

SOUND & VISION®

from test report on the Infinity Alpha home theater speaker system in the June 2003 **S&V**. Copyright © 2003 by Hachette Filipacchi Media U.S., Inc.; all rights reserved.

in the lab

Frequency response (at 2 meters)

front left/right.....	78 Hz to 15.5 kHz \pm 2.7 dB
center.....	100 Hz to 13 kHz \pm 2.5 dB
surround.....	75 Hz to 14.4 kHz \pm 8.1 dB
subwoofer.....	39 Hz to 112 Hz \pm 2.1 dB

Sensitivity (SPL at 1 meter with 2.8 volts of pink-noise input)

front left/right.....	.89 dB
center.....	.92 dB
surround.....	.88 dB

Impedance (minimum/nominal)

front left/right.....	.3.8/7 ohms
center.....	.2.8/5 ohms
surround.....	.3.1/4 ohms

Bass limits (lowest frequency and maximum SPL with limit of 10% distortion at 2 meters in a large room)

front left/right.....	62 Hz at 70 dB SPL
center.....	62 Hz at 65 dB SPL
surround.....	62 Hz at 68 dB SPL
subwoofer.....	25 Hz at 85 dB SPL

105 dB average SPL from 25 to 62 Hz
111 dB maximum SPL at 62 Hz

All of the response curves in the graph are weighted to reflect how sound arrives at a listener's ears with normal speaker placement. The Alpha 20 left/right front speaker had basically flat response, with some roughness above 1 kHz and well-controlled directivity over its entire listening window. The Alpha 37c center speaker had some additional roughness and a

steep rolloff above about 12 kHz, but directivity was well controlled up to 22.5° off-axis. The Alpha 25Es surround had remarkably flat response and uniform directivity for a speaker with multiple driver panels when used in its bipole setting (shown in the graph).

Bass limits for the Alpha 1200s subwoofer were measured with it set to maximum bandwidth and placed in the optimal corner of a 7,500-cubic-foot room. In a smaller room users can expect 2 to 3 Hz deeper extension and up to 3 dB higher sound-pressure level (SPL). The 1200s had unusually robust output (109 dB or more between 32 and 62 Hz). Upper bandwidth was 112 Hz when the crossover was set to a marked 150 Hz. The Bass Optimization System controls were difficult to use, mainly because they had an indeterminate effect on the sub's output.

— Tom Nousaine

