



# HETMA

HIGHER EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGERS ALLIANCE

The HETMA Approved program was created to provide a service to evaluate products through the lens of higher education technical managers. A diverse group pooled from our membership allows for different perspectives to shape the outcome of any approval. The following is the findings of the Approved Committee and the evaluating members.

Company: Harman

Product: JBL LCT 81C/T

Overall score: Exceeds Expectations

Approval Status: Approved – Speaker

The results of this evaluation are good for the terms that the product is in its current production state as outlined in the Approved Terms and Conditions. Any major change in build, firmware, or software could result in a need for re-evaluation.

Please contact [communications@hetma.org](mailto:communications@hetma.org) for HETMA Approved Program media packet for posting on company websites, social media, and print media.

## Evaluator Demographic Information

Institution/University size:

Small(less than 5000): 2

Medium(5000-10000): 1

Large(greater than 10000): 2

Evaluator Certifications: CTS, CTS-I, CTS-D Extron A/V Associate, Crestron Master Technology Architect, CompTIA N+, Dante, Extron DSP, Project Management or A/V-AVIXA, QSYS, Net+, CCNA, CEH



## Evaluation Results and Notes

### Questions asked in the evaluation

#### **1.Verification:** How we tested the product or service.

“The LCT 81 C/T loudspeakers were connected to a powered amplifier, and the needed Wattage/OHMS were selected. We also had them installed into our ceiling grid to ensure they fit properly. This gave a rough idea of how they would look and sound in a room or hallway. We then tested it with an audio recording we had set up for our Emergency PA System. These proved to be adequate for what they needed to do for us. These speakers work just as intended by the description on the JBL website. These speakers sound great for our Emergency PA System. They are Loud enough to ensure the message comes through at a decent level and provide enough clarity to understand the message coming over the PA system. These speakers fit into our ceiling grid with ease and look great in our ceiling.”

“We placed these ceiling speakers as an expansion of our theatre lobby because we already have several of these ceiling speakers around our student center. The JBL LCT 81c/t are ceiling speakers that are good for paging and light music in a space. The speakers are made to fit the universal ceiling tiles and there is no mess. the very high sensitivity of 96 dB provides maximum sound level.”

“we tested the speaker in our office test space. The speakers sound great, have a full range, are able to handle appropriate sound levels and are easy to install. There is a selector knob for various volt and ohm selections which makes the speaker very versatile.”

#### **2.Quality:** Does the product or service meet quality standards? Does it have a warranty or replacement program?

“The quality of these speakers is amazing. We have at least 10 of these ceiling speakers around my student center alone. Even during background music you can still hear clearly with 96 dB sensitivities.”

“Speakers are typical JBL quality. They feel well constructed and sound good for the price.”

“The quality of the speaker is excellent. There is a reason why these are our standard speaker for classrooms”

“The speaker is a bit light, the sheet metal a tad flimsy but sturdy enough to hold together over time. Since this is a ceiling mounted speaker, the lightness is favorable as it would prefer to be suspended in a drop ceiling.”

#### **3.Performance:** Does the product or service perform below, at, or exceed expectations?

“The sound coming from these speakers is excellent! They can handle the sound level we need them to run for an situation. This would allow our broadcast to be heard over any crowd. The vocals are nice and clear so that people can hear.”

“It performs well , especially since the speakers are being used at least 16 hours a day for 7 days out the week. While our building is open, it does lose the quality.”

“This speaker had been tested at various volumes with interrupting audio over a month period and I have had an extremely consistent experience.”



**4. Network and Security:** If networked, how is it deployed? What network standards does it follow? How secure is it? Is there any physical security options?

N/A

**5. HETMA+:** What about this product or service makes it a good fit for higher education and technical managers?

The point of the Approved Program is to provide higher education technical managers with recommendations for products that can better the lives of students, faculty, and staff by providing a better learning and teaching environment. With that in mind, we evaluate products not just for the specification and performance review but for how it fits into our space and the impact it could have.

The JBL LCT 81C/T was wonderful to evaluate. The speaker exceeded higher education institutions' expectations of quality and performance.

Here are some of the comments from evaluators:

“Yes, this product is a good fit for higher ed. The versatility of this ceiling tile speaker allows it to be hooked into a wide variety of amps and pre-existing systems. Since it is the size of a ceiling tile, installation is painless. The speaker has an impressive bass response at low volumes allowing fuller sounding audio a low levels which is great for classroom playback.”

“I think these loudspeakers are an excellent fit for higher education because these not only work perfectly in the classrooms they work in our hallways for our Emergency PA System and in our conference center.”

“Yes this is a good fit for higher education especially in student centers where music is being played at all times.”

Overall, the evaluators stated that this product would become part of their thought process in future classroom planning. We are happy to give this an Approval rating and look forward to our continued partnership.

HETMA Approved Program Chairs.