



# *Distributed Design Series*™

## DP6 and DP8 Pendant Loudspeaker

### Installation Guide



**CAUTION:** Installation of DP6 and DP8 loudspeakers should only be performed by trained and qualified personnel. It is strongly recommended that a licensed and certified professional structural engineer approve the mounting. Severe injury and/or loss of life may occur if this product is improperly installed.

#### Gripple® Manufacturer's Recommendations and Important Notes



Gripple manufactures the speed clamps provided with this product. To ensure maximum safety, it is essential to follow their recommendations as listed below.

- **For indoor use** in a dry environment.
- **Do not apply lubricant** to any part of the assembly as this will alter the surface of the cable, attracting dirt and debris to adhere and possibly reducing the load capacity due to lubricant-induced slippage.
- **Do not use on lifting applications;** for static loads only.
- **Do not use for loads outside the stated range of the product.** The Gripple wedges work by using the weight of the load to draw the wedge into the cable, creating a secure grip. If used with too light a load, the wedge may not be able to securely grip the cable.
- **Do not exceed the Safe Working Load (SWL)** of the product. Each product is load rated and incorporates a minimum safety factor of 5:1. The SWL takes into account the specification criteria of the Gripple, the cable and the pressed ferule.
- **The #2 Gripple products** supplied have the suitable minimum load and the maximum SWL specifications to be used with Community's pendant loudspeakers.
- **Do not use on coated wire rope.** Prior to assembly, it is essential to strip off any coating on the length of cable to be inserted into the Gripple. It is important to maintain the metal-to-metal contact between the locking wedges in the Gripple and the cable.
- **When applying paint or other coating,** ensure that a dedicated Gripple decor cover is used to cover the Gripple. This will ensure that the movement of the locking wedges inside the assembly is not impaired. After painting, the Gripple should not be repositioned on the cable.
- **Do not use standard zinc galvanized Gripple products in chlorinated environments.** Use only Stainless Steel Gripple products in these environments.



Suspension bracket and input jack detail

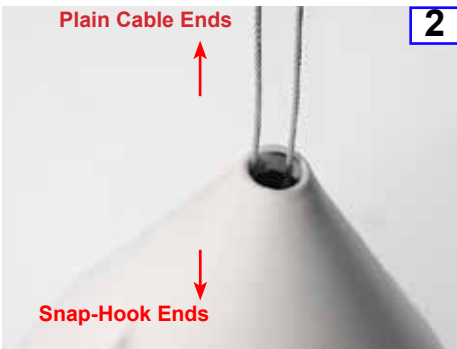
# Hanging and Connecting the Loudspeaker



1

**Before** inserting cables into the Gripples, attach both snap hooks to the suspension bracket atop the loudspeaker as shown in Figure 1. The main cable attaches to the center hole, and the safety cable to either of the two outer holes depending on the desired orientation. Make sure the spring-loaded safety catch is positioned as shown so it closes the loop to prevent accidental detachment.

**Note:** Two 15-foot cable kits with Gripple Speed Clamps are included; longer kits are available as noted under the *Optional Accessories* section.



2

Thread the plain ends of the main cable and safety cable up through the loudspeaker top cover as shown in Figure 2.

For clarity in Figure 3 the loudspeaker and its cover are not shown, but these should actually be in place per Figures 1 and 2. Refer to Figure 3 for the following steps:

**A.** Beginning with the main support cable, insert its plain end through the Gripple Speed Clamp. Loop the cable over (or through) the ceiling anchor point, thread the plain end back through the Gripple and pull that cable end so that the loop is hanging a little lower than where you think you'll want the loudspeaker's attachment point to be located.

**B.** Repeat this with the safety cable and Gripple, looping the cable over or through an independent attachment point.

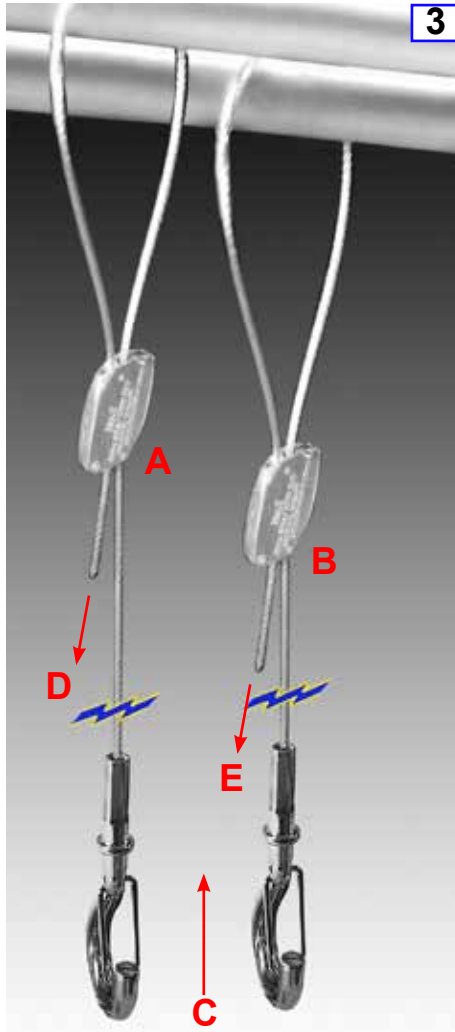
**C.** Support the loudspeaker with your hand at the desired height.

**D.** Pull the end of the main cable to take up any slack.

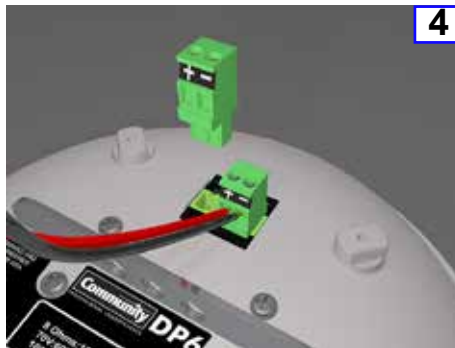
**E.** Pull the end of the safety cable to take up any slack. See Figure 6 for further height adjustments.



**CAUTION:** Do NOT pull the cables to raise the loudspeaker.



3



4

Two 2-pole Euroblock plugs are supplied with the pendant loudspeaker and connect to a jack on the top of the loudspeaker as shown in Figure 4. Thread the audio cable down through the loudspeaker top cover, and then strip approximately 1/4-inch (4mm) of insulation from the cable's inner wire conductors. Insert the wire ends into the Euroblock plug terminals using the proper polarity (marked on plugs and jack). If you daisy chain an audio cable to the next loudspeaker, bring it through the top cover as well and connect that second cable's wire pair to the other Euroblock plug. Secure all wires by tightening the screws in the end of the Euroblock plugs.



5

Insert the Euroblock plug(s) into the jack atop the loudspeaker as shown in Figure 5. No jumper is necessary because the pairs of conductors in the Euroblock jack are internally connected to pass the signal through.



6

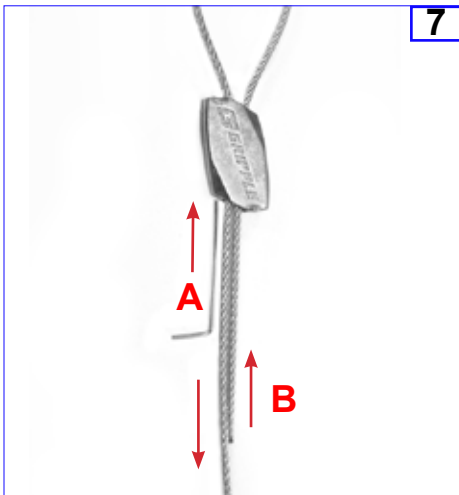
Adjust the loudspeaker height as necessary.

**A.** Lift and support the loudspeaker with one hand.

**B.** Pull the main support cable end to take up the slack. The split cover plug is not yet pressed into position in this photo.

The Gripple Speed Clamp automatically tightens from the cable tension when you allow the loudspeaker to hang. Test by gradually lowering your hand. Don't just "drop" the loudspeaker. When you have the proper height set, then take up the slack on the safety cable by pulling its free end. Since the loudspeaker is already held by the main cable it isn't necessary to support it while doing this.

**Note:** It is best to begin with the loudspeaker lower than the anticipated final height, and lift it into position. It can be lowered later by using the Gripple Setting Key, as shown in Figure 7, but best practice is to set the height primarily by raising the unit.

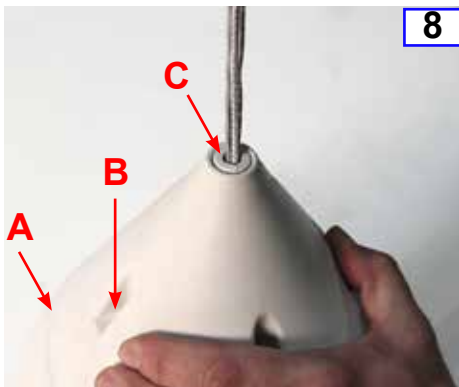


To lower a loudspeaker which is already clamped by the Gripple, refer to Figure 7.

A. Insert the setting key into the small hole in the bottom of the Gripple, which forces the internal locking wedges open, and then,

B. Slide the cables to lower the loudspeaker.

Use this method first to create some extra slack in the safety cable, then support the loudspeaker with your hand as you pull the main support cable, lowering the loudspeaker to the desired height. Finally remove the setting key to lock the loudspeaker in place, and re-tension the safety cable by pulling the loose end until it is snug.



For extra weatherproofing, apply a small bead of silicon sealant around the ridge on the loudspeaker body where the top will join it (Figure 8A). Slide the loudspeaker cover into position so its four recessed holes align with the four threaded fittings on the top of the loudspeaker (Figure 8B). Then insert the four provided machine screws and fasten the cover. Finally, press the split cover plug into place (Figure 8C). Also apply some silicon sealant on the inside and outside surfaces of the split cover plug before installing.

If you have purchased the optional PST-14 Decorative Plastic Tubing, this is an appropriate time to install it.

## Loudspeaker Tap Setting



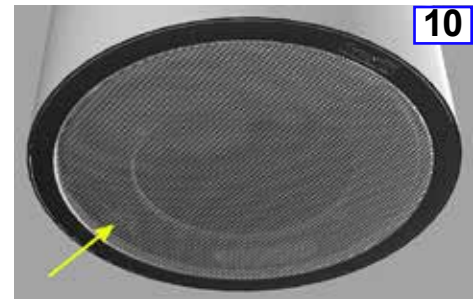
To gain access to the tap switch (inset above), remove the loudspeaker grille by lifting the strapping tape attached on either side of the grille. Once the grille is off, remove the tape and set the tap switch to the appropriate tap setting.



**CAUTION: Do NOT change the setting on the tap switch while the loudspeaker is in use. Turn off the power amplifier before adjusting this switch.**

The tap switch is located on the front baffle adjacent to the loudspeaker cone (red arrows and inset in Figure 9, yellow arrow in Figure 10).

You can use a standard #2 or #3 Phillips or a medium slot-blade screwdriver (not the one provided with the loudspeaker kit), or just press



with your thumb firmly, and twist to adjust the power control dial on the front face of the loudspeaker baffle. As shown in Figure 9, you can make any of five different settings, although the dial has dual calibrations so at first glance it appears to have ten settings. The 8-ohm position is the same on both sides and is for a low impedance connection. On the lower-left side of the power tap control shown in the close-up on Figure 8 are the power values for 100-volt connections, and on the upper right side are the power values for 70-volt connections.

**Note:** The letters NC mean “no-connect” but they do not actually break a connection. **DO NOT USE this setting if you’re using a 100-volt distribution scheme as the loudspeaker may draw excessive power; it corresponds to the highest power that can be drawn with a 70-volt source.**

This control makes it very easy and fast to balance an installation since there is no need to open the loudspeakers and move wires to different terminals. Just be sure there is no applied signal when you are actually changing the tap switch setting. When the desired setting is confirmed, replace the grille.

## Painting the Loudspeaker

These loudspeakers are easy to paint. It’s best to paint the baffle and enclosure before installation.

### Type of Paint

The loudspeaker’s ABS plastic baffle and enclosure accept almost any type of latex or oil-based paint. A two-coat application is recommended.



**Caution: When applying paint or other coating, ensure that a dedicated Gripple decor cover is used to cover the Gripple. This will ensure that the movement of the locking wedges inside the assembly is not impaired. After painting, the Gripple should not be repositioned on the cable.**



**Caution: Use only light mineral spirits thinner as a cleaner. NEVER use gasoline, kerosene, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone (MEK), paint thinner, harsh detergents or other chemicals as they may permanently damage the loudspeaker. Some of these chemicals are also toxic and highly flammable.**

### Painting Process

To obtain the best results follow this procedure:

1. Clean the baffle and enclosure with a light solvent such as mineral spirits, rubbing with a

lightly dampened cloth. **Do not** use abrasives such as sandpaper or steel wool.

2. Mask the loudspeaker so that the surround, cone and center area will not receive any paint. Use a low-tack painter’s tape (typically blue in color) to avoid damaging the loudspeaker surround when the tape is removed. We advise against using conventional masking tape and NEVER use duct tape in this application; these kinds of tape generally leave adhesive residue that can be difficult to remove and that may actually cause damage.

After cleaning, apply two or more thin coats of either latex or oil-based paints. Latex paint will adhere better if an oil-based primer is used first. Apply the paint with a roller or brush, or spray it on.

The grille should be painted separately, and when it is **not** in place on the loudspeaker. We further recommend that you remove the grille’s internal cloth mesh, then spray paint the grille assembly. Avoid using a roller or brush to paint the grille as its metal perforated holes may become clogged with paint, which degrades sound quality and also may attenuate the sound. Reinstall the internal cloth mesh (or if damaged install a new cloth mesh).

# Optional Accessories

Various “Cable Hang Kits” are available. Each includes a zinc galvanized steel rigging cable with locking end loop and a stainless steel Gripple Speed Clamp. Included with your pendant loudspeaker are two model PHK-15 kits that have 15-foot (4.6 meter) cables.

Optional accessories include:

- PHK-30: 30-foot (9.1 meter) cable
- PHK-50: 50-foot (15.2 meter) cable
- PSC: Replacement Gripple Speed Clamp
- PST-14: Decorative (split plastic) tubing to dress the hanger cables and electrical wiring. PST-14 tubing is 14 feet (4.3 meters) long and may be trimmed.

## Specifications

Model	Cone Size		Dimensions	Weight
DP6	6.5 inches (165 mm)		14.73 inches (374 mm) enclosure height 11.22 inches (285 mm) face diameter	11.8 lbs (5.4 kg)
DP8	8.0 inches (203 mm)		17.72 inches (450 mm) enclosure height 13.41 inches (341 mm) face diameter	16.5 lbs (7.5 kg)
	Sensitivity (1 watt, 1m)	Operating Range	Tap Switch Settings	Power Rating
DP6	94 dB SPL	65 Hz - 22 kHz	8Ω/7.5/15/30/60 (70V input) 8Ω/15/30/60/NC (100V input)	100W RMS 250W PGM
DP8	95 dB SPL	60 Hz - 22 kHz	8Ω/15/30/60/120 (70V input) 8Ω/30/60/120/NC (100V input)	150W RMS 375W PGM

## Safety Agency Compliance



Conforms to UL1480 Standard  
 Certified to CSA C22.2 No. 60065 Standard

Cable kits with Gripple® speed clamps meet the following standards:  
 UL 1598 Luminaire Fittings and  
 UL 2239 Conduit and Cable Support Hardware.  
 CSA listing for Class 3426-01 (Canada) and  
 Class 3426-81 (U.S.A.) Luminair Fittings.  
 DIN 4102-2



# Important Safety Instructions

Always follow these basic safety precautions when using or installing Distributed Design Pendant Mount loudspeakers and accessories:

- Read these instructions.
- Keep these instructions.
- Heed all warnings.
- Follow all instructions, particularly those pertaining to rigging, mounting, hanging and electrical connections.
- Do not use this apparatus near water.
- Clean only with dry cloth.
- Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instruction.
- Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
- Only use attachments/accessories that are specified and approved by the manufacturer.
- Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when

the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.

The terms caution, warning, and danger may be used in this manual to alert the reader to important safety considerations. If you have any questions or do not understand the meaning of these terms, do not proceed with installation. Contact your local dealer, distributor, or call Community directly for assistance. These terms are defined below:

**CAUTION:** describes an operating condition or user action that may expose the equipment or user to potential damage or danger.

**WARNING:** describes an operating condition or user action that will likely cause damage to the equipment or injury to the user or to others in the vicinity.

**DANGER:** describes an operating condition or user action that will immediately damage the equipment and/or be extremely dangerous or life threatening to the user or to others in the vicinity.



**WARNING:** To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture.

These servicing instructions are for use by qualified service personnel only. To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock do not perform any servicing other than that contained in the operating instructions unless you are qualified to do so.

The loudspeakers described in this manual are designed to be 'flown' or suspended for maximum acoustical performance using a variety of rigging hardware, means, and methods in some applications. It is essential that all installation work involving the suspension of these loudspeaker products be performed by competent, knowledgeable persons who understand safe rigging practices. Severe injury and/or loss of life may occur if these products are improperly installed. Please read the section on wiring and installation for additional information.

## L'information de Sûreté Importante

**PRÉCAUTION :** Veuillez toujours suivre ces mesures de sécurité de base lors de l'utilisation ou lors de l'installation des haut-parleurs *Distributed Design Série Pendante* et de ces accessoires :

- Lisez et Gardez les instructions.
- Observez tous les avertissements.
- Suivez toutes les instructions, particulièrement ceux concernant le calage, support, montage et raccordements électriques.
- Ne pas utiliser cet appareil près de l'eau.
- Nettoyez seulement avec un tissu sec.
- Ne pas bloquer les ouvertures de ventilation. Installer conformément aux instructions du fabricant.
- Ne pas installer près des sources de chaleur comme les radiateurs, les cuisinières, foyers ou autres appareils (y compris les amplificateurs) qui peuvent produire de la chaleur.
- Utilisez seulement les accessoires qui sont spécifiés et approuvés par le fabricant.
- Référez tout entretien au personnel qualifié de service. Ceci est exigé quand l'appareil a été endommagé de quelque façon, incluant le fil d'alimentation et ou l'embout du fil a été endommagé, des liquides ont été renversés

ou des objets sont tombés à l'intérieur de l'appareil, l'appareil a été exposé à la pluie ou l'humidité, l'appareil ne fonctionne pas normalement ou a été échappé.

Les termes attention, avertissement, et danger peut être utilisés dans ce manuel pour alerter le lecteur aux considérations importantes de sûreté. Si vous avez des questions ou ne comprenez pas la signification de ces termes, ne procédez pas à l'installation. Contactez votre détaillant, distributeur, ou Community directement pour assistance. Les termes sont définies ci-dessous:

**ATTENTION :** décrit une condition de fonctionnement ou une action d'utilisateur qui peuvent exposer l'équipement ou l'utilisateur aux dommages potentiels ou au danger.

**AVERTISSEMENT :** décrit une condition de fonctionnement ou une action d'utilisateur qui peuvent causer des dommages probables à l'équipement et/ou à l'utilisateur et à ceux se trouvant à proximité.

**DANGER :** décrit une condition de fonctionnement ou une action d'utilisateur qui endommageront immédiatement l'équipement et/ou seront extrêmement dangereuses et qui peut représenter un danger pour la vie à l'utilisateur et à ceux se trouvant à proximité.



**AVERTISSEMENT :** Pour réduire le risque de feu ou de décharge électrique, ne pas exposer cet appareil à la pluie ou l'humidité.

Ces instructions d'entretien sont pour l'usage d'un personnel de service qualifié seulement. Pour réduire le risque de feu ou de décharge électrique n'exécutez aucun entretien autrement que ce qui est contenu dans les instructions d'opérations à moins que vous êtes qualifié pour le faire.

Les haut-parleurs décrits en ce manuel sont conçus pour être accrochés ou suspendus afin d'atteindre une exécution acoustique maximum en utilisant une série de différents matériaux, moyens, et méthodes de calage dans certaines applications. Il est essentiel que tout le travail d'installation impliquant la suspension de ces produits de haut-parleur soit effectué de façon sécuritaire par des personnes compétentes et bien formées dans les méthodes de calage. Des blessures graves et/ou des pertes humaines peuvent se produire si ces produits sont incorrectement installés. Veuillez lire la section sur le câblage et l'installation pour des informations supplémentaires.

# Warranty Information and Service

## **TRANSFERABLE WARRANTY “(LIMITED)” VALID IN THE USA ONLY**

The Distributed Design Series Loudspeaker Systems are designed and backed by Community Professional Loudspeakers. For complete warranty information within the USA please refer to the Warranty Card enclosed with the product. Please call 610-876-3400 to locate your nearest Authorized Field Service Station.

For Factory Service call 610-876-3400. You must obtain a Return Authorization (R/A) number prior to the return of your product for factory service.

## **WARRANTY INFORMATION AND SERVICE FOR COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THE USA**

To obtain specific warranty information and available service locations for countries other than the United States of America, contact the authorized Community Distributor for your specific country or region.

## **SHIPPING DAMAGE**

If the product is damaged during transit you must file a damage claim directly with the freight company. Be sure to save the carton and packing materials, as damage claims can be denied if these materials

are not retained. If evidence of physical damage exists upon arrival, be cautious before signing a delivery acceptance receipt. Often, the fine print will waive your right to file a claim for damage or loss after you sign it. Make sure that the number of cartons shown on the freight documents have actually been delivered.

## **FIND THE LATEST ONLINE**

The latest version of this manual and the most recent product information is always available at Community's website: <http://www.communitypro.com>.



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