

NEWS We reveal the latest products and upcoming events

Valves from Portugal

AUDOLICI 50 IN A CHOICE OF FLAVOURS

Now available from key dealers in the UK, Portugal's best kept secret – the Audolici valve brand – is tempting the British palette with not one but three flavourful vintages. At £3210, £3595 and £4355 the Audolici 50 integrated amplifier is available in Jazz, Blues and Swing guises, rated at 2x25W, 2x40W and 2x50W at <2.5% THD, respectively.

Each version uses the same power supply and is offered with either 4-6ohm or 6-8ohm output taps. They all feature 6N1P input/phase splitter stages and a 6N2P driver but the push-pull output is derived from either 6L6 (Jazz), EL34 (Blues) or 6550 (Swing) tubes. The Audolici 50 may be ordered in either white, black or red high gloss finishes.

Audolici Sistemas Electronicos,
+351 225 322 071
www.audolici.com



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NAD's newcomers

BLU-RAY AND NEW INTEGRATED ANNOUNCED

With a family tree extending all the way back to the legendary 3020, the new C3 168EE integrated amplifier is not only replacing the C3 158EE but maintaining NAD's lineage of lusty budget amps. Offering MM and four line inputs, one tape loop and a single set of 4mm speaker outputs, the C3 168EE is rated at 40W/8ohm but with a dynamic power output that's much higher – typically 90W/8ohm. Just like its forebears, the C3 168EE includes defeatable bass/treble tone controls but with the more recent addition of a front-mounted MP3/iPod input.

Joining this new amp is what NAD describes as a 'cutting edge Blu-ray player' in the form of its slimline E799 T577 (top unit, below). This is a Profile 2.0 player offering full BD Live interactivity and includes on-board decoding for both Dolby True HD and DTS-HD Master Audio, delivered via its 7.1 channel analogue outputs. Decoded HD audio is also carried as LPCM over HDMI. **Armour Home Electronics, 01278 501111**
www.armourhome.co.uk
www.nadelectronics.com



HI-FI NEWS' NUGGETS

BLUEPORT JAZZ

Meticulously recorded in venues across LA and NY by BluePort engineer Jim Merod, the impressive BluePort CD Jazz catalogue is now available for download as FLAC files from the House of Linn website. www.houseoflinn.com

GRADO IN-EAR

Having established a worldwide reputation for manufacturing both pick-up cartridges and headphones, Grado has just announced the release of its first in-ear phones, the E88 IGI and E295 CRX. Both models are physically very small, maintaining a good air seal within the ear canal without causing discomfort. **Armour Home Electronics, 01278 501111; www.gradolabs.com**

NAIM UPDATE

Naim's latest v1.5 software update to its HDX and NaimNet servers now allows them to serve audio files to network attached UMP compatible devices. www.naim-audio.com

A Lavry new DAC

NOVEL HY

Now sailing with Bigger Boat Distribution the Lavry brand, previously better known to the pro-audio industry, will be also be aimed more squarely at the domestic audiophile market. Its LavryBlack DA10 outboard DAC has already achieved something of a reputation on the 'underground grapevine' and this is soon to be joined by the DA11 which it claims 'to better suited to the needs of hi-fi enthusiasts'.

A combination of USB audio, XLR (AES) (EBU) and coaxial/optical (S/PDIF) digital inputs are offered along with both balanced and unbalanced – including headphone – outputs. The DA11 is compatible with most universal remote controls and includes a toggled volume switch (indicated on the front panel) with 'last setting memory' that retains your set-up should the DA11 be powered down.

Less conventional is Lavry's 'Playback Image Control' that allows the user to adjust the width and symmetry of the soundstage. This custom DSP is primarily aimed at headphone users. **Bigger Boat Distribution, 01992 878 678**
www.biggerboatdistribution.com
www.lavryaudio.com

