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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Attention

Meridian Launches the Prime Headphone Amplifier – Featuring Unique Analogue Spatial Processing (ASP) Technology



Meridian Audio has announced the introduction of the Prime Headphone Amplifier, a reference-quality analogue headphone amplifier for almost all types of headphone, which replays audio from both analogue and USB-based sources. Built into an elegant and compact new Allen-Boothroyd designed metal case, the Prime Headphone Amplifier also provides a preamplifier output to drive an external audio system or analogue active loudspeakers.

The unique new enclosure design echoes previous iconic Meridian designs such as the G Series and even Meridian's original 100 Series. Its new, compact shape includes several special features and details. The metal enclosure is a dual-skinned design of interlocking extrusions, making the circuitry far less susceptible to interference. There are no screws – the box is opened by a hidden magnetic release mechanism. Even the curve on the volume knob was carefully chosen, recalling the compact M80 music system and a special flexible coupling links the knob to the shaft of the volume potentiometer towards the rear of the box, minimising microphony – mechanically-induced noise.

The Prime Headphone Amplifier can be powered by the wall-mounted supply provided or, for even higher audio quality, by the optional partnering Meridian Prime Power Supply, available early December. The use of this external power supply means that AC noise is kept well away from the pure analogue stages of the Headphone Amplifier.

Meridian's Prime Headphone Amplifier, features unique Analogue Spatial Processing (ASP) technology to deliver more immersive, authentic sound to any headphones. Meridian's advanced ASP transforms headphone listening, providing a more natural spatial soundstage that's more like listening on loudspeakers.

Whether the listener chooses to listen on headphones because using loudspeakers is impossible, or simply because they prefer it, Meridian's new Prime Headphone Amplifier represents headphone listening done right. In addition to an extremely high quality analogue path that is essentially remote-controlled from the front-panel for the shortest possible signal path and the ability to use almost any kind of headphones including separately wired types, the Prime Headphone Amplifier transform headphone listening from sometimes sounding "in your head" – into an experience much more like listening on loudspeakers

Key Points for Editors

- All metal extruded chassis
- 24bit/192kHz native conversion capability
- Separate low-jitter crystal oscillators for 44k1 and 48k based sample rates (not a jittery synthesized clocks)
- Asynchronous data transfer
- Audiophile music grade power supplies and filter capacitors
- 6 layer PC board
- Direct-coupled outputs
- Short signal path
- Pure analogue throughput for analogue source
- Analogue signal processing for optimized headphone listening: 3 options: Off, out-of-head, out-of-head with bass boost
- Headphone capable output of 2.8vrms
- Mechanical switches for source selection and analogue headphone processing mode.

Meridian Prime Headphone Amplifier - UK Price: £1200.00*

Hi-res Image selection here: <http://meridian-audio.com/PrimeHPA.zip>

RELEASE ENDS/Date: 13.00 (GMT) on 21st November 2013

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*All information provided is subject to change without notice. All prices quoted are suggested recommended retail and include VAT.

ABOUT MERIDIAN AUDIO

Meridian Audio is based in Cambridgeshire, UK, and was founded in 1977 by psychoacoustics expert, Bob Stuart and design engineer, Allen Boothroyd. With over 35 years' history of innovation and development of uncompromised consumer home entertainment systems offering exceptional performance, this award-winning company is widely recognised as a world leader in high-quality audio and video reproduction. Meridian developed the first audiophile CD player, the world's first consumer digital surround controller, and the MLP lossless packing system included in Blu-ray Disc. The company's optical disc players, DSP-based loudspeakers, video projectors, and scalars are unique in the industry, maintaining a super-quality digital signal throughout the path from the studio to the home, using advanced digital signal processing to deliver natural sound and smooth, crystal-sharp images with true cinematic realism. In 2008, Meridian established its Automotive division and has since developed in-car entertainment systems featuring their unique Trifield technology for models including the McLaren MP12C supercar, the Range Rover Evoque, and more recently, the luxury Jaguar XJ Ultimate.

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