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Subject: Active X user's, system set up  
Posted by [bmar](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2002 00:20:52 GMT  
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Hi All,I'm posting this for anyone using multi amps and active crossovers.After weeks of fiddling with the crossover and amp gains. Using a RS meter and audio test CD. I kept finding some things sounded great and others didn't sound as great or I would make an adjustment to make it better. Only to find this setting was not as good for yet other music. The RS meter is not that accurate but better than nothing, The audio CD is good but not so convenient when trying to work on a certain area with out the CD going to the next tone or not moving fast enough. Its doable but I found an easier solution. I had a Berhinger Ultracurve that I was fooling with for a while but took it out of the loop because I felt it introduced noise into the system and I didn't care for it. With the Ultracurve out of the signal loop it can still be used though. Plug the Ultracurve output into an open input on you amp/preamp. Now you can use the RTA and send test tones into the system. I had some long interconnects so I could move the Ultracurve around if needed. I had it sitting next to me on the couch, on the floor in front of the active crossover and behind the amps if needed when adjusting gains. This way I could be mobile and still look at all the results and change the test tone when needed. The crossover I have allows for adjustment of Butterworth to Linkwitz and in between. This was useful for pulling down a peak or pushing a null by moving the xo point and increasing or decreasing the db gain at the xo point. To make a long story shorter. This is not a revolutionary piece of equipment. Nor is it state of the art in quality or accuracy. It is however on sale right now at dealer for 199 and the mic is another 35.After many go rounds of fine tuning and test tones. I have everything set so that it sounds good for all different music. Now I dont have mine hooked up through the system because I dont like it. If you do run your system through this. You have a 1/3 octave graphic EQ and a 4 band parametric at your disposal. The auto Q function which reads the room response and adjust the EQ accordingly. Is out to lunch in my opinion. So for 200 bucks, this is a low cost tool to get a multi amp system dialed in. Bill

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Subject: welcome to the active world!  
Posted by [replay](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2002 01:03:08 GMT  
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hey bill, your system must rock! are you still running tubes for the top end? what's next? i'd like a pair of your wood horns, let's barter!cheers,george

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Subject: His horns are sweet!!!  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2002 08:49:19 GMT  
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The flare's improved; And that machined billet aluminum throat with the O-Ring for a seal - Just too cool, eh?

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Subject: My  
Posted by [mikebake](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2002 09:02:49 GMT  
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Ultracurve arrived last weekend, haven't set it up yet, will soon; thanks for the tips. Great piece for \$199, functions as noise gate and limiter (and auto feedback destroyer) too, for the occasional sound reinforcement use. I like having a system that can go from living room to high db outdoor gig and sound good at both. Yours can, Bill, but dang, you'll scratch that purty wood.....

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Subject: which model Berhinger?  
Posted by [Sam P.](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2002 16:04:34 GMT  
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"To make a long story shorter. This is not a revolutionary piece of equipment. Nor is it state of the art in quality or accuracy. It is however on sale right now at dealer for 199 and the mic is another 35."Are you refering to the ultracurve, or active xover at \$199? Sam

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Subject: Re: which model Berhinger?  
Posted by [mikebake](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2002 16:14:44 GMT  
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He would be refering to the Ultracurve.

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Subject: Re: which model Berhinger?  
Posted by [bmar](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2002 16:44:10 GMT  
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Yes, the Ultracurve 8024.I have an Ashly XR-2001 crossover

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Subject: Re: welcome to the active world!

Posted by [bmar](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2002 17:05:12 GMT

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Hi George,I'm not running tubes on the top anymore. :( I am moving all the power amps to the basement directly under where the system is. I dont like the fan noise and makes a lot of heat. Its all taking up a lot of room too. I'm going to use the tubes on my vynal system in another place in the house. Cant see any point to having nice tube amps hidden away in the basement.Right now this is a 5 way system. using a 3 way crossover. the subs are crosses out of the amp at 80hz and are run by two plate amps with another crossover in those. The ashley crosses 3 amps which go to the mid bass, mid, and high. The high has two drivers which have a passive xo at 9khz.Whats next is to get another XR-2001 crossover so I can have two channels of 5 way. Need two more amps also. I'm glad your interested in horns. They have improved quite a bit since the ones you saw at Lima. I'll give you a call.Bill

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Subject: you guys are why the rat bike still needs rubber

Posted by [Sam P.](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2002 17:55:36 GMT

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Man, that thing looks nice, I even found it for \$199 "in stock". How "transparent" are they when set to "flat"? How can it be so inexpensive??? Even the \$499 retail would be a bargain if the build quality is good. Sam

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Subject: Re: you guys are why the rat bike still needs rubber

Posted by [bmar](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2002 18:43:10 GMT

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Hi Sam,I read a review on this from Thorston. He indicated that it was Very transparent. All in all it was a very good review for it. the review is online you should check it out.I notice a little bit of noise from it in my system. I have also heard that in some cases the Ultravurve has some impedance issues with home audio. It is much more transparent when you uses balanced lines. I couldnt plug into it with balanced. I havnt given up on the idea of using it. but right now I'm still aquiring amps so I'm trying to keep interconnects to a minimum right now. As far as transparency

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goes while its in the system. The difference between just being turned on, and switching it to EQ mode with a flat plot is None! You cant tell any difference from switching the EQ off, or on with a flat setting. Bill

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Subject: Have you used the parametric EQ's???

Posted by [Robert Hamel](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2002 19:24:26 GMT

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Hello Bill I am very curious about it too. Looks like a great deal. I am thinking I can use the 3 parametric EQ's to notch out the worst room modes like the Infinity Rabos subs from my powered subs as well as EQ for my mains. With 3 per channel you could get the worst 2 and still have a one open. I have wanted a 1/3 RTA for a long time but was always to pricey. This looks like a steal! Is it noisy through the 1/4?? I won't be running balanced either.

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Subject: Re: It works well

Posted by [bmar](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2002 21:43:16 GMT

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You can definitely make your system sound better using the EQ on this. It also lets you set right and left channels independently from one and other. Its a very nice unit and you cant beat it for the money. It's really a good deal. I found that using adaptors like an RCA to 1/4" was really bad. I may have had bad ones but I was surprised by this. Get a cable that RCA on one end and 1/4" on the other. This will help. It is really pretty quiet. I would describe the noise I'm getting as similar to the hiss you hear from compression drivers. It's not as loud as that though. and you certainly cant hear this unless your head is in the speaker. This could also be something related to my system. hope this helps, Bill

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Subject: Thanks!!!!nt

Posted by [Robert Hamel](#) on Fri, 23 Aug 2002 00:41:16 GMT

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Subject: I love the smell of solder in the morning,  
Posted by [Sam P.](#) on Fri, 23 Aug 2002 17:39:33 GMT  
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"it smells like victory". Or at least when I finish assembling the XM9 kit that just arrived, I will have saved enough via DIY to justify looking at the 8024 dsp again. The ironic part is I have LOVED listening to the quasi-4 Pi Pro's running off a vintage pioneer integrated amp(40wpc) for a couple of weeks now with the passive xovers, and "tone defeat" engaged. Even nicer with +5dB at 50Hz. for low end extension. Oh yeah, Phil's kit looks great, the enclosure is HEAVY ga. metal, nice silkscreening, was bummed about one set of opamps coming from mal, and one set from ch...till I found the tube with the higher performance ones, they all match for lot#. The extra opamps will let me graft in a clone of Rane's delay circuit for the LP outputs later... Sam

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