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SUPPORT REAL STEREO

The CA Electronics Heavyweight puck under the microscope

Wednesday, May 3, 2011 4:03 p.m. by [Roger Poulussen](#) [Analog Corner](#)

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Introduction

Queens, what will you do? You can go to Amsterdam to Radio 538 festival. You can buy old junk at a flea market or another. Or, this year in Weert and Thorn, our highness standing wave, or one of the countless other activities visit. Whether you are doing something very different and will once again be active with your hobby.

On April 17 in Rotterdam at the Cafe English show, I came to the state of Crusade Audio and saw an

old friend. Rogier van Hoof, owner of Audio Crusade stood there, right at the beginning, up the stairs with the new stuff from his stand to promote its range. A range of ceramic accessories, from cones to pucks.

Having a great analogy to be my preference, so that new pucks were right my attention. Trial I got a "heavy" copy them to test. "Heavy" in quotes, because 476g is not really a heavyweight. The puck that I normally use weighs 835g.

What is striking is the design. I have rarely seen a puck more associations with an object other than this. If you are the thing that is how you think the first game of an ointment from the pharmacy. Not like an eye catcher so.

The Lightweight version looks slightly better. That is in fact flatter, making the "jar" is hardly the latest. Maybe there is a color to be given instead of the current infectious white, but I do not know if that in turn could affect the operation. Now I'm not really into eye-catchers, apparently, because

a friend of mine recently remarked that not a hair on his head so much as to think he would ever get this stuff would put together like I do, because "it looks nowhere". True, because to me, all appliances and stuff together, not "sorted" in width, color or brand. Going all about performance and I'm really not all day staring at my stuff. Moreover, according to Rogier van Hoof possible for the puck with a water-based paint yourself a simple color. He knows of people have done with India ink, but the audio itself Crusade sometimes with water-based paint from a can out, that remains tight. Also see the puck at the right picture is painted by an artist.



Listening, the first round.

Then the first experiences. In this session, the CA Electronics puck compared to the standard Transrotor puck 400g of thick stainless steel and a "drive" without damping of 835g. This comparison is done in my own set, which consists of a Fatbob S, Benz Wood L2. Ayre K-3 RP (with phono) preamp, Bryston 4B-ST amplifier and a set of Sonus Faber Guarneri Homage, tied together with wire work by Crimson (phono), Audio Quest (vv-ev) and sign Audio (ls).

Compared with the puck Transrotor sounds with the CA a lot more consistent. Voting will be more and better defined contours. The placement is to the fore, although the holographic image slightly smaller. At first you think that Transrotor better performance, because a larger "bubble" put down, but he does give an annoying "fag" on the whole. Only when you listen more you will notice that the CA is significantly better than it does. In a direct comparison with the stainless steel puck puck that those not good. That beats everything flat, no depth, no internship, no emotion. It seems "he with his whole weight as a roller over the image.

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... And the second round

Because I do not want to take chances sometimes and Paul wanted to know what the CA does puck, we held a listening session with Paul. In that comparison, there are 2 pucks included, namely a heavy Transrotor puck 760G Audio Callas and a wooden puck just under 400gram.



Paul below summarizes the findings of this session were:

"Because in addition to the Crusade, the puck puck to me for review Callas was Callas, the puck into the review included. Transrotor The two pucks have been years in the Transrotor Orion FMD and Leonardo 25/50M TMD and are also used in the test question .. The pucks are tested with the Transrotor Orion FMD, more information about the set can be found [here](#) ."

My findings of the five pucks puck with the CA as a starting point:

- 1. CA Electronics Ceramic LP puck Heavyweight - ceramics - details: 510 grams / weighed 487 grams: character: calm, sometimes dull, clearly placed image with almost gepinpointe voice, space is ok voice sometimes has little body and is directed more toward the front. For the money an excellent puck, especially suitable for turntables with a more lively character. (Price € 69, -)*
- 2. Transrotor-puck - aluminum - 450 grams: a little restless stereo image, something more spacious and a generous figure but less obvious placement, sounds a little brighter / more aggressive than the CA. (Price € 100, -)*
- 3. Callas puck - African blackwood (mpingo) - 370 grams: Holographic, three dimensional, spacious, quiet, beautiful location on a generous single platform, rich detail and a tight layer of uncolored. Voice is clearly placed with more body and more natural sound. Callas the puck to me is the overall winner in all respects relative to the other pucks but ends in this list in third place due to the much higher price (price 494, -)*
- 4. Heavy steel Transrotor-puck (760 grams) with damping (rubber ring bottom, plastic sleeve; slightly better stereo image and in the 835 gram steel puck but overall picture gives the puck a little restless and flat stage image. Sounds less aggressive as 450 grams TR puck. (Price € 150, -)*
- 5. Very heavy steel puck (835 grams) without any damping the stereo stores fully dead, dull matte display. (Price nb) "*



The pucks on Transrotor Orion

Conclusion

In conclusion, the CA Electronics puck is doing well and price / performance deserves a big 9. Another conclusion is that a more massive puck is not everything. Far from it, because both were too many heavyweights stabbing attack. It also appears that there is something exotic with pucks that things are for sale, and that positive. The Callas Audio puck you still drags a bit further into the music. The question is whether such an amount as a user you want to put down for a "piece of wood" and you have to decide yourself.

It appears that a puck still does more than just the plate firmly. Good puck really lets hear more music and involve you further. And it's apparently not easy to make a good puck. A piece of "mass centered" does not therefore ..

Thus we have the puck Heavyweight CA Electronics for this test / review subject. There is also a Lightweight model, as mentioned earlier. Which is flatter and lighter. This is more suitable for subchassisloopwerken and also has a less dampening effect because it is built from less active ingredient. This will probably sound a little livelier. The CA heavyweight puck has now gained a place in my set and that despite his appearance.

Roger Poulussen

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Notes to the operation of platenpucks:

- Benefits

A record puck down the plate firmly against the platform by his heavy weight. The improved contact between the plate and the plate reduced or resonances occurs and helps reduce unwanted movement. Eliminate resonances that in turn creates a more relaxed view. A heavier puck from about 400 grams, is especially suitable for non-sprung mass drives. For drives with a sub-chassis such as Thorens is no puck or heavy record clamp is recommended.

An additional advantage of a heavy puck is "flywheel effect". Due to the increased weight of the platform with a heavy puck leading to a better synchronization of the plateau. With a turntable Transrotor Fein on the external power is connected, you can connect a strobe light. Using the, by the power supplied Fein, SEA strobe disc is good to see that the turntable has no problem with the heavy weight of the puck and even more a group at the right speed remains stable.

- Disadvantages

The disadvantage of using a heavy puck is in some decks that are not calculated on the bearing heavier loads and may cause excessive wear and rumble. Ask the dealer who is always at puck is appropriate for your drive. The mass drives such Transrotor have no problems with a heavy puck, the bearings are geared. For years, using a 760 gram heavy Transrotor puck on a Leonardo did not lead to visible wear of the ceramic bearing guide.

- Measuring

The effect of a heavy puck is easily visible with the aid of a scoop, the last shreds of the sine wave by a heavy puck completely smoothed out. For example: when a test without puck on track 8 of the HiFi News Test LP to see a clear deflection. With the heavy Transrotor puck out that distortion is almost completely gone.

Paul Geerlings

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