

Antelope Audio to Unveil Rubicon - World's First Atomic AD-DA Preamp

Rubicon is a 384 kHz converter, phono stage preamp and headphone amplifier with an integrated atomic clock.

Santa Monica, CA, April 19, 2012 – Antelope Audio will introduce Rubicon, a groundbreaking 384 kHz digital audio preamplifier which integrates the world renowned 10M Rubidium atomic clock. Rubicon caters to the ever-increasing interest in high-resolution audio, addressing the specific needs of high-end consumer electronics enthusiasts for accurate audio representation and detailed soundstage of both analog and digital recordings. The new device will be presented to the public during the Munich High End Show, May 3rd – 6th.

Rubicon is the first DAC to integrate a Rubidium atomic clock, which is 100,000 times more stable than a traditional crystal oscillator. Coupled with Antelope's 64-bit Acoustically Focused Clocking technology, the Rubidium achieves a breakthrough in jitter management, improving the sound quality in an unprecedented way. The same technology is implemented in the company's flagship master clocks used for scoring blockbusters such as Avatar and available at the best recording and mastering studios around the Globe.



“I find the idea of an audio enthusiast being able to hear his/her favorite recordings clocked by the world's most stable clock very exciting. I believe this will bring the music appreciation in the home environment to a completely new level compared only to the precision and sonic detail representation available at the finest professional listening rooms,” shared Igor Levin, CEO and founder of Antelope Audio.

Housed in a sturdy, machined-aluminum enclosure with a vintage Art Deco design, Rubicon

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incorporates a discrete phono preamp, ultra linear, dual stage headphone drivers and Antelope's renowned gold-plated relay volume control.

The transformer-based, ultra-low noise, discrete JFET phono preamp is a complement that will be highly appreciated by many vinyl lovers. In addition to the 384 kHz DAC, Rubicon also includes ultra-high sample rate A/D conversion. These functionalities together with the high resolution USB recording capability provide the users with the sublime experience of digitizing their favorite tracks, still keeping the depth and the warmth of the original analog recordings.

In addition to the 384 kHz USB streaming, Rubicon offers extended flexibility and smooth user experience provided by the implemented DLNA capability. The DLNA streaming gives users the opportunity to wirelessly push audio files from their smart phone, PC or NAS (Network-attached storage) server and play the content through the high-sample rate DAC.

Rubicon inherits the D/A conversion technology from 384 kHz Zodiac Gold DAC - the 2012 winner of the Audio Excellence Award in Japan and often described by reviewers and prominent sound engineers as "future-proofed", "clean", "neutral" and "accurate". The A/D circuit comes from the 2011 winner of the Audio Media Gear of the Year award, high-end professional mastering converter Eclipse 384.

Antelope Audio plans to present the Rubicon for the first time to the public and the media during the Munich High End Show, in hall 3, booth A 04, at 2 pm, on May 3rd.

Rubicon features

- 10M Rubidium Atomic Clock, providing 100,000 times more accurate reference;
- 64-bit Acoustically Focused Clocking jitter management technology;
- Ultra low noise phono inputs with custom audio transformers, discrete JFET preamp design;
- 384kHz A/D & D/A converters;
- Gold-plated stepped relay volume attenuator matched to 0.05dB for all volume levels;
- Ultra-linear, dual stage headphone amps;
- De-jittered audio S/PDIF output;
- Custom USB 2.0 chip streaming up to 480 Mbits/384kHz with recording option;
- DLNA streaming capabilities through an Ethernet interface

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Analog Inputs

1x PHONO Input on RCA
3x Inputs on RCA
1x HiZ Input on RCA
1x Combo Balanced Input on XLR/¼ TRS

Digital Inputs

2x S/PDIF
2x TOSLINK
1x AES/EBU
Word Clock Input
Ethernet port

Analog Outputs

1x Balanced Output on XLR
1x Unbalanced Output on RCA

Digital Outputs

2x S/PDIF De-jittered outputs

About Antelope Audio

Antelope Audio is the brainchild of Igor Levin who has more than 20-years experience and a number of innovations in digital audio and synchronization technology. The company is widely acknowledged as the leading manufacturer of audio master clocks.

In 2009 Antelope Audio launched its product line of high-resolution USB D/A converters, being among the pioneers designing a 384 kHz DAC. Antelope's DACs employ their renowned 64-bit clocking and jitter management technologies and custom-designed circuits, achieving unprecedented precision and sound clarity.

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