



SLS 118-I

PROCESSOR SETTINGS

Crossover Section	Frequency Hz	Slope	Delay/msec	Gain/dB	Phase
HPF	28Hz	12dB Oct. (2nd order) Butterworth			
LPF	80-160Hz	24dB Oct. (4th order) Butterworth			

Limiting Section/ ¹	Threshold Voltage	Attack/msec	Release/msec	Peak Stop Voltage
	64V	45msec	720msec	126V

*Due to product improvement research, SLS Audio reserves the right to make changes to existing products without notice.

1. See Application Note “Setting System Limiters”





Setting System Limiters

PROPERLY SETTING UP SYSTEM LIMITERS

Properly setting up system limiters to protect your loudspeaker while providing for maximum performance can be a challenge when the DSP/amplifier/loudspeaker hardware are all variables. The technique below will provide for a limiter setting threshold that should protect loudspeakers from the majority of use cases, however the driver(s) may still be vulnerable to content such as sustained feedback or large, low-frequency transients below box tuning. Good system design and common sense should be the rule.

1. Obtain a source to generate pink noise and a true RMS voltage meter that has a bandwidth to at least 20kHz, and can average the reading over at least 10 seconds.
2. Complete the room tuning and set the amplifier gain. For prevention of future user-error, having the amps set at full gain should be considered unless the amplifier gain setting is hardware or software protected; in which case, the amplifier gain(s) can be optimized for best signal to noise performance.
3. After the room tuning is done and the amp gains are set, bypass the limiter on the DSP unit being used for protection, but leave all other DSP functions for that output engaged (such as HPF, crossover, EQ, etc).
4. Mute all system outputs but the one that is being calibrated. Place the voltage meter across the amplifier +/- output terminals and turn up the pink noise source until the meter reads just above the specified RMS voltage rating for that driver/system and its recommended processor settings. Only play the pink noise long enough to get a stable average of the RMS voltage reading (for high frequency drivers typically 5 seconds and for full range loudspeakers or subwoofers, typically 10 seconds).
5. Set the limiter to a minimum of a 100:1 ratio and input manufacturer suggested attack and release times. Engage the limiter and decrease the threshold until the voltage is lowered to the rating specified (without changing the gain of the pink noise).
6. Repeat the above procedure for each driver and/or passive loudspeaker being used.
7. If a predictive peak stop limiter is available on the DSP, engage at 6dB above the RMS setting. Monitor for amplifier clipping and if it occurs during system use, lower the peak-stop threshold until the amplifier is just into clipping. As an alternative, engage the self-contained limiter circuit in the amplifier if it has one.

This only needs to be done once as long as the amplifier/limiter combination does not change. However, any change of the amplifier gain will modify the limiter's action. If the amplifier gain is decreased, protection will engage early, limiting driver output. If the amplifier gain is increased, protection will engage only after the driver is above the safe RMS voltage.

