

Musway EIGHT100 - 8-channel power amplifier with great performance



Strongest 8-channel-end stage of the world

► With the EIGHT100, Musway is bringing a real hit to specialist dealers. With 8 equal channels with top performance, it wants to be at the top of the multi-channel power amplifiers. We do the performance test.

D Musway's range of amplifiers is constantly being expanded. Notwithstanding the DSP amps, there are two mono power amps as well as the FOUR100 and the SIX100. So it is only logical that an eight-channel model is now being presented with the EIGHT100. Because multi-channel power amplifiers are all the rage, the good old hi-fi system consisting of two or three specialized amplifiers is increasingly being replaced by one power amplifier for everything. This reduces installation effort and saves space. But mostly we have it with modern multi-channel power amplifiers with

Controllers for four pairs of channels fit on the front panel, the inputs and outputs go via Molex

compact all-rounders that are not performance miracles per channel. Three-digit watts are only reached at 2 ohms, if at all, and the Musway wants to do better. With a heat sink length of a good 20 centimeters and a width of 15 centimetres, it is also quite compact and is therefore easy to accommodate. Especially the

Connection and operating fronts are tight. For the expected performance, there are adequate power terminals for thick cables, the eight inputs are wired via Molex, with RCA cable harnesses for low-level and high-level cable harnesses being included. In the latter, the EPS is integrated, which tricks factory radios with diagnostic circuits. The front panel contains the input selector switches and the switches for looping through the signal, although at least four inputs must be assigned. The crossovers correspond to two





Generous dual power supply for the EIGHT100, the amplification is located below the circuit board, only the low-pass coils can be seen on the left

the EIGHT100 leaves the measurement course with its head held high. In terms of sound, the expectations are naturally high. And the Musway

Four-channel power amplifiers, each with a pair of channels with a high-pass filter and a pair of channels with a band-pass. As an extra, channels 5+6 have the option of using the crossovers of channels 7+8 via the DUPE switch, eg for subwoofer operation. Of course, the eight channels allow a variety of applications. In addition to front and rear, four channels remain for subwoofers, which can be used, for example, for BMW underseat woofers plus an external sub. Active front systems plus center plus subwoofer are also feasible and much more - and there is always enough power available. As with all Musways, the interior of the EIGHT100 is extremely clean and tidy. This is also due to the fact that a multi-layer circuit board is used and it is equipped on both sides. The visible side of the circuit board is dominated by the powerful double power supply, as with the filter equipment, the EIGHT100 can also be seen as two four-channel power amplifiers in one housing. Two rows of four low-pass coils behind the amplification fit into the picture. The power stage drivers are located under the circuit board, as are the power transistors. Because just like its shorter sisters FOUR100 and SIX100, the EIGHT100 does not contain any amplification via IC, but works with separate power transistors. However, there is no space for the classic tripods in the usual positions on the side of the heat sink, so Musway uses a special design here. For the 8 channels, 16 directFETs are located under the circuit board, these are SMD transistors that dissipate their waste heat to both the circuit board and the heat sink. In this way, the EIGHT100 can generate a lot of power, at least more,

measurements and sound

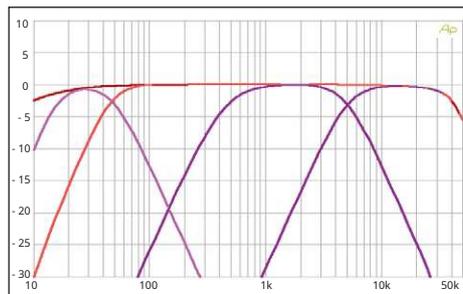
At the laboratory table, the EIGHT100 then has to show what it's made of, and it makes the sensation perfect. No other eight-channel power amplifier that we know of manages 100 watts per channel at 4 ohms and 190 watts at 2 ohms. Incidentally, the EIGHT100 is also the best in the Musway series with less than 0.02% distortion. The remaining measured values are also more than impressive, so that

does not deceive, because she plays with enormous power at all times and takes great pleasure in flexing her muscles. It helps bass drums to achieve enormous assertiveness and electronic deep basses come to the ear without softening. With percussion it shows great dynamics, it's really fun to accelerate with the Musway. But even when listening to music quietly, it does not skimp on details and, for example, delivers a nice swinging out of guitar strings. The tonal balance and voice reproduction are also pleasing. This also qualifies the Musway for demanding program material, especially since its frequency range extends to over 40 kHz thanks to the high-pitched Class D filter and is therefore suitable for HiRes.

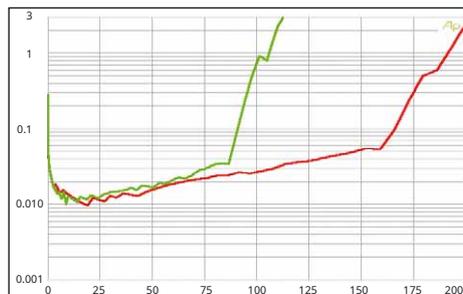
Conclusion

With the EIGHT100, Musway delivers what is probably the most powerful eight-channel power amplifier in the world. It doesn't matter whether it's a component system, active system or one or more subwoofers, the EIGHT100 supplies everything with full power. In addition, it is modern, compact and thoroughly musical.

Elmar Michels



Half of the channels are fully bandpass capable, otherwise there is a high-pass filter, the crossover frequencies cover 50 Hz to 5 kHz



The EIGHT100 produces extremely low distortion while delivering record-breaking performance. What looks "quite nice" with a two-channel power amp is enormous for an eight-channel power amp

PERFORMANCE TIP Absolute top class CAR & HiFi 1/2022	EMC TIP Undisturbed radio reception CAR & HiFi 1/2022
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Musway EIGHT100

Price	around 750 euros
distribution	Audio Design, Kronau
hotline	07253 9465-0
Internet	www.musway.de

valuation

sound	40%	1.1	-----
bass foundation	8th %	1.0	-----
neutrality	8th %	1.0	-----
transparency	8th %	1.5	-----
spatiality	8th %	1.0	-----
dynamics	8th %	1.0	-----
laboratory	35%	1.3	-----
performance	20%	1.0	-----
damping factor	5%	2.5	-----
signal-to-noise ratio	5%	1.5	-----
distortion factor	5%	2.0	-----
Practice	25%	1.2	-----
Furnishing	15%	1.0	-----
processing electronics	5%	1.5	-----
processing mechanics	5%	1.5	-----

Technical specifications

channels	8th
power 4 ohms	8x100
power 2 ohms	8x190
power 1 ohm	0
Bridge power 4 ohms	4x380
Bridge power 2 ohms	0
Sensitivity max mV	240
Sensitivity min. V	5.5
THD+N (<22kHz) 5W	0.015
THD+N (<22kHz) half load	0.018
Signal-to-noise ratio dB(A)	82
Damping factor 20 Hz	78
Damping factor 80 Hz	78
Damping factor 400 Hz	77
Damping factor 1 kHz	72
Damping factor 8 kHz	12
Damping factor 16 kHz	3

Furnishing

low pass	50-5kHz (CH34, 78)
high pass	50 - 5kHz (CH12,56)/ 10 - 500Hz (CH34, 78)
bandpass	10 - 5kHz (CH34, 78)
bass boost	-
subsonic filter	via HP (CH34, 78)
phase shift	-
High Level Inputs	•
automatic switch-ON(Autoscythe)	•, DC or Signal
RCA outputs	-
start-stop capability	• (7.6V)
DimensionS(L x W x H in mm)	293x150x45
Miscellaneous	Remote control, 4, 8 CH In, EPS, DUPE (CH56)

Musway EIGHT100

Absolute top class 1.2

CAR & HiFi 1/22

Value for money: excellent

"The most powerful 8-channel power amplifier in the world."