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ARC AUDIO XDi1000.1 **AMPLIFIER**

TEXT BY GARRY SPRINGGAY

f you're looking for big bass on a small budget, the folks at Arc Audio have got just what you need in the form of their XDi1000.1 Class D amplifier. The XDi series of amps are designed to provide big power from a compact chassis, and at only \$439 bucks, the price is equally as compact.

Rated at 375, 650, and 1000 watts into 4, 2, and 1 ohm respectively, but measuring only 11.25" x 6.5" x 2.25", the powerful XDi1000.1 will fit into virtually any available space. The Arc Audio amp is nicely finished in a brushed black anodized coating, with brushed aluminum accents providing nice contrast on the raised heatsink fins. Heavy duty power and speaker terminals are found on one end of the amp, with 4 gauge power connections, and a pair of dual paralleled speaker terminals that will easily accept 8 gauge cable. The convenient dual speaker terminals provide easy wiring configurations for driving multiple woofers. Three 40A ATC fuses are also located on the "business end" of the amp. between the terminal blocks

And while the XDi1000.1 may be modestly priced, it boasts features that are typically found on much more expensive products. Of course there is the usual gain and crossover controls [55-250Hz] but there is also

a 10-50Hz subsonic filter, a variable phase control, and a bass boost EQ circuit with not only variable boost, but variable frequency (40-100Hz) as well! This parametric type EO can be really handy during tuning of the subwoofer system to a specific vehicle or listeners taste. Plus, a wired remote control allows overall bass level control from the driver's seat.

A look inside proves that the XDi is built for the long haul. The PCB is two layer glass epoxy "FR4" material, and features surface mount very low tolerance parts. The power

supply switching is handled by eight TO-220 case MOSFET's and two pair of large TO-247 case MOSFET's take care of the output. The power supply is fed energy via over 23000µF of capacitance, and the pout section uses another 8800µF of capacitance to store energy. All this power is constantly monitored by several different protection circuits. including protection from short circuits, over voltage, and over temperature. The blue "power on" LED will illuminate in red if any of the protection circuits become activated, so you'll always know what's going on.



One of the best things about this type of amplifier, and this amp in particular, is it's excellent efficiency at "everyday" power levels. Sure, there are lots of amplifiers that profess to have better than 80% efficiency at full power. But the truth is, the vast majority of our listening is never done at full power. This is where a good design really stands out, when you look at overall efficiency at fractional power levels... where we listen most of the time. What I'm talking about here, is how much power the amp consumes, when it's only putting out 20, 50 or 100

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SPEAKER OUTPUT

watts... where the majority of us do most of our listening. And this is where the Arc Audio XDi 1000.1 shines. This amplifier is over 80% efficient at 1/3 power levels, and draws less than 2 amps of current to produce 10 watts of power into 4 ohms. This means a much easier load on your charging system, plus a cooler running amplifier, because less power is lost to heat.

There are literally dozens of amplifiers available to drive your subwoofers. Some are very small, and take up minimal space. Some are very powerful, and can drive 1 ohm loads all day long. Some come with a full complement of signal adjustments and tuning functionality to help you tweak things exactly as you like them. And still others are simply very affordable, and offer good value.

The Arc Audio XDi1000.1 does all of the above, and there simply aren't too many others that can make that claim.

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