

Clear and detailed, powerful - all in one

The brand SINE has come to the fore in the hi-fi field for its competent products, especially sockets and cables. This article is about a test on Cassio Powercord, which comes third on the brands' top list.

Thorough cryogenic treatment

The magic term, 'cryogenic treatment' has been gaining fame in the hi-fi world over the recent years. Our test subject, 'Cassio' is one that has absorbed its benefits into itself. We learnt that the product was wholly immersed in an extremely cold environment of -196 °C. During the process, the metallic atoms within the conductors were re-aligned. This permanent change enables a smoother transfer of electric current. This black cable is of a heavy and thick build. It hints great strength and powerful sound. And from the test, it is true.

The use of high-purity copper and silver

The manufacturer wishes to make the product work equally well throughout the sound spectrum instead of focusing on just certain parts. Hence, 12 AWG high-purity copper and 12 AWG astro-grade silver are chosen to compose the multi-strand wiring. The strands are weaved into a coiling pattern. The diameter of the conducting wires, as well as the how close they are to each other, are of

critical importance to determining the resulting sound quality. The ideal solution is to even out the distances between the individual wires (which is employed by this product), not too close together but not too far apart either. This works like providing a wide and clear highway for electricity to pass through. This special weaving method requires an extra length of wires and hence extra costs, but the boost in quality of sound indubitably shows this is worth it.

Attention to utmost details

Because of its rich content, the product is rather heavy and thick. However, it is surprising flexible such that it can bend its way through other cables and fit into the audio set-up on hi-fi racks. Surrounding the wiring is a strong net shielding electromagnetic interference, made of an extremely valuable combination of copper and silver. On top of them is a nylon jacket, acting as the first line of defence against distortion from radiation and electromagnetic waves in the air. Add to this are the carbon minerals for eliminating static electricity, allowing a tranquil background and delicate expression of details from

the soundtrack. In addition, the connectors are made of platinum-plated phosphor copper, whose surfaces are absolutely smooth and best adapted for electric conduction.



The Test

The setting for the test is comprised of Esoteric X-03SE SACD / CD Audio Player, Mark Levinson N°326S Stereo Preamplifier, Krell Evolution 302 Stereo Amplifier, a pair of Dynaudio Confidence C2 Signature Home Loudspeakers, Audioquest Niagara Analog Interconnects, GutWire - SI-6 Interconnect Cable, Kimber Kable - Monocle XL. The reference power cables are Python from US company Power Snakes and Siltech's Classic Anniversary Series SPX-800. Every power cable is connected to the mains power directly.

The first album used for the test was 'Camomile Classics' by Fujita Emi. As soon as the play button was pressed, her sweet beautiful voice started to float in the air. The high-pitched part was bright and clear, and it by no means showed the slightest trace of screeching. When it came to the middle pitch, it was still pleasingly fresh, with vibrancy. Even at the most challenging section, 'Loving You', the cable still experienced no difficulties, giving a beautiful voice. The commonplace snags, like the vocal appearing too sharp or a bit rough for some moments, were nowhere to be found. As the pitch rose, the textures changed smoothly. The fluid expression alone gives enough reason to purchase it.

The second stage of the test was the newest album by the local duo '朱思馬即', '謝謝祢的愛'. The record's contents ranged from classical music to last century's pop. Cedric Chan's piano and Pluto Chu's saxophone were a perfect match, especially because of Cassio. The cable did a good job both in showing the rhythmic impulse of piano and lively lustre of saxophone's spirit.

Before the final part, 'Hi Fi Flamenco' AQCD showed that Cassio could master the bass without any strain. Every sound of steps falling onto the ground was clean and clear. The way the air changed lighting fast as the music progressed posed real challenge to most audio equipment, but surely not to this one.

The ultimate test section began with 'Drum And Track Disc' by The Sheffield Lab. The results further proved Cassio's capability of mastering bass. What it displayed was a melange of speed, resilience, vibrancy. The two C2 chapters were performed as well as it could be.

Conclusion

From the test, SINE Cassio proved itself being nothing short of an awesome option. If its price is considered, so much the better. The high pitch was amazingly sweet and bright; its vocals showed rich texture and full of life; the mastery over low pitch was beautifully expressed through speed and motion; at strong and heavy sessions, a firm control and stability simply astonishes the audience. Cassio is no doubt a dark horse. It works its incredible magic as soon as it goes on-stage. This power cable has what it takes to outperform many expensive and even ruinous models from foreign brands. Whatever your taste, Cassio might just be the one you are looking for.

