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Subject: Why Flares?

Posted by [GarMan](#) on Tue, 09 Mar 2004 03:27:27 GMT

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Straighten me out if I'm wrong. My understanding is that the horn in front of a compression driver acts as a transformer, to allow for a better impedance match between the diaphragm and the air in the room. The end result is increased sensitivity. What I don't understand is, most compression drivers with horn flares are typically 10dB to 15dB more sensitive than the cone drivers in the same speaker. Why attach the flare to increase SPL, and then attenuate it with an L-pad? Can't compression drivers be used without flares, and therefore, operate at (almost) the same sensitivity level as the woofers? Gar.

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