

Niimbus introduces flagship headphone amplifiers US 5 and US 5 Pro



Niimbus enriches the high end of headphone amplification with new models US 5 and US 5 Pro. Strict dual mono layout and plenty of power provide immaculate amplification for any headphone type – from dynamic drivers to planar magnetic drivers. In addition to 6.3 mm jacks the new top models offer balanced headphone outputs via 4-pin XLR and 4.4 mm Pentaconn. A large number of inputs and outputs add flexibility to US 5 and US 5 Pro, enabling them to work as preamps and control centres for other hifi components. The Pro version replaces the high-quality motorized pot with a volume control through a 256 step reed relay. Exquisite parts, clever circuitry, elegant design, and the outstanding craftsmanship from the German manufacture at Lake Constance make US 5 and US 5 Pro pieces of art for demanding audiophiles.

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Gauting, Germany, 22nd July 2021 – Niimbus takes the high-end approach of Violectric and carries it even further, going for ultimate sound without compromise. Both new models US 5 and US 5 Pro embody this concept down to the very detail.

High end close up

The essence of 35 years of experience with exquisite circuitry culminates in the two brand new headphone amplifiers Niimbus US 5 and US 5 Pro, delivering musical high end experiences directly to the ear. Headphone playback is

Summary

Niimbus introduces US 5 and US 5 Pro

Product name
US 5 and US 5 Pro

Manufacturer
Niimbus

Price
US 5: 4,999.00 Euros
US 5 Pro: 5,499.00 Euros

Availability
Early August

Distributor
cma audio GmbH

Websites
www.cma.audio
www.vioelectric.de

Images

Product picture
http://cmaaudio.rtfm-pr.de/cmaaudio_niimbus_us5.jpg

Image archive
http://cmaaudio.rtfm-pr.de/cmaaudio_niimbus_us5.zip

Devices for testing

If you are interested in a sample device for review purposes, please write us an e-mail.

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particularly demanding since the sound source is placed very close to the head. Due to its completely symmetrical dual mono layout, internal operating voltage of 50 V and high power output, the new flagship models drive headphones of any type with utmost precision. Working with ultra-low distortion they unveil absolute sound bliss.

One for all

From high-quality dynamic systems to planar magnetic drivers, open or closed back designs, high or low impedance – Niimbus US 5 and US 5 Pro flexibly adapt, ideally supporting every transducer to achieve perfect sound performance. The innovative Pre Gain adjustment with a wide range from -18 to +24 dB guarantees low internal amplification factors and low noise with all headphone impedances. The four powerful amplifier levels effortlessly drive high and low impedance headphones with up to 7,000 mW at 50 Ohms and output voltage of 32 V RMS at 600 Ohms. The low output impedance warrants a high attenuation factor, which combines with the sophisticated power supply with two toroidal transformers and 50,000 µF capacitors for accurate transient reproduction, high dynamics and minimum distortion.

Balanced headphone connections for maximum listening pleasure

In addition to the two unbalanced 6.3-millimeter-jacks, the Niimbus US 5 and US 5 Pro offer 4-pin-XLR- and 4.4-mm-Pentaconn-connections for balanced headphones. This provides a significantly better channel separation via individual grounding as well as an even better dynamic response. With four amplification stages, the new Niimbus models work as a push-pull-setup when wired with balanced connectors, so positive and negative membrane movements are amplified individually. Regardless of whether the signal consists of a powerful, dynamic orchestra or fragile acoustic instruments – the amplifier is always in control of the headphone drivers, delivering a fascinatingly precise and vivid sound. One balanced and two unbalanced stereo inputs function as signal inputs, while balanced and unbalanced line outputs allow the connection of further components. The line outputs can be set to either fixed or variable levels, making Niimbus US 5 and US 5 Pro reference preamps for subsequent power amplifiers or active loudspeakers.

Accurate volume control

Niimbus delivers uncompromising perfection down to the last detail. Accordingly, when developing the reference models US 5 and US 5 Pro, particular emphasis was placed on accurate volume control. The amplifiers achieve an accuracy and channel consistency that really does justice to their high-end claims. The US 5 employs a high-quality motorized potentiometer, while the US 5 Pro uses a Relay Controlled Attenuator (RCA) system for the best – albeit most complex – analogue level control available today. The volume control is connected to a microcomputer, which in turn controls a network of fixed resistors via wear-free reed relays. With the US 5 Pro from Niimbus, the RCA network spans an impressive 256 discrete volume levels with a step size of 0.4, offering the greatest possible accuracy without colouring the signal. All this effort pays off: with the US 5 and the US 5 Pro, Niimbus offers an outstanding stereo image with detailed and artefact-free spatial instrument localisation.

Timelessly elegant

On the outside, Niimbus US 5 and US 5 Pro present themselves in modest grace: the ten-millimeter thick, black anodized front panel blends in with any ambience in its delightful understatement. In addition to the volume control, the panel also features input and output selection buttons, a balance control and the headphone outputs. The remote control, milled from a single metal block, controls all important parameters and offers maximum ease of use, especially when employing the new Niimbus models as high-end control centres for sophisticated hifi systems. The devices' shapes underline the prominent motorized volume control and exudes timeless elegance. The exclusive use of high-quality components by well-trained specialists in the company's own manufacture near Lake Constance contributes to that special Niimbus – exclusive quality for exquisite tastes.

Price and availability

The US 5 and US 5 Pro headphone amps from Niimbus are available in early August from selected specialist retailers. The MSRPs are 4,999.00 euros for the US 5 and 5,499.00 euros for the US 5 Pro.

About cma audio / Lake People electronic

As a company group, cma audio GmbH and Lake People electronic GmbH are ideal partners and service providers for products and solutions in audio technology. Lake People develops and manufactures high-quality audio electronics and cma audio distributes audio products, systems and services.

With its brands Lake People, Vioelectric and Niimbus, Lake People electronic GmbH provides both professional and audiophile markets with excellent headphone amplifiers, converters and tools. The claim "Made in Germany" defines the company and its 35-year tradition. The entire development and manufacturing take place under the watchful eye of founder and mastermind Fried Reim in Constance, with even most of the suppliers coming from Germany.

Distribution is handled by cma audio GmbH, the experienced and globally operating value added distributor. For German brands, cma audio opens markets around the world, while also granting international brands wide-ranging access to European markets. Renowned brands like Audeze, Chord Electronics, IsoAcoustics, MARIAN, Mogami, OEAudio, Prism Sound and SPEAR Labs trust in the services of cma audio. The team, located in Gauting near Munich, Germany, passionately and competently care for the company's exclusive portfolio and have established cma audio as a reliable partner for resellers, online shops, system houses and professional as well as institutional users for over 20 years.

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