

PRESS RELEASE
October 2009

isoTek[®]

www.isoteksystems.com



The IsoTek Aquarius: a New Benchmark in Power Conditioning for Hi-Fi and Home Cinema Systems

*The heir to the Mini Sub's throne enhances the performance of
audio systems with even greater clarity and focus*

IsoTek – the pioneering brand of power management products for hi-fi and home cinema systems – has unveiled its latest mains conditioning component: the Aquarius.

Aquarius is the long-awaited successor to the famous Mini Sub, arguably the best-known mains conditioner in IsoTek's highly respected catalogue. The original Mini Sub was launched in 2003 to universal acclaim, and its eventual replacement – the GII Mini Sub – was held in even higher regard, earning numerous awards from prestigious audio publications around the world.

Autumn 2009 sees the launch of the next-generation – the Aquarius – building upon the success of its illustrious forebears and benefitting from IsoTek's continuous R&D programme to set another new performance benchmark.

Like the GII Mini Sub before it, Aquarius is a six-way mains conditioning component that sits squarely in the middle of IsoTek's range, above the likes of the entry-level Sirius and below the high-end Sigmas, Nova and Titan. It sports two high-current and four medium-current outlets, all individually filtered and fully isolated from one another, together with a newly designed aluminium casing and a host of enhancements under the lid, some trickled down from IsoTek's top-end components, others newly developed and made available for the first time in Aquarius.

Current delivery is greater than the GII Mini Sub, with a full 16 Amps available from its two high-current outlets, ensuring musical transients are entirely unrestricted.

Thermo-magnetic fusing contributes to this enhanced delivery, as does the use of a 16A IEC C20 inlet to connect Aquarius to the mains. Easily distinguished from standard IEC plugs and sockets because their pins are horizontal instead of vertical, IEC C20 connectors enable superior current delivery compared to the C13 plug and C14 socket most commonly found on audio equipment.

The four medium-current outlets now feature IsoTek's Adaptive Gating technology – an auto-sensing filter stage that adapts to the current draw of the load, thus tailoring the filtering process to suit each individual piece of equipment attached. This proprietary technology first appeared in IsoTek's high-end Nova and Sigmas power conditioners, but now Aquarius delivers it at a significantly lower price.

Also new for Aquarius is K.E.R.P. (Kirchoff's Equal Path of Resistance), a technology specially developed for IsoTek's latest EVO3 generation of power conditioners. This engenders a pure, symmetrical signal path through the unit, without interference from one socket to the next, thus helping to deliver a more coherent sound.

Further enhancements are made by an all-new choke design, incorporating improved magnetic material and enabling increased frequency bandwidth, and the independent filter stages have been improved throughout. Even the sturdy new aluminium case plays its part in raising performance levels, its massive ground plan allowing it to act like a Faraday cage when closed, thus providing further shielding from electromagnetic radiation.

It's not just about sonic enhancement, however; Aquarius delivers greater protection from spikes and surges, too, with a massive 67,500 Amps of instantaneous and repeatable protection. The fact that it is repeatable is important: many mains filters have protection circuits that trip and need resetting manually. Or worse, they trip once

and stay tripped, despite allowing the system to play, thus providing no protection at all, unbeknown to the end-user.

The effect that Aquarius has on a system's sound, compared to the same system without conditioning, is unequivocal – just as it was with the GII Mini Sub. The noise floor drops and the sound gains greater focus, with reduced grain and improved clarity. Bass is tighter and better defined, treble gains space and 'air', and the overall musical performance appears more solid and dynamic, and hence more 'real'.

What's more, compare Aquarius to the GII Mini Sub and it is clear that the gains are considerably greater with the new unit. The sound appears even more dynamic, rising out of a quieter background, and the music connects with the listener more emphatically as a result. IsoTek has achieved its objective: Aquarius sets a new mains conditioning benchmark below £1,000.

"The original Mini Sub is the product that put IsoTek firmly on the map," said Keith Martin, IsoTek's founder and Managing Director. "In many ways, it was also responsible for making mains conditioning a serious component of the UK hi-fi scene, introducing a legion of audio fans to the tremendous improvements that effective mains conditioning can bring to any hi-fi system. Replacing such a stalwart with a new model is a tremendous responsibility, but no one who tries Aquarius can be in any doubt that we have succeeded in improving on its award-winning predecessor. Unlike other performance-enhancing accessories – cables and the like – Aquarius will improve the sound of *every* component in your system, ensuring it's the most cost-effective upgrade an audio lover is ever likely to make."

IsoTek Aquarius: Specifications

- Number of outlets: 6
- Mains inlet: 16 Amp IEC C20
- Mains voltage: 100 – 240VAC/50 – 60Hz
- High current (two outlets): 16 Amps
- Medium current (four outlets): 5 Amps
- Maximum current: 16 Amps continuous
- Total available power (230V): 3680W
- High (Circuit/Transient): 4600W/Unlimited
- Medium (Circuit): 1380W
- Dimensions: 444x85x305mm (WxHxD)

- Weight: 9kg

The IsoTek Aquarius is available from late October in silver or black, priced at £795.

Please direct all editorial enquiries to Tim Bower at Andy Giles Associates.

IsoTek[®]

Launched in Hampshire in 2001, IsoTek is a leading brand of power management products for hi-fi and home cinema use. Its product range includes high-performance mains cables and connectors, plus a range of performance-enhancing power conditioners focused on the specific requirements of individual systems. IsoTek products are enjoyed by more than 40,000 customers in 40 countries, and have earned numerous accolades from specialist audio and AV publications worldwide. A number of third-party manufacturers use IsoTek products for development and/or demonstration purposes, including Arcam, Denon, Genesis, Marantz, Monitor Audio, Nordost, Pioneer, PMC, Roksan and TEAC Esoteric. All IsoTek products are manufactured in Britain, designed for purpose and built to last. UK distributor: Sound Foundations Ltd (tel: 01276 501392).

www.isoteksystems.com