



**ASR Audio Systeme  
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*Some customer comments about our products :*

**A customer from USA about the Emitter I Exclusive Battery Model 2011 :**

Please accept my sincere gratitude to you and your team for having created such a wonderful musical masterpiece as your ASR Emitter. Having recently acquired one through your North American distributor ,Musical Sounds, Mr Zed Hussein, who, by the way, was very kind and most courteous to me during the buying process. He is a real asset to the audio community!

I thoroughly enjoyed dealing with him and hope to do so again in a very short amount of time.

**A customer from USA about the Emitter I Exclusive Battery Model 2011 :**

I cannot begin to tell you how much I am enjoying your Emitter! It has elevated my enjoyment of my music to such an extent that I cannot seem to find the words to express my amazement at what it has achieved in the way of getting me closer to the emotional heart of the music. I find I am brought to tears with old familiar recordings! I feel like I have discovered music, all over again!

Thank you for you over thirty years of hard work in helping make ordinary people, like me. Enjoy their music in a much deeper way than was ever before possible. I think I will be a customer for life!

Good luck to you in the future and continued success!

with kindest regards,

Dxxx E. YXXX  
Louisville, Kentucky USA

## **A journalist from the Netherlands about the Basis Exclusive in december 2010**

I am still overwhelmed by the pleasure I get from listening to my favourite records through my Basis Exclusive every day. The last few weeks have been especially pleasant as I had the opportunity to listen to my Basis Exclusive in combination with the ASR Emitter I amplifier. Maybe you remember that I told you during our conversation at the High End 2010 that I wanted to hear an Emitter in my own listening room.

I told Ben Wijmans the same thing and finally he and I were able to set a date. He brought over his own demo amplifier and in the past few weeks I have been listening to more music than at any other time before in my life! And this means something because I have always been a music lover who has devoted lots of time to this hobby, both in concert halls and at home.

In Munich I told you that I thought your ASR Basis Exclusive is the best phono I have ever heard. I wrote pretty much the same thing in my review that was published in Music Emotion magazine earlier this year. And at the moment I am writing a review about your Emitter I in which I practically use the same words to describe the impact your Emitter I - in his most basic form - made on me. Tomorrow Ben will come and take it away again. The Emitter and its power supply are too heavy to take on my back and Ben is too nice a person to double cross but the thought crossed my mind to flee to prevent this from happening.

As I already told Ben; if I had the money I would buy the demo amplifier this instant. It is by far the most beautiful, melodic, harmonically and organically rich sounding solid state amplifier I know. The quietness, the power, the subtlety, the harmony, the wondrously beautiful pictured details that let me hear deep into the glorious soundstage, the music that simply washes over me.

And not a trace of harshness or edge. It constantly amazes me. Every album I play, I play in full because I can not stop the CD player or the turntable. I am simply transfixed by the beauty that reaches my ears. This is especially true in combination with my TW Acoustic turntable and my ASR Basis Exclusive phono. The last few days I only played those big black shiny vinyl discs and I loved it!

You can rest assured that my review will be very favourable. Your website provided me with all the information I needed for the review and I am sure my editor will contact either you or Ben for some of those beautiful pictures by the time he wants to publish my review.

There is just one thing I would like to know because I could maybe use it in my story. The Emitter is a modular design that can be upgraded again and again. One of it's many strong points.

It would be nice to mention what the last upgrade was you did to the basis model I have in my listening room. It is the blue version. Also I wonder if there are any changes planned within the near future that would be nice to tell to the readers.

Once more my compliments for your beautiful designs. You must be a happy man, knowing that your amplifiers bring so much joy to your customers.

## **A Basis Exclusive Model 2006 in the netherlands**

I thought I might just let you know the results of the combi ASR Basis Exclusive/ Schroeder Model II tonarm / Sound-Smith Surrusso cartridge.

Since two weeks this combi is installed and the results are awesome. Absolutely unbelievable, out of this world!

The setting with the Surrusso was: 1000Ohm/ with plenty of gain from your wonderful Phono stage. Like you suggested already this setting plays excellent indeed!

It has succeeded my by far (!) my expectations and I want to thank you for making my dream come through!!

Yours sincerely

Kind regards,

TXXX DXXXCXXCX

## **Herr Schäfer: A record studio about a Basis Exclusive 2008**

**I am writing you to express my thanks. I operate The LXXXX EXXX.**

We are a CD label specializing in progressive rock. Many of our efforts are reissues of rare albums from the 70s which have not made the transition to digital. In fact we reissued a number of classic German progressive rock albums from the 70s including three albums by Schicke Fuhrs Frohling, Yatha Sidhra, and even Faithful Breath.

We take an audiophile approach to our reissues - always trying to remain faithful to the original analog source. It is important that we have a high quality vinyl reference to compare our digital masters against. I have had a number of phono stages in our reference system over the years with little satisfaction. Recently we were relying on the phono section of our Bxxxxxx 1xxxx preamp. Confidentially I was not happy.

To that end I contacted Daniel Barnum at Half Note Audio to inquire about a Basis Exclusive. We quickly had one installed in our system and I have to say that it has been sonic nirvana! I have never heard vinyl playback sound like this. The musicality of the phono stage is extraordinary - very dynamic with tremendous bass and a purely organic natural sound. The Basis Exclusive gets to the heart and soul of the music...but I'm sure you know all this already. The Basis Exclusive is a triumph and it shows just how far we still have to learn about digital reproduction. This is a piece of equipment that will be a permanent part of our reference system.

One other point I wanted to mention. Dealing with Mr. Barnum has been a pleasure. He has been extremely quick to respond to my many questions and guided me step by step through set up. A few weeks later he actually paid us a visit to make sure that everything was working optimally. I believe from the smile on his face that he was quite satisfied as well. I have been in the business for 20 years and dealing with audio manufacturers for much longer than that. It was very refreshing to meet someone so passionate, knowledgeable and attentive. I can only imagine that Half Note Audio will be an important partner for you in the US market.

Bravo!

**Best wishes,**

**Kxx Gxxxxx**

**Director of Operations**

## **Ein Kunde aus Deutschland über einen Emitter I Exklusive 2010**

seit gestern steht der Emitter bei mir.

Nun aber zum Eigentlichen: Ein Traum! Man spricht ja in HiFi-Kreisen manchmal von einer „Philosophie“ (des Klangs, der Konstruktion ...), aber: dieser Verstärker *ist* philosophisch. Mein erster Verstärker, der überhaupt kapiert, was musikalisch los ist. Und, da ich Theologe bin: es ist der erste katholische Verstärker. Nach dem streng protestantischem Camtech („Ich steh hier und ich kann nicht anders“), einer der inszeniert, der Farben aufleuchten lässt, der große Räume aufbaut. Nicht wahr: wir wollen keine Argumente, wir wollen Klang. Und eine große Bühne, wo jedes Instrument felsenfest steht und seinen Platz hat. Alles geordnet, alles stimmig. Schauen Sie sich mal eine katholische Liturgie an – erst dann können Sie den Emitter verstehen.

Sicher: Manchmal könnte er eine Spur flinker sein, hier und da vielleicht auch etwas analytischer, aber das sind Nuancen, keine Einschränkungen. Vielleicht kommt da ja noch etwas, wenn er erstmal eingespielt ist. Ist es so?

Lieber Herr Saul, ohne Sie, ohne Ihre exzellente Beratung und ohne Ihre Geduld, wäre ich nie zu einem Emitter gekommen. Diese Zeilen sollen meinen Dank an Sie unterstreichen.

## **Eine Kunde aus der Schweiz über einen Emitter II Exclusive 2009**

Ich habe nun den Emitter 2 Exclusive in der aktuellen Ausführung schon seit längerer Zeit in Betrieb, den ich über Daniel Leiser gekauft habe.

Dieses Produkt ist schlichtweg einwandfrei. Viele Anlagen, die ich mir anhöre, treiben mir den kalten Angstschweiß auf die Stirn und ich möchte den Vorführraum nach 30 Sekunden am liebsten wieder panikartig verlassen.

Wenn das wesentlich günstigere Geräte sind, dann kann man es ja noch mit dem Preis begründen. Aber wenn das dann auch bei ganzzahlig vielfach teureren Kombinationen der Fall ist, wie es diesen Frühjahr in einem Beispiellosten Dilettantismus in Zürich an der World of HiFi des deutschen HighEnd-Dachverbandes gezeigt wurde, dann weiß man hinterher doch gleich wieder was man mit dem ASR doch für ein ausgereiftes Produkt zu Hause stehen hat.

Inzwischen habe ich von Isophon V, die doch von den Abbildungsmöglichkeiten sehr limitiert waren, gewechselt zu der relativ neuen Cremona M von Sonus Faber.

Damit macht es so richtig Spaß Musik zu hören. Auch Live-Konzerte mit akustischen Instrumenten und natürlichen Stimmen bestätigen das Resultat voll und ganz.

Jetzt fehlt nur noch eine Ablösung der technisch völlig rückständigen CD mit den popligen 44.1kHz.

## **From a customer from Turkey about an EMI Exclusive 2008 without battery**

I have receive the ASR I Emitter on Friday evening and i did set up on Saturday morning. ASR has outperformed the AXXXXX AMP I in the first minute . The big difference is on mid and high octaves, these are like tube sound. It has enormous bass control and a very good sound stage .

The interesting thing is the bass control. Even it is said that AXXXX AMP I has a damping factor of 4000 at 500 Hz which looks like better than ASR, you can hear that ASR is much better . I think this is because of perfect power supply of ASR.

## **Ein Kunde aus Deutschland über seine neue Mini Basis Modell 2009 :**

**Betreib die Mini Basis am Emitter HD, zur Zeit gespeist von einem Ortofon Nr. 2 am Micro Seiki CF1 auf einem Micro Seiki BL91.**

**Ich muss sagen, da kommt schon einiges hervor, was vorher nicht im Raum stand. Trotz des Mittelklasse -TA eine enorme Abbildung bis "in den Keller".**

**Bin gespannt auf den Test in der neuen LP ( H. Barske).**

**Werde den ausgezeichneten Pre weiterhin mein Eigen nennen.**

## **Our Distributor in Iran about an EM II Exclusive 2009 with battery**

**It's a long time with no talks between both companies so I decided to send you this report about our test and examination sessions for Emitter II Exclusive's performance which we experienced during this while with ASR.**

**With no doubt entering of the ASR into Avin Ava Arta was one of the most wonderful events through our active years in the field of Hi-End distribution. A different experience and a totally new consequence;**

- 1- For the demonstration of ASR Emitter II Exclusive we initiated with Manger ZeroBox 109 IIe. The result was that unexpectedly fascinating in the way we decided to order for another pair of Manger ZeroBox 103/3 (Manger's top of the line product) to have a better picture of Emitter II Exclusive's sounding. This while took a month until finally we had a pair of well burned in ZB 103/3 attached to ASR Emitter II ready for demonstration. The conclusion of this achievement was unbelievable and led us to a higher understanding of Hi-End sound and meanings. The performance of this amplifier opened a new season for Manger Speakers throughout Iran's domestic markets and this impact was so immediate. Following by this beginning, Avin Ava crew invited audio enthusiasts for having a listening test with the combination of ASR+Manger and also published translated documents and reviews in the most famous audiophile magazine in Iran (Industry of Audio and Video) which all led to more curiosity from Iran's audiophiles and music lovers so they are contacting us for experiencing the magic of Emitter II with ZeroBox 103/3.

**Finally, introduction of ASR Company was a pick point of Avin Ava's activities and all the crew brought the name of ASR over the top - with deep believe and bias into it.**

- 2- For numerous times I tried to explain my experience on Emitter II by using the proper technical terms and acknowledgement which I collected through these 15 years of Hi-End enthusiasm but never became satisfied of what is been written about ASR product by myself. So I will describe my experience on ASR's sound and performance all upon my senses and emotions.

Since my hobbies are mostly relate to the nature such as deep diving and mountain climbing, I was able to inspire from nature to explain what I harvested from ASR.

Listening to Emitter II is just like drinking the fresh water from its very source atop of a mountain. This water is so salubrious, lucid and free of any chemical ingredients. Also it is free of any color or odor, unforgettably enliven and hundred percent pure. If one experienced, must be known that the natural water from top of the mountain is never comparable with what we use in the towns and cities as potable water. Essentially the modern human understood

the importance of nature and the need for return into it meanwhile ASR is bringing the nature into the houses because ASR is nothing but the nature itself...

- 3- **A**t the final journey, the imported ASR Emitter II Exclusive took its last place at the home of one of well known Iranian audiophiles (Dr. S. Keihani) to fulfill the heavy responsibility of best sounding, for him and for all of us. (attached you may find some pictures of this installation)

So we are preparing for placing another order for Emitter II Exclusive and this time our order will include a set of ASR Basis Exclusive because we were using ASR with Amazon turntable + ZYX cartridge (and Trigon Advance model phonostage) and now we are ready to import and initiate the introduction of ASR phonostages in domestic markets.

- 4- Let me express my deep happiness and impressive satisfaction about having this business with your good name company because it gave us the better opportunity for demonstrating the Manger's products. We believe that the combination of ASR and Manger is like a shortcut for having a real Hi-End but not too much expensive...

## **Ein Kunde aus der Schweiz, der im Juni 2008 einen gebrauchten Emitter IIs von 1999 gekauft hatte**

Sehr geehrter Herr Schäfer

ich möchte hiermit nochmals für Ihre Hilfe herzlich bedanken.

Ein so Super Service erhält man heute nirgends mehr!

Ich bin Überzeugt, mit Ihrer Philosophie werden Sie noch viele Jahre Erfolg auf dem immer härter werdenden HI-END Markt haben.

Ich wünsche Ihnen nur das Beste für die Zukunft.

Mit Hochachtung

## **A user in switzerland about an Emitter I Exclusive batterie in june 2008 :**

*Hello Daniel,*

Thanks again for coming to my home yesterday, that was a nice moment!

It's 10 PM, I'm listening to Dvorak's trio in E minor, a "Wilson Audiophile" LP. The three instruments are here in front of me, it is not HiFi, it is music...

I listened yesterday night to a DVD Audio recording of the Messiah by Handel, a DVD I just purchased and listened for the first time (DTS Entertainment 69286-01073-9-7). I have four recordings of the Messiah, two on LP and two digital, and that one is truly special. Yesterday night was a huge emotion...Was it the recording (recorded in the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City, with a huge choir and orchestra, David Willcocks conducting), the Quads, the Emitter? My listening room's walls disappeared, and I was in the hall, completely

immersed in music, from the softest tones of a great counter tenor to the incredible tutti of the 315 (!) choir singers and full orchestra. The emotion was intense, and I never felt it unless in a concert hall with real musicians in front of me.

Now, record after record, and tonight mainly LP, I am "impressed" but more importantly moved by what I am hearing, and I can already tell you that an Emitter will remain at the chemin de la Source. I don't need longer time to make up my mind...

I thus wish to thank you and Mr Schäfer. I truly appreciated Mr Schäfer's attitude, a true professional who shows that he loves what he does, and doesn't do it just for doing business. I appreciate your attitude, it shows that you love music, your job, and are competent in both. It is not that often that we meet people of that quality, and I am happy to know where my (hard earned...) money is going! I also am now convinced that buying an Emitter is indeed money very well spent; and indeed, in the present audio world and its sometimes incredible prices, ASR may well be a bargain.

Thanks again, looking forward seeing you.

Friendly yours,

## *An ASR Dealer in the USA about an Emitter II Exclusive 2007*

"Hey Guys!

I'm no writer but I just couldn't keep this to myself. I am absolutely blown away by the performance of the Concert Grand Si driven by the ASR Emitter II Exclusive. This combination represents the best I have ever heard this speaker perform. The upper frequencies are more extended, sweet and airy. Midrange continues to be natural but there was a greater sense of presence to the sound. The overall sound is more pure in a way I find difficult to describe. It simply didn't matter what type of music I played. This combination is simply a wonderful match as the speaker literally became a living breathing thing. I am truly impressed. I could only expect the same performance with the Emitter I Exclusive (\$14K) on the Bodhran SE.

Let's talk about bass. I used one of my reference tunes by the YellowJackets ( Live Wires, 1992 - Track 9 - Wildlife ). This is a live recording and I literally felt like I was in the audience. The percussion, bass and audience came to life in a manner never before experienced in my 25 x 15 x 8 foot music room. The CGSi loves the power. The sound is organic and there was a natural height to the performance. The presentation was wide and the soundstage deep with layering you could nearly walk into. With all due respect to John Mark's experience, I never agreed with his limited bass comment as the CGSi's bass was never any less than tuneful and controlled in my room when driven by the highly respected Lamm Reference Electronics. However, with the ASR driving them, the bass was even tighter and very very deep. Mr. Marks would easily retract those comments if he heard this tune on this speaker amp combination in my room.

Best of all, because the ASR Emitter II is an integrated unit, it represents a tremendous value at \$23K. It outputs 500W into 4 ohms, has 2 separate power supplies, 1 balanced and 1 direct input, 2 tape outputs and a remote control. This unit comes with two " very good" power cords (of course the unit sounds better with the Argento FLOW cords used in this system). The B version includes a battery option (\$4K up-charge)

Here's the Audition system:

ESP Loudspeakers Concert Grand Si

ASR Emitter II Exclusive

Esoteric X-01 Limited SACD/CD player

Argento Serenity Reference Interconnects Argento Serenity Master Reference Speaker Cables Argento Flow Power Cords Shakti Hallographs Critical Mass Systems PXX Isolation Systems Critical Mass Systems Black Label Reference Isolation platform

In closing, I would strongly suggest that anyone who is buying or owns ESP speakers, consider, no go out and buy, the ASR electronics and, if possible, connect them with Argento cables. I guarantee they won't be sorry.

Doug"

Herr Schäfer:

I am writing you to express my thanks. I operate The Laser's Edge. We are a CD label specializing in progressive rock. Many of our efforts are reissues of rare albums from the 70s which have not made the transition to digital. In fact we reissued a number of classic German progressive rock albums from the 70s including three albums by Schicke Fuhrs Frohling, Yatha Sidhra, and even Faithful Breath.

We take an audiophile approach to our reissues - always trying to remain faithful to the original analog source. It is important that we have a high quality vinyl reference to compare our digital masters against. I have had a number of phono stages in our reference system over the years with little satisfaction. Recently we were relying on the phono section of our Boulder 1010 preamp. Confidentially I was not happy.

To that end I contacted Daniel Barnum at Half Note Audio to inquire about a Basis Exclusiv. We quickly had one installed in our system and I have to say that it has been sonic nirvana! I have never heard vinyl playback sound like this. The musicality of the phono stage is extraordinary - very dynamic with tremendous bass and a purely organic natural sound. The Basis Exclusiv gets to the heart and soul of the music...but I'm sure you know all this already. The Basis Exclusiv is a triumph and it shows just how far we still have to learn about digital reproduction. This is a piece of equipment that will be a permanent part of our reference system.

One other point I wanted to mention. Dealing with Mr. Barnum has been a pleasure. He has been extremely quick to respond to my many questions and guided me step by step through set up. A few weeks later he actually paid us a visit to make sure that everything was working optimally. I believe from the smile on his face that he was quite satisfied as well. I have been in the business for 20 years and dealing with audio manufacturers for much longer than that. It was very refreshing to meet someone so passionate, knowledgeable and attentive. I can only imagine that Half Note Audio will be an important partner for you in the US market.

Bravo!

Best wishes,  
Ken Golden  
Director of Operations  
The Laser's Edge, LLC  
[www.lasersedgegroup.com](http://www.lasersedgegroup.com)

### **A Customer in Israel about his Basis Exclusive from September 2007 :**

Yesterday I have connected the turntable to the ASR Basis Exclusive via balanced connection, (the interconnect cable is courtesy of Mr. , and was amazed from the difference it made.

Everything is better, lower noise floor,(and no problem with the pre amp interconnect), greater details, micro and macro dynamics, larger and more focused stage and image, clarity, frequency bandwidth .....

I thank for all your support and a great product !

## **Ein Händler über den im Juli 2007 erworbenen Emitter II Exclusive Akku :**

Hallo Herr Schäfer, nachdem der neue Emitter sich in den letzten Wochen zunächst einspielen musste, durfte er vorgestern erstmals an meine große Anlage ran mit den sehr kritischen Lautsprechern Lumen White, Modell Diamond Light zu VK 80'. Da hat er sich sensationell gut geschlagen!  
Es war so gut, dass ich es kaum für möglich gehalten habe!  
Falls Sie mal wieder an Frankfurt vorbeikommen, kann ich es Ihnen gerne vorführen. Also ist das sehr gut gelungen und ich bin vollauf zufrieden und kann somit natürlich Ihre Geräte meinen Kunden noch intensiver empfehlen.

Ein Kunde aus Hessen über einen Emitter 1 HD Version 2005 akkuvorbereitet :

Hallo Herr Schäfer,  
obwohl ich die Stunden der Einspielzeit nicht mit gestoppt habe, meine ich, dass jetzt die Zeit gekommen ist, mich herzlich zu bedanken. Der EM 1 HD spielt wirklich in einer anderen Liga als mein bisheriges Schätzchen. ( EM 1 99) Einfach wunderbar! Da kommt nochmal richtig erheblich mehr aus den Lautsprechern, das mir bis bisher so nicht begegnet ist.  
Sein Vorgänger in diesem Haushalt bereichert jetzt, wie Sie ja schon gehört haben, meinen Nachbarn und hat damit wiederum einen Menschen glücklich gemacht. Wie Sie angeregt haben, hat mein lieber Freund B. S. sich bisher verkniffen, meine neue Errungenschaft intensiv zu hören. Wohl wirklich besser so.  
Ihnen und Herrn S. nochmals vielen Dank herzliche Grüße aus H.

## **A customer from Benelux about the new Emitter II Exclusive Battery from July 2007**

I had read so many positive reviews about your famous Emitter on the internet, that I decided to buy it even without previously having a listening session. I wanted to be surprised. Well, I can say I was! When I listened the first time, brandnew from the factory, I already heard differences, compared to my previous LFD bi-amping set. Due to the battery unit, the sound was smoother and I already heard more details when I played certain CD's. But this was only the beginning... To all potential buyers: please be patient with the Emitter; don't judge it straight out of the box. I know there are people who find it nonsense about burn-in time of high-end equipment, but I can assure you: this amplifier has to be burnt in before it reaches all his capacities. 200 hours is really a minimum (at least for the battery version).  
Once this is done, the sound is really different, compared to the first hours. All the reviews you read on the internet are really true! Hereafter I will give you a rather detailed overview of what I experienced with my new machine. To my Emitter are connected:

- loudspeakers Audiodata Ambiance
- CD-player Marantz SA-11S1
- interconnect LFD "grainless"
- loudspeaker cables Monitor (In-akustik) "Black and white"

In the first place there is an impressive spaciousness, in particular with classical and jazz recordings. When you play a symphony or concerto, the Emitter produces a 3-dimensional sound with a soundstage as if the orchestra were in front of you: you hear the strings in the front and then suddenly you hear the brass instruments as if they were playing behind the loudspeakers. Very breathtaking! The placement of instruments and voices is very impressive. I like very much classical music but opera was not really my cup of tea because I found it mostly too long-winded... at least until now. With this machine, when you play a live recording, you almost feel the singers move on the stage and you can easily distinguish the voices.

By the way, that's another feature of the Emmi: individual voices sound different; they sound more in a natural way and often much closer to the listener than before. It's difficult to explain in words, I believe it's the acoustics of the room where the recording took place, you hear.

Church organ, one of my favourite instruments because of the superb color palette this instrument can produce, sounds like I've never experienced it before: when it plays with all the registers open you hear an enormous wide soundstage and in the quiet passages you hear all those special sounds, which I call the "little birds".

In jazz and big band music, the most remarkable is how pure and natural the brass instruments sound. Especially when they play all together. Then you hear how powerful the Emitter is.

All this apply only to good recordings. A bad recording won't sound good on the Emitter, that's quite obvious, but it will sound better, it will sound smoother.

If you have the chance to have recordings, which I call "outstanding", then the listening with the Emitter is really unbelievable. I have some CD's which play really with complete absence of coloration or electronics whatever. The artists are really performing in front of you; you have the feeling of a live concert! On a particular CD, where a

saxophonist is playing, you hear not only the breathing of the performer but also the air that's coming out of his saxophone! Unfortunately, such CD's are rare, too rare...

The Emitter II Exclusive version 2007 is a very outstanding amplifier with a sound I've never heard before:

1. it has an amazing 3-dimensional soundstage
2. it has a very beautiful, smooth and natural sound. Especially drums, percussion, cello and wind instruments sound very natural.
3. good recordings make this set produce so many details, you ask yourself "how is it possible all this kept hidden before?"

This amplifier forces you to listen to the music because it produces music in the way it should be. Whether you play a recording with 1 instrument or a complete orchestra with 80 instruments, all is played with the most ease and without distortions.

Beside all these positive comments, aren't there any negative? In my opinion only 2, which aren't in fact negative:

1. you need a lot of room to stock the set but this is rather easy to solve: I've made a (very solid) rack in which I put the battery and the 2 power supplies. In this way the Emitter and the rack take only the room of a regular pre-amplifier and a power amplifier.
2. with this set you want to do only 3 things: listen, listen and listen. Even when you've been listening for hours, you want more... So, this amplifier might make you forget about all the rest...

Mr. Schaefer, you've done a very great job. All my congratulations to you! Congratulations too for the award "best value for money" you won at the Munich High End Show 2007. I can only totally agree: I believe your Emitter is the best you can get at this price.

With kind regards from a very enthusiastic Benelux customer,

## A customer from Finland about the new Emitter II Exclusive Battery from July 2007

I have been enjoying my new amp for a week now and it is getting better and better. Seriously best amp I have ever owned.

## A customer from Germany about his Mini Basis from May 2007

Sehr geehrter Herr Schäfer,

nachdem ich nun einige Wochen mit der Mini-Basis voller Zufriedenheit Musik höre, will ich mich zunächst für den (wie immer) super Service bedanken. Die Basis läuft bei mir an einem Denon DL103R über einen speziell angepassten Übertrager.

Eine weitere klanglicheSteigerung habe ich unlängst durch den Einsatz des Oyaide Tunami GPX -Netzkabels sowohl am Emitter als auch an der Mini-Basis erfahren dürfen.

Es fällt schwer, mir vorzustellen, dass diese Kombination klanglich irgendwie zu überbieten wäre. Nun kann ich behaupten, auch auf der Analogen Seite der Musikwiedergabe angekommen zu sein. Jedenfalls sagt mir das mein Gefühl.

## A customer from Venezia in Italy about the new Emitter II Exclusive from may 2007

Dear Mr. Schaefer,

I would like to congratulate with you for the excellent achievement of your product. I received my long awaited Emitter three days ago. Of course I read before ravishing reviews of your products in various international and Italian magazines and I heard in controlled situations the Emitter I basic, which I praised very much in his category, but I wasn't prepared to feel the astonishing improvements when your Emitter II Exclusive was connected to my Wilson WP7 speaker, replacing my beloved Audio Research/Krell combination. And it is getting better day by day! I'm wondering what magnitude of improvement should be expected by adding the battery unit to the system.

Thank you again for the excellent work.

## Ein Kunde in Deutschland über seinen kürzlich erworbenen Emitter II Exclusive von 2006 : ( Mai 2007 )

Nach einer Woche intensiver Beschäftigung mit meinem neuen Emitter II Exclusive/Akku an meiner Isophon Vertigo möchte ich Ihnen von Herzen danken!

Ich habe die Boxen nun schon 13 Jahre und muss feststellen, dass ich ihr Potenzial in dieser langen Zeit nicht annähernd erkannt habe.

Ihr großartiger Verstärker hat den Klang der Anlage in einem Ausmaß verbessert, den ich niemals für möglich gehalten hätte.

Während meiner HiFi-Zeit, die nun immerhin schon 35 Jahre währt, hat kein Tausch irgendeiner Komponente - seien es Lautsprecher, Verstärker oder Quellgeräte - einen so gewaltigen Schritt weg von der Technik und hin zur Musik bedeutet wie die Einbindung des Emitter II exclusive in meine Stereo-Anlage.

Der Klang ist auf eine verblüffende, beinahe bestürzende Weise offen, groß und natürlich geworden. Es ist eine Lust, über Ihren - ich kann ihn nur so bezeichnen - sagenhaften Verstärker Musik zu hören. Welche Scheibe auch immer in den Player wandert - jedes mal klingt es um Klassen besser, natürlicher, dynamischer und einfach lebensechter als je zuvor.

Nach Jahrzehnten der Suche habe ich endlich die Gewissheit, zur Musik vorgedrungen zu sein und mich nicht mehr mit vermeintlichen Einzelverbesserungen und technischen Fortschritten zufrieden geben zu müssen, die doch niemals die Grenzen eines artifiziellen und sterilen Klangbilds überwinden konnten.

Ich bin am Ziel angekommen und werde - dessen seien Sie hiermit versichert - in meinen restlichen Leben Musik nur noch über den Emitter hören.

4 Monate später im September 2007 :

Hallo Herr Schäfer!

Die Begeisterung über ein frisch erworbenes Gerät ist das Eine. Da fällt das Schwärmen leicht.

Doch wenn sich ein erster hervorragender Eindruck mit der Zeit nicht nur bestätigt sondern sogar noch steigert, will das wirklich etwas heißen.

Darum noch einmal aus fester Überzeugung ein herzlicher Dank an Sie und Ihr Team für diesen märchenhaft guten Verstärker!

Der große Emitter ist schlicht eine Wucht!

Ich danke Ihnen!

## **A user in Norway about an Emitter I Basis model form 2006 ( April 2007 )**

We connected my Westminster Royals to the Emitter, and are listening to them now for the first time in months.

It is just amazing how *fast* an Emitter is! It is soooo much faster and more responsive than any other amplifier we have tried. We are now comparing it directly with the € 29.000,- ( Tube Amp from swiss ) Nagra pre and power combo (XXXXra VPA/PL-P) and the Emitters without a doubt sound fuller, more dynamic, easier on the ear and with more details than the MUCH more expensive XXXXX.

Even after four years of living with Emitters every day; they still manage to surprise me which is an impressive feat!

I think this is particularly apparent in the combination of Emitter and Westminsters though as the Tannoys are extremely dynamic and responsive themselves and really need an amplifier like the Emitters to show their full potential.

## **A user in Portugal about a new EM II Exclusive version 2006**

I am sure you have received many similar mails written by more talented writers than me, but I must congratulate you by your excellent amplifier. My current system is Audio ( Tube CD from USA ) CD7 , the ASR Emitter II excl. and Krell speakers connected with XXXXXXXXX Reference cables - I must tell you I got a bargain on these fantastic speakers second hand, otherwise they would not be in my budget.

The ASR have been playing continuously now for 150 hours, and shares little resemblance with the first days sound. Inner detail and musicality of this system of music are easily the best I ever had in my listening room, coupled with a sensation of physical presence and power.

By the way I tried using my ( Tube preamp from USA ) as a preamplifier using the ASR at level "51" but it degraded the quality of the system - it only augmented my consideration for the preamplifier part of the ASR.

The most interesting thing is that I got my Krell because the previous owner could not tame their excessive bass response in his room. I was also having great problems in the 30-60 Hz octave, but the bass with ASR is now perfectly controlled.

I can now listen both to my Shostakovich 11th Symphony and Brahms Sextets with great pleasure!

## **A customer from Norway in November 2006 about an Emitter I Basic version 2006**

Dear all,

I got my new Emitter 1 with the newest power supply yesterday - and I must say that I am deeply impressed. The hype "tube sound with transistor control" or something like that is actually pretty accurate! I had a Cary Audio SLP98 preamp and a Bryston 4BSST earlier, this is like keeping my Cary(which I liked very much!) but with even more musicality and fantastic bass-control. As I said, a great product!

I actually find the noise floor LOWER when I am in energy saving mode, but maybe a little less dynamic. Maybe...it might be more what I believe than what I actually hear.

Anyway, I am blown away by this amplifier..I have been listening to music all night long. Tomorrow I will get my VPI-rig up and running, with the ASR riaa I bought earlier this year.

## A user in the USA on November 30, 2006 about an Emitter II Exclusive battery version 2005

I have solved the concern and many thanks for everything, most of all your AMAZING amplifier.

I was able to purchase a military grade transformer, 5000 watts, and it is now hard wired to my home electricity. A perfect solution for sure.

Now I must take the time to commend you for your Emitter II. In my many years of listening to 'high end' audio, I have heard a lot of equipment and many systems that I have found to be profound in various ways. Tonight, after wiring, I was able to (finally) listen to your Emitter II and I felt that I was listening to music for the first time (again). Never have I heard such beauty from any system as what happened in my home tonight. To claim that it is the rest of my equipment would be incorrect - I have had it all for years and have been pleased but not 'moved'; what happened is the result of your profound accomplishment. I now understand what I have been missing, what I have never heard in *any* system. Tonight I heard and felt the music in my soul and my heart in many ways for the first time. I am grateful to you for your vision, ability, commitment and workmanship. I am humbled by your amplifier.

With the most sincere appreciation and respect,

*A review in [www.6moons.com](http://www.6moons.com) about the combination of Emitter I Exclusive with Quad ESL :*

*I will also say this **organic mass of sound** source was at its most fluid from the ESLs with the **ASR Emitter I** in action.*

*What the ASR adds, beyond a much larger dent in your check book, is **clarity, resolution and dynamic snap** that goes the last mile to provide some of most **satisfying music**. I've had the pleasure to be pleasantly surprised by.*

*Over and over again. As the old joke sorta goes - that musical stage sure is wide. Deep too.*

*Every recording takes up residence in your room according to its own recorded logic.*

***In other words, the reproduced stage is only limited by the recording.***

*The **ASR Emitter** was the clear winner for **amplification**.*

*<http://www.6moons.com/audioreviews/roadtour7/roadtour3again.html>*

## A music producer in the USA in October 2006 about an Emitter Exclusive 2004 version he bought used :

Here is the deal

When I first turned it on I did not like it .This amp takes a day to get warmed up

The Audio Research is still a great amp in the audiophile sense. I can live with it and listen with great enjoyment

But I listened this morning

1) The ASR has a wider and deeper image

2) The tonality of the ASR is truer, sometimes the ASR sounds dull because we are so used to hearing the added distortion of amps. It is like we live in a florescent world and the ASR is real and Zen like

3) The ASR has more low level detail, more space and echo ring out

4) The ASR has better tonality and palpability, it really can flesh out the TONE of the instruments, They are more real

- 5) The ASR has much better bass, and also you can hear the tone of the bass and the pitches correctly
- 6) If the cd is bad , IT WILL SOUND REALLY BAD ON THIS AMP !!!!
- 7) Great Dynamics and micro dynamics as well
- 8) The noise floor is way down there and that helps the low level detail

I think Audiophiles like the sound of tube amps

They are fun

But they are all kind of hyped up and colored in a good way, in a fun way, like drinking a nice wine

But ASR takes us one step closer to the real event

It sounds duller,,, but that is the way live music sounds

I think many audiophiles will not like it because they have no reference point of real music

In that sense most would prefer a nice lush tube amp that hypes up things and makes them super real

The ASR sounds like the sound of nothing

Perhaps it could be a tad more open on the top

But perhaps that is the 8K brightness I am used to hearing on amps

In a later mail :

I must tell you it is a wonderful piece of engineering

It is a great step forward in the reproduction of music, getting us one step closer to the real event

Great Work !

In another later mail :

Regardless I am enjoying this amp here very much

As a matter of fact it may not be a good idea for me to have

I need to write and make records

With this amp around my house I am spending too much time just relaxing and listening to music

Perhaps it is better I get this amp when I am older and retire

This amp can make you very lazy and not want to go to work !!!!!

Best D.

### ***In January 2007 he has bought the Emitter II Exclusive :***

The amp came and I set it up yesterday

I listened a little today after I rested my back from setting the amps up !!!!!!!

You are correct,,,it is much better than the ASR Emitter I.

In my opinion your ASR Emitter II is the best amp that I have ever heard anywhere in the world .....

In the meantime I hope you like my concerto SACD,,,it was done with one mike

Best D

## **A customer in Hawaii that has bought a used Emitter from 2002**

Thank you very much for the assistance you provided to me. I did purchase a used ASR Emitter I, which I received yesterday. I must say this amplifier is absolutely gorgeous and I got to play the amplifier last night for several hours. I installed a new dedicated 240V line so I could not immediately evaluate the amplifier's performance. I am sure it'll take several weeks before my new power line burns in. In the meantime, the amplifier is working perfectly and it appears the amp was manufactured in 2002 and subsequently updated in 2004.

## **A user in Brazil about an Emitter II Exclusive battery model 2006**

I am from Brazil and your product is the best amplifier I've ever listen to. I bought it from Audioland after I had the opportunity to listen to a demonstration unit in my house.

## **A user in Lebanon about an Emitter I Exclusive battery model 2006**

I installed the amp. Since 2 days , what can I say: I did not heard something like this before, I think it's the best or one of the best amplifier, congratulations for this product and the quality of productions

In a later mail :

Dear Sir,

After 10 hours of listening I noticed that it has excellent dynamics, superb low level resolution and transient speed, the sound is always smooth and musical. Another strong point is the good presentation of soundstage with depth.

I would like to thank you again for this amplifier , I think and most of my audiophiles friends that I've now one of the best system....., also I would like to mention that the emitter I work with the remote

## **A user from the turkey about an Emitter II Exclusive battery model 2006**

This is just to inform and thank you for designing such a superb amplifier. It works miracles in my dCS + Nova Utopia + Nordost Valhalla system. I have now ordered an Emitter I for my office. Kind regards

## **From the Tannoy Forum in december 2003 about an Emitter II HD (german model) 2003 model**

Maybe you remember some weeks ago I offered my pair of Westminster speakers for sale. Some of you were interested, but nobody was willing to pay the shipping cost for these monsters to beam them from Germany to the US. Most of you said 'Are you crazy? Why are you going to sell these wonderfull speakers?'. Well, I have to thank you for that. I've changed my mind and will keep them for myself. Anyone interested in reading why? But be warned, I will also be talking about that banned amp made by the small factory in Germany ;-). This is going to be a rather long story but believe me the Westminster is worth it.

I purchased the speakers about 18 months ago and tried them a while with my Mark Levinson ML-26 pre-amp and ML-23 power amps. This was my first experience with a Tannoy speaker and I was not satisfied with the sound. The bass was rather poor, not as powerful as I had expected. The biggest problem was that the Westminster sounded colored in the mid range. I didn't understand why such a legendary speaker could sound so bad. The Mark Levinson amps - especially my rather old models - are well known worldwide for their high-end performance and they sound just perfect when driving my Bowers & Wilkens 801 Series 2 speakers. I must say that I'm an audio enthusiast for almost 30 years and the ML / B&W combo satisfied my needs just perfectly for about eight years now. It was a long way until I arrived at what seemed to be the high-end. You can see parts of my system on Hans' web site.

Some months ago I offered my Westminsters on German eBay. This was when I came across Werner. He contacted me and gave me a lot of information on Tannoy speakers and he told me about this group. I cancelled my eBay auction since I got no bids anyway. I signed up here and read your emails since then. I learned that most of you drive your Tannoys with tube amps and Werner recommended that banned amp. OK, I decided to give my Westminsters one more try. Of course you can't find a Westminster in an audio shop here in Germany and of course you also can't talk high-end audio dealers into bringing their monster amps to your home for testing. So I tried with what I had at home and also spent some money for new equipment. Now I can say that I had them all. I tested with the ML amps, with other transistor amps, with a tube amp and with the banned amp.

From my home cinema setup I have a new Denon AVR-3803 AV-receiver. I tried it with the Westminster with my SONY CDP-X7 ESD CD player and Parasound D/AC-1500. I was somewhat surprised that the sound was significantly better compared to the ML amps. How could this be? The Denon costs about 1000,-- Euro while the ML amps cost about 20.000,-- Euro when new, well 40.000,-- DM at that time ;-).

The next step was to connect my good old Sansui AU-9500. This was their high-end amp in 1972. You can see it on the [www.retroaudio.ru](http://www.retroaudio.ru) web site. The Sansui amps are said to sound much like tube amps and I read here that tubes are a must for the Tannoys. I also setup a turntable instead of CD, a Thorens TD 2001 with an Audio-Technica OC-9. I had to use the ML-25 phono pre-amp to connect it to the Sansui which is lacking an MC input. Wow, that was a big step in the right direction! I tried quite a few records and convinced my wife that the Westminsters was indeed worth a deeper look.

OK, the next step was to purchase a real tube amp. I wasn't sure if I should try a high-end tube amp right away or better try with a low cost product first. I didn't want to spend too much money just for testing and found a used Cayin 734 in like new condition on German eBay. Cayin is the brand name in Germany, I think they are sold under the Spark label in the rest of the world. I could hardly await its

arrival and connected it immediately replacing the Sansui but keeping the turntable. Oh boy, this rather simple amp made me quite happy already. Anyone here said that a Westminster is colored? You are wrong!! This was the day I decided to keep the Westminster.

So what should I do next? I read much here about a certain amp made in Germany that is the perfect companion for my speakers. Werner's comments were always so enthusiastic and I had no reason why I should not follow his recommendation and give it a try. But how could I do? Even in Germany it isn't easy to get hold of such an amp. For a new one you have to wait for months. I found a few used amps offered at [www.audio-markt.de](http://www.audio-markt.de). One seemed to be very interesting so I contacted the owner for more information including the serial number. Werner always said call Friedrich Schaefer if you want information on one of his babies. I did. I couldn't believe but I got Mr. Schaefer on the phone without problems. I told him what I was looking for and first thing he did was not trying to sell me a new amp but pointed me to exactly the used amp I already had in mind. He seems to be aware of all his products being sold online or through one of his dealers. Mr. Schaefer is a very nice person, open to discuss every aspect of his products and very helpful, exactly like Werner had promised. Have you talked to the developer of your favorite amp lately ;-)

To make things short, about three days later I had my ASR Emitter II HD Akku at home. This is the top model ASR offers. It is about three years old but looks like new and is technically identical to the current models since it was updated early this year by ASR.

The manual says I should power up the amp and wait for three days until it is warmed up. Would you be patient enough to wait so long before you try your new amp? I'm not. A friend of mine who is also experienced with high-end audio for many years helped me setting the system up. All in all this amp weighs about 130 kg so help is very much welcome. We listened to a few CDs we both know well and compared the Westminster / ASR combo with the B&W / ML setup I loved so much. Even with the ASR not having warmed up it became clear very quickly that this combination was very much better than my old set. In every aspect I guess.

I left everything as it was and waited one day. The good sound has become even better as anyone would have expected. On the third day the system sounded just perfect. It is difficult for me to describe sound or feelings in words since English isn't my mother tongue. Let me just say that never before in my life I have heard a high-end system coming as close to the real thing as this one. Does anyone know the CD Duets by Rob Wasserman? It was issued in 1988. Mr. Wasserman plays bass and other artists join him for duets. There is a track with Lou Reed 'One for my baby and one more for the road'. Set the Emitter to a volume level of about 52-55 and close your eyes. At the end of the track you wanna make shake hands with Lou Reed. You are sure he was there in person. Incredible!

What I learned is that the Westminster is very sensitive regarding the amp used with it. I've never heard another speaker that sounds so much different with different amps. It is also very important to position the speakers properly in the listening room. With my current setup I can say that the Westminster sounds as close as it can get to a life performance. The best I've ever heard. In every aspect. Period. I will keep my Westminster and the ASR Emitter and fine tune the system in the future.

I have to thank Werner for convincing me to keep the Westminster and giving them another try with the ASR Emitter. I never met Werner in person. I only know him by email and talked once to him on the phone. Werner has lots of experience and much useful information. I think it is a pity that he has left the group. Werner was right with everything he told us about his system. This Westminster / ASR Emitter combo is certainly one of those rare perfect sets everyone of

us is searching for.

Did I say that I tested with low cost equipment until now? Well, I wanted to compare this with my old system and left that one unchanged. All the above was done with using simple speaker cables and just a 100,-- Euro CD player with the ASR!! Today I hooked up my turntable and listened to one of my favorite Dires Straits albums - Brother in Arms. Then followed Red Red Wine by UB40. It was so realistic. I had goose bumps all over my body like I haven't had before for a very long time....

I'm sure there are some options to still improve my new system. I'm open for your advice. I guess I should at least replace the capacitors in the crossovers. Does anyone have a circuit diagram of the crossover? Are there any capacitors used that should be changed after 20 years? I know that some types are dry and change their capacitance after so many year. What is behind that front plate with the switches? Are there resistor networks for setting the tweeter level? I've set the switches to the flat position so I think it would be a good idea to eliminate them completely to avoid unneeded connectors and the like in the signal path. My rather old Westminster does not yet have bi-wiring terminals. Do you think it is worth converting them to bi-wiring?

Best Regards,

Albert

P.S. Anyone interested on purchasing B&W / Mark Levinson / Cayin stuff? ;-)