

Surrounded

Meridian sets new entry level for digital active speakers

MERIDIAN'S new DSP33 Digital Active Loudspeaker, derived from the M33, accepts two digital inputs from sources up to 96kHz/24-bit capability, including MHR (Meridian High Resolution) streams from Meridian processors and DVD players.

The DSP33 makes extensive use of four- and six-layer PCBs and surface mount components, for onboard digital signal processing (DSP), utilising the new 100 MIPS Motorola DSP, the 56364. Key features of its DSP are a FIFO memory buffer, designed to give 'the lowest possible jitter from any source', a linear phase crossover for maximum driver integration impossible using analogue techniques, tweeter delay 'for perfect driver alignment', 48-bit resolution volume control, minimal equalisation, transparent tone controls and absolute phase control/phase-corrected balance control. Onboard 85W bass and 65W treble amplifiers, housed within the precision

cast and extruded aluminium sealed DSP33 speaker enclosure, power two 5in cast chassis, carbon-coned bass/mid drivers, and a 1in aluminium dome tweeter respectively. An RS232 port allows computer setup of the DSP33, software updates and use of external control systems. A front centre channel version, the Meridian DSP33C, is sold singly. Meridian has also developed the new 558 multi-channel amplifier for hi-fi and home cinema use. Rated at 200W x 5ch into 8 ohms, it uses twin 1.2kVA toroids and 50 pairs of 15A output devices, each hand-matched. Switchable for balanced and single-ended sources, the 558 amounts to five monoblock DC-coupled amplifiers in a



single, rack mountable chassis. Its ultra low impedance, error corrected output stages may be switched to two-channel mode developing a rated 500W x 2ch into 8 ohms. Prices are £2475 per pair for the DSP33 loudspeaker, £1355 for a single DSP33C loudspeaker, and £3395 for the 558 multichannel amplifier. Further details from Meridian Audio Ltd, 01480 52144.