

Transforming the Music



The Beauty of Analog

Consolidated Audio builds customized MC StepUp transformers since 2018. We provide a range of specifications suitable for most MC phono cartridges. Main design criteria are the MC generator's internal resistance and its output voltage. The former defines the SUT primary inductance required for linear bass reproduction and the latter the step-up ratio. If the customer provides technical details about his MM phono stage further optimization is possible. Following this approach has resulted in enthusiastic comments from customers and reviewers alike and helped them rediscovering the beauty of analog.



Custom MC StepUp



Standard SUTs

MC cartridges excel in directly converting mechanical motion into an electrical voltage by fundamental principles of physics. The sub-millivolt output signal requires additional gain, which can be achieved either by an active amplifier stage (MC pre-pre or headamp) or in a more traditional but proven way by a passive step-up transformer (SUT). Beneficial in using the latter is the low output impedance of the MC generator, which suggests the use of a transformer as a wideband, low-noise, passive amplification stage. Because even well respected designers of solid-state amplifiers describe the step-up transformer as the most elegant solution for

MC pre-amplification [D. Self, Electronics for Vinyl, Routledge 2018], listeners who value the best possible quality in the reproduction of their analog treasures should consider using a SUT for MC pre-amplification. Consolidated Audio can assist in creating custom optimized SUTs for a specific MC cartridge / MM phono amplifier combination.

ELECTRICAL CONFIGURATIONS:

Primary inductance:

(MC cartridge internal resistance, maximum step-up ratio)

Extra low: < 5 Ohm, 1:50 and beyond

Low: 5 – 10 Ohm, 1:50

Medium: 10 – 20 Ohm, 1:30

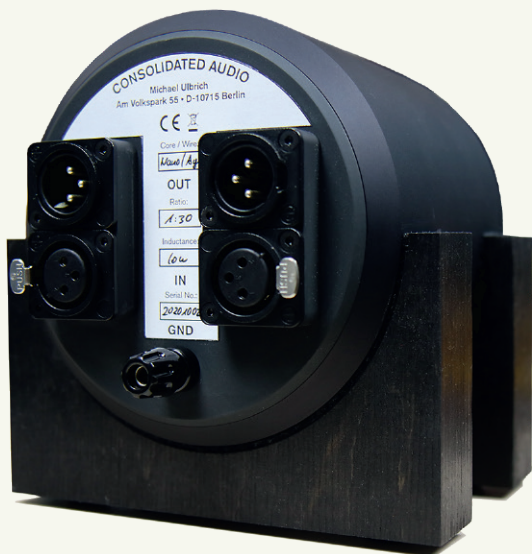
High: > 20 Ohm, 1:20

Windings:

Copper or silver wire in different qualities



Horizontal SUT with wooden stand (front view)



XLR SUT with wooden stand (rear view)

Transformer core material:

Nanocrystalline or Mumetal (HiNickel 80%)

MECHANICAL CONFIGURATIONS:

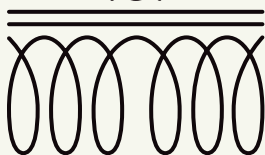
Standard: vertical aluminum can, black or silver anodized, silver plated RCA sockets (IN, LOAD, OUT)

Copper: massive vertical copper can, clear lacquered, WBT RCA sockets + GND post (IN, OUT, No LOAD)

XLR: black anodized aluminum can, Neutrik XLR sockets with silver plated contacts (IN, OUT, No LOAD)

Horizontal with wooden stand: cast metal label on front, RCA or XLR connectors on rear side

Customers interested in "transforming" their analog playback chain to the next level are invited to contact Consolidated Audio (or one of our distributors).



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