



Listen closely.



MERIDIAN



Meridian designs, engineers and manufactures state-of-the-art audio and video home entertainment systems.

Audio equipment so advanced that if a microphone can detect it, the system can reproduce it.
Video components so sophisticated they offer a uniquely realistic cinema experience.

Music may surround us; available whenever we want, at our fingertips, on demand, in an instant. But does that mean we enjoy it all the more? How often do we really listen – listen closely?

Ever since Meridian was founded by Bob Stuart and Allen Boothroyd in 1977, their audio systems have been all about the quality of the listening experience. Enjoying the very best. Appreciating the finest available. Music for listening pleasure, not mere background noise.

Losing less, hearing more.

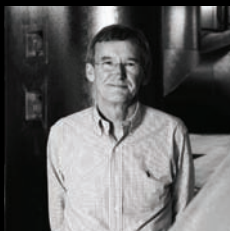
At the heart of the Meridian philosophy, and the driving force behind the company's pursuit of perfection, is the desire to lose as little as possible of the original source material when it is reproduced. Every link in the chain, from recording to reproduction, represents an opportunity for information to be lost and quality to be compromised. By seeking to address this problem, Meridian has invented many unique technologies and set some of the highest benchmarks in performance standards. And while these advances have been the result of some extremely clever technological thinking, what is really important is the experience it enables for the listener and viewer. A richer, deeper, more detailed experience – one you can get lost in. Reproduction so pure you'll find yourself at the heart of the performance, perceiving undiscovered nuances no matter how subtle. Discover Meridian and discover the true meaning of high performance.

Meridian founders Bob Stuart and Allen Boothroyd met in Cambridge in the early 1970's, and it was through a shared love of music that they became friends. But it was their desire to better hear the music they loved that inspired them to design and manufacture their own audio equipment. And so Meridian was born.



Bob Stuart

Bob studied psychoacoustics, a branch of psychology concerned with the human perception of sound, at Imperial College London. Bob is Meridian's Chairman and Chief Technical Officer and remains at the forefront of all Meridian technological research and product development. It is Bob's pursuit of the perfect experience that drives the technical side of the company and continues to inspire the constant innovation behind the company's products and reputation.



Allen Boothroyd

Allen originally trained to be a mechanical engineer, but then went on to study Industrial Design at the Royal College of Art. Allen is Meridian's Design Director and has had hands-on involvement in the aesthetics of all Meridian products, winning numerous prestigious design awards along the way. That every Meridian piece remains conceived, engineered and built in the UK, is a credit to Allen and Bob's unswerving commitment to making the best.



A natural partnership.

A system of beliefs.

Bob and Allen met at a time when high-performance audio manufacturers were concentrating on producing the best separates they could: turntables, amplifiers or loudspeakers. But what frustrated the Meridian founders was that these individual components were not necessarily being designed to be used together, and how that often resulted in a reduction in sound quality.

So the idea was born to focus on making systems. Comprising separates, yes, but separates specifically designed with the other components in mind to form a complete audio pathway. After all, what amplifier could be better equipped to communicate with a Meridian loudspeaker than a Meridian amplifier? Elements developed in tandem with complementary technologies allowing for a seamless relay between them.

Founder Bob Stuart is fond of the analogy, "Would you buy your car's engine from one manufacturer and its suspension and transmission from another?"

From their first production model, an active loudspeaker named the M1, to the groundbreaking form and performance of DSP8000 loudspeakers, every piece bearing the Meridian name has evolved from the original determination to hear music better, clearer and with greater enjoyment.



Meridian loudspeaker DNA.

Human-scale head unit – for a familiar sound pattern that 'speaks' like a person

Decoupled head – reduces sound colouration

Smooth curves – minimise acoustic distortion

Display – shows volume and selected input

Horizontally-opposed bass drivers – cancel unwanted resonance

'Meridium' – Super-stiff resin-damped metal/ply laminate

'Engine' – Sophisticated DSP controls one amplifier for each drive unit

Three adjustable foot assemblies – for perfect stability

Meridian – the evolution of a reputation.

From the first products made, to the latest state-of-the-art developments, the marrying of technology and design has been at the heart of these milestones in Meridian's history – innovations that have also made their mark on the wider world of audio engineering.

1977

M1 Active Loudspeaker

The first product manufactured under the Meridian name, the M1 was the first active loudspeaker, a speaker with power amplifiers inside the cabinet, produced for the home.



Active loudspeaker technology

Previously only available in professional recording studio environments, active loudspeakers benefit from in-built power amplifiers, low-level electronic crossovers and a power supply. This makes for a bigger sound from a smaller cabinet – with minimal cabling.

1977

100 Series modular audio system

The first demonstration of the Meridian belief in modular 'building block' systems. The series was designed to optimise performance with loudspeakers, particularly Meridian models, and the separate but matching modules enabled customers to expand their system as new products became available. Due to an untimely lack of funds, the prototype for this system was formed from an aluminium window mullion.

(The production model proved highly successful, so further windows were spared a reincarnation.)



1983

MCD

Meridian produced the world's first high-performance CD player. The MCD not only showed the potential of the medium, but the promise of digital audio as a whole. Since then, the company has produced over 20 CD players – each bettering the last, and each setting ever-higher standards.



Compact Disc technology

While many in the industry were slow to realise the potential of digital recording, Meridian embraced the Compact Disc standard, understanding immediately that it represented the purest link then available between the recording studio and the home listening room.

1984

200 Series

This range of components was significant, both in its technology and its design. Developments in the understanding of the Compact Disc led to even better sound reproduction from the medium, and Allen's restrained but confident design for the system resulted in it receiving a Design Council Award in 1988.



1993

500 Series

Including the 565, the world's first digital surround processor, this was the series that introduced many people to the joy of listening with Meridian, cementing a reputation for absolute audio quality. It proved to be one of the company's most successful ranges ever. Many of its core technologies have evolved further, and now feature in today's G Series.



2001

DSP8000

Meridian's iconic design for its flagship loudspeaker echoes smooth, aerodynamic curves – soft edges help to improve the sound.



Meridian Lossless Packing (MLP)

Introduced in 1998, MLP is a ground-breaking technique that delivers bit-accurate audio while reducing the amount of data that has to be stored, and the bandwidth required to play it back. It was adopted as the standard compression method for DVD-Audio and is now at the heart of the Blu-ray Disc specification.





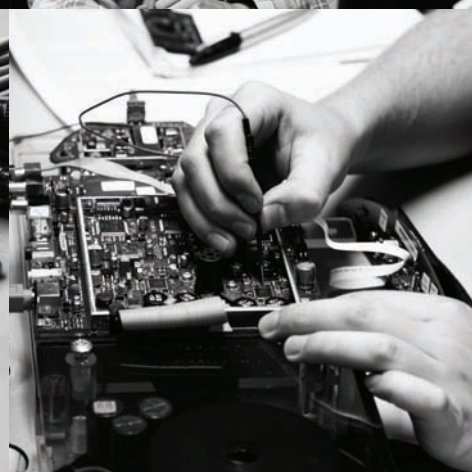
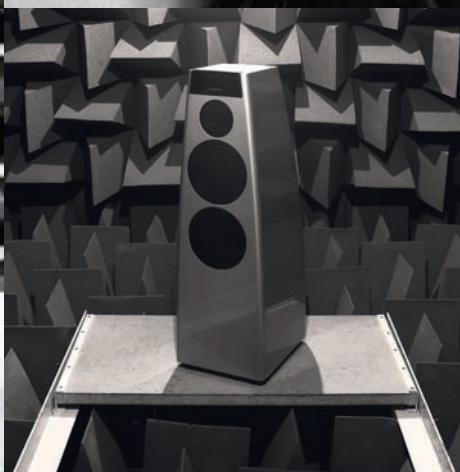
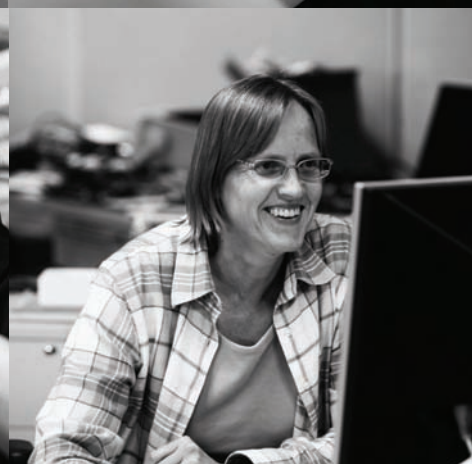
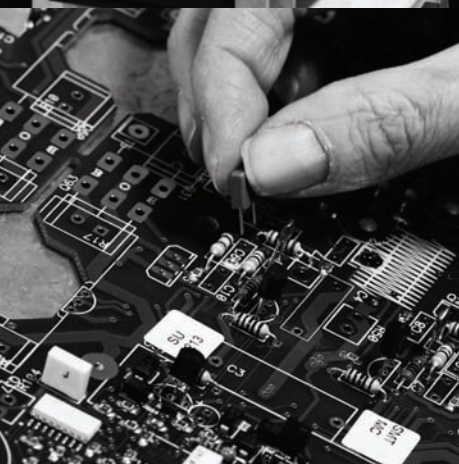
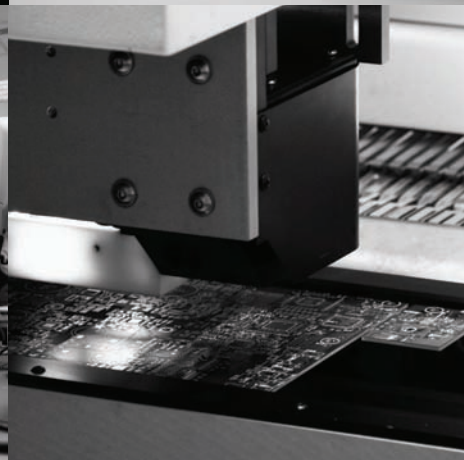
Perfect harmony: exquisite sound in beautiful surroundings.

Making Meridian.

Meridian may have been founded by two people, but it has grown because of the dedication of many. From the factory floor to research and development, the company is a team dedicated to a single aim: to make the best.

Talk to a member of the Meridian team, and it won't be long before they admit that a love of music was a driving factor toward their chosen career. After all, it was a shared love of music that first brought Bob and Allen together. Dr Rhonda Wilson is Meridian's Director of Research, as well as an accomplished bassoon player. "It seems only natural for almost all of us who work here to have a love of music at some level," she says. "After all, what we're trying to achieve, with every new development, is a way of hearing music better reproduced, to enhance our enjoyment, to make and hear more of it."

People who work for Meridian usually stay working for Meridian. It is a company that understands people, and that the quality of their experience at work is as important as the quality of the products produced. At the manufacturing level, operators are responsible for hand-setting complete circuit boards, rather than just individual components on a conveyor belt. Lyn Chapman, a PCB Assembler, says, "We love what we do, because we love the finished product. It's great to be proud of what you make."





Designed to perform.

When something performs beautifully, it is not unreasonable to ask that it looks beautiful too. But Allen Boothroyd's design philosophy is not solely a matter of aesthetics. Every material is chosen equally for its purpose and its visual appeal – meticulously. So not only does the housing of the flagship DSP8000 look stunning – an elegant shape formed of curved pressure-laminated woods, metals and glass – you know each combination of those materials was selected for its weight, rigidity and damping qualities as well. Qualities essential in eliminating reverberation and vibration, enabling the pure reproduction of sound from the loudspeaker.

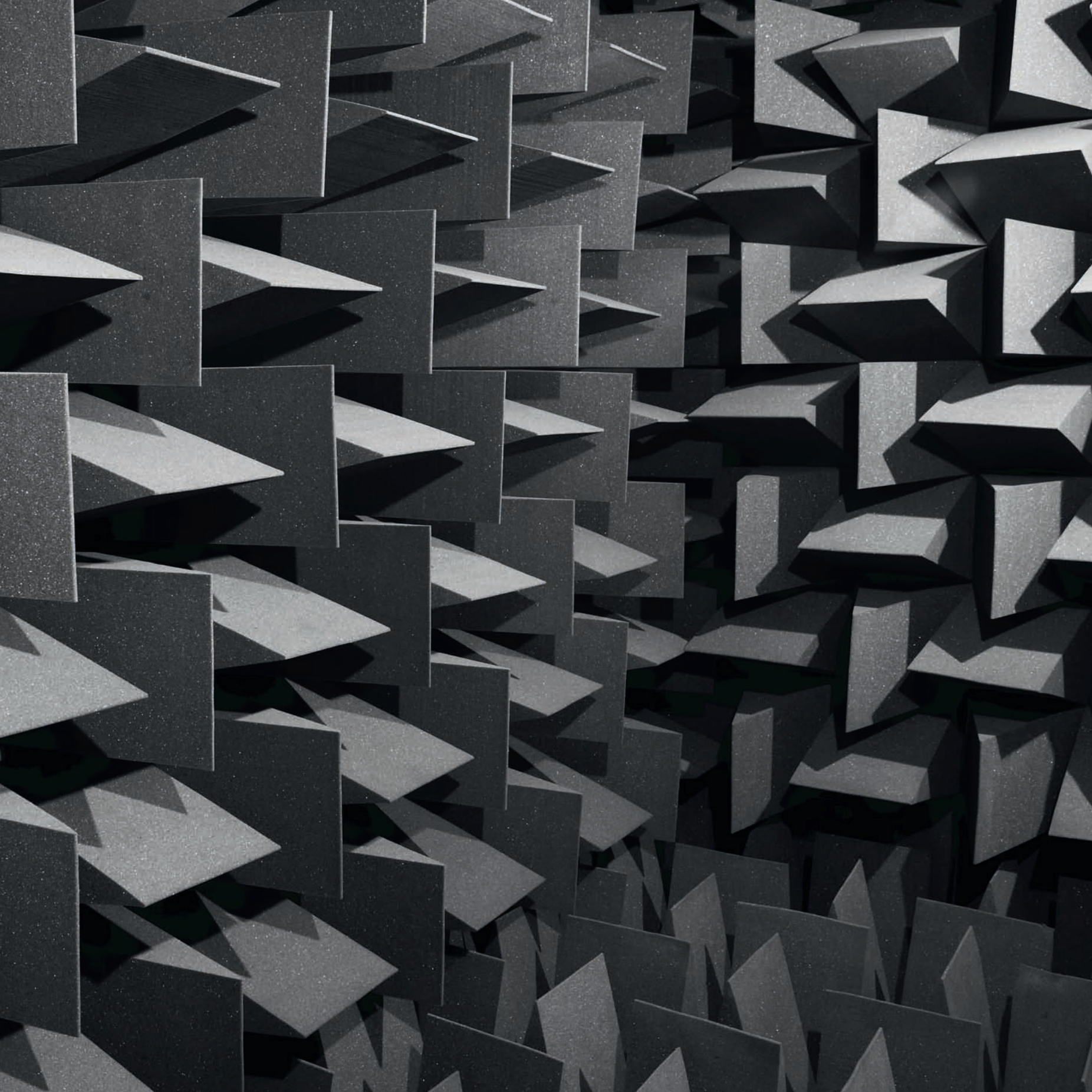
With Meridian, the standard of audio quality is matched by the design that houses it. From processors, controllers and players, whose sleek and minimal enclosures belie the sophistication of the technology they contain, to floor-standing or in-wall loudspeakers – when Meridian pieces make a statement, it is always one that is in harmony with its surroundings. Ultimately, Meridian strives to make owning their systems an all-encompassing experience, one of pure quality in form and function.

Testing one, two, three.

Some manufacturers test either batches or products at random, but not a single item leaves Meridian's factory near Cambridge in the United Kingdom without it being thoroughly checked and tested.

After a product has been assembled, it enters a process known as a 'soak test'. This is where the testing team do their best to 'break' it by subjecting it to extremes of volume, continuous play and bad quality source material. It is only by going to such levels that any flaws can be isolated and ironed out, to make a piece worthy of its Meridian badge. And because Meridian is a specialist, high-quality manufacturer, more time and resources can be channelled into testing, so that problems can be discovered before the products are installed. After leaving the factory, each unit has an individual record of testing, kept on file, that can be referred to should the day come when the Service Department needs to perform maintenance or an upgrade.

Meridian is able to place a higher emphasis on this end of production because it has all the facilities under one roof. These include an in-house anechoic chamber, Electromagnetic Compatibility test suite, and several purpose-built listening and screening rooms. Their aim is ultimately the same: to make an outstanding product that lasts.





The Meridian range.

Meridian makes, among its many products, an outstanding range of CD and DVD players, surround processors, loudspeakers, projectors and digital media systems. Individual pieces designed to complement each other and create a complete system, all from a single manufacturer. On the following pages are suggestions to help you build your own system. Alternatively, your nearest Meridian Retailer can tailor-make a system to suit the way you want to listen and watch.

Music System.

This system is for those who place the utmost importance on listening. Music lovers who want to recreate the recorded event, hear the real dynamics and timbre of the musical instruments and the true sound of the voices recorded. This Meridian music system is also effortlessly elegant: two beautiful free-standing loudspeakers and a single player connected by the most discreet of cables. This is a system that can truly unlock the heart and soul of your music collection.

808.2 Reference Compact Disc Player

The Meridian 808.2 has rapidly become recognised as the best-sounding Compact Disc player available. It is certainly the best player the company has ever produced. It features the ultimate in Meridian's FIFO buffering and upsampling technologies, plus a brand new 'apodising' digital filter that can make standard CDs sound like high resolution recordings, and even correct faults in the original recording.

DSP7200 Digital Active Loudspeakers

A pair of Meridian DSP7200 digital active loudspeakers makes an ideal companion for the 808.2. Within its curved form, the DSP7200 harnesses powerful digital signal processing for crossover filtering to produce outstandingly pure and dynamic audio. Contained in the cabinets, crafted from pressure-laminated panels of wood and metal to produce almost perfectly vibration and resonance-free enclosures, are amplifiers directly connected to the drive units. This makes the whole loudspeaker much more efficient, producing as much sound as a conventional loudspeaker over four times its size. And instead of a conventional amplifier and loudspeakers connected by expensive unsightly cables, a single, thin cable carries pristine digital audio to the DSP7200s from the 808.2 via SpeakerLink.

So the system doesn't just sound beautiful: it looks beautiful too.

808.2

Reference Compact Disc Player



DSP7200

Digital Active Loudspeakers







Meridian Digital Theatre System.

This mid-range Meridian Digital Theatre System is ideal for a dedicated listening room, but is equally able to beautifully reproduce movie soundtracks of every kind, offering fantastic performance for a truly immersive experience.

G96 DVD Transport

At the heart of the G96 DVD transport is a high-speed DVD-ROM drive: the best type of drive to recover information accurately from all types of disc for incredible audio and image reproduction. Not only does it play virtually all CD and DVD formats, the G96 also decodes Dolby Digital, DTS and MPEG bitstreams, and provides a secure high-resolution digital output for connection to a Meridian surround controller, such as the G61R.

G61R Surround Sound Controller

As its name suggests, it controls the signal, dividing it between the loudspeakers for perfectly balanced, enveloping surround sound. It also features the renowned Meridian Room Correction technology which 'reads' the room and automatically builds a series of digital filters to reduce reverberation for a purer, clearer sound.

DSP5200 Loudspeakers

DSP5200 loudspeakers are a distillation of the sensuous lines and technologies of the DSP8000, into a compact loudspeaker standing under a metre tall. The incredible dynamics and bass produced from these smaller loudspeakers are characteristic of all Meridian DSP loudspeakers.

DSP5200HC Loudspeaker

This centre loudspeaker complements the digital theatre system, handling all-important film dialogue and enhancing the transition of sounds as they move left and right across the sound stage.

SW1600 Subwoofer

Meridian subwoofers combine state-of-the-art technology and materials to provide extreme bass with depth, clarity and control. The role of a subwoofer in this Meridian Digital Theatre is to support the main loudspeakers in reproducing the full range of frequencies found in movie soundtracks.

G96

DVD Transport



G61R

Surround Sound Controller
with Meridian Room Correction



DSP5200HC & DSP5200

Loudspeakers



SW1600

Subwoofer



Meridian Sooloos – Your digital life in focus.

Meridian understood the potential of the digital musical experience early in the company's history and became pioneers in the field. This willingness to look to the future and seek out the next leap in musical enjoyment has resulted in the addition of the Sooloos brand to the Meridian stable.

Meridian Sooloos gives you fingertip control of your music and photos, allowing you to access them in an entirely intuitive way. Imagine the ultimate entertainment experience. Instantly enjoy your media at a touch, in pristine audio fidelity and living colour. Play a song that brings back a memory. Introduce a friend to something new. Set the stage for a perfect evening.

Quickly and easily find the perfect mix of music and photos for any occasion using the Focus feature. Then pick exactly what you want to hear, or let the Meridian Sooloos system make your selections for you – creating the perfect mood.

Meridian Sooloos is ideal for multi-room systems too, giving you an instinctive interface that turns a potentially complex control issue into simplicity itself. If owning Meridian is about rediscovering your favourite music through the sheer quality of its reproduction, then adding a Meridian Sooloos system is about re-introducing you to your collection, through its sheer intuitiveness and ease of access.



Control 10 with DSP7200 Loudspeakers

Meridian Sooloos – In tune with your system.

The fit between Meridian and Sooloos is not just one of matching philosophies. The integration between the two systems is seamless. Meridian Sooloos provides the listener with a complete media management system and the best audio reproduction available.

Meridian Sooloos isn't a product: it's a system. Designed with your needs in mind – completely flexible and effortlessly expandable. Some components include Meridian's unique SpeakerLink for simple audio and control interfacing.

A Meridian Sooloos system comprises three components:

Control

A control component is your interactive interface with the system. It organises your collection visually and intuitively, allowing you easy access to your music and photos via touch-screen technology. You can add as many control devices as you need to build your system.

Store

Store components store and back up your collection – saving your library automatically, to be restored in the unlikely event of failure. You can add as much storage as your collection demands – and even synchronise systems between multiple locations.

Playback

Playback components enable the Meridian Sooloos system to deliver audio of the highest fidelity, performance and quality – in as many rooms as you desire.



Integrated System.

A Meridian integrated system is perfect for a multifunction living space where various uses, including entertainment, are combined in one area. The all-in-one system described below has been chosen for optimum performance. The loudspeakers are built into the walls, so neither your interior design nor your audio/visual pleasure is compromised.

G95 DVD Surround Receiver

This unassuming box combines everything you need for a flawless integrated system – and nothing you don't. It is a multi-format player for CDs, MP3 CDs and DVD-Video; it also includes a DAB & FM tuner, a surround controller that manages the signals being sent to the system's loudspeakers and powerful amplifiers to drive them, a preamplifier to allow the connection of external sources and a powerful video scaler that makes DVDs appear like High Definition.

P330i In-wall Loudspeakers

These integrated loudspeakers offer all the unparalleled performance expected of a Meridian product – but in a 'hidden' variation. The 300 Series is perfect for discreet installations where loudspeakers should be heard and not seen, or where floor-standing models are not practical or desired. Also available in flush-mount (completely hidden by wall coverings) or on-wall (hung on walls rather than recessed), these in-wall models are covered by a grille that can be painted to match surrounding walls. Reproduction quality is uncompromised: their innovative Meridian technology is housed in heavy, rigid enclosures that minimise wall and cavity excitation, so you hear your music and not wall resonances.

P330Ci In-wall Loudspeaker

Complementing the main loudspeakers, this centre-channel loudspeaker reproduces all-important movie dialogue as well as providing tighter, more accurate stereo sound. Its drivers are aligned to allow optimum performance when installed horizontally, making the P330Ci perfect for use above or beneath a flat panel display.

SW1600 Subwoofer

The SW1600 is optimised for music as well as movies so this subwoofer is perfectly at home in a system with the emphasis on listening. Its combination of state-of-the-art technology and materials provides extreme bass, depth and control to complete the integrated system.



The Screening Room, Alfred Dunhill store, Bourdon House, London, featuring DSP7200 loudspeakers.





Video system.

The Meridian 810 Reference Video System represents the culmination of a 10-year history of pursuing perfection in visual technology. It is, quite simply, the best in the world.

Meridian 810 Reference Video System

Human vision is not just the result of a physical process: it is also influenced by perception, making it virtually impossible to measure the eye's resolution on a simple megapixel scale. But that didn't stop Meridian getting closer than anyone else in replicating it.

The 810 Reference Video Projector displays 10 megapixels – where conventional HD projectors offer only two. The more pixels there are, the less you can see them, and the finer the image resolution. The images this projector creates are so detailed, clear and precise in their depth of field, authenticity of colour and contrast, they'll appear almost as real as anything you see in vision. The unparalleled amount of information displayed by the 810 Reference Video System, combined with the precise and extensive calibration process applied to each projector, allows the cinematographer's original vision to be realised.

The Meridian 810 Scaler, specially designed to complement the projector, accepts a wide range of sources and uses the latest image processing technology to upscale and upsample them to match the projector resolution of five times that of a full-spec HD display. You may find yourself rediscovering your film collection and seeing favourites in a new light, thanks to the brilliant quality of this system.





Make your system as individual as you are.

Meridian Select is another aspect of the Meridian experience that gives you complete control and choice over your system. When it comes to exterior finishes, of course there is the contemporary graphite, classic piano black gloss or silver; however if you're looking for something more bespoke, Meridian Select is your chance to demonstrate your personality and taste. Because all of our loudspeakers are made to order and constructed in the UK, we can tailor-make their cabinets to a colour of your choosing. Whether it is to fit with your interior palette or complement furniture or a work of art, the choice of colour is yours: the tone you set is entirely up to you.

Please contact your Meridian Retailer for further details.







Compact systems.

Meridian compact systems distil 30 years of audio expertise into surprisingly compact forms, delivering uncompromised Meridian performance that can easily be added to any living environment, for simple 'plug in and play' audio/video enjoyment. They are as versatile as they are ingenious.

Meridian F80

The Meridian F80 was developed in collaboration with Ferrari to produce a beautiful, high-performance system in a single, compact package. The results are incredible audio quality, combined with supreme versatility. Featuring the same Meridian technology as larger systems that extract every detail from a recording, you'll be amazed something so small actually allows you to hear more of your music. With CD and DVD player, digital radio and alarm clock functions, it is equally comfortable waking you up to your choice of music as it is filling a large room with incredibly detailed, powerful sound. Combine the Meridian F80 with the i80 universal dock for iPod to realise the full potential of your digital music library. The Meridian F80 is available in a variety of Ferrari colours and the i80 is available with a choice of co-ordinated covers.



Ferrari
OFFICIAL LICENSED PRODUCT

The F80 is produced under license of Ferrari SpA. FERRARI, the PRANCING HORSE device, all associated logos and distinctive designs are trademarks of Ferrari SpA. iPod is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries.

Alfred Dunhill AD88

The Alfred Dunhill AD88 is the result of a unique partnership between Meridian and Alfred Dunhill, the luxury goods designers. This elegant solution is a powerful entertainment system that beautifully marries tradition and innovation in the very best British style. It combines Meridian's enviable and award-winning reputation for audio performance and quality with dunhill's understated and timeless styling. And, as with the F80, you will actually hear more of your music, thanks to Meridian innovation. The Alfred Dunhill AD88 combines all the features you would expect of a high-end compact system, as well as some you might not: CD player, DVD player, digital radio, alarm clock and iPod compatibility. The enclosure is formed from multiple ply laminates, for optimum rigidity and damping, and finished in gloss piano lacquer.





A world of Meridian; a world of experience.

Meridian products are for those who demand the best. And the very best products deserve the very best accompanying customer service. From the moment you decide Meridian could be just what you're listening for, the company and its partners are with you every step of the way. From the design of a system to best suit your existing listening room, to starting from scratch with a new build or renovation, the Meridian team will work with you, your architects and interior designers to achieve the very best audio visual performance and most effective installation.

Meridian's input doesn't stop at the point of installation. With a worldwide network of sales support, advice and service, experts are always on hand to help, whether recommending new products, replacing or upgrading component parts of a system, ironing out problems or servicing existing installations.



Setting the technological standard.

The number of unique technologies that have been developed by Meridian over the course of the company's history is impressive in itself. That these technologies have set standards for the rest of the industry goes even further to prove a reputation for innovation and the pursuit of perfection.



DSP Loudspeakers With powerful Digital Signal Processing (DSP) crossovers and built-in power amps and converters, Meridian DSP Loudspeakers deliver as much quality sound as a conventional speaker four times the size.



Meridian Room Correction Meridian's acclaimed proprietary DSP room correction system that smoothes out room resonances for clearer sound and better imaging.



SpeakerLink Meridian's latest DSP Loudspeakers can be connected with a simple Cat 5 cable instead of expensive, ugly conventional cables. SpeakerLink delivers pristine digital sound and control down a single cable.



Meridium A proprietary pressure-laminated speaker cabinet construction material unique to Meridian that features the highest-grade plywood layers bonded to an aluminium core.



Triple FIFO Buffering A special multiple buffering system that cleans up digital signals, removing jitter and ensuring perfect timing, for improved clarity and accuracy.



Meridian Lossless Packing (MLP) A patented lossless digital compression system allowing more music to be stored or transferred in the same space, while retaining bit-perfect reproduction. The technology is now included in the Blu-ray Disc specification.



Meridian High Resolution (MHR) A proprietary encrypted digital data link between Meridian components allowing high-definition audio signals to be transferred with improved quality and complete security. Now available in an enhanced form as MMHR – Meridian Multichannel High Resolution.



Smart Source Meridian components identify the source of a digital signal and automatically select the optimum mode to replay it.

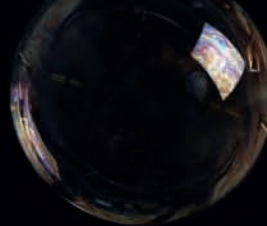


Meridian Apodising Filter A unique proprietary digital filter delivering purer, sweeter sound and even cleaning up recording faults caused by inferior processing.

Meridian. Hearing is believing.

Meridian can tell you what technologies make their audio and video equipment some of the best in the world. Meridian can show you how beautiful it looks in your home. Meridian can even describe the almost indescribable quality of reproduction their systems offer. But nothing will ever get you close to understanding the difference a Meridian system makes until you experience it. Just listen closely: you will believe.





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MERIDIAN