

**Spooky**

Senior Member

Registered: Sep 2001  
Posts: 385

Well I finally got my amp rack done and my Draconia(standard opmap) installed and thought I would compare it to my previous amp an Orion 500.4 xtreme. This is not a true AB comparison since I'm utilizing the built in crossovers on both amps.(18 db slope on the orion 24 db slope on the Drac + the ability to banpass chs 3 and 4)

Equipment used:

-Clarion HX-d10

-a/d/s 235 is 5.25" compomets in kicks 4 ohms

-Oz Audio 200l dvc 8's in front doors 6 ohms(measures 2.5 ohms dc resistance in paralel)

Let me start off by saying I'm not a big believer in amp SQ. The Orion is rated a t 62.5w a channel into 4 ohms and 125w a channel into 2 ohms compared to the Dracs 70w a channel into 4 ohms and 140w a channel into 2 ohms. Both are a bit underated so I expected results to be very simular since both amps are so close in power. Boy was I wrong The Draconia is substantially louder than the Orion with the gain set conservatively. I would have had to set the gain on the orion into clipping to get simular output.

I can detect subtle differences in the amps. The Draconia seems to have better control of kick drums. Information played over the 8's just sounds better with the Draconia than it did with the Orion. After I switched the crossover from low pass to band pass it got even better. The 8's dont do well on some of the lower freqs in the doors. The bandpass feature is the first thing that drew me to the amp.

I can't tell much difference with the 5.25" a/d/s. My front stage as a whole does sound more realistic than it did with the Orion but that could be atributable to steeper slopes with slightly different crossover points as well as its ability to get a lot louder.

I have to say I am extremely happy with the Draconia. It has an excelent cost to performance ratio and I would whole heartedly recomend it to anyone seeking a 4 ch amp at this power point.

The **Only** drawback is the mounting feet. I've gotten over the cosmetic issues I had with em(the appearance of these amps keeps growing on me) but man are thay a pain in the ass to use. I had to glue down the washers to the amp rack(amps mounted vertically) and get a magnetic screwdriver to hold the screws so I could get them in the holes. There is no way to get your fingers down in the foot to start the screws.

Now all I have to do is build an enclosure for my 12" Oz Matrix Elite and I'll be done.

Forgot to add that the protection circuit works well. I had one crossover with a stray single strand of wire touching from positive to negative on the input terminals and it imeadiatly put the amp into protection.

[Edited by Spooky on 04-21-2005 at 01:35 AM]

**Clarion HX-D10, a/d/s 235is, Oz 200L 8's, Zed Audio Draconia, Oz ME D2 12", Zed Audio Duce install in progress**