

# SXH retrofit kit installation instructions

The SXH218UG and SXHF218UG retrofit kits upgrade SXH218 and SXHF218 subwoofers manufactured in 2025 or earlier by adding the following features:

- Front and rear LED indicators. The rear LED is for use in cardioid configurations.
- A front-mounted NL4 input connector (NLT4MPXX-BAG) for use in cardioid configurations.
- A replacement pair of upgraded rear NL4 input and link connectors (NLT4MPXX-BAG).
- A weatherised stainless steel 430 grille.

After the upgrade:

- SXH218 subwoofers will be equivalent to models manufactured in 2026 and later. SXHF218 subwoofers will also be equivalent, except that models manufactured in 2026 and later have an improved finish on the flying hardware.
- For outdoor use, you no longer need a WRKIT, but you must seal all three NL4 sockets. Use NLT4FX or NLT4FX-BAG cable connectors for connected sockets and install Martin Audio weatherproof NL4 sealing plugs in unused sockets. This provides an IP rating of IP54 for the connections.
- When you connect the subwoofer to an iKON amplifier, you can illuminate the LED indicators from Vu-Net.

This document explains how to install the SXH218 and SXHF218 retrofit kits.

## Difference between the kits

The two kits are identical except for the membrane on the rear of the input assembly showing the model code and the serial number.

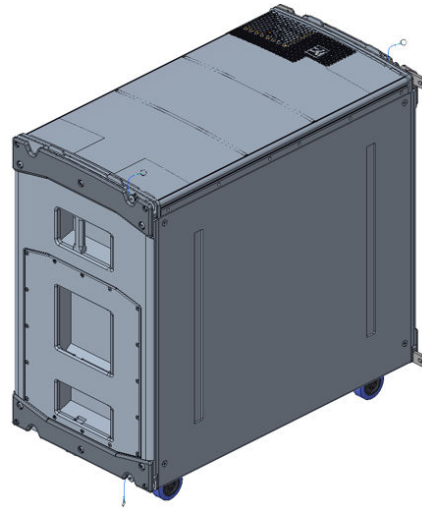
## Required tools

In addition to standard hand tools, a power drill and a vacuum cleaner, you will need:

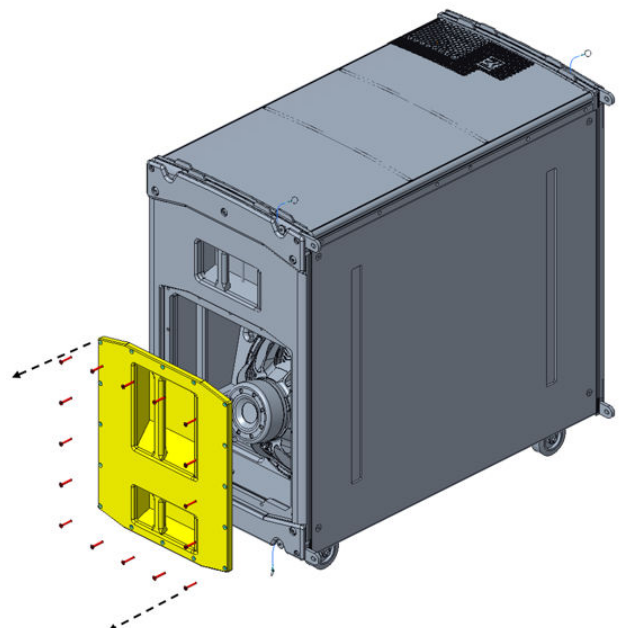
- Right-angle drill adaptor
- 30 mm hole saw

## To install SXH218UG and SXHF218UG retrofit kits

1. Place the subwoofer on its wheels and lock them in place. Ensure the unit is stable before continuing.



2. Unscrew and remove the access panel on the side opposite the badge. Keep the screws safe ready for refitting:
  - 16 × FAA06002 (M6 X 40 mm countersunk socket screw)



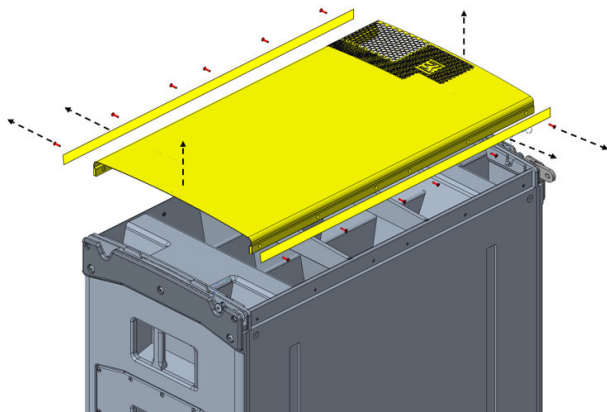
3. Before removing the grille, make a note of the badge location, as you will fit the LED indicator and front NL4 connector on the opposite side.

Unscrew the grille and keep the screws safe ready for fitting the new grille. The screws are:

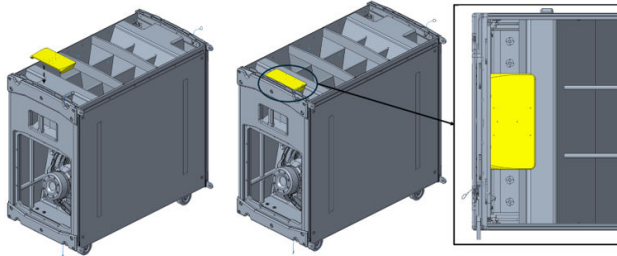
- 12 × FAA05005 (M5 × 20 mm countersunk socket screw)

Keep the two grille retainer strips (CABS00831) safe for fitting the new grille.

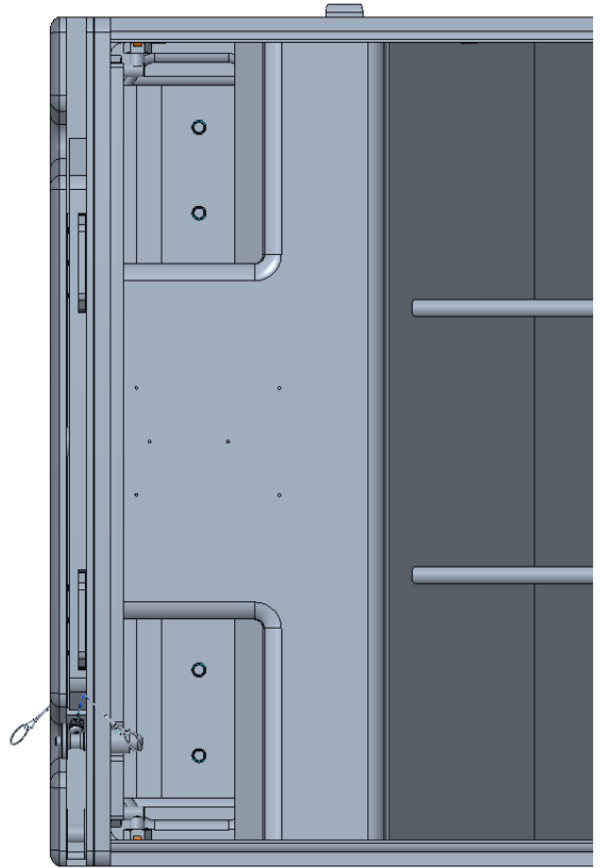
Remove the grille. The kit includes a new grille so you can dispose of the old one.



4. Align the front LED location jig (MEC100394) as shown below. Ensure that the jig fits over the side with the open panel. Note that the jig location is critical.

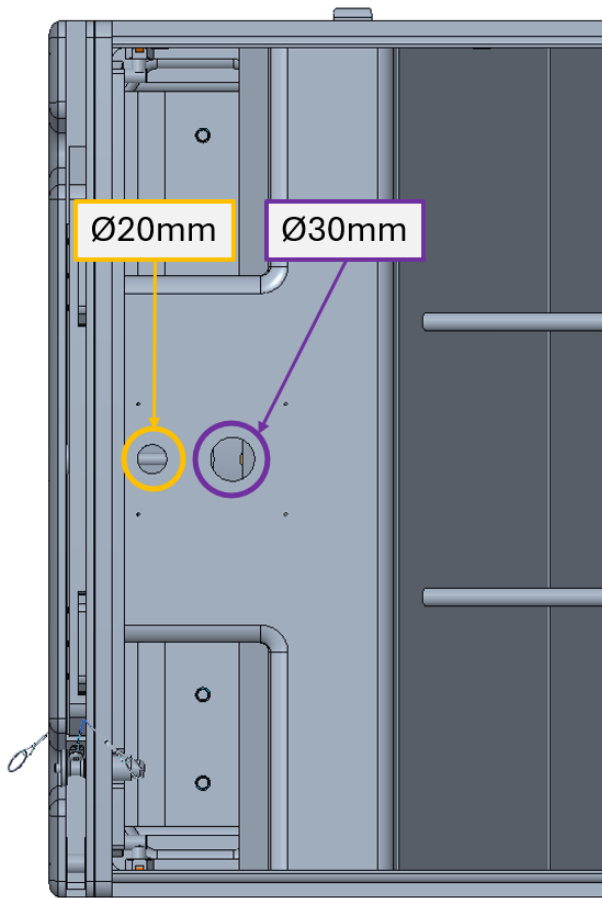


5. Using the guide holes in the jig, drill six pilot holes, 2 mm diameter. You can drill all the way through the panel.



6. Use a 20 mm spade bit to drill through the centre hole nearest the end of the cabinet. Use a 30 mm spade

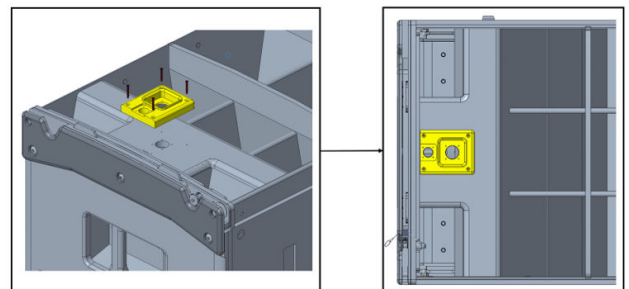
bit to drill through the other centre hole, as shown below. Drill all the way through the panel.



To avoid excess mess, do this step with vacuum extraction. Vacuum any debris that fall inside the cabinet.



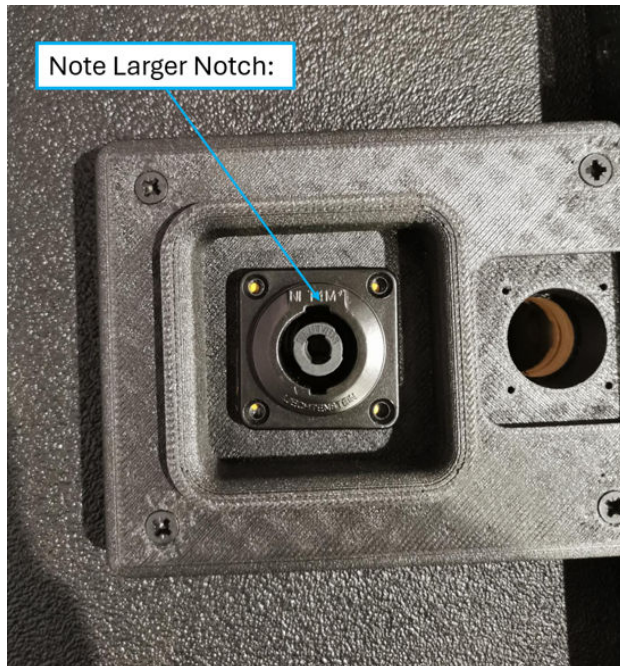
7. Align the LED NL4 spacer panel (CAB100809) as shown below:



Secure in place with the following screws:

- 4 x FAB08002 (No. 8 x 1¼ in black countersunk Pozi wood screw)

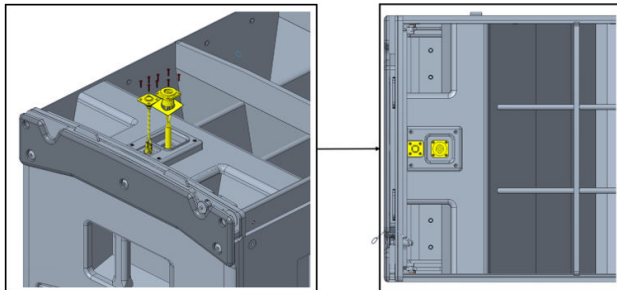
8. Fit gasket GRT100159 underneath NL4 connector CLA100057 and orient as shown below:



Screw in place using the following screws:

- 4 x FAC070 (3 x 16 black countersunk Pozi wood screw)

9. Fit the LED assembly ASM20018 to the panel:

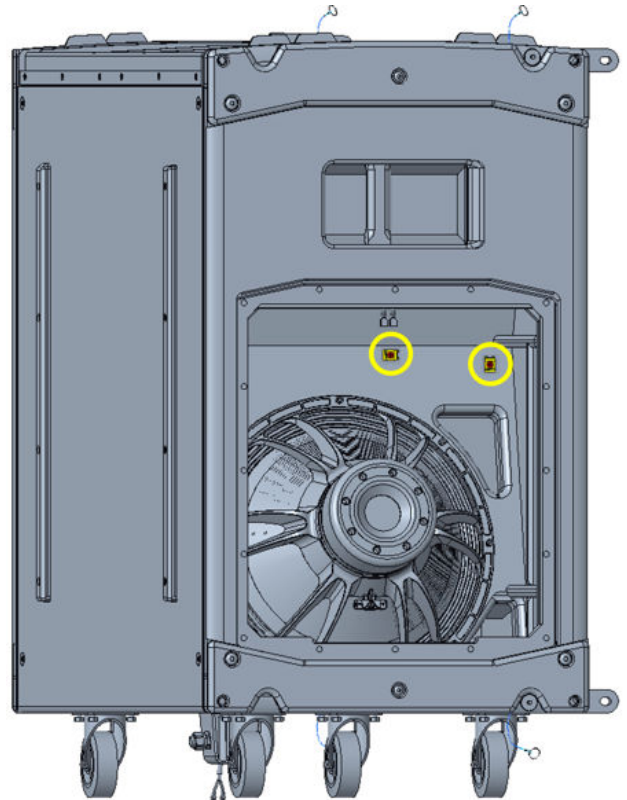


Screw the LED assembly in place using the same screws used to secure the NL4 connector:

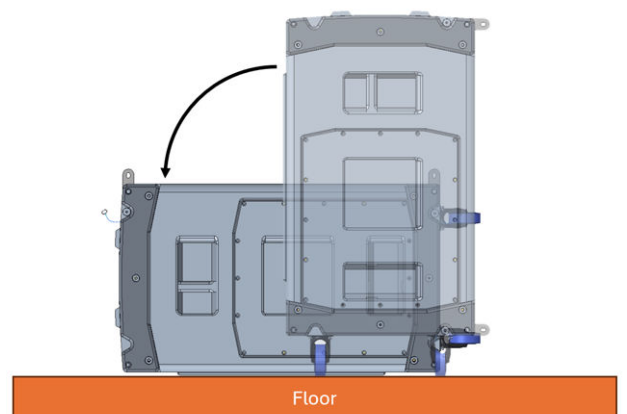
- 4 x FAC070 (3 x 16 black countersunk Pozi wood screw)

10. Fit two cable tie anchors (FTA00002) at the locations suggested in the image below. Screw them in place:

- 2 x FAC080 (M3 x 12 mm countersunk Pozi screw)

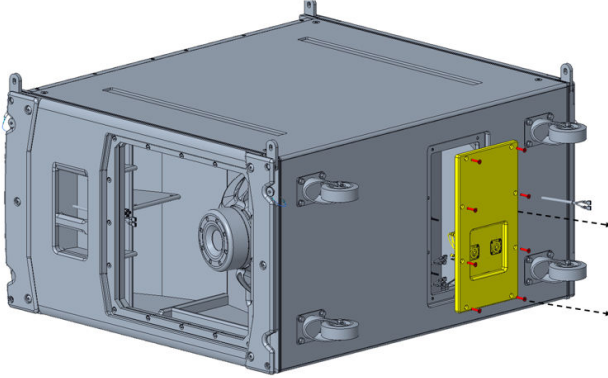


11. Lift the subwoofer onto its skids:



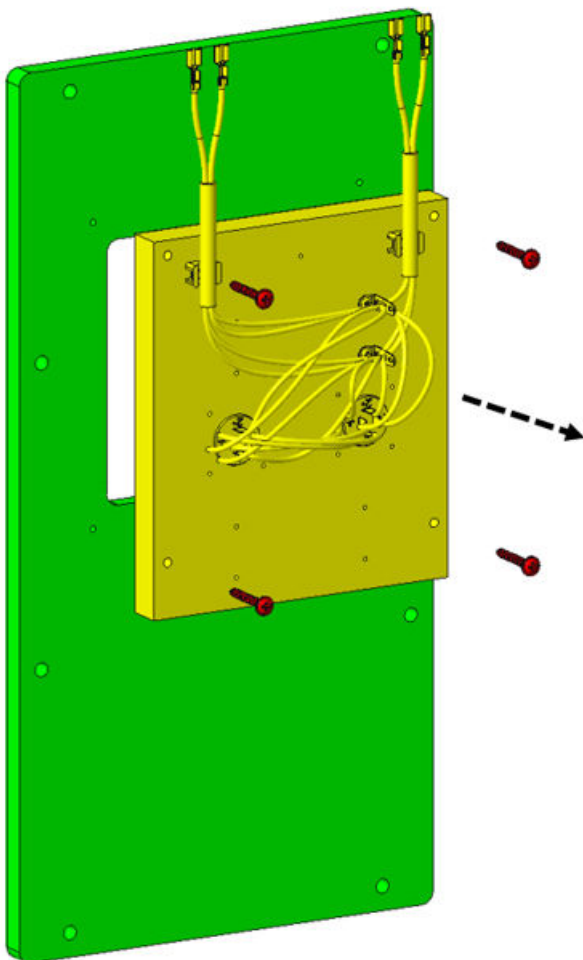
12. Remove the rear access panel. Keep the screws safe ready for reassembly:

- 8 x FAA06002 (M6 x 40 mm countersunk socket screw)

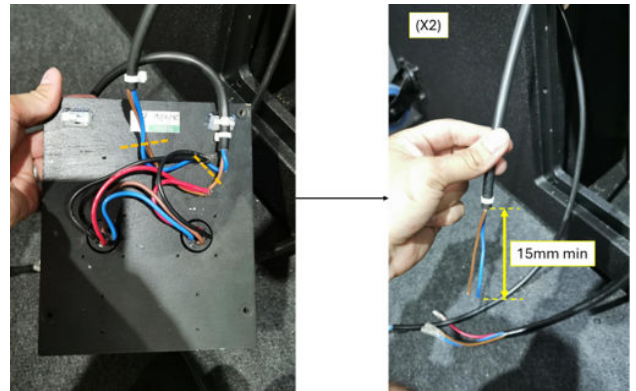


13. Disassemble the terminal board (shown in yellow below) from the rear panel (shown in green below). Keep the screws safe ready for reassembly:

- 4 x FEH418 (No. 8 x 1¼ in flanged Pozi screw)



14. Snip the highlighted brown and blue cables from the rear panel. Ensure there is a minimum of 15 mm remaining of these two cables:

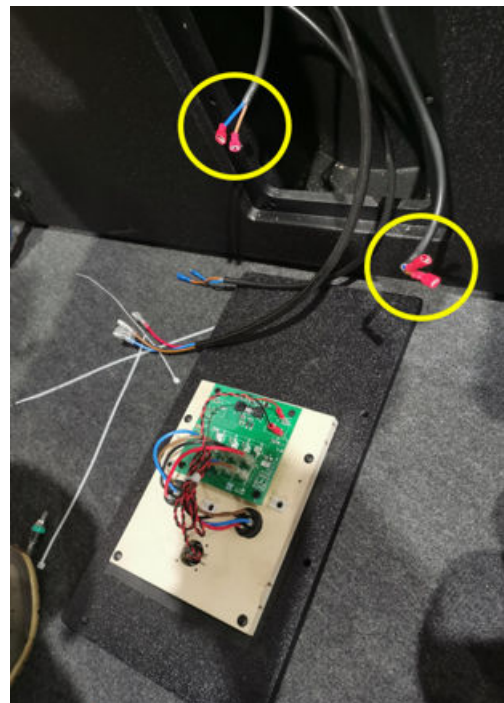


15. Strip the cables back 5 mm:



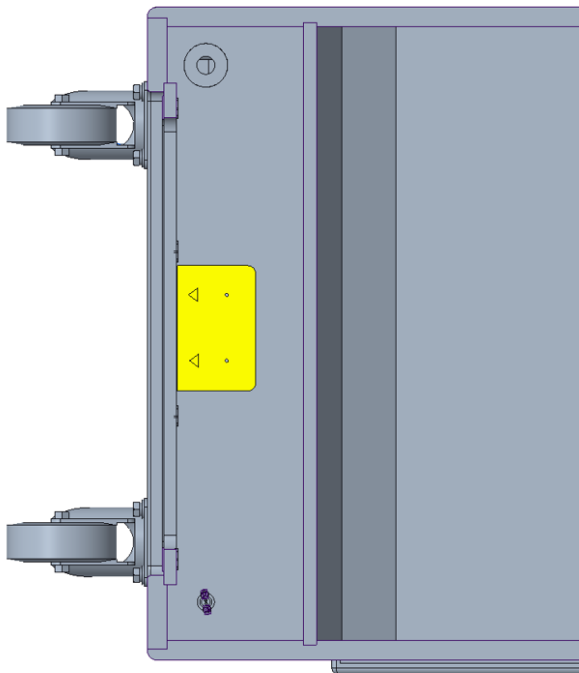
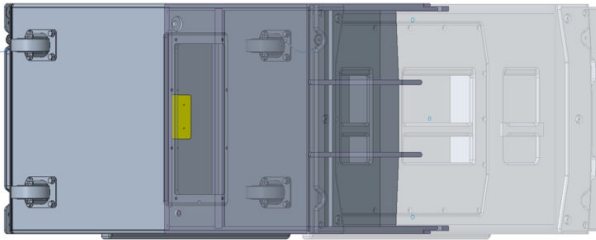
16. Fit a crimp on each of the wires:

- 4 x PCZ000067 (female crimp 6.35 mm x 0.8 mm)



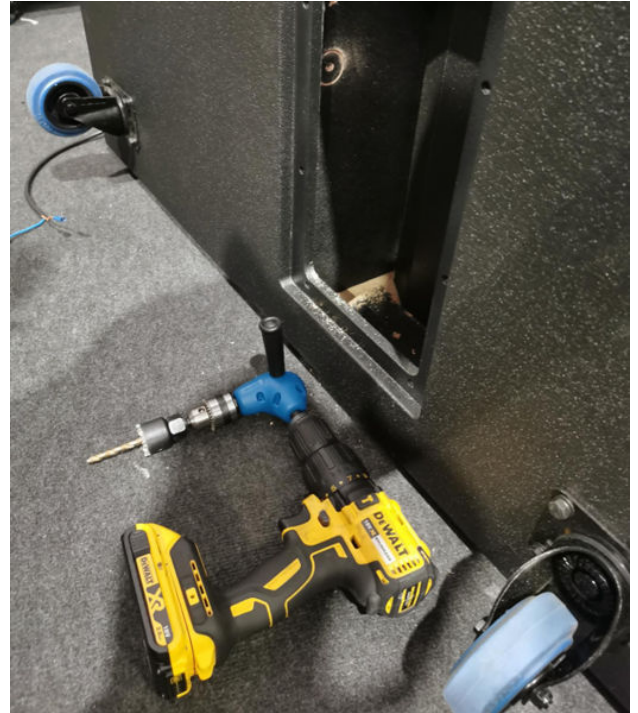
17. Discard the input panel.

18. Position the cable gland jig (MEC100396) around the centre of the panel. Ensure the arrowed edge runs along the edge of the internal back panel.

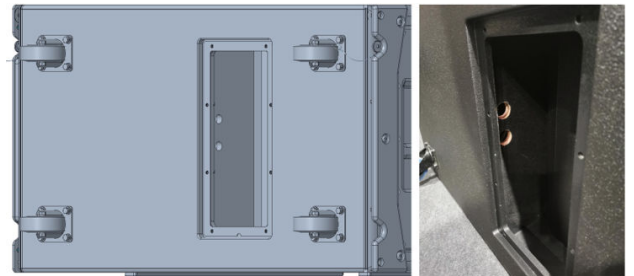


19. Use the guide holes to drill two 3 mm pilot holes. Drill through the panel.

20. Using the two pilot holes, cut two 30 mm diameter holes. Due to the limited space, you will need a hole saw and a right-angle drill adaptor, as shown below:



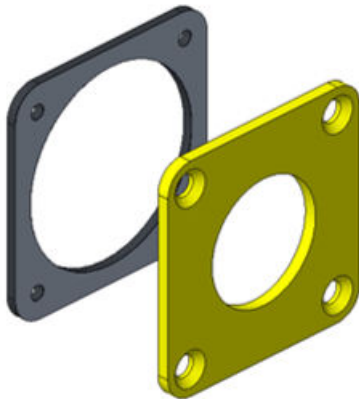
These holes are for the two cable gland plates:



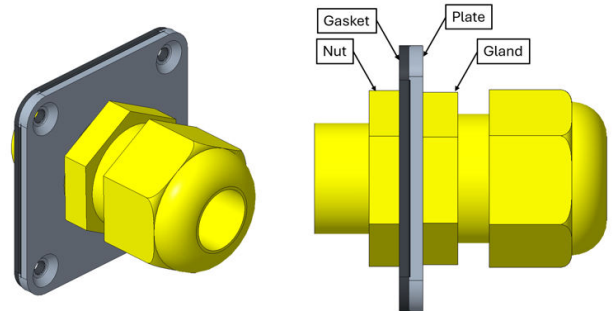
21. Fit the cable gland plate mounting hole jig (MEC100438) to the two holes you drilled in the previous step:



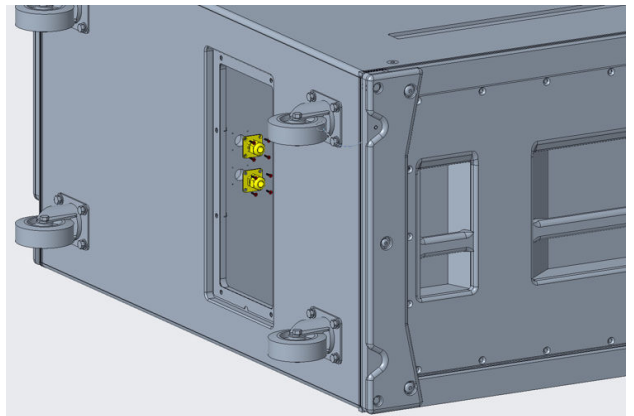
22. Using the guide holes in the jig, drill eight 2 mm pilot holes. Due to the limited space, use the right-angle drill adaptor again.
23. Vacuum away any debris.
24. Apply gasket GRT100159 to plate HAM09399. Repeat with the other gasket and plate.



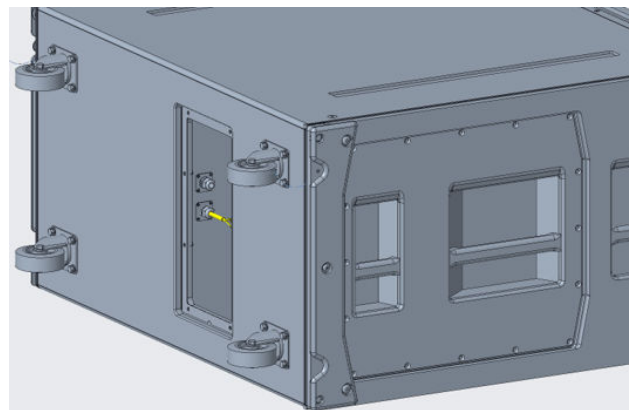
25. Fit cable gland GRT00378 to the plate, ensuring that the nut is on the gasket side. Tighten the nut to secure the cable gland to the plate. Do not tighten the gland. Repeat for the second cable gland and plate:



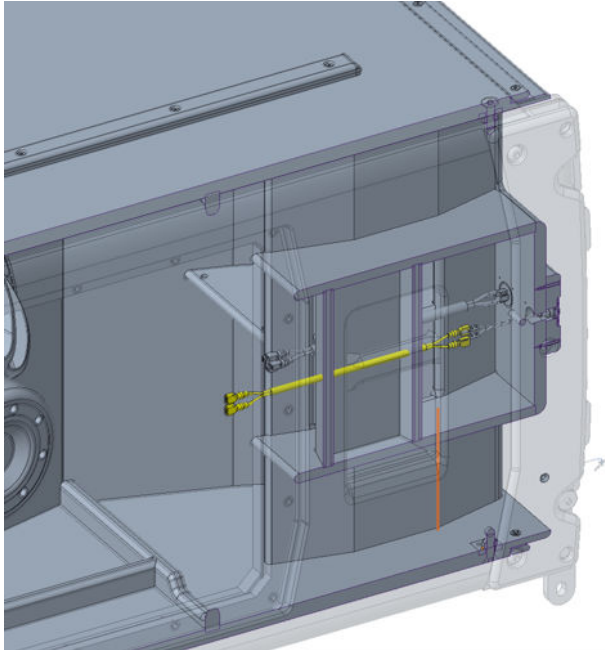
26. Fasten the two cable gland plates with the following screws (four screws for each):
- 8 × FAC070 (3 × 16 countersunk Pozi wood screw)



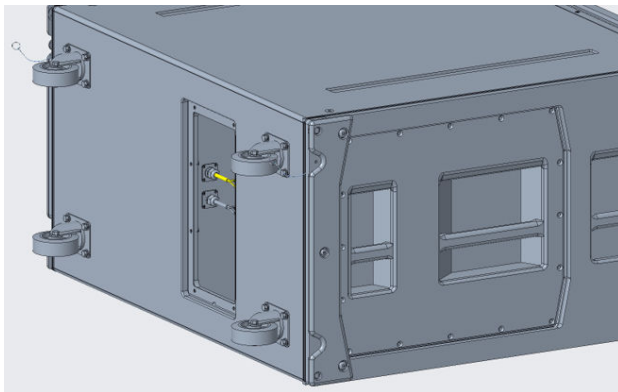
27. Feed jumper cable CLA100061 through the bottom cable gland and through the top brace hole:



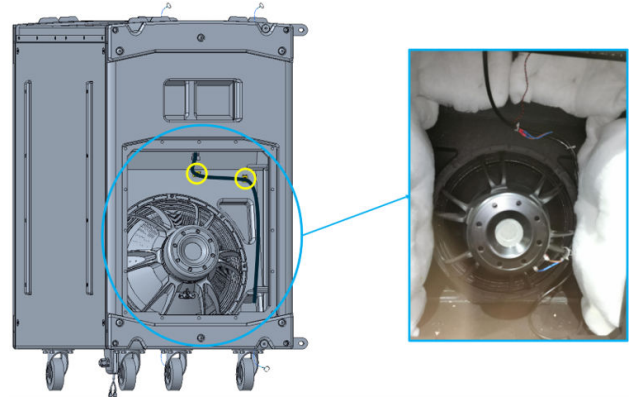
28. Connect the jumper cable CLA100061 to the LED cable ASM20018, matching the male and female connectors.



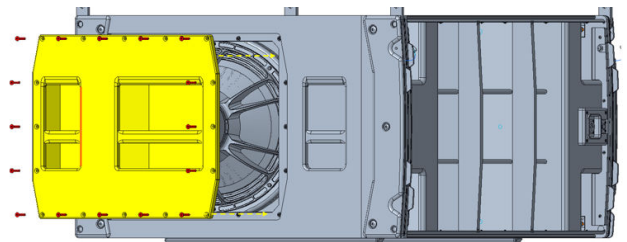
29. From the side panel, feed the NL4 cable (CLA100057) through the top cable gland into the rear void:



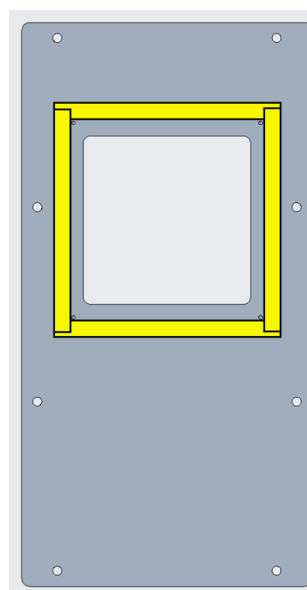
30. Use two cable ties and anchors (FTA00001) to secure the two cables together (CLA100057 and CLA100061). Ensure the cables are taught.



31. Tighten the two cable glands (2 x GRT00378).
32. Refit the side access panel and secure using the screws you removed earlier:
- 16 x FAA06002 (M6 X 40 mm countersunk socket screw)



33. Apply four gasket strips GRT100197 to the rear panel. To ensure there are no gaps, overlap the strips at the corners as shown below:



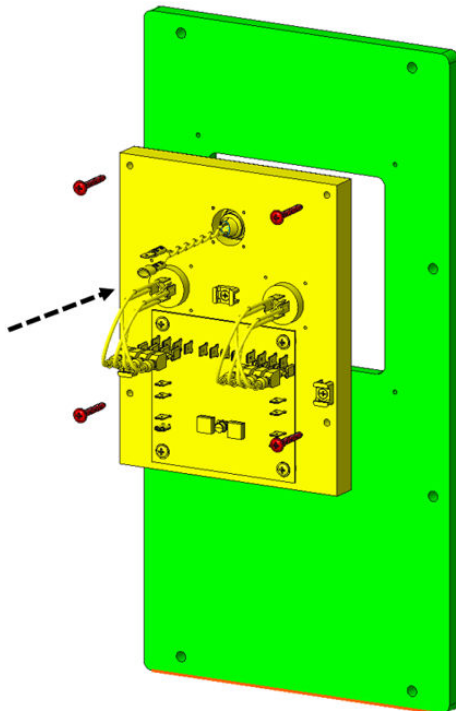
34. Secure the new terminal board (shown in yellow below) to the rear panel (shown in green below). Use the screws you removed earlier:

- 4 x FEH418 (No. 8 x 1¼ in flanged Pozi screw)

The new terminal boards are:

- ASM100602 for the SXH218
- ASM100603 for the SXHF218

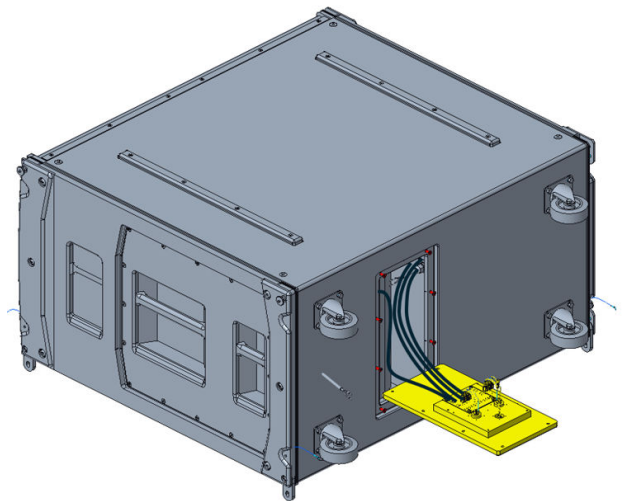
These terminal boards are identical except for the membrane on the rear showing the model code and the serial number:



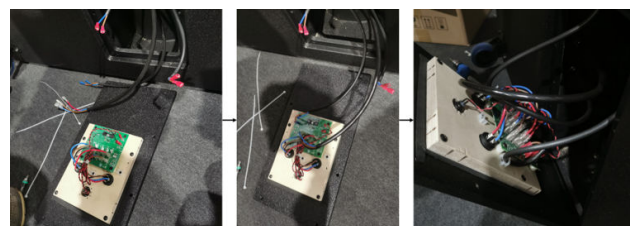
35. Connect the two driver cables, the LED cable and the NL4 cable to the PCB on the rear panel using the pins shown in the following table. Note that the brown and blue wires for the LED cable appear in reverse order. This is due to the order of the pins on the PCB.

For a photo of the PCB pin connections, see [PCB pin connections \(page 11\)](#) at the end of this section.

| Cable                        | Wire  | PCB pin      |
|------------------------------|-------|--------------|
| Right hand side driver cable | Brown | J1 (LF 1)    |
|                              | Blue  | J2 (LF 1)    |
| Left hand side driver cable  | Brown | J17 (LF 2)   |
|                              | Blue  | J18 (LF 2)   |
| LED cable                    | Blue  | J6 (LED 2)   |
|                              | Brown | J19 (LED 2)  |
| NL4 cable                    | Red   | J3 (1+ Rear) |
|                              | Black | J7 (1– Rear) |
|                              | Brown | J4 (2+ Rear) |
|                              | Blue  | J8 (2– Rear) |

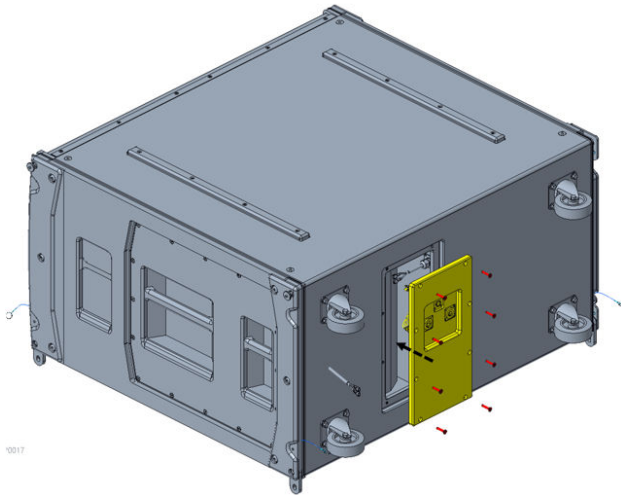


36. Secure the cables to the panel using three cable tie anchors.

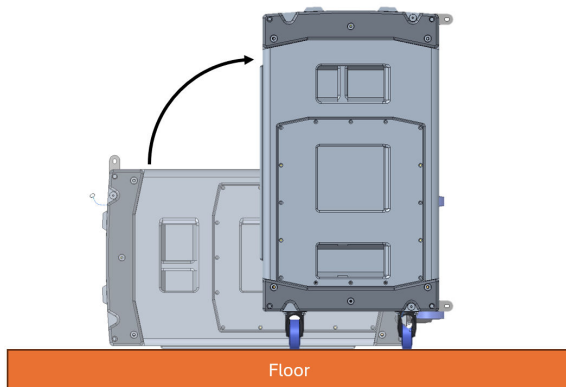


37. Refit the rear panel using the screws you removed earlier:

- 8 × FAA06002 (M6 × 40 mm countersunk socket screw)

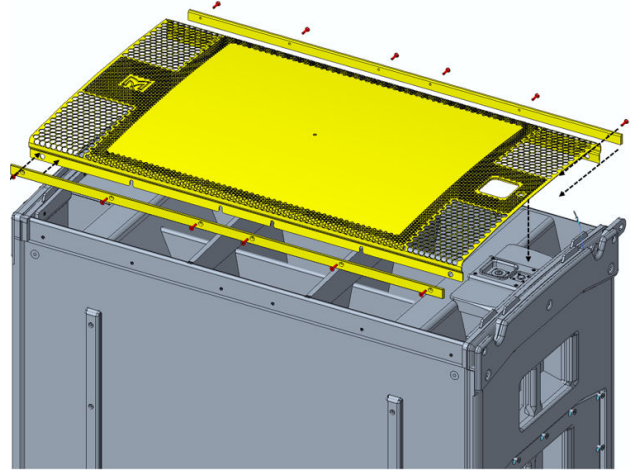


38. Lift the subwoofer back onto its wheels and lock them in place.



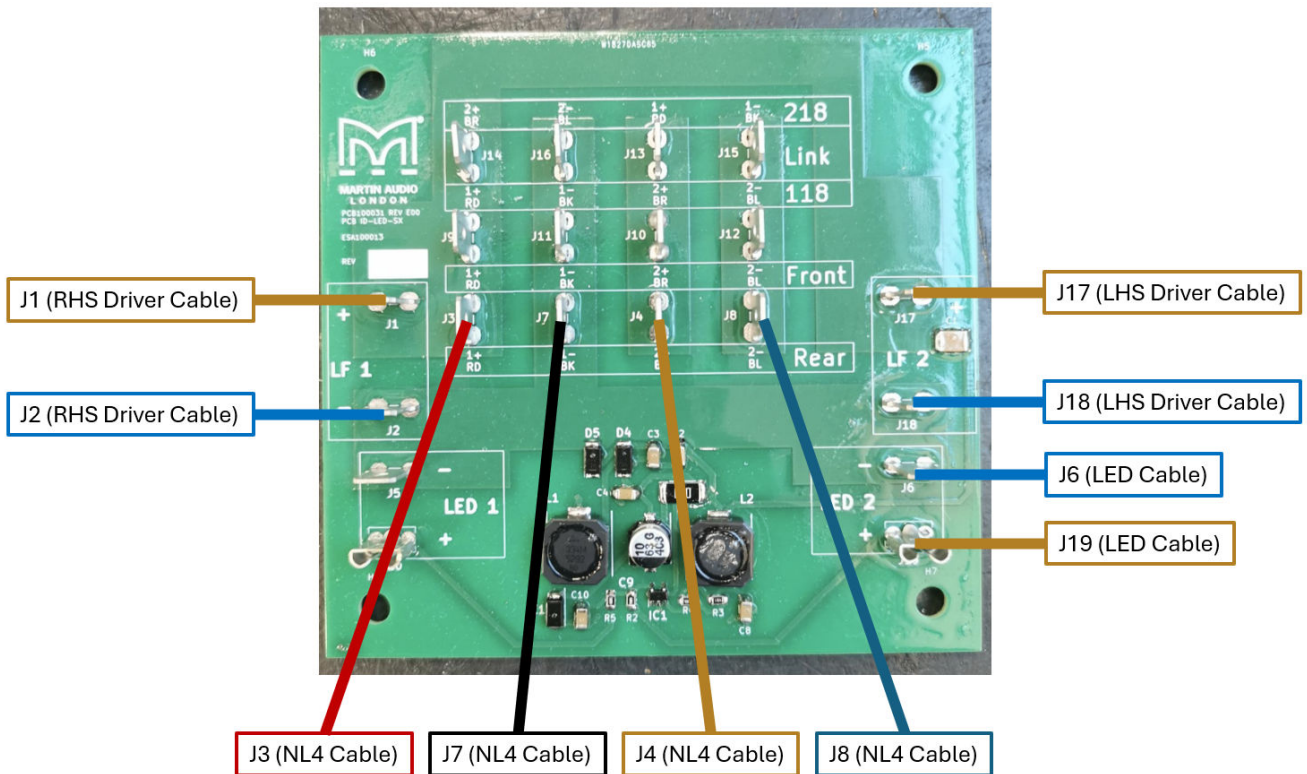
39. Attach the new front grille (HAG100132) using the grille retainer strips and screws you removed earlier:

- 12 × FAA05005 (M5 × 20 mm countersunk socket screw)



This completes the fitting procedure.

## PCB pin connections



## To test the LED

1. Make sure you're running Vu-Net Release 2.3.4 or later. If you need to upgrade, visit the **Software** page on our website:  
[martin-audio.com/support/software](https://martin-audio.com/support/software)
2. Connect the subwoofer to an iKON amplifier.
3. Connect Vu-Net to the iKON amplifier.
4. Right-click the iKON and select **Open Preset Manager** to add the appropriate presets. For SXHF218 use preset SXH218.
5. Select **Master Overview** and click **LED Mode**. This mutes all channels with presets that support LEDs.

The **LED Mode** button is available only after you have added the correct presets.

6. Click the **Play** button to illuminate each cabinet LED in sequence (one per second) or click an **L** button to illuminate the LED for a specific cabinet.

When the **L** button is illuminated, either automatically or manually, the iKON amplifier sends an HF signal to

the subwoofer. The LED PCB detects this signal and illuminates the LED.

For subwoofers, the front and rear LEDs illuminate together. With speakers or subwoofers without LEDs, selecting **LED Mode** has no effect other than muting the cabinet.

## What next?

Once the LED test is complete, test the subwoofer for audio.

If you have any questions or find any issues with these instructions, contact Martin Audio technical support at [technical@martin-audio.com](mailto:technical@martin-audio.com).