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Subject: 4pi Commercial Dinner Theater Build

Posted by [dutchswan0311](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2011 00:02:02 GMT

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Greetings! I am maintaining a build thread for a new Dinner Theater at our family's winery in Iowa. We are completely remodeling a 5,000 sq ft church build in 1930 into our new winery location. I will post a link to my build thread on the AVS Forum later (I'm typing this on my phone). If you want to see a photo album of our progress on the overall project see "Van Wijk Winery" on Facebook.

Anyway, thought I would keep a diary of my 4pi builds here so that I might get some feedback from the man himself or other enthusiasts better equipped to answer questions specific to the pi speakers.

I started my first 4pi speaker using a 7ply 23/32 Arauco found at Lowes. After making a few errors, such as putting in the rear panel and bracing before putting in the port, I decided to start from scratch and use that first speaker as my learning curve. After sifting through 20 sheets of 13ply North American Birch at Lowes I finally became frustrated and finally did some research on other local lumber stores. I found a woodsmith store literally 4 blocks from my house that sells the Baltic Birch in 5' x 5' sheets for \$60/sheet (among other quality varieties). All of this time I thought those knocking Lowes' and HD's plywood selection were just being snobs. But after just a little experience working with some of them, I realize that those other 'big box' lumber stores' lumber isn't even in the same league as the Baltic Birch. So, either I was wrong before, or I am a snob now too

I will post a few pics later, but in the mean time a couple of questions I hope to find quick answers to:

1. I have read a few posts from Wayne about making the center channel sealed. I wanted to see about feedback for our specific application. In addition to the three 4pi speakers being used for LCR duty behind a 180" acoustically transparent screen, four F20 horned subs of Iilmike's design using the Reference HF driver will be integrated behind the wall under the screen pointing at the audience. While I will mirror the right channel with the port left of the horn, is there ANY advantage to making our center channel sealed?

2. I notice that the space above the port is 3/4 inch. Is that space supposed to be there? More to the point, is there any disadvantage to sandwiching another piece of 10" x 5" above the port so that it may have extra support by being able to screw into the port from the top as well as the side?

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