

Press release

audiolab

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Above Audiolab 7000CDT in silver finish

7000CDT CD transport

Sporting a range of upgrades over the critically acclaimed 6000CDT, Audiolab's new 7000 Series CD transport is the perfect CD-playing companion to Audiolab's 7000A integrated amplifier

Cambridgeshire, England – CD remains an important part of the high-performance audio scene, with many music fans possessing still-treasured CD collections built up over many years. Sales of new CDs have been rising too – not to the scale of the vinyl revival but noteworthy, nonetheless. For some, the tangible, tactile sense of ownership that physical media provides still holds great value in the age of digital streaming.

Unlike some high-performance audio brands, Audiolab has never deserted CD users, as evidenced by the excellent CD-playing components that reside within the entry-level 6000 Series and flagship 9000 Series. These are CD transports, as opposed to CD players, which means they do not contain an integral DAC (Digital-to-Analogue Converter) – instead, they are designed to be connected to an external DAC of the user's choice. The integrated stereo amps in Audiolab's range all include their own high-quality DAC circuits, which makes Audiolab's CD transports their ideal CD-spinning partners.

This spring sees the launch of the third CD transport in Audiolab's current range. As with the other components that make up the company's new 7000 Series, the 7000CDT takes the blueprint provided by its highly regarded 6000 Series equivalent and upgrades it in key areas to make a CD transport that sits between the 6000CDT and 9000CDT in Audiolab's product hierarchy.

Two of the upgrades are obvious when the 7000CDT is examined from the front. First, the centrally positioned, stadium-shaped display is a little larger than that of the 6000CDT, replacing the latter's monochrome text display with the same colour GUI found throughout the new 7000 Series. Second, the 6000A's slot-loading mechanism has been replaced by a high-quality tray-loading mechanism, housed in its own electromagnetically shielded enclosure and incorporating a high-precision optical system and low-friction loading tray.



Left Dressed in black or silver with a 2.8in colour display, the 7000CDT is smarter than your average CD transport

Under the hood, enhancements have been made to the power supply and output circuitry, including a higher quality toroidal transformer. Great care has been taken over the 7000CDT's construction and circuit layout, to combat the sonically deleterious effect of vibrations generated externally and by the mechanism's high-spin-velocity motor, and to protect the most sensitive elements from electrical noise.

The 7000CDT's master clock is controlled by a temperature-compensated crystal oscillator, enabling the digital output from its coaxial and optical sockets to exhibit vanishingly low levels of jitter (digital distortion). In addition, the coaxial output is fed from a differential line driver to ensure a flawless digital signal reaches the accompanying DAC. Naturally, the 7000A's state-of-the-art DAC section is a superb sonic match; the 7000CDT can also be partnered with any other high-quality DAC selected by its owner.

As well as spinning CDs, the 7000CDT features a USB Type A input, enabling playback from USB storage devices – this is a feature that the 7000CDT shares with the flagship 9000CDT but is not offered by the entry-level 6000CDT. FAT12, FAT16 and FAT32 formatted devices are supported, and WAV, WMA, AAC and MP3 files can be played, with file navigation via the front panel controls and remote handset.



Left The 7000CDT is partnered perfectly by the state-of-the-art DAC onboard Audiolab's 7000A integrated amplifier

The 7000CDT's sturdy aluminium casework and 2.8in display echo those of its range mates, the 7000A integrated amp and 7000N Play Wi-Fi/Ethernet streamer. The display shows track information from CDs and USB-connected storage devices, complete with colour graphics, and provides access to functions

such auto-standby settings and 12V trigger activation for system control. As with the other 7000 Series components, animations can be turned off and brightness adjusted, and the display can be set to activate only when a function is accessed and switch off after a defined period, as the user prefers.

The Audiolab 7000CDT is the ideal disc-spinning companion for every music lover for whom CD remains a crucial part of their musical diet – available from March in a choice of silver or black, at an RRP of £549. The 7000 Series is completed by the 7000A integrated stereo amplifier and 7000N Play network audio streamer, which launch concurrently with the 7000CDT.

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Formed in the early 1980s by Philip Swift and Derek Scotland, Audiolab earned worldwide acclaim with the 8000A – an integrated stereo amplifier that became a classic ‘step-up’ from the budget models of the time. Now part of the IAG brand family, Audiolab’s reputation has been further enhanced by its hugely respected DAC circuitry, earning the company a plethora of awards since the launch of the 8200CD and M-DAC in 2010 and 2011 respectively. Today, the company continues to make class-leading source and amp components across its highly acclaimed 6000, 9000 and M-DAC product lines, delivering crisp, clean ergonomics and superb sound with everything from vinyl to the latest digital formats.

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