

numerous other accessories soon followed. A keen interest in cable performance produced a 42-strand loudspeaker cable and then the legendary 79-strand still found in many professional and domestic hi-fi installations. After a short period of manufacturing audio separates to make up a complete British hi-fi system, the company carried out extensive research into cable parameters and published 'The Genesis Report' on its findings.

This led to the Qudos and Profile ranges of cables.

The rapidly developing market for multi-room systems is catered for by QED's Systemline S4-3 Controller, KMS Keypad and Dot-Matrix Display. A further development produced the Roomlink driver unit which works with eye-sensors at each listening location to relay infra-red remote control signals by wire to the equipment being controlled.

Products

Loudspeaker cables, interconnect cables, switching accessories, Systemlink multi-room components

Key Dates

- **1973** Company founded by Bob Abraham and Ian Vine
- **1978** 79-strand loudspeaker cable
- **1980** Moved to Ashford

- **1984** Hi-fi separates introduced
- **1989** Systemline multi-room system
- **1990** Roomlink wall-mounted multi-room sensors
- **1992** Vector remote-controlled preamplifier
- **1994** Cable research programme produces new designs
- **1995** Qudos and Profile loudspeaker cable ranges
- **1997** Qnect 2 and Qnect 4 interconnects

Quad Electroacoustics



Quad 99 Series components: CD player, control unit, tuner, power amplifier and, left, the 909 power amplifier

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The brand name Quad, and the Company's famous byline 'For the Closest Approach to the Original Sound', have been central to the British audio

scene for more than 50 years. After years spent in the Public Address field Peter J. Walker created the acronym QUAD from 'Quality Unit Amplifier Domestic' and, while never rushing into production of new models until a real advance could be made, found enthusiastic support with each generation of QA12, Quad II, Quad 22 (stereo), Quad 33/303 (first transistor models), Quad 44/405, 306 and 606 power amplifiers and long-running 50 Series for professional use. Indeed many thousands of these systems are still giving pleasure to hi-fi enthusiasts, and the early valve models in particular have become collectors' items.

Similarly his successive ELS and ESL-63 full-range electrostatic loudspeakers remain a standard reference for many professionals and audiophiles. Following the move into the Verity Group, the advanced Quad 77 system

introduced a new level of remote-control versatility. Now, as part of the International Audio Group, new styling has introduced the 99 Series, normally supplied as a complete system with the Quad-Link multi-way control feature. New ESL-988 Series electrostatic loudspeakers are also added to the range, the ESL-988 an update of the ESL-63 and the ESL-989 about 30 per cent larger.

Products

Electrostatic loudspeakers, amplifiers, tuners, CD players
 ★★★★★ ESL-63 loudspeaker.
 ★★ Quad 77 amplifier
 ★ Quad 77 preamplifier, Quad 77 power amplifier
 ★ Quad 77 FM tuner

Key Dates

- **1936** The Acoustical Manufacturing Company founded by Peter Walker

- **1939** Class A power amplifier with separate preamplifier and tuner
- **1949** Corner ribbon loudspeaker. QA12/P power amplifier
- **1951** First Quad pre/power amplifier
- **1953** Quad II control unit and Quad II power amplifier
- **1957** ELS full-range electrostatic loudspeaker
- **1959** Quad 22 stereo control unit
- **1964** UK's first stereo FM decoder
- **1967** Quad 33/303 pre/power amplifier combination
- **1969** Quad 33/303 and FM3 tuner win Design Council Award
- **1975** Quad 44/405 pre/power amplifier combination
- **1978** Quad patented Current Dumping circuit gains Queen's Award for Technological Innovation, the first in the industry
- **1981** ESL-63 full-range electrostatic loudspeaker
- **1986** Quad 66 CD player
- **1990** Peter Walker awarded the OBE
- **1995** Company becomes part of the Verity Group. Quad 77 remote-controlled series of hi-fi separates
- **1996** Quad 77 integrated amplifier wins 'European Amplifier of the Year' Award
- **1997** Company becomes part of the International Audio Group
- **1999** New ESL-988 and ESL-989 electrostatic loudspeakers. 99 Series of hi-fi separates



Quad ESL-989 and ESL-988 loudspeakers