIFs; metal forensic enclosures with built-in cameras for securing mobile devices under investigation; and cellphone-size pouches for protecting phones from GPS detection of tampering.



Those made from RF-shielded fabrics are typically woven with silver/copper/nickel/acrylic thread, and are used in many kinds of Faraday Cages such as flight bags and tents. Our benchtop-sized, hard-sided RF-shielded Ramsey boxes are made from aluminum or steel, along with other materials that have to be specially modified to make them RF-shielded. RF-shielded tents small enough to fit on a tabletop or big enough to secure a meeting room or communications center, or hold a larger vehicle or an aircraft for testing. Particular care is taken with I/O interfaces, to make sure these do not compromise the RF isolation.

**The products below fit a wide range of situations
and many can be customized to match your requirements.**

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