The MPT-8 serves as the digital source for its companion product, the MPD-8 Dream DAC. It is designed to provide a multitude of internal digital sources as well as plenty of connectivity for many external sources. It incorporates extensive buffering, re-clocking, filtering and cleaning of all digital sources before encoding the digital audio data in its native format onto a fiber optical carrier (PLINK) for the MPD-8 DAC. This architecture provides the ultimate separation between digital sources and the sensitive analog circuitry inside the DAC. In fact, PLINK not only provides a galvanic separation, but also allows for extremely long cable lengths (up to 300m).

The MPT-8 comes standard with a very high quality CD/SACD drive system that has been developed by D&M specifically for audiophile applications and is not just a modified mass produced video drive as is very common with most other drive systems. All vital parts of this drive are built in metal for increased stability, tracking accuracy and vibration control.

In addition, the MPT-8 can be customized with the following internal options. They don’t necessarily have to be installed at the factory, but can also be added as after-sales options by the dealer.
• Syrah music server: this adds the same exact functionality as Playback Designs’ very successful Syrah music server that is very easy to control via a custom app on a tablet. It also supports fully automatic ripping of CD’s and connection of external storage such as USB disk drives and network storage (NAS). Standard configuration is with an internal 2TB solid-state-disc (SSD).

• Roon Core Server: this option allows direct integration of the entire Dream system into any Roon audio network and makes it “roon-ready” with full support for any PCM or DSD rate. But it is also a full Roon server that can be controlled via Roon’s control app (iOS and Android). With its own network connection you can add an unlimited amount of files to your Roon music library.

• Stream-X streamer provides direct connection to streaming services such as Tidal, Qobuz, Deezer and vTuner that can be controlled via an app on a tablet. Furthermore, it also allows to play files from connected USB storage or network storage (NAS) and provides “roon-ready” integration into Roon audio networks with PCM support up to 192kHz and single rate DSD. It functions as DLNA and UPnP renderer as well.

The MPT-8 is powered by the same high quality linear power supply as used in the MPD-8 DAC.

Digital inputs: USB (PCM up to 384kHz, DSD up to 11.2MHz)
AES (PCM up to 192kHz, DSD via DoP)
Coax (PCM up to 192kHz, DSD via DoP)
TosLink (PCM up to 96kHz)
PLINK optical (PCM up to 384kHz, DSD up to 11.2MHz)

Digital outputs: PLINK optical (reserved for direct connection to MPD-8 Dream DAC)
AES (PCM up to 192kHz, DSD via DoP)

Internal options: Syrah music server
Roon Core music server
Stream-X streamer

Software update: Playback Designs already created an excellent reputation with its program to offer free software upgrades with new features or new algorithms that the end user can upload into the transport without the need to return it to the dealer or manufacturer. This will keep the product always up-to-date with the latest trends and, therefore, will help in keeping the value high for this product.

Remote control: A hand-held IR control set is provided in a sleek case with lit buttons. The MPT-8 is also equipped with a network interface for remote control via networked apps (future expansion).
**Syrah option**
The chassis of the MPT-8 transport has enough space to fit the complete hardware of our Syrah music server. Functionally, it is the same identical product as our music server in the Sonoma line. It connects internally to the digital circuitry of the MPT-8 so that only an external network connection is required. The fiber optical output of the MPT-8 transport is then used to send audio to the MPD-8 Dream DAC.

This architecture allows for the best separation between digital source and the analog output stage / clock control of the DAC. There is no better isolation.

The Syrah is based on Intel’s NUC design that has enough CPU power for our application and does not require any fan for cooling. Over the last several years we have used and analyzed many audio software packages and have come to the conclusion that JRiver’s Media Center offers the most comprehensive and versatile solution for our purpose.

Our app controls the server from your iOS or Android tablet and offers a very easy and intuitive control interface. The user does not need to learn the complicated settings and operation of Media Center - the app on the tablet makes control very easy with virtually no learning curve.

An external ROM drive is included to allow fully automatic ripping of CD’s whereby the software automatically retrieves any available meta data (track names, artist etc.) from the internet and combines it with the ripped tracks. Its internal SSD storage of 2TB can be expanded either with external USB drives or networked storage (NAS).

The Syrah music server can be used to stream to other devices through the network via the DLNA protocol and it can also be used as a DLNA renderer or Airplay endpoint.

**Supported formats:**
- PCM up to 384kHz (wave, flac, many others)
- DSD up to 11.2MHz

**Roon Core Server option**
This option uses the same hardware set as the Syrah option, only with a smaller SSD memory, because it is meant to be used with an external music library on a network (NAS). When first connected to a network the Roon software will automatically identify all playable music files on your network and build a library which can then be controlled with the Roon app from your tablet.

It also makes the entire Dream System „Roon-Ready“ which means it can be integrated into any existing Roon network by simply connecting it to the same network. The Dream System will then automatically become an endpoint in the network that can receive all PCM formats up to 384kHz and all DSD formats up to 11.2MHz.

**Stream-X option**
This option can be installed inside the MPT-8 or MPS-8. With a wired internet connection through the back panel it allows streaming from Tidal, Qobuz, Deezer and vTuner. Where available some of these streaming services offer CD quality or better data rates. Additionally, the Stream-X option supports file playback from external USB or networked storage (NAS). It is a DLNA server and also a DLNA and UPnP renderer - i.e. you can play from any DLNA or UPnP device / server to Stream-X. This feature allows the Dream System to be easily integrated into any home audio network.