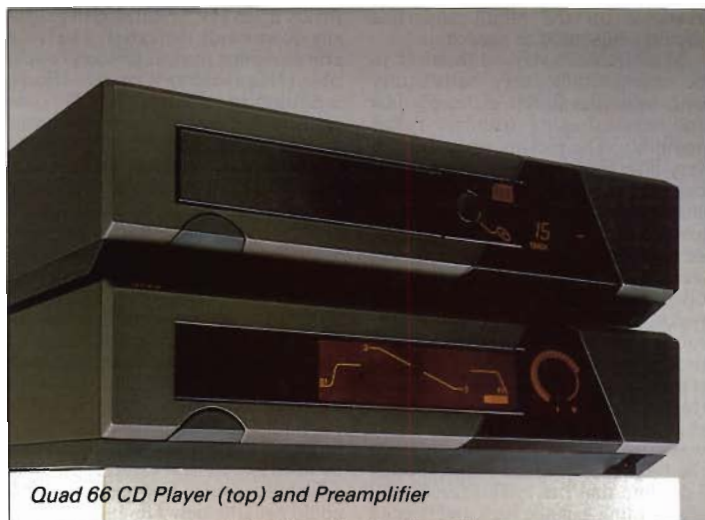




Quad 66 CD Player (top) and Preamplifier

New Quad

First seen in prototype form at the Chicago CES (as reported by John Atkinson in September), the Quad 66 Preamplifier and 66 Compact Disc player are about to be released. The units exemplify Quad's principle of making the operation of hi-fi equipment as convenient and straightforward as possible and to that end they have opted for a remote controlled system with all programming, signal selection, level, balance and tonal adjustments made from a single, comprehensive infrared remote control panel. The units themselves are devoid of control knobs and buttons.

The Quad 66 Preamplifier has seven inputs labelled Disc (MM as standard but MC boards are available), CD, Radio, A-V (Audio-Visual: sound channels only, with floating inputs to eliminate ground loops), Aux 1, Aux 2 and Tape. The familiar Quad high frequency Filters (pared down now to two positions), Bass Step (but no boost) and Tilt controls are retained and the settings of these, as well as of Volume and Balance are shown on the fascia display.

The Remote Control Panel has 22 pushbuttons covering all preamplifier and CD player functions plus two rotary controls for volume and

balance (both are handled by CMOS switching circuits in the preamplifier itself; twin 32-resistor thick-film ladders being used for the volume). When the system is switched on the volume level increases automatically to that which was last used. Conversely, when switched into standby mode it fades smoothly to zero.

The matching Quad 66 CD player is based on a Philips transport and Philips twin 16-bit four-times oversampling D/A converter integrated circuits (rigorously selected for optimum performance by Quad). The programming and analogue signal circuitry is of course designed entirely by Quad. The player is a full function, 99-track memory machine but the eight buttons devoted to it on the Quad remote unit eschew the gimmicks for which serious users have no use (no random shuffling of tracks, for example). The player is supplied with a standard Philips remote control handset for use when it is bought without the preamplifier.

The Quad 66 Preamplifier with Remote Control Panel costs £649 and the Quad 66 Compact Disc player £449. Further details from Quad Electroacoustics Ltd., 30 St Peter's Road, Huntingdon, Cambs PE18 7DB.



Quad 66 Remote Control Panel

Mordaunt-Short

Mordaunt-Short introduced a new range of five speakers at the Penta show called Series 3, replacing their present Series 2. All the new loudspeakers have injection moulded polypropylene front baffles which are 'locked' into a high density particle board cabinet. The two smallest models, the MS3-10 (£99-95 per pair) and MS3-20 (£129-95) use a 135mm coned bass/midrange driver with a 10mm polymer cone/dome tweeter. Both are reflex loaded, the port firing to the rear with the former and front with the latter.

The three top models all use a brand new 200mm polypropylene-coned bass/midrange driver which is built on a substantial cast chassis and employs a vented voice-coil for sustained high temperature operation. All also use a new 25mm ferrofluid cooled aluminium dome tweeter. They are the MS3-30 (£179-95), which has a rear-going port, the MS3-40 (£229-95) which again has a front panel port, and the MS3-50, (£349-95) a floor-standing transmission line design. All the new loudspeakers use very simple crossovers and employ Mordaunt-Short's Positec protection circuitry. All are finished in either black ash or rosewood vinyl laminates. An ingenious



MS3-40

inert polymer stand which comes in Lego-like building blocks according to the height required, is available for use with the first four models at £49-95. Mordaunt-Short Ltd., Dursford Mill, Petersfield, Hants GU31 5AZ.

Koss news

Koss have introduced a number of new headphones. The Porta Lite "TD" range comprises five models from the ultra-lightweight (50gm) TD20 at £11-50 to the TD50 at £27-00. The TD30 (£17-50) and TD40 (£23-50) both use extremely comfortable "Pneumalite" ear cushions, the latter including a volume/balance control. The TD 50 has an integral headband/earpiece styling with open-back drive elements and a volume/balance control. The TD60 (£23-50) is a closed-back design. All models have

3.5mm plugs with standard 6.3mm adaptors.

Also new is the JCK/300 cordless infrared model which has a more effective (i.e. less restricting) higher power transmitter unit than used in the previous JCK/200 (reviewed in October 1987). Extra LED emitter panels can be purchased to extend the working area if required. The basic system of headphones and single transmitter unit costs £310-00. Further details from the importer, HW International, 3-5 Eden Grove, London N7 8EQ.

Audio diary

January 6th-8th, 1990. Winter Consumer Electronics Show, Las Vegas.

February 2nd-4th, 1990. "Audio '90" exhibition, Gloucester Hotel, Harrington Gardens, London SW7.

February 16th-18th, 1990. "Hi-Fi '90" exhibition, Holiday Inn, Bristol.

June 6th-8th, 1990. Association of Professional Recording Studios Exhibition, Olympia 2, London.

In brief

A new retailer, Marton Music, has opened in Fareham, Hampshire. Based at a purpose-built studio MM can demonstrate and supply a selected range of audio equipment ('high-end' or more modest) plus several accepted DIY loudspeaker designs. A full installation service is offered and demonstrations—by pre-arranged appointment only—are free of charge either at the Studio or in the client's home. Marton Music, 5 Ventnor Way, Downend, Fareham, Hants PO10 8RU (tel: 0329 231773) ● Jeffries Hi-Fi are to hold a Naim Audio

musical evening at the Hospitality Inn (formerly The Ramada) on Brighton sea-front on Sunday 3rd December at 7.30pm. Light refreshments will be available. Tickets and details from either Jeffries shop (Eastbourne, 0320 31336 or Brighton, 0273 609431).

Philip Tandy

Older readers will be sorry to learn of the death in early October of Philip Tandy, whose contributions were a prominent feature of our Audio pages in the late 1950s and 1960s. Philip had been my partner when we took over my father's business, to which he was once apprenticed, in 1949 and became well known to many hundreds of hi-fi customers until his retirement almost 30 years later.

Philip came from a musical family—between the wars there were enough performing Tandys to form a popular local orchestra—and was also a keen and active radio amateur with the 1933 call sign G2DU. Philip, who was 76 when he died, is survived by his wife and son. G.H.