Subject: Adventures in biamping

Posted by Chris R. on Sat, 16 Feb 2008 19:28:46 GMT

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All, I finally made it to the next stage of things and bought another amp and a digital xover. All to try out a pair of drivers. The setup goes like this: The big boxes are 4 Pi's with 1.6KHz passive x-overs. The new driver/horns are a Selenium D-250X's on PE horns and EminenceAPT-50's on the bigger PE eliptcal horns with a 3.5KHz passive. What's really cool, is with the digital x-over, simply by sweepingthe x-over freq., I can move the power from just the 4Pi's (x-over at 20KHz), to eliminating the PSD-2002's by going anywhere from 700-1.6KHz and combinations in between. The new horns are somewhat different, not necessarily better or worse. I've included acouple of photos. I've got an RTA/digital EQ showing up so I can see what it thinks about the differences and flatten out both configs. Front view from the back

Subject: Re: Adventures in biamping

Posted by Wayne Parham on Sun, 17 Feb 2008 21:12:50 GMT

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Biamping is definitely a good thing. I always do dilligence in designing a good passive crossover, because I think that's still the most popular way speakers are used. I want people to be able to use the speakers with a typical receiver or amp, and not need an active crossover and amps to to them. But if you have the gear, it's great to run 'em that way.I wonder which would be better, a passive crossover with Auricaps and large pure copper air-core coils or an active analog crossover with generic electrolytics and low-cost op-amps. Or a digital crossover with ADCs and DACs. With active crossovers, you have the benefits of reduced bandwidth in each amp but there is added complexity in the system overall. A digital crossover can easily set delay for any channel, a definite plus for people running basshorns. Lots of variables to consider.On a similar note, I've been using Keith Larson's new WTPro/ST system which uses DSP to create filters from Spice files. It's like having a Spice parser that sets up an active crossover for testing. It's a great tool for crossover design work!