
REFERENCE

500sx

700sx

1000sx

Power Amplifiers

OWNERS MANUAL
AND
INSTALLATION GUIDE

SOUNDSTREAM®

T E C H N O L O G I E S

CONGRATULATIONS!

You now own the **REFERENCE Amplifier**, the product of an uncompromising design and engineering philosophy. Your Soundstream REFERENCE amplifier will outperform any other amplifier in the world.

To maximize the performance of your system, we recommend that you thoroughly acquaint yourself with its capabilities and features. Please retain this manual and your sales and installation receipts for future reference.

Soundstream amplifiers are the result of American craftsmanship and the highest quality control standards, and when properly installed, will provide you with many years of listening pleasure. Should your amplifier ever need service or replacement due to theft, please record the following information, which will help protect your investment.

Model and Serial # _____

Dealer's Name _____

Date of Purchase _____

Installation Shop _____

Installation Date _____

CAUTION!

Prolonged listening at high levels may result in hearing loss. Even though your new Soundstream REFERENCE amplifier sounds better than anything you've ever heard, exercise caution to prevent hearing damage.

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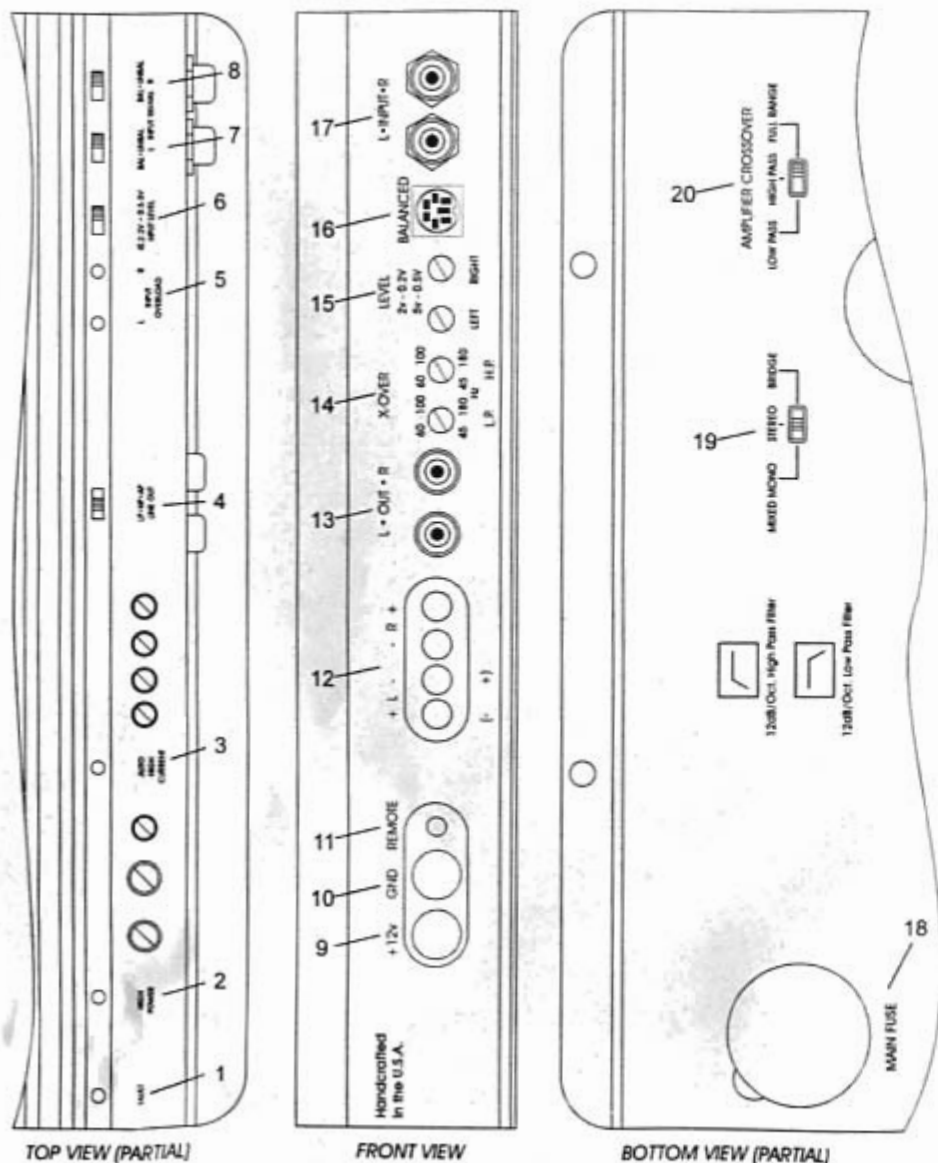
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DESIGN FEATURES

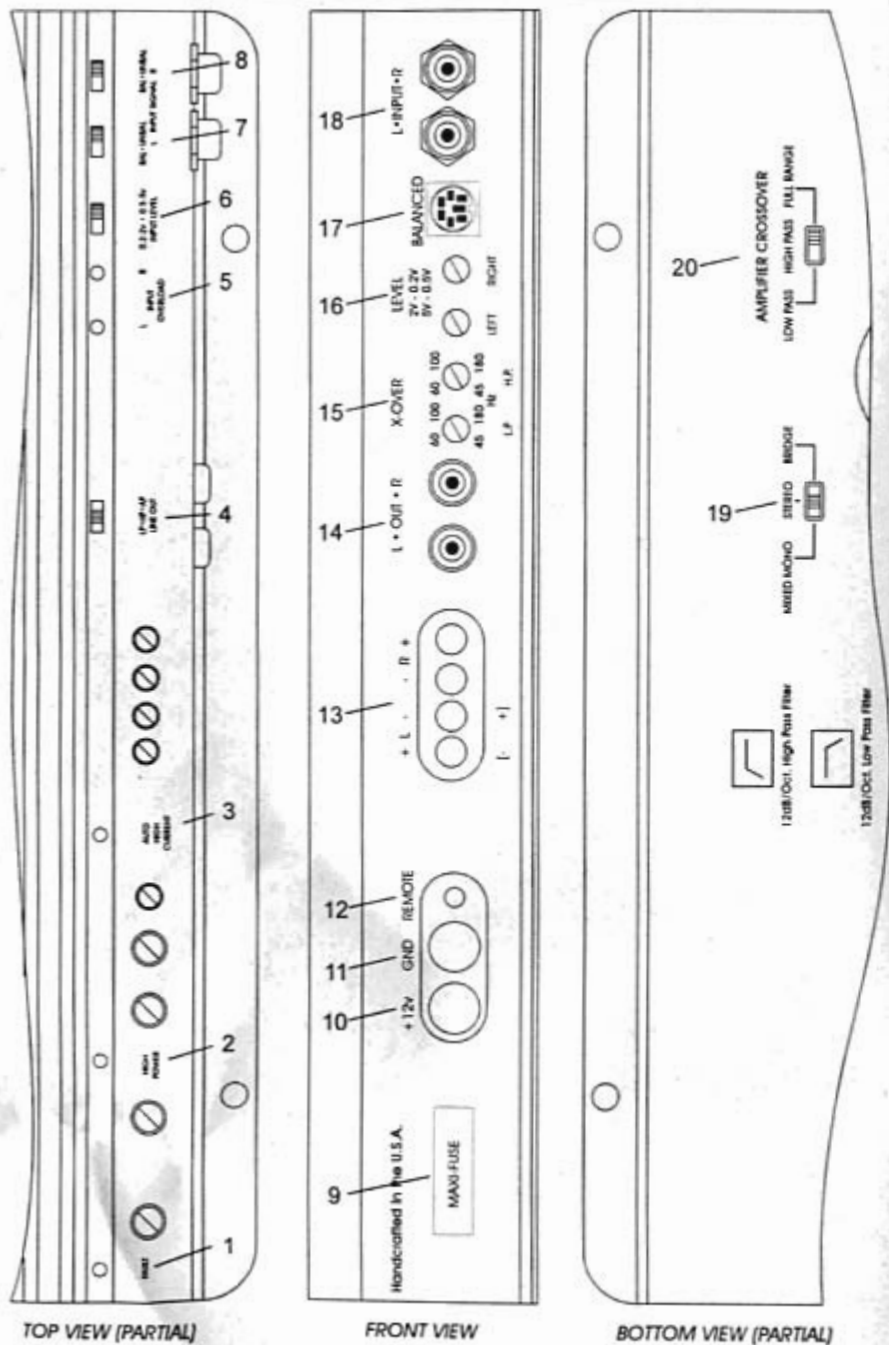
- **Uncompromising Design and Construction** including mil-spec glass epoxy circuit boards and high current custom gold-plated solid brass connections that will accept up to 4 gauge power/ground wire.
- **Auto High Current™** - Soundstream's exclusive circuit which automatically customizes your amplifier to its particular application—High Current, low impedance loads (multiple subwoofers, less than 2 ohms mono) or High Power, higher impedance loads (2 ohms mono and up).
- **Coherent Stereo™/Mixed Mono** selection for either "pure" stereo operation or mixed mono for simultaneous stereo and mono.
- **Chassisink™ Darlington Power Array** - Soundstream's "overbuilding" of the output section incorporates multiple output transistors instead of a few for faster, stronger power delivery. The transistors are sandwiched between the circuit board and the heatsink in a design called Chassisink™ to ensure cool, efficient amplifier operation.
- **PowerGrid Power Supply Design** - All power supply components are located near one another, connected by thick, wide PCB traces, which ensures rapid, high current delivery. The entire power supply is isolated on one side of the circuit board while the audio stage is located opposite it, guaranteeing minimal noise.
- **Ultra-Low ESR Capacitance Bank** - Multiple small input power capacitors are used to provide a lower ESR (Equivalent Series Resistance), which *means more power in and out faster.*
- **Smart Thermal Rollback** - Most amplifiers shut off when they get too hot. In the unlikely event the REFERENCE amplifier reaches 85° C, it will gradually roll back its average power (without affecting the dynamics). Once the amplifier has cooled off, it returns to full power output. If overheating should continue, a second thermal sensing protection circuit will shut off the amplifier if the heatsink reaches 95° C.
- **Fault Monitor LED** on the top panel notifies you of blown power supply fuses.
- **1/2 ohm Drive Ability** - The REFERENCE amplifiers are designed to drive virtually any load—all the way down to 1/2 ohm stereo (1 ohm mono).

- **Dual Discrete Class A Drive Stages** - Over six times the drive current of most amplifiers in the Reference500sx and 700sx, and over twelve times in the Reference1000sx! More drive current maintains the amplifiers' performance into low impedance loads.
- **Drive Delay™ Muted Turn-on/off Circuit** - A unique circuit which completely eliminates any amplifier-related turn-on/off noises.
- **Flexible Dual Input Level Sensitivity** accepts 2 voltage ranges; from 200 mV to 2.0 V and from 500 mV to 5.0 V, permitting maximum output from the amplifier with virtually any source unit.
- **Differential Balanced Input Design** for added immunity to noise caused by component and vehicle electrical system interaction when using Unbalanced RCA inputs.
- **True Balanced Input** for professional-quality performance and noise cancellation. The 6-pin din plug carries (+) and (-) Signal information for Left and Right channels, audio ground, and ±15 Vdc to operate the Soundstream BLT Balanced Line Transmitter.
- **A/RBASS™ Upgradable** - This feature allows RF remote control level adjustment while the low pass filter on the amplifiers' internal crossover is being used.
- **LSE.Q** (Reference1000sx) - Fully adjustable subwoofer equalization circuit providing frequency and level "Q" adjustment for optimum subwoofer performance. A frequency tracking subsonic filter protects woofers from potentially harmful low frequency information and maximizes output in a usable range.

Key to Callouts

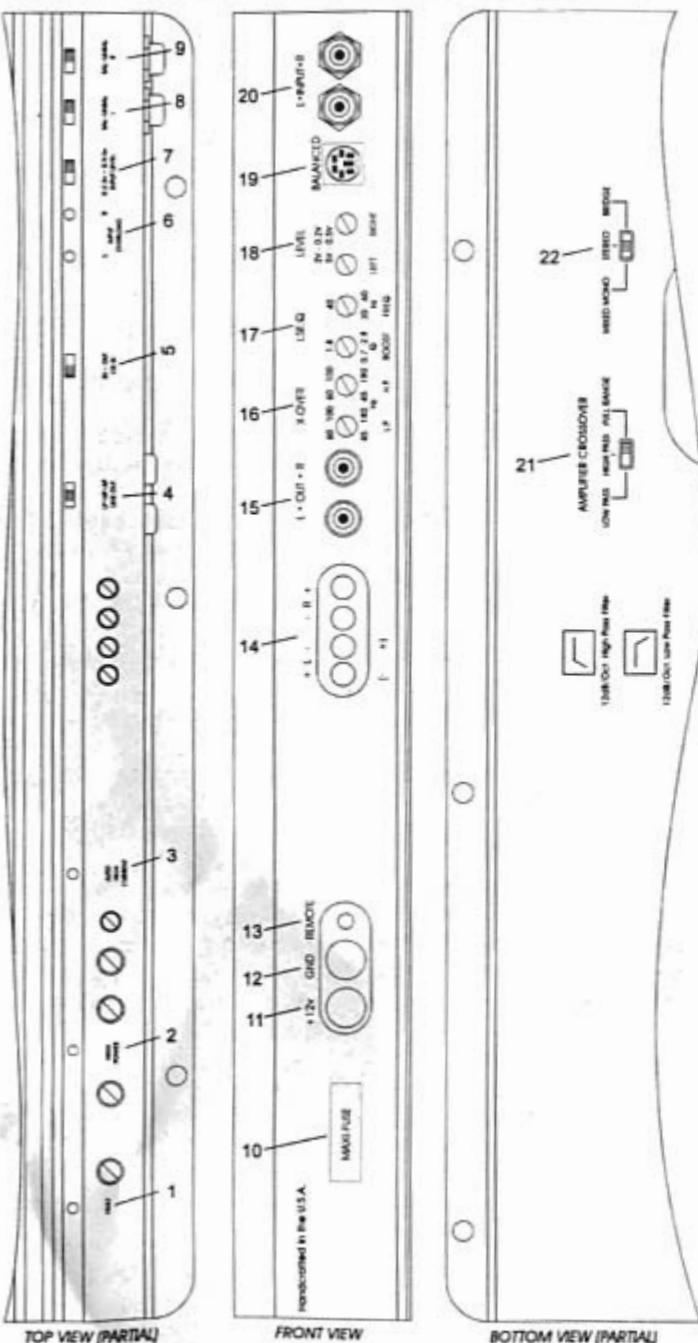


- 1. Fault LED** - Indicates a blown fuse.
- 2. High Power LED** - Indicates amplifier power on in "High Power" mode.
- 3. Auto High Current LED** - Indicates amplifier power on in "High Current" mode.
- 4. Line Out Crossover Switch** - Select high pass, low pass or full range low level output to an auxiliary amplifier.
- 5. Input Overload Indicators** - Indicates the signal input level or input gain level is too high.
- 6. Input Level Selector Switch** - Selectable input sensitivity range from 0.2-2 Volts RMS, or from 0.5-5 Volts RMS.
- 7. Left Channel Balanced / Unbalanced Input Selector Switch** - Select "Balanced" to use the 6 pin Balanced signal input. Select "Unbalanced" to use the RCA signal inputs.
- 8. Right Channel Balanced / Unbalanced Input Selector Switch** - Select "Balanced" to use the 6 pin Balanced signal input. Select "Unbalanced" to use the RCA signal inputs.
- 9. +12V** - Connected to a fuse or circuit breaker, then to the battery's positive post.
- 10. GND** - Main ground connection. Bolt to a clean chassis ground in the vehicle.
- 11. REM** - Remote turn-on input from the head unit. Accepts +12V.
- 12. Speaker Output Connections** - Left and right channels.
- 13. Crossover Output** - High pass, low pass or full range output to an auxiliary amplifier.
- 14. Crossover Adjustment Pots** - Crossover frequency settings for high pass and low pass filters; Amplifier and crossover outputs.
- 15. Input Level** - Independent Left and Right channel input level controls.
- 16. Balanced Signal Input Connector** - 6-pin Balanced signal input connector for use with the Soundstream BLT Balanced Line Transmitter.
- 17. Inputs** - Right and left channel RCA (Unbalanced) inputs; only right channel input is used in "Mono" mode.
- 18. Main Fuse** - Main power supply fuse. Replace only with the same value fuse.
- 19. Coherent Stereo/Bridge/Mixed Mono switch** - Select "Bridge" for bridged mono operation (use right channel input). Select "Stereo" for coherent stereo operation. Select "Mixed Mono" for simultaneous stereo / bridged mono operation.
- 20. Amplifier Crossover** - Select high pass, low pass or full range amplifier operation.



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Key to Callouts

- Fault LED** - Indicates a blown fuse.
- High Power LED** - Indicates amplifier power on in "High Power" mode.
- Auto High Current LED** - Indicates amplifier power on in "High Current" mode.
- Line Out Crossover Switch** - Select high pass, low pass or full range low level output to an auxiliary amplifier.
- LSE.Q Bypass Switch** - Turns the LSE.Q on ("IN") or off ("OUT").
- Input Overload Indicators** - Indicates the signal input level or input gain level is too high.
- Input Level Selector Switch** - Selectable input sensitivity range from 0.2-2 Volts RMS, or from 0.5-5 Volts RMS.
- Left Channel Balanced / Unbalanced Input Selector Switch** - Select "Balanced" to use the 6 pin Balanced signal input. Select "Unbalanced" to use the RCA signal inputs.
- Right Channel Balanced / Unbalanced Input Selector Switch** - Select "Balanced" to use the 6 pin Balanced signal input. Select "Unbalanced" to use the RCA signal inputs.
- Main Fuse** - Main power supply fuse. Replace only with the same value fuse.
- +12V** - Connected to a fuse or circuit breaker, then to the battery's positive post.
- GND** - Main ground connection. Bolt to a clean chassis ground in the vehicle.
- REM** - Remote turn-on input from the head unit. Accepts +12V.
- Speaker Output Connections** - Left and right channels.
- Crossover Output** - High pass, low pass or full range output to an auxiliary amplifier.
- Crossover Adjustment Pots** - Crossover frequency settings for high pass and low pass filters; Amplifier and crossover outputs.
- LSE.Q** - Frequency and Q adjustments.
- Input Level** - Independent Left and Right channel input level controls.
- Balanced Signal Input Connector** - 6-pin Balanced signal input connector for use with the Soundstream BLT Balanced Line Transmitter.
- Inputs** - Right and left channel RCA (Unbalanced) inputs; only right channel input is used in "Mono" mode.
- Coherent Stereo/Bridge/Mixed Mono switch** - Select "Bridge" for bridged mono operation (use right channel input). Select "Stereo" for coherent stereo operation. Select "Mixed Mono" for simultaneous stereo / bridged mono operation.
- Amplifier Crossover** - Select high pass, low pass or full range amplifier operation.

AUTO HIGH CURRENT™ POWER SUPPLY

The REFERENCE500sx/700sx/1000sx amplifiers employ an extremely efficient *Auto High Current™* power supply (patent pending). This power supply circuitry automatically customizes your amplifier for optimum efficiency and power output into virtually any impedance load. When other brand amplifiers are driven at low impedances (i.e., 1 ohm or less), they shut down, squash dynamics and power output (called current limiting), or waste huge amounts of power (i.e., low efficiency). All of which reduce the "realworld" power the amplifier can produce in the car. Soundstream's *Auto High Current™* power supply allows the REFERENCE amplifiers to be one of two types of amps: either producing maximum power at higher impedances (perfect for satellites) or at lower impedances (usually with multiple subwoofers). This is done by letting the amplifiers' power supply continuously monitor the impedance of the load the amplifier is driving. If the impedance drops too low, the power supply will automatically switch into *High Current* mode. It will stay in this mode until the amplifier is turned off. The next time it is powered up, it will be in the *High Power* mode.

Unlike other amplifiers, Soundstream's REFERENCE amplifiers can be configured to drive virtually any impedance *and* make maximum power! The major advantages of this power supply are:

- awesome dynamic power capabilities
- added continuous power with higher voltages
- increased amplifier efficiency and reliability

Because of the dynamic properties of most music, all audio components should be able to react accordingly. Thanks to their unique power supplies, the REFERENCE amplifiers can comfortably exceed their rated power for dynamic portions of the music.

PROTECTION CIRCUITRY

Your REFERENCE amplifier is protected against both overheating and short circuits by means of the following circuits:

- Main power supply fuses
- *Auto High Current™* power supply
- Smart Power Supply Thermal Rollback activating at 85°C
- A fail-safe thermal protection circuit activating at 95°C

Your amplifier also incorporates an innovative Fault Diagnosis system that identifies a blown power supply fuse.

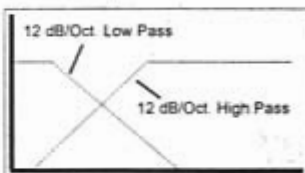
NOTE: If you experience blown main power supply fuses, it is likely that the amplifier is seeing a dead short, either in the speaker wire or in the speaker itself. Rectify the problem before blowing multiple fuses! DO NOT increase values beyond the original fuse value! Doing so will void your warranty and may damage your amplifier.

CROSSOVER ADJUSTMENTS

The REFERENCE amplifiers incorporate an on-board staggered electronic crossover, with RCA outputs to drive an external amplifier. No external electronic crossover is necessary. The high and low pass portions of the crossover can be set independently of one another.

In most car audio installations, there is a tendency for a "midbass boom." Because of their interior dimensions, most cars will resonate or ring at these midbass frequencies. If we design the system so there is less musical information in this region, the final response is very smooth and natural sounding. The high pass and low pass crossovers are independently variable from 45 to 180 Hz at 12 dB/octave.

For initial crossover setup, try setting the low pass filter to approximately 60 Hz, and the high pass filter to approximately 100 Hz. Change the crossover points to accommodate a good mixture of frequency response, power handling, and personal preference.



NOTE: There is an +8 dB boost in signal level when the amplifier's internal low pass filter is engaged. This boost does not apply to the RCA outputs.

AIRBASS™ ACCESSORY OPTION

Soundstream's new AIRBASS™ feature can be added to the REFERENCE amplifiers. This feature allows wireless RF remote control level adjustment of the amplifier, while the low pass filter on the amplifiers' internal crossover is engaged. (AIRBASS™ does not control the level of the RCA signal outputs.)

NOTE: The AIRBASS™ accessory is intended to be used only while the REFERENCE amplifiers are driving subwoofers. When the AIRBASS™ accessory is added to a REFERENCE amplifier, it automatically configures the amplifier into Bridged Mono mode. (The Coherent Stereo / Mixed Mono / Bridged Mono switch is bypassed.) Therefore, when using AIRBASS™, follow the Bridged Mono input and output wiring instructions. (See page 16.)

Installing AIRBASS™ involves removing the bottom plate of the amplifier, adding the AIRBASS™ circuit board, and flipping a switch. The switch is labeled on the amplifier's main circuit board. DO NOT set the AIRBASS™ switch to the "IN" position unless the AIRBASS™ module has been added. DO NOT move the AIRBASS™ switch while the amplifier is "ON". Doing so may damage your speakers. (Please refer to the AIRBASS™ owner's / installation manual for more details.)

LSE.Q THEORY AND USE (Reference1000sx)

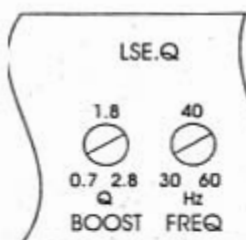


FIG. 1 LSE.Q

LSE.Q is a unique subwoofer control circuit included with the SOUNDSTREAM REFERENCE1000sx amplifier. It is capable of removing subsonic energy in program material. The circuit consists of two controls. One adjusts the frequency of operation and the other adjusts the range of boost. With both controls adjusted fully counter-clockwise, no boost is applied and the amplifier is flat in response down to 30 Hz.

The frequency control (Hz) adjusts the starting point of the subsonic filter. This high pass filter can be adjusted from 30 Hz up to a maximum of 60 Hz. This control is useful for setting the lowest frequency that your subwoofer will see. (See figure 1)

The Q control adjusts the amount of boost applied at the set frequency. This is adjustable from .707 (flat) to 2.8 (+9 dB). (See figure 2)

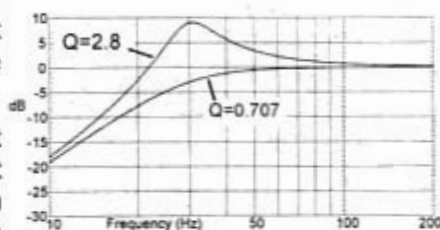


FIG. 2 Variable "Q"

When the Q is set to .707 (Butterworth), LSE.Q acts as a sub-sonic filter only. (See figure 3)

The simple act of removing the signal below the vented tuning frequency can improve system output by as much as 3 dB. With Q values greater than .707, boost is added to the sub-sonic filter. (see figure 4)

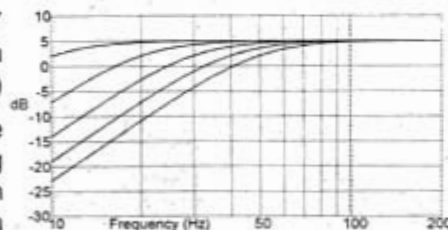


FIG. 3 Variable High Pass

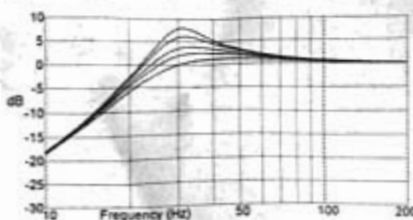


FIG. 4 Variable "Q"

Application

Woofers in vented enclosures have good power handling characteristics above the tuning frequency, but below the tuning frequency, power handling drops off considerably. This is due to the loss of any appreciable resistive air mass. At frequencies below resonance, the

LSE.Q THEORY AND USE (continued)

woofer starts to behave as if it were mounted in "free-air". If we wish to improve the performance of a vented system, we should remove these unwanted signals from our system. These can be removed by adding a subsonic filter. Figure 5 shows the effectiveness of LSE.Q on woofer excursion. Woofer travel is 7.5 mm at 10 Hz, with LSE.Q properly adjusted, this excursion can be reduced to less than 1 mm. This is of great benefit to lowering woofer distortion and increasing output.

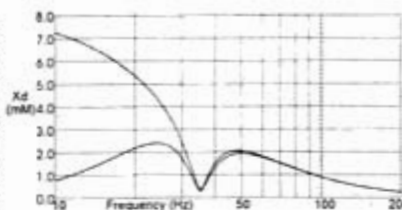


FIG. 5 Limited Excursion

Adjustment

An easy method of optimizing your existing subwoofer enclosure with LSE.Q's "Hz" control is as follows.

- 1 Adjust frequency and boost control to full CCW position. (See figure 6)
- 2 While listening to music with strong bass content at a moderate level, slowly adjust frequency control clockwise. Listen for a reduction of bass response. Now, rotate frequency control slightly backwards. This serves the purpose of removing the "subsonic" bass energy.



FIG. 6 LSE.Q Setting

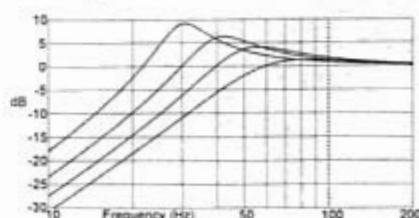


FIG. 7 Various Settings

Soundstream's LSE.Q contains the same type of circuit with the added benefit of infinite adjustability. Our "Q" and "Hz" control can provide virtually any combination of boost and cut to suit your designs. So, LSE.Q can provide the "tailoring" needed for any type of "assisted" design and any woofer.

NOTE: The LSE.Q circuit on the REF1000sx can be defeated for flat operation down to 20 Hz by placing the LSE.Q switch in the "OUT" position. You may wish to use this option to achieve a higher S/N Ratio when using ultra-high efficiency speakers, such as compression drivers.

INSTALLATION STEP 1

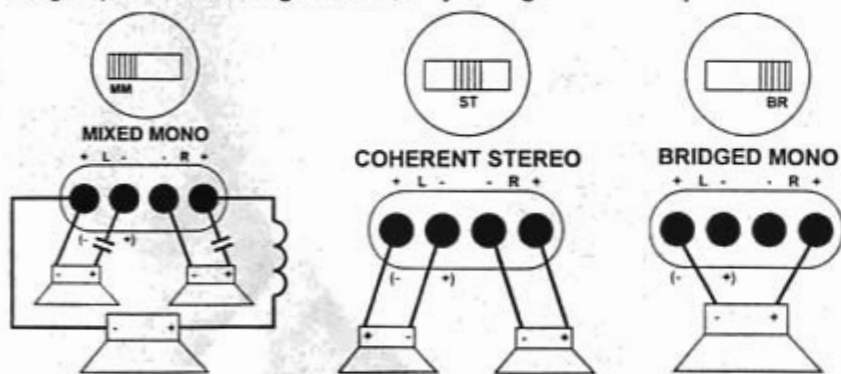
COHERENT STEREO™ / MIXED-MONO / BRIDGED MONO

The REFERENCE amplifiers have the ability to operate in any one of the following modes:

Coherent Stereo™ with identical left and right stereo channels for maximum fidelity. Best choice for satellite speakers. Use this mode unless Mixed-Mono is necessary.

Mixed-Mono in order to drive stereo and mono simultaneously; works well for center channels. It can be used anytime you need a summed mono channel. Somewhat sacrifices sonic accuracy as additional circuitry is introduced to one channel. *In Mixed-Mono, the left channel is inverted, see diagram below or on the bottom of the amplifier.*

Bridged Mono for dedicated single channel operation; ideal for driving subwoofers. It is also used when large amounts of power are necessary for single speakers. *In bridged mono, only the right channel input is active.*



In bridged mono, only the right channel input is active.

NOTE: If you intend to drive a REFERENCE amp in Mono but have stereo outputs from your crossover or source unit, you can put the switch in Mixed-Mono but follow the normal wiring for Bridged Mono.

INSTALLATION STEP 2

BALANCED / UNBALANCED INPUT

The REFERENCE amplifiers have the ability to accept either a standard Unbalanced RCA signal inputs, or a Balanced "Pro Audio" inputs with the use of the Soundstream BLT Balanced Line Transmitter or some other balanced line audio source. Before installing your system, you should decide upon which signal type you wish to run. There are advantages to both:

	UNBALANCED INPUT	BALANCED INPUT
ADVANTAGES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Most preamplifier / source units have "UNBAL" RCA outputs. (Industry standard) 2. No Interface module is necessary 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved Signal to Noise Ratio. (S/N Ratio) 2. Excellent noise cancellation characteristics. 3. Immune to noise radiated in the car audio environment.

The REFERENCE amplifiers' signal inputs accept two ranges of input signal levels: 0.2 - 2.0 Vrms, or 0.5 - 5.0 Vrms for both Balanced and Unbalanced inputs. The input range switch position and level settings are dependent upon the preamplifier / source unit output signal level. For the best system Signal to Noise Ratio, we recommend that the input level controls be set as far down as possible (rotated counter-clockwise), while maintaining an acceptable level of output.

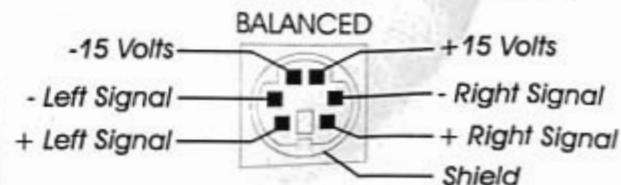
Using the "Unbalanced" RCA input

When using the Unbalanced RCA input, the *RIGHT* channel input signal switch *MUST* be in the "UNBAL" position. Also, when first installing the amplifier using this input configuration, we suggest that the left channel input signal switch be in the "UNBAL" position as well. If you experience alternator whine or other installation noise with both switches in the "UNBAL" position, try moving the LEFT channel input signal switch to the "BAL" position. This should remove any system noise due to installation.

Using the "Balanced" RCA input

When using the Balanced 6-pin DIN input, both switches *MUST* be in the "BAL" position. Also, we recommend that when using this input configuration, the "INPUT LEVEL" switch be in the "0.5 - 5V" position, and the gains on the amplifiers be set to "minimum" (rotated counter-clockwise). The system gains should then be adjusted on the BLT Balanced Line Transmitter, or other balanced line audio source. For the pin configuration, see the diagram below:

NOTE: The pin configuration shown in the diagram is the view looking into the Balanced input jack on the amplifier.



INSTALLATION STEP 3

WIRING

POWER AND GROUND

To ensure maximum output from your REFERENCE amplifier, use high quality, low-loss power and ground cables. The REFERENCE amplifiers will accept up to 4 gauge power and ground cables. Determine from the chart below the minimum gauge power and ground wire for your application.

	up to 10'	up to 20'
REFERENCE500sx	Soundstream Power40 or Power80 (4 or 8 ga.)	Soundstream Power40 only (4 ga.)
REFERENCE700sx	Soundstream Power40 or Power80 (4 or 8 ga.)	Soundstream Power40 only (4 ga.)
REFERENCE1000sx	Soundstream Power40 only (4 ga.)	Soundstream Power40 only (4 ga.)

Read this, or sparks will fly!

The Soundstream REFERENCE amplifiers have extensive internal power supply capacitance, called the Ultra-Low ESR Capacitance Bank. Multiple small input power capacitors act as an internal "stiffening capacitor". Because of the large amount of internal capacitance, there may be a sizable spark when connecting the power and ground lead to the amplifier for the first time. In order to charge the capacitor bank without a spark, we suggest you do the following:

1. Connect the +12 volt cable to the amplifier and to the battery.
2. Connect one end of the ground cable to the chassis of the vehicle.
3. We have supplied a 150 ohm, 2 watt resistor with the amplifier. One leg of the resistor has been connected to the ground terminal of the amplifier.
4. To charge the capacitor bank, touch the loose end of the ground cable to the open leg of the resistor for at least 45 seconds.
5. Remove the resistor, and connect the ground wire.

CIRCUIT BREAKERS/FUSES

EXTERNAL

Like all audio components, the REFERENCE amplifiers must be fused near the battery. A fuse or circuit breaker must be located within 18" of the battery. This will prevent a fire in the event of a shorted cable. See the chart below to determine the correct fuse value.

INTERNAL

The REFERENCE amplifiers are fused with either automotive-type or Maxi-fuses. In the event of blown power supply fuse(s), the "Fault" indicator on the top panel will light. The fuses are accessible either from the front panel of the amplifier or via a plastic plug on the bottom of the amplifier. See the chart below

to determine the fuse value. Never replace the fuses with a higher value than what is supplied. *This may result in amplifier damage and will void the warranty!*

REFERENCE Amplifier Fuse Values

Amplifier	Amplifier Fuse	Battery Fuse / Circuit Breaker
REFERENCE500sx	(2) 25 amp automotive	50 amp
REFERENCE700sx	60 amp Maxi-Fuse	80 amp
REFERENCE1000sx	80 amp Maxi-Fuse	100 amp

REMOTE TURN-ON

Connect the "Remote" to the turn-on lead from the source unit. When +12 volts is received, the amplifier will turn on.

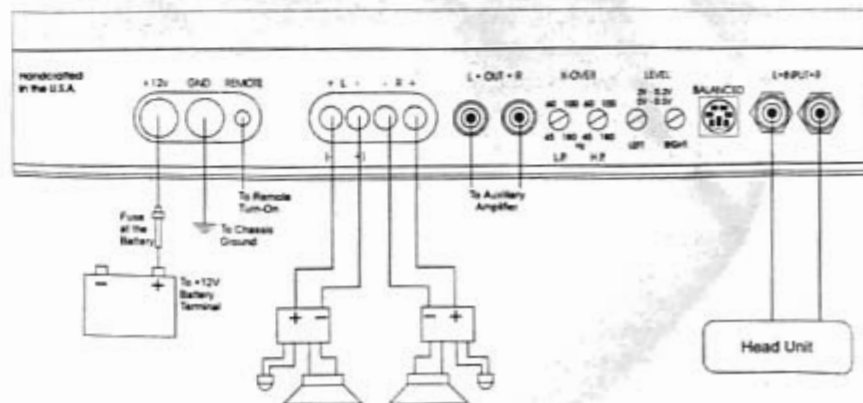
SIGNAL CABLE

Use a high-quality cable that will be easy to install and has minimal signal loss to guarantee optimum performance. Soundstream's DL-1 and SL-1 are ideal when using the Unbalanced RCA inputs. While using the Balanced DIN input, use the cable supplied with the BLT.

SPEAKER CABLE

The REFERENCE amps will accept up to 8 gauge speaker cable. Use a high quality, flexible, multi-strand cable for best performance and longevity. Soundstream Speaker120 & 160 (12 and 16 gauge) are ideal.

WIRING DIAGRAM



INSTALLATION STEP 4

INSTALLATION AND MOUNTING

1. AMPLIFIER LOCATION

The REFERENCE amplifiers employ highly efficient circuitry and a unique Chassisink™ design to maintain lower operating temperatures. Additional cooling may be required if the amplifier is located in a tightly confined area or when driving especially low impedance loads at extremely high levels.

When mounting the amplifier, it should be securely mounted to either a panel in the vehicle or an amp board or rack that is securely mounted to the vehicle. The mounting location should be either in the passenger compartment or in the trunk of the vehicle, away from moisture, stray or moving objects, and major electrical components. To provide adequate ventilation, mount the amplifier so that there are at least two inches of freely circulating air above and to the sides of it.

2. SWITCHES

Set the Coherent Stereo™/Mixed-Mono/Bridged Mono and amplifier crossover switches on the bottom of the amplifier to the appropriate positions before bolting down the amplifier (see pages 13 - 16). Be sure to replace the hole plugs.

3. MOUNTING THE AMPLIFIER

- Using the amplifier as a template, mark the mounting surface.
- Remove the amplifier and drill the holes.
- Mount the amplifier to the surface using the provided hardware.

4. WIRING

- Run and connect the audio signal and remote turn-on cables to the amplifier from the source unit.
- Carefully run the positive cable from the amplifier to a fuse or circuit breaker within 18" of the battery.
- Connect the fuse or circuit breaker to the battery. Leave the circuit breaker off or the fuse out until everything is bolted down.
- Secure the ground cable to a solid chassis ground on the vehicle. It may be necessary to sand paint down to raw metal for a good connection.
- Double check each and every connection!
- Re-connect the fuse or circuit breaker.

NOTE: There may be a sizable spark when connecting the power and ground lead to the amplifier for the first time. Please see the comment on the previous page for information about connecting power and ground wires to your amplifier.

5. POWER UP

Power up the system and look at the red High Power LED; there may be a 2 -3 second delay from the time the source unit is turned on to the time that the LED on the amp turns on, which is normal. Once the amplifier power LED is on and the source unit is playing, you should have sound coming from the speakers.

INSTALLATION STEP 5

LEVEL SETTING

The input levels are adjusted by means of the individual channel input level controls located on the front of the amplifier. This is a unique dual-stage circuit that adjusts both level and gain. This topology maintains better Signal to Noise ratios even when using sources with minimal output.

In the ideal situation, all components in the audio system reach maximum undistorted output at the same time. The reason is because an amplifier will only make what comes into it bigger. So, if you send it a distorted signal from the head unit, the amplifier is going to amplify distorted information. The same thing holds true if an outboard processor or crossover begins to distort before you have maximum output from the amplifier. By setting all components to reach clipping at the same time, you can maximize the output of your system. For the REFERENCE amplifiers, follow the following steps for the quickest, easiest means of setting the levels.

- Turn the amp's input levels to minimum position (fully counter-clockwise).
- Begin with the input level switch in the 0.5 - 5.0 Volt position.
- Set source unit volume to approximately 3/4 of full volume.
- While playing dynamic source material, slowly increase the amplifier's input level until a near maximum undistorted level is heard in the system.
- If you can't get enough gain out of the amplifier, set the input level switch to the 0.2 - 2.0 Volt position, and repeat steps 3 and 4.

If your preamplifier / source unit has an extremely high output level, be sure to pay attention to the clipping indicators located on the top of the amplifier. These indicators will notify you if you are clipping the *PREAMPLIFIER* stage of the amplifier. If the amplifier's output is distorted and the clipping lights are not blinking, you are most likely clipping the *OUTPUTS* of the amplifier, or driving the speaker to distortion.

TROUBLESHOOTING

PROBLEM	CAUSE
No sound and power LED <u>is not</u> lit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No power or ground at amp • No remote turn-on signal • Blown fuse near battery
No sound, a power LED <u>is</u> lit, and the AIRBASS™ option has not been added.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No signal input • The AIRBASS™ switch is in the "IN" position. Move it to the "OUT" position
Fault LED is lit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amp power supply fuse is blown or missing
Repeatedly blown amp fuse, frequent activation of Smart Power Supply Circuit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker or leads may be shorted • Verify adequate amplifier ventilation
Not enough input sensitivity while using the Balanced input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be sure both Left and Right Input Signal Switches are set to the "BAL" position
Left and Right Input Overload indicators lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Input signal level is too high - readjust input gains, or select the 0.5-5V input signal level range
Alternator whine while using Unbalanced RCA inputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure the Right Input Signal Switch is in the "UNBAL" position. • Try the Left Input Signal Switch in the "BAL" and "UNBAL" position: leave the switch in the quietest position. This will not effect the performance of the amplifier.

SERVICE

Your Soundstream REFERENCE amplifier is protected by a limited warranty. Please read the enclosed warranty card.

SPECIFICATIONS

POWER	4 Ω Stereo (8 Ω Bridged) (12 Vdc)	2 Ω Stereo (4 Ω Bridged) (14.4 Vdc)	1 Ω Stereo (2 Ω Bridged) (14.4 Vdc)	1/2 Ω Stereo (1 Ω Bridged) (14.4 Vdc)
	<i>REFERENCE500sx</i>			
Watts	75 x 2 (150 x 1)	150 x 2 (300 x 1)	250 x 2 (500 x 1)	250 x 2 (500 x 1)
	<i>REFERENCE700sx</i>			
Watts	125 x 2 (250 x 1)	250 x 2 (500 x 1)	350 x 2 (700 x 1)	350 x 2 (700 x 1)
	<i>REFERENCE1000sx</i>			
Watts	200 x 2 (400 x 1)	400 x 2 (800 x 1)	500 x 2 (1000 x 1)	500 x 2 (1000 x 1)

THD	<0.1%
Signal to Noise	>100 dB
Frequency Response	20 Hz to 20 kHz ± 0.5 dB
Stereo Separation	>90 dB
Damping	>200
Input Sensitivity	200mV - 2.0V, or 500mV to 5.0V
Input Impedance	10K ohms

Crossover Specifications

Low Pass: 45 - 180 Hz at 12 dB/Octave

High Pass: 45 - 180 Hz at 12 dB/Octave

LSE.Q (REFERENCE1000sx)

0.7 - 2.8 Q (0 TO +9 dB), adjustment from 30 to 60 Hz

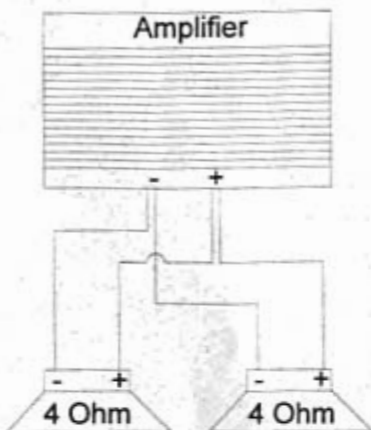
Dimensions (W x D x H)

REFERENCE500sx: 11.0" x 9.8" x 2.25"

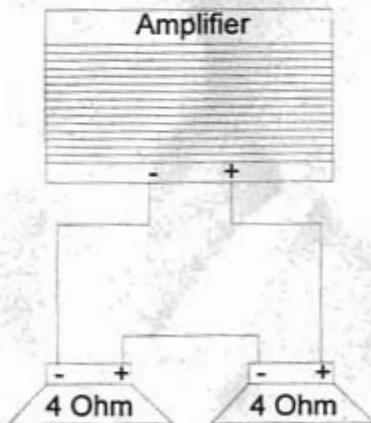
REFERENCE700sx: 12.25" x 9.8" x 2.25"

REFERENCE1000sx: 16.0" x 9.8" x 2.25"

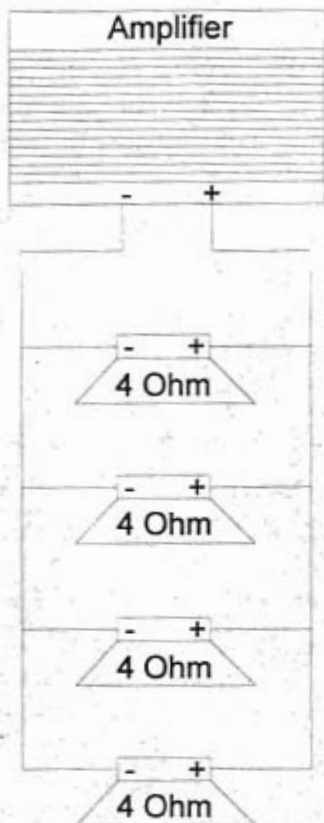
SERIES AND PARALLEL WIRING



**2-4 ohm drivers in parallel
= 2 ohms**



**2-4 ohm drivers in series
= 8 ohms**



**4-4 ohm drivers in parallel
= 1 ohm**

SOUNDSTREAM TECHNOLOGIES

120 Blue Ravine Road · Folsom · California 95630 USA

ph 916.351.1288 · fax 916.351.0414

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