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M-00 Pro Audio Review



M-00 Powered Mini-Monitor

By Tom Jung, [Pro Audio Review](#)

Powered speakers have become extremely popular in pro audio over the past year or so due to price/performance issues, as well as convenience. Powered monitors now come in all shapes, sizes and power capabilities.

Features

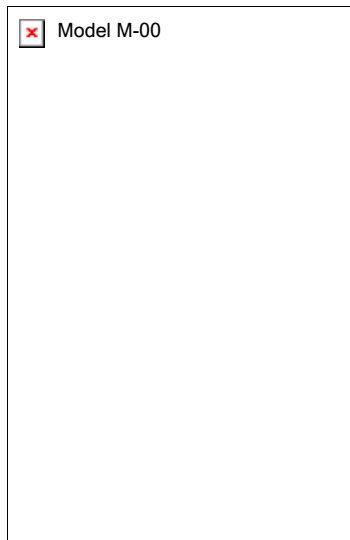
The NHTPro M-00 (\$375/each) falls into the smallish category, at 9" x 5.7" x 7.3". Originally designed as the passive consumer speaker, the Super Zero, the NHTPro M-00 was redesigned in a cast-aluminum zinc alloy enclosure with a built-in power amplifier. The configuration is a two-way acoustic suspension design, housing a 4.5" treated paper woofer and a 1" soft fabric dome tweeter. The drivers are proprietary and designed in-house.

A high current, fully discrete 75W (continuous RMS) amplifier powers both the woofer and tweeter through a passive crossover centered at 2.2 kHz. Peak acoustical power is rated at 111 dB SPL at 1 meter, which is high for a monitor this size but, based on my listening test, the M-00 should do it. The frequency response is rated at 93 Hz to 20 kHz, +/-2 dB, which, while certainly not full range, is respectable.

Controls are minimal but well-thought-out. A distance proximity switch provides midfield and nearfield positions, the latter creating a gentle attenuation of high frequencies to compensate for HF absorption in-air — and it works. Switchable input sensitivity for either -10 or +4 dBu makes it compatible in almost all monitoring situations.

The M-00 automatically senses an incoming signal and powers up the internal amplifier from its standby mode. Conversely, after 10 minutes with no signal present, the M-00 automatically powers down. If the auto power feature is not wanted, it may be defeated.

Both XLR and 1/4" unbalanced inputs are provided with the ability to daisy chain from one of the unused parallel connectors to a second M-00 — a nice feature for small commercial installations. An RCA unbalance input is also available.



In Use

Where the M-00 really shines is in a small environment where natural acoustic bass buildup makes larger speakers boomy. The M-00's high output capability, combined with the gentle roll off of a sealed enclosure, lets the speakers couple nicely with small room acoustics.

Their full magnetic shielding makes them ideal for high-quality workstation monitoring. With the forthcoming subwoofer, NHTPro will have a nice, full-range, compact monitoring system.

The frequency response is fairly smooth, with a gentle roll off starting at about 100 Hz. At 80 Hz, a high-pass filter kicks in with a fourth-order roll off, thus protecting the small but powerful 4.5" woofer.

NHTPro also offers two other larger powered monitors: the A-10 and the A-20. These systems do not have built-in amplifiers. Both products include system-specific control amplifiers with more adjustment capabilities to help compensate for room acoustics.

Summary

When it comes to size, performance and price, the M-00 is definitely in the winner's circle. Sold separately at \$375 each, retail, there are many monitoring situations where the M-00s fill the bill — compact audio workstations, high-end computer audio, portable mixdown monitor, video and post production, broadcast, mobile recording, home studio, 5.1 systems, fixed installation and distributed sound systems. Virtually any place small accurate monitors are needed.

Tom Jung, Pro Audio Review's technical consultant and regular contributor, is the founder of the DMP Music label.

O P I N I O N S 

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