

Transducer Developments Limited has for many years been a supplier of high quality drive units. The company has enlisted the expertise of John Wright to design a new range of loudspeaker systems under the 'TDL' logo. With in-house production facilities, TDL is not constrained by the availability of bought-in components from other suppliers.

The design of small loudspeakers which can truly be called 'high fidelity' is particularly demanding, requiring a level of performance in excess of that suggested by their size. The TDL 'Compact' speakers are a compromise only in that their enclosures are smaller than our floor standing models. They employ the same drive units, crossover configuration and meticulous attention to engineering detail.

The bass unit diaphragms are formed of Cobex – a material that provides greater stiffness in the piston operating range for controlled bass extension. The systems are accurately reflexed and critically damped to obtain optimum low frequency performance. As with all other TDL speakers, the cabinets are formed of Medite – a dense building material more akin to brickwork than woodwork. The tweeters are metal dome.

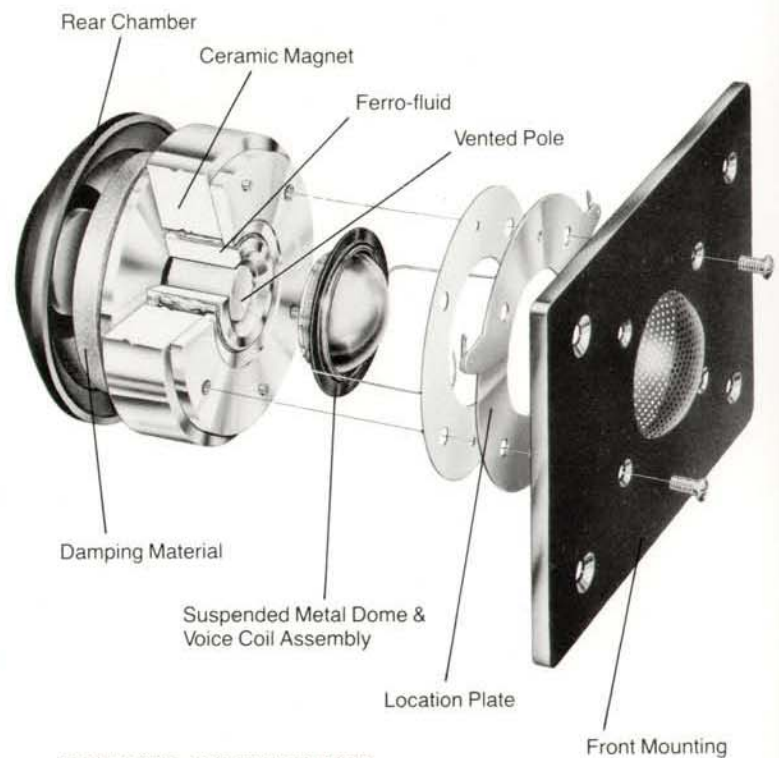
Conventional tweeters, although extended in their response, can be considerably distorted at high frequencies. A properly designed metal dome, however, does not break-up in this manner. This can be heard in the transient performance, which is fast but without the overhang that causes listening fatigue.

The TDL metal dome tweeters have a separate compliant suspension and the coils are controlled by ferro-fluid in the gap. The magnets have vented poles which lead to rear chambers. This reduces the fundamental resonance to much below their operating range, with corresponding minimum phase shift. Thus a simple filter defines a third order acoustic response to achieve excellent integration with the midrange, free of irregularities common in the off-axis vertical response.

The loudspeakers should be connected to a stable stereo amplifier via high current carrying cables of flex. Under normal conditions of use for speech or music, fuses are neither necessary nor recommended. The speakers should ideally be supported upon stands and acoustic feedback must be avoided. We suggest that they be auditioned only with the finest ancillary equipment.



TDL COMPACT



TDL METAL DOME TWEETER