

Product Announcement

Lehmannaudio Linear USB II and Linear D II

A classic design gets a complete audiophile overhaul.

Didcot, Oxfordshire – 29th March, 2019

With the introduction of the classic Linear headphone amplifier in 2004, Lehmannaudio raised the standard for headphone amplifiers to a new level. Combining recording studio knowledge with high-fidelity expectations, the performance put the company firmly on the map as a go-to brand for specialist audio products. Thanks to a matching pedigree in the phono stage market with their Black Cube range, Lehmannaudio are now known around the world for their high-end audio abilities.

In 2019, 15 years after the original Linear burst onto the scene, Henley Audio are delighted to announce the UK availability of its new big brother – the Linear II. The Linear II is available in two different forms; the **Linear USB II**, for users who also want to play high-resolution audio from a PC or Laptop, and the **Linear D II**, for users who want to upgrade their DAC performance from alternative digital sources.



What makes the Linear II so special is its totally revised analogue circuitry. Featuring a discrete Class A output stage, for an open and natural sound, high-grade Low-Z Copper technology across the PCB circuitry and specially selected components – like the oversized internal power supply and low-loss MKP precision capacitors – the new Linear models deliver physical, punchy lows and startling resolution in an open and natural soundstage over the entire frequency bandwidth, allowing your headphones to fulfil their highest potential.

For easy system matching, each Linear II model features three Gain settings up-to 20dB and also benefits from two Neutrik headphone sockets with gold-plated contacts, which can be used simultaneously. The Left headphone output mutes the rear line-level RCA output when a headphone is connected. There is also an additional analogue RCA input for connecting more traditional line-level sources.

Linear II models can also function very well as streaming pre-amplifiers for a full hi-fi system (when Gain is set to 0dB and no headphone is connected). With their auto-input detection and sophisticated internal layout, they offer a simple-yet-high-end solution that can easily drive long cables toward a power amplifier or active speakers.

The Linear USB II and Linear D II are truly reference class pre-amplifiers for all dynamic headphones. Utilising a sturdy metal housing with SSC damping feet, for effective decoupling from environmental factors, the aluminium faceplate is available in Black, Silver or Chrome* finishes.

Linear USB II

Enjoy your musical treasures from a PC, Mac or even your compatible mobile phone in audiophile quality. The Linear USB II automatically detects any incoming USB audio data stream, without the need for an input selector switch. The technology employed utilises an ESS Sabre K2M DAC chip, capable of 32-bit / 384kHz playback and DSD support (DoP) for playback of very high-resolution digital audio files.

Linear D II

Linear D II guarantees the highest performance from your existing digital sources. With Optical (Toslink) and Coaxial (RCA 75Ω) inputs, it automatically detects the playing audio (Optical input is prioritised) and converts the raw digital data using a sophisticated ESS Sabre K2M DAC chip.

Linear USB II £1,700.00 (SRP)

Linear D II £1,700.00 (SRP)

Available to order in the UK now in Black or Silver finish.

*Chrome faceplate finish available for an extra £100.00 (SRP).

For a list of all authorised Lehmannaudio stockists, visit www.henleyaudio.co.uk



Technical Information

Input Impedance:	47k Ω
Gain Settings:	0 dB, 10 dB, 18 dB, 20 dB selectable via DIP switches
Frequency Response:	10Hz (-0.3dB) to 35kHz (-1dB)
Signal to Noise Ratio:	> 100dB at gain 0dB
THD:	< 0.001% at 6mW / 300 Ω
Channel Separation:	> 80dB at 10kHz
Output Power:	400mW / 60 Ω 200mW / 300 Ω
Output Impedance:	Line Out: 50 Ω Headphone Out: 5 Ω
Audio Connectors:	Neutrik headphone jacks with gold plated contacts (Left headphone output mutes line out) Gold plated RCA sockets with Teflon Insulation
Power Consumption:	15W
Special Feature:	PCB made using Low-Z Copper Technology Vibration-absorbing SSC feet
Outer Dimensions (W x D x H):	110 x 280 x 44mm
Weight:	1.5kg net

Linear USB II

Digital Inputs:	1 x USB Type-B
DAC Technology:	ESS Sabre 9018K2M
Analogue Filter:	Silver Mica capacitors
Special Feature:	Analogue input is activated when no digital signal is recognised

Linear D II

Digital Inputs:	1 x Optical (Toslink) 1 x Coax (RCA)
DAC Technology:	ESS Sabre 9018K2M
Analogue Filter:	Silver Mica capacitors
Special Feature:	Analogue input is activated when no digital signal is recognised

Notes for Editors

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About Lehmannaudio

Lehmannaudio Vertriebs GmbH was originally founded in 1988 by Norbert Lehmann, a young audio engineering student, in Cologne, Germany. Through those early days, Norbert developed a deep understanding of how the quality of certain electrical devices affected the end sound-performance of an amplifier. The cumulative result of this formative period was manifest in 1995, when *Lehmannaudio* released the Black Cube phono stage.

The Black Cube is now a cult object in the audiophile market. Still available today in almost exactly the same form as the original model, the Black Cube took components more commonly found in studio mixing desks and brought them to a hi-fi product. The result was an affordable phono stage that sounded truly sublime. In 2004, the next icon was born; the Linear Headphone Amplifier (originally called Black Cube Linear) again took studio principles and brought them to the hi-fi sector, allowing hi-fi fans to experience the true engineering ability of Norbert Lehmann.

Since 2004 the phono stage and headphone amplifier sectors have been happy homes for *Lehmannaudio* products, and now the company can boast a range of products in each sector that are suitable for all budgets and technical requirements.



About Henley Audio

Henley Audio has been importing and distributing industry-leading hi-fi equipment to the UK and Ireland since 1997. With a passion for great sound and a firm focus on brand integrity, we work to deliver excellence in both product and service.

Formed as the result of a management buy-out of Ortofon UK, Henley Designs Ltd. (trading as Henley Audio) operates in-house sales, marketing, service, support and warehouse teams in order to offer the full turn-key solution for suppliers. The brands we represent are not only highly-regarded in their own right, but they also share a symbiotic relationship with other brands in our portfolio.

For more information, visit www.henleyaudio.co.uk

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