



MOREL HYBRID OVATION 6 SPECS

PRICE & CONTACT: \$899; Tel: 800-464-8569, Web: www.morelhifi.com

SYSTEM TYPE: 2-Way System

NOMINAL IMPEDANCE: 4 ohms

POWER HANDLING: 160 watts

MAX. TRANSIENT POWER HANDLING: 600 watts

SENSITIVITY (2.83V/1M): 91 dB

FREQUENCY RESPONSE: 35-25000 Hz

CROSSOVER POINT: 1800 Hz

VOICE COIL DIAMETER
WOOFER: 54 mm (2.10 inches)
TWEETER: 28 mm (1.10 inches)

VOICE COIL WIRE
WOOFER: Hexatech aluminum
TWEETER: Hexatech aluminum

MAGNET SYSTEM
WOOFER: Hybrid Ovation 6 rear vented
TWEETER: Neodymium

MOUNTING DEPTH
WOOFER: 61 mm (2.37 inches)
TWEETER: 20 mm (0.80 inch)



tion of the unconventional Hybrid Ovation 6 magnet structure and the efficiency of the voice coil increase the efficiency of the motor structure nearly 20 percent.

The MT-22 tweeter also incorporates the Hexatech voice coil technology. The oversized 1.1-inch tweeter has an impressively low 950 Hz free-air resonance — most tweeters have a free-air resonance three and four times that! This low resonance and high thermal power handling allows for the Hybrid Ovation 6 to use an extremely low crossover point of 1800 Hz. Even more important, the robust MT-22 is sturdy enough to handle the demanding first order 6 dB-per-octave crossover slope.

MOREL HYBRID OVATION 6

MOREL OFFERS A HIGH PERFORMANCE ALTERNATIVE FOR OEM SPEAKER LOCATIONS.

BY PAUL SONODA

It has been said that a good speaker, perfectly optimized, will sound better than an awesome speaker in a poor location. What if you can't, or don't want to, change the speaker locations from the factory? Is there a speaker system capable of delivering high-performance sound in factory locations? Read on.

FIRST LOOK

The Morel Hybrid Ovation 6 is a high-performance, 2-way component system consisting of a 6.5-inch midrange and the MT-22 1.1-inch tweeter.

The tweeter is a hand-made dome using a proprietary textile material called Acuflex. Morel has four ways for

mounting the tweeter: flush, surface, surface angled, and without housing.

The relatively shallow midrange (2.37 inches) has the Uniflo unique aerodynamically designed cast aluminum frame that encompasses the motor structure and provides an open design that minimizes back-wave speaker distortion created by the speaker basket. The oversized two-inch voice coil gives the Hybrid Ovation 6 a high power handling capability of 160 watts, continuous, and a music transient power-handling limit of a whopping 600 watts.

The Accuset MX-22 outboard crossover is housed in a cast aluminum chassis that has

a minimalist industrial design.

CLOSER LOOK

The Accuset MX-22 is the nexus of the system. As with any high-performance system, the MX-22 is capable of standard, bi-wire, and bi-amp configurations. There are five tweeter levels, giving you 8 dB of control over the tweeter output.

What's special about the MX-22 is the variable crossover slope. Both the tweeter and midrange output can be selected from either 6 dB- or 12 dB-per-octave slopes — the benefits are plentiful. Rare in the world of car audio, a 6 dB-per-octave, first order network is a phase coherent

design that minimizes crossover ringing and maximizes transient response. The downside to this design is that it puts a tremendous demand on the speakers. Fortunately, Morel has paid attention to both the woofer and tweeter.

Morel builds the Hybrid Ovation 6 midrange around unique proprietary technology. The midrange uses Morel's proprietary Hexatech voice coil technology. This technology uses hexagonal-shaped aluminum wire tightly packed around an aluminum voice coil former. Packing the voice coil wire tighter puts more wire in the magnetic gap of the speaker. The combination of an aluminum voice coil former and voice coil wire maximizes thermal stability and is the reason for such a high power handling of the Morel Hybrid Ovation 6 system.

To create a compact power motor structure, the Hybrid Ovation 6 unites a common ferrite magnet with a high-performance neodymium magnet to create a compact powerful motor structure. The combina-

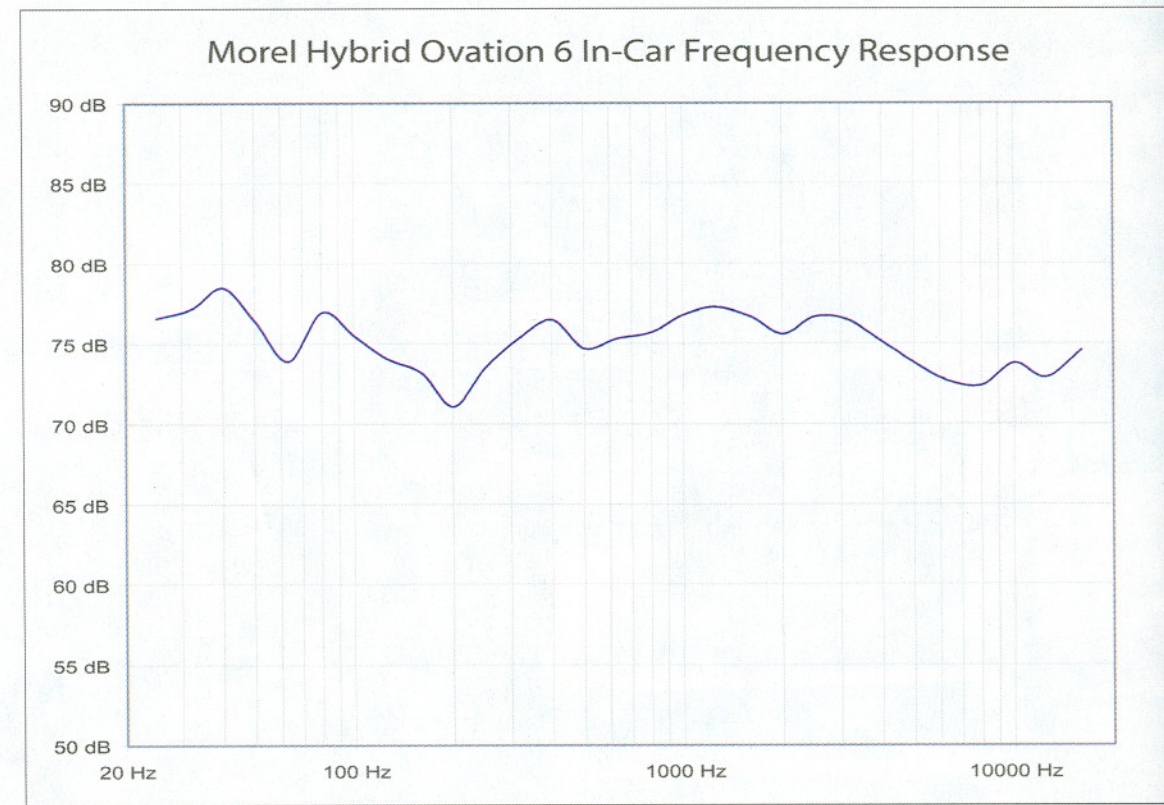
The small size of the tweeter makes the performance capabilities even more impressive.

INSTALLATION

The Morel Hybrid Ovation 6 includes everything but speaker wire to install the system. The midrange's basket has a multitude of holes to fit nearly every factory speaker location. The tweeter is exceptionally small when compared to high-performance tweeters from other companies. As a result, the speakers are quite easy to install in factory speaker locations. This is a feat not common with high-end performance speaker systems.

The speaker grilles are designed to minimize the sonic interference the grilles may impose on the speaker. While providing adequate protection for large objects, the grilles could allow small objects to pass through. In most installations, this should not pose a problem.

The real beauty of the system is the Accuset MX-22. With the ability to control the slopes and output levels, the Hybrid Ovation 6 can be optimized even when the speaker locations aren't. To aid in the tuning process, the Hybrid Ovation 6 system can be interfaced with the installer-friendly Accuset crossover alignment system. This system allows remote access to all of the crossover settings. The installer can sit in the listen-



ing position and fine tune the crossover. Due to the complexity of the tuning capabilities of the Hybrid Ovation 6 system, it's strongly recommended to have the system installed by your local authorized Morel dealer. (Morel notes that the system carries

a 3-year warranty, when dealer installed - ed.)

MANUALS/WEB SUPPORT

The manual for the Morel Hybrid Ovation 6 is quite simple and basic. It provides information on mounting the speakers and configuring the

crossover for standard, bi-wire, or bi-amplifier systems. A simple pictogram outlines all of the crossover adjustments and settings.

The Hybrid Ovation 6 is a recent addition to the Morel product line-up. As a result, information about the products is not fully integrated into the company's Web site. When I visited Morel's site, www.morelhifi.com, information on the Hybrid Ovation 6 system was contained under new products. The manual for the Hybrid Ovation 6 was not available for download.

SOUND Q & PERFORMANCE

Impressive — sound quality is why you buy this system. It's impressive not because it sounds great, it's impressive because it sounds great in the factory locations of my test vehicle. The speaker locations had the tweeter high in the door and the midrange at the bottom. The system not only blended well, but it placed the vocals in the center of the

vehicle. More important was the detail — these speakers reveal details in the music I usually only find in my hi-fi home system.

On the testing side, the Morel Hybrid Ovation 6 was equally impressive. After tuning the system and tweaking the control on the head unit, the system delivered a frequency response of plus or minus 4 dB over its entire bandwidth. From 300 Hz up, the window tightened to plus or minus 3 dB.

SUMMARY

Having your cake and eating it too — that's what the flexibility and performance of the Morel Hybrid Ovation 6 offers. Even though this system price of \$899 may seem expensive, the performance it delivers is well worth the price. This system is perfect for someone who wants high-performance sound without modifying the car vehicle interior. If you find the optimal speaker locations, the performance will be stunning. <<



THE MOREL HYBRID OVATION 6 ON THE SONODA SCALE

Strengths: Awesome sound quality, good output level, installation flexibility, very tunable crossover.

Weakness: Speaker grilles only offer adequate protection. Expensive but worth it.

Best Use: High-performance system that is able to fit and perform in a wide variety of factory speaker locations.

PERFORMANCE VALUE (OUT OF 5):



PERFORMANCE VS. WEIGHT (OUT OF 5):



POWER VS. EFFICIENCY (OUT OF 5):



MANUALS, ONLINE SUPPORT (OUT OF 5):

