

SOUND MECHANICS DC1 Dynamic Controller

Hong Kong is an anthology of new activities favored by the booming economy of China, in HiFi can not be counted among these new initiatives may be mentioned the Sound Mechanics that produces an interesting set of objects, mainly media and anti-resonance damping, as well as media for boxes and racks, very attractive wood and metal, because of an upcoming test which came a few days to return mail along with a new realization DC1 Dynamic Controller object of this test.

This is a box of small, battery powered with two rheostats placed on top, the invoice and 'well cared for: wooden side panels metal structure, a side wall exits an outlet similar to those of the screw jacks land of hifi equipment. In the pack as well as brief



instructions in English is a land of good quality cable length in feet.

As illustrated by the inscriptions the two rheostats are silkscreened to select the polarity of each other to adjust the action item.

The instructions are simple enough: you need to connect through the cable or the gadgets to the land of the rack if the possession or the taking of land of one of our devices or directly to the metal box of those who did not take land or to land cables and sockets.

I know little about the mode of operation: I 'gimmick, as I understand it, intercept the wire of the component to which you connect it, and instead of it going directly to the mass of the electrical puts it, between the wire and the mass , a voltage (basically as if it would break the thread in the umbilical cord and we put a battery in series, this fact in the box).

All using the material of first choice from the battery to platinum via the cable connection to get to all of the highest quality components made in Japan, similar to that used for the amplifiers more valuable.

I had some doubt that this was acceptable from the standpoint of European standards on safety, I then reported to the manufacturer who told me that the DC1 is working with differential voltage of less than one volt and is not a circuit closed with the location of the mass which is connected, not resulting in a break, so that dangerous. It says anyone can see the effect that can make a sound level the inclusion of a pile on the ground signal path in parallel as they make the difference and the advantage of DC1 with respect to intervention "home" of this kind lie and the components used and the possibility of regulation and phase change offered by DC1.

The purpose of the object is acting on the polarity and level of intervention, to make a change, it is assumed positive to the sound of our chain of listening.

There is currently a distributor of products of Sound Mechanics in Italy the price of DC1 is 200 Euro ex Hong Kong.

I tried the DC1 two plants in my home and wherever he can plug it and those that follow are the results of that test.

Proof should start by saying very interesting and fun for the possibility of tuning the thing that allows: we are faced with what I might call the first EQUALIZER VIRTUAL I've ever heard.

I try to explain better: many objects hifi species add-ons, I think the cables but also to media, play essentially an action equalizing the sound in the sense that "affect" the sound, often in close relation with the environment in which are inserted, the "Equalizer" in a setting that can not be changed or not but that pleasure is always in the case of DC1 but there are opportunities to act both quantitatively and qualitatively changing the level and polarity of the intervention, until find, if any, the optimal set-up.

I called the box a "VIRTUAL EQUALIZER", because its action is manifested on several parameters: timbre, soundstage, definition, is not said as we shall see that this intervention is always "positive" but it is undeniable, by ear, which always happen and not in the same way according to the "point" where it is inserted, in some ways seems to be the Ultima Thule of tuning to use in my opinion, I say once, in plants, in itself perfectly to this point because only the situation if they can fully appreciate the action.

Let's look at the effect it has had the CD1 plays on my home, I add that to a test "serious" should be two if the listener is away from the installation to assess in the course of a performance modes of operation and adjustment, by performing the commutations of the case, with the listener that evaluates and "assistant" that changes the set-up dell'apparecchietto Chinese, I enlisted, between puffs and protests, my son Andrej need for .. Luckily in the end and amused him, too I started with my secondary plant in which the "attachment points" were two: the earth connection of the Sonic Euphoria passive preamp and the earth in the plug wall that conducts electricity to the filter BlackNoise which are then linked both CDP Rotel 971 that the 4 finalists Musical Fidelity feeding in biamping spent my Celius 202.

Philip my contact in China, announced that he had not always DC1 "works" and that its intervention could change significantly depending on the situation and considered the situation means the chain of listening, this has occurred regularly as we will see during the tests to which I have submitted the unit.

The lawn is very simple: You must be told or to the land of the component on which the effects or try to land in the plug wall (so to speak, the central connector), then acts on the polarity that has three positions, center neutral, negative left and right positive, the intensity of the intervention can be adjusted with the rheostat to the right of the selector, with progressive steps to increase the value by acting in a clockwise direction.

Let us now examine the findings of the first part of the test: connect to DC1 Passive Line Stage you notice a minimum contribution, but negative with both the negative polarity with the positive in the sense that both introduce a certain

exaltation of high frequencies, which in the chain badly is combined with the opening notes Celius that causes unwanted sibilance buys a hint of harshness. By connecting the DC1 to the wall outlet that feeds through a filter and ciabatta BlackNoise BlackNoise CDP Rotel 971 and the four end Musical Fidelity, the "music" changes, whether the inclusion of "positive" of the "Chinese" adds definition to sound, accompanied by a slight elevation of sibilance, the polarity switch to "negative" positively sweetens the sound, making it more rounded and natural.

It should be noted that in general the better the cut, the greater the perceived effect.

Without this initial approach to the performance of DC1 are passed to the second system at home, here I got to try four different "positions" with respect to the chain of listening, plugging in Pre Sonic Euphoria, to a wall outlet that feeds through the BlackNoise Extreme the combination CDP / DAC Lector at the wall outlet and through BlackNoise 500 feeds the QUAD 988 and into the wall outlet and through BlackNoise 2500 feeds two of my OTL.

The intervention on pre and CDP / DAC is superimposed on the sound effects such as: Selecting the sides increases in a tangible way of defining musical message that appears more sculpted contours of a soundstage in richer microinformation ambience, I ' intervention of the negative polarity is less valid in the sense that while it softens the sound, the other makes it slightly more mixed, especially on the mids and especially in the rendering of the items that appear less "detached" from the context of the scene.

And 'interesting to note that changing the chain of listening to the effect of exchange rate parity DC1, Sonic Euphoria, part of the "Treaty".

Linked to QUAD 988, the DC1 shows a level of intervention is most obvious: selecting the positive polarity, it appreciates a more comprehensive definition of the reproduction of the musical. The soundstage depth is increased, these effects are accompanied by a higher gloss to the refund of the entire audio range, without the harshness on the high note in the plant. The transition to the negative polarity gives the sound a more rounded, but accompanied by a lower setting, with a slight roll-off of high frequencies. The voice seems richer in harmonics and warmer but as was the case for the Pre seems more "trapped" in the context, decreasing the air around performers and instruments in a virtual scene shallow end.

Turning to OTL you prefer setting the polarity negative in this situation, in fact, notwithstanding the definition in relation to the neutral position, you can appreciate a more heat-General of music playback, without exaltation of the very high frequencies, but the sides introduces, with hints of bitterness in some passages.

The virtual scene has grown in depth and solidity.

The best adjective to describe the preferred intervention DC1 endgame is "natural", and then pressing the rheostat of the power of the intervention was successful, with each individual wishing to donate to the sound track to a roundabout and a previously unknown involvement.

Arriving at the end of this journey I find myself faced with contradictory results, or the understanding that the DC1 has an action "warned" we have always seen it is not always a positive action, but what struck me is that when mushroom, mushroom, indeed, even if its development implies a careful ear to find the right set-up in different contexts as possible, to the point that I asked Philip the opportunity to make a further test by including more in a chain DC1 to colleagues as well as are the "connecting points" as possible for tuning multiple believe harbinger of interesting follow sound, albeit complicated variables involved and the possible interactions.

Philip told me that they too have done this test in their reference system with results far more intriguing than just fill in the "lonely" as the DC1 can have cumulative effects over a whole treatment plant and in the light of my findings is not can use only one for all appliances as the answers, as we have seen, are different.

A new package with 4 DC1 is traveling these days from China to Genoa and heading in the next issue I intend to follow-up reports on this that I think might intrigue you who read what I signed that is preparing to do so.