

# AUDIO

DAS MAGAZIN FÜR HIFI · HIGH END · SURROUND · MUSIK

"Well-balanced and neutral sound"  
"Excellent clean processing"



## HECO

### Aleva GT 402



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Lise-Meitner-Str. 9 · 50259 Pulheim · Germany · [www.heco-audio.de](http://www.heco-audio.de)

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# HECO ALEVA GT 402

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Heco's brand new Aleva GT series comprises six sound transducers, namely a compact speaker, a centre speaker, an active subwoofer and three floorstanding speakers. The aim of the Pulheim speaker manufacturer seems to be clear from the outset: to not only appeal to two-channel hi-fi purists, but also surround sound enthusiasts alike. At the same time, the chic, living room-friendly aesthetics exhibited by the models in the Aleva GT series will also draw design fans from the woodwork. This is all well and good, however, you can argue when it comes to taste - but not when it comes to hard facts: our GT402 test units, which are the smallest floorstanding speakers in the new series, exhibit a seamless chassis construction and a flawless high-gloss finish, which is atypical of its price class (available in black or white).



Heco's speakers also look good underneath their elegant facade: wooden elements inside the housing reinforce the most important sections of the speaker, while solid 25 mm thick MDF has been used for the front panel. The rather dainty 402 unit features a 2.5-way configuration. Two similarly constructed 13 cm chassis cater for the bass-midrange

in this setup, where by the woofer functions up to 450 Hz and the above bass-midrange driver generates frequencies up to 3.4 kHz. Heco consistently uses cones manufactured from long-fibre paper - a material that is highly regarded in chassis construction as a result of its low weight and high damping factor. Other features include powerful magnets, durable voice coils, flow-optimised die-cast aluminium baskets and large surrounds for the long-throw woofer. These form an excellent basis for reproducing the lower frequencies, yet they lack the expertise for recreating the highest notes. This is where the tweeter comes in, which is positioned between its two 13 cm colleagues in a true D'Appolito configuration. Its 28 mm dome has been manufactured from a silk compound, which, along with ferrofluid cooling and a powerful double ferrite magnet, guarantees resilience and low distortion properties. A sound guide integrated in the tweeter's mounting plate ensures enhanced omni-directional characteristics.

The Aleva GT 402 is not only equipped with a "normal" ("neutral") pair of sockets at the cable terminal, but also a second pair of sockets, which boosts the treble by two decibels. This type of connection particularly comes into play when the room needs to be more effectively attenuated. Interestingly, Heco's unit seems to feel most comfortable with this connection option in our AUDIO listening room, even though it doesn't essentially "sound" dry. In many modern homes, however, the other connection option, i.e. without the treble boost, should work better. In our setup the 2 dB boost functioned really well, with David Crosby's voice in "What's Broken" sounding more accentuated and altogether more finely dispersed. The instruments also seemed to benefit from the high-frequency treatment: the electric guitar was reproduced with a wiry and punchy sound, the piano sounded extremely detailed yet discreet, and the backing vocals appeared to be graduated extremely



cleanly. Spatial representation was precise, however, it did appear somewhat more two-dimensional in places than that generated by the Tannoy and Quadral speakers. We found that this could be compensated by placing the speakers near the wall (30-50 cm), angling them slightly and positioning them further apart. This results in a deeper and more natural sound stage. The close proximity to the wall also has additional advantages: the bass range, which sounded dry but rather entwined before, appeared more luxurious and provided the music with an even more infectious groove. This final point proved to be the cherry on the cake for Heco's unit, ensuring it completely won over our testers.

- + Well-balanced and neutral sound
- + Excellent clean processing

**Audio sound judgment: 77 Points**

**Price/Performance: VERY GOOD**

The test field:

HECO Aleva GT 402

Indiana Line Diva 552

Quadral Argentum 490

Tannoy Revolution DC4T