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Subject: New Participant

Posted by [danmarshall](#) on Sun, 05 Jan 2003 21:01:27 GMT

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Hi all,I just discovered this site today, thanks to a link posted on the Sound Practices discussion group (joelist) in which I have been a participant for perhaps five years. Perhaps there are some joelist participants here. Anyway, I am a retired EE with audio as a hobby, off and on, for the past 50 years. My interests lie mainly in power amps (tube amps for the past several years, SE and PP, but mainly SE) and speakers. I have bought and sold quite an appreciable number of speakers over the last few years, ranging from TAD HF drivers to Tannoy Golds ((which I used as my primary speakers for some 30 years) to quite a few larger JBLs, Altecs and Peaveys to several of the more rare and exotic full range speakers, on down to whatever. It would take far too long to

various designs and noted something that was somewhat troubling. Perhaps someone can comment further. e.g., the delta 15 states a Qts of something like 1.61, as I recall. It is common knowledge that this is far too high a value to work properly in any kind of conventional enclosure,

allowing the use of such a high value of Qts. My intuition (and TS simulation) tells me that the bass response of such a speaker should sound entirely wretched. Some of the horn designs look to be little different than a common duct loaded speaker facing into the corner. Anyway, it escapes me how acceptable performance can be expected from a speaker with such a high Qts.I have a pair of 18 inch peavey speakers that might be suitable for one of these designs. Are the plans available separately? They are currently listed on eBay with no bids, so if they do not sell I

this speaker (Black Widow 1808-8) in any of the  $\pi$  designs, I would welcome their comments.Dan Marshal

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Subject: Re: New Participant

Posted by [wasteh202](#) on Sun, 05 Jan 2003 21:23:17 GMT

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I searched e-bay and did not see an auction for the Pi plans. E-bay can require very specific searches sometimes and some things are not easy to find in a search. I hope that you are mistaken, but it would not surprise me.The Pi plans should not be sold by anybody except Wayne Parham and I doubt that he has begun listing them on e-bay. Wayne gives the speaker plans to anybody who request them. He will e-mail them to you. This is very unfortunate as it is people doing things like this that will really screw-up a good thing!

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Subject: Re: New Participant

Posted by [danmarshall](#) on Sun, 05 Jan 2003 22:16:21 GMT

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Hi, You apparently misunderstood my post. I did not mention the plans being listed on eBay, rather, I asked whether the plans were available separately. What I did mention was that if my

enclosures for them, as the design, apparently, by virtue that some models use high Qts speakers, can accommodate speakers with fairly high Qts. Dan Marshall

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Subject: Just ask

Posted by [BillEpstein](#) on Sun, 05 Jan 2003 22:27:58 GMT

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Hi Dan, and welcome. The archives here will give you a direction on which designs to try but the Theatre and Thermionics are the most tube friendly. I have built Theatre 4's and 2 Pi's. You've probably seen the "you have mail" posts from Wayne. He'll e-mail you the plans. Your opinion on the Qts of the Delta 15 is great because not only is it an "I told Wilbur and I told Orville..." sort of thing 'cause so many of us love the bass response of the Delta but because some of the participants, and Wayne, are in a position to debate that point. I'm not. I turn big pieces of wood into smaller pieces of wood.

<http://www.MerryPranks.com>

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Subject: Re: New Participant

Posted by [wasteh202](#) on Sun, 05 Jan 2003 23:20:21 GMT

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Thanks for straightening that out, I glad that I did misunderstand you and sorry for the mix-up.

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Subject: Re: New Participant

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2003 00:10:50 GMT

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The Eminence Delta 15 speaker motor has Qts of 0.5, which is rather high but nothing like 1.6. I think you might be thinking of the large format Alpha series parts, which have unusually high Qts although not quite 1.6. The Alpha 12 has Qts of 0.7 and the Alpha 15 is 1.2. As I'm sure you're

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aware, the secret to using high Q motors is to use an open baffle or very large box. If they are installed in small boxes, the system will be underdamped, and as motor Q gets higher, optimal box size increases towards infinity. Accordingly, the cabinets for models using Alpha 15's are very large.

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Subject: Re: New Participant  
Posted by [bmar](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2003 00:30:51 GMT  
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Hi Dan, Welcome to the Pi forum. The Black Widows have similar T/S specs to some JBL speakers. I haven't used the 1808's but I have run 1505's before. They sound pretty good and if you end up keeping them they will be a good place to start. The 1505's had a good range and a clean sound, but I gave them up for JBL 2226's which have a little more punch and better dynamics. Bill

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Subject: Re: New Participant  
Posted by [danmarshall](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2003 02:06:11 GMT  
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Yes, I misspoke, I should have stated the Alpha series. I was going from memory, which is apparently not functioning well tonight. The Alpha 15 data sheet states a Qts of 1.26, though not 1.61 as quoted, it is still exceedingly high. It is still a wonderment how such a high Qts can be properly loaded, short of using a humungous enclosure. I suppose it could be mechanically damped to lower the Qts. Dan Marshall

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Subject: Re: New Participant  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2003 18:46:58 GMT  
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That's right. Cabinets for Alpha 15's must be very large or open.

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