

Meridian's 'ultimate' Digital Active Loudspeaker

FOLLOWING its world launch at the Las Vegas CES exhibition in January, Meridian's awesome DSP8000 active loudspeaker made its UK debut at the Bristol Sound & Vision show in February.

Meridian describes the DSP8000 as 'the ultimate expression of the art and science of loudspeaker design', and adds that this flagship design sets completely new standards for clarity, dynamics, imaging and realism. The DSP8000 is designed to reproduce sounds at up to full natural level while providing all the resolution required by sources with 24-bit coding and 192kHz sampling. Such demanding dynamic resolution required a new approach to cabinet construction and selection of advanced drive unit materials. Unique engineering techniques are said to have obtained unprecedented stiffness and vibration absorption in DSP8000's cabinets. Each DSP8000 contains two separate enclosures, for the mid/top and bass sections. The horizontally-opposed and profiled bass drive system introduces minimal vibration to the mid/top enclosure. Each complete loudspeaker includes a total of no less than eight high-resolution drive units, to provide a

115dB dynamic range and a response from 25Hz to 40kHz. The built-in electronics include five 100W ultra-low feedback super-linear power amplifiers, a high-energy power supply and four high-resolution digital-to-analogue converters (for Low Bass, Bass, Mid and Top); while two 100MHz DSP engines in each speaker provide crossover, user controls, optimised response correction and built-in self protection. Along with the digital signal inputs, there is an RS232 port to provide control, configuration and firmware updates. An expansion port is provided to allow for future system requirements. Durably finished in black piano lacquer and glass, the DSP8000 is constructed from the finest materials and all electronic parts are carefully selected for sound quality. According to Meridian, 'the result is beyond words — listen for yourself.' US price is expected to be around \$45,000; a UK price has yet to be announced.

Call Meridian Audio for further details on 01480 434334



AR ADDS TO ITS SPEAKER STATUS

ACOUSTIC RESEARCH has added the S50 to its expanding Status range of high-sensitivity loudspeakers. This three-way bass reflex floorstander features 6.5in bass/mid drivers with anti-magnetic ABS baskets and coated