Subject: Lowther / Fostex
Posted by JackieLaw on Thu, 12 Aug 2004 00:27:57 GMT
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If Lowther and Fostex speakers have such different characteristics, why are they used in the same cabinets and sometimes interchanged?

Subject: Re: Lowther / Fostex
Posted by akhilesh on Thu, 12 Aug 2004 01:10:30 GMT
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Good question. They should not be, IMHO. -akhilesh

Subject: Re: Lowther / Fostex
Posted by Martin on Thu, 12 Aug 2004 11:06:09 GMT
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Hi Tesla Rider,Could you be a little more specific about which Fostex and Lowther drivers and what types of cabinets. Some of the Fostex drivers are very similar to Lowther and some are very different. Also, the type of cabinet design will impact the answer since some are more sensitive to the driver parameters then others. For example a closed or ported box might be more difficult to swap drivers then a TL or horn loaded cabinet.Martin

Subject: Re: Lowther / Fostex
Posted by JackieLaw on Thu, 12 Aug 2004 16:29:32 GMT
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Makes sense.

Subject: Re: Lowther / Fostex
Posted by Martin on Thu, 12 Aug 2004 22:20:36 GMT
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Your letting my off too easy!Actually, many of the Lowther and Fostex eight inch drivers share similar Thiele/Small parameters. The Fostex FE-206E and FE-207E and most of the eight inch Sigma drivers along with almost all of the Lowther drivers are fairly close. They tend to have light cones with large magnets producing low Qts and high SPL for 1 w at 1 m.I swap my Lowthers (PM6C, PM2C, PM6A, PM2A, and the DX series) in and out of my ML TL design every few weeks. A quick adjustment of the variable BSC to get the SPL balanced and I sit back and listen. All of them sound slightly different with different strengths and weaknesses. Typically one trades bass response for high frequency response as the magnet gets bigger. Many other people have used the Fostex FE-206E and FE-207E in the same enclosure with slight changes to the port length tuning and the correction circuit. Most of the time, swapping a full range driver requires small adjustments like the amount of stuffing, different postions in the room, or different filter components. A lot of the enclosure designs can accomidate many different, yet similar, full range drivers. Also, one needs to keep in mind that the enclosure produces the bass and adds its own baffle step signiture. But once you get above say 400 Hz, the sound is all from the driver and the enclosure is not so important. Swapping full range drivers in a box impacts the bass produced from the box and then the mids and highs are from the driver itself.Martin

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Subject: Re: Lowther / Fostex
Posted by akhilesh on Sat, 14 Aug 2004 11:05:02 GMT
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Agreed. In a BAss reflex box, I would create a box specially for the driver. If the parameters of different drivers are "in the ballparK', then one can simply adjust the port tuning & keep volume the same. But BR boxes are VERY senitive to parameters, and small differences in volume and port tuing can be heard. I have no experience with the TL or horn boxes. My feeling is a horn SHOULD be sensitive, but i honestly don't know. I also feel a TL should be sensitive, since my understanding of it, (very superficial) is that at the bass frequencies, they act very similar to BR boxes. Maybe Martin & Wayne can elaborate!-akhilesh

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