Question #48

A machining gauge block, the narrower of the two seen in the photograph below, is struck near its center with a rubber mallet to produce a musical tone as shown in an mpeg video when you click your mouse on the photograph.

A second gauge block, with the same length and thickness, but twice the width, as seen in the photograph, also produces a tone when struck. The question this week is about the frequency relation between the two tones.

When the two gauge blocks are struck, relative to the frequency of the narrower gauge block, the frequency of the wider gauge block will be:

• (a) higher.
• (b) lower.
• (c) the same.

Click here for Answer #48 after January 22, 2001.