



*By Jim Basara - GJD*

Well, summer NAMM is over and everyone we talked to felt it was a successful show. Coming off of Austin, which saw a sharp decline in attendance and enthusiasm, many folks were talking about whether there would be a future at all for the summer NAMM show. However, we got a completely different vibe here in Nashville. Attendance was up and the energy level seemed to be significantly higher. All of the vendors reported to us that they were pleased with the show, so it could be that Summer NAMM is here to stay and we'd all love to see it get back to its former self.

Some significant vendors were absent, probably due to the Austin experience, including PRS and Line 6, but on the upside, the new location brought in some boutique guitar and amp vendors that had some interesting offerings. Over the next few days, we will tell you about the new products that we saw which we thought were interesting and worth mentioning.

### **Saint Blues Announces USA Model**

Saint Blues announced that they will soon be offering a high-end version of their popular Bluesmaster guitars. The new models will be completely manufactured in the US with premium materials and components, including Lindy Fralin pickups. St. Blues had a couple of prototypes at their booth and we got to take them for a test drive. These guitars are wonderful instruments. They play as well as any custom shop guitar we've played and they sound incredible.



