

RESTREPO STANDARD

Pre-Wall. Cure. Cone.

Invisible Speakers

Mapped to the Restrepo Standard.

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WHY THIS EXISTS

Invisible speakers succeed or fail at framing, at finish, and at cure. They succeed when the Trufig VX or VXQ pre-wall platform is fastened to studs, the backbox volume and damping match the manufacturer handbook, and the cable pull leaves a 12 in. service loop at every speaker. They succeed when the skim coat laps to the manufacturer's reference line and never over the diaphragm. They succeed when 14 days of paint cure elapses before any grille install or listening. They fail when any of those decisions slides downstream into trim-out. This reference codifies the upstream discipline in the language we use on site so the audio designer, drywall finisher, plasterer, painter, and AV integrator are working from the same dimensions and the same tolerances.

This document supplements manufacturer instructions — it does not replace them. For listed assemblies (Trufig VX/VXQ platforms, Sonance Invisible Series, Stealth Acoustics LR and B30g, Amina Edge i and ALF80), the manufacturer's installation guides govern.

Code is the floor.

Standard is the ceiling.

01 PRE-WALL · TRUFIG VX/VXQ AT FRAMING**CODE INTENT (PARAPHRASED)**

Invisible speakers are a framing-stage decision. The Trufig VX or VXQ gypsum platform is fastened to studs at the manufacturer-specified cavity depth, with backbox volume and damping per the speaker handbook. The stud crown does not drive the platform face — the finish plane does. If pre-wall did not get installed at framing, the speaker location is struck from the audio plan. There is no retrofit invisible speaker.

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- Trufig VX (Sonance) or VXQ (James/larger) gypsum platform fastened to studs at framing — never to drywall alone.
- Cavity depth verified at framing: Stealth B30g 2.5 in. minimum; Sonance and Amina per the speaker handbook.
- Backbox per spec on every Sonance and Amina (BackboxCV300 / CV345) install. Stealth where required.
- Mineral wool damping placed per the Amina handbook — never resting against any vibrating panel or driver cone.
- Cable pull complete before close-in: 14–16 AWG on satellites, 12 AWG on subwoofers, 12 in. service loop at every location.
- Photo log every platform, backbox, and damping layout before drywall. Required for the as-built and warranty.

FIELD CHECK · PRE-WALL

Span two adjacent speaker platforms with a 4 ft straightedge before rock. If the straightedge rocks on either, shim or re-fasten now — a misaligned platform telegraphs through skim coat for the life of the wall.

02 SKIM COAT · LAP LINE & CONE DISCIPLINE**CODE INTENT (PARAPHRASED)**

The skim coat is part of the acoustic system. Sonance Invisible grilles ship pre-mudded — the field skim laps to the perimeter tape only. Stealth panels receive the same wall finish as the surrounding drywall, with no fastener inside the panel footprint. Amina Edge i specifies scrim, three filler coats, and three emulsion coats. Lap to the manufacturer reference line; never over the diaphragm or the radiating area.

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- Sonance: skim coat lapped to the perimeter tape line on the pre-mudded grille. Three coats minimum.
- Stealth: drywall and skim continue across the panel face per Stealth published procedure. No fastener within panel footprint.
- Amina: professional plasterboard joint scrim tape, three coats of fine-surface filler sanded between, three coats of emulsion paint.
- Speaker face mute-tested before paint. Any paint, compound, or fuzz on the diaphragm is a defect to replace, not clean.
- Stealth approved finish layers: latex paint, flat finish, orange peel texture, light plaster, light wallpaper, light fabric, wood veneer.
- Lap line verified under raking light after final coat, before paint. Any compound past the reference line is pulled and re-skimmed.

FIELD CHECK · SKIM COAT

Walk every speaker location with a raking flashlight after final skim, before primer. If you can see the platform footprint as a square in the wall, the skim has not been feathered far enough — widen the feather before paint.

03 PAINT CURE · 14-DAY WINDOW**CODE INTENT (PARAPHRASED)**

Paint cure governs the schedule on every invisible-speaker install. Solvents in fresh paint outgas through Sonance grille perforations and discolor driver cones. Stealth panels behind drywall finish absorb solvent into the diaphragm assembly. Amina Edge i loudspeakers cannot be retrofitted into wet plaster. Fourteen days is the minimum cure window before grille install, before listening, before commissioning. Longer in cold or humid weather. No exceptions for schedule pressure.

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- Paint cure: 14 days minimum after final paint coat before grille install or listening tests.
- Cold or humid conditions: extend cure window to 21 days minimum, confirmed by surface tack test.
- Sonance grilles installed only after cure window has elapsed. Pre-cure install voids Sonance warranty in spirit, if not in letter.
- Stealth panels: drywall and finish coats follow Stealth published timing. No listening tests until paint is hard-cured.
- Amina Edge i: three emulsion coats applied per handbook, then full cure window before APUi connection and listening.
- Burn-in 24 h at moderate output after cure window has elapsed, before any commissioning measurement.

FIELD CHECK · PAINT CURE

Press a fingertip firmly to the painted wall adjacent to a speaker location at day 14. If the paint feels tacky or shows a fingerprint, extend the cure another week. Tack-free is the minimum threshold — not the calendar.

04 BASS MANAGEMENT · SUBWOOFER INTEGRATION**CODE INTENT (PARAPHRASED)**

Invisible-speaker satellites — Sonance IS, Stealth LR, Amina Edge i — deliver the room without the box, but the bass needs help. Subwoofer integration is where most invisible installs go acoustically wrong: crossovers improvised, levels untracked, time alignment skipped. The Restrepo standard documents crossover, level, and time-align per zone in the audio processor database — measured at the listening position, never assumed.

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- Sonance VPSUB / Cinema sub: pre-wall enclosure on every spec, matched amplifier per Sonance, 12 AWG minimum on power and signal.
- Stealth B30g: two-panel monaural sub, 200W RMS per pair, 50 Hz crossover at 18 dB/oct low-pass per Stealth recommendation.
- Amina ALF80: low-frequency panel installed per ALF80 manual; pair to Edge i satellites per the Amina selection guide.
- Crossover frequency typical: 80 Hz on Sonance Invisible satellites; per-system on Stealth LR and Amina Edge i.
- Time-align subs to satellites at the listening position — measured with REW or processor diagnostic, documented per zone.
- Subwoofer level documented per scene in the Lutron, Crestron, or audio processor database. Owner does not tune by ear at closeout.

FIELD CHECK · BASS MANAGEMENT

Run a 60 Hz sine sweep at the listening position with the sub in the system. If you hear discrete bass localization — the sub announces itself as a separate source — lower the crossover or rotate the sub placement before commissioning continues.

05 CROSS-TRADE WALKTHROUGH & SPARES**CODE INTENT (PARAPHRASED)**

Invisible speakers cross every finish trade in the house. The discipline is the walkthrough — framers, drywallers, plasterers, painters, and AV all read the same plan before the wall closes. Substitutions require written direction, never verbal. Spares delivered at closeout cover the first move-in year, when grilles are most likely to be damaged. Five percent of every type used is the floor, not the goal.

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- Cross-trade walkthrough at framing: AV lead, drywall lead, and audio designer review every speaker location together before rock.
- Cross-trade walkthrough at skim: lap line and damping verified before the first wet coat goes on.
- Cross-trade walkthrough at paint: cure window committed in writing on the closeout schedule.
- Cross-trade walkthrough at finish: every grille walked under raking light, listened to from the design seat, before owner walk-through.
- Substitutions require written direction from the audio designer or owner's rep — never verbal. The Restrepo baseline is Sonance + Stealth + Amina.
- Spare grilles, scrim tape, and Amina APUi modules delivered to the homeowner: minimum 5% of each type used, packaged and labeled by room.

FIELD CHECK · CROSS-TRADE WALKTHROUGH & SPARES

At framing walkthrough, count the speaker platforms against the audio plan. A missing platform at framing is a missing speaker at trim-out — there is no retrofit path on any approved invisible-speaker product.

06 APPLIES-TO MATRIX

SITUATION	CODE	RESTREPO ACTION
Sonance Invisible IS6/8/10 pre-wall	§01	Trufig VX gypsum platform at framing. Backbox per Sonance install manual.
Stealth LR224/116/8G pre-wall	§01	Trufig VXQ gypsum platform. 2.5 in. minimum cavity depth on B30g.
Amina Edge 3i/5i/7i pre-wall	§01	BackboxCV300 or CV345 per model. APUi protection module on every zone.
Sonance grille skim coat	§02	Lap to perimeter tape only. Three coats minimum. No skim over diaphragm.
Stealth panel finish	§02	Drywall and skim continue across panel face per Stealth procedure.
Amina Edge i finish	§02	Scrim tape, three filler coats, three emulsion coats per Amina handbook.
Grille install or listening test	§03	≥ 14 days after final paint cure. Tack-free fingertip test confirms readiness.
Subwoofer crossover & level	§04	Documented per zone in audio processor database. Measured, not assumed.

07 QC GATE · MATCHES THE REFERENCE CARD

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| ☐ Trufig VX/VXQ platforms set at framing | ☐ Paint cure ≥ 14 days before grille install |
| ☐ Cavity depth & damping per handbook | ☐ Burn-in 24 h before commissioning |
| ☐ Cable pull complete · 12 in. service loop | ☐ Crossover & level documented per zone |
| ☐ Skim lapped to manufacturer reference | ☐ Spare grilles & APUi delivered (≥ 5%) |

08 CITATIONS & FURTHER READING**Trufig — VX / VXQ Speaker Grille Platform**

Gypsum mounting platform manual for Sonance VX and James VXQ trimless grilles.

<https://www.trufig.com>

Sonance — Invisible Series Data Sheet (071138)

IS6 / IS8 / IS10 — frequency response, impedance, dispersion, mounting depth.

<https://www.sonance.com>

Sonance — Invisible Series Install Manual

Pre-construction framing through final finishing for fully invisible result.

<https://www.sonance.com>

Sonance — Visual Performance VPSUB Data Sheet

VP10SUB NC / VP12SUB NC in-wall subwoofer with matched Class D amplifier.

https://sonance.ru/site-content/uploads/2014/09/VP_SUBS_NC_Data_Sheet.pdf

Stealth Acoustics — LR224 Specification

8" 2-way invisible loudspeaker — paintable, plaster, wallpaper, wood veneer finishes.

<https://www.stealthacoustics.com>

Stealth Acoustics — B30g Subwoofer Spec

Two-panel monaural sub, 200W RMS per pair, 20–160 Hz, 2.5" minimum cavity, 17-yr warranty.

<https://www.stealthacoustics.com/productspecifications/Specification-Sheet-B30G.pdf>

Amina — Speaker Handbook v4.5

Master install guide — backbox, scrim, three-coat finishing sequence, APUi protection.

<https://www.aminasound.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Speaker-handbook-V4.5.pdf>

Amina — Edge 5i Datasheet

4Ω, 50W/100W, 90 dB sensitivity, 55 Hz–25 kHz, BackboxCV345 mount.

https://aminasound.com/technical_assets/datasheets/Edge5i_Datasheet.pdf

Amina — ALF80 Low-Frequency Panel Install

Invisible low-frequency panel for Edge integration — full install procedure.

https://canohm.com.au/images/product-ranges/Amina/PDF/2021/ALF80_InstallGuide.pdf

Amina — Speaker Selection Guide

Mobius vs Edge series — performance levels, room sizing, sub pairing matrix.

https://www.aminasound.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Speaker_Selection_Guide.pdf