

from Alfred & Partners



**AURELLE Centre** 

Designed by Alfred Vassilkov

Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_

Your ESTELON loudspeakers have passed our quality control:
– Technical test passed.
Engineer, Estelon
– Listening test passed.
Alfred Vassilkov Head of Research & Development, Estelon

# Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1. Alfred & Partners OÜ	4
1.2. ESTELON AURELLE CENTRE	5
1.2.1. Cabinet Design	6
1.2.2. Transducers	7
1.2.3. Crossovers	8
2. SPECIFICATIONS	9
3. UNPACKING INSTRUCTIONS	10
4. SET-UP	14
4.1. Positioning	14
4.2. Wiring	15
4.3. Break-in period	15
4.5. Set-up recommendations by Alfred Vassilkov	15
5. TAKING CARE OF YOUR ESTELON SPEAKERS	16
6. ESTELON / ALFRED & PARTNERS OÜ – TECHNICAL	
SEDVICES	17

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. Alfred & Partners OÜ

Alfred & Partners, the Tallinn-based design studio, think-tank, and owner of Estelon, is not simply a business but a passionate dedication to a single, heartfelt idea: the development and manufacturing of instruments capable of unveiling the rich, emotional tapestry of music in a personally involving and captivating way.

For more than 35 years Electro-acoustics Engineer and company founder, Alfred Vassilkov, has been relentlessly designing loudspeakers. His designs have been awarded numerous patents while also achieving much success in Europe. In 2010 a decision was made: to establish his own brand based on his extensive experience, knowledge, and relentless passion.



Alfred Vassilkov, the Designer and Founder of Estelon

Such dedication carries the implicit responsibility of a wholly uncompromising approach to audio design. Pride of craftsmanship shares equal footing with sonic innovation. Alfred Vassilkov's visionary achievements along with his tireless drive and quest for musical truth, created an innovative brand of loudspeakers whose products offer unrivalled musicality and incomparable beauty: Estelon. More importantly, Estelon offers a distinctive key that assists listeners in unlocking the vast structure of emotion through music.

For the Estelon brand, the visionary development started in 2006 when Alfred started analyzing materials and technologies for producing cabinets with streamlined shapes that could not only reproduce the best sound but also assimilate into home interiors with an elegant, sculptured look. Estelon's unique shaped cabinet creates the ideal conditions for sound reproduction. Its smooth form eliminates corner reflections.

Every loudspeaker produced must pass Alfred & Partners' extreme level of quality control. Each loudspeaker is completely handbuilt, painted, assembled, tuned, tested, and then listened to individually. All Estelon products are meticulously handmade in Estonia, to the company's exacting standards.

## 1.2. Estelon AURELLE Centre

The AURELLE Centre is a masterpiece of sleek design. It suits perfectly in contemporary interiors providing luxury, elegance, and performance.

Paramount among the physical design elements is the use of the unique shape cabinet form. Its design and construction allow it to easily couple with non-acoustically treated listening areas (i.e. normal living spaces). Premium quality components along with top-quality dampening materials, are all contributing factors to an exhilarating audio experience.

Many years have passed since the genesis of the Estelon, and much has been learned while embodying all achievements. The roots and choices have evolved into the Estelon sound. With the AURELLE Centre, the most beloved element of Estelon products has been reaffirmed again: simplicity. Featuring "minimalistic" crossovers and the refined combination of the selected drivers and the acoustical attributes of the enclosure, has allowed Estelon to achieve their signature sound along with enhanced performance qualities.

The AURELLE Centre is far more than speaker drivers in a cabinet. It is a genuine musical instrument in its own right, and when carefully integrated into a system and listening space, it is capable of connecting the listener to the music in a most profound and transcending way. Everything is expressed naturally, balanced, and emotionally engaging. The AURELLE Centre possesses an eminently musical temperament.

The AURELLE Centre will surprise the listener with the clear and articulate mid-range, and musically detailed and dynamic high frequencies. The AURELLE Centre is capable of reproducing the finest nuances of music

# 1.2.1. Cabinet Design

Estelon engineering, along with a partnership with flat sheet thermoforming experts, took many years of research and testing to find the right technology that would allow the highest quality of cabinet and construction for the loudspeaker's acoustically engineered complex shape. The combination of the high-density, solid mass of the thermoformed mineral-filled composite and the purposeful shapes, along with various internal chambers, results in characteristics that

allow for close to perfect acoustical properties. The cabinet is extremely rigid, highly dense, resonant-free, and features exceptional internal dampening and acoustical control. This is why the Estelon speakers reproduce a very natural and balanced sound.

### 122 Transducers

The 25mm (I") Scan-Speak 'Illuminator' Textile Dome tweeter has a symmetrical drive motor for outstanding sound quality and linearity, regardless if the music is reproduced at high or low volume levels. The tweeter excels at speed and high resolution. The soft curves of the cabinet, along with the tweeter waveguide, eliminate the negative reflective impacts from the driver output, thus the directivity of the speaker is homogenous and wide. The tweeter waveguide has a complex elliptical shape, and it is fine-tuned to match the specific tweeter by Scan-Speak. The sound dispersion is more uniform, and when paired with the mid-woofer drivers the sound is pure and uninfluenced.

The 132mm (5") mid-woofer by Satori is using a proprietary Egyptian Papyrus Cone for achieving transparency and effortless delivery of the sound. The vented aerodynamic cast aluminium chassis provides optimum strength and low compression. The driver features a soft, low-dampening rubber surround for optimum transient response, and its neodymium motor system is optimized for low distortion. The silver lead wires are attached 180° apart for improved stability.

In our loudspeakers, through the properly designed crossover, the drivers simply disappear. The Estelon loudspeakers offer a new way of relaxed listening, and you get to sense all the details that you have never heard. You will be immersed in acoustical spaces with a "live" 3D presence that was never there before.

Each drive unit is "broken-in" by running an audio signal through them for several hours before selecting matching drivers for each speaker. When the drivers are in matching pairs, another "breakin" with an audio signal is conducted. Finally, drivers are fitted into the finished cabinet for individual tuning.

### 12.3 Crossovers

The crossover components have been selected from the very best available, with the synergy of these components playing a key role in the final performance. Each component is measured to ensure perfect pairs.

In the AURELLE Centre's crossover network, we utilise premium aircore coils, Mundorf bifilar wire-wound resistors, and Auricap capacitors. Each component is precisely measured to ensure perfect pairing for optimal performance. To achieve the highest level of micro-detail fidelity, the filter components are connected directly using point-to-point techniques, all hand-soldered with high-quality solder. We also ensure the shortest possible cable runs between the drivers, crossover, and binding posts for minimal signal loss. All internal cabling is sourced from the renowned Kubala-Sosna.

The crossover network in the AURELLE Centre is designed to provide acoustically smooth 2nd-order slopes between the drivers, with a crossover point set at 2.2 kHz. The construction process for each crossover is meticulously carried out, with careful attention from our engineers and designers. Every step is thoroughly considered, and each component is rigorously tested to guarantee the perfect final result. After passing technical measurements, the completed speaker undergoes extensive critical listening tests to ensure it meets our high standards

## **SPECIFICATIONS**

TYPE:	2-way passive speaker, sealed
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box

DRIVERS:

2 x Mid-woofer: 132 mm (5") Satori, Egyptian papyrus fibre filled paper cone

Tweeter: 25 mm (1") Scan-Speak, silk

dome "Illuminator"

INTERNAL WIRING: Kubala-Sosna

FREQUENCY RESPONSE: 70 - 30 000 Hz

POWER RATING: 80 Watts

NOMINAL IMPEDANCE:  $4 \Omega \text{ (min } 3.7 \Omega \text{ at } 170 \text{ Hz)}$ 

SENSITIVITY:  $87 \, dB / 2.83 \, V$ 

MINIMAL AMPLIFIER

POWER: 30 Watts

DIMENSIONS: Height: 550 mm (21.6")

Width: 290 mm (11.4") Depth: 210 mm (8.2")

NET WEIGHT: 9.5 kg (20.9 lbs.) per piece

## 3. UNPACKING INSTRUCTIONS

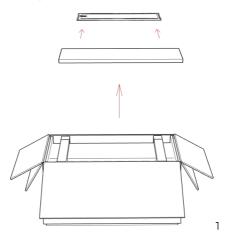
Your Estelon AURELLE Centre loudspeaker comes packaged in a carton box. For shipping, the box is wrapped on a pallet. We recommend keeping the original packaging for possible future transportation. Due to the substantial weight and slippery surface of the loudspeaker, we suggest that two able-bodied individuals assist in the unpacking and positioning process.

#### Contents:

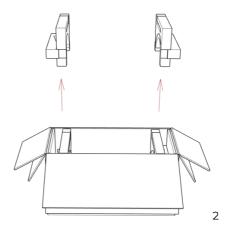
- 1 loudspeaker
- 1 special fabric wrapped cover/grille
- Accessories boxes containing:
  - o 2 pairs of gloves
  - o 1 polishing cloth
  - o luser's manual

For unpacking, please follow the instructions described below and as shown in the drawings:

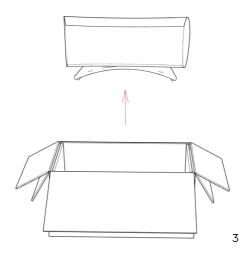
 Place the shipping box near the location where the speaker will be installed. Open the top flaps and remove the upper packaging insert, which contains the magnetic protective driver grille, as shown in Drawing 1.



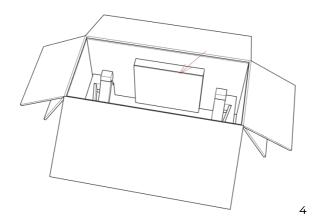
2. Carefully remove the two foam side supports from the box, as shown in Drawing 2. This will free the speaker for removal.



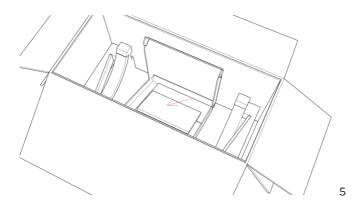
3. Gently lift the speaker out of the box, as demonstrated in Drawing3. Handle the speaker with care and avoid contact with the driver areas. Place in the desired position.



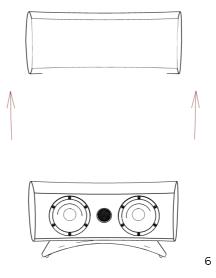
4. Identify the accessory box located on the side wall of the box, as illustrated in Drawing 4.



Open the accessory box from the side facing the base (Drawing 5).
 Inside, you will find the protective gloves, user manual and a polishing cloth.

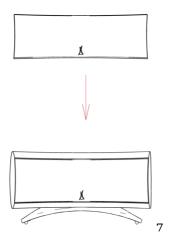


6. Remove the protective fabric covering the speaker, ensuring no pressure is applied to the drivers (Drawing 6).



13

 Attach the driver grille magnetically to the front of the speaker for protection against dust and accidental contact, as shown in Drawing 7.



# 4. SET-UP

# 4.1. Positioning

When positioning the speaker, it is advised to allow enough "free" space around the speaker to minimize sound reflections from walls, furniture, decorative elements etc. This will contribute to achieving correct tonality, realistic imaging, focus, and dynamics.

 $\label{thm:prove} \mbox{Please contact your dealer for consultation on how to improve} \\ \mbox{your room acoustics.}$ 

## 4.2. Wiring

When connecting the speaker to the amplifier please make sure that the amplifier is in the off position. Connect the speaker cable to the pole terminal on the back of the speaker: speaker terminal "+" with the amplifier terminal "+" and "–" with "–". For signal flow, please follow the direction marked on the cable or in the cable manufacturer's instruction. Typically, the signal flow is in the same direction as the labelling/writing on the cable.

## 4.3. Break-in period

Although all Estelon speakers have an initial "break-in" at the factory, due to shipping conditions and pressure/temperature changes that may have incurred, the speakers will need to go through an additional "break-in" process before their final set-up. All the mechanical and electrical connections will stabilize naturally after playing a continuous music signal for approx. 24 hours – e.g. use a digital source on repeat mode. After the initial "break-in" period, you can start setting-up the sound according to Alfred Vassilkov's recommendations. Please note that the speakers should reach their optimum level of performance after about 200-300 hours of use.

# 4.5. Set-up recommendations by Alfred Vassilkov

The set-up of the sound consists of the balance between different parameters such as tonality, bass accuracy, focus, stage imaging, depth, etc. The time required for this process depends on the listener's experience and skills. Proper set-up will maximize the

speaker's performance. We suggest that you test and listen to various musical pieces from different genres to avoid specific sonic accents.

Please keep in mind when changing the position of your speaker that close proximity to the front wall will reinforce, enhance, the bass performance.

Before critical listening, please allow 60-90 minutes of playback for system-stabilization. When listening at an excessive volume you risk damaging the drivers.

## 5. TAKING CARE OF YOUR ESTELON SPEAKERS

In order to maintain the speakers' immaculate appearance, special cleaning cloths are provided with your Estelon loudspeakers. Please note that only dry cleaning is allowed. Do not wash the speakers. In case of a smudge/spot, please use a damp, soft, lint-free cloth to clean the smudges before the final finishing with the special cloths that accompany the speakers. Please do not apply polishing to the speaker drivers. The use of other materials can damage, scratch, or destroy the finish.

Additional information regarding the polishing cloths and other products:

- Use with the provided microfiber cloth: Würth Active Glass Cleaner (Item # 089025) Silicone-free
- 3M Perfect-It III High Performance Polishing Cloth (Item # 50486) or any 3M Microfiber cloths

No additional wax or polish is required.

For additional information and guidance regarding cleaning/polishing materials, please contact your dealer.

# 6. ESTELON / ALFRED & PARTNERS OÜ – Technical Services

Alfred & Partners OÜ Five Year Limited Warranty

### Terms and Conditions

1. Limited Warranty – All ESTELON products purchased from authorized ESTELON dealers are covered by a limited 5-year non-transferrable warranty granted by Alfred & Partners OÜ. This warranty includes all parts and labour charges as well as return shipping charges (product owner is responsible for all shipping and insurance charges one-way to the ESTELON repair facility or ESTELON factory approved repair facility).

Alfred & Partners OÜ warrants the purchased product to be free from manufacturing, materials, and workmanship defects for five years from the date of original purchase, subject to the following conditions.

Customers should consult with their original ESTELON dealer or distributor for possible alternate repair instructions prior to contacting the ESTELON factory. Other ESTELON dealers or distributors may refuse from assisting the Customer under the limited warranty. BUT under any and all circumstances customers are welcome to contact our sales department, listed on our website www.estelon.com, for service assistance.

This limited warranty is valid only in the country where the product was originally purchased. If the repair request that is covered under this warranty comes from another country, then Alfred & Partners OÜ may request the Customer to compensate Alfred & Partners OÜ additional costs arising from providing this limited warranty in another country than the country of original purchase.

This limited warranty shall not affect the statutory rights of the Customer

- 2. Limited to Original Purchaser This warranty is for the sole benefit of the original purchaser of the covered product and may not be transferred to a subsequent purchaser of the product.
- 3. Conditions and Limitations This warranty is subject to certain conditions and limitations, as follows. This warranty is void and inapplicable if the product has not been used in accordance with the instructions found elsewhere in the owner's manual, or if it has been misused or abused, damaged by accident or neglect, or in transport once in possession of the purchaser. The warranty is also deemed void if the product has been repaired, modified, or tampered with by anyone other than Alfred & Partners OÜ or its specifically authorized agents. Please Note if the fasteners to the cover of the crossover area, those covered with multi-coloured specialty epoxy seal, have been tampered with / the epoxy removed the warranty will be considered to be void.

This warranty does not cover defects due to accidents or similar causes arising after the risk for the product has passed to the Customer, or normal deterioration, wear and tear.

4. Remedy – If this product contains a material, manufacturing, or workmanship defect that cannot be repaired at the dealership where the product was purchased, it must be packed in original packaging and returned to Alfred & Partners OÜ via insured freight, at the owner's expense. If replacement packaging materials are required, they may be purchased from the factory at a charge. Returned products must be accompanied by a written description of the defect,

and a return authorization number (available from the factory via phone or email).

Upon receipt of a defective product, Alfred & Partners OÜ agrees to repair the product without charge for parts or labour. The product will then be returned via prepaid, insured freight, with the carrier at the sole determination of Alfred & Partners OÜ. This constitutes the purchaser's sole remedy.

Alfred & Partners OÜ undertakes during the warranty period to the exclusion of any other remedy to repair or replace the part of the product, which the examination by Alfred & Partners OÜ shows to have been defective. The warranty period for repaired or replaced parts shall not exceed the original warranty period and shall terminate along with the original warranty. The term of the original warranty shall not be extended by the duration of any warranty repairs.

- 5. Design Changes ESTELON reserves the right to modify its products or change specifications at any time without obligation or liability to previous purchasers.
- 6. Miscellaneous This warranty does not extend to any incidental or consequential costs or damages to the purchaser. This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights which vary from country to country.

#### Instructions for Obtaining Repair Service

- 1. Complete the Return Authorization Request Form available online at estelon.com/support.
- 2. Upon clicking the 'Submit' button on the Return Authorization Form, the ESTELON factory will review it for

completeness and return an e-mail to you with an RA number when required (please allow 2-5 days for a return e-mail).

- 3. Crate and/or package the product in its ORIGINAL FLIGHT CASE CONTAINERS ONLY, according to the instructions included in the return e-mail, and ship the product to the shipping address included in the e-mail. The owner is responsible for paying the shipping and insurance charges (Alfred & Partners OÜ will cover return shipping and insurance charges on warranty repairs).
- 4. In the case of non-warranty repairs, Alfred & Partners OÜ will physically inspect the product and contact the customer for repair approval. Upon approval and completion of the repair, the product owner will be informed of the final charges (including return shipping). Payment may be made by bank/wire transfer prior to the final shipment). Payments not received within 30 days of initial contact may incur storage fees.

We strongly recommend that all product repairs should be conducted through the ESTELON factory or an authorized ESTELON repair facility. ESTELON products are designed and manufactured to the highest tolerances with numerous hand-picked components; for this reason, we HIGHLY RECOMMEND that components not be serviced by non-authorized repair facilities. Alfred & Partners OÜ values its loyal customers and will make every attempt to return repaired products to their original factory specifications. Customers should consult with their original ESTELON dealer or distributor for possible alternate repair instructions prior to contacting the ESTELON factory. BUT under any and all circumstances customers are welcome to contact our sales department, as listed on our website www.estelon.com, for service assistance. All non-warranty repairs are warranted for one year from the date of the return shipment.

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Have we answered all your questions?

If not, please send us an email with your questions at sales@estelon.com

www.estelon.com

## ESTELON is a trademark of Alfred & Partners OÜ

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### Notes