# **EM·PHASER**

### EMPHASER ECP-M-SERIES • TEST REPORT CAR&HIFI 2/2021



For some months now Emphaser has been delighting us with a whole series of new audio products that were elegantly made throughout. Here we assess the new Monolith component speaker systems.

Emphaser truly steps on the gas. After the EA power amps and a series of vehicle-specific speakers, authorized dealers are now getting the universal ECP component systems. They are in the most common sizes 10, 13 and 16 centimeters so that the vast majority of vehicles having standard mounting positions are covered. As is already the case with the amplifiers, the speakers also look very nicely made. From the packaging through the tooling to the crossover layout you never get the im-

pression that it was found necessary minals and the neat tinsel lead wires to cut any corners here. Quite the opposite: the chassis have a solid feel in

ly finished. The woofers have highly robust die-cast baskets, while the robust ter-

the hand and are superb-

With a 100-mm magnet and 32-mm voice coil the 16-cm woofer has a particularly large driver size



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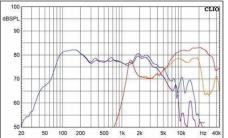
make a good impression. The pole plates are nicely CNC machined and therefore align better than if they were just stamped plates. Aluminum cones do the job of radiating the sound, while the surrounds and spiders are not of the cheap variety. The tweeter also comes in a very elegant, CNC milled aluminum housing. This is a 25-mm woven fabric dome, which is often a popular choice for two-way applications. Each set includes four crossover housings as the tweeter and woofer branches are built as independent sections and so can be installed separately. As we have come to expect, we find good components like thick air coils, decent film capacitors and metal oxide resistors. The jumpers to adjust the tweet-

The tweeter in a milled aluminum housing is the same for the three systems

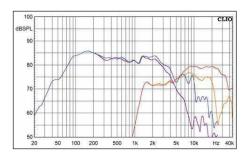
ers are also large, robust and with reliable contacts – exactly as it should be.

#### Measurements and Sound

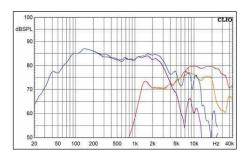
But on closer inspection the Emphaser chassis reveal the effort that has gone into their design. The voice coil of the tweeter does not have to bathe in ferrofluid, but is allowed to move freely in the air gap. In the case of the three woofers the coils are wound on an electrically non-conducting Kapton former to avoid eddy current distortions. Also pointing in this direction are the copper caps on the center poles. Naturally without steel there can be no magnetic field here, but the copper caps are optimal for diverting the eddy currents away. It is noteworthy that for all three woofers an individual magnet motor was developed to ensure optimal driver parameters in each case. With budget speakers a standard driver is often installed for all sizes on grounds of costs. Exactly the same goes for crossovers. Normally there would be a standard crossover, but in the case of Emphaser speakers no two crossovers are identical. The M4 has its own layout; in the case of M5 and M6 their circuits are matched to the systems with individual component values. In front of the measurement microphone these three component systems make an excellent impression. The common tweeter woven fabric dome works perfectly as expected. In the case of the 10-cm



The smallest woofer shows lower efficiency and it is much quieter than its big brother. The fundamental resonance of the tweeter at 1.5 kHz can be seen



The 5 ¼ system works perfectly without any distortion. The tweeter works across a very wide band of up to 30 kHz



The woofer of the M6 appears near perfect. Cone resonances around 8 kHz are kept well under control and disappear off axis

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system, since it is only connected at 6 dB/octave, its resonance is rather noticeable, though it easily tolerates that. The woofers are stunning. Thanks to the careful circuitry they produce a very nice frequency response together with extremely low distortion. In addition, the larger woofers of the M5 and M6 are outstanding for their tremendous level stability. It doesn't get much better than this.

Also the Monolith component systems sound convincing from the very first note. The combination of aluminum cone in the woofer and woven fabric dome gives a punchy, high resolution sound. The sound of all three component system speakers delights with a superb transparency so that you have no problems following even little details in what is going on in the music. Mid-range reproduction is faithful and vibrant: there is nothing tiring or boring to be heard here. Then there is the superb uncompromising bass that presents a nice and precise rendition of bass drums. Altogether the Emphaser sound seems quite spacious, the ears being well looked after at all times.

#### **Summary**

What Emphaser is presenting here in the under-250 euro category is close to the limit of what is possible. Top build quality, careful design, super test results and a convincing sound – what more do you want?



With robust die-cast baskets and powerful drivers the construction of the woofers is first class

Unner-Class 125 250 €	II OI OI	
Upper-Class 125 - 250 € <b>CAR</b> & <b>HiFi</b> 2/2021	Upper-Class 125 - 250 €  CAR <sub>8</sub> HiFi 2/2021	BEST PRODUCT Upper-Class 125 - 250 € CAR <sub>8</sub> HiFi 2/2021
Emphaser ECP-M4	Emphaser ECP-M5	Emphaser ECP-M6
ACR	ACR	ACR
		CH-5330 Zurzach
		info@acr.eu acr.eu
	·	1,1
		1,5
		1,5
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1,0
1,5	1,0	1,0
4.5.	10	10
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1,0	1,0	1,0
	1,0	1,0
1,0	1,0	1,0
104	100	010
		210 mm 186 mm
		75 mm
		90 mm
25 mm	25 mm	25 mm
45 mm	45 mm	40 mm
12/6 dB	12/12 dB	6/6 dB
		+3,0, -3 dB
+0, 0, -0 ub	• •	+0,0, -0 ub
-	-	-
4.01	4.01	4.01
		4 Ohm 3,60 Ohm
		0,12 mH-
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	32 mm
54 cm <sup>2</sup>	85 cm <sup>2</sup>	131 cm <sup>2</sup>
93 Hz	73 Hz	57 Hz
5,13	4,66	4,29
		0,63
		0,55
	·	13,0
		14,1 g 1,19 kg/s
		0,54 mm/N
3,13 Tm	4,59 Tm	5,39 Tm
81 dB	86 dB	87 dB
30 – 100 W	30 – 100 W	20 – 120 W
220 Euro	240 Euro	250 Euro
1,3	1,2	1,1
1,5	1,2	1,2
	· ·	1,0
very good	excellent	excellent
Ultimate-Class	Ultimate-Class	Ultimate-Class
Top-Class	Top-Class	Top-Class
Middle-Class	Middle-Class	Upper-Class
Entry-Class	Entry-Class	Entry-Class
		4 4
1.3	1.2	7.7
	### ACR CH-5330 Zurzach info@acr.eu acr.eu  1,3	## Company