



PN.33-1598 12-03

## SONAMP CINEMA 260 AMPLIFIER

Congratulations on your purchase of this precision audio component and thank you for your selection of Sonance. Your Sonamp® Cinema 260 has been designed specifically for use with the Cinema Sub System. The 260 incorporates the latest technology and will become the heart of the finest home theater and music systems. Its high power output is matched by enormous current capacity to drive your Cinema sub-woofers. A robust toroid transformer assures reserve power. An ultra-fast discrete AB output stage assures flawless reproduction. You have made an excellent choice.

Please take a few moments now to read these instructions thoroughly so you may fully understand the sophisticated capabilities of your new power amplifier.

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read instructions - All the safety and operating instructions should be read before the appliance is operated.
2. Retain instructions - The safety and operating instructions should be retained for future reference.
3. Heed Warnings - Adhere to all warnings and precautions listed on the appliance and in the operating instructions.
4. Follow instructions - Follow all operating instructions.
5. Water and Moisture - The appliance should never be used next to water - for example, near a bathtub, kitchen sink, laundry tub, in a wet basement, or near a swimming pool, etc.
6. Carts and Stands - The appliance should be used only with a cart or stand that is recommended by the manufacturer.
7. An appliance and cart combination should be moved with care. Quick stops, excessive force, and uneven surfaces may cause the appliance and cart combination to overturn.
8. Caution: To prevent electric shock, do not use the Sonamp (polarized) plug with an extension cord, receptacle or other outlets unless the blades can be fully inserted to prevent blade exposure.
9. Ventilation - the appliance should be situated so that its location does not interfere with its proper ventilation. For example, the appliance should not be situated on a bed, sofa, rug, or similar surface that may impede the flow of air through the ventilation openings.
10. Heat - The appliance should be situated away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other appliances (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
11. Power sources - The appliance should be connected to a power supply only of the type described in the operating instructions or as marked on the appliance.
12. Grounding or Polarization - Grounding or polarization are the precautions that should be taken so that these attributes of an appliance are not defeated.
13. Power-Cord Protection - Power supply cords should be routed so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them, paying particular attention to cords at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the appliance.
14. Cleaning - The appliance should be cleaned only as recommended by the manufacturer.
15. Non-Use Periods - The power cord of the appliance should be unplugged from the outlet when left unused for a long period of time.
16. Object and Liquid Entry - Care should be taken so that objects do not fall and liquids are not spilled through the opening of the enclosure.

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

### SONAMP® CINEMA 260 OWNER'S MANUAL CINEMA SUB SYSTEM AMPLIFIER

17. Damage Requiring Service - The appliance should be serviced by a qualified service personnel when:

- A. The power-supply cord or the plug has been damaged
- B. Objects have fallen, or liquid has been spilled into the appliance
- C. The appliance has been exposed to rain
- D. The appliance does not appear to operate normally or exhibits a marked change in performance
- E. The appliance has been dropped, or the enclosure damaged

18. Servicing - The user should not attempt to service the appliance beyond that described in the operating instructions. All other servicing should be referred to qualified service personnel.

### UNPACKING:

Save your carton and the styrofoam inserts for future safe transport, in case you move or the unit ever requires shipping for repair. It is best if you place it into an additional outer "over-carton" before shipment to minimize a chance of theft in shipment.

Before you proceed, find the serial number which is located on the rear panel of the unit and note it here for future reference or in case of theft in shipment. \_\_\_\_\_



CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER (OR BACK). NO USER SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO AUTHORIZED SERVICE PERSONNEL.



The lightning flash with arrowhead symbol, within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated dangerous voltage within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock to persons.



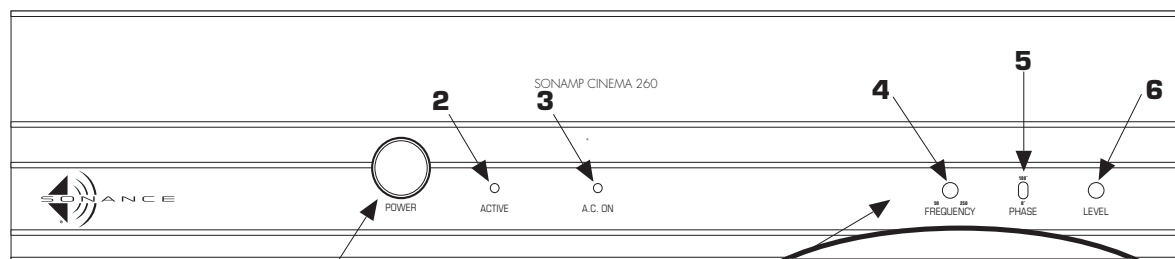
The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.

WARNING: TO PREVENT FIRE OR SHOCK HAZARD, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPLIANCE TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.

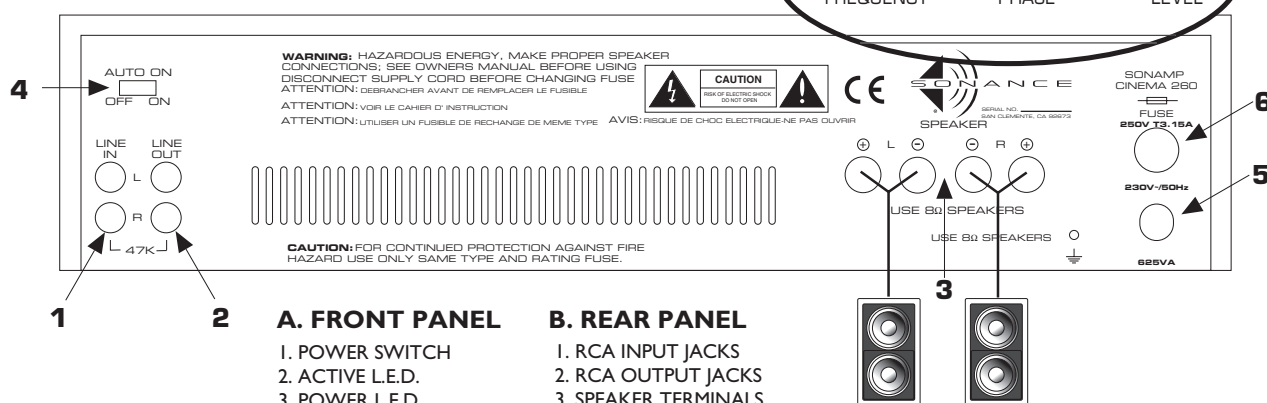


**WARNING**  
**MOVE WITH CARE**

A



B

**A. FRONT PANEL**

1. POWER SWITCH
2. ACTIVE L.E.D.
3. POWER L.E.D.
4. CROSSOVER FREQUENCY
5. PHASE SWITCH
6. LEVEL CONTROL

**B. REAR PANEL**

1. RCA INPUT JACKS
2. RCA OUTPUT JACKS
3. SPEAKER TERMINALS
4. AUTO ON DEFEAT SWITCH
5. ~ POWER CORD INLET
6. FUSE

**PLACEMENT:**

Keep your Sonamp® Cinema 260 out of direct sunlight and away from windows where rain may enter. It should be placed away from heat sources such as hot air ducts or radiators; do not place the unit directly on a pile carpet that could interfere with air flow into its bottom vent opening. If you stack your components, it is better to place the Sonamp above or alongside your other components; when driven hard, the unit itself may create a little heat and disturb components stacked on top of it. If it is inside a cabinet, allow ample ventilation. Very sensitive low level sources might pick up some hum radiating from its enormous power supply.

**CONNECTING THE SONAMP CINEMA 260**

The Sonamp Cinema 260 is specially designed to drive subwoofers. Connect the subwoofer output interconnect to the left channel input jack on the rear of the Sonamp Cinema 260. If the source preamplifier has no dedicated subwoofer output, use a pair of interconnect cables from the preamp out to the left and right input jacks of the Sonamp Cinema 260.

If no line level output is available to drive the subwoofer, use a Sonance OP-3 to convert high level speaker output to the appropriate level for input to the Sonamp Cinema 260. Connect subwoofer speaker wires to the right and left speaker terminals on the back of the amplifier.

**NOTES:** Polarity of speaker wires is critical. All positive leads (+) must be attached to red connectors throughout the system.

Since the Sonamp Cinema 260 subwoofer amplifier sends a monaural signal to both speakers, either speaker (right or left) may be driven by either amplifier channel.

The Sonamp Cinema 260 subwoofer amplifier is designed to drive one speaker per pair of binding posts. Connecting additional speakers in parallel may cause damage to the speakers and amplifier.

Do not tie amplifier output (+) terminals together and run a single 2 conductor to the two subwoofers. Each amplifier channel requires separate positive (+) and negative (-) conductors, 4 total for each amplifier and two subwoofer modules. (See diagram 2)

**AMPLIFIER SETTINGS**

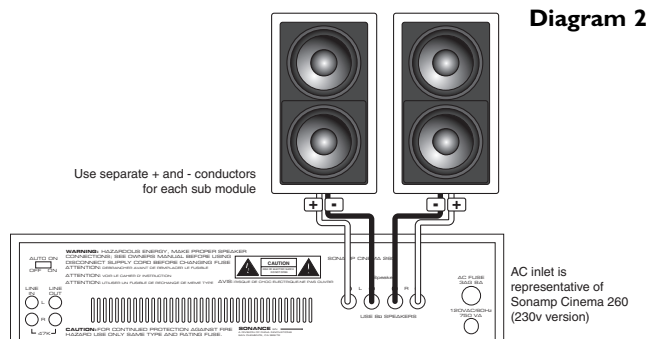
Some experimentation will be necessary to achieve the best possible integration of the Cinema SUBs with the other speakers in the system. Start with the following settings on the Sonamp Cinema 260:

- **FREQUENCY:** fully clockwise, highest crossover frequency
- **PHASE:** down, 0, normal phase setting
- **LEVEL:** 12:00

The 12:00 level setting is correct for most Dolby® AC-3 and THX® processors.

**FRONT PANEL CONTROLS**

To achieve smooth transition between the subwoofers and other drivers, it may be useful to employ test tones available on compact disc and a sound pressure level meter. Inexpensive SPL meters are available from Radio Shack stores. Some receivers/processors can produce a pink noise signal for speaker calibration. Other test DVDs are available. Note: Sine wave test tones can damage your Cinema speakers and should only be used at low volume levels for short periods.



Always take SPL readings from ear level at the listening position.

Receivers/processors provide a special facility to calibrate subwoofers. When installing the Cinema SUB System with such a receiver/processor, follow the receiver/processor's instructions for calibrating subwoofer output.

When used in conjunction with some components, the bass response of the Cinema SUBs will be greater with the phase switch in the down position. Listen to music with significant bass content with the switch in each position to determine the correct setting for your system. Sitting in the normal listening position, listen while a friend changes the phase switch position. The audibly louder setting is correct. Alternately, use an SPL meter to determine which setting produces greater output in the 75-125 Hz range.

If you experience buzzing or rattling during strong bass passages, it may be necessary to relocate or remove items in the listening room which become excited by the high energy levels reproduced by your Cinema SUBs.

## MAKING CONNECTIONS:

Before making any signal or speaker connection, make sure your power amplifier is turned off and unplugged. When making connections, make sure there is no strain or tension on input leads or speaker wires that could cause them to pull loose in the future.

### Looping Jacks

Your Sonamp Cinema 260 provides a pair of RCA output jacks which duplicate the input signal. These facilitate connection of additional subwoofer systems from a single source component. With only a single input cable you can link or "loop" amplifiers without messy Y-cord adapters. Two input cables are required when using Left and Right Inputs.

### Use good wire

For best bass response, and minimum power loss, you should never use less than 14AWG speaker wire - or it will constrict the dynamics and deteriorate bass response. We recommend use of premium Sonance speaker cable. You may also wish to experiment with audiophile-grade speaker wire and interconnects, but be sure to check local codes governing wire that may be installed in walls or ceilings. Each brand of wire will have a different characteristic sound and some may be more compatible with the sonic "signature" of your various components. Your Cinema 260 is stable with any reputable brand of wire.

## AC Line cord

You can plug this into a wall socket or an AC outlet on your preamplifier. Make sure your preamp outlet rating is equal to or greater than the Sonamp's power consumption rating. If you do not plan to use the automatic turn on/off feature, you will probably want to use a switched AC outlet that is turned on and off by your preamp's power button. If you choose to use the Auto Turn on/off feature, you must leave the Sonamp plugged into an unswitched AC outlet that is always "live" even when the preamp is turned off.

If you are installing the Cinema 260 in a remote zone, you may plug it into the closest AC wall socket that is always "live".

**Caution:** To prevent electric shock, match wide blade of plug to wide slot, fully insert.

**Attention:** Pour éviter les chocs électriques, introduire la lame la plus large de la fiche dans la borne correspondante de la prise et pousser jusqu'au fond.

Use only a heavy-duty extension cord, if required, to avoid starving the amplifier of all current necessary for full power operation.

## OPERATING THE SONAMP CINEMA 260

The Sonamp Cinema 260 has an ingenious and very sophisticated Auto-On turn on/off circuit. Please read these instructions carefully to facilitate correct operating procedures.

### Power Switch

Press the power switch once to the "in" position to turn on. Press again to the "out" position to turn it off. Leave the button in its inner position when using the Auto-On turn on/off feature. The amplifier will switch its power on automatically when there is a musical signal present at its input jacks.

### Auto-On

Any audio signal arriving at the "left" input jack will trigger automatic turn on circuitry to activate the unit for operation. A green LED on the front panel marked "Active" indicates that the amplifier is operational.

The amplifier will remain on after the audio signal has ceased for approximately 3 minutes. This provides ample time to prevent erratic operation from pauses between musical passages or while changing sources. With this feature there is no limit to where you can place the Cinema 260.

### Auto-On Defeat (located on rear panel)

If the Auto-On turn on/off feature is not required, it can be defeated by moving the rear panel switch to its "off" position. Use a small flat-bladed screwdriver to move the recessed switch. Do not apply excessive force. Now the Cinema 260 power switch will function conventionally and the amplifier will turn on and off from a switched AC outlet on your preamp or other source component.

### Power LED (red)

This LED indicates that the AC power line cord is plugged into a live AC outlet. If the main AC line fuse ever opens, this LED will go out. To use the Auto-On feature, this LED must remain

on at all times (i.e., with an unswitched outlet). The power switch has no effect on this LED.

### Active LED (green)

The primary function of the LED is to show amplifier operational activity. In the Auto-On mode, this LED turns on at the presence of an audio signal to the input jacks. The first time AC power is applied to the Cinema 260, the Active LED will light for about 3 minutes and then extinguish. This is a normal reaction of the Auto-On circuitry the very first time it receives power. Thereafter, the Cinema 260 is ready for automatic operation. In normal Auto-On operation the amplifier will respond "on" within 1.5 seconds it will turn "off" about 3 minutes after the signal ceases.

Whenever AC power to the Sonamp Cinema 260 has been interrupted, the Active LED will light up for about 3 minutes when power is first restored. The active LED functions as a normal on/off power indicator when the Auto On feature is defeated.

### Protection Circuits

The Cinema 260 has numerous protection circuits. If any are triggered, the green Active LED will flash and you may hear the sound of the protection relay clicking to protect the amplifier. After the fault has been corrected, the unit will automatically reset itself for normal operation. But it is advised that you turn off the power switch while you are trouble-shooting for shorted connections or faults with source components.

## MAINTAINING YOUR SONAMP CINEMA 260

The Sonamp Cinema 260 requires no periodic maintenance and has no user serviceable parts inside. Do not remove the top cover. Doing so will increase your risk of electric shock. To keep clean use only a soft cloth and never use any solvents or abrasives. Fingerprints may be removed with a soft cloth moistened only with a few drops of water.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Power Output (RMS)	120 Watts/ch @ 3 ohms
Both Channels Driven:	
Dynamic Power at Clipping:	140 Watts per channel @ 2Ω
Total Harmonic Distortion:	0.2% 250Hz @ 2Ω
Input Impedance:	47KΩ
Power Consumption:	500 Watts (625VA) at full output
Dimensions:	16-3/4" x 3-1/2" x 12-1/2" (425mm x 89mm x 318mm)

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

If you any have questions about the operation or installation of your Sonamp Cinema 260, please call our Technical Assistance Department on any business day at:  
• (800) 582-0772 or (949) 492-7777; from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., PST.

## OBTAINING SERVICE

If your product should need repair or service, contact your authorized Sonance dealer for help or use the following procedure:

1. Prior to calling, note the product's model number, purchase date, and original dealer's name and address.
2. Contact our Technical Assistance Department at the above number(s) and describe the problem the unit is experiencing. If applicable, they will issue a Return Authorization Number.
3. If you're directed to return the unit to Sonance for repair, pack the unit in its original shipping carton. If needed, you can obtain replacement packaging from us for a small charge.
4. Contact United Parcel Service, Federal Express, or RPS to arrange prepaid (not collect) shipping. Do not use the U.S. Mail Service.

IMPORTANT: Freight collect shipments will be refused.

5. Write the Return Authorization Number on the outside of the shipping carton. For warranty work, please include a copy of the original bill of sale inside the package.

6. Ship the packaged unit to: Technical Assistance Department • Sonance • 212 Avenida Fabricante San Clemente, CA 92672-7531

## WARRANTY COVERAGE (USA ONLY)

If, within one (1) year from the date shown on the bill of sale, the unit fails, due to a defect in workmanship or material, Sonance will, at its option and at no charge, repair or replace the components of such unit which prove to be defective.

For this warranty to be effective, the bill of sale must show that the unit was purchased from an "Authorized Sonance Dealer" and must list the price paid. This warranty shall apply exclusively to the original purchaser and shall not apply to units purchased for industrial or commercial use.

Furthermore, this warranty shall not apply if:

1. Damage to the unit was caused by accident, abuse, or misuse;
2. The unit was opened, modified, or repaired by unauthorized personnel; or
3. The unit was not used as outlined in the operating instructions.

## Exclusions and Limitations

The warranty set forth above is in lieu of all other warranties, express or implied, of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or otherwise. The warranty is limited to Sonance products registered herein and specifically excludes any damage to loudspeakers and other allied or associated equipment which may result for any reason from use with this product.

Sonance shall, in no event, be liable for incidental or consequential damages arising from any breach of this warranty or otherwise. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights which vary from state to state.