

The Making of an R-121

Visitors to Royer Labs have described our manufacturing facility as being more like a violin makers shop than a standard manufacturing plant, which the pictures in this tour clearly show. This "violin shop" sentiment expresses quite well the core values at Royer Labs, which place creative engineering, quality, and made in the USA handcraftsmanship far above corporate image and the bottom line. Enter for a tour of the rare art of building 100% hand made ribbon microphones.



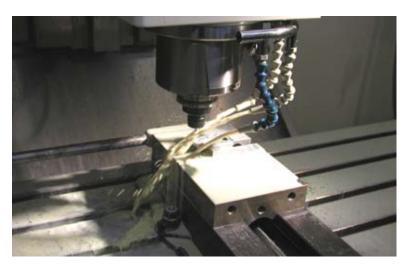
A view of the CNC machine shop, where all Royer microphone parts are manufactured using state-of-the-art CNC machines. Here is a view of two CNC machines that are programmed to produce R-121 transducers and barrels.



All Royer microphone components are fashioned from solid ingot iron. This is an expensive and painstaking process, but well worth it in the end. Here is a view of R-121 XLR inserts in raw form - solid hunks of iron. It will take many machining operations to produce the finished parts.



R-121 transducer frames, before and after machining. The transducers start out as a solid block of ingot iron (right view) and after numerous operations can be seen as finished frames on the left. All Royer components are fashioned this way.



A close up view of an R-121 transducer being machined. The Fadal CNC's use a computer program to precisely make each part. Tolerances are held to one-thousandth of an inch.



A close up view of rough R-121 barrels. These parts are already rough-cut to length and predrilled. Slots, bevels and numerous other processes are ahead.