

“... DYNAMIC,

EXCITING

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Tone

“This HT speaker system from Paradigm is ready to produce a very highly charged and exciting soundscape at extremely high listening levels. The realism is very good and the dynamic capabilities are awesome.”

by Kent Luttrell

Monitor 7

Paradigm Electronics is a Canadian company operating out of a place called Mississauga, Ontario. The company has a solid reputation internationally and manufactures a large range of drivers and enclosures, including conventional hi-fi and home theatre drivers, enclosures and flush-mount units - even an all-weather outdoor range.

The system has been put together not from one Paradigm range, but from four.

RANGE FINDER

The main speakers used here were Monitor 7s; ported floor standing two-way speakers with dual 165 mm semi transparent cones and 25 mm PTD™ dome tweeters. The CC-370 centre speaker uses the same configuration, and the surrounds were ADP-170 surround/rears, each with twin 140 mm poly-propylene cones and two more 19 mm CMC™

dome tweeters. Looking from the listening position, the drivers should be on the left and right sides of the enclosures as they are optimised to reproduce a reverberant sound field, not direct sound.

The big bottom end is supplied by the PS-1200 powered subwoofer, with a 310 mm carbon-fibre-reinforced cone, a 51 mm voice coil and die-cast chassis.

CAVITY SEARCH

The enclosure is a sophisticated DCBS™ dual cavity bass-shaping design with no externally visible driver. Three large ports on the rear let the bass out - this subwoofer can produce a prodigious amount of bass being 3 db down at 22 hz.



Getting the sub to blend with the large front speakers and small centre and surround speakers was quite hard to achieve, so I was never quite totally happy. I found that tuning the sub to the small centre and surrounds created a slight bloom in the bass, and tuning to the floor-standers left a bit of a gap between the sub and the centre and surrounds. Maybe I'm nit picking a wee bit, because with everything set up, the sound was extremely dynamic and exciting.

These speakers are fairly efficient and thus it is quite easy to make them go real loud.

The overall sound was clean and crisp with just a slight colouration in the mid bass area – probably a result of not quite getting the relationship right between the speakers.

LISTEN UP

Listening to the Titanic and Superman bits and cruising to the Sarah McLachlan stuff, all recorded in Dolby Digital 5.1, was as I said, dynamic, exciting and totally believable.

The build quality of all the components is pretty good and the sound quality is right up there with definition accuracy and a degree of warmth - not to mention the trouser-flapping bass. Put it all together and you have a system that will handle all the stresses of a modern home theatre digital-ready sound system and could be just what you wanted for Christmas.

SUMMARY

This HT speaker system from Paradigm is ready to produce a very highly charged and exciting soundscape at extremely high listening levels. The realism is very good and the dynamic capabilities are awesome.



ADP-170



PS-1200



CC-370