



# AC SERIES ALL CLIMATE SUBWOOFER

## OWNER'S GUIDE FOR MODEL AC.SUBe

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### TERRA TECHNOLOGY & DESIGN

Featuring the same key technologies found in the acclaimed Terra AC Series All Climate speakers, the AC.SUBe will provide deep and powerful bass to dramatically enhance your outdoor listening enjoyment while fitting unobtrusively into your landscaping.

The AC.SUBe is a totally sealed system incorporating a Terra 12-inch Aluminum Ceramic Anodized Diaphragm ACAD™ bass driver with a high-power two-inch voice coil and our Magnetic Fluid Centering System (MFCS)™. The driver is mounted at approximately a 35 degree angle to allow accumulated moisture and debris to drain out. Using a sealed design that is impervious to moisture and particulate matter means the AC.SUBe will typically survive years in the outdoors while providing excellent, powerful bass for your listening enjoyment.

### ALL CLIMATE DESIGN

The heart of the AC.SUBe, the Terra ACAD driver is essentially immune to harsh environments including salt spray and chlorine mist exposure.

- Sealed, molded polyethylene enclosure, approximately ¼" thick, color permeated, UV stable
- Hardwired 6-foot pigtail cable with a watertight enclosure pass through
- Included silicone filled outdoor grade wire connectors
- Conxall® watertight quick-connector (optional)
- Rust-proof cast alloy driver frame
- Above ground or partial burial installation
- Stainless steel mesh grille to reduces debris build up

### ACAD: Anodized-Ceramic Aluminum Diaphragm

One of the founding principles of Terra is that metal is the best choice for a speaker cone. Terra's proprietary anodizing method creates a "sandwich" of ceramic-aluminum-ceramic at a molecular level that strengthens the aluminum cone and also damps it to minimize vibration. The result is a cone that's as light and rigid as possible – two qualities essential for producing great sound. And unlike ordinary cone materials, ACAD is immune to harsh outdoor environments and won't degrade over time. ACAD benefits include:

- Purer Sound - rigid, lightweight cone minimizes distortion, plays loud without harshness
- Better Dynamics - reproduces musical dynamics without strain
- More Listenable - smooth, non-strident sound eliminates listener fatigue
- More Reliable - seamless, one-piece cones will not deteriorate or change characteristics with age



## INSTALLATION ADVISORY

If you are not completely comfortable with speaker wiring, amplifier connections, or other aspects of the physical installation, we encourage you to hire a professional audio/video contractor.

## AMPLIFIER POWER

Speaker damage most commonly results from UNDERPOWERING rather than overpowering the speaker. If you hear distortion from the AC.SUBe, chances are that the amplifier has exceeded its output capability and is “clipping.” If you hear distortion at loud levels (even if it doesn't seem all that loud), turn down your amp immediately! Clipping WILL cause damage to a speaker, and such damage is not covered under the warranty.

## THE “BREAK-IN” PERIOD

You may play your Terra AC.SUBe immediately with excellent results. However, subtle improvement can be expected as the ACAD™ driver breaks in during the first 50 to 100 hours of operation.

## SPEAKER LOCATION & BASS PERFORMANCE

Ideally, the AC.SUBe should be located between the left and right satellite speakers. However, since bass frequencies below 100Hz are difficult for the human ear to localize, you can place the AC.SUBe anywhere within the general satellite listening area. But the closer to the other speakers it is, the better the sound will integrate. Large distances between the satellites and the AC.SUBe can create phase-cancellation problems, particularly at the crossover point. Also note that if you place the AC.SUBe near a wall (like your house foundation) you will get more apparent bass because the foundation wall will reflect the sound. If you're not sure about placement give us a call at 207.725.1005.

## WIRE CONNECTIONS

The AC.SUBe includes a permanently attached, six-foot length of burial grade wire. Connect it to a 14 gauge (minimum) lead of burial grade speaker wire to reach your amplifier. You can use the included silicone filled weatherproof connectors or solder and then seal bare wire connections with waterproof tape or silicon. In either case we recommend using a waterproof outdoor junction box for long term reliability and ease of access. In order to avoid accidental damage from landscaping work, we recommend that the wire be sufficiently buried or, even better, inserted into protective outdoor grade conduit.

## IN-GROUND INSTALLATION

The AC.SUBe can be partially buried in the earth, up to the lip just below the stainless steel grille. Although the AC.SUBe is weather-proof it's always advisable to choose a location that doesn't flood and isn't in the path of large amounts of run-off. Being placed in such a location could result in the earth around the AC.SUBe being washed away or could cause damage from freeze-thaw cycles.

Once you've chosen your in-ground location, we advise that you test the sound of the system before burying the AC.SUBe. Pay particular attention to the point that the bass transitions from the AC.SUBe to the satellites. The bass should sound full and rich yet have some “punch” when necessary. If you're not sure it does, try reversing the wire connections (+ to – and – to +) to see if the overall bass response improves.

When you are satisfied that the location produces well-integrated sound with the satellite speakers, dig a hole 15-inches deep by 15-inches wide. Attach the three included 1/4-20 by 1.5-inch bolts to the bottom of the speaker by screwing them snugly into the brass inserts at the lower sides of the housing. Place the AC.SUBe into the hole and run the wire as described above (“Wire Connections”). Fill in the hole around the AC.SUBe, packing the dirt carefully but firmly against the enclosure. Please remove the plastic that covers the grill. There! You're done and ready to begin enjoying outdoor music like you've never heard it before.

