

February 2005



Nova Instruction Manual



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The company



A. Introduction

The company

IsoTek was formed in July 2001 with the vision to create high quality mains power distribution units that moved beyond current conventions. Through careful market analysis and extensive research we were able to launch products that moved power distribution forward to be recognised as an integral part of any audio or home theatre system. Our products continue to lead the way in power management systems, our latest GII range galvanises our commitment to pursue excellence at every level.

The principles

We believe all products benefit from their own clean power supply, therefore we advocated the concept of using (smaller) individual filters on each component, with these being specifically designed for their purpose, this dramatically reduces and stops component cross contamination and dispels the belief that one size fits all. Every single component used in our designs is extensively tested for quality, reliability and purpose. Our circuit designs are extensively 'field' tested before coming to market so we can guarantee the widest compatibility with third party products.

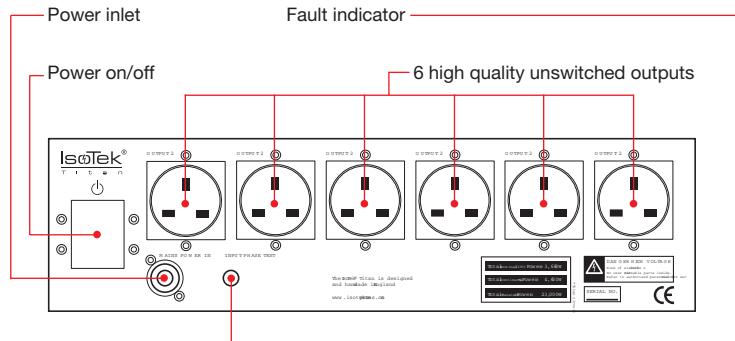
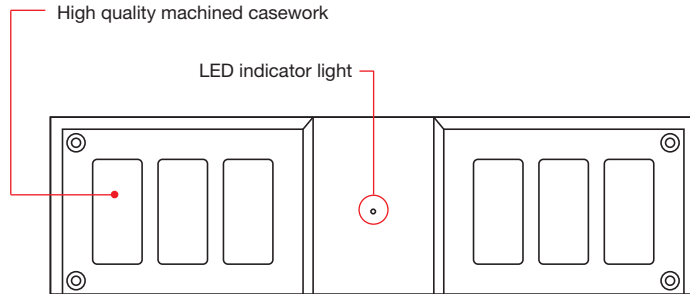
The execution

Within the market of premium audio it is vital to offer exceptional performance and value for money. Products must be made to the highest of standards, be reliable and attractive. A manufacturer must offer exceptional service, dealer training, support and undertake the very best in promotion design and literature. If all these elements are in place customers should experience excellence at every stage. Our continual quest is to meet these challenges.

All of our products are professionally designed, manufactured and hand built in the UK, with deep consideration given to both style, functionality, performance and value for money.

B. The product

Back & front of Nova



Overview

Thank you for purchasing the Nova high-end power conditioner.

The unit you now own is our top of the range power conditioner designed with source components in mind. However, Nova can also be used as a complete system solution provided the power amplifiers power draw is modest, for example a small integrated amplifier. The complex design also eliminates component from component cross contamination through a sophisticated 'Adaptive Gating' system which auto senses the requirements of hardware connected, therefore please allow 15-30 minutes warm up prior to use for optimum results. The Nova was designed and developed to be a 'no compromise' replacement for our previous isolation transformer based SubStation.

For optimum results use the Nova for front-end equipment in conjunction to the award winning Titan for power amplifiers.

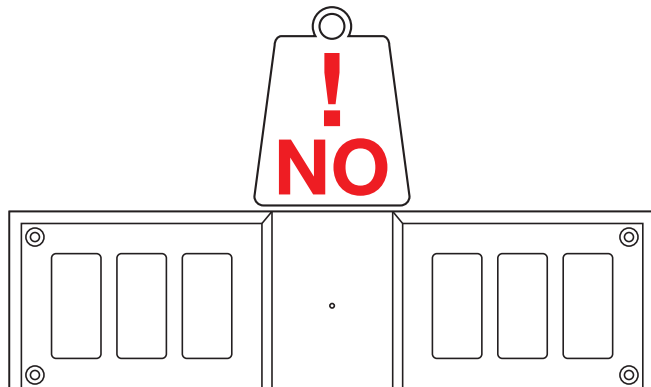
Features

At the rear of the unit you will note six high quality unswitched outlets. These provide an individually filtered supply, thus eliminating components 'talking' to each other or corrupting the clean supply provided by the unit. You will also notice a blue Neutrik power inlet labelled 'Power In' and a red neon fault light. The blue Neutrik inlet provides the power to Titan via its dedicated power cable. The red fault light gives guide for correct phase for the unit. This is particularly useful in European countries that use Shuko connectors which can easily be reversed.

The Nova uses a sophisticated electronic fusing system which allows, almost unlimited transient power to be achieved. It also gives the unit the ability to be run directly on its own dedicated radial circuit not protected by RCDs, allowed under British regulations as a cooker circuit.

B. The product

Weight loading



Safety

All components used within the Nova circuit are of the highest grade possible and are also under stressed, thus giving greater longevity. These are carefully selected then hand soldered onto a PCB with high grade silver solder. The Nova is a direct coupled design which allows for higher power handling capabilities than the GII Mini Sub.

In the interest of safety the unit should be placed upon its own dedicated shelf on an audio grade equipment rack. It is NOT recommended that Nova be placed on top of or under other pieces of equipment.

Areas where 'tube' amplifiers are present should not exceed 25 °C. If you are positioning the Nova in the close proximity of such a device please be aware of this factor.

If you have to locate the unit on the floor we strongly recommend you do not place the unit near heat sources, such as radiators or air ducts. Good air circulation is essential to prevent heat build up within the chassis. Do not place the Nova on a soft surface, for example a rug or carpet, which could block the ventilation intakes on the bottom half of the chassis. Do not let any liquids spill onto or objects fall into the chassis. Should either of these events happen immediately switch off the unit at the wall socket, wait for at least one minute, unplug all other cables and return it to your authorised IsoTek dealer for a full service.

C. Installation

Placement

Ideally the unit should be placed upon its own dedicated shelf of an audio grade equipment rack.

Conecting Nova to a power supply

Once the Nova is positioned connect the unit to a mains wall socket by the cable supplied. Ensure that the RCBO is in the off position and connect the power cord into the blue socket on the bottom left hand side of Nova's back panel. Ensure that the silver release catch on the blue Neutrik plug is slightly to the left of 12 o'clock, push in and rotate clock wise until the plug clicks into place. To release pull the silver clip backwards and reverse the action. Now plug the standard UK three pin, European Schuko or American three pin into the wall socket, and turn on if the wall socket has a switch. Power Nova up by pushing the RCBO switch to the up position. The front panel blue LED will illuminate. Look to the rear of the unit, if the red fault light* is illuminated the following steps need to be carried out.

In the majority of European countries using schuko or similar connectors merely reversing the rotation of the plug in the wall socket is sufficient.

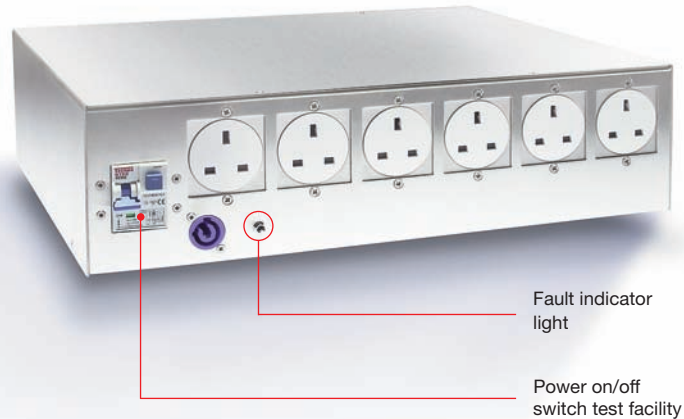
For UK customers and those using 13amp fused plugs you should probably contact an electrician to determine why your wall socket is wired out of phase.

To clarify the fault light is mainly to determine correct neutral / live (phase) connection. Do not take this as a way of testing other parts of the system, it is merely for the correct connection of Nova. We would like to stress there are no negative safety implications from incorrect connection, it is just an issue of sound quality.

In very rare circumstances the light will not extinguish, this is where a balanced 110volt supply exists in the building (Belgium). The balanced system has no true live and neutral, it has two lives. However, be happy if this is the case because balanced supplies are considered highly desirable.

* Primarily this is to indicate a neutral/transposed with live/phase. Whilst Nova is fully protected if incorrectly connected it is not considered desirable. Also the fault indicator will light if the saftey has operated. Under normal conditions of operation the fault indicator will not indicate. The fault indicator is not in the circuit and therefore causes no sound degradation.

Rear elevation of the unit



C. Installation

Equipment coupling

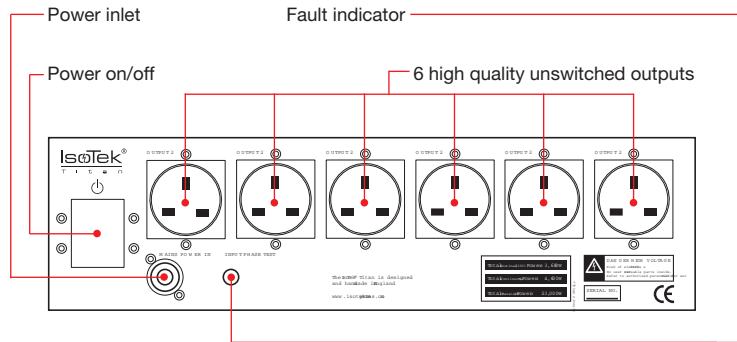
Under no circumstances can Nova be run without proper earth/ground protection. Nova must also NEVER under any circumstances be used with plugs which have no ground connection.

Turn off all equipment you wish to use with the Nova, unplug the cables relating to these from the wall socket or redundant distribution block you may have been using and plug these into the rear sockets marked, output 1-6 of the Nova.

Now simply turn on the Nova followed by the equipment plugged into it. We do not recommend turning off the Nova after use, and do not under any circumstances turn off Nova at a wall socket. If you wish to turn your entire system off after use, firstly turn off each individual component followed lastly by Nova. On 'power up' please do this in reverse.

System integration

We strongly recommend that a good quality mains cable is used and this cable is consistent throughout your system. Look for a cable with good conductors, for example oxygen free copper. This cable should also have a high degree of shielding from RFI.



D. Troubleshooting

Fuse location



Fault finding

The front LED is not lit and the unit gives no power.

Check that the RCBO power on/off switch is on.

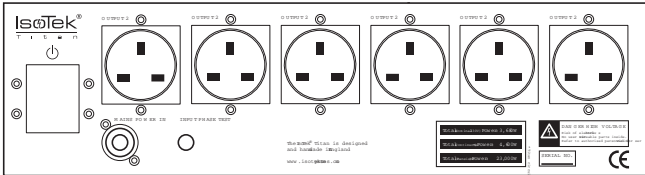
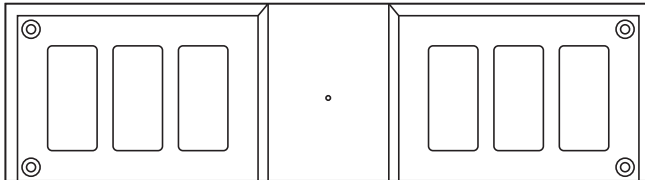
Check that the mains cable is securely plugged into the unit at the wall socket.

Check the fuse within the plug at the wall socket is intact.

On rare occasions the fuse at the main distribution fuse box may also need to be checked.

E. Specifications

Front & rear elevation



Dimensions & sockets

The following information relates only to the IsoTek Nova. These are original products and should not be confused with previous.

Number of outlets: 6

Type of outlets: 13A UK unswitched
European Schuko
US polarised three pin

Standard mains inlet: Neutrik

Mains voltage: 110 - 264VAC

Maximum current: 16Amps continuous

Total power (Nominal 230V): 3680 Watts

117 volt specification (Nominal US voltage): 1800 Watts*

Fusing: Electronic overcurrent device 16Amps
30 mile amps earth leakage protection. This allows for use on radial circuits not protected by RCDs, allowed under British regulations as a cooker circuit.

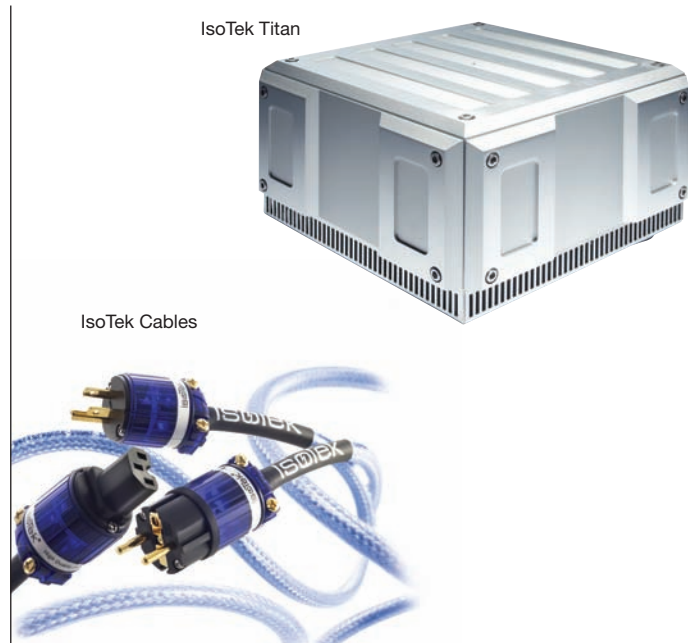
Dimensions: 435mm x 136mm x 360mm (WxHxD)

Weight: 17.5Kg

Please note, the information given in this document is correct at the time of print. Small production changes in the course of improvement through our ongoing research and development policy may arise.

* Please note Nova is only limited by the incoming voltage hence lower wattage potential for units used in the US. There is no implied advantage of European model over US model, it is all related to voltage.

Product examples



F. Considerations

Cabling

We strongly recommend that a good quality mains cable is used and this cable is consistent throughout your system. Look for a cable with good conductors, for example OFC (oxygen free copper). This cable should also have a high degree of shielding from RFI. Outside of the UK it is not uncommon for cables of 6Amps current capability to be connected to a 20Amp outlet. In practice this seems to be a safe arrangement. However we strongly recommend a cable of the full 20Amps carrying capability be used, with a minimum 1.5mm squared.

Third party products

IsoTek produce their own cable in standard 1.5M lengths. All cables feature high quality connectors, OFC conductors and fully earth shielded. This removes any chance of RFI entering the cable. Four versions are available: Premium and Elite as well as higher current Optimum. IsoTek 24ct high grade connectors are used in the Elite, Optimum designs these can also be purchased individually.

Our GII range of products work well with all third party equipment including varying cable technologies. If 'off-the-shelf' mains cables are used we recommend the use of Ferrite rings to reduce RFI. We also recommend the use of contact conditioners, for example Blue Horizon's Clean-IT (www.bluehorizonideas.com). Isolation devices, feet and cones may also be used. We recommend Clearlight Audio RDC products which we use on our higher end products, for example, Titan.

Upgrades

It is possible to increase the performance of the Nova through ideal location and product placement, the use of isolation devices and contact conditioners for example. The Nova can also be used with the Titan for power amps. Full details can be found from your local authorised IsoTek dealer or on our web site www.isoteksystems.com

March 2004

G. Warranty

Please complete & send

As part of our on-going commitment to the highest standards of customer service, IsoTek offers you the opportunity to extend the standard 2 year product warranty to 3 years, free of charge. Simply visit:

www.isoteksystems.com/register

And follow the on screen instructions. This service will automatically update your details and give confirmation of your registration via email within 24 hours.

IsoTek will not share your personal details with any third parties without your permission.

If you do not have internet access then please forward a copy of your invoice, together with the product serial number and your address to our UK office:

IsoTek Systems,
4 Mozzetta,
Kings Head Yard,
Winchester,
SO23 9HN
England.