

News Release

18 May 2017

New amplifier is pure PMC, right to the cor

High End, Munich

PMC is using the High End Show to introduce the “cor”, the company's first consumer integrated amplifier, to the global audiophile market; bringing its holistic design philosophy to high-end electronics, for pure analogue music reproduction.

The cor integrated is an amplifier that adds no sonic character of its own to the music. It follows exactly the same design ethos for high resolution playback as used in the creation of all PMC's loudspeakers, namely musicality, transparency and neutrality, where nothing is added and nothing is taken away. The role of the amplifier, like the company's speakers, is to reproduce the music exactly as it is meant to be heard.

Designed and hand-built by PMC in the UK, the cor - the dictionary definition of which is: (anatomy) heart; (figuratively) soul, mind - is an integrated amplifier that works entirely in the analogue domain. Every element of the cor has been developed with purity of sound at the top of the criteria list. The four unbalanced RCA analogue inputs are joined by one pair of balanced XLR inputs and a set of direct inputs that connect straight to the power amplifier. The cor integrated does not feature any digital inputs and is unashamedly an analogue amplifier for the purist.

All the components were specified without compromise after extensive listening tests, including the black PCBs and the volume control, which, together with the tone and balance faders, are motorised using the finest technology from professional mixing consoles, and are remote controllable. This provides flexibility to achieve the perfect sound on every track, without moving from your armchair.

The delicate audio signal passing through the controls remains entirely in the analogue domain and, if desired, a defeat option routes the signal only via the volume control. Audio switching is via hermetically sealed, inert gas filled, gold plated relays for zero oxidation and better electronic isolation. Power output from the Class A/B design is a conservatively rated 95 watts into 8 ohms and 140 watts into 4 ohms.

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The cor also features an auto-sensing true audiophile Class A/B headphone amplifier for personal listening. Whatever the sensitivity of the connected headphones, the cor's headphone output has enough drive to make them sing, while protecting them from overload and maintaining a musical, neutral and transparent sound.

The cor amplifier performs all the functions of a traditional integrated amplifier, but its circuit design does not follow the usual pattern. The Darlington circuit provides the ultimate in short signal paths and builds on much respected work of Sidney Darlington at Bell Labs. The PMC designers auditioned many different configurations of transistor implementation before settling on the Darlington design, which was found to provide the best transparency. The output devices are at the forefront of modern transistor technology and incorporate temperature sensors inside the transistor. When combined with PMC's proprietary first stage module, this means optimum temperature tracking, resulting in phenomenally low distortion, lower heat and greater stability.

Each circuit block is linked by a balanced connection, locking spurious RF and EMI emissions out of the audio path and enabling each circuit block to reference its own local ground. The PMC custom designed 360VA power transformer uses MuMETAL® shielding to further reduce EMI, a specially formulated, military-spec alloy which absorbs up to 200 times more magnetic flux than steel. This ensures the amplifier is as clean and quiet as possible.

Explaining the thinking behind the development of the cor integrated, Peter Thomas, PMC's founder and owner, says, "For many years my passion has been developing amplifiers for our professional loudspeakers, and now a pure analogue amplifier for the consumer world, designed from the ground up. I wanted to take our holistic approach to loudspeaker design, one of musical purity, and bring it to the electronics, through the reduction of noise and the amplifying of nothing but the music." He continues, "I am thrilled and delighted to be able to present the cor integrated, the realisation of a dream come true, that has been driven not by commercial pressures, but by the desire to do it right."

Stylistically, the cor is a masterpiece of minimalist industrial design, reminiscent to the work of Dieter Rams and paying homage to Raymond Loewy, the "father of streamlining". Crafted from extruded aluminium and supplied in an understated black finish, the subtle appearance perfectly complements the purity of music reproduction that is key to the design of the cor.

The extruded aluminium remote control echoes the style of the amplifier and allows volume, balance or tonal adjustments at the touch of a button.

The cor integrated amplifier will initially be released across Europe and will have a UK retail price of £4995, inc. VAT. Euro pricing TBC.

Experience the cor integrated in the PMC room, Atrium 4.1 room F123 from 1.30pm on 18 May.

<http://pmc-speakers.com/products/consumer/cor-electronics/cor-integrated>

Ends.

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Please contact Tom Barron or Craig Sowerby, your PMC sales manager, for further details and availability. tom@pmc-speakers.com, craig@pmc-speakers.com

Information for Editors

About PMC

PMC is a UK-based, world-leading manufacturer of professional monitor and audiophile speaker systems.

PMC designs feature its uniquely engineered Advanced Transmission Line (ATL™) technology, which provides a near-identical, high-resolution, wide-bandwidth signal response across the complete product range. Proprietary drive units, electronics and cabinet engineering provide unrivalled tonal accuracy, clarity and dynamic range throughout a range of designs, extending from the world's smallest ATL™ design, the DB1S, to large-scale active control room monitoring systems such as the flagship QB1 XBD-A.

PMC monitor systems are in service with most of the world's premier music and film sound recording studios, broadcast companies, post-production and audio mastering facilities. For further information and an extensive list of clients, visit www.pmc-speakers.com