

# LINEA **R**ESPONSE

INVISIBLE SPEAKERS & SUBWOOFERS

- ▶ Tips
- ▶ Troubleshooting
- ▶ Installation Videos
- ▶ And More at:

[StealthAcoustics.com](https://StealthAcoustics.com)

## Hairline Cracking

### ▶ Causes and Repair

**If hairline cracking occurs it can be easily addressed and a completely invisible installation can be achieved.** LineaResponse speakers are designed specifically to prevent the wallboard finish around the perimeter from cracking during normal use. However, every installation is unique and installation conditions may arise that can result in cracking.

If fine hairline perimeter cracking does occur soon after installation, it is most commonly associated with insufficient drying time of the base coat of joint compound. **It is critical that each coat of joint compound is completely dry before the next layer is applied.** Any moisture retained in the base layer will continue to slowly dry and shrink slightly under the subsequent layers of joint compound. This type of cracking does not typically appear at the seam between the wallboard and speaker, rather at the chamfered edge of the speaker diaphragm about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " (19 mm) inward from the edge of the speaker frame. Cracking may not be visible right away as it may take days or weeks for the base coat to completely dry.

**The best way to prevent this type of cracking is to allow additional 24 hours of drying time for each layer of joint compound, especially in areas where the construction environment is cold or damp. THE USE OF HOT MUD OR CHEMICALLY CURING JOINT COMPOUNDS IS NOT ADVISED AND MAY ALSO LEAD TO CRACKING.**

**Repairing this type of hairline cracking should be done with standard wall-finishing techniques:**

- ▶ For smooth wall/ceiling finishes, use a sharp tool such as the corner of a chisel or utility knife to widen the crack to  $\frac{1}{16}$ " -  $\frac{1}{8}$ " (2-3 mm) then fill/skim the affected area with lightweight joint compound or spackle. **Use air-dry type compounds only.** Once completely dry, sand the area smooth and re-paint.
- ▶ For textured or more forgiving finishes it is possible to repair the cracks with a water-based paintable caulk. Use a putty knife or fingertip to push the caulk into the crack and wipe away the excess with a damp cloth. Allow to dry and then paint.



Toll Free: 888.865.6800 | Fax: 360.424.8872 | [StealthAcoustics.com](https://StealthAcoustics.com)

A Division of Dimensional Communications, Inc.  
1220 Anderson Road, Mount Vernon, WA 98274