



AC Power Product of the Year

Furutech e-TP609 power distribution module \$980

Sometimes simpler solutions are better solutions—a notion that perhaps explains why Furutech's e-TP609 six-outlet power distribution module works so well. Note, please, that the e-TP609 is not a "power conditioner," since it doesn't provide active, in-line power-purification/filtration circuitry of any kind. Instead, the e-TP609 is a simple six-outlet power-distribution box that features a robust metal chassis, high-quality vibration-damped "Axial Locking" AC outlets, ultra-high-purity copper wiring, and passive noise filtration via strategically placed panels of an EMI-absorptive material called GC-303 (developed by 3M). All metal parts have received Furutech's signature "Alpha process" cryogenic treatments. In practice, the e-TP609 yields a noticeable reduction in background noise and grunge, coupled with a smooth, organic sound that allows music's natural beauty to flow freely.

Reviewed by Chris Martens, Issue 173



Accessory of the Year



Clearaudio Double Matrix Record Cleaner \$4400

Over the years TAS reviewers have used and reviewed many different record cleaners, all of which, regardless of price, did what they're supposed to do—clean vinyl—to about the same degree. The Clearaudio Double Matrix is different. Not only does it clean *both sides* of a record simultaneously, eliminating the possibility of cross-contamination and making for a tremendous savings in time and tedium; it also cleans LPs *better* than other record cleaners. There is a qualitative improvement in the sound of a record washed and vacuumed dry on the Double Matrix, which is a first in our experience, and which, along with the tremendous gains in convenience, is why this high-priced number wins a coveted Product of the Year award.

Review by JV forthcoming



Multichannel Component of the Year

Definitive Mythos ST 5.1-channel Speaker System \$5395

Comprising Definitive's superb Mythos ST floorstanders, a matching Mythos Ten center-channel speaker, and a pair of Mythos Gem XL surrounds, this surround system offers legitimate high-end sound for music listening, yet also make an ideal home-theater platform. Here's why: The Mythos STs are hands down the best-sounding speakers Definitive has ever produced, offering dead-neutral voicing, effortless 3-D imaging, and gobs of detail and resolution. Better still, each ST contains a built-in powered sub whose seamlessly integrated bass goes deep and is lightning fast. The Mythos Ten center channel has no powered sub, but otherwise perfectly matches the voicing of the ST. The end result is an easy-to-drive and exceptionally revealing system that offers five-figure sound for about half the price.

Reviewed by CM, *The Perfect Vision* Issue 82, and in this issue of TAS