

PRESS RELEASE



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Above: Luxman L-590AXII integrated stereo amplifier

Pure ‘Class A’ Makes Music Magic

Venerable Japanese high-end audio specialist delivers its finest integrated amplifier yet, operating in pure Class A mode to deliver an addictive musical rush

Cambridgeshire, England -- Luxman, one of the world’s oldest and most revered audio manufacturers, enters its tenth decade of audio excellence with the arrival of the L-590AX Mark II – the best integrated amplifier the company has ever produced. Beautifully built with a classic look and feel, the amp operates in pure Class A – a Luxman speciality – to deliver spellbinding clarity, exquisite sonic detail and fluid, free-breathing musicality.

The L-590AXII is the culmination of all that Luxman has learned since launching Japan’s first high-quality integrated hi-fi amplifier, the valve-based SQ5A, in 1961. It combines the enduring excellence of Class A operation – still considered by many audiophiles to represent the pinnacle of sonic fidelity – with the convenience of a single-chassis integrated design, plentiful facilities and uncompromised engineering both inside and out.

At the amp's heart lies Luxman's fourth-generation ODNF (Only Distortion Negative Feedback) circuit, sporting a three-parallel push-pull structure with three-stage Darlington. This restricts feedback to distortion components only, enabling a fast primary slew rate, ultra-wide bandwidth and enhanced signal-to-noise performance.

The preamp section borrows much technology from Luxman's flagship C-900u preamplifier, including the LECUA 1000 attenuator circuit, which provides an extremely fine degree of volume control and left/right balance adjustment whilst maintaining sound quality at the highest level. Power is rated at 30W per channel into eight ohms, doubling to 60W per channel into four ohms – a healthy output for a pure Class A design, with sufficient power on tap to drive any loudspeakers of suitable quality.

The L-590AXII's high-inertia power supply circuit features a substantial transformer with plentiful regulation, ensuring an unshakable response to load fluctuations. A high-capacity block capacitor contributes to the amp's ability to deliver abundant power instantaneously yet remain firmly in control, while its low-impedance transmission design, carefully selected custom components and short, fully optimised signal paths deliver maximum sonic fidelity.

Exceptional signal purity doesn't have to mean stripped-to-the-bone facilities – not when they are implemented with Luxman's no-compromise approach. The L-590AXII includes precision bass and treble tone adjustment (extremely useful given the variability of today's music formats), a 'loudness' control for low-level listening, a 'line straight' button that bypasses the tone controls, and phase selection for the balanced inputs. Turntable users are well catered for, as befits the current vinyl revival, with an excellent onboard phono stage switchable for MM and MC cartridge types. A high-quality headphone output is also included.

In classic Luxman style, the L-590AXII's fascia sports two illuminated VU meters, one for each channel, giving a real-time indication of signal level that is both a satisfying visual accompaniment to the music and a useful guide to how hard the amp is being pushed. Around the back are six line-level inputs (four single-ended RCA and two balanced XLR) alongside the phono input for turntables, plus two sets of heavy-duty speaker binding posts. Also present are record-out, monitor-in and pre-out terminals, an external preamp input for integration with an AV system, and two remote output terminals for integrated system control.

Build quality is exemplary, as it is throughout the Luxman range, right down to the cast-iron, resonance-reducing feet. The Luxman L-590AXII integrated stereo amplifier is available from selected audio retailers from January 2016, priced at £6,995.

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Formed in Japan in 1925 – the same year that Japanese radio broadcasts began – Luxman is one of the world’s oldest high-performance audio brands. It was originally created to deliver a domestic alternative to radio equipment emanating from the United States and Europe, and came to prominence globally as a leading manufacturer of high-quality hi-fi separates in the 1970s and 1980s. In 2009, Luxman became part of the International Audio Group’s family of audio brands, sitting alongside famous British names including Audiolab, Castle, Mission, Quad and Wharfedale. Luxman’s current range encompasses solid-state and valve-based amplifiers, CD/SACD players, USB DACs, headphone amps, phono amps, turntables and cables. R&D and manufacturing continue to be centered in Japan, maintaining Luxman’s heritage as one of the country’s foremost high-end audio brands.

www.luxman.com

IAG

IAG (International Audio Group) is a manufacturer of audio equipment for domestic and professional use, plus professional lighting systems and luxury yachts. With its headquarters and manufacturing facilities in Asia and offices (including R&D) in the UK and North America, IAG is a manufacturer with a truly global reach.

IAG’s audio business employs more than 2,000 people worldwide. Its factory complex in China is one of the largest custom-designed consumer electronics manufacturing facilities in the world and benefits from an exceptional level of vertical integration, with all component parts – even the tooling – made in-house. The Group’s domestic audio brands – Audiolab, Castle Acoustics, Luxman, Mission, Quad and Wharfedale – all enjoy a worldwide reputation for excellence, with illustrious histories that stretch back decades. Top-class British audio engineering remains critical to these brands, with world-renowned designer Peter Comeau leading an acoustic design team brimming with international talent.

The combination of rich brand heritage, purpose-built production facilities and experienced audio engineers from around the globe makes IAG a unique proposition in the world of consumer electronics.

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