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Bel Canto at CES!

New Products for a Green High Resolution World

USB Link 24/96 • VBS Virtual Battery Supply • S300iUSB 24/96 DAC Board

Minneapolis MN • Bel Canto Design, Ltd., manufacturers of analog and digital source components and amplifiers brings down the house at CES 2009!

Source components in Bel Canto's main exhibit included a CD-2 Transport powered by the new VBS Virtual Battery Supply. Standard and high-resolution music was stored on a Mac Book outfitted with the new USB Link 24/96, *the* must-have component for computer hard disc music systems: USB in, up to 24/96 SPDIF out! The DAC3's balanced outputs fed a pair of the new REF500 monoblock amplifiers. Speakers were the dynamic and holographic Joseph Audio Pearls, cabled with Wireworld Platinum Reference and Argento Digital, Shunyata power cords, and a Furutech f-TP615 Power Filter/AC Distributor and Piezo Powerflux cord. The system rested on a Harmonic Resolution SXR stand with M3 isolation bases.

Leave well enough alone? That's not Bel Canto's way. A second compact and phenomenal sounding system made its appearance: An updated S300iUSB integrated featuring a 24/96 USB-input driving Joseph Audio RM-7XL speakers. Say no more! We can say no more.

Why the USB Link 24/96?

Significantly Improves The Sound Of High Resolution Recordings, 16-Bit/44.1kHz, Even MP3s!

This timely device converts a computer-derived USB input of up to 24 bits and 96kHz to SPDIF and outputs the signal on a 75 ohm BNC. The USB Link 24/96 includes a Stereovox SV2 BNC/BNC cable with RCA adaptor to feed your audiophile DAC of choice – most likely a Bel Canto DAC3! Significantly improves the sound of your 16-bit 441.kHz music files as well!

Computer interface protocols are evolving too quickly to build into Bel Canto's DACs today. "SPDIF and AES/EBU are stable, but USB, USB 2.0, Firewire and Ethernet are all still evolving," explains CEO John Stronczer. "Our new USB Link 24/96 produces *lower* jitter than our internal USB input that was limited to 16-bits and 48kHz. That's why even MP3 sounds better, even though we all know it's the work of idle minds."

The VBS Virtual Battery Supply

Provides the low noise, isolation and transient current capability of a lead acid battery without the Lead, Acid or the Battery!

What would John Stronczer do if he was designing a power supply just for himself – and while he’s at it, a number of Bel Canto enthusiasts going for ultimate sound? Let’s see ... battery power? Sure, and he’d certainly want an oversized transformer surrounded by common-mode and differential-mode filtration, and most likely at least 100 dB of isolation and filtration starting below 100Hz and continuing up through the audio band and beyond. Probably use triple-LC filtration and massive energy storage to provide extremely quiet, well regulated and isolated power for small-signal source components. And probably, while he’s at it, it would have three individually regulated and isolated 12VDC outputs to supply power to several Bel Canto products. That sounds about right, and – hold on to your hats – John Stronczer’s done it!

“The VBS takes each respective component to new levels of performance. The extremely high isolation and regulation resulting from the 100 Joules of energy storage and high current capacity of this storage provide unmatched dynamics, a powerful low-frequency foundation, and complete stability of image and sound irrespective of the power at the wall. It’s the low level detail that always gets me!” says John.

Bel Canto’s Been Busy • The Updated S300iUSB

Speaking of what’s been happening in John Stronczer’s design studio, Bel Canto debuted the updated S300iu with our new 24/96 DAC board. This 300wpc powerhouse now has the same 24-bit/96kHz performance as the standalone USB Link 24/96. Improves even 16-bit/44.1kHz! Just add a laptop, speakers, and you’re ready to experience the music you love.

“The new DC-coupled 2VRMS output DAC coupled with the low-jitter clock recovery of the USB Link technology allows the new 24/96 USB DAC in the S300iUSB to punch well beyond its weight!” enthuses Mr. Stronczer. “The promise of a small-footprint system that delivers the High End goods has just arrived.” The new S300iUSB with 24/96 DAC board will be available Q1 of 2009 with an MSRP of \$2,495. The new 24/96 DAC board slots into the existing 300iu with a factory upgrade.

Main System

CD-2 Transport powered by VBS
DAC3 with USB Link 24/96 and Mac Book
REF500 and REF1000 MKII amplifiers
Joseph Audio Pearl Speakers
Wireworld Platinum Reference
Argento Digital Datalink
Shunyata Power Cords
Furutech f-TP615 Power Filter/AC Distributor
Harmonic Resolution SXR stand with M3 isolation bases

Compact System

S300iUSB Integrated with new 24/96 USB-input DAC board
Joseph Audio RM-7XL speakers.

Bel Canto Was Enjoyed In These Other Rooms

Joseph Audio

REF500 monoblocks, DAC3, CD-2, USB Link 24/96

Davone Audio

CD-2, 300iu or REF500s

WBT USA

CD-2, DAC3, S500 amplifier

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