

# Face Audio 1200TS Power Amplifier

By Mark Amundson

Face Audio has begun offering a line of newly designed power amplifiers, and is promising to offer the best customer service of any amplifier maker. Of the four lines of amplifiers they make, I was asked to review Face Audio's popular TS (Titanium Series) line and the flagship 1200 model. The Titanium Series are conventional power supply (transformer based) audio power amplifiers with class H amplification and two rack spaces in height.

The front panel of the 1200TS is basic, with its center power switch and two-channel attenuator controls. Flanking each control are five LEDs for Active, Signal (two levels), Clip and Fault indications. Two beefy metal handles and a top air filter inlet plate complete this amplifier.

On the rear panel, the black metal panel has two screened fans on the outside with all the controls and connection in between. A standard IEC inlet and two fuse holders make up the power supply section next to pairs of Neutrik NL4 connectors and binding posts for speaker connections. For signal inputs, the 1200TS has both XLR female and TRS jacks. Completing the rear panel are three switches for chassis ground lift, stereo/parallel/bridge mode selection, and on/off limiters selection.

into various roles with ease. The only item needing adjustment is the 39dB of full up gain that needed backing off 7dB, for my 32dB system gains on my other amplifiers. I could not find any niggles to speak of, but some users will not find the 1200TS a good fit due to its weight, especially with the new switcher supply amplifiers entering the market. The Face Audio 1200TS is a professional amplifier for a wide variety of customers. ●



**What it is:** Conventional audio power amplifier.

**Who it's for:** Local to regional soundcos needing basic power amplifier capability with good customer service.

**Pros:** Good Sound, basic features, all-around player.

**Cons:** None.

**Retail Price:** \$1169.58

With its toroidal power transformer design, the Face Audio 1200TS weighs in at 49 pounds and 17 inches deep when including the rear rack ears. Popping the cover off the 1200TS was partially like a time warp, because the sturdy construction had circuit boards populated with leaded through-hole components, and not the typical surface-mount components most manufacturers use. But this construction allows for better component cooling, and once they add in the modern wind tunnel heatsinking and a beefy toroidal transformer, this amplifier lands squarely in the modern era.

## Checkout Time

The Face Audio 1200TS audio power amplifier looked mild and meek on the outside, but once powered up and operating it delivered very nice performance to my ears. Operating in both sub-woofer duty and on top-box speakers, the 1200TS handled the tasks nicely, providing the push of 60Hz transformer-based amplifiers with the clarity of conventional analog amplifier stages.

Out on the gigs, the 1200TS slipped

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