SX218+

Dual-driver, direct radiating subwoofer

Features

- Dual-driver, direct radiating reflex-loaded subwoofer
- 2 x 18" (460mm) long-excursion drivers, 4" (100mm) voice coils, neodymium motors, waterproof cones
- Very high output capability
- Tour-grade plywood enclosure with M10 mounting points

Applications

- Touring sound reinforcement for small and medium-size venues
- Fixed installations in concert halls, theatres, ballrooms and houses of worship
- Sports stadiums, arenas and corporate AV events
- Restaurants, bars and hotel entertainment areas
- Concourses and theme parks

The SX218+ delivers very high output levels and superb transient performance with minimal distortion, making it ideal for the most demanding applications. With an operating range of 38 Hz–100 Hz ± 3 dB, it houses dual 18 in (460 mm) long-excursion drivers with 4 in (100 mm) voice coils, water-resistant cones and triple-roll surrounds. Each driver is rated to handle 1500 watts AES and has a magnet structure and suspension engineered for maximum linear excursion.

The enclosure is constructed from multi-laminate birch ply and finished with a durable polyurethane coating. Eight reflex ports provide a large frontal area to reduce turbulent air noise, and a perforated steel grille protects the drivers from damage. The internal port geometry promotes laminar airflow.

The SX218+ features an M20 pole-mount insert for mounting point-source speakers. Cabinet wheels and a transit cover are available as accessories.

Compared with the SX218, the SX218+ (Q2 2026) is an all-new design with enhanced performance and features. It is slightly deeper, so it uses a new transit cover, and it includes new drivers and an improved cabinet. Unlike the SX218, which required two 8 ohm amplifier channels, the SX218+ uses a single 4 ohm amplifier channel.

The SX218+ adds a third NL4 input connector on the front to improve cabling for subwoofers used in cardioid configurations. For outdoor use, you no longer need a WRKIT, but you must seal all three NL4 sockets. Use the correct cable connectors (NLT4FX or NLT4FX-BAG) for connected sockets and install a Martin Audio weatherproof NL4 sealing plug in any unused socket. The SX218+ adds a channel crossover on the link output, letting you run two cabinets from independent amplifier channels down a single four core cable.

The SX218+ has two LED indicators, one on the front and one on the back, which you can illuminate via Vu-Net software to identify each enclosure on the circuit. The rear LED is intended for use in cardioid setups.

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Technical Specifications

TYPE	Dual driver, direct radiating reflex-loaded subwoofer
FREQUENCY RESPONSE (1)	38Hz – 100Hz ±3dB, -10dB @ 31Hz
DRIVER	2 x 18 in (460 mm) long-excursion drivers with 4 in (100 mm) aluminium voice coils, neodymium motors with T-poles and demodulation rings, waterproof cones
RATED POWER (2)	3000W AES, 12000W peak
RECOMMENDED AMPLIFIER	iK42 bridged for full output
	For details, see SX218+ User Guide
SENSITIVITY (3)	102.5 dB
MAXIMUM SPL (2, 3)	137dB continuous, 143dB peak
	149dB peak with crest factor 4
NOMINAL IMPEDANCE	4 ohms
DISPERSION (-6dB)	Omni-directional or cardioid when paired
ENCLOSURE	Multi-laminate birch ply
FINISH	Textured black or white paint
PROTECTIVE GRILLE	Black or white perforated stainless steel
ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING (4)	IP rating IP21 MIL-STD-810H ISO 4892-2 Solar Radiation ISO 12944-6 Category C3 Corrosion resistance
LED INDICATORS	Two LEDs: one front, one rear (rear LED for cardioid subs)
CONNECTORS	3 x NLT4MPXX-BAG (one front, two rear)
	IP54 weather-resistant seal with NLT4FX, NLT4FX-BAG or weatherproof NL4 sealing plug
PIN CONNECTIONS (INPUT ON FRONT)	1+/1-
PIN CONNECTIONS (INPUT ON REAR)	1+/1-
PIN CONNECTIONS (LINK ON REAR)	1+/1- linked to 2+/2-
	2+/2- linked to 1+/1-
FITTINGS	Two skids on base, with mating channels on top
	M20 thread plate on right side for pole mounting with sub in portrait
	24 x M10 mounting points, 6 on top, 6 on bottom, 4 on left, 4 on right, 4 on back
	4 x bar handles, two on each side
	16 x M8 inserts for optional castors
DIMENSIONS (INCL SKIDS)	(W) 1084 mm × (H) 530 mm × (D) 799 mm (927 mm with castors, transit-cover brackets add 28 mm)
	(W) 42.7 in × (H) 20.9 in × (D) 31.5 in (36.5 in with castors, transit-cover brackets add 1.1 in)
WEIGHT	82.3 kg (181 lb), 85.5 kg (189 lb) with castors
ACCESSORIES	Pack of four castors WHEELKIT
	M10 eye bolt HTKCT06
	Weatherproof NL4 sealing plug
	Install flying frame SX218GRID
	Flying kit SX218FKIT
	Transit Cover SX218+TC

Notes

(1) On-axis in open space (4 pi) at 1 m.
(2) Tested for 2 hours with band-limited pink noise as specified in AES2-1984 (r2003). Peak power defined as 6 dB above AES power.
(3) In half space (2 pi) at 1 m with 1 watt input and band-limited pink noise.
(4) For details, see martin-audio.com/environmentaltesting

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Environmental Testing

IEC 60529 Ingress Protection

This standard defines the IP rating system, which classifies the degree of protection an enclosure provides against the ingress of solid objects (dust) and liquids (water).

Rating Scale

FIRST DIGIT (Solid Object Protection): Scale 0-6
0 No protection
1 Objects >50mm (hands)
2 Objects >12.5mm (fingers)
3 Objects >2.5mm (tools, wires)
4 Objects >1mm (small wires)
5 Dust protected (limited ingress)
6 Dust-tight (no ingress)
SECOND DIGIT (Liquid Protection): Scale 0-8
0 No protection
1 Dripping water (vertical)
2 Dripping water (15° tilt)
3 Spraying water (60° angle)
4 Splashing water (all directions)
5 Water jets (low pressure)
6 Powerful water jets
7 Temporary immersion (1m, 30 min)
8 Continuous immersion (depth specified)

MIL-STD-810H

This U.S. Department of Defense standard specifies environmental tests to evaluate the ability of equipment to withstand harsh environmental conditions.

What it Tests

Temperature:
- Low temperature (storage and operation)
- High temperature (storage and operation)
- Temperature shock

Humidity:
- Constant and cyclic humidity testing

Solar Radiation:
- UV exposure testing at high intensity

Salt Fog/Salt Spray:
- Corrosion resistance testing

Rain & Water:
- Rain (blowing and dripping)

Dust & Sand:
- Particle resistance

Vibration & Shock:
- Mechanical stress testing

ISO 4892-2 Solar Radiation

This standard defines laboratory methods for exposing plastics and other materials to xenon arc lamps to simulate the effects of natural sunlight (UV radiation and visible light).

What it Tests

Colour fading/change
Gloss loss
Surface cracking
Material degradation
Physical property changes

ISO 12944-6 Corrosion Resistance

This standard outlines laboratory test methods for assessing the performance of protective paint systems against corrosion in various atmospheric environments.

Category	Exterior Environment	Interior Environment
C1 (Very Low)	Not Applicable	Heated buildings with clean atmospheres (e.g. offices, shops, schools, hotels)
C2 (Low)	Atmospheres with low pollution (mostly rural areas)	Unheated buildings where condensation can occur (e.g. depots, sports halls)
C3 (Medium)	Urban/industrial atmospheres with moderate SO_2 pollution; coastal areas with low salinity	Production rooms with high humidity and some pollution (e.g. food plants, laundries)
C4 (High)	Industrial/coastal areas with moderate salinity	Chemical plants, swimming pools, coastal shipyards

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