

INSPIRATION integrated 1.0 / integrated amplifier

constellation audio



Pure Constellation sound in a compact chassis

100-watt-per-channel Balanced Bridged amplification

Two XLR and two RCA inputs plus headphone output

Perfectly balanced Line Stage Gain Module preamp stage

Large toroidal transformer with dual-mono rectifiers and capacitor bank

Constellation's original mission was to create reference-grade components without compromise. We always hoped, though, that we could someday distill the technologies developed for our Reference Series into a simple integrated amplifier most audiophiles can afford. With the Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0, this is exactly what we've achieved.

The Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0 measures a mere 5.5 inches high, yet includes the core technologies that our "dream team" of engineers and designers originally developed for the Reference Series Altair line stage and Hercules power amplifier. The very same technologies that, according to one of the world's top reviewers, "... set new standards in transparency, resolution, absence of grain, and sheer realism ..."

From input to output, the Inspiration

INTEGRATED 1.0 is Constellation through and through. Signals coming in through its two XLR and two RCA analog inputs first enter our Line Stage Gain Module, a unique preamplifier topology that uses high-precision field-effect transistors and servo circuits to achieve an essentially perfect balance between the positive and negative halves of an audio signal. Voices and musical instruments do this naturally, of course, but it is a rare quality in an audio component—and one that results in exceptional musical detail and spaciousness.

The power amplifier stage relies on the same innovative Balanced Bridged circuit concept pioneered in the Hercules. To maintain the perfect balance of the Line Stage Gain Module, this design combines single-ended modules using only NPN output transistors, rather than splitting the signal between imperfectly

matched NPN and PNP transistors as almost all other amplifiers do. It's the sound of a single-ended amplifier, with the power and control of the best Class AB amplifiers.

The Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0 includes a feature of particular importance to today's audiophiles: an integral headphone amplifier powerful enough to drive any headphones to concert-level volume. This means one less component—especially important considering that the Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0 was designed for simplicity and a minimal footprint.

Powerful, clean, independent power supplies

All audio circuits require an abundant supply of clean power to perform their best. This is why the interior of

(more...)

the Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0 is dominated by a massive toroidal power transformer and banks of large storage capacitors. These give the power amplifier section all the voltage and current it needs to effortlessly double its power into 4-ohm loads.

Because the DC stages of the Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0 power supply are dual-mono, with separate rectifiers and capacitor banks for left and right channels, each channel maintains optimal performance even in the event of extreme demands on the other channel. Additional local capacitance at key circuit points assures that every section of the Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0 can tap all the clean power it requires at any time.

Impeccable construction for superior sound

Even though the Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0 is the most compact integrated amplifier we have offered to date, it incorporates most of the now-classic Constellation construction concepts.

Most of the Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0's chassis is made from machined 8.2mm aluminum slabs, thick enough to block any electromagnetic radiation encountered in the home. The design employs a unique joinery system that combines steel buttresses with machined grooves that help lock the panels together.

Audio circuits are well-shielded from each other and from the power supply, to minimize interference from outside or inside. Soft, pliable isolators "float" line-level circuits so they will not be affected by external vibration.

Surprising convenience

The Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0 features an advanced control system for exceptional versatility and precision. A 432 x 230-pixel, high-contrast touchscreen provides easy access to every adjustment, while a machined aluminum remote controls key functions from a distance. Thanks to the resistor-ladder volume control, digitally controlled through a smooth-spinning volume knob on the front panel, the Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0 achieves precise channel matching impossible with potentiometers.

A home theater bypass feature allows the Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0 to serve as the centerpiece of a home theater system. This mode passes the left and right front channels from a surround decoder directly to the amplifiers and speakers, without affecting the surround-sound system's volume or channel balance. XLR output allows the Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0 to be used as a preamp with a larger amplifier.

A high-end headphone amplifier is built in. Simply plug in your favorite headphones and enjoy state-of-the-art

sound, with no extra components or connections required.

Audiophiles may be shocked when they hear such a compact amplifier deliver effortless dynamics and detail even with the world's most demanding speakers. But we're not surprised. The performance of the Inspiration INTEGRATED 1.0 is exactly what our "dream team" has working toward through our entire history ... and far better than we ever dared hope for.

SPECIFICATIONS

Inspiration preamp 1.0 / line stage

Inputs	2 XLR 2 RCA USB and RS-232 (for service and control systems) 3.5mm jack for 12-volt trigger
Power output, 8Ω (1 kHz @ 1% THD+N)	100 W
Power output, 4Ω (1 kHz @ 1% THD+N)	200 W
Outputs	Argento Clamps speaker cable connectors XLR balanced line-level 1/4-inch/6.2mm headphone jack
Frequency response	10 Hz to 20 kHz, +/-0.5dB; -2.7dB at 200 kHz
Gain	31 dB
Volume control resolution	0.5 dB steps from 0 dB to -99.5 dBFS
THD+N (1 kHz @ 25W into 8Ω)	0.035%
Output impedance	0.125Ω
Damping factor (8Ω load)	64
Input impedance	20KΩ unbalanced, 40KΩ balanced
Output noise	-84 dB A-weighted
Weight	43 lbs / 19.5 kg
Dimensions	17 x 5.5 x 19 in (whd) / 43.2 x 14 x 48.3 cm (whd)

Constellation reserves the right to change designs, and / or specifications

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Light Years Ahead.

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