Subject: Has Anyone used the Foster W-422?
Posted by DRC on Mon, 07 Mar 2005 13:36:38 GMT
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They're an ancestor of the Fostex FE103, apparently, but with alnico magnets. Rated for 2w continuous, 8w peaks. Good thing I'm planning a 2A3 amp!I've seen discussions on FE103's, FE103E's, RS1197's in BR, Voigt Pipes, TL and back horns, but nothing really on this driver. I'm leaning toward the back horn Fostex recommends for the FE103E. Kinda wish Madisound made a flat pack kit it . . .

Subject: Re: Has Anyone used the Foster W-422?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 08 Mar 2005 03:04:06 GMT
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Talk with Bob Brines and Martin King. They've done a lot of work on cabinets for Fostex drivers and I think you'll find their experience very valuable.
Brines Acoustics

Subject: Re: Has Anyone used the Foster W-422?
Posted by JLapaire on Tue, 08 Mar 2005 12:17:08 GMT
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I could probably help with a flat pack if you decide to go that way. Might be able to arrange a loan of Buschhorn MK2 pair to try with your drivers, too.John

Subject: Re: Has Anyone used the Foster W-422?
Posted by DRC on Tue, 08 Mar 2005 13:14:10 GMT
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Wow! I may take you up on one or both of those options! I'm assuming you've heard, maybe built, the Buschhorns. How did they sound? With what driver, in what system, what size room, blah blah blah. Not like the Karlson, I'd assume! The Buschhorn Mk2 is the one option I forgot to mention. I'm sitting here looking at the plans for the Fostex plan and the Buschhorn Mk2, and it seems to me that the Buschhorn is probably ahead on several fronts:1) They're taller - 39" vs. 33" - which would put them much closer to seated ear level.2) They're simpler! 22 parts to the Fostex, 13 for the Buschhorn3) Less "kinky". The back wave in the Fostex makes a 180 degree turn and returns to the front before making the 90 downward. The Buschhorn just runs to the back and makes the

90. All the turns in the Fostex are square. The horn doesn't so much flare as it gets bigger in jumps as it goes around corners. The Buschhorn flares and looks a lot smoother.4) The Fostex mouth is in front; the Buschhorn in back. I would think the Buschhorn in a corner or near a rear wall would have better bass reinforcement.On the other hand, it appears that the horn length is longer on the Fostex, which is said to be tuned to 50hz. I'll have to look for that info on the Buschhorn.On the whole, I think I'm leaning toward the Buschhorns, from what I can see on paper, and we all know how dangerous that is!Sending payment on the drivers as soon as I have shipping charges (from Canada). May go air if it's not too dreadful. As Carly Simon sang, "An-ti-ci-pay-ay-tion . . ."

Subject: Re: Don't waste your time
Posted by BillEpstein on Wed, 09 Mar 2005 09:01:06 GMT
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You may recall I built the factory horn FE103E last year. After more than 200 hours, a lot of it blasting really loud techno and hard rock, it still sounded sounded like an AM radio above middle "C". And you read many posts everywhere, including most recently on Bottlehead about the Fostex sound, beaming highs, peaks in the highs, presence bump; all the more polite way of saying they suck. Too bad 'cause the lower mids are truly gorgeous.Now Jim Griffins Aurum Cantus/Jordan combo could be a winner...

Subject: Re: Don't waste your time
Posted by DRC on Wed, 09 Mar 2005 11:27:57 GMT
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I had forgotten - something I'm getting alarmingly good at! Yes, I've read the discussions, but thought I'd give them a whirl as a small cheap experiment, as opposed to the huge expensive experiment with the TADs/JBLs. I'm hoping that the lack of a whizzer cone and the addition of a phase plug may sort some of that out, to say nothing of the alnico magnets. There's also a filter approach to the peak.Worst comes to worst, I may put them in a Tractrix horn and use them for midrange only.Thanks for the input!

Subject: Buschhorn
Posted by JLapaire on Wed, 09 Mar 2005 13:14:46 GMT
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Dave, quick note as I run out the door, hoping Kennedy airport isn't shut down too badly. The Bhorns currently have tweaked 1197s in them, and I've build them for Fostex 108s (which smoke

the 1197s). I think they're the best thing you can do with a little single driver. Once broken in, the bass is pretty good, but the rest is wonderful. I've heard them in several different rooms, on very different gear, SS to Bottlehead, vinyl and digital - to me they're an excellent example of how to make single driver magic. Unfortunately they had to leave the room because I had to shunt the voicecoils every time I cranked the Karlsons - I think the 1197s would actually knock. Much higher WAF than the Ks though I'll be back the end of next week, I'll send phone #.John

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Subject: Re: Buschhorn
Posted by DRC on Wed, 09 Mar 2005 13:31:54 GMT
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Safe travels!In the chasing of this notion I've fallen over a guy who specializes in this sort of beast - sells wooden phase plugs for various FR drivers, has damped the basket and magnet structure, etc. He favors the BD design which uses 2 per cab, one firing upward and back @ 45degrees. Interesting stuff on his site about various obscure tweeters as well. I may run these FR and augment with the TAD 1602, depending on how the things sound alone.I'm sure they do have higher WAF than Karlsons, or my TAD beasts! LOL. Look forward to experimenting!
