AT4033a
CARDIOID CAPACITOR MICROPHONE

Description

The AT4033a is a transformerless studio microphone designed for use in the most demanding applications. Specifically, the AT4033a utilizes a gold-plated, "aged-diaphragm" capacitor element with an internal baffle plate to increase the signal-to-noise ratio of the microphone system. This, coupled with low-noise transformerless electronics, makes this microphone ideal for the most critical digital recordings. The dynamic range of the AT4033a is 128 dB without the built-in attenuator, and it accepts up to 145 dB SPL without capsule or electronic-system distortion above 1% T.H.D.

The AT4033a is the culmination of extensive field evaluations in studio environments with resultant significant advances in microphone performance factors. The AT4033a's low noise circuitry is symmetrical and transformerless, resulting in exceptional transient response and clean output signals, even under high-output conditions. The microphone is totally free of the distortion associated with conventional transformer-coupled outputs. Its fast response to transients contributes to the open, transparent reproduction of even the most troublesome of instruments and sound effects. To ensure optimum performance, a floating-construction element provides isolation from noise and vibration.

The AT4033a combines the benefits of exceptionally low self-noise with very high output. Equally important, the AT4033a handles very high sound pressure levels with ease. The AT4033a may be used with confidence in a wide variety of mixing applications even under the stringent demands of modern digital recording systems. A switchable 10 dB (nominal) pad is built-in, increasing the SPL capabilities to 155 dB SPL.

An integral 80 Hz hi-pass filter provides easy switching from a flat frequency response to a low-end roll-off. The hi-pass switch is recessed to prevent accidental activation. The hi-pass position reduces the microphone's sensitivity to "popping" in close vocal use, and handling noise. It reduces the pickup of low-frequency ambient noise (i.e. traffic, air-handling systems, etc.) and room reverberation.

An internal open-cell foam windscreen is permanently installed inside the case assembly between the grille and element for "pop" protection.

The AT4033a incorporates a specially-contoured diaphragm that allows undistorted reproduction of high sound pressure level signals at all frequencies. The 2-micron-thick vapor-deposited gold diaphragm provides accurate reproduction of even the most subtle sounds, especially high frequency signals not easily reproduced by conventional large diaphragm condenser transducers.

The diaphragm of every AT4033a is aged through five different steps to assure the optimum characteristics achieved will remain constant over years of use.

The symmetrical housing assembly surrounding the microphone capsule and its open acoustical environment allow the off-axis response to be ideally suited for studio work where natural reproduction of off-axis sound is of paramount importance. The resultant 90° off-axis curve is nearly a perfect facsimile of the on-axis curve, but attenuated by 6 dB.

The AT4033a is available in two different forms, AT4033a/SC or AT4033a/SM. The AT4033a/SC (pictured below) is an AT4033a microphone plus an AT4300 stand clamp which fits standard ½"-27 threaded stands. The AT4033a/SM (pictured below) is an AT4033a microphone plus an AT4411 shock mount, also designed to fit standard ½"-27 threaded stands.

The AT4033a will operate in conjunction with any "remote" or "simplex" power source supplying 48 volts DC, such as the AC powered Audio-Technica CP8506, a 48-volt supply that can power up to four microphones.

Architects and Engineers Specifications

The microphone shall be a cardioid capacitor with a frequency response of 30 to 20,000 Hz. It shall operate from an external 48V DC (+/-4V) phantom power source. The element shall be internally shock mounted. The microphone shall have a protective foam pop filter between the case assembly and the diaphragm.

Nominal open-circuit output voltage shall be 25.1 mV at 1 kHz, 1 Pascal. The microphone shall have an output impedance of 100 ohms and output shall be transformerless balanced. The microphone shall accept a 145 dB SPL at 1 kHz while producing no greater than 1% T.H.D.

The microphone shall have a length of 6.69" (170.0 mm), a maximum body diameter of 2.10" (53.4 mm), and a weight of 13.4 oz (380 grams). Finish shall be matte black.

The Audio-Technica AT4033a is specified.

40 SERIES PRECISION MICROPHONES
AT4033a

Specifications†

ELEMENT
Fixed-charge back-plate
permanently polarized capacitor

POLAR PATTERN
Cardioid (Unidirectional)

FREQUENCY RESPONSE
30-20,000 Hz

OPEN CIRCUIT SENSITIVITY (1 kHz)
-32 dB (25.1 mV) ± 2 dB, re 1 V at 1 Pa*†

IMPEDANCE
100 ohms

MAXIMUM INPUT SOUND LEVEL
145 dB SPL, 1 kHz at 1% T.H.D.
155 dB SPL, with 10 dB pad (nominal)

NOISE, TYPICAL (A-WEIGHTED)‡
17 dB SPL

DYNAMIC RANGE, TYPICAL
128 dB, 1 kHz at Max SPL

SIGNAL-TO-NOISE RATIO, TYPICAL
77 dB, 1 kHz at 1 Pa*

HI-PASS FILTER (LOW-END ROLL-OFF)
80 Hz, 12 dB/octave

POWER REQUIREMENTS
48V DC phantom (±4V)

CURRENT CONSUMPTION, TYPICAL
3.2 mA

WEIGHT (LESS CABLE AND CLAMP)
13.4 oz (380 g)

DIMENSIONS
6.69" (170.0 mm) long,
2.10" (53.4 mm) maximum body diameter

ACCESSORIES FURNISHED
AT4033a/SC: AT8430 stand clamp for 5/8"-27 threaded stands; protective carrying case
AT4033a/SM: AT8441 shock mount for 5/8"-27 threaded stands; protective carrying case

† In the interest of standards development, A.T.U.S. offers full details on its test methods to other industry professionals on request.
‡ Measured at diaphragm.
§ Using Audio Precision System One

Optional Accessories:
- AT8137 large cylindrical foam windscreen.
- AT8314 2-conductor, shielded, vinyl-jacketed, broadcast-type cable with XLRF-type connector at microphone end, XLRM-type connector at equipment end. Available in 10”, 20”, 25”, 30”, 50”, 100” lengths.
- AT8430 stand clamp for 5/8"-27 threaded stands.
- AT8441 shock mount for 5/8"-27 threaded stands.
- AT8446 pop filter for use with AT8441 shock mount.
- CP8508 four-channel 48V phantom power supply (AC powered).

One-Year Limited Warranty
Audio-Technica microphones and accessories purchased in the U.S.A. are warranted for one year from date of purchase by Audio-Technica U.S.A., Inc. (A.T.U.S.) to be free of defects in material and workmanship. In event of such defect, product will be repaired promptly without charge or, at A.T.U.S. option, replaced with a new product of equal or superior value if delivered to A.T.U.S. or an Authorized Service Center; prepaid, together with the sales slip or other proof of purchase date. Prior approval from A.T.U.S. is required for return. This warranty excludes defects due to normal wear, abuse, shipping damage, or failure to use product in accordance with instructions. This warranty is void in the event of unauthorized repair or modification, or removal or defacing of the product labeling.

For return approval and shipping information, contact the Service Department, Audio-Technica U.S.A., Inc., 1221 Commerce Drive, Stow, Ohio 44224.

Except to the extent prohibited by applicable state law, A.T.U.S. will have no liability for any consequential, incidental, or special damages; any warranty of merchantability or fitness for particular purpose expires when this warranty expires.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights which vary from state to state.

Outside the U.S.A., please contact your local dealer for warranty details.

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