

SOUNDCHECK

DAS BANDMAGAZIN

TEST-HIGHLIGHTS

Moog Matriarch

Pearl e/Merge e/Hybrid

Gibson G-45 Standard
& Studio

Gear-Talk

Guthrie Govan –
der Signature-Sound
des Saiten-Virtuosen

KOMPAKTE GRÖSSE, KOLOSSALER KLANG

Electro-Voice EVOLVE 30M

Special

Mikrofone für alle Fälle –
Grundausrüstung unter
1000 Euro



ELECTRO-VOICE EVOLVE 30M

Column system with extremely rich sound

Electro-Voice has decades of experience in the manufacturing of PA speakers. Over time, the US manufacturer has gained an excellent reputation all over the world, as well as creating legends such as the 15/3 fullrange speaker. We put the newest member of the family, the column system, through a thorough field test.

The smallest model in the EVOLVE series from Electro-Voice, EVOLVE 30M is expanding the range of powered column systems. Only the dimensions, weight and built-in speakers are smaller in comparison to the EVOLVE 50 system. The Class D amplification power of 1,000 watts remains the same.

An eye for detail

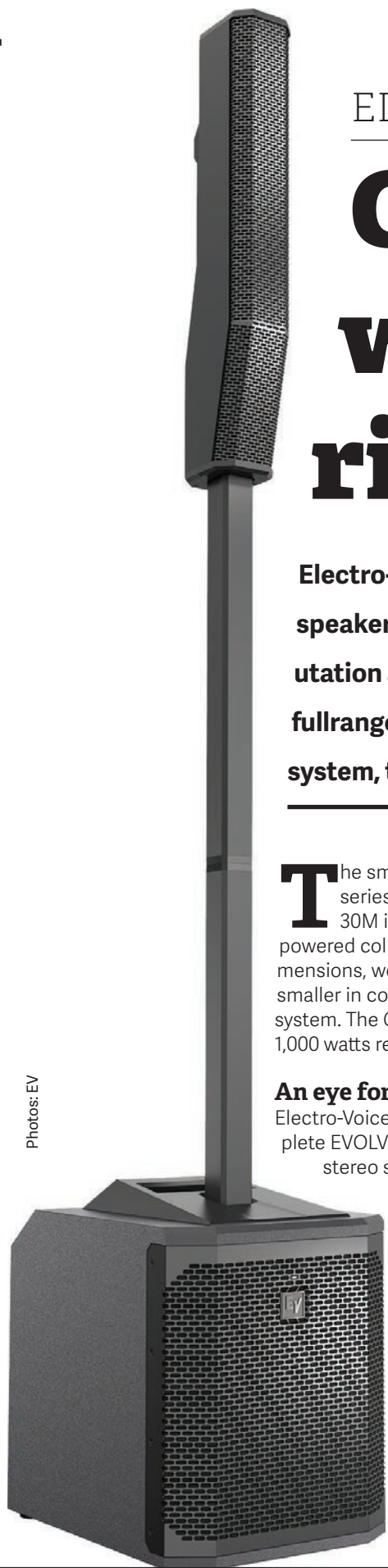
Electro-Voice supplied us with two complete EVOLVE 30M column systems for a stereo setup, each of which fits in a single box with all accessories. Styrofoam molded parts ensure that the components fit securely inside the box, individually packed in plastic bags with desiccant to protect them from moisture. In addition to the power cable and the carrier bag for the top and the two poles, a 42-page, well-bound English operating manual and multilingual safety instructions are also

included as documentation. The operating manual as well as other PDF documents and product images are available to download from the Electro-Voice website. The supplied carrying bag can also be worn as a backpack - a particularly practical feature. There is also an extra pocket on the outside for the power cable. Together with the rolling case for the subwoofer, which is available as an accessory, the entire PA can be carried in just one hand, leaving the other hand free for the guitar case, for example. Cleverly designed!

Assembly and disassembly in just a few minutes

The four components of the EVOLVE 30M system are now unpacked in front of us: the subwoofer with the integrated mixer and amplifier, the two sub poles with integrated wiring and the top array unit with the MF/HF speakers. It takes just few seconds to assemble the whole system and connect the power cable to the power supply. It is impossible to assemble the poles incorrectly due to the different design of the connectors. The very precise fit and magnetic locks on both ends of the poles ensure that the entire column system stands firmly at almost exactly 2 meters high.

Photos: EV



The components of our test sample are perfectly finished and the simple, functional design creates an impression of a really classy, high-quality product.

Also available in white

If the black EVOLVE 30M is considered too prominent against a white wall, you will be pleased that the EVOLVE 30M will also be available in white for a small extra charge from spring 2020.

Room-filling sound thanks to a wide coverage angle

In order to create a clean stereo sound for the audience, it is important to project the MF and HF range directly from the loudspeaker to the listener and not through reflections from the walls and ceiling. That's why Electro-Voice has developed a special waveguide for the column array speaker of the EVOLVE 30M system, which sits directly in front of the loudspeaker membranes. This waveguide of the top array of the EVOLVE 30M system creates an extremely wide, horizontal coverage angle of 120°. In addition, the two lower speakers of the six 2.8" MF/HF drivers featuring neodymium magnets slope downwards at an angle of 40°, so that the audience sitting directly in front of the speakers is also covered - following exactly the same principle as large line arrays. Electro-Voice did not scrimp on the HF/MF speakers themselves, using neodymium magnets which, though expensive, offer superior quality.

AUF EINEN BLICK

Electro-Voice EVOLVE 30M

PRODUCT TYPE

Powered column PA system with onboard mixer

FREQUENCY RESPONSE AT 3 DB

51 Hz to 20 kHz

FREQUENCY RESPONSE AT 10 DB

45 Hz to 20 kHz

CROSSOVER FREQUENCY

200 Hz

MAX. SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL

123 dB (SPL)

SUBWOOFER

10" woofer in bass reflex housing

TOP UNIT

6 x 2.8" MF/HF Neodymium drivers with waveguide in a 40° angled line array housing

DISPERSION (H X V)

120° x 40°

AMPLIFIER OUTPUT

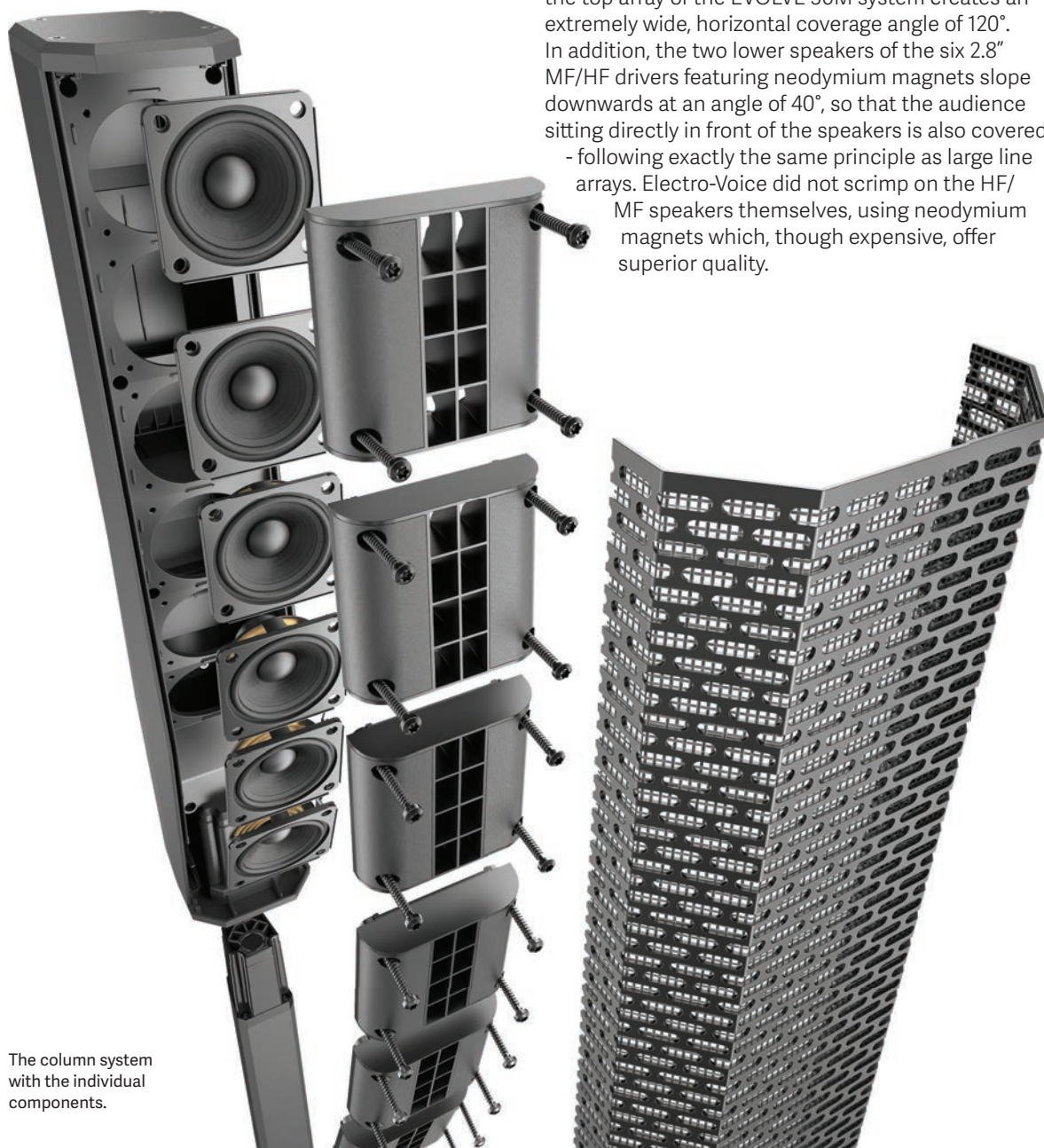
1,000 W, Class D

AMPLIFIER OUTPUT, SUB

500 W

AMPLIFIER OUTPUT, COLUMN

500 W



The column system with the individual components.

TEST POWERED COLUMN SYSTEM

CONNECTORS

4x XLR/TRS combo jack line / mic input

1x 1/4" TRS HI-Z input

2x XLR/TRS combo jack for stereo line input

1x stereo RCA input

1x 3.5 mm stereo input

1x wireless stereo Bluetooth® audio input

1x 1/4" foot switch input

1x XLR MIX OUT output

1x XLR AUX OUT output

SUBWOOFER HOUSING

15 mm plywood

HOUSING COLUMN

Durable plastic with aluminum carrier handle

SUB POLES

Aluminum

LOUDSPEAKER PROTECTION

Perforated steel backed with wire mesh with black or white powder coating

AVAILABLE COLORS

Black or white (available in spring 2020)

DIMENSIONS (HXWXD)

Sub: 448 x 332 x 432 mm

Column array: 620 x 95 x 157 mm

Poles (2 poles): 600 x 48 x 55 mm

Total assembled height: 199.7 cm

TOTAL NET WEIGHT

Sub: 15.8 kg

Column array: 2.7 kg

Poles (2 poles): 1.4 kg

Bag for column array and poles: 0.85 kg

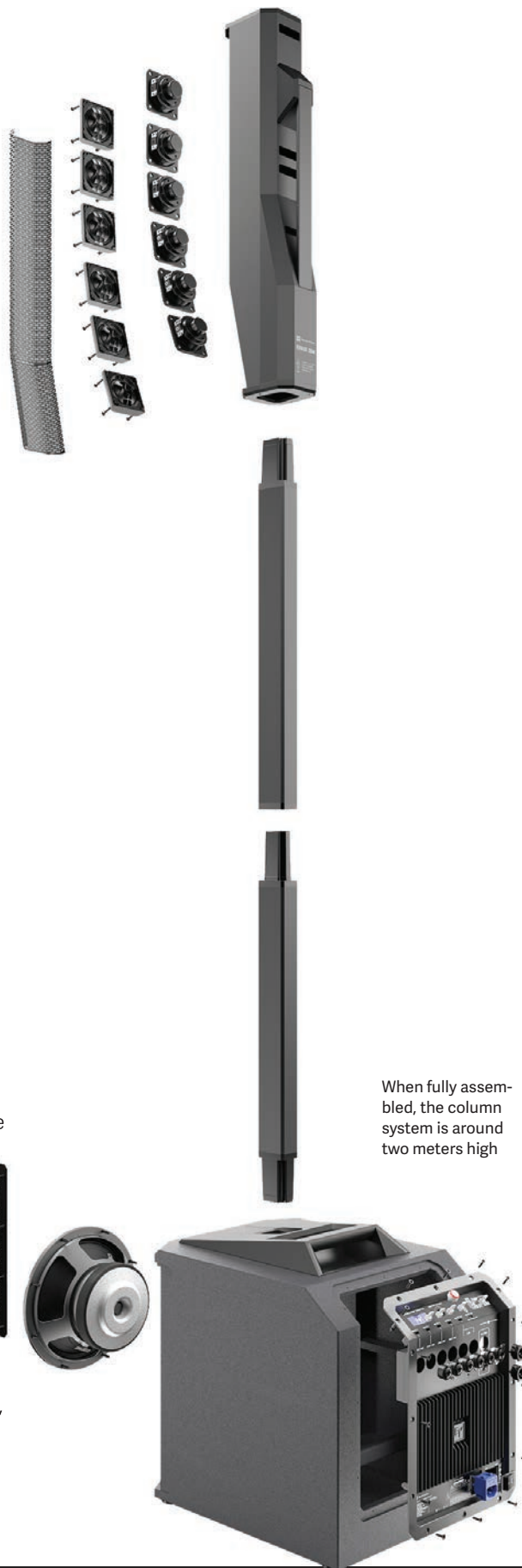
To ensure that the low frequencies are reproduced as effectively as possible, Electro-Voice has designed a special bass-reflex housing in laminar vent design made of 15 mm plywood for the 10" woofer of the EVOLVE 30M. A robust black or white textured coating protects the wood from the weather. Wood is certainly a bit heavier than plastic, but it simply sounds better, particularly in the low frequency range.

1,000 watts for powerful sound

Thanks to its extremely high efficiency, the integrated two-channel Class D amplifier of the EVOLVE 30M system delivers a total output of 1,000 watts providing enough headroom with a maximum SPL of 123 dB. Two 500 watt channels feed the 10" subwoofer and the column array with its six 2.8" speakers. In addition to overload and overheat protection, the digital signal processor features a limiter for the input signal of the power amplifier, so that amplifiers and loudspeakers are well protected. To avoid problems when connecting different audio signal sources, Electro-Voice has fitted the EVOLVE 30M column system with an eight-channel digital mixer that offers a variety of studio-quality effects. Let's take a closer look at this.

Digital 8-channel mixer with effects

The integrated and configurable digital mixer was developed in close cooperation with the R&D team of sibling brand Dynacord, the quality of which is evident in the legendary PowerMate mixing desk series. The studio-quality onboard digital effects can be preconfigured in 30 presets and controlled with two FX channels. The effects include, for example, Chorus, Delay/Echo, Flanger and Reverb. The effects are activated by means of an app or using the LCD display. The mixer, including all effects and DSP functions, can be operated on the device itself using the backlit LCD display with single knob control via rotary encoder, or on a tablet or smartphone using the free QuickSmart Mobile app from Electro-Voice (available in the Apple Store and on Google Play). The LCD display shows all important system parameters on the standard screen, as well as a bar chart as an aid for controlling each channel. The master volume is also displayed as a numerical value (number of dB). A row of clearly marked buttons below the display indicates the relevant inputs for setting the channel-specific parameters. All controls, except for the power switch, are located on a sloped surface that is easily visible and accessible both from above and from behind. All cable connections are at the top on the vertical part of the rear panel.



When fully assembled, the column system is around two meters high

Inputs for universal system usage

The eight channels of the integrated digital mixer are designed for highest flexibility. High-quality pre-amps ensure extremely low-noise operation when the EVOLVE 30M system is in use. Mono-channels 1 to 4 are electronically balanced and have XLR / 6.3 mm combo jacks as connectors. These inputs are especially designed for connecting microphones or other mono-signal sources with microphone or line level. Channel 4 also has a 6.3 mm mono jack (Hi-Z) for the direct connection of a high-impedance instrument output, e.g. for an acoustic guitar with a piezo pickup or an e-bass guitar. Channels 5 and 6 form the „stereo input“ of the mixer and have two RCA sockets (L / R) and a 3.5 mm stereo mini jack socket in addition to the two XLR / 6.3 mm combo jack sockets. The master-out outputs (L / R) of a submixer, a CD player or the stereo headphone signal of a smartphone can be easily connected here, for example. Channels 7 and 8 are reserved for the built-in Bluetooth receiver for streaming a stereo signal. When you hold the selection button for channel 7/8, the pairing process for the Bluetooth connection starts



The rear side with QuickSmart LCD display, master volume control and channel inputs.

Mixer control via EV QuickSmart Mobile app.

SHIPPING WEIGHT (GROSS)

24.2 kg

POWER SUPPLY

Switch-mode power supply 100 - 240 V AC, 50 - 60 Hz, 1.5 - 0.6 A

EXTRAS

Backpack bag for poles, column array and power cable also included in the scope of delivery.

Rolling case or soft case for subwoofer available as an accessory.

CONTACT

www.electrovoice.com

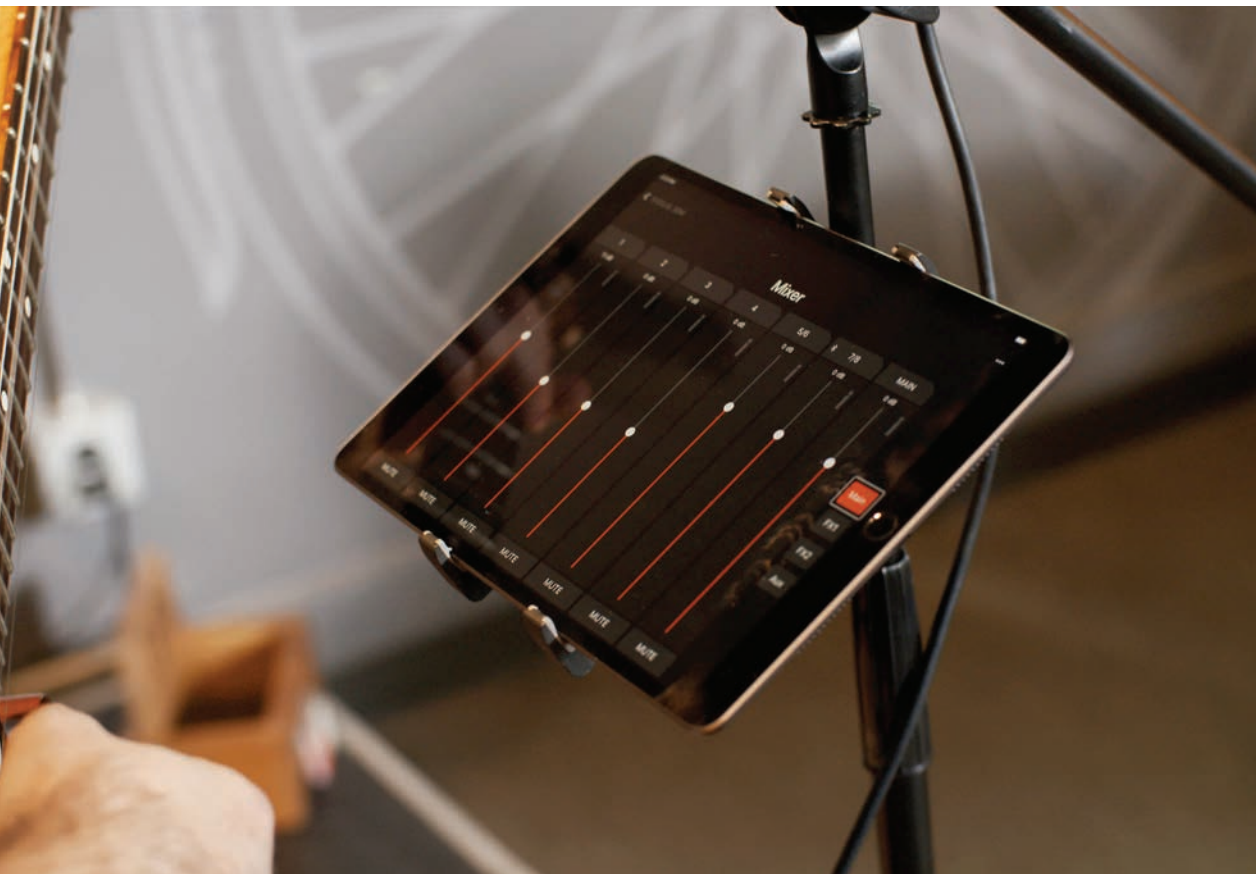
PRICE (RRP NET);

EUR 1,199 (EVOLVE 30M-EU Column System, black)

EUR 1,299 (EVOLVE 30M-W Column System, white)

EUR 49 (soft cover for EVOLVE 30M subwoofer)

EUR 199 (carrying case with wheels for EVOLVE 30M subwoofer)





and the EVOLVE 30M becomes “visible” to other Bluetooth devices for 120 seconds. On the right next to inputs 1 to 8 there are two male XLR jacks marked „MIX OUT” and „AUX OUT”. The „MIX OUT” output supplies the „Post Fader Mixer Signal”, which is also supplied to the loudspeakers of the EVOLVE 30M system and as a mix of input channels 1 to 8. This output is for forwarding the audio signal to additional active speakers, for example. The „AUX OUT” output signal can be set individually for each channel (1 – 8) using the DSP controller, so that an additional mix can be output that is independent of the master mix. This can be useful when using a personal, powered monitor or connecting a device to record a show.

Optional foot switch

On the far right there is a 6.3 millimeter jack for connecting a foot switch (available on option) for activating the on/off of the two effects routes. At the very bottom on the rear side is the IEC socket for connecting the power cable included within the scope of delivery with the integrated and externally accessible

The EVOLVE 30M in live performance.

master fuse of the EVOLVE 30M. The power switch is located to the right of the power cable socket. As a way of checking the operating status of the EVOLVE-30M system, the LCD display lights up for approx. three seconds after switching on and remains lit until the system is switched off again. Electro-Voice’s decades of experience are also apparent in the hardware and software configuration of the inputs and outputs. There is really nothing more you could ask for!

Comprehensive DSP control

The EVOLVE 30M has two basic operating modes: firstly, the easy-to-use „BASIC” mode with its EQ factory presets Music, Live, Speech and Club, as well as a three-band equalizer for controlling the treble, mid-range and bass. Secondly, there is the more sophisticated „MIXER” mode with channel-specific sound control and effects as well as a seven-band, graphic equalizer for more detailed sound control. The preset number and the mode names „BASIC” or

„MIXER“ are shown on the standard LCD display. If an „E“ appears next to the preset number, this indicates that the loaded preset has been changed but not yet saved. When the system is remotely controlled with the EV QuickSmart mobile app using Bluetooth, a „C“ also appears on the display next to the Bluetooth logo. An additional „S“ next to the Bluetooth logo signals that the Bluetooth receiver has recognized a music stream and is playing.

Display

If „CLIP“ or „LIMIT“ appear on the display, it indicates that the system has reached the limit. „LIMIT“ indicates that the limiter of integrated amplifier is working. If it lights up continuously, the master level should be reduced or the relevant channel level control should be turned back. The master volume shown as a number and the bar graphics for the levels of all inputs and outputs give you an ideal overview of all important system parameters on a display screen. Thanks to the two basic operating modes, even an unskilled user can quickly get to grips with the EVOLVE 30M system in „BASIC“ mode.

In „MIXER“ mode, all input sources are connected to the device and primarily mixed via the app.

Remote control via QuickSmart app

The EV QuickSmart Mobile app is available for iOS as well as Android systems. It has an easy-to-understand, intuitive user interface and uses Bluetooth Low Energy Technology (BTLE) to configure, monitor and control all the parameters of up to six EVOLVE-30M systems at the same time. The streaming quality works with extremely low latency, ensuring good sound during music playback

FIELD TEST AND SUMMARY

Absolutely no problems encountered during hardware and software installation. Electro-Voice has even mastered the design-related problems in the low MF range of column systems in exemplary style, as proven by the frequency diagrams in the EVOLVE 30M data sheet. The high efficiency of the loudspeakers paired with the patented waveguide of the column arrays ensure a surprisingly rich sound that you would not expect from a system of such a small size.



The scope of delivery also includes a bag for the column array, the poles and the power cable.

A subwoofer rolling case with wheels is available as an optional accessory.

The low end is really powerful and dry without any disturbing resonance frequencies or any other „hum“. The mid-range is not too thin and, thanks to the wide coverage angle, offers extremely good resolution and locatability. The silky high-end frequency range sounds clear and natural and extends far beyond the normal audible range. Thus, the EVOLVE 30M is a genuine sound experience. It sounds much bigger than it actually is.

Michael Hennig

BEWERTUNG

- ▲ easy to use
- ▲ well-balanced sound
- ▲ controlled via app
- ▲ lightweight