

THE \$ENSIBLE SOUND



Each front baffle board contains a 1" tweeter and a 6" woofer. The front panels are the normal pressboard, while the curved rear section is made of a stressed fiber laminate. This rear panel gives the speaker its light weight, and more importantly, eliminates parallel cabinet surfaces and all their associated problems. The Time Window does not have a boxy sound. As the name implies, it seems to pass sound instead of creating it. The nice sense of "there" that is available in dipole speakers, is also abundant here, but with a difference. The T.W. doesn't generate an added ambience through a back wave, (dipoles do) but it has the courtesy to allow the recorded sound to pass intact. The enclosure is double port loaded, and the whole package is wrapped up in a thin sheet of acoustically transparent foam.

Rather than knocking you off your feet with "super sound", these units tend to underwhelm at first hearing. The longer one listens to the speakers, the more impressive the sound presentation becomes. This characteristic was mentioned by each listening panel member.

During the longer listening sessions, there was a tendency to get so engrossed in the music that the immediate task of speaker evaluation would be forgotten. I guess that's a very nice thing to say about a loudspeaker, and maybe I should stop right there, but I won't. I keep thinking about the poor audio salesman. Since most people purchase on impulse, which translates into sonic "WOW", the salesman has to have his hands full with the Time Window. If you've got the money and a yen for a new sound around the house; go spend a few hours with a set of Time Windows, and let us know what you think.

JAH

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VOLUME 1 / NUMBER 2

Manufacturer: DCM Corporation
670 Airport Blvd.
Ann Arbor, MI. 48104

DCM - TIME WINDOW

What the hell is a Time Window? First, it's a space-time relationship that NASA scientists shoot their spaceships through, and it's also a dimensional doorway from a science fiction novel (I can't remember the title), but of more concern here, a Time Window is a great loudspeaker.

Quite a while has passed since a loudspeaker was introduced with a name instead of a series of letters and numbers. I like the practice. A name lets the product fit into conversation more easily, and generally creates a more "at ease" feeling. Does that sound silly? Remember, loudspeakers live in your home, like a pet. Could you imagine calling your dog: "here XP-19".

In my opinion, this product needs a "catchy" name to help it survive in the marketplace. You see, DCM and the Time Window have little common ground to link them with what most of us have come to expect from a loudspeaker company and its products. You see, DCM does not advertise! It takes a strong product to generate sales without advertising -- the Time window is such a product.

The company also differs in its basic sales attitude. They ask that the Time Window be judged for what it does; not what it is. The product literature mentions nothing but sound quality. A very refreshing approach when compared to the usual "poker game" marketing method: I'll raise you a beryllium dome and call your physically aligned voice coils.

The Time Window is definitely a "home" loudspeaker. It is most versatile with respect to environmental positioning. The speakers produced excellent sound and an acceptable stereo image no matter where they were positioned in our listening rooms. Admittedly, placement does affect the sound quality, but the severity is less than any other speaker in my experience. A very enjoyable experience can be obtained by sitting 90 degrees off-axis -- that's right, sitting between the speakers. It's like being seated in the first row at a concert where the performance is taking place on an elevated stage, or if you like, a headphone sound without the phones.

From a physical point-of-view, the Time Window is atypical. At 36" in height and 14½" wide, it is designed to be floor standing. It is very lightweight for its size, and can be easily moved about by one person. The cross-section on the following page will give you a feeling for the unique design of the speaker.

The \$ENSIBLE SOUND is published quarterly at 403 Darwin Drive, Snyder, New York 14226

Subscriptions are available as follows:
\$10/four issues (U.S.A.)
add \$2 for first class mail.
\$11/four issues (Canada)
add \$2 for first class mail.
\$16/four issues (Foreign)
includes air mail.

THE \$ENSIBLE SOUND is a publication for the Audiophile concerned with obtaining the best sound from affordable components. Features include equipment reviews, recommended components listed by price category, record reviews, audio news items, a reader forum, and more.

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