

# CROSBY'S, INC.

*"Hi-End Audio Specialist"*

## CROSBY MOD TC-50

This is a very unusual speaker system, and commercially, there's nothing quite like it at any price. We take an outstanding design and make it **"work correctly."** We primarily concentrate on three areas which no commercial speaker manufacturer has yet addressed completely and correctly.

These areas are:

1. Cabinet and driver resonances
2. Correct coupling to the floor
3. Passive wiring, connections and crossover

Sound simple? Read on:

The quality and detail in these important areas are simply lacking in all speakers today — from the \$35,000. IRS to the \$3,000. quads. This is not a "mass-appeal speaker." We are not interested if you are not interested in setting your audio system up correctly. Cost means nothing. We have heard \$30,000. systems that sound awful; yet we can produce \$1,800. systems that are accurate and musically euphonic. If you purchase one of our modified products, we will stress the concept of a correct set-up; instructions and suggestions will be included.

**PROBLEM ONE** — Cabinet (lesser degree driver) resonances:

The lack of a well-designed and rigid cabinet causes all kinds of sonic problems. There is a lack of musical information, transparency, dimensionality, imaging size and inability to retain sonic qualities at higher listening levels. There are also colorations most people don't know about. Resonance can and does produce cold, hard, non-musical higher-frequency information.

The bass frequency is also affected. Instead of a tight bass, (I call it a resonance-sounding quality), there will be a non-musical instrument producing "Boomy" sound. We approach the problem in a unique way. First, we use what we call a torsion brace, and as far as we know, we are the only ones in the industry who use this approach. We actually tune the stress of the cabinet to the desired rigidity. We also use hard woods in key areas to further tighten the box. Finally, we coat the outside of the box with an expensive coating to close the pores and further tighten the cabinet. Some use exotic materials — metal, ceramic, etc. We feel wood is the most natural-sounding material for music if done correctly. We also dampen the drivers to control resonance in the frames and baskets. No commercial speaker approaches this sophisticated level of flexing and resonance controlled speaker cabinet.

**PROBLEM TWO** — Correct coupling to the floor (everyone overlooks this one):

All speakers need a correct coupling devise (speaker stand). This is a two-fold problem. All speakers, regardless of category, vibrate to move air. This causes a reactionary problem: the speaker frame wants to move. If your speakers move easily by touching them (example RS-1 on carpet) the images are not as accurate as they should be.

---

The other problem again is resonance. Some people suggest the best way to couple the speaker is to attach it directly to the listening environment. That is, by bolting the speakers to the floor, dowel sticks to the back wall, or by attaching the top of the speaker to the ceiling. This is wrong. The speaker has a resonance, the stand has a resonance and the listening environment has a resonance. But, they are all different.

Our speaker is tightly coupled to the floor with a minimum of contact surface to minimize transmission of resonance. Would you directly bolt the frame of your turntable to any sides of your listening room? No. If you know what you're doing, you would go to a great amount of trouble to isolate it from your environment. (We set our turntable on a Chicago Great Slate turntable stand filled with lead, inturn tiptoes under a VPI isolation plate, finally turntable. The total turntable mass is well over 200 lbs., yet little resonance is passed due to the minimal surface area.)

Our speaker also has a great deal of mass to control resonance and to tightly couple to the floor. Our 6½ inch two-way weighs almost 200 lbs. a pair, but the floor sees a speaker that weighs almost 2,000 lbs. pr.! The (incorrectly coupled) RS-1 on the carpet weighs about 350 lbs. divided by four cabinets, but has the reactionary and resonance problem of (12) 8-inch dynamic drivers, (22) midrange and tweeter drivers. We feel it should weigh at least 2000 lbs. to correctly control the action of those drivers. We don't mean to single out this fine speaker system, but we are trying to shed some light on the problems of most speaker systems today.

Read the effects of tiptoes on the RS-1, TAS No. 35.

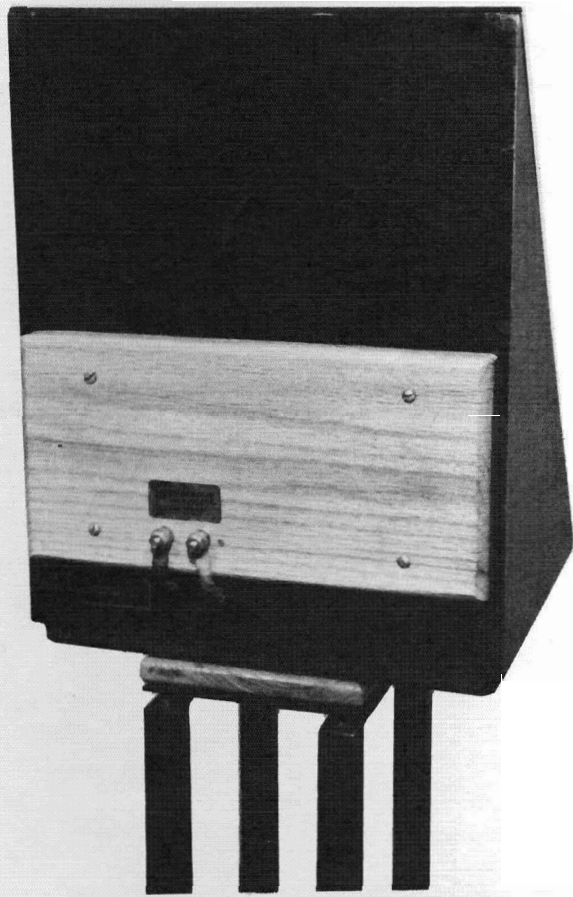
The images and information are improved due to tighter coupling (less rocking effect), and the bass improved because of separation of the resonance of the speakers from the resonance of the floor. Now, multiply this minimum effort to all our effort by 10 and you get our correct coupling. No commercial speaker even comes close to our effort on correct coupling.

### **PROBLEM THREE — Passive wiring and connections:**

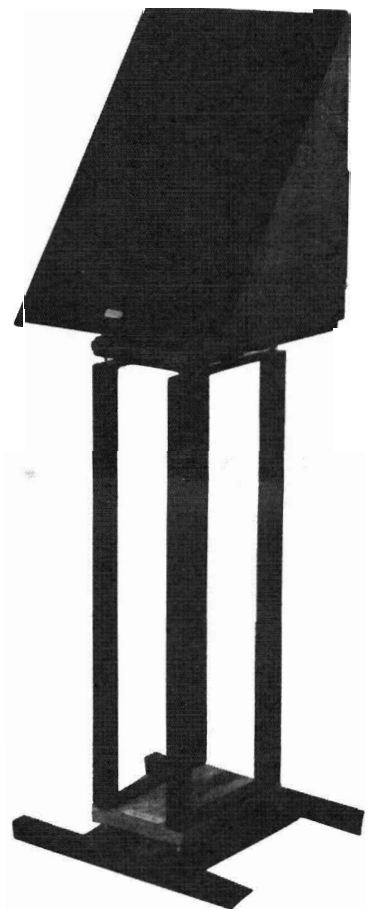
If you can think of the signal-carrying wire as a component as important as the other electronic devices, caps, resistors, etc., you will start to understand that without it, you will never get the most musical information to the crossover components and drivers. We use Randall Research Wire in different gauges with shrink wrap.

We feel that Randall Research, in a correct set-up, is by far the best wire commercially available and second place is a distant second. We are not only concerned with quality of information, but quantity (current, current and more current.)

We use quality soldering connections but use tight spade (with tweek) connections anywhere we can. We had to come up with a new terminal, (binding posts are a tremendous sonic compromise). We call our new terminal T.A.C. (The Total Audio Contact). The sonic pay-off is a complete lack of grain, (speakers do have grain) tremendous increase in size and body, greater sense of air and tremendous increase of musical information. No commercial speaker uses this quality and quantity of passive wire and connections at any price.



CROSBY TAC CONNECTION



CROSBY MOD TC-50  
AND CROSBY REFERENCE STANDS  
(USES 16 TIPTOES)

---

The Spica TC-50 is the only speaker made today that we care to modify, and it's the first speaker that even comes close to being correctly engineered to produce the illusion of a dimensional, coherent sound, and sound stage.

### **Some highlights of our speaker system:**

1. There is tremendous image size if set up correctly and used in a large room. (You can't produce a large sound correctly in a small room-period-but it will still work in a small room).
2. "Air" and "Bloom" - In this category, there is nothing commercially available that even comes close. It not only produces the performers, and room therein, but moves air into the listening room. Dynamics will grow, and expand, like never before.
3. This speaker is pure music, and the tones are euphonic. It has no resonance ringing that plagues almost every speaker today.
4. It has the most accurate bass today and makes everything sound Hi-Fi. The bass has almost no distortion, and it has a resonance quality that is unbelievable.
5. This speaker is rebuilt by experts, using only the finest parts available in key areas. If this speaker sold like most factory-rep-retailer, it would cost about \$2,000. It is not a mass-appeal compromised product. Set up correctly, it's the best speaker available today at any price.

### **Problems with other speaker designs:**

ELECTROSTATICS use power and information, robbing transformers to work (transformers are a tremendous sonic compromise). They also use large driver area to cabinet area (resonance and vibration problems). The most accurate ones are the smallest ones, but they are small-sounding and not very exciting. The bigger ones are grossly inaccurate and never let you forget they are there working.

No ELECTROSTATIC will produce the tight bass or air that ours is capable of.

Ribbons are fast and spec out good, but we're talking about music, not specs. Every ribbon speaker we've heard had non-musical high-frequency information. We feel there is a possibility ribbons have a resonance ringing problem in their present state of design. (Some noted people use ribbons as their reference, but they also use veiled amps and cables that have very little high-end resolution). No ribbons will produce the imaging, air or bloom that our Mod TC-50 will. (It's there in real music).

We also feel you shouldn't use different types of drivers or tunings in the same speaker. They all have sound characteristics that are different. Electrostatics don't mix with dynamics, dynamics don't mix with ribbons and ported bottoms don't mix with sealed midranges. They are compromise for frequency extensions at the cost of a Hi-Fi sound.

\$995.00 pair.

Reference Stands \$230.00