

The enclosed box subwoofer in particular has seen staggering growth in the last year. One supplier estimated the increase for these boxes, both amplified and non-amplified, at 140 percent in units for the industry. Enclosed woofers are easier to install and offer OEM styling, suppliers said.

It is not surprising then that some suppliers are investing research and development in this burgeoning segment.

Alpine will introduce a downsized box enclosure system based on new technology Cupertino, Calif.-based Tymphany. The box provides the bass of a typical dual 12-inch woofer enclosure in about a third of the physical space, claims Alpine. It uses a new technology called Linear Array Transducer. The model PLV-7 enclosure has a 500-watt built-in digital amplifier, and it uses six small transducers that add up to the same size as two traditional 12-inch woofers, said the company. The enclosure is designed for both aftermarket and OEM systems. Shipping is slated for March at a target price of \$699.