TANNOY Tannoy's Dual Concentric by Definition

The term "Dual Concentric[™]" is defined by Tannoy as a coincident point source, where the low frequency cone acts as a seamless, direct extension of the high frequency waveguide, yielding a constant directivity pattern with linear amplitude and phase response on both the horizontal and vertical axis.

Tannoy's Concentric Sound - What to Expect

An acclimation period is needed when a Dual Concentric[™] is first installed in your system, unless you are already in the know. This is due to the inherent blended power characteristic with frequency for a single-source drive unit of this type. Here we have a 310 mm - 12 inch driver working up to a relatively low (for mid driver) 1.1 kHz crossover point, low enough for a good distributio of energy over a 90 degree angle. Aboe 1.1 kHz the concentric horn tweeter in the centre continues the range precisely, the main cone flare providing a closely matched distribution, and thus maintaining smooth on- and off-axis responses. Such a power trend has a distinctive sound in the listening room and differs from the commonly-found alternative where the crossover, from a smaller bass/mid unit, is set at around 3 kHz, above which point that 90 degree window increases abruptly to almost 180 degrees as the usual 25 mm - 1 inch dome tweeter takes over. Designers work hard to smooth out the reslting power transition but it's difficult to wholly disguise this. It may leave more than a trace of nasality and hardness in the sound, and add drama to transients, a bit of extra percussive attack and excitement; but this in reality is an exaggeration. Since nearly all speakers are made this way, we are more or less adjusted to this kind of sound. This is why a truly neutral speaker such as the Quad ESL63 electrostatic can sound "dull" and "lacking attack" by comparison. Tannoy's Dual Concentric[™] sound also falls into this category and listeners may need a little time to appreciate its instrinsic tonal accuracy.

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