



November 2020

MERIDIAN AUDIO ANNOUNCES TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE FOR ARCHITECTURAL RANGE

Meridian continues to challenge convention and break new ground through research by announcing the launch of High-Power Array (HPA), a technology upgrade that optimises the output and coverage of sound when three Meridian architectural loudspeakers are arranged in a close-proximity array configuration.

When designing large home cinemas, integrators aim to achieve high SPL targets across the entire listening region, without distortion. CEDIA guidelines recommend a THX Reference level 105dB for the main listening position. This can be challenge that typically requires the need to move to compression drivers that lack the required high frequency extension, resolution, and clarity; a deeper installation depth for larger, high SPL loudspeakers; and a greater number of larger power amps generating more heat in the rack.

Meridian is providing the solution to this challenge with the newly developed HPA technology enabling integrators to install three identical DSP loudspeakers in a stack or array configuration. The HPA configuration ensures minimal interference and spectral variation between speakers, resulting in an even response so that every listener in the room to experience Meridian's signature high resolution sound and fidelity. This installation method also enables the integrator to maintain the 100mm mounting depth and the additional channels do not require any extra equipment in the rack.

"HPA represents a continuation of Meridian utilising the power and flexibility offered by the DSP within our loudspeakers to solve problems that would otherwise be difficult or potentially impossible to solve," comments Dr. Laurence Hobden, Research and Applied Technologies Team Leader at Meridian. "By considering what is both objectively and subjectively important, we have been able to engineer an elegant solution to a real-world problem presented to us by our design and integration

team. HPA processing minimises the interference between close proximity loudspeakers by carefully controlling their magnitude and phase responses. This allows multiple loudspeakers to be used as a single channel, offering increased SPL whilst maintaining detail and fidelity.”

Available for use with Meridian’s architectural range — including the DSP520.2, DSP640.2, DSP750, and DSP730 — the three loudspeakers are installed with the central speaker assigned as the ‘primary’ product and the outer two speakers classed as the ‘secondary’ products. This is the same whether installed vertically or horizontally. To allocate a role, the integrator is required to send one RS232 command to each individual loudspeaker within an array.

When installing the loudspeakers, the spacing between each one should be 50mm or less — the closer the speakers, the better the performance. For horizontal installs, the listener’s ears should be positioned directly in line with the primary loudspeaker, and at a distance of at least 4m from the array, while for vertically mounted loudspeakers, the line should target the tweeter drivers.

“The development of HPA is the latest in a long history of innovation from Meridian that we are extremely proud of,” comments Barry Sheldrick, Director of Sales at Meridian. “HPA gives our architectural range real breadth and allows our loudspeakers to deliver the best possible performance in larger rooms. With this patent-pending technology, integrators get the benefits of incredibly high SPL, without the drawback of comb filtering, with our signature audio quality. Our speakers in an HPA configuration sound exactly like a single speaker would do, they just play a whole lot louder.”

For further information, visit www.meridian-audio.com.

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ABOUT MERIDIAN AUDIO

Meridian Audio, the British audio pioneer, has been creating innovative audio technologies and elegant, high performance audio products since 1977. From our flagship DSP loudspeakers with

integrated amplification, to our discreet and powerful range of in-wall loudspeakers, we deliver easy to install, high resolution audio systems for home cinemas and whole home solutions. The renowned Meridian experience is now available in a variety of environments thanks to our collaborative partnerships with leading global brands including Jaguar Land Rover, Human Horizons, LG Electronics and British Airways, transforming the way people experience sound wherever they may be. Learn more at www.meridian-audio.com.

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