Graphic equalisers are found in just about every sound application, from room contouring to feedback control and general audio sweetening.

Traditionally, much general eq'ing takes place on the faders alone, but this restricts the use of the faders at each end of the scale for further precision eq work. So we provided the Opal FCS-966 with separate LF and HF contour filters which can change an overall sound balance without disturbing a detailed room or loudspeaker response.

These filters are very musical gentle boost and cut shelving filters which can be used to add (or remove) room effects that change with temperature, audience numbers or humidity.

All these effects can be easily made without disturbing the critical fader settings already made.

**Constant Q filters**
The modern generation of graphic eq’s uses the Constant Q topology, pioneered by BSS Audio, which means that the filter width is constant whatever the fader gain setting.

Compared to the earlier ‘gyrator’ style of filters, Constant Q filters provide a smoother and more predictable interaction between adjacent faders and the resulting eq curve more closely resembles the actual fader positions.

**More gain control per filter**
Each eq fader has +/-15dB of adjustable gain, more than many competitive graphic eq’s. The faders are long-throw 45mm types for precision control.

**High pass filter**
Also provided on the FCS-966 is a sweepable high-pass filter which can be used very effectively to restrict the low-energy output for better amplifier and loudspeaker performance. Stage monitors also benefit from the application of a high-pass filter to remove bass signals from vocal-only wedges, for example.

**Metering**
BSS Audio believes in providing engineers with information, and the FCS-966’s 8-segment led meter shows output level and warns of signal clipping within the eq. When the unit is switched to bypass, the meter will read the input level, allowing accurate matching of the ‘dry’ and equalised signals using the gain control.

**Centre bypass**
When any eq fader is in its centre detent position, the filter is automatically bypassed, for optimum performance.

**Input/outputs**
All the inputs and outputs of the FCS-966 are electronically balanced, with optional transformer balancing. To make installation of the FCS-966 easier, we’ve provided three different interface connectors: XLR-type, 1/4" TRS jack and Phoenix/Combicon screw terminals.

**Relay bypass**
The EQ IN buttons switch the EQ path into circuit. When switched out, or power fails, a high-quality relay switches the input signal directly to the output connectors.

---

**BSS Audio**

Preliminary Information June 1998
FCS 966
Constant Q Graphic Equaliser

Control Descriptions

Faders
30 EQ filter faders on ISO centres, each with nominal +/-15dB of gain. Positive centre-detent on 45mm long-throw precision faders.

HP Filter
Sweepable high pass filter, frequency adjustable from OUT (flat) up to 250Hz.

LF Contour
Smooth shelving filter, +/-6dB of gain at 50Hz.

HF Contour
Smooth shelving filter, +/-6dB of gain at 14kHz.

GAIN
Used for overall unity gain adjustment. Adjustable from - infinity to +10dB.

CLIP
Triple-point clip detector that indicates red when the internal signal is clipping at any one of three critical points.

LED Meter
Shows output signal level (input signal when eq is bypassed) from -24dBu to +18dBu in 8 steps.

Technical Specifications

HP filter set to OUT. GAIN, HF, LF & all faders set to 0

Input Section
Input Impedance 10kOhm, electronically balanced
Maximum Input Level >+20dBu
CMRR >-40dB @1kHz

Output Section
Output Impedance < 50 Ohms, electronically balanced
Maximum Output Level >+20dBu into 600 Ohms

Filters
HP filter control OUT to 250Hz @ 12dB/octave
LF contour +/-6dB shelving @ 50Hz 6dB/octave
HF contour +/-6dB shelving @ 14kHz 6db/octave
FREQUENCY bands +/-15dB on ISO centres with a Q of 4

General Performance
Frequency Response 5Hz to 45kHz +/-1dB
Noise <94dBu 22Hz to 22kHz
Dynamic Range > 115dB
Cross Talk >-80dB @1kHz
Distortion <0.005%THD (80kHz measurement BW) 20Hz-20kHz.
GAIN control +10dB to -infinity

Dimensions 19" x 5.25" x 7.1"
(483mm x 134mm x 180mm)
Weight 6.6lbs (3kgs), unpacked
AC Power 115/230V AC, 50/60Hz, 30VA.

This product was designed and developed by BSS Audio, Herts, England. In the interests of product development, BSS Audio reserves the right to change designs and specifications without notice.

BSS Audio
Linkside House, Summit Road, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3JB England Tel +44 (0)1707 660667
Fax +44(0)1707 660755 http://www.bss.co.uk
A Division of Harman International Industries Ltd
BSS Audio USA
Harman Pro North America Inc, 1449 Donelson Pike, Nashville TN 37217 USA
Tel (615) 360 0277 Fax (615 360 0480)