

Precision from Tannoy

Tannoy has launched a new range of six loudspeakers under the series name Precision. Ranging in price from £299.90 to £799.90 it comprises three floor-standing designs, a bookshelf/stand-mounting model, a surround sound centre channel unit and a surround effects loudspeaker. All-new drive units, a time-aligned configuration and real wood veneered cabinets are features.

Perhaps the most distinctive visual feature of the new range is

this is claimed to be stronger yet lighter than Kevlar. The pole-piece is fitted with a contoured phase plug to enable a smooth transition to the tweeter. Again a large, powerful magnet system is employed.

The cabinets comprise a central wrap (baffle, top, rear, base) of vinyl covered board, with American cherrywood veneered side panels. The cabinet edges are rounded to minimize diffraction effects. Crossovers have fourth-order Bessel alignments for the low frequency poles and second-order for the tweeter (which equates to a fourth-order slope in conjunction with the mechanical LF roll-off of the driver itself). Impedance compensation is used in the two largest floor-



standers to ensure an easy load for the amplifier. From bottom to top, the new range comprises the P10, a stand-mounted two-way, rear-ported reflex design at £299.90; P20, a floor-standing two-way, rear-ported design at £399.90; P30, floor-standing with the bass/midrange in a separate sealed cabinet plus a 165mm rear-firing bass driver, at £599.90; P40, similar to, but larger than, the P30 and with a side-firing 200mm bass driver, at £799.90; the PC centre channel which uses two 165mm drivers, one each side of a centrally mounted 25mm tweeter, at £229.90; and PS, a surround-sound effects design employing a single 125mm driver which incorporates one of TGI's ICT (inductive coupling technology) tweeter elements at £169.90.

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Tannoy Limited, Rosehall Industrial Estate, Coatbridge, Strathclyde ML5 4TF Telephone 01236 420199 Fax 01236 428230.

QED connections

QED has introduced two new interconnecting cables, Qnect 2 and Qnect 4. Both employ oxygen-free copper conductors in twisted pair format to help cancel out noise and interference; in Qnect 2 one pair is used and in Qnect 4 two pairs. Foamed low density polyethylene is used for the insulation. Both cables are fitted with high quality gold-plated phono plugs, those on Qnect 4 of a superior one-piece construction with a Teflon insulation block. Prices start at £27 for Qnect 2 and £54 for Qnect 4.



QED Audio Products Limited, Ridgeway House, Ridgeway Close, Lightwater, Surrey GU18 5XU Telephone 01276 451166 Fax 01276 452211.

Musical Technology

Third loudspeaker in Musical Technology's Audiophile range is the floor-standing Condor, a two-way design employing a tri-section irregular pentagon enclosure which is reflex loaded by a gas-flowed port close to the floor. The bass driver is a 170mm long-throw type, using an alloy diaphragm with a high loss supronyl centre dome, and a 45mm high temperature capable, two-layer aluminium voice-coil. The ultra-wide bandwidth tweeter has an LF resonance at 650Hz. It employs a 25mm alloy dome and Ferro-fluid damping/cooling of the voice-coil. The bi-wired crossover is centred on 1.9kHz and uses laminated soft iron and air-cored inductors with extra low loss polypropylene capacitors. The components are set in a solid block and located between the enclosure and the base to minimize coloration. The cabinet is braced and heavily damped with bitumen pads and foam. Intended to be placed between 200 and 400mm from the rear wall, Condor has a frequency range of 50Hz-22kHz (-6dB LF point), a nominal impedance of 6



ohms and a sensitivity of 88dB for 2.83V at one metre. The cabinet is 880mm tall. It costs £999.95 in cherry, walnut, rosewood or coloured lacquer, or £1,074.95 in burr yew.

Musical Technology, Unit 10, Howard Industrial Estate, Chilton Road, Chesham, Buckinghamshire HP5 2AU Telephone 01494 793137 Fax 01494 793345

Meridian 508.24

The latest version of Meridian's high-end CD player, the 508 (see "Audio Classics" on page 148) employs the state-of-the-art Crystal Semiconductor 24-bit D/A converter. Crystal chose Meridian as the first



company to use this new device. The new player costs £1,995. Owners of the 508.20 can upgrade for £395.

Meridian Audio Limited, Stonehill, Stukeley Meadows, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE18 6ED Telephone 01480 52144 Fax 01480 459934.

In brief

Cambridge Systems Technology Limited, designers and manufacturers of the Audiobase range has been acquired by the TAG/McLaren Group, famous for its presence in Formula One motor racing. A new company, TAG Electronic Holdings Limited, has been formed which will control both CST and TAG Electronic Systems Limited. Philip Swift, MD of CST has commented to the effect that the move will bring a welcome increase in the resources available to Audiobase. Cambridge Systems Technology Limited, Spitfire Close, Ermine Business Park, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE18 6XY.

Telephone 01480 415600 Fax 01480 52159.

Rob Pel has been appointed managing director of PolyGram Recording Services, the new division of PolyGram Classics & Jazz which is to oversee the worldwide recording and production activities of PolyGram's three classical labels: Decca, DG and Philips. Based now at DG's Hanover headquarters, Pel has been with Philips for 10 years, most recently managing the Philips Sound and Vision plant in Hungary. Before that he was with Philips Communications Systems in the Netherlands.