

By GeorgePetersen


Two-Inch Exit Compression Drivers

In many ways, the 2-inch (exit) compression driver forms the heart of the typical large-format sound reinforcement speaker. True, other versions of compression drivers — from half-inch to four-inch exit models — exist, but the 2-inch versions offer a combination of efficiency, power handling (band-limited, of course) and serious midrange punch that has made these such a popular component in high-output live sound systems for more than a half century. Ironically, some of the basic design parameters (such as metallic dome diaphragms with flexible corrugated surround, phase plugs and powerful magnet struc-

tures) were defined by the first compression drivers invented in 1928 by Western Electric engineers E.C. Wenthe and A.L. Thuras. Yet over time, in compression driver technology has been anything but static, with developments such as new diaphragm designs and magnet materials, new phase plug geometry and more.


Of course, the other half of the equation is horn designs, but that's an entirely different topic. We took a look at a selection of current offerings in 2-inch exit compression drivers and found a bountiful crop.

B-52 COMP-3300 b-52pro.com




MAGNET	Ferrite	IMPEDANCE	16 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	3-inch
POWER RATING	125 watts	WEIGHT	12 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	800 Hz to 20k Hz	MOUNT	Four 1/4x20 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	n/a		
Price	\$499		

Community M200 communitypro.com



MAGNET	Ceramic	IMPEDANCE	8 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Mylar	VOICE COIL	2.2-inch
POWER RATING	75 watts	WEIGHT	8 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	400 Hz to 8k Hz	MOUNT	Four 1/4x20 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	110 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$475		

B&C DE1050 bcspeakers.com



MAGNET	Neodymium	IMPEDANCE	8 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	4-inch
POWER RATING	140 watts above 800 Hz	WEIGHT	7.9 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	500 Hz to 20k Hz	MOUNT	Four M6 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	109 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$665		

DAS K-8 dasaudio.com




MAGNET	Ceramic	IMPEDANCE	8 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	4-inch
POWER RATING	50 watts RMS above 500 Hz	WEIGHT	21.8 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	500 Hz to 20k Hz	MOUNT	Four M6 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	110 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$504		

Beyma CP850Nd profesional.beyma.com




MAGNET	Neodymium	IMPEDANCE	8 ohms
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	4-inch
POWER RATING	130 watts above 500 Hz	WEIGHT	9.7 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	500 Hz to 20k Hz	MOUNT	Four M6 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	112 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$899		

Eighteen Sound ND2080 eighteensound.com



MAGNET	Neodymium	IMPEDANCE	8 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	3-inch
POWER RATING	100 watts above 1.2k Hz	WEIGHT	7.9 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	800 Hz to 20k Hz	MOUNT	Four M6 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	110 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$499		

Celestion CDX20-3000 celestion.com




MAGNET	Neodymium	IMPEDANCE	8 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	3-inch
POWER RATING	75 watts RMS	WEIGHT	4.4 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	500 Hz to 18k Hz	MOUNT	Four M6 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	107 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$524		

Eminence PSD 3006 eminence.com




MAGNET	Ferrite	IMPEDANCE	8 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	3-inch
POWER RATING	100 watts AES	WEIGHT	13.5 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	800 Hz to 20k Hz	MOUNT	Four 1/4x20 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	109 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$199		

Faital HF20AT faitalpro.com




MAGNET	Neodymium	IMPEDANCE	8 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	3-inch
POWER RATING	90 watts AES above 900 Hz	WEIGHT	7.3 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	500 Hz to 18 kHz	MOUNT	Four M6 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	110 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$819		

PRV D3220Ti-Nd prvaudio.com




MAGNET	Neodymium	IMPEDANCE	8 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	3-inch
POWER RATING	110 watts RMS	WEIGHT	4.4 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	500 Hz to 18k Hz	MOUNT	Four M6 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	108 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$291		

JBL 2446H/J jblpro.com



MAGNET	Ferrite	IMPEDANCE	8-ohm (2446H); 16-ohm (2446J)
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	4-inch
POWER RATING	100 watts above 500 Hz	WEIGHT	30.5 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	500 Hz to 20k Hz	MOUNT	Four 1/4x20 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	111 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$839		

Radian 950 PB radianaudio.com




MAGNET	Neodymium	IMPEDANCE	8 or 16 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Aluminum (beryllium optional)	VOICE COIL	4-inch
POWER RATING	125W AES	WEIGHT	10.4 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	500 Hz to 20k Hz	MOUNT	Four 1/4x20 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	111 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$720		

P Audio Systems PreNeo-750N paudiothailand.com




MAGNET	Neodymium	IMPEDANCE	8 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	3-inch
POWER RATING	100 watts	WEIGHT	6.8 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	500 Hz to 18k Hz	MOUNT	Four M6 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	112 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$299		

RCF ND950 2.0 rcf.it



MAGNET	Neodymium	IMPEDANCE	8 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	4-inch
POWER RATING	140 watts AES above 1kHz	WEIGHT	7.8 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	500 Hz to 20k Hz	MOUNT	Four M6 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	111 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$899		

Peavey 44XT peavey.com



MAGNET	Ferrite	IMPEDANCE	8 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	2-inch
POWER RATING	80 watts above 500 Hz	WEIGHT	21 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	500 Hz to 20 kHz	MOUNT	Four 1/4x20 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	111 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$379		

Selenium D408Ti jblselenium.com



MAGNET	Barium ferrite	IMPEDANCE	8 ohm
DIAPHRAGM	Titanium	VOICE COIL	4-inch
POWER RATING	100 watts above 800 Hz	WEIGHT	18.8 pounds
FREQUENCY RESPONSE	400 Hz to 20k Hz	MOUNT	Four M6 holes on 4-inch circle
SENSITIVITY	111 dB, 1w/1m		
Price	\$299		

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