

ATC SCM 7 - test columns of stand

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(Photo: Press Releases)

They are small, cheap, easy to set up and offer excellent sound - ATC SCM 7 is the perfect speakers for small spaces.

Most of us think stereotypes. In our consciousness exist, simplified templates through which value various events and phenomena. Often, when we refer to the common opinion, that does not have too much in common with reality. Hi-fi is not in this respect no exception. He did not until recently would draw attention to the Monitors ATC SCM 7 Small columns were for me synonymous with "small" sound, and the low efficiency suggested that they drive the need for power ... But one learns throughout life. Sometimes it even comes to the conclusion that most of the internet. obvious truths you can put ... between a fairy tale. I wonder how many fantastic-sounding hi-fi over my nose wheel just because at first glance did not portend anything interesting.



Difficulties in overcoming stereotypes are prevalent. I do not only affect consumers. Manufacturers are also so. I think everyone can name at least a few companies in the audio industry, which specifically does not wysilają, duplicating the established patterns. Fortunately, there are also those that do not please the templates. For those glorious exceptions include the British brand ATC (Acoustic Transducer Company), founded in 1974 by Billy Woodman, an Australian by birth. What is the originality? Initially, its activities focused on the professional market, constructing speakers with a view to recording studios, theaters and concert halls. The experience gained in the pro decided to finally take advantage of the consumer market, seeing in it - quite rightly so - a lot of potential. However, looking at the whole catalog company, it is obvious that the traditional, conventional hi-fi not really interested in her - even this part of the offer, which is intended for household use, seems to favor structures active (Series Tower). Yes, most of them are too passive counterparts, but priority is given to those with built-in amplifiers. Entry Series, which includes peer-reviewed SCM 7, consists of what is true only of passive models, but these are not typical representatives of their kind.

Unusual approach

"Seven", the smallest column in a series of Entry and at the same time the smallest of construction ATC for the consumer market, the two-way Monitors a rare closed structure. The small box made of MDF and covered with natural veneer on both sides - the choice of two different colors: Cherry and Black Ash. On the front wall having a thickness of 2 cm (the others are thinner by about 0.5 cm) was applied to a black panel (another 2 cm deep) with rounded edges reduce the phenomenon of diffraction waves.

Frequency treble supports 25 mm textile dome, which is surrounded by an aluminum collar that acts as a waveguide. On the right wall of the front columns anastomosed only neodymium magnet tweeter - dome skeleton is "held" by that panel.

The highlight, however, is the woofer design - the unit with a diameter of 125 mm made of paper soaked in a sticky repellent. In the heart of the distinctive for ATC large dome dust. Most impressive impressive magnetic system of the transmitter, with a diameter greater than the membrane and weighing up to 3 lbs! In this price range is something absolutely unique.

The crossover consists of the very good quality (polypropylene capacitors brand Bencic, air coils), and bandwidth allocation is set at 2.5 kHz. Pretty average only speaker terminals - although terminals are double and gilded, but the gap between them is relatively small, which makes life difficult for the owners of cables with fork. It is also immediately replace the metal jumper jumpers professionally prepared, or at least pieces of good quality speaker cables.

Quite a long time I wondered how the manufacturer managed to keep such an attractive price of this model, taking into account its technical sophistication and completely "niebudżetowe" sound. I came to the conclusion that the term "Made in UK" refers only to the speakers, and the boxes are created in one of the countries in Asia, probably in China. Such a strategy has already peeled many

other Companies seeking savings in times of crisis. My "conspiracy theory" has only one weak point - the inscription placed near the speaker terminals, from which it follows that the columns are manufactured in Gloucestershire, England.

Appearances can be deceptive

The most controversial issue in the case speaker working in enclosures without holes is resonant bass. I'm not a big fan ventilated enclosures bass-reflex, I think even that necessitate more compromises than the housing closed, although much depends on the specific implementation of the solution, so do not want to deliver on this topic, generalizing statements (the more that I base solely on their own experiences). In addition, the housing closed, they are not free from drawbacks. And there is no denying that the volume of the bass in the model SCM 7 is less than in most columns of stand with bass-reflex, but subjectively it is a very linear bass. Besides, once you hear that the impulse response "sevens" is excellent - columns quickly and efficiently extinguish the individual sounds. Low tones surprise at the suppleness and elasticity. Hitting the strings of a bass guitar on the track "The Man forms of the Planet of Marzipan" band Marillion were fast and accurate, free from any resonant reverbs. Indeed, the extension of this part of the bandwidth is limited, but first it is difficult to talk about the deficit bass (of course you should take into account the size of the listening room - in this case, the optimum will be rooms dozen meters), and secondly, unless one normal, looking at such a small box, not expected a kind of seismic firecrackers. People used to the bass with ventilated enclosures may feel some discomfort, but it is worth to realize that bass-reflex is a kind of misrepresentation. And that is what we perceive as an abundance of low-component is mostly their coloration distortion. It is heard best on the example of foot percussion - the "sevens" ATC system is a quick "shot" (full and fleshy, and not - as you might think - dry and barren) and almost immediately return to the starting point; nothing rumbles, nothing drags. To appreciate the advantages of such a presentation, for example, just listen to "The Happiest Days Of Our Lives" Floyd is refreshed last album "The Wall".
