OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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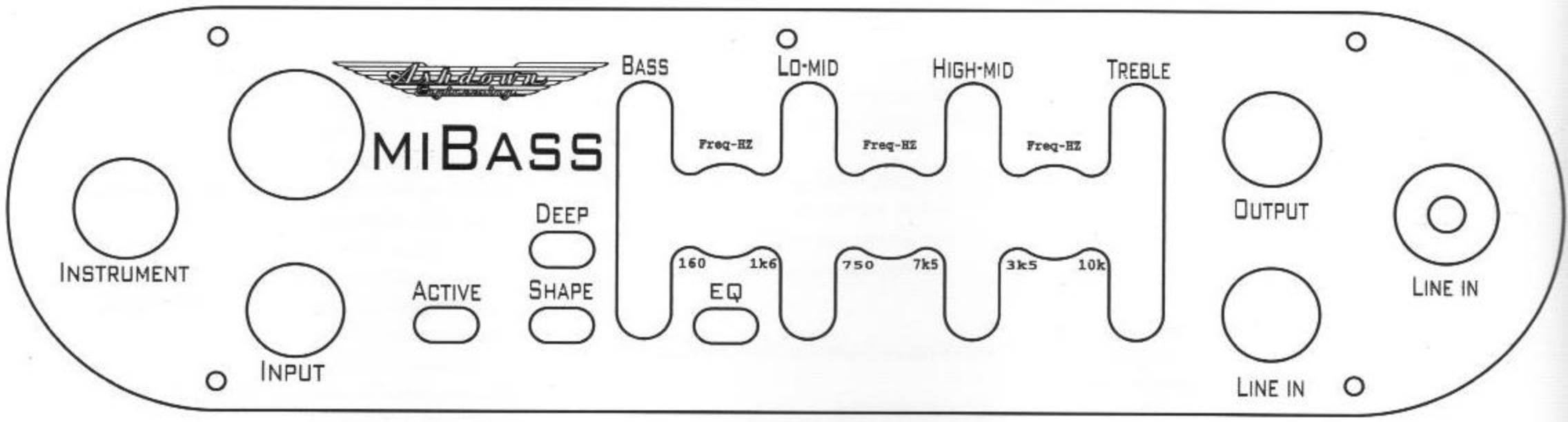
MiBass 220 and 550 Micro Bass Amp Head

Front Panel Facilities



Ashdown MiBass has been designed to be very easy to use whilst providing a vast array of tonal variation with its simple combination of sound sculpturing facilities.

These equalisation tools have been combined with powerful digital output stages and all presented in a very small and light package giving the ultimate in versatility and portability.

INSTRUMENT INPUT - There is a single INSTRUMENT input jack socket, this is linked to the ACTIVE selector switch. With this switch in its OUT position the instrument input is high sensitivity and also high impedance to suit the low signal level output of PASSIVE basses (those with no built in pre-amp). When pushed IN this switch selects a low sensitivity and lower impedance input to suit the higher signal level output of ACTIVE basses.

INPUT - The INPUT control sets the signal level through the preamp in conjunction with the SIGNAL level VU meter. This should be adjusted so that the bottom 2 or 3 LEDs are lit most of the time whilst playing your instrument with only occasional dynamic peaks lighting the RED CLIP LED. Please note that the setting of this may have to be re-adjusted after modification of the EQ controls.

LINE IN - There is a stereo 3.5mm Line-In jack socket located at the right hand side of the MiBASS. This is for injecting a signal from another audio device such as an MP3 music player for amplification through the MiBASS. This is useful for practicing or playing along with an existing music track. The Level of this signal can be set using the Line-In rotary control located below the Output level control. The signal from the Line-In jack is post effects and pre Master Level control.

SHAPE - This pushbutton superimposes a pre defined equalisation curve onto the bass guitar signal. This SHAPE EQ boosts both the Low and High frequencies whilst introducing a cut at lower Mid frequencies. The SHAPE may be used by itself or in conjunction with the other EQ facilities of the Little Giant.

DEEP - This pushbutton introduces a serious boost to the really Low frequencies of the bass guitar signal. The boost is about +15dB at 50Hz. The DEEP may be used by itself or in conjunction with the other EQ facilities of the Little Giant.

EQ - This pushbutton activates the remaining sound sculpturing facilities of the MiBass. With the EQ, SHAPE & DEEP pushbuttons in their OUT position the sound of the Little Giant is set to perfectly FLAT.

The main equalisation controls of the MiBass consist of a shelving, +or- 15dB BASS control, a variable frequency +or- 15dB shelving TREBLE control with a range from 3.5kHz to 10kHz, and two semi parametric +or- 15dB MID controls each with a 1 octave bandwidth covering frequencies from 180Hz to 1.6kHz and 750Hz to 7.5kHz respectively for adjusting the LO-MID and HI-MID frequency ranges.

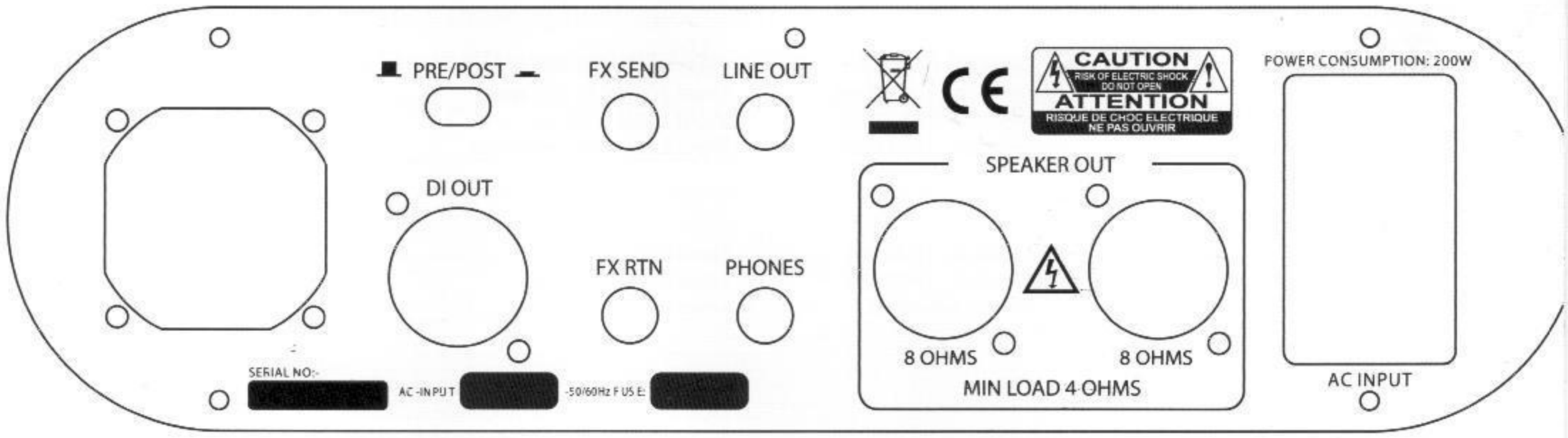
The way this works is as follows: there are four slider controls used to boost or cut each frequency range by up to 15dB. To the left of the LO-MID, HI-MID and TREBLE sliders are rotary controls marked FREQ-HZ. These are used to select the frequency at which the sliders boost or cut the signal.

These EQ facilities can be used in a number of ways, obviously the BASS control will boost and cut the lower frequencies, and the TREBLE control will boost and cut the higher frequencies, with the degree by which this affects the instruments signal dependant on the setting of its FREQ-HZ control.
Both the BASS and TREBLE control adjustments can be further affected by the setting of the HI-MID and LO-MID controls, for instance if the HI-MID frequency is set to its highest i.e. 7.5kHz and this frequency range boosted then this will add further to the high frequency lift provided by the TREBLE control. Similarly the BASS control setting will be affected if the LO-MID frequency is set to its lowest. This can be a useful way of further enhancing the upper and lower frequencies or for making fine adjustments to these. But where the LO-MID and HI-MID controls really start to perform their magic is when their FREQ-EQ controls are set to somewhere within the centre of their ranges and the selected frequencies either boosted or cut. This can produce some unique sound shapes that are very useable. Experiment with this and see what you discover, remember that sometimes cutting the signal at a particular centre frequency can produce just as viable sounds as boosting. More is not always better when it comes to sound sculpturing for bass.

OUTPUT - The OUTPUT control sets the level of volume through the speakers connected to the MiBass. Remember to set the INPUT control as high as possible in the manner described above and the OUTPUT control set as low as possible for the desired stage playing volume. In this way you will get the optimum performance from the MiBass amplifier with the best possible signal to noise ratio.

Rear Panel Facilities

Pictured: MiBass 220



AC INPUT - Always use the supplied AC mains connection cable and ensure the correct supply voltage for your country is selected before connecting mains power to this AC INPUT socket. Always replace the mains Fuse with the same type and rating as shown on the rear panel. If the mains fuse should blow please refer the unit to a qualified service engineer at an Ashdown recommended service centre.

DIRECT INJECT (D.I.) - A balanced D.I. is provided on a male XLR socket. This has a push button placed above it that allows the user to choose either a Pre E.Q. signal (button OUT) or a Post EQ & Post effects signal (button IN).

The output signal from this XLR socket is set to a level and impedance suitable for connecting directly into the Microphone input of a mixing desk for either Direct Injection into the PA system or for recording.

This must ONLY ever be used connected to a Balanced Microphone input, it is not intended for any other type of connection. There is no ground connection to Pin 1 of the XLR and therefore no ground lifting is required between equipment. You must however ensure that both the MiBass and the Mixing desk it is connected to have good mains ground connections (this is also important for your personal safety). The D.I. signal is unaffected by Phantom Powering on the Microphone input.

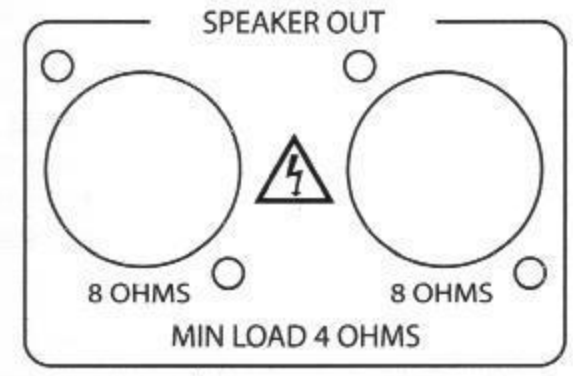
FX-SEND FX-RETURN - A serial EFFECTS (FX) loop is provided at a level of 0dB. The Effects SEND and RETURN jack sockets for this are on the rear panel next to the D.I. socket.
The FX-SEND socket can also be used as a Line Out socket if required. The signal path through the preamp is only broken when a jack plug is inserted into the FX-RETURN socket. The FX-SEND is situated after the EQ.

LINE OUT - An unbalanced LINE OUT jack socket is available for connection to further power amplifiers and speakers to build a more powerful system if required or for recording.

PHONES - A stereo Headphone jack socket is provided that can be used for silent practice. The signal to the power output stage is muted when a jack plug is inserted into this socket. The level through the headphones is set using the Master Output Level control. Remember to re-set this to minimum when removing the headphones jack socket and returning to the speaker outputs.

ON/OFF MAINS SWITCH - Using the mains cable supplied the amplifier may beconnected the to the correct voltage mainssupply. Once this is done turn the power to the MiBass ON by using the rear panel ON/OFFswitch. POWER ON is indicated by illumination of the VU meter on the front of the amp.

SPEAKER OUTPUT - Two SPEAKER OUTPUTS are provided on SPEAKON/JACK connection sockets that are able to handle the high powers produced by these amplifiers.

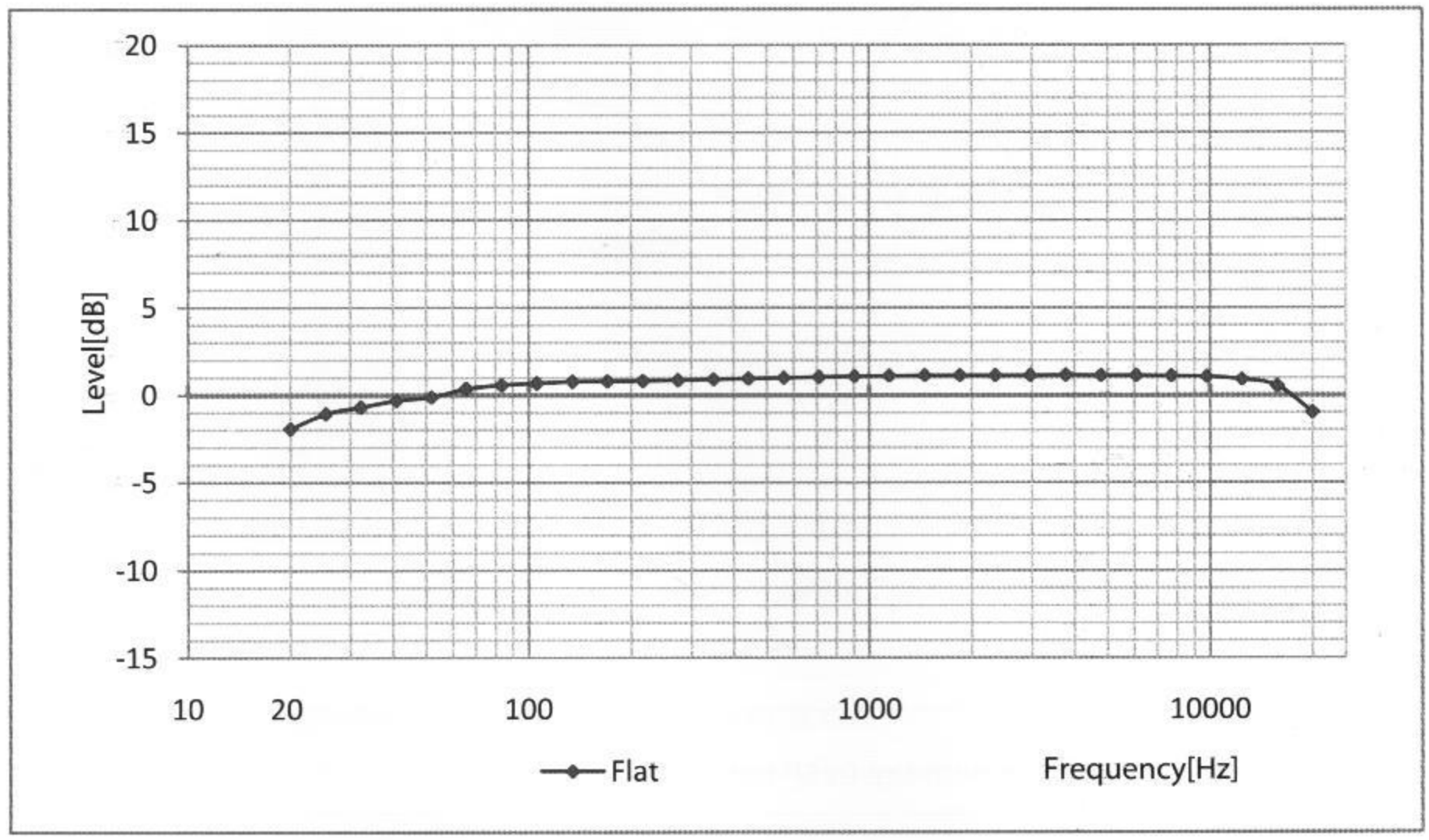


MiBass 220 and 550
Speaker Outputs (pictured above).

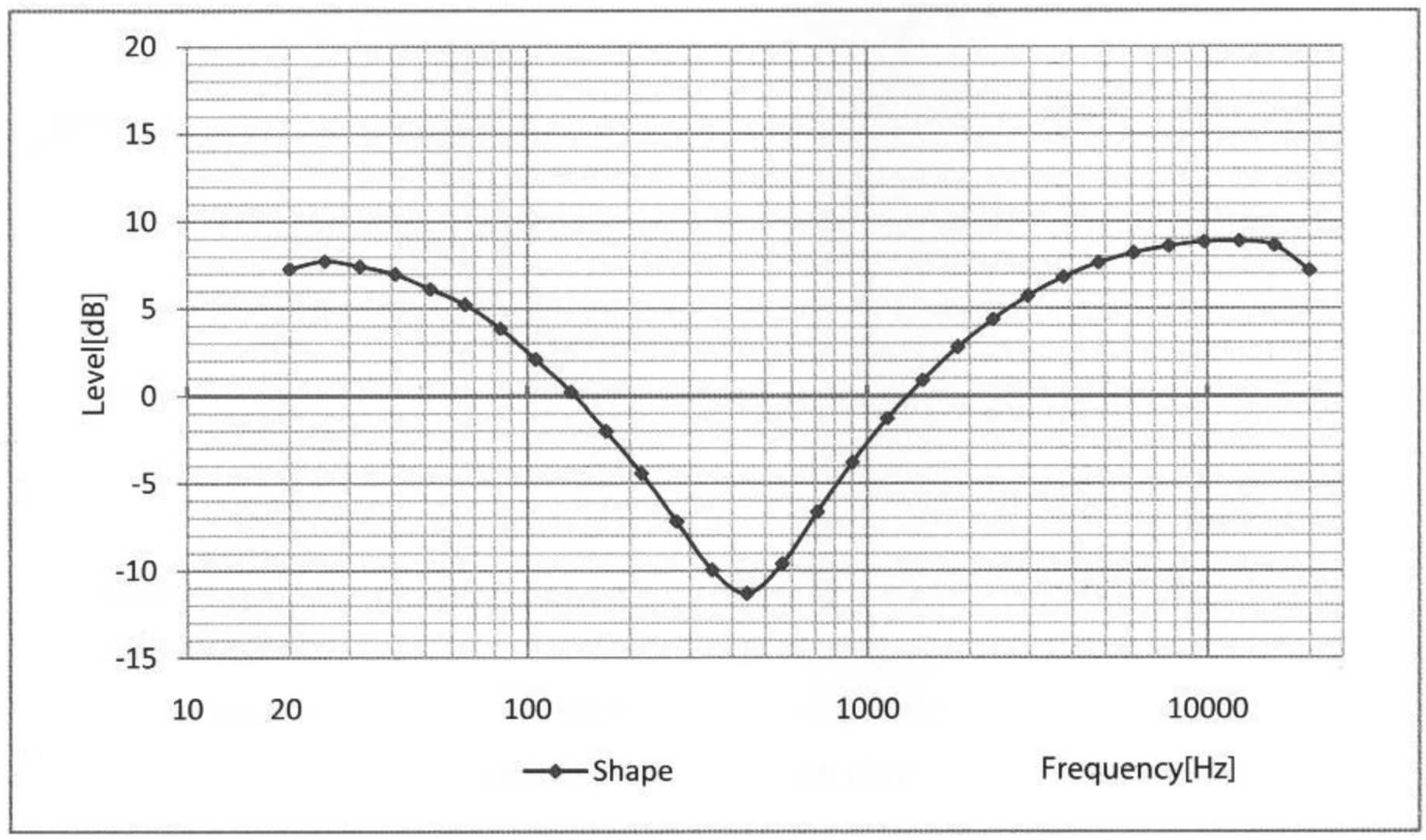
Frequency Response Diagrams

MiBASS Frequency Response Characteristics

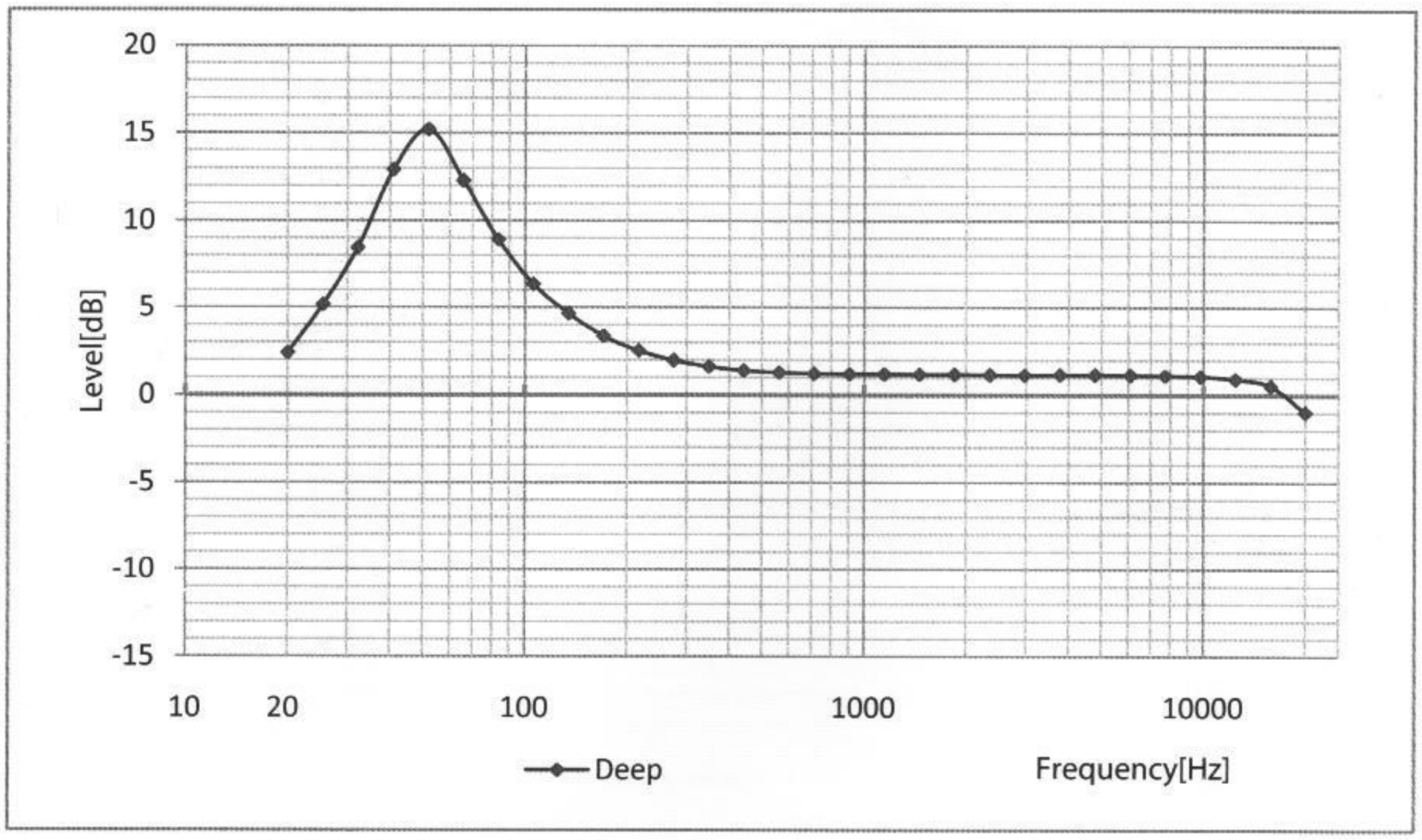
Below are the graphs showing the frequency response characteristics of the MiBASS. Each graph is clearly marked as to the characteristic that is shown and all have been plotted with a frequency sweep between 20Hz and 20kHz. The Flat characteristic is well within +/-3dB for this range.



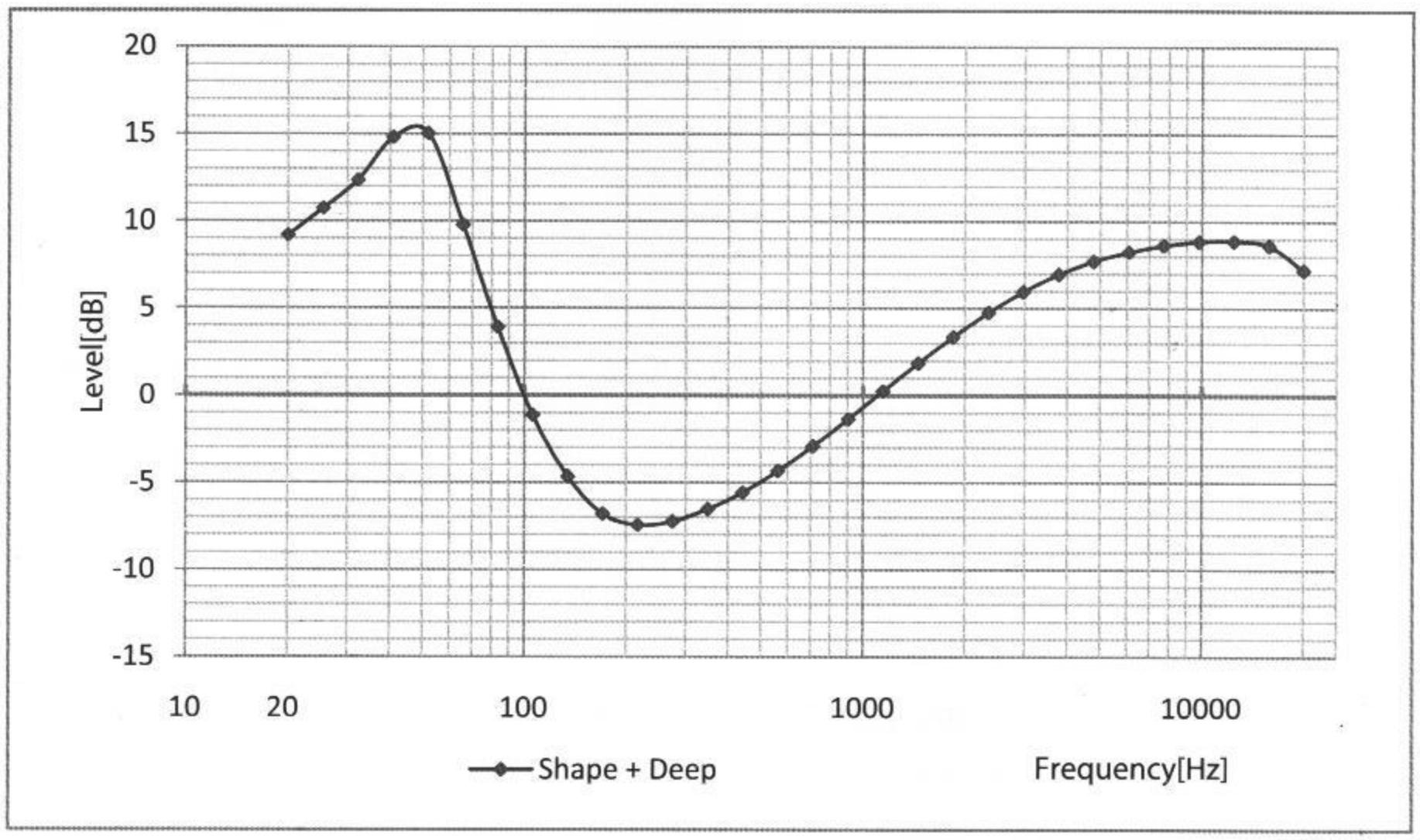
The Flat characteristic above is well within +/-3dB for the range 20Hz and 20kHz.



The frequency response with the SHAPE button IN.

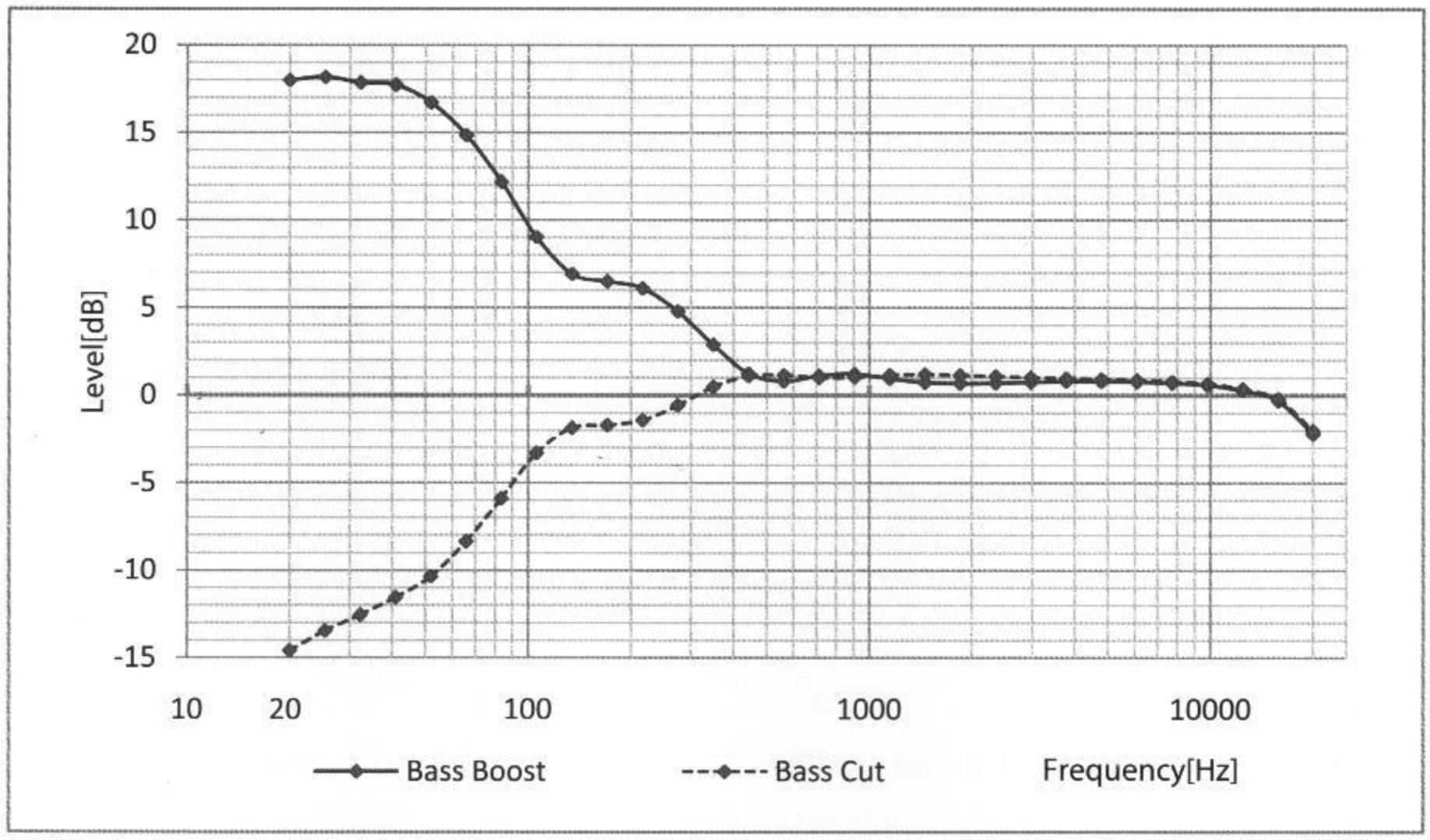


The frequency response with the DEEP button IN.

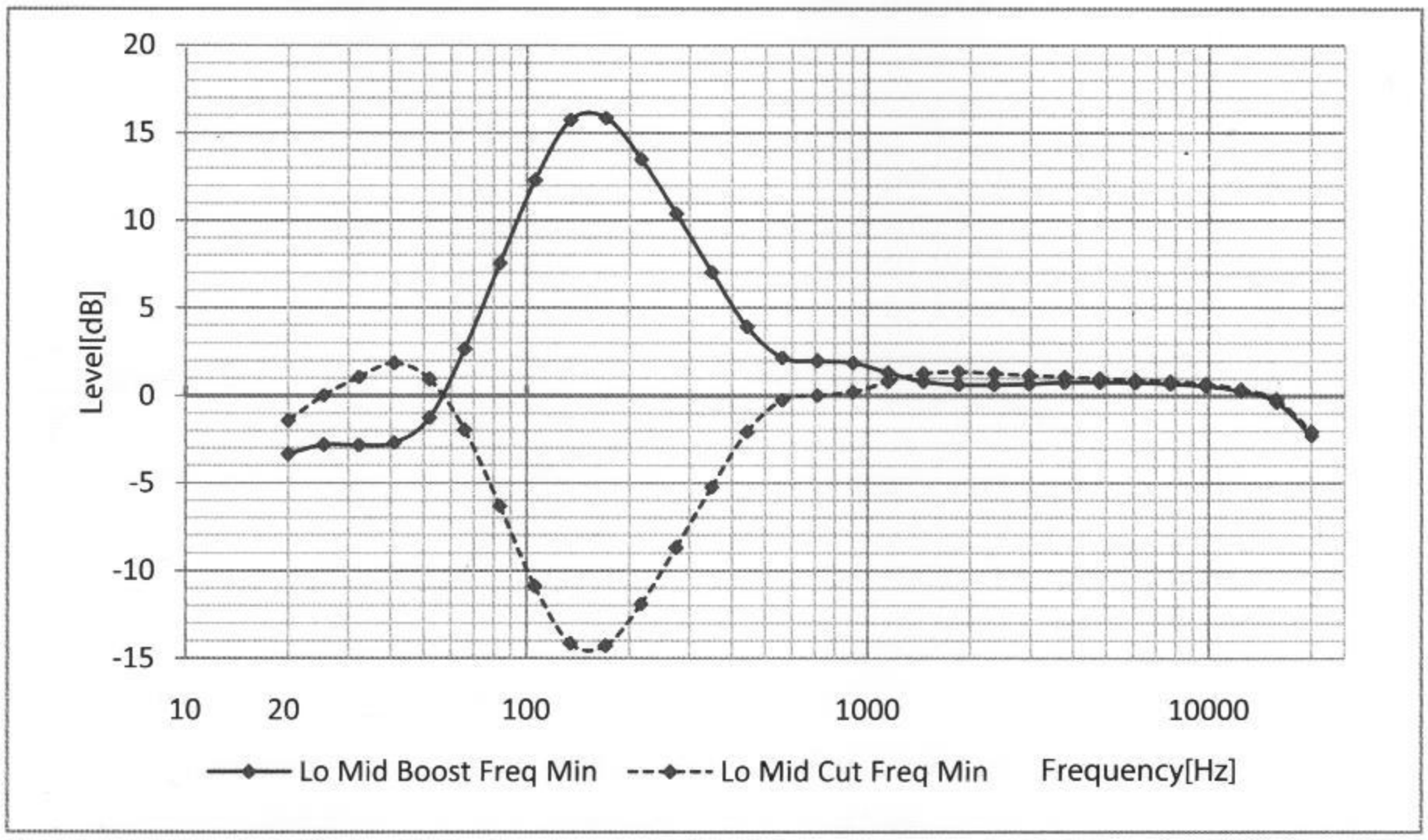


The frequency response with both the SHAPE & DEEP buttons IN.

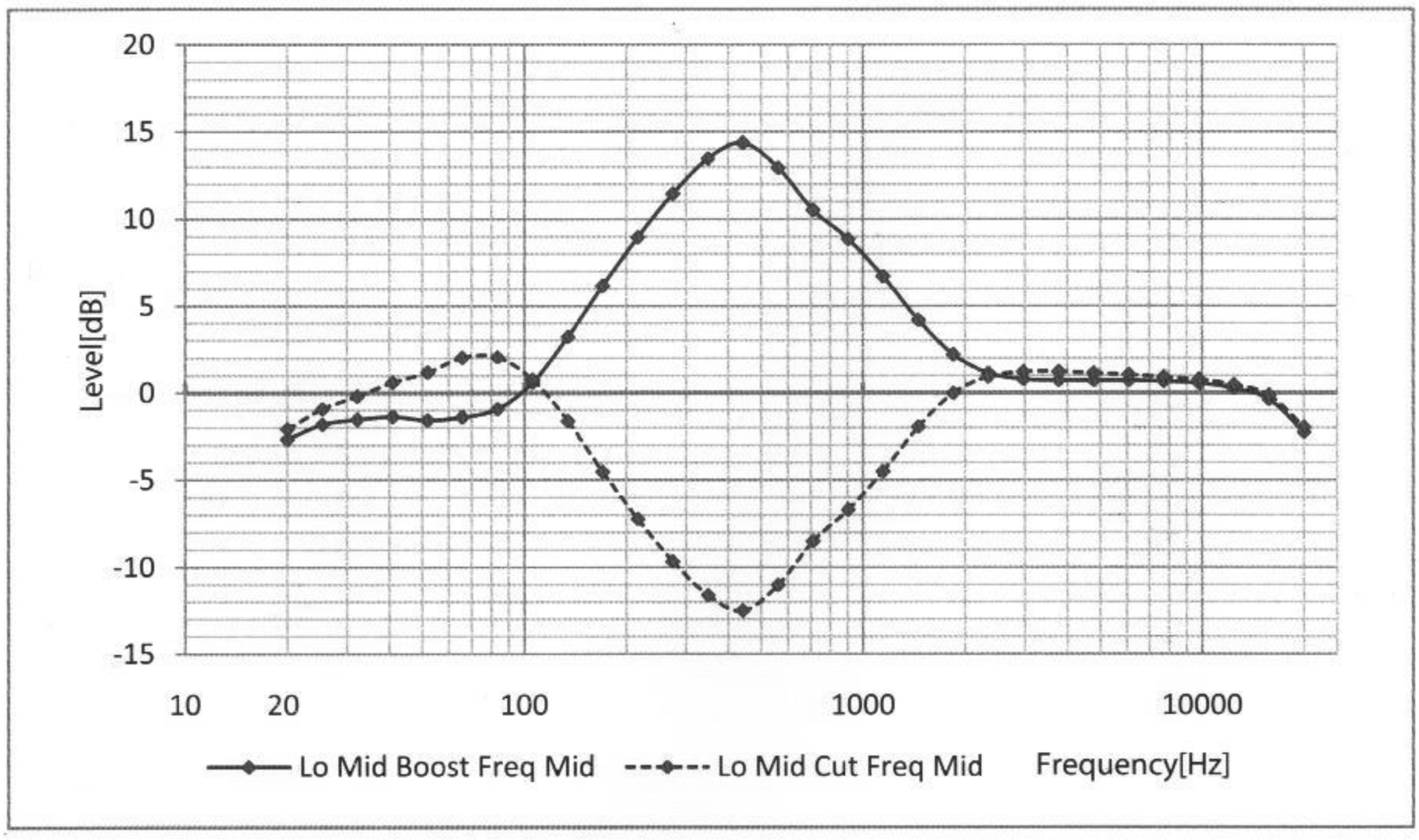
Frequency Response Diagrams



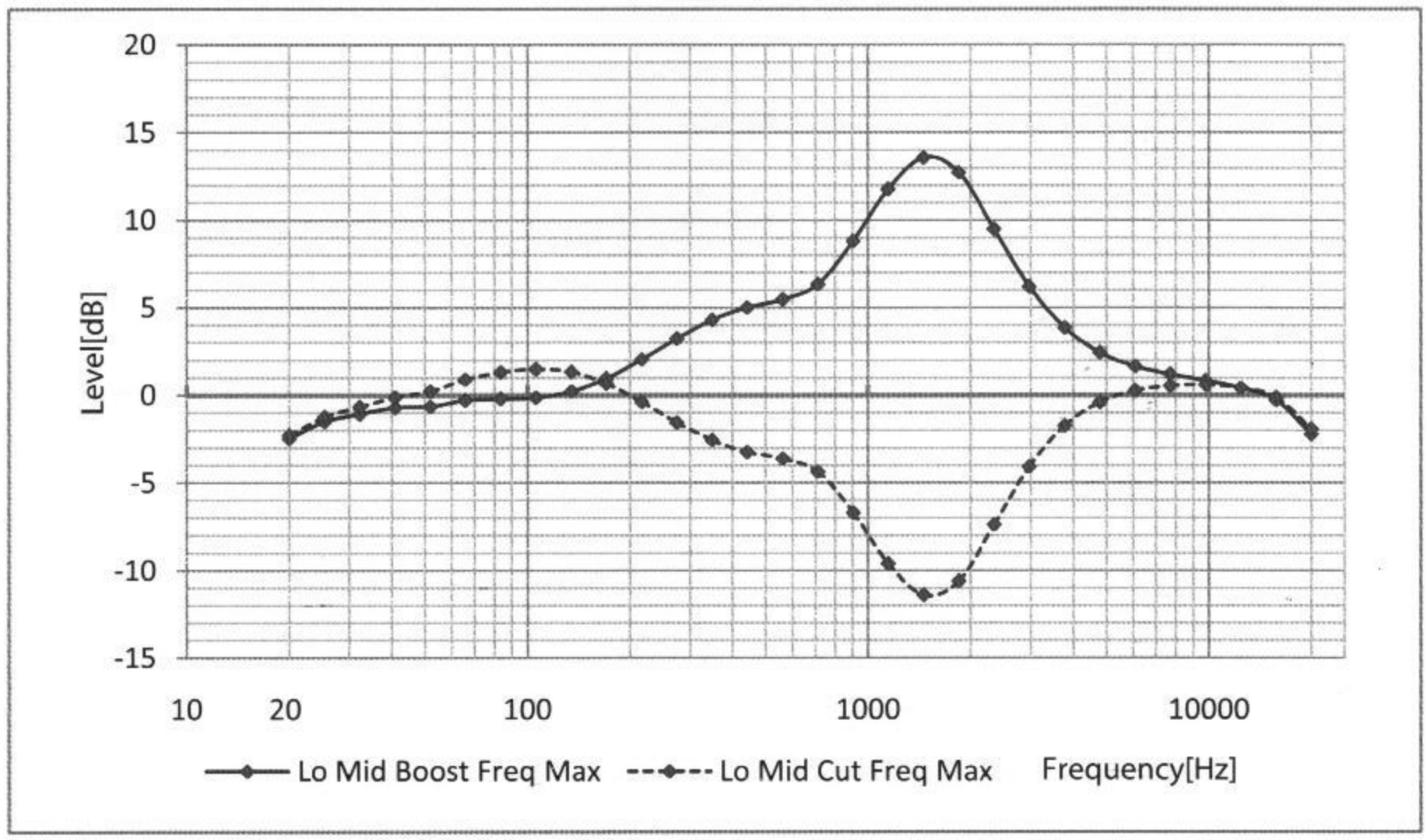
Showing frequency response for the Bass Slider - Boost & Cut.



Frequency response for Lo Mid Slider with Freq Hz control on minimum - Boost & Cut.

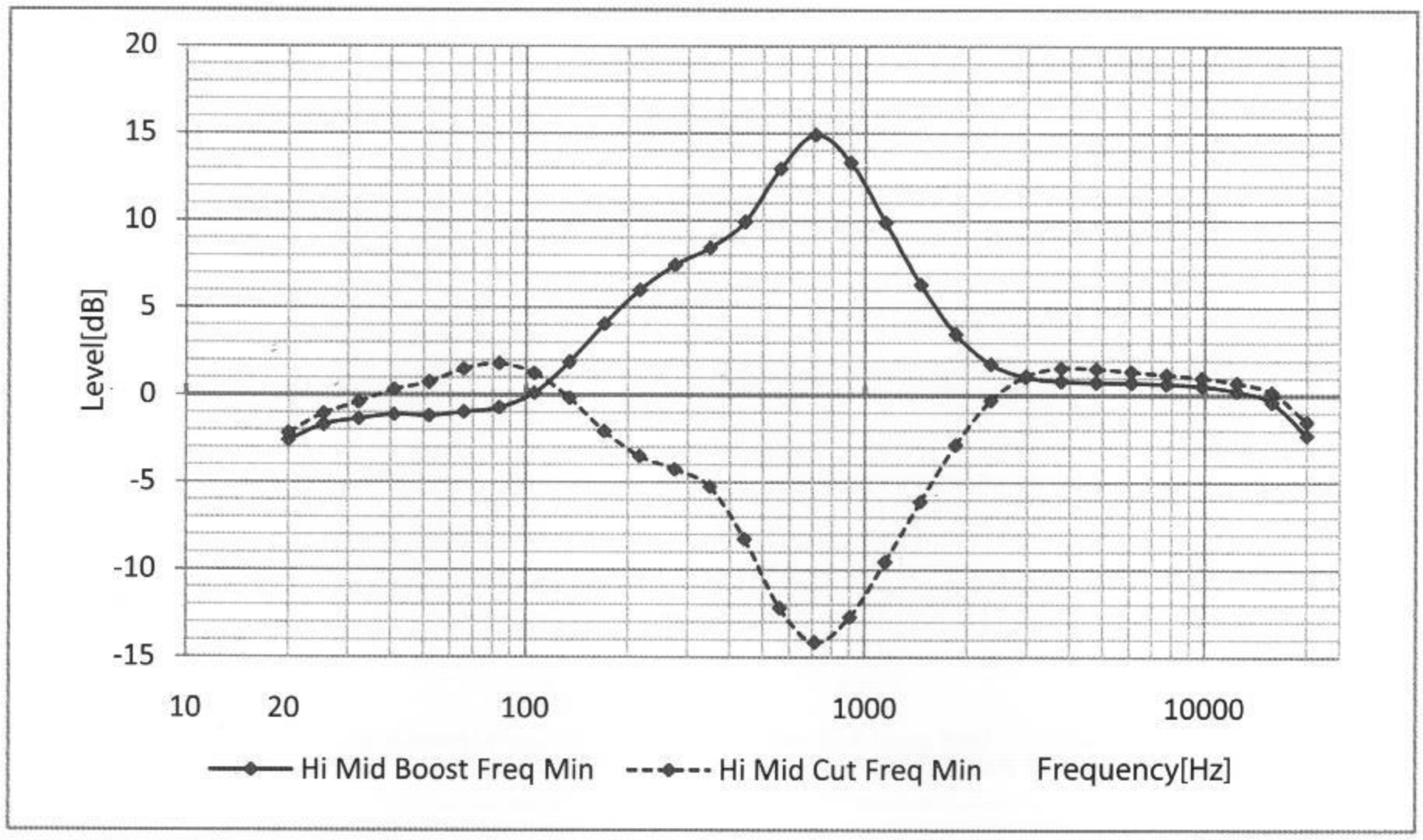


Response for Lo Mid Slider with Freq Hz control set at mid frequency - Boost & Cut.

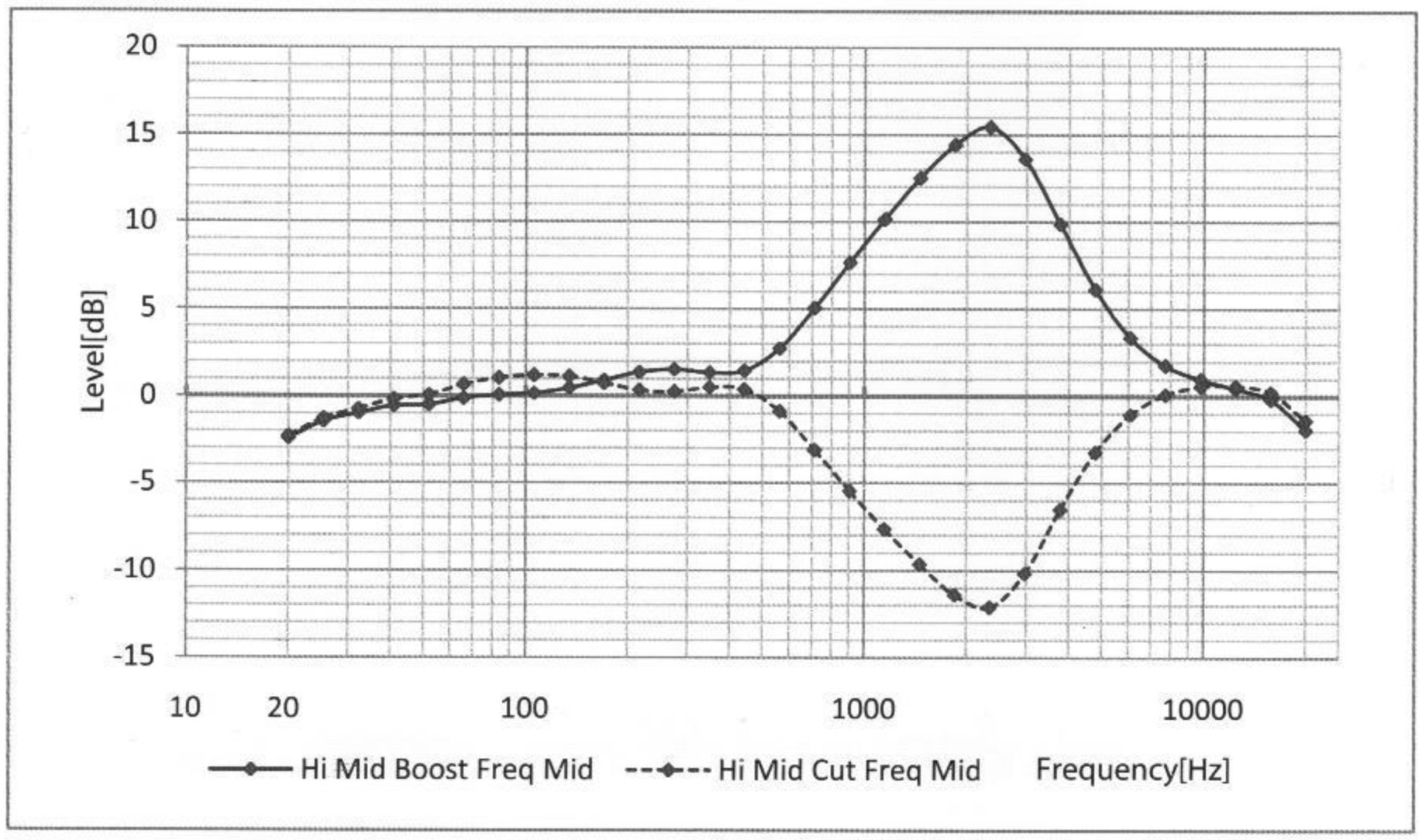


Response for Lo Mid Slider with Freq Hz control set at maximum - Boost & Cut.

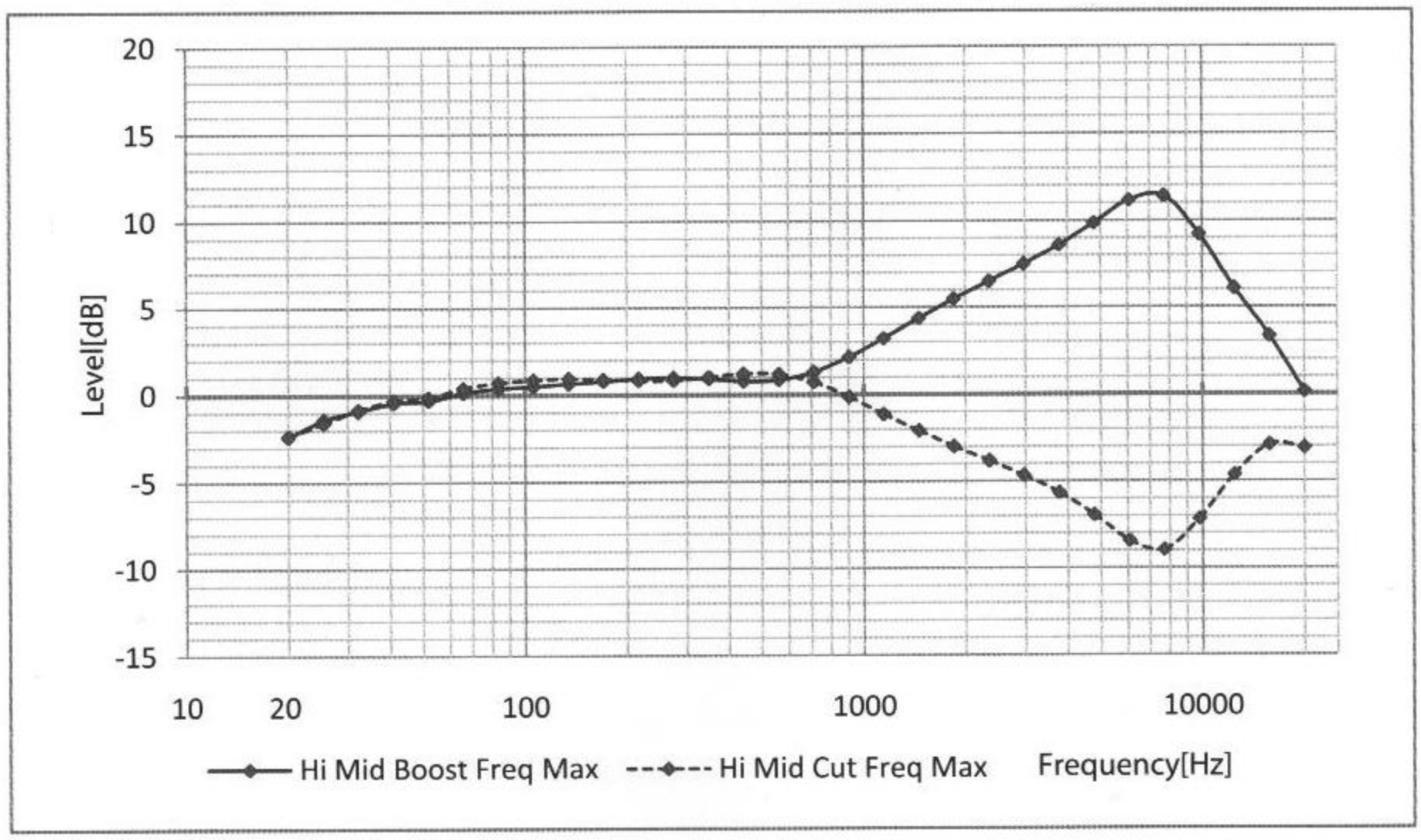
Frequency Response Diagrams



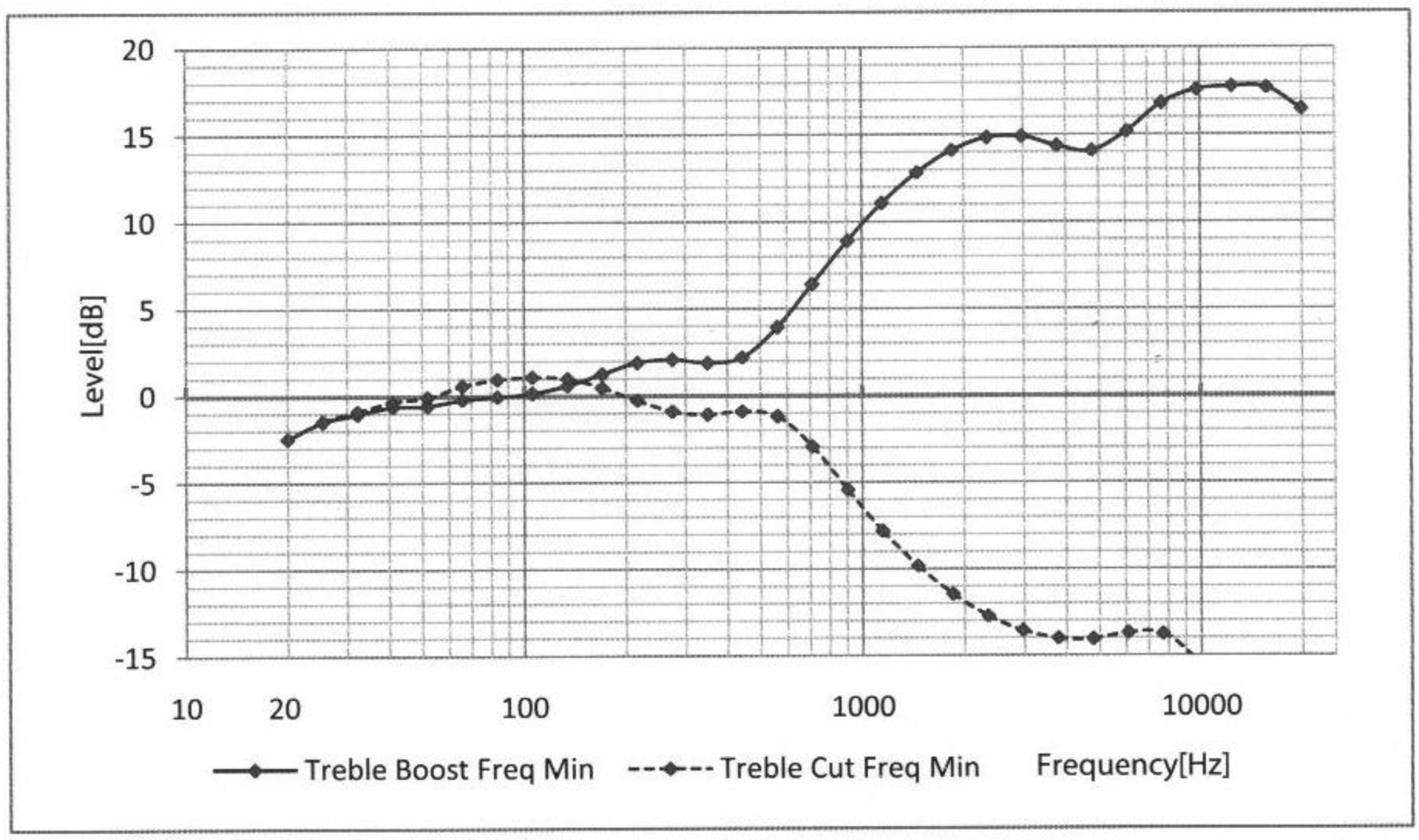
Response for Hi Mid Slider with Freq Hz control set at minimum - Boost & Cut.



Response for Hi Mid Slider with Freq Hz control set at mid frequency - Boost & Cut.

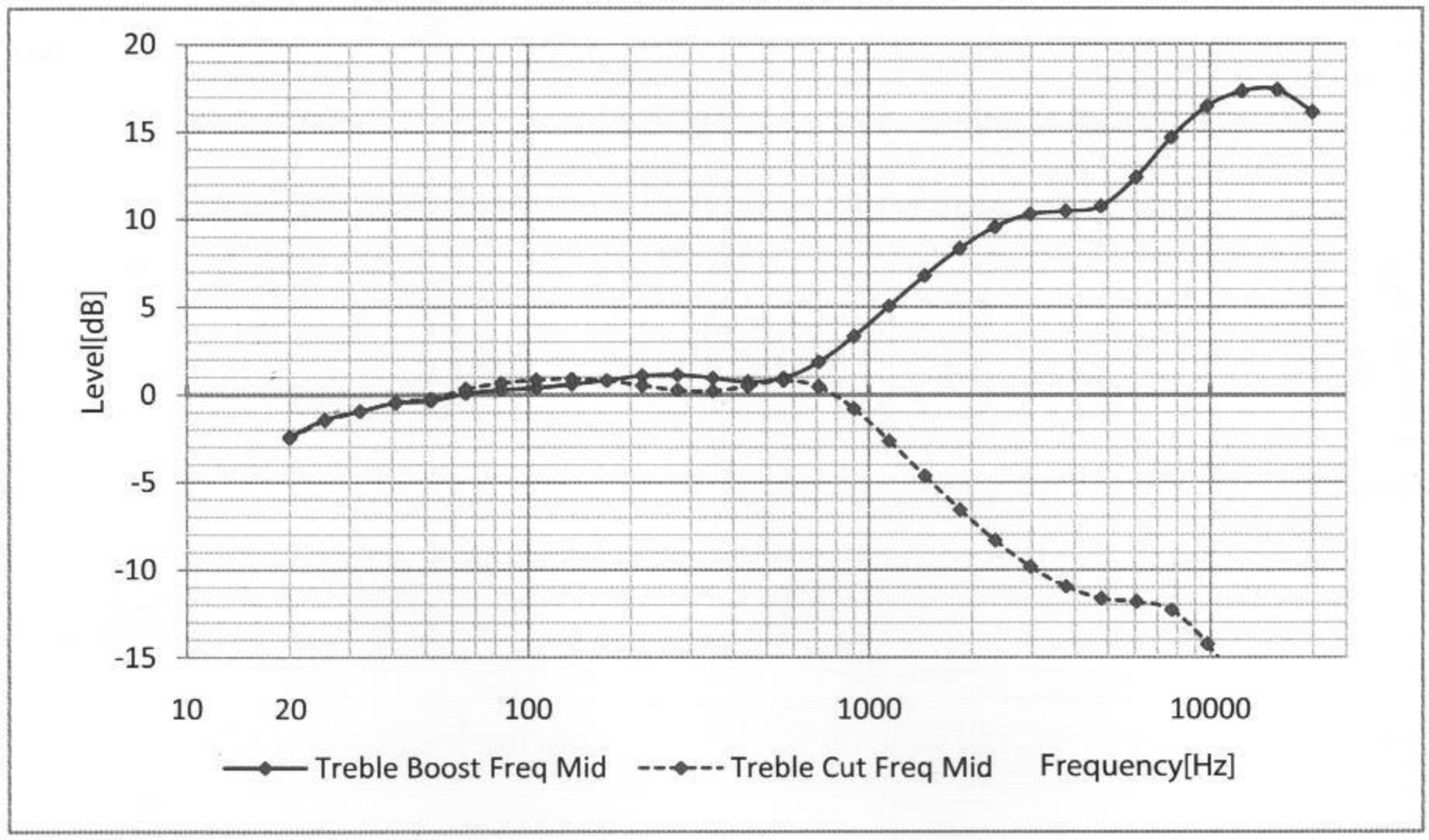


Response for Hi Mid Slider with Freq Hz control set at maximum - Boost & Cut.

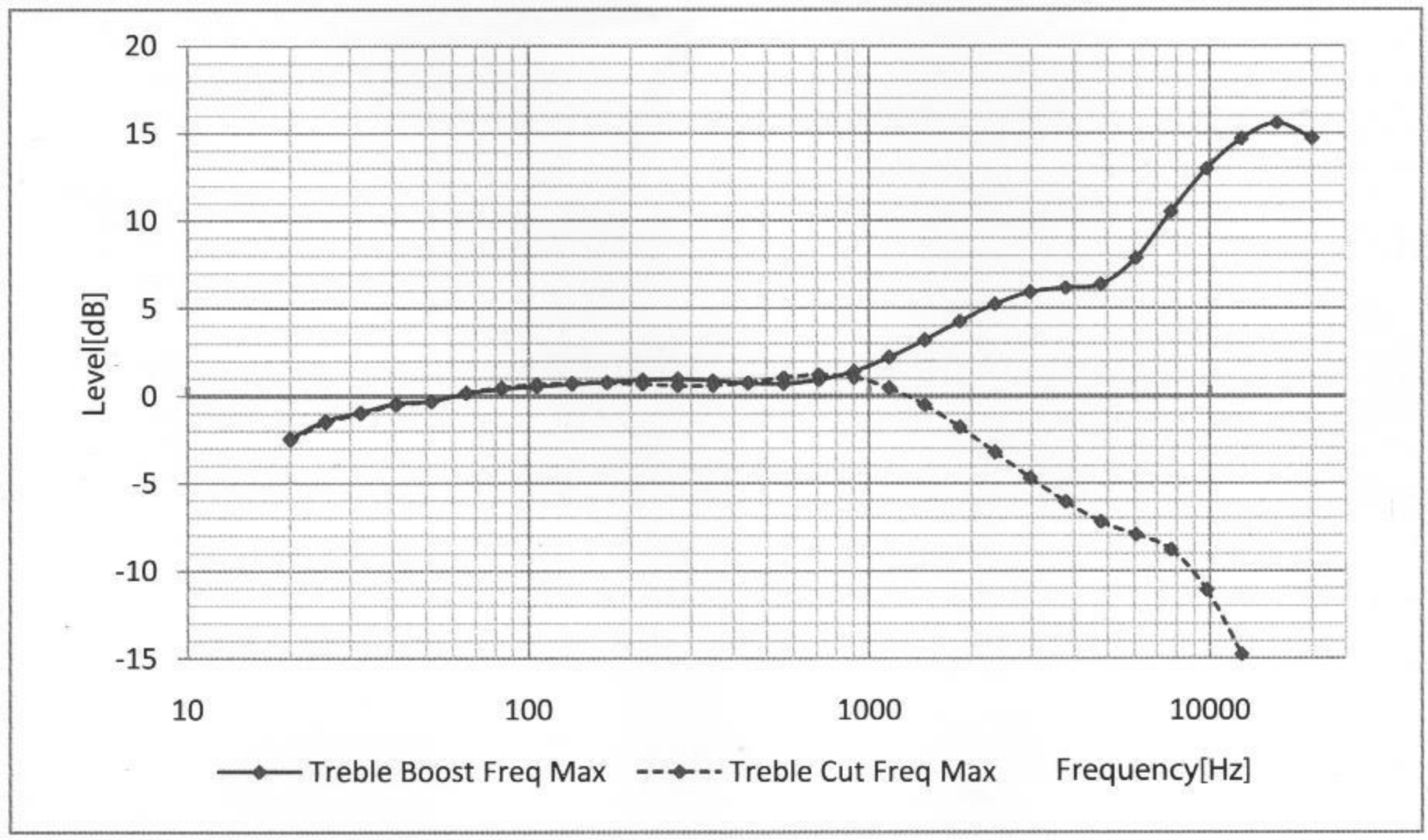


Response for Treble Slider with Freq Hz control set at minimum - Boost & Cut.

Frequency Response Diagrams

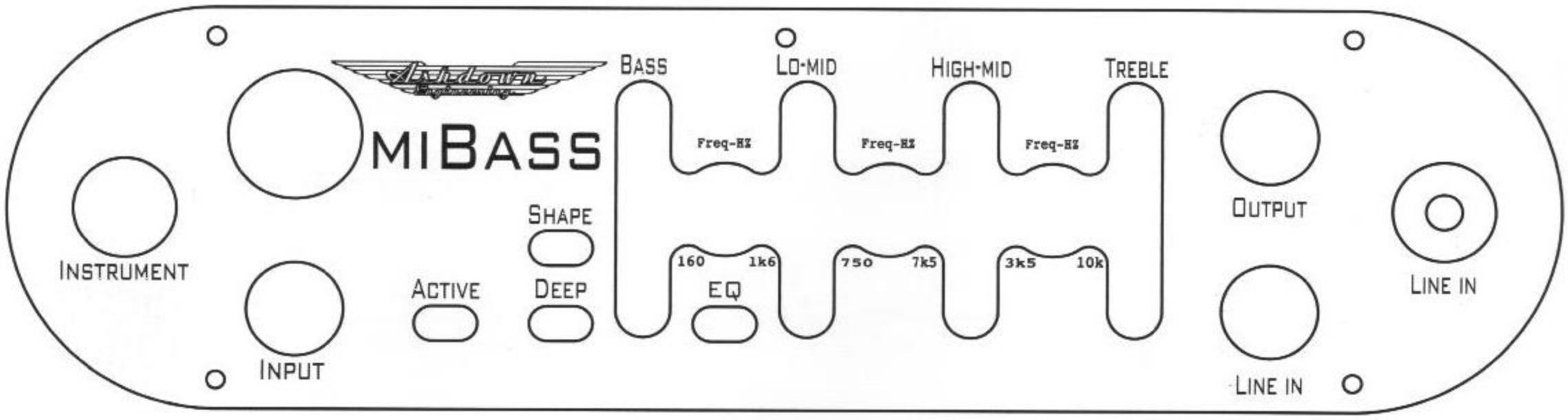


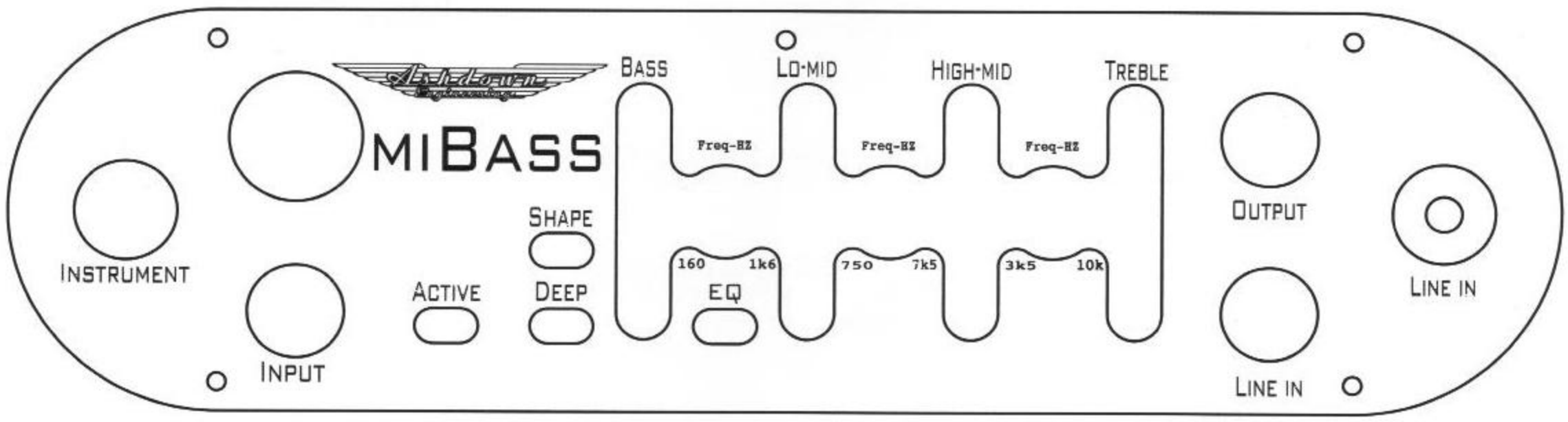
Response for Treble Slider with Freq Hz control set at mid frequency - Boost & Cut.



Response for Treble Slider with Freq Hz control set at maximum - Boost & Cut.

Personal Settings:





Notes:

Thank you for purchasing your Ashdown Engineering Amplifier. If you live in the UK, please register your purchase by completing this form and return it to the following address:

Ashdown Engineering, The Stables, Stevens Farm, Chignal St James, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 4TX, England
(Alternatively you can register online at http://www.ashdownmusic.com)

If you live outside the UK, the local Ashdown distributor may have included a specific registration form for your country.

Your Ashdown Engineering product details:

Model .....
Colour .....
Voltage .....
Tested by .....
Serial number .....
Date .....

1 YEAR WARRANTY

Your Ashdown Engineering amplifier has been manufactured to the highest standards, using the best-selected materials. To ensure its optimum performance, please ensure your amplifier is regularly serviced. This product carries a one year warranty, against defects in materials and workmanship, for the original purchaser. Ashdown Engineering will, at their discretion, replace or repair any product or part thereof, which is found by Ashdown Engineering to be defective. This warranty shall not apply to the damage of covering, fittings or finishes when affected by carelessness, accident or extreme climate changes. Nor does it apply to normal wear and tear of parts such as valves, fuses, light bulbs, speakers, controls etc.

Please complete the lower section of this warranty and return it within 10 days of purchase to Ashdown Engineering Ltd. at the above address. In the unlikely event of any defect, please contact an authorised Ashdown Engineering dealer. All transport charges are to be pre-paid by the Owner. Unless the registration card is returned normal country warranty laws apply.

IMPORTANT - REGISTRATION CARD

Please complete and return this warranty within 10 days of purchase. Include any comments if possible.

Name .....
Address .....
.....
.....
.....
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Email .....
Age .....

Purchased from .....
Date .....
Model .....
Serial Number .....

Comments .....
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Important Safety Instructions

BASIC PRECAUTIONS

WARNING - When using electrical products, basic precautions should be followed, including the following:

1. Read all the instructions before using the product.

2. Do not use this product near water – for example, near a bathtub, washbowl, kitchen sink, in a wet basement or near a swimming pool.

3. This product may cause permanent hearing loss. Do not operate for long periods of time at a high volume level or at any level that is uncomfortable. If you experience any hearing loss or ringing in the ears, you should consult an audiologist.

4. Make sure nothing interferes with the ventilation of the product when in use.

5. The product should be located away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, or other products that produce heat.

6. The product should be connected to a power supply of the type described in the operating instructions or as marked on the product.

7. The power supply cord of the product should be unplugged from the outlet when left unused for a long period of time.

8. Care should be taken so that objects do not fall and liquids are not spilled into the enclosure through openings.

9. The product should be serviced by qualified personnel when:

   a. The power supply cord or the plug has been damaged; or
   b. Objects have fallen, or liquid has been spilled into the product: or
   c. The product has been exposed to rain or moisture: or
   d. The product does not appear to operate normally or exhibits marked change in performance: or
   e. The product has been dropped, or the enclosure damaged.

10. Do not attempt to service the product. All servicing should be referred to qualified service personnel.

11. For continued protection against the risk of fire, replace fuses only with those of the same type and rating as indicated on the back of the product.

WARNINGS USED ON THE EQUIPMENT

WARNING **TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRICAL SHOCK DO NOT EXPOSE THIS EQUIPMENT TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.**

WARNING - ATTENTION

THIS APPARATUS MUST BE EARTHED FOR CONTINUED PROTECTION AGAINST RISK OF FIRE. REPLACE ONLY WITH SAME TYPE AND RATING OF FUSE. UTILISER UN FUSIBLE DE RECHANGE DE MEME TYPE ET CALIBRE.

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

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 this product.

GROUNDING INSTRUCTIONS

This product must be grounded (earthed). If it should malfunction or break down, grounding provides a path of least resistance for electric current to reduce the risk of electric shock. This product is equipped with a supply cord having an equipment grounding conductor and a grounding plug. The plug must be plugged into an appropriate outlet that is properly installed and grounded in accordance with the local codes and ordinances.

DANGER - Improper connection of the equipment grounding conductor can result in a risk of electric shock. Check with a qualified electrician or serviceman if you are in doubt as to whether the product is properly grounded. Do not modify the plug provided with the product – if it will not fit the outlet, have a suitable outlet fitted.

The wires in this mains cord are coloured in accordance with the following code:

Green & Yellow - Earth
Blue - Neutral
Brown - Live

CE MARK FOR EUROPEAN HARMONISED STANDARDS

CE

The CE mark which is attached to these products means it conforms to EMC Directive (89/69/EEC), CE mark Directive (93/68/EEC) and Low Voltage Directive (72/23/EEC).