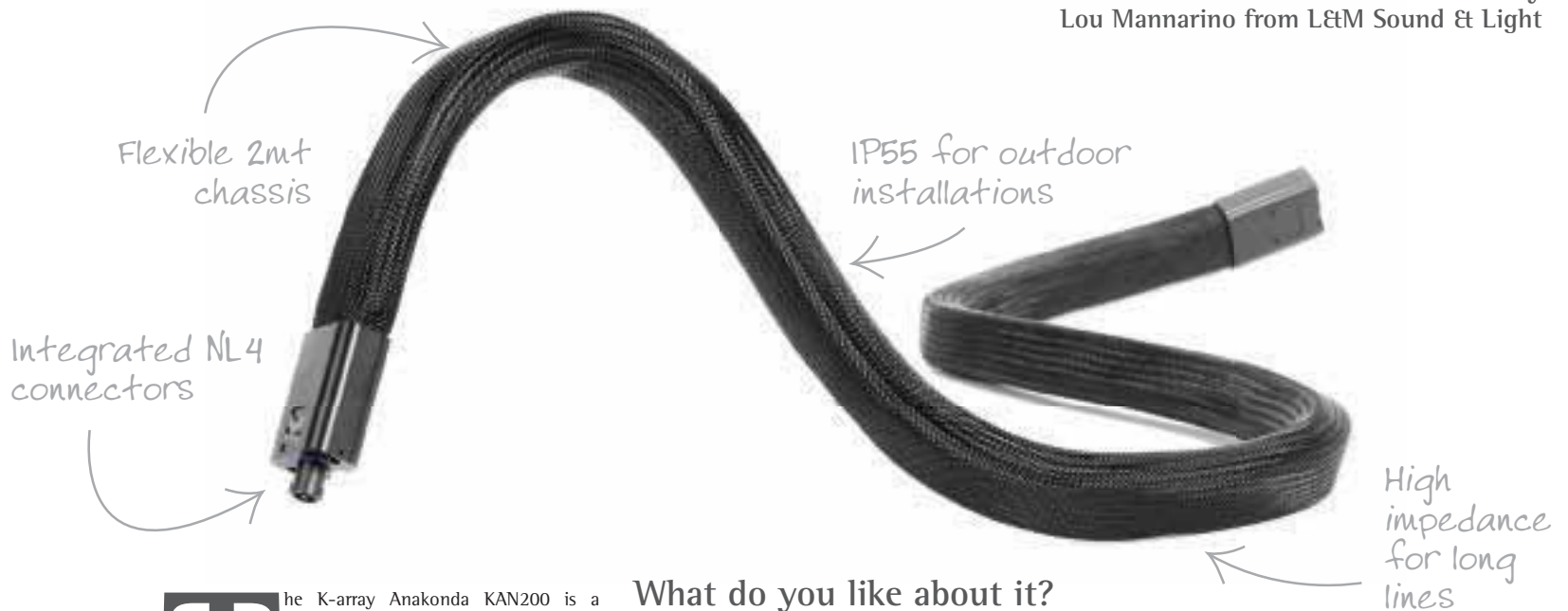


K-Array Anakonda KAN200 flexible array element speaker

Reviewed by
Lou Mannarino from L&M Sound & Light



The K-array Anakonda KAN200 is a speaker designed to be a problem solver in situations where a traditional speaker box can't be used but where good intelligibility, reliability and a sleek design are required.

Its dedicated presets allow KAN200s to serve as a flexible PA system - either standalone or combined with K-array subwoofers.

Each KAN200 module is 2m (6.6 ft) long and up to 32 modules can be interconnected, creating a continuous sound line, 64m (209.97 ft) in length.

Why did you choose this product?

I chose it so I could put it in places where it won't be visible. To bring sound closer to people in a non obtrusive way.

I have connected 16 Anakonda modules on an amplifier channel which stretches to around 100ft. Therefore I can have an evenly distributed system in a very reverberant space that achieves articulate speech intelligibility.

I've used the KAN200 equally vertically as well as horizontally. We can also integrate the AnaKonda with the pole that's being used to supply the structure for the lighting elements at an event.

What do you like about it?

The way it sounds. It is very transparent, natural and inconspicuous. I try to add an accompanying subwoofer when applicable.

You can't compare it to a traditional speaker because you cannot achieve the same result with traditional speakers. You could only compare it to a KK50 or a KK100 which is a solid bar in a similar configuration. Other plusses are that it has colour changing socks, IP rating and physical flexibility. The genius of it is the fact that you can use many connected together in a line on one amp channel.

What would you change?

There's nothing about it that it's not doing properly. It's sonically even, and controllable depending the overall size of the line source created. I can predict the outcome and therefore guarantee the customer will get the result they want, while maintaining an aesthetic vision.

In which installations have you used the product?

We're using it for music playback, for speech and live performances and special imagery. It's become one

of the most useful tools that I have.

I installed it at the Avery Fisher Hall for the New York Philharmonic Film series as surrounds. I used 70ft in the rear left/right position for both film audio effects and live choir. Also in Grand Central Terminal for a week during Martha Stewart's Made in America campaign. I didn't choose it for aesthetic purposes here but because of its flexibility to bring audio close the listeners in a non obtrusive way.

We also used the KAN200 in the Luciano Pavarotti gallery exhibit when it came here on tour. There was a 45ft horizontal projection and visitors walked alongside it. This left only 8ft for installing speakers. They used a rear projection screen but they wrongly assumed it would have acoustic transparency. So I ended up weaving an AnaKonda through the 45ft of the top of the projection screens. I achieved better than I anticipated and I didn't have to interfere with anything else in the exhibit.

Also, because the KAN200 is weather resistant, I just used them for a gallery space on a rooftop garden in Manhattan.

We also used the Anakonda at another high profile event when Oscar de la Renta hosted a party for Mayor Bloomberg's retirement in the Metropolitan Museum of Art when Liza Minnelli sang New York, New York. ♪