

High End Range







*The Sound of Superior Quality* 

Black Rhodium has a long tradition of designing, manufacturing and supplying high quality audio cables for people who really enjoy their music.

These are sold throughout the world by a team of professional audio distributors and retailers.

### The Black Rhodium Team





Graham has designed audio cables for over 20 years. His great passion is to create the very best sound quality from cables.



**Cath Graham** General Manager and Finance and HR

Cath manages the day to day working of the business whilst ensuring that accounts are up to date and suppliers paid.



**Alan Johnson** Assembly, Production and Delivery

Alan assembles your orders with expertise and precision and then makes sure your goods are delivered to you on time and in good condition.

## Why good quality cables are essential for enjoying music

All cables change the sound in a music reproducing audio system and insert a veil between the musicians and the listener.

This veil is caused by distortion of the audio signal that occurs due to interaction between the cable and its environment.

### Our systematic approach

We have studied the many different technical approaches to cable design by some of the most successful manufacturers of audio cables.

We have analysed every aspect of cable design and applied scientific knowledge to improve the sound quality of our cables.

#### The seven different sources of audio cable distortion

We have identified through our own research at least seven different sources of cable distortion:

**Conductor Distortion** – all metals sound different and some better than others

**Insulation Distortion** – all insulation distorts sound by dielectric absorption

**Microphony** – noise added to the audio signal by tribo-electric effects

**Radio Frequency Interference** – high frequency noise created by radio, and electric switching transients distorts sound quality by intermodulation

Magnetic Field distortion – effects of magnetic fields on cables carrying audio signals

**Mechanical Vibration Distortion** – Distortion caused by mechanical vibration in equipment and caused by electrical stresses in the cable

**Connector distortion** – different connectors do sound different and some better than others

### **Our Scientific Approach**

We studied the physics behind each type of distortion and identified a number of different engineering solutions to reduce each form of distortion separately.

### Applying engineering solutions to reducing cable distortion

Some of our most successful solutions are well known to our customers.

**Deep Cryogenic Treatment** – we use the most advanced cryogenic treatments available including the 'Crystal Sound' process.

**Low loss insulation** – almost all Black Rhodium cables use either silicone rubber or PTFE insulation to reduce time smeared distortion from dielectric absorption

**Cable twisting** – we twist many of our more stereo interconnects to prevent the return conductors acting as a 'loop aerial' between pieces of equipment

**Cable direction quality control** – we specify a strict cable manufacturing process that consistently and reliably ensures that the positive and negative conductor wires have been wound in opposing directions to reduce background noise

**Thick wall insulation** – places conductors wires further apart and the magnetic fields from one wire affecting the current flow in the other wire are reduced, resulting in a clearer sound more free from magnetic 'Proximity effect' distortion

**Rhodium plating of connectors** – we plate as many as possible of our connectors in rhodium because we find its gives a clearer sound quality than any other plating material

We supplement these design techniques with our own 'secret ingredients' that are hidden within our cables. These are our own exclusive proprietary techniques and materials that add further to our listening pleasure.

### The benefits of reducing cable distortion

"Each time we remove a layer of audio distortion by our designs we feel ourselves much closer to the musicians who are playing."



## SAMBA VS-1 - Takes a firm grip on your bass driver

**SAMBA VS-1** is a landmark product that defines the middle of the Black Rhodium speaker cable range.

By combining the strengths of **SAMBA** loudspeaker cable with the high end performance of Graham Nalty's LEGACY RANGE VS-1 Vibration Stabiliser and GN1 Straight Line Contact Loudspeaker Plugs, **SAMBA VS-1** delivers a true high end performance at a very sensible price.

For the listener, the benefits of using the VS-1 Vibration Stabilisers can be demonstrated by the very tight and powerful portrayal of bass notes. Plucked strings stand out more clearly and choirs become a chorus of different voices.

This performance has been recognised by the top awards in two different hi-fi magazines.

Conductor	3mm² silver plated copper
Insulation	2mm silicone rubber
Mass damping	2 x Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-1 (310g Per Pair)
Connector	Graham Nalty GN-1





## SOLO DCT ++ CS - Smooth, Sophisticated and Refined

**SOLO DCT++ CS** demonstrates the benefits of cryogenic processing. Its sound is more detailed and refined compared to **SAMBA VS-1** and its bass is lighter. This makes the cable ideally suited to systems which already have good bass

Conductor	1.3mm² silver plated copper, DCT++ CS Treated
Insulation	1.2mm silicone rubber
Connector	Graham Nalty GN-1, DCT++ CS Treated

"The cable really projects music well into the room with greater height and depth to sonic images." **Hi-Fi World** 

## Duet DCT++ CS - A positive joy to hook up

**Duet DCT++ CS** is a BiWire version of Solo, but with the added advantage of the Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-1 Vibration Stabiliser. It is characterised by a 'powerful and robust' bass as described in the review in Hi-Fi News.

"Black Rhodium's Duet DCT++ CS is a positive joy to hook up. But while the cable is unusually 'bendable' its sound has real spine – its bass powerful and robust while the treble is smooth rather than incisive or biting. Certainly one for the shortlist, the Duet's warm quality is suited to sharp-sounding systems." Paul Miller, Hi-Fi News







Duet Single Wire DCT++CS Loudspeaker Cable

Conductor	2.6mm² silver plated copper, DCT++ CS Treated
Insulation	1.2mm silicone rubber
Mass damping	2 x Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-1 (310g Per Pair)
Connector	Rhodium Plated Banana Plug, DCT++ CS Treated



Duet BiWire DCT==CS Loudspeaker Cable

# Athena DCT++ CS - Exciting sounding cable with good strong bass and plenty of scale

**ATHENA DCT++ CS** is the first Black Rhodium loudspeaker cable to use the revolutionary Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-1 Vibration Stabiliser.

The design of **ATHENA DCT++ CS** includes many advanced design features chosen specifically to give much clearer sound quality and listening enjoyment.

Conductor	3mm² silver plated copper, DCT++ CS Treated
Insulation	2mm silicone rubber
Mass damping	4 x Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-1 (620g Per Pair)
Connector	Rhodium Plated Locking Banana Plug, DCT++ CS Treated

"It's an exciting sounding cable with good strong bass and plenty of scale. And that comes highly recommended."

Nicholas Ripley, Hi-Fi+





# Storm DCT++ CS - MonoBlock MasterCables Low Impedance High Current cables for High End Systems

They are designed for systems in which large mono power amplifiers are placed very close to the loudspeakers.

Their ultra-low impedance ensures that the high energy bass driver movement follows extremely closely to the audio signal so as to create an authentic three dimensional perspective of large live instruments. Based on the design of the successful **ATHENA** Loudspeaker Cable, they use the same cryogenically treated cores but more of them to achieve much lower impedance.

**STORM DCT++ CS** is equivalent to connecting **two** pairs of Athena cable in parallel.

"Storm not only delivers a tighter and deeper bass than Athena, but also opens out the sound to a much more spacious presentation."

Conductor	6mm² silver plated copper, DCT++ CS Treated
Insulation	2mm silicone rubber
Mass damping	4 x Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-3 (900g Per Pair)
Connector	Rhodium Plated Locking Banana Plug, DCT++ CS Treated

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## Thunder DCT++ CS - If you really want to know exactly how hard the bass drum has been struck!

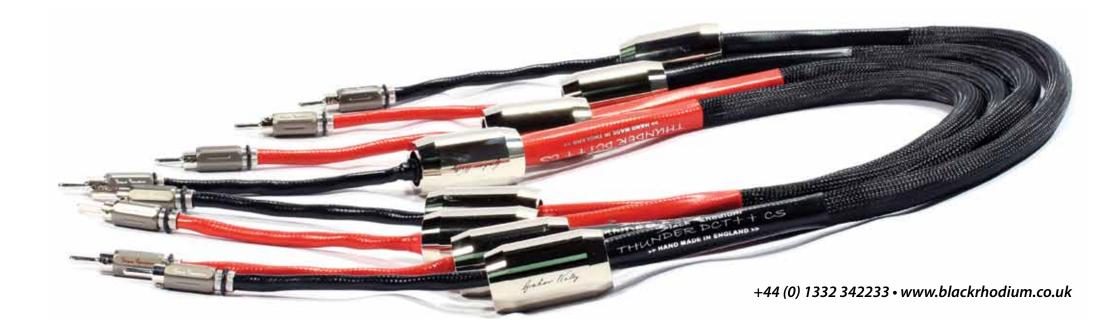
**Thunder DCT++CS** is based on the design of Athena and is the equivalent of 4 pairs of Athena in parallel. Not only does **Thunder DCT++CS** deliver tighter bass control, but it opens out the sound stage much more than you would expect.

"My initial impressions of thunder was firstly their ability to remove yet another layer of grain from the music giving an even greater level of inky blackness and secondly and more surprisingly in the bass region these cables created a 3 dimensional and very wide soundstage stretching well beyond left and right speaker. Black Rhodium cables always excel in bass definition and clarity but Thunder have added another level of magic to the music which I love."

Robert Hudson, Robson Acoustics

Conductor	12mm² silver plated copper, DCT++ CS Treated
Insulation	2mm silicone rubber
Mass damping	8 x Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-3 (1.8kg Per Pair)
Connector	Rhodium Plated Locking Banana Plug, DCT++ CS Treated

"The Thunder cable's frightening, very very frightening indeed!" **Mike Statham, Zouch Audio** 



### Hi-Fi World 5 Globe Award

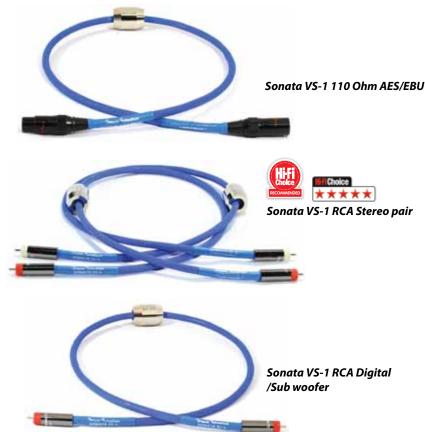
# Sonata VS-1 - So much of Black Rhodium's anti distortion know-how being combined in one cable

**Sonata** has been developed from the highly successful Black Rhodium Symphony cable with superior specification for lower microphonic noise and lower 'proximity effect' magnetic field distortion. It has 110 Ohm impedance for use in AES/EBU digital applications.

Conductor	19 x 0.2mm silver plated copper
Insulation	PTFE
Mass damping	2 x Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-1 (310g Per Pair)
Connector	Graham Nalty Legacy Range Rhodium Plated GN-4R RCA Plug, DCT++ CS Treated Black Rhodium XLR Connectors, Rhodium plated and DCT++ CS Treated

"Refined extended treble, firm, deep bass and a beautifully coherent and communicative midband seamlessly flowing from very dark silences demonstrates that Black Rhodium has successfully addressed distortion." **Chris Ward, Hi-Fi Choice** 









Aria DCT++CS RCA Stereo pair



Aria DCT++CS 110 Ohm AES/EBU



Aria DCT++CS RCA Digital/Sub woofer

# Aria DCT++ CS - A powerful sounding cable to brighten your music

"The Black Rhodium Aria provided a forceful and strong sound that placed an emphasis on the upper midrange that shined a light on those frequencies. This sonic character might be too strident for some listeners. The cables also emphasised and etched the bass to add form and character to those lower frequencies. If your system is noticeably sharp and verging on the bright then the Arias might not be for you but other systems that need a slight edge will welcome the Aria's bold presentation."

Paul Rigby , www.theaudiophileman.com

**Aria DCT++CS** design features bring out the music and reduce all forms of cable distortion by the application of several of Black Rhodium's innovative engineering techniques. Aria is built to 110 Ohm characteristic impedance.

Conductor	19 x 0.2mm silver plated copper, DCT++ CS Treated
Insulation	PTFE
Mass damping	4 x Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-2 (340g Per Pair)





Oratorio DCT++CS XLR Stereo Interconnect





**Oratorio DCT++CS XLR Digital** 

"When compared to a number of their peers, their overriding naturalness, rhythmic drive, timing and superlative sound-staging stood head and shoulders above the rest."

Stuart Mackenzie, Mackenzie Hi-Fi,



## Oratorio DCT++ CS- The sound of pure Silver

**Oratorio DCT++CS** has been designed to extract the maximum musical information from pure silver conductor wires whilst at the same time reducing the many different distortions that impair you enjoyment of music.

*Oratorio DCT++CS* uses a low noise screen to prevent ingress of RFI and a pair of Graham Nalty VS-2 Vibration Stabilisers to reduce distortion from mechanical vibration.

Conductor	0.5mm diameter 99.99% Pure Silver, DCT++ CS Treated
Insulation	PTFE
Mass damping	4 x Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-2 (340g Per Pair)
Connector	Graham Nalty Legacy Range Rhodium Plated GN-4R RCA Plug, DCT++ CS Treated Black Rhodium XLR Connectors, Rhodium plated, DCT++ CS Treated

## Cantata - The magical sound of Pure Palladium

**CANTATA** is exceptional. It is made from conductor wires of cryogenically processed pure palladium. It is most probably the most technically advanced audio cable currently available. In that it is truly special and most probably unique.

**CANTATA**, however, is much more than a cable made from the most advanced conductor wires. The design of Cantata incorporates many additional design features researched and tested to deliver the best possible sound quality in an environment of extraneous mechanical vibration, magnetic fields and radio frequency electrical noise.

Conductor	0.25mm diameter 99.95% Pure Palladium, with ultra advanced temperature treatments
Insulation	PTFE
Mass damping	4 x Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-2 (340g Per Pair)
Connector	Graham Nalty Legacy Range Rhodium Plated GN-4R RCA Plug, DCT++ CS Treated Black Rhodium XLR Connectors, R Rhodium plated and DCT++ CS Treated



Cantata RCA stereo Interconnect







Cantata RCA Digital

# Venus - The power cable for a cleaner and more open sound

The construction of *Venus* reduces the magnetic field strength that each conductor inflicts on the other when supplying current to your equipment. You hear the benefit in the form of a cleaner and more open sound that further separates the individual elements of your music. Vibration Stabilisers are fitted to reduce distortion from mechanical vibration in the cable.

**Venus** is fitted with rhodium plated power connectors (except UK 13A plug) specially designed by Black Rhodium to deliver the best possible sound from the cable.

Conductor	1.3mm <sup>2</sup> Silver Plated Copper
Insulation	PTFE
Mass damping	2 x Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-1 (310g Per Cable)
Connector	MS HD Power 328 UK Mains Plug Black Rhodium Power Schuko, USA, C13 IEC, C19 20A IEC

"A power cable to match Black Rhodium's double award winning Samba VS-1 and Sonata VS-1."



Venus Schuko - IEC





Venus UL - IEC

Venus Mains Power Cable UK 13A - IEC







*Titan* offers all the qualities of Venus and much more. All cores are individually shielded for low microphonic noise and the overall cable is triple screened to make a really big reduction in radio frequency interference (RFI).

The result is a very clean open sound with remarkably dark silences between each note.

Conductor	1.3mm <sup>2</sup> Silver Plated Copper
Insulation	PTFE
Mass damping	2 x Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-1 (310g Per Cable)
Connector	MS HD Power 328 UK Mains Plug Black Rhodium Power Schuko, USA, C13 IEC, C19 20A IEC

"Titan delivers the power of music to your system."



Titan Schuko - IEC











**Hercules DCT++CS Mains Power Cable** 

Hercules Schuko - IEC

Hercules UL - IEC

C19 IEC



## Hercules - A strong and powerful sound to your music

**Hercules** expands on the strengths of Titan with further advanced design techniques to enhance sound and reduce distortion including our most advanced cryogenic processing of cable and connectors.

"For effortless sound."

Conductor	1.3mm <sup>2</sup> Silver Plated Copper, DCT++ CS Treated
Insulation	PTFE
Mass damping	2 x Graham Nalty Legacy Range VS-1 (310g Per Cable)
Connector	MS HD Power 328 Rhodium Plated UK Mains Plug, DCT++ CS Treated with DCT++ CS Treated Fuse DCT++ CS Treated Black Rhodium Power Schuko, USA, C13 IEC, C19 20A IEC

### Manufacturer and Dealer Case studies



Dealer Case Study – Mackenzie Hi-Fi, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire. www.mackenziehifi.com Black Rhodium Oratorio Stereo Interconnect Cable

We recently received a visit from Graham Nalty of Black Rhodium fame. Graham came well prepared with a selection of his latest cables which included the Oratorio DCT + + CS interconnects. Well, was I impressed by performance of the Oratorio? A resounding yes! When compared to a number of their peers, their overriding naturalness, rhythmic drive, timing and superlative sound-staging stood head and shoulders above the rest. What's more, for an all silver cable, amazingly the bass was up there with the very best. It would appear that Black Rhodium's combination of passion for the materials used and construction quality has borne sweet fruit, with the new damping mechanism creating a musical synergy that others will find hard to achieve. Superb cables then, with demonstrably superior sound quality. **Stuart Mackenzie** 



Manufacturer Case Study – Computer Audio Design, London. www.computeraudiodesign.com Black Rhodium Oratorio, Athena and Titan Cable System

We use the Oratorio DCT++CS RCA cables, the Athena DCT++CS speaker cables and the Titan mains power leads in one of our reference systems and the Black Rhodium Cables let through an amazing amount of detail along with a naturalness that is superb. You need to listen to these interconnects - highly recommended! **Scott Berry** 





## **Dealer Case Study - Choice Hi-Fi, Richmond, Surrey, www.choice-hifi.com** *Black Rhodium Athena Speaker Cable*

Now my system is sorted! I feel I achieve some of the best high-end sounds of anyone anywhere. Bold claim indeed! It's not because it's had countless of thousands of pounds thrown at it; it simply has the potential to be stunning led in no small part by the delights of the Avalon Time Loudspeakers. For completeness and to put the above statement into perspective the Times are powered by B.M.C. Audio CS2 power amplifier, the B.M.C. Audio Pre/DAC and the companies MCCI phono stage. The sum total of those parts comes to a respectable £13K.

Now to say that this system is revealing is an understatement it is capable of extraordinary dynamics, detail, subtlety, and glorious sound staging. It can draw the slightest nuances of a recording out of the mix but only when cables don't get in the way.

Which brings me to the subject of this essay; the effect the Black Rhodium Athena speaker cables had on an already superb system.

I'll be honest I wasn't expecting much I only came by these through the gentle persuasion of Black Rhodium's owner Graham Nalty. Frankly I thought I was doing him a favour!

Now I've had some expensive cables in this system from ZenSati, Transparent Audio Reference MM, Tellurium Graphite and others with varying degrees of good or even very good.

The Athena had been with me for several weeks gently running in, I'd listened to them in passing over that time, the best I could say was they were not drawing attention to themselves!

Keeping all else the same I finally introduced the Athena cable into my reference system. Wow, what happened had I had I sat on the volume control by accident? There was an immediate perception of higher volume or was it just simply more and better dynamics; in any case something had changed.

Settling down with a few recordings the first thing that hits you is a sense of improved immediacy and dynamics a live in room presence, an effortless horn like quality that allows the music to emanate out of the space around the speakers.

A strange sense that the cables had disappeared, somehow been removed, hard to explain, like shaking hands with someone without gloves on. Instruments and voices became more real, more tangible less about imagining and more about actually being. In my mind I likened this to what HD did to TV. It took all the guess work out of watching a film suddenly the contrast improved the image clarity, detail vibrancy was more life like you could suddenly look into the

shadows and see details that were previously lost. So it was with the music, everything was laid bare in perfect harmony and with perfect contrast, layered each part occupying its own place in space and time to produce the perfect picture.

The Athena is not forgiving some may see it as slightly "technical" it's not that it's clinical but it is controlled. The lack of smearing and increased transparency takes some getting used to, it is not romantic or euphonic it does not roll-off, let the electronics do that if you must.

Now beware the impact of this cable is not subtle at all. Don't buy this cable to tweak or modify elements in the system you're looking to improve it won't do that, it'll just lay them bare and no doubt make your system the worst for it.

If and only if you love your speakers and love everything that your source and pre amp are doing and just want to get rid of whatever is in the way of transporting you to another realm then this cable is for you. It will make the best better.

Voices will gain texture, expression and gravitas they'll go high as high as you like with never any sense of hardening or becoming brittle. The overall balance of the cable is just right even handed with real presence in the mid range forward enough to be engaging but not so much that you want to turn it down or at the expense of some other part of the spectrum.

The bass is exceptional tight and extended and as deep as you like, or at least as deep as your speakers will allow. On the Times this meant more than my modest room could handle unusually causing nasty resonances.

As I mentioned above don't use these cables as tone controls they're much to good for that. If you want soft and rounded or forgiving and euphonic look elsewhere. If however you want live, three-dimensional, immersive and tangible sound then this could be the cable for you. *Alain Abensur* 

### **Cable Overview Specifications**

Loudspeaker cables	Samba VS-1	Solo DCT++CS	Duet DCT++ CS	Athena DCT++ CS	Storm DCT++ CS	Thunder DCT++ CS
Conductor	3 mm <sup>2</sup> silver plated copper	3 mm <sup>2</sup> silver plated copper	2.6 mm <sup>2</sup> silver plated copper	3 mm <sup>2</sup> silver plated copper	6 mm <sup>2</sup> silver plated copper	12 mm <sup>2</sup> silver plated copper
Insulation	2mm silicone rubber	1.2mm silicone rubber	1.2mm silicone rubber	2mm silicone rubber	2mm silicone rubber	2mm silicone rubber
Capacitance – 3m	100pF	100pF	290pF	100pF	65pF	
Mass damping	2 x 155g per pair		2 x 155 g per pair	4 x 155g per pair	4 x 225g per pair	8 x 225g per pair
Connector	Graham Nalty GN-1	Graham Nalty GN-1 DCT++CS	Black Rhodium Universal 4mm banana DCT++CS	Black Rhodium Locking 4mm DCT++CS	Black Rhodium Locking 4mm DCT++CS	Black Rhodium Locking 4mm DCT++CS

Interconnects	Sonata VS-1	Aria DCT++ CS	Oratorio DCT++ CS	Cantata
Conductor	19 x 0.2mm Silver plated copper	19 x 0.2mm Silver plated copper	0.5 mm dia. 99.99% pure silver	0.25 mm dia. 99.95% pure palladium
Insulation	1mm PTFE	1mm PTFE	Air / PTFE	Air / PTFE
Capacitance – 1m RCA	53pF	53pF	75pF	67 pF
Capacitance – 1m XLR	106 pF	106 pF	60 pF	60pF
Mass damping	1 x 155g	2 x 85g	2 x 85g	2 x 85g
RFI Screen	Silver plated copper braid	Silver plated copper braid	Silver plated copper braid	Silver plated copper braid
RCA	Graham Nalty GN-4 Rhodium	Graham Nalty GN-4 Rhodium DCT++CS	Graham Nalty GN-4 Rhodium DCT++CS	Graham Nalty GN-4 Rhodium DCT++CS
XLR	Black Rhodium plated in Rhodium	Black Rhodium plated in Rhodium DCT++CS	Black Rhodium plated in Rhodium DCT++CS	Black Rhodium plated in Rhodium DCT++CS
Configurations	Stereo Pair or Digital	Stereo Pair or Digital	Stereo Pair or Digital	Stereo Pair or Digital

Power cables	Venus	Titan	Hercules DCT++ CS
Current rating	13A	13A	13A
Conductor	1.3 mm² silver plated copper	1.3 mm² silver plated copper	1.3 mm <sup>2</sup> silver plated copper
Insulation	1.2mm PTFE	1.2mm PTFE	1.2mm PTFE
Screen	No screen	Triple braid	Triple braid
Plugs available	MS Components UK 13A Black Rhodium Power Schuko rhodium plated Black Rhodium Power UL rhodium plated	MS Components UK 13A Black Rhodium Power Schuko rhodium plated Black Rhodium Power UL rhodium plated	MS Components UK 13A Rhodium plated DCT++CS Black Rhodium Power Schuko rhodium plated DCT++CS Black Rhodium Power UL rhodium plated DCT++ CS
Sockets available	Black Rhodium Power IEC C13 rhodium plated Black Rhodium Power IEC C19 rhodium plated	Black Rhodium Power IEC C13 rhodium plated Black Rhodium Power IEC C19 rhodium plated	Black Rhodium Power IEC C13 rhodium plated DCT++CS Black Rhodium Power IEC C19 rhodium plated DCT++CS Furutech rhodium plated 2 pin

AWARDS - SPEAKER CABLES						
Twist	June 2012	HIFT Chalce ECCOMMENCES	July 2012	HI-R WORLD	Loudspeaker cable of the Year Jan 2013	
Opus	September 2013	<b>H</b>				
Jive	Hi-Fi World Loudspeaker cable of the Year	<b>\$</b>				
Twirl	February 2013	HI-FI WORLD	August 2014	Chobse		
Samba	With locking plugs February 2013	HI-FI WORLD	with GN-1 plugs January 2015	Chobse SECONMUNICOD	Hi-Fi World 5 globes with GN-1 plugs April 2015	
Solo	Hi-Fi World 5 globes April 2015					
Duet	March 2015	(FORT)			www.theaudiophileman.com September 2015	GROOVY
AWARDS - INTERCONNECTS						
Twist	February 2013	HI-FI WORLD				
Prelude	May 2007	HI-FICHDICE Magnetin	January 2010		August 2013	Choice SECONMENDED
Symphony	September 2012	Chole	December 2012		August 2014	CHOICE
Тетро	February 2013	HI-R WORLD				
Sonata VS-1	June 2015	Chobb PECOMMBORS	Hi-Fi World 5 globes August 2015			
AWARDS - POWER CABLES						
Libra	February 2013	HI-FI WORLD				

