# XM6 OWNER'S MANUAL



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## WELCOME

...to the Coustic Car Audio world of hard-hitting, high-quality mobile audio products. The new Coustic XM6 electronic crossover utilize the industry's most advanced sound engineering and manufacturing processes to offer the highest quality electronic crossovers available on the market today.

Besides its sleek, contoured design, the new XM6 offers the latest complementary audio features. This booklet offers you a guided tour of all these exciting benefits. For optimal sonic reproduction, please follow the installation suggestions and recommendations as closely as possible. The time you spend will prove to be worthwhile when you sit back and enjoy the high fidelity music!

Whatever your needs for your ultimate car audio system, look to Coustic Car Audio – we have the fullest range of car audio components to meet the most critical demands.

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#### Please take a moment to register your purchase on line at www.coustic.com.

Please also record the serial number of your crossover in the space provided below and keep this manual for future reference, as well as your sales receipt as proof of ownership. (The serial number of your crossover is marked on the bottom of its metal chassis.)

Serial Number:

Date of Purchase:

# FEATURES

#### ASYMMETRICAL ELECTRONIC CROSSOVER DESIGN

The advantage of asymmetrical crossovers over "symmetrical" crossovers is the ability of the former to eliminate undesirable peaks and dips in frequency response caused by resonant frequencies present in all enclosed space. Since the crossover points can overlap or underlap the resonant frequencies (i.e. "asymmetrically"), Coustic XM6 series allows you to create an acoustically flat and smooth frequency response environment.

#### LINE LEVEL INPUTS

The XM6 crossover features pre-amp inputs for use with source units that have RCA or line level outputs. An independent set of line level inputs are provided on the XM6 for 2-, 4- or 6-channel connections.

#### PARALLEL INPUT SWITCH

This feature allows all XM6 outputs to be driven with either a 2-, 4- or 6-channel input configuration. An adapter is not needed to split the source signal to the "A", "B", and sub inputs when the XM6 is used with a source unit that only has a single or dual pair of RCA or line level outputs.

## DUAL STEREO AND SINGLE MONO LINE LEVEL OUTPUTS

The XM6 features three line level outputs each sending independent audio signals to designated amplifiers. Channel "A" and "B" on the XM6 both have stereo outputs while the sub channel output is mono.

#### INDEPENDENT VARIABLE LEVEL CONTROLS

The adjustment of output levels allows precise control of the signals going to its respective amplifier. Channels "A" and "B" on the XM6 feature independent left and right output level controls allowing for accurate stereo balance within the vehicle. Since the sub channel output is mono, a single adjustable output level control is used to ensure a smooth low frequency response.

## CONTINUOUSLY VARIABLE CROSSOVERS POINTS

This feature allows for individual high pass, band pass and low pass crossover settings that can be selected within a range of frequencies to ensure optimum system performance. The band pass setting is only operable when the band pass mode is selected. (See Defeatable Band Pass Switch)

#### FREQUENCY MULTIPLIER

The frequency multiplier switch found on channel "A" of the XM6 is used to multiply the selected high pass crossover points by 20 times.

#### DEFEATABLE BAND PASS SWITCH

This switch changes the XM6 "B" channel output configuration from a high pass output to a band pass output.

#### BASS SHAPER (BOOST AND EQ)

This feature enhances the bass performance of the sound system by providing up to 18dB of boost from a selectable frequency range of 40Hz to 100Hz.

#### BASS-DRIVE™ (REMOTE SUB GAIN CONTROL PORT)

The optimum subwoofer output level changes with road noise that varies according to vehicle speed, wind speed and road surfaces. With our exclusive Bass-Drive<sup>™</sup>, the subwoofer output level can be adjusted via the model R S remote control to minimize the undesirable effect of fluctuating road noise.

#### PULSE-WIDTH MODULATED (PWM) SWITCHING POWER SUPPLY

The Coustic XM6 features a Pulse-width modulated (PWM) switching power supply. The PWM is used to ensure consistent output performance and to eliminate unwanted noise caused by voltage fluctuation.

## PHASE CONTROL SWITCH

Depending on their placement, an acoustical delay may exist between the time the subwoofer, midrange and tweeter signals is heard. With the XM6's Phase Inverter, you can compensate for this time delay.

- 1) Shifting the right output signals on channels "A" and/or "B" 180 degrees out of phase relative to their left output signals.
- 2) Shifting the subwoofer output signals 180 degrees out of phase relative to channels "A" and "B" output signals.



XM6 INPUT PANEL



XM6 OUTPUT PANEL

#### XM6: TERMINALS

- 1 Power Input Terminal (B+) Connects to the positive terminal of your vehicle battery or other constant +12V source
- 2 Ground Input Terminal (GND) Connects to the vehicle's chassis ground
- 3 Remote Turn-on Input Terminal (REMOTE) Connects to the remote control wire or antenna lead of the source unit for remote ON/OFF
- 4 "A" Line Level Inputs Connects to the front channel RCA output of the source unit
- 5 "B" Line Level Inputs Connects to the rear channel RCA outputs of the source unit
- 6 Subwoofer Line Level Inputs Connects to the subwoofer channel RCA outputs of the source unit
- 7 Bass Drive<sup>™</sup> Remote Sub Gain Control Port Connection for optional R S remote to control subwoofer output levels
- 8 Subwoofer Line Outputs Connects to the dedicated subwoofer amplifier left/right inputs
- 9 "B" Channel Line Outputs Depending on the "B" channels' configuration, the crossover's "B" channel outputs connect to the dedicated Rear/high pass or band pass frequency amplifier inputs
- 10 "A" Channel Line Output Depending on the "A" channels' configuration, the crossover's "A" channel outputs connect to the dedicated front or high frequency amplifier inputs



XM6 CONTROL PANEL

#### XM6: CONTROLS & INDICATORS

- 11 Parallel Input Switches "IN": Each appropriate switch must be set to the "IN" position when the source unit does not supply rear or subwoofer channel outputs. "OUT": If the source unit has independent front, rear and/or sub channel outputs, set each switch to the "OUT" position
- 12 High-Pass Frequency Selectors For selection of high-pass crossover frequency between 40Hz and 400Hz, 18dB/Octave
- 13 Frequency Multiplier To change selected high-pass crossover frequencies from 40Hz 400Hz, to 800Hz 8000Hz, 18dB/Octave
- 14 Band Pass Switch Positioning this switch to the "IN" position reconfigures the "B" channel from a high pass output to a band pass output. When the "IN" position is selected, the band pass frequency selector is engaged.
- 15 Band Pass Frequency Selector For selection of the top crossover point of the band-pass frequency range between 300Hz and 3kHz, 18dB/Octave. (The high pass frequency selector must be used to select the bottom crossover point for the band-pass frequency range.) The full band pass frequency range is 40Hz to 3kHz, 18dB/Octave.
- 16 Subwoofer Frequency Selector For selection of the low-pass crossover frequency between 40Hz and 200Hz, 36dB/Octave
- 17 Bass Shaper Frequency Selector For selection of low frequency equalization point between 40Hz 100Hz.
- 18 Bass Shaper Boost Level Control For adjusting the Bass Shapers selected equalization frequency level with a maximum boost of 18dB
- 19 Phase Control Switch Positioning the switch to the "180" position shifts the right output signals on channels "A" and/or "B" 180 degrees out of phase relative to their left output signals
- 20 Sub Phase Control Switch Positioning the switch to the "180" position shifts the subwoofer output signals 180 degrees out of phase relative to channels "A" and "B" output signals
- 21 Independent Output Level Controls Independent left and right output signal level adjustments can be made for accurate stereo balance and imaging
- 22 Subwoofer Output Level Control For adjusting the low pass output signal level
- 23 Power Indicator This indicator lights up when the internal switching power supply is activated and the unit is operational

# INSTALLATION

#### FOR SAFETY, DISCONNECT THE BATTERY GROUND BEFORE INSTALLATION.

**Caution:** Please follow all the installation recommendations and instructions in this manual. Installing and/or using the XM6 electronic crossover in methods other than those outlined herein may reduce the performance capability of the crossovers. Any such installation or usage may render the product warranty void.

#### PREPARATION

Before wiring and connecting the XM6, please read the entire manual.

Mark down the accessories, tools required and important points as you go through this manual. Have all the necessary accessories, hardware and tools on hand. The following basic tools are required:

- · Electric hand drill with assorted bits
- Screwdrivers (Phillips and flat head)
- Pliers
- Wire cutters
- Wire strippers
- Sharp knife
- Crimping tool
- Electrical tape or heat shrink tube for professional finish
- Soldering Iron (propane torch type) with solder
- Nylon tie wraps
- Volt/Ohm meter

**Note:** Please check with your vehicle's manual to see if special tools are necessary for working on your particular vehicle.

Check and make sure the vehicle's main battery and/or auxiliary battery, if any, is/are in good working condition and has sufficient capacity to run the electrical components of the vehicle plus the complete audio system.

The XM6 crossover is designed for use in 12 Volt NEGATIVE GROUND electrical system ONLY. Installing the units in a vehicle with positive ground electrical system could result in serious damage to the electronic crossover, other audio components and/or the vehicle's electrical components. If your vehicle happens to run on a positive ground electrical system, please consult your Coustic dealer for specific instructions on installation.

#### LOCATION

- Select a mounting location that is easily and conveniently accessible, e.g. inside the trunk.
- To avoid damage to the unit, keep the crossovers away from any heat source (such as the engine or any heat-generating ducts).
- Leave at least 6" clearance above the unit to allow easy adjustment.

#### MOUNTING

- Place the XM6 crossover at the desired location and use it as a template to determine the exact position of the mounting holes.
- Mark the mounting holes with a felt pen, and put the crossover aside.
- If the mounting surface is carpeted, cut out small circles of the carpet and padding around the four mounting holes to expose the metal underneath.
- Use a center punch to ensure drilling the exact position for the screws. Drill four (4) <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" pilot holes. DO NOT BEGIN DRILLING UNTIL YOU HAVE PUT THE CROSSOVER ASIDE. USING THE CROSSOVER AS A DRILLING GUIDE MAY CAUSE IRREPARABLE DAMAGE TO THE UNIT.
- Mount the XM6 crossover with the Phillips head sheet metal screws and steel washers provided. (It is best not to tighten the screws to the maximum at this stage, since you might want to change the position at a later stage.)



FRONT COAXIALS

REAR COAXIALS

SUBWOOFER

SUBWOOFER

SUBWOOFER

6



XM6 MULTI-SUB WITH FRONT/REAR FADE CONFIGURATION

(OPTIONAL)

## WIRING

**Caution:** Routing audio cables and power cables together would invariably cause radiated engine noise in your audio system. If possible, run audio cables on one side of your car and power cables on the other. Never route these wires underneath the vehicle body.

- It is best to route all wires of the audio system along with the existing electrical wires of the vehicle through this would call for the dismounting of kick panels, door sills, etc. Where possible, the cleanest and safest route is under the carpet or behind the side panels.
- If you need to dismantle any part of the vehicle during installation, make notes of the dismantling process to ensure that you would be able to reassemble those parts afterwards. All the hardware, for example, screws, dismantled from the vehicle should be kept in a container to make reassembly easier.
- Run the various wires accordingly while avoiding sharp edges and door jams.
- Grommets should be used to protect the wires when they are routed through bare metal holes. For best protection, we recommend using automotive flexible plastic tubing and for ease of handling, use plastic tie-wraps.
- All wires and cables should be "stress relieved" at various points on both the input and output side of the crossovers. Cable clamps should be used to reduce stress on the terminals.

**Note:** The battery ground should remain *DISCONNECTED* at all stages of installation.

## AUDIO INPUT CONNECTIONS

- Connect the front line level outputs of the source unit to the "A" inputs of the crossover.
- If using the XM6 with source unit that does not have additional rear and sub line level outputs, slide each parallel input switch to the "IN" position and skip the next two steps.



if using the rear outputs from the source unit

- Connect the rear line level outputs of the source unit to the "B" inputs of the crossover.
- Slide the parallel input switch to the "OUT" position.



if using the subwoofer outputs from the source unit

- Connect the subwoofer line level outputs of the source unit to the "SUB" inputs of the crossover.
- Slide the parallel input switch to the "OUT" position.



# AUDIO OUTPUT AND POWER CONNECTIONS

- Connect the "A", "B" and sub channel outputs of the XM6 crossover to the inputs of their respective amplifiers.
- Connect the crossovers' B+ terminals to the positive terminal of the vehicle's battery. Cut the supplied fuse loop (so there are now two separate wires that attach to each end of the fuse holder). Install the fuse holder 18" from the battery on the power wire that runs through firewall or sheet metal to protect the battery, the vehicle and more importantly, you.
- Connect the GND terminal of the XM6 crossover to the vehicle chassis. For better conductivity, if necessary, scrape paint off of the chassis to reveal bare metal at the contact point.
- Connect the REM terminal of the crossover to the remote output terminal of the source unit to establish crossover remote power on/off via the source unit. If the source unit does not provide a remote output, connect to its power antenna terminal.
- Double check all the previous installation steps. If everything is in order, complete the installation by reconnecting the battery ground to the vehicle chassis.

# ADJUSTMENTS

## CROSSOVER FREQUENCY ADJUSTMENT

To avoid over-crowding the control panel, only four frequencies are shown on each frequency selector. In reality you can choose any of the frequencies between the lowest and the highest setting marked on the selectors.

- When setting the crossover frequencies, it is best to use compact discs or cassette tapes with greater dynamic range
- Center the tone, balance and fader controls of the source unit (leaving the other controls at their previous positions)
- Set the volume of the source unit to approximately % of its maximum output

## CHANNEL "A" CROSSOVER FREQUENCY SETTING:

Choose the appropriate frequency range for your speakers by selecting either the x1 or x20 setting on the frequency multiplier switch. Adjust the fader of the source unit to increase the volume level on channel "A". Starting from the preset frequency, adjust frequency control downward or upward until you get your desired sound quality.

## CHANNEL "B" CROSSOVER FREQUENCY SETTING:

Depending on your systems configuration, channel "B" may be used in either a high pass or band pass mode. By selecting the "IN" position on the band pass switch, the band pass frequency control is engaged allowing for top crossover frequency adjustment. Adjust the fader of the source unit to increase the volume level on channel "B". Just like setting the "A" channels, starting from their respective preset frequencies, gradually adjust the high pass and/or the band pass frequencies downward or upward until you get your desired sound quality.

## SUB CHANNEL CROSSOVER FREQUENCY SETTING

Starting from the preset 200Hz, gradually adjust the subwoofer frequency downward to 90Hz. If the bass is still "boomy" or soft sounding, adjust it downward even further until the bass sounds tight and deep. The optimum setting varies from vehicle to vehicle and from individual to individual.

## OUTPUT LEVEL ADJUSTMENT

As in the case of crossover frequency adjustment, when making the output level adjustment it is best to use compact discs or cassette tapes with greater dynamic range.

- Center the tone, balance and fader controls of the source unit (leaving the other controls at their previous positions).
- Set the volume of the source unit to approximately <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> of its maximum output.
- Starting from their respective preset levels, adjust one output level at a time. With each of the level controls, turn the level up or down until distortion develops, then retrace the path until distortion disappears. Additional adjustment may be required for even stereo balance.
- Optimum output levels vary with the program source (radio, tape or CD). If the optimum output levels for radio differ considerable from those for tape/CD, locate the median levels that are best for both program sources. (Before making output level adjustment for radio, first locate a FM station with strong radio signals.)
- The optimum subwoofer output level changes from time to time, depending on the volume of road noise, which in turn depends on the vehicle speed, wind speed and road surface. With the XM series Bass-Drive<sup>™</sup> remote sub gain control port and the R S remote control, the subwoofer output level can be adjusted as and when necessary from the driver's seat.



## XM6 PHASE ADJUSTMENT

An acoustical time delay might exist in a mobile audio system between the time the subwoofer, midrange and tweeter signals are received by the listener. This is caused by different distances between the listening position and the left, right and subwoofer speaker placements.

The overall effect would be either an uneven stereo balance, loss of midrange or midbass, almost no bass or the bass seems to lag behind the highs (commonly known as "out of phase"). If this is the case, experiment with the phase inverter switch for a position that gives you an even stereo balance, more midrange or midbass and more bass output from the subwoofer.



# WITHOUT PHASE CONTROL...



music is undefined and may lose low frequesncy response.

WITH PHASE CONTROL...



music is produced with realism resulting in better imaging and staging with improved low frequency response.

## ADJUSTMENTS cont.

## BASS SHAPER BOOST AND EQ

The optimum setting for this feature will vary depending upon the low frequency response of the vehicles interior. Set the "Boost" control half way between OdB and +18dB. Starting from the preset frequency, gradually adjust the "Frequency" control downward or upward until you get a smooth even bass response. Once the frequency has been chosen, you may increase or decrease the equalization by adjusting the "Boost" control upward or downward.

#### NOISE CHECK

- Before mounting the XM6 crossover and the other audio components permanently, please conduct the following noise check:
- Start the engine and turn on the power of the source unit.
- Rev the engine and vary the audio volume to check for radiated engine noise. If there is an alternator whining noise or tic-tic noise, refer to the TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE for assistance. If the problem persists, consult your local Coustic dealer or Coustic directly.
- If no unwanted noise is detected, double check all the wiring and cables for safe placement. Then securely tighten the mounting screws of all the audio components.

## **SPECIFICATIONS**

XM6 — 2-/4-/6-CHANNEL 2-/3-WAY CROSSOVER				
Dual High Pass Crossover:	18dB/Oct 40Hz-400Hz			
Frequency Multiplier:	x20 (18dB/Oct 800Hz-8kHz)			
Band Pass Crossover:	18dB/Oct 300Hz-3kHz (HP)			
	18dB/Oct 40Hz-400Hz (LP)			
Low Pass Crossover:	36dB/Oct Mono 40Hz-200Hz			
Bass Drive:	OdB to 18dB			
Bass Shaper Eq:	40Hz to 100Hz			
Bass Shaper Boost:	OdB to 18dB			
Phase Switch:	0°/180°			
Max Input/Output:	8Volts RMS			
Input current:	1 amp max.			
Frequency response:	20Hz–20kHz ±¼dB before crossover limit			
Separation:	60dB			
THD+N:	<0.1%			
Signal to Noise:	>90dB			
Input Impedance:	>10k Ohms			
Output Impedance:	50 Ohms			
Dimensions:	2¾₀″ H x 8½″ W x 6½″ L (55mm x 216mm x 174mm)			

Due to continual product development, all specifications are subject to change without notice.

# TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

## SYMPTOM - No Power

PROBABLE CAUSE – Check all the ground, B+ and remote terminals for tight connection.

- · Check all fuses.
- Use a Volt/Ohm meter to check all power wire connections to see if the system is receiving +12VDC.

SYMPTOM – "Motorboating": The power indicator going off repeatedly when the audio system is on.

PROBABLE CAUSE – Check if the crossover power wire is connected directly to the battery.

- Check the battery voltage; if low, recharge or replace it.
- Check if the crossover has good ground connection (i.e. whether the ground wire is making good contact with a bare metal spot of the vehicle chassis).

SYMPTOM – When the engine is running, the audio system has a whining noise that remains unchanged or disappears with the increase of audio volume.

PROBABLE CAUSE – Check all the power wires to see if they are all connected directly to the battery.

• Check all the ground connections to the entire system for good contact with bare metal of the vehicle chassis. Check if the source unit and the crossover are grounded at the same reference point.

SYMPTOM – Obvious distortion at low volume.

PROBABLE CAUSE – Output level of various channels not compatible, refer to section titled OUTPUT LEVEL ADJUSTMENT.

SYMPTOM – Overal sound effect good, but bass abnormal (more bass at the two extreme settings of the balance control thatn at the center setting.

PROBABLE CAUSE – The subwoofers are "outof phase" with each other, thus canceling the bass when the balance control is at the center position. Check the wiring form the amplifier to the subwoofers (positive "+" to positive "+" and negative "-" to negative "-".

## WARRANTY

#### LIMITED WARRANTY

**Important Notice to Consumer:** Coustic offers the following warranty to the ORIGINAL PURCHASER of COUSTIC products within the period stated herein:

Coustic warrants the XM2, XM4 and XM6 against defects in material and workmanship for a period of ONE (1) YEAR from date of original purchase. The limited warranty is offered as an Over The Counter (OTC) exchange providing that the product was purchased from an authorized Coustic dealer and is accompanied by valid sales receipt at the time of exchange. Replacement units will be warranted for the remaining portion of the original warranty period.

**IMPORTANT:** THIS WARRANTY DOES NOT COVER INSTALLATION OR DAMAGE RESULTING FROM ACCIDENT, MISUSE, ABUSE, IMPROPER WIRING, INCORRECT VOLTAGE, OPERATING UNIT AGAINST INSTRUCTIONS IN OWNER'S MANUAL OR ANY PRODUCT WHICH HAS BEEN OPENED, TAMPERED WITH OR SERIAL NUMBERS REMOVED.

This warranty does not cover labor costs for removal and/or installation of the unit for repair. Under no circumstances shall Coustic be liable for any special, incidental or consequential damages or for any other expenses incurred by reason of use or implied including any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for particular use or otherwise.

This warranty gives the CONSUMER specific legal rights and he may also have other rights which vary from state to state. Some states do not follow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, hence the above exclusions and limitations may not apply.

For additional information, call us at 602-438-2020, or visit our website at www.coustic.com.

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