

HiDiamond Power Top Gold



Review by Marcin Olszewski

As I silently hope in the photos above, you can see that the appearance of the HiDiamond Power Top Gold is fully consistent with its nomenclature. Black and gold, reminiscent of the braid I know from the Acoustic Zen Gargantua II, the outer braid wraps around a rather flexible, very flexible, just right, but not exaggerated diameter cable. Right in front of the high-class Viborg plugs, cylindrical sleeves are placed that reduce not only the diameter of the waveform, but also information about the manufacturer, model and... directionality. And here I allow myself a small digression, because, as the name suggests, we are talking about a representative of an almost flagship product line (on top is the Exclusive series with Diamond models), it would be perfectly understandable to completely customize audio jewelry, because to put it bluntly, "ordinary" stickers on rather stylish splitters not only spoil the effect, which can significantly lose aesthetics with prolonged use. However, I immediately point out that the digressions above are a manifestation of my stickiness and my search for a hole in the whole project, because the statistical buyer, after connecting the cable of the same name, will probably forget about its existence for many years and will be completely indifferent to the condition of the stickers mentioned above.

As for anatomy, our guest today hides four conductors made with UP-4VRC technology with a cross-section of 6.5 mm^2 , each made of Ultra Pure Single Crystal Copper® (UP-SCC 4VRC), enriched with graphite. XLPE was used as an insulator and the entire system was finished with VIBORG VE502R plugs.

And now the most electrifying part of the decibels of the Internet, i.e. the description of the influence of the power cable of the same name on the sound of the devices connected to it. And here I won't dwell too much on rosol, but I will mention right away that the presence of Top Gold in my system was not only visible (I don't shamefully hide the power supply behind the table), but above all it could be felt. Moreover, from the very first bars of "Para Bellum" from Testament, it became clear that Top Gold sounds perhaps not so much calmer, but rather more mature – with a more balanced sound than its "silver brother". The bass no longer seeks applause as much as in Top Silver, giving space to the low-mid range, which enchants with its filling and juicy coloration. As a result, the message gains strength, majesty and... musicality. I know, I know, using this phrase in a sentence about the work of the aforementioned San Francisco band may seem like an oxymoron to some readers, but please take my word for it, and even better you see that Top Gold can give even the "titans of thrash metal" a real "baroque facelift" and at the same time, not limit even in the slightest degree their crazy gallops and the brutality of the attack. However, aware that not everyone likes these kinds of extremes, I suggest to at least resist the opening of the aforementioned album "For The Love Of Pain", where we will have practically all the best in a very complete pill, like Vigor senior. There are fiery guitar gallops, epic explosions and a truly animalistic growl (a satrap would use the term "animal"). To put it bluntly, HiDiamond emphasizes the power and apocalyptic nature of the material played in this type of repertoire by accentuating volume and power while toning too loudly and offensively, so you can listen louder, and secondly, without worrying about something stinging you painfully, something will whiz somewhere like running your nails over the school blackboard. Alternatively, you can jump right into the 7.5-minute ballad "Meant To Be", which may be lower in popularity than Metallica's "Nothing Else Matters", but is at least as beautiful and melodic, so it's something of mill material for the Italian chain, which draws from it an unexpected wealth of reverberations, golden glow and "dragon wisdom" – when you don't need to prove anything to anyone, because the music defends itself.



On the other hand, in Mahan Mirarab's minimalist "Say Your Most Beautiful Word", based on the silence played, it emerged that even in the microdynamics and at the level of intricate improvisations and

dreamlike voices, the Italian string sounded like a fish in water. He managed to keep his above-average dynamic skills in check and instead of moving forward or increasing the tempo, he went down to the level of delicate touches of the instruments used and a very moderate use of the vocal cords, while at the same time transmitting all the intensity of the flow between the musicians. Fortunately, however, he did not "stifle" the message, he did not cover it with a heavy blanket, which preserved the lightness and openness of the presentation, which can be clearly heard in the not devoid of lively parts of Mona Matbou Riahi's clarinet.

Looking at the current distribution of energy on the national audio market, it is easy to conclude that the Italian factory HiDiamond has no chance of being called the brand of choice. However, if we consider the sound qualities as the main criterion, and not the popularity of the label, the economic situation for Power Top Gold becomes much more favorable. Therefore, looking for a power cable that will add some attractiveness and vigor to the sound of the system, our guest today has a good chance of winning the heart of a potential buyer.

System used during the test

- CD/DAC: Vitus Audio SCD-025 Mk.II + 2 x Quantum Science Audio (QSA) Blue Fuse
- File player: Lumīn U2 Mini + Farad Super3 + Farad DC copper cable 2; Soundgenic HDL-RA4TB I-O data
- Turntable: Denon DP-3000NE + Denon DL-103R + Omicron Clamp
- Phono preamp: Tellurium Q Iridium MM/MC phono preamplifier
- Digital Source Selector: Audio Authority 1177
- Integrated amplifier: Vitus Audio RI-101 MkII + Quantum Science Audio (QSA) purple fuze
- Speakers: AudioSolutions Figaro L2 + Solid Tech Foot of Balance + ZenSati Angel Jumpers
- RCA IC: Furutech FA-13S; NEO d+ RCA Class B Stereo + Ground phono cable (1 m)
- XLR interconnect cable: VLAD Audio Epitome XLR; Furutech DAS-4.1; WK Audio TheRed XLR
- Digital interconnect cable: Fadel art DigiLitz; Cyberlink Frame harmonic technology; Apogee Wyde Eye; LightSpeed 200 Cable Interlink Monster
- USB cables: Wireworld Starlight; Vermöuth Audio Reference USB; ZenSati Zorro
- Speaker cables: WK Audio TheRed Speaker mkII + SHUBI Custom Acoustic Stands MMS-1
- Power cables: Esprit Audio Alpha; Furutech FP-3TS762 / FI-28R / FI-E38R; Organic Audio Power + Furutech CF-080 Damping Ring; Furutech Evolution II Power; 3 x WK Audio TheRed Power
- Power strip: Furutech e-TP60ER + Furutech FP-3TS762 / FI-50 NCF(R) /FI-50M NCF(R)
- Wall Outlet: Furutech FT-SWS-D (R) NCF
- Switch: QSA Red + Silent Angel S28 feet + Farad Super6 power supply + Farad DC Level 2 frame cable
- Ethernet cables: In-akustik CAT6 Premium II; Anort Consequence Audiomics Lab, Artoc Ultra Reference, Arago Excellence; Furutech LAN-8NCF; Next Level NxLT Lan Flame Technology; TIGLON TPL-3000L-WT (White Tiger)
- Accessories: Omicron X1 Superior Armonix Stabilizer
- Anti-vibration platform: Franc Audio Accessories Wooden block Slim Platform
- Table: Solid Tech Radius Duo 3
- Acoustic panels: VMT



Review by Jacek Pazio

There is no need to deceive ourselves, since in our last clash with this Italian cable manufacturer, a lot of water has already flowed over the Vistula. However, this does not mean that its existence has been completely forgotten. Even more so because we have left the most interesting design in its portfolio for the proverbial future. We are talking about a network cable from the almost top Gold series. If you look at the search engine, it turns out that even the simplest designs of this entity offered an interesting idea for sound, so when it came time to get the model holder on the wallpaper, our expectations were very high. Were they satisfied? Of course, thanks to the logistical activities of the distributor of the SoundAlchemy brand, which delivered the aforementioned HiDiamond Power Gold Top cable to our door, you will find out later in the text.



Following the manufacturer's information, we know that the most important thing in the construction of the Gold Top is the use of the purest copper available on the market, which has also been subjected to proprietary material purification technology at the level defined by Italians as Single Crystal Copper / SCC 4VRC. But these are not the only interesting activities in the design process of our hero's construction. Well, in addition to the above-mentioned version of the SCC4VRC, its construction also includes a more advanced variety of copper called UP/4VRC Ultra Pure Single Crystal Copper combined with graphite, which allows the level of signal interference and the so-called epidermis effect to be eliminated much more effectively. As for the insulation, a material called XLPE was used for this purpose, which is a hundred times higher than Teflon. Finally, the cable, based on the mentioned materials, was terminated with Viborg plugs in an aluminum casing and pure copper contacts plated finally with rhodium. The entire project, as befits Italians, was carried out in a very aesthetic way and with a good result of technical quality.

What can I say interesting about the Top Gold network cable, which occupies second place in the HiDiamond brand portfolio? No need to think about it here, it is the best sound design we have had the opportunity to host. In my opinion, it is the most balanced and consistent, and its main goal is to provide the system with the right amount of controlled and well-aerated energy. What do I mean by coherence and energy cultivation? Well, I mean very good harmony and a smooth connection between adjacent sub-ranges. None of these try to anticipate the curve, which gives the effect of the presentation consistency already mentioned. But this is not the only advantage of our hero, because by offering a good level of energy throughout the band, it fully controls the low range, successfully maintains the resolution of a clearly saturated midrange, and, without seeking execution, gives the music the freedom to resonate even the most complex musical show. As the description shows, at first glance the cable doesn't seek applause with the "fireworks" that many of us love, but I assure you that as soon as we understand what the sound is naturally about, we immediately notice that the list above is a list of the benefits sought.



Advantages that are easily able to provide the necessary dose of adrenaline backed by a strong dose of sound from the listener during rock band performances. This kind of work without the right amount of weight and clarity in the delivery of the music will not provide us with the right level of reception attractiveness in the field of unpredictability, which is why, knowing this, the Top Gold producer put so much effort into maintaining consistency in matching the mass and opening up the message. That's why, listening to loud sounds during the testing process, I always emotionally reached the end of these shows.

The music coming from the pool of calmness and sculpting of each note that appeared in the ether also achieved a similar level of pleasure. First, because each sound had the right weight. Second, it offered a complete package of information about its origin, duration and multicolor. And third, it was well lit, so I didn't feel the effect of shortening its reverberation. Thanks to this, regardless of whether jazz or

shoulder music had landed on the wallpaper, each of the mentioned works was adequately emotional and therefore easily met the expectations of my rock soul, that is, the soul of a romantic.

Who would I recommend the network cable described today to? Well, as I said, it's very balanced and consistent, which makes the first thing music lovers looking for a well-maintained message in terms of the energy and brilliance of the music should care about. That's the main goal of this cable. But don't worry, it's not the only group that can find a thread of understanding with it. The point, of course, is that good control and a discreet spark make it very readable on reception, and if someone in their set is having trouble getting clarity on the edges of the sound, this potential blurring can be corrected by our hero. It will inject a well-controlled mass note into the message, thus improving the readable pulse and ultimately the lifebuoy of the music. Sadly, you have to check for yourself if this is your fairy tale.

The system used in the test:

- CD player: Gryphon Ethos
- streamer: Lumin U2 Mini + QSA Red-Silver switch
- line preamplifier: Gryphon Audio Commander
- power amplifier: Gryphon Audio APEX Stereo
- Speakers: Gauder Akustik Sedan RC-11 Black Edition
- speaker cables: Furutech Nanoflux-NCF speaker cable
- RCA IC: Hijiri Million "Kawami", Vermouth Audio Reference
- XLR: Hijiri Milion "Kawami", Furutech DAS-4.1, Furutech Project V1
- Digital IC: Furutech Project V1 D XLR
- LAN cable: NxLT LAN FLAME, Dyrholm Audio Nexus
- USB cable: ZenSati Silence, Dyrholm Audio Nexus
- power cables: Hijiri Takumi Maestro, Furutech Project-V1, Furutech DPS-4.1 + FI-E50 NCF(R)/ FI-50(R), Furutech Evolution II, Hijiri Nagomi, Vermouth Audio Reference power cable, Acrolink 8N-PC8100 Performante, ZenSati Angel

Table: AUDIO BASE 2

Accessories:

- fuses: Quantum Science Audio Red, QSA Silver, Synergistic Research Orange
- anti-vibration platform: Solid Tech
- maintenance: Harmonix AC Enacom Improved for 100-240V
- Network Strip: High-end power base, Furutech NCF Power Vault-E
- acoustic panels: Artnovion

Analog Track:

- turntable: SME 60
- insertion: My Sonic Lab Signature Diamond
- phono preamplifier: RCM Audio The Big Phono
- plate pressure: Omicron Luxury Clamp
- disc centering device: DS Audio ES-001
- Reel Recorder: Studer A80

Distribution: SoundAlchemy

Manufacturer: HiDiamond