

DLS Ultimate Iridium 6.2



Type: 6.5-inch two-way stereo speaker system
Woofer: 165mm un-pressed paper cone woofer, 75mm voice coil, hybrid ferrite/neodymium magnet
Tweeter: 28mm UR1 hand treated fabric soft dome tweeter, neodymium magnet
Crossover: External passive 12dB/octave, adjustable tweeter level low/mid/high
Crossover Frequency: 2500Hz
Continuous Power: 100 watts
Maximum Power: 160 watts
Frequency Response: 50–25 000Hz
Impedance: 4 ohms
Sensitivity: 91dB
Mounting Depth: 65mm
Made: Sweden
Price: \$1499

The latest addition to the immense range of speakers from Swedish company DLS is no less than a brand new flagship model, the Ultimate Iridium 6.2 component speaker system. Building on the already established and highly regarded Ultimate UR series; the Iridium 6.2 took over a year to develop and is the new cream of the Swedish crop. The system features large black un-pressed paper cone woofers with huge dust caps finished with a material designed to avoid standing waves. The 75mm voice coils and 85mm hybrid ferrite and neodymium magnets are housed within the chromed motor structures. Ultimate Reference series UR1 tweeters are included in the system, which feature hand-treated fabric soft dome diaphragms with attractive DLS grilles. The crossover networks boast enormous flat copper foil coils, MXP capacitors and metal oxide resistors along with tweeter attenuation jumpers. All terminals and screw are gold-plated and the frames also feature a foam gasket underneath the edge to provide a solid seal.

Audition

The Iridium 6.2 were a little stiff to begin with, but after a day or so of use began to really produce a very striking, natural sound. Live and vocal tracks were exceptionally well defined with excellent dynamics and transient

RATINGS

Woofer:	9
Tweeter:	9
Crossover:	9
Construction:	9
Sound Quality:	9
Value:	8

response. We found that the fullness of the woofer to be at such a high level that the tweeters were brighter when attenuated to mid or high positions. The Iridium 6.2 was also quite efficient, and effortlessly handled as much power as we could throw at them. The new DLS Iridium Ultimate 6.2 are competition-grade speakers with totally absorbing sound characteristics.

Eclipse SC8362



Type: 6.5-inch component series speakers
Woofer: 165mm mica-filled polypropylene hepta woofer cone, diecast aluminium basket, vented aluminium voice coil former, vented pole piece, porous flat spider
Tweeter: 25mm silk soft dome tweeter, neodymium magnet, vent aluminium voice coil former, ferrofluid voice coil gap
Crossover: External passive 12dB/octave Butterworth, adjustable tweeter level -9/-6/-3/0/+3
Crossover Frequency: 2500Hz
Continuous Power: 85 watts
Maximum Power: 170 watts
Frequency Response: 50–20 000Hz
Impedance: 4 ohms
Sensitivity: 88dB
Mounting Depth: 75mm
Made: Taiwan
Price: \$599

Eclipse also has a new flagship component speaker system with its SC8362, interestingly down some \$150 from the previous flagship model, the 8062. There have been few changes made between the two models, with the exception of the redesigned inverted dust caps on the woofer cones and the aluminium replacing the magnesium baskets. However, the baskets are still heavy and strong housing the mica-filled polypropylene hepta woofer cones and large chromed motor structure. The woofers also incorporate PentaCone technology, which according to Eclipse means that the non-symmetrical shape of the cone edge reduces the formation of standing waves by varying the path length from the voice coil to the cone terminus. Standing waves create harshness of sound and are the common cause the perceived lack of speaker clarity. The SC8362 system retains the same silk dome tweeter and crossover combination from the 8032. The excellent Butterworth 12dB/octave network is designed without resistors and also features a dial for adjusting the tweeter level.

Audition

The SC8362 impressed with their super clean reproduction, playing all types of music with good accuracy and detail. Besides nice articulation the speakers also displayed excellent dynamics with fast, smooth transitions and great delicacy. However, in some instances the vocal track became lost in the spacious sound, the low sensitivity

RATINGS

Woofer:	9
Tweeter:	8
Crossover:	9
Construction:	9
Sound Quality:	8
Value:	8


of the SC8362 not helping the matter. Nevertheless, the woofer was deep and always in control and while the tweeters can be well adjusted by the nice crossovers, our testing found it unnecessary. The SC8362 look conservatively purposeful and sound fantastic with most styles of music. The reduction in price also makes the SC8362 a very attractive option.

SPLITS DECISIONS



>> CONCLUSION

Without a doubt, one of the hardest comparisons that the InCar test team has been subjected to, as alluded to earlier, every one of these sets of speakers is good in its own right whether it be pure sound quality or unbeatable value. As most of the speakers on trial were from the premium or higher-tier lines, build quality and construction of all sets was found to be consistently good. The cone and tweeter materials were quite varied, and with these different materials comes different types of sound reproduction, so some speakers really were better suited than others to particular genres of music.

However, the common thread was the delivery of sound quality superior to that of most factory front speakers, making every virtually every set on trial recommendable. However, we know that readers like to know what's what, so that's why we've included result scores and awarded group winners as well as individual category winners for your quick and easy reference. 

GROUP WINNERS

Consensus among the test team was that the speakers could be split up into **four** distinct groups:

Exceptional:

Boston Acoustics, Focal, CDT Audio, and DLS

Excellent:

Alpine, Cadence, Eclipse, and Lightning Audio

Very Good:

Clif Designs, JBL, Pioneer, and Viper

Unbeatable Value:

Audiobank, Blaupunkt, Clarion, and JVC

CATEGORY WINNERS

Power: Boston Acoustics ProSeries 6.5 System

Classical: Focal K2 Power 165 K2P

Electronic: Alpine DLX-F176

Live: CDT Audio HD-62CV

SQ: DLS Ultimate Iridium 6.2

SPL: Lightning Audio Storm X1.65C

Value: JVC HS-CS601

Editor's Choice: Focal K2 Power 165 K2P

"Superb sound quality and finish through precision, hand-made speaker engineering"



Focal K2 Power 165 K2P