



Headline: Spherical Sound

German Maestro Status-Line – High-Class Compos from Obrigheim (Germany)

Intro-Text:

After a very nice "Start-Up" Test of the CONCEPT-Line in Issue 5/2008, German Maestro presents now the freshly reworked top-speakers of the Status-Line. Very exciting!

Text of the review:

I have to say, that I like very much to test speakers from Obrigheim (Germany). One of the reasons is that we always can get first-class information from first hand. German Maestro people know their speakers. This is because they engineer them all by themselves as well as they nearly produce all parts in their own factory, which were recently the famous halls of the former MB Quart GmbH.

After the top high-end-line "M" Status is German Maestro's top line. Of course so we were very excited to hear and see how those noble pieces will perform in our reviews.

We had the team: 4"-, 5"- and 6,5", which we will analyze now in more details, there is also a 6,5" woofer set provided, where you can create double component systems or in combination with the 4" version (also with the 5" version) a 3-way system, the appropriate (high-/low-pass) x-overs are included.

Woofer

The 3 woofers provide typical features, like cones traditionally made from polypropylene, plastic basket being specifically combined with other "filling-materials", in order to optimize the mechanical as well as acoustical properties. These baskets are reinforced with carbon-fiber are remarkable strong, providing very low resonance capabilities and they do not negatively impact the drivers well defined magnet fields. The pole pieces also provide boreholes, which are not so usual: If phase plugs are used normally those boreholes will get closed. But not here, because those parts are hollowly made and provide consequently ventilation-holes – very nice!

Cross-overs

The x-overs are embedded in noble housings, one side is chromed and the other one is transparent. With the included accessories they can be mounted horizontal, or vertical. There are not much x-over parts to find, meaning beside the SPL-resistors only such parts as necessary for a 2nd level filtering. The 6,5" and 5" x-overs are identical. But this does not mean there is a lag of quality, more the opposite is meant by that. If the woofers as their-selves are running nearly perfect, there is no need for any adjustment from x-over side. And the fact that 5" and 6,5" provide a similarly behavior in the midrange section I see more as a positive indication for well tempered and well controlled driver-systems, as well as I see this also

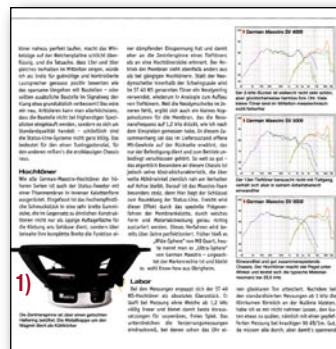
positive like the economically operation with (x-over) parts – or should additional parts in the signal path get sound performance generally improved? That should be new for me. The only criticism could be at the very most that the parts were not purchased from a high-end supplier but used instead in standard quality – and at least the STATUS-Line Systems are not so less expensive. So that means for one-self nice tuning potential for another one-self this is well compensated by the first-class driver systems.

Tweeter

As all German Maestro tweeters in the higher quality segments, also the Status tweeter provides an inverted titanium dome. This extremely sensitive piece of jewellery is embedded in a very wide rubber surround. But in opposite to similarly constructions the wide rubber surround is not used to get a copious surface, in order to glue the inverted dome to the chassis. Nearly the whole (surround's surface) takes the function of a damping clamping reminding us more to a woofer's spider than to a normal tweeter's surround. The inverted dome's drivetrain looks also different to other tweeters. Instead of a neodymium plate centered at the voice coil's mid, the ST 40 WS uses a neodymium ring, also more analog to a woofer's construction. Due to the missing magnet plate inside of the voice coil's center a small "couple-volume" is provided, which lowers the resonance frequency down towards 1,2 kHz., that's what I measured after finishing the breaking-in exercise. In this context

1) Picture text of woofer:

The spider is ventilated with a perforated heats sink. The metal cap around the magnet works as (another) heat sink.





English Translation:

Review GermanMAESTRO STATUS-Line

German CAR & HIFI Magazine, Issue no. 3/09

(Text written in Latin letters are additional explanations by the translator)

GERMAN
MAESTRO
SERIOUS ABOUT AUDIO

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there should be mentioned the open M5 internal screw thread, on the (*tweeter's*) back-side, which is only for mounting purposes and has to get closed before any operation. So far so good – but the really exceptional with this driver is its radiation capability, which stays out of the listener axis pretty close to the on-axis behavior. This is where the GermanMAESTRO team is very proud of, because this is the (*acoustical*) key for the Status-Line's high ambient sound performance. This is achieved due to a very special print procedure of the inverted titanium dome, where the shape and the material's elongation are perfectly balanced. This procedure is on an on-going process of perfection since many years. In the past it was named as Wide-Sphere at MB Quart, nowadays it is named as Ultra-Sphere at GermanMAESTRO – regardless the brand property rights, supposed to, it was and it is a know how coming from Obrighheim (*Germany*).

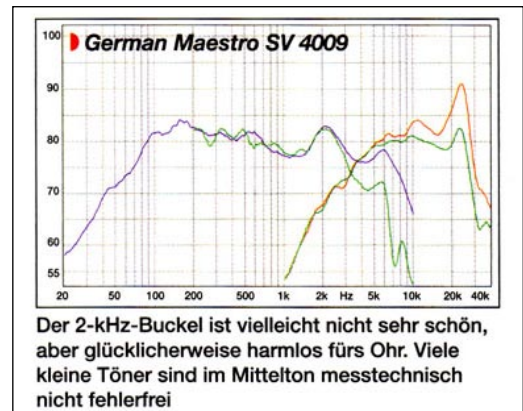
Laboratory

During our measurements the ST 40 WS emerged as an absolutely "sparkler". In our measurement without x-over it runs absolutely linear starting at 1,2 kHz, and so it provides best pre-conditions for superior and "clear" sound reproduction. This was impressively underlined by the harmonic distortion measurement, whereupon already the ear attests a crystal clear tone. After providing - with our standard measurements starting at 1 kHz -, harmonic distortion curves formally gluing at the zero level, I took the opportunity to get this great piece a little bit suffering, namely with a well peppered measurement at a firm 96dB/40". OK all tweeters have to get this passed, but to keep it exciting, we started the measurement at 500 Hz. – normal dome tweeters wouldn't provide any usefulness tones, in case the (*not the existing!*) PTC-tweeter protection would allow this. But the ST 40 WS just became continuously louder – nothing else. Harmonic distortion does still not exist. Allowedly the 3 woofers could not fully keep up (*with the tweeter*). Especially the big 6,5" provides with the volume attenuator's turn up even an increase of "K2". But this should not get anyone stressed, since the "K2" is the "good harmonic distortion" and ears receive that as very agreeable.



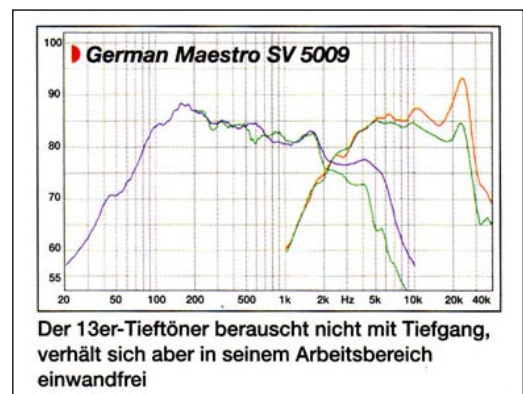
2) Picture text detail of woofer:

After removing the phase plug, you see the "eddy current free" perforated capton (*voice coil*) carrier and the pole piece borehole



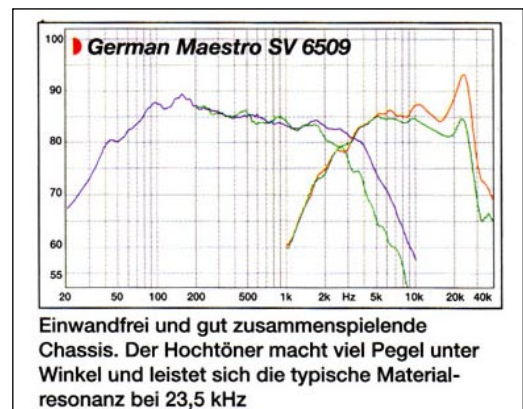
Picture text frequency curve GermanMAESTRO SV 4009:

May be the 2 kHz hump does not look very nice, but fortunately this is harmless for your ears. Many small woofers are by measurements not absolutely accurate in the midrange section



Picture text frequency curve GermanMAESTRO SV 5009:

The 5" woofer does not befuddle with "deepness", but provides perfect behavior in his operations range



Picture text frequency curve GermanMAESTRO SV 6009:

Perfect and well cooperating drivers. The tweeter provides much SPL out of axis and affords the typically material resonance at 23,5 kHz

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Sound

It became spectacular with the sound check, created by (– the speaker systems' –) the richness of detail and the promptly appearing "ambiance-impression". At once I was remembered to my "Concept-Line" listener sessions, where the same impression came up to me. But now this is lifted up to a real high-end level. Such an explosive detail reproduction, this is really a big thing! Those merits of the corporate tweeter came along with all 3 systems, what was expected by us. But also the voices' reproduction from 4009, 5009, 6509 provides a distinctive family analogy. All three were wallowing in naturalistic tone-colors and create live feeling. Also instruments like a saxophone were really naturalistic reproduced with corpus and chuff, as you like to wish that.

The biggest differences naturally came with the mid- and bass reproduction. While the 6509 came along with superior more soft than dust-dry – setting the bass into scene, the 5" system scored in "toms" and "electronically beats" with a quite crispy reproduction and an explicitly well tempered key-note. The audience's darling was the 4009, which sounds very nice balanced and really "adult". It never tries to cover its small cone with a key-notes overemphasizing, but provides an honest and rich in detail sound from the very best. It also provides "bite" and handles – according to its size – a pretty reasonable SPL. Of course, those systems are not made for SPL freaks, but connoisseurs have to take those systems without doubts under consideration with their buying decision.

Conclusion

The 2009 made Status-Line provides one face and one acoustically finger print, which takes them out of the mass (of other speakers). Those who love high performance in sound quality have to consider them with their buying decision.

(Table of technical specs)

Kompo-systeme	German Maestro SV 4009	German Maestro SV 5009	German Maestro SV 6509
Vertrieb	Maestro Badenia Obrigheim	Maestro Badenia Obrigheim	Maestro Badenia Obrigheim
Hotline	0 62 61 / 63 80	0 62 61 / 63 80	0 62 61 / 63 80
Internet www.	german-maestro.de	german-maestro.de	german-maestro.de
Klang 55 %	1,2	1,3	1,3
Bassfundament 11 %	1,5	2,0	2,0
Neutralität 11 %	1,5	1,5	1,5
Transparenz 11 %	1,0	1,0	1,0
Räumlichkeit 11 %	0,5	0,5	0,5
Dynamik 11 %	1,5	1,5	1,5
Labor 30 %	1,5	1,5	1,5
Frequenzgang 10 %	2,0	1,5	1,0
Maximalpegel 10 %	1,5	1,5	2,0
Verzerrung 10 %	1,0	1,5	1,5
Praxis 15 %	1,8	1,8	1,8
Frequenzweiche 10 %	2,0	2,0	2,0
Verarbeitung 5 %	1,5	1,5	1,5
Technische Daten			
Korbdurchmesser	98 mm	128 mm	166 mm
Einbaudurchmesser	85 mm	112 mm	142 mm
Einbautiefe	47 mm	61 mm	64 mm
Magnetsdurchmesser	65 mm	77 mm	77 mm
Membran HT	25 mm	25 mm	25 mm
Gehäuse HT	48 mm	48 mm	48 mm
Plankensteilheit TT/HT	12/12 dB	12/12 dB	12/12 dB
Hochtonschutz	–	–	–
Pegelanpassung HT	0, -1, -3, -5 dB	0, -1, -3, -5 dB	0, -1, -3, -5 dB
Gitter	–	–	–
Sonstiges	Variabler Weichen-einbau, Koax-Option	Variabler Weichen-einbau, Koax-Option	Variabler Weichen-einbau, Koax-Option
Nennimpedanz	4 Ohm	4 Ohm	4 Ohm
Gleichstromwiderstand Rdc	2,60 Ohm	2,52 Ohm	2,55 Ohm
Schwingungspuleninduktivität Le	0,23 mH	0,37 mH	0,37 mH
Schwingungspulendurchmesser	25 mm	25 mm	25 mm
Membranfläche Sd	49,0 cm²	83,3 cm²	132,7 cm²
Resonanzfrequenz fs	98,0 Hz	118,8 Hz	66,3 Hz
mechanische Güte Qms	3,48	4,39	3,78
elektrische Güte Qes	0,85	1,13	0,78
Gesamtgüte Qts	0,69	0,90	0,64
Äquivalentvolumen Vas	1,9 l	2,2 l	13,1 l
Bewegte Masse Mms	4,8 g	7,9 g	10,9 g
Rms	0,92 kg/s	1,46 kg/s	1,31 kg/s
Cms	0,55 mm/N	0,23 mm/N	0,53 mm/N
B*1	2,89 Tm	3,48 Tm	3,70 Tm
Schalldruck 2 V, 1 m	83 dB	84 dB	85 dB
Leistungsempfehlung:	30 - 100 W	30 - 150 W	30 - 150 W
Bewertung			
Preis	um 370 Euro	um 420 Euro	um 450 Euro
Klang 55 %	1,2	1,3	1,3
Labor 30 %	1,5	1,5	1,5
Verarbeitung 15 %	1,8	1,8	1,8
Preis/Leistung	sehr gut	sehr gut	sehr gut
CAR & HIFI Ausgabe 3/2009	Spitzenklasse 1,4	Spitzenklasse 1,4	Spitzenklasse 1,4
Die neue Status-Line ist schlicht das Beste, was je die Obrigheimer Fertigung verlassen hat. Qualität made in Germany, und das zu einem noch vertretbaren Preis			

(Table of technical specs' statement:)

The new Status-Line is simply the best, what ever had been made in the Obrigheim factory. Quality made in Germany on reasonable fair prices. (the Car & Hifi Magazine does not know the recent MB Quart QSF-Line as well as the current new German-MAESTRO M-Line)

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