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Subject: Magnepan 1.7 Crossover

Posted by [AudioFred](#) on Fri, 31 Dec 2010 23:27:32 GMT

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For those who haven't been following the Magnepan story lately, the company recently introduced the new model 1.7 as a replacement for their 1.6. The 1.7 incorporates some significant changes, one of which is a change from a two-way to a two-way with a supertweeter. The audio press is describing the 1.7 as a spectacular success, but Peter Gunn, an aftermarket upgrader of Magnepan products, has described the new 1.7 this way: "It makes music simply sound wrong". <http://www.indiespinzone.com/mag/mag1.7.html>

So here's the problem: I've owned the 1.6 and the 3.6 in the past, and they were great speakers. Magnepan is a highly regarded company and I can't believe they would replace their best value product with a lemon. But Peter Gunn's work with Magnepan is highly regarded among knowledgeable audiophiles. What gives?

I reviewed Peter's crossover schematic and drew two conclusions: 1) as far as I can tell it accurately reflects the wiring in the picture of the actual crossover, and 2) it makes no sense to me. As I see it, the woofer crossover is a simple first order with a series 1.4mH cap. The tweeter and supertweeter share the same first order crossover components, which are a 116uF and a 10uF cap wired in series. I can't help but wonder if these are wired incorrectly, and that the 116uF should be the tweeter high pass filter and the 10uF should be a separate high pass filter for the supertweeter only. Comments?

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