OpBox D/D Converter

OpBox – Playback Designs Sonoma Series D/D Converter

PROVEN PHILOSOPHY

With Playback Designs' shift towards music servers we wanted at the same time offer a solution to those customers who find the task of ripping their CD and SACD collections onto a server too daunting. By applying it same proven philosophy of focusing and maximizing design efforts in areas that matter and minimizing them where they don't matter, Playback Designs partnered with Oppo Digital, a developer and manufacturer of disc drive technology and players.

Early tests have shown that Oppo's disc drive technology is quite advanced and reliable, and that great sonic performance can be achieved with it when combined with Playback Designs' converter technology. The only challenge was to get the native audio data stream out of the Oppo player and into the Merlot converter.

Playback Designs developed a small interface card (OpBox) that intercepts all the native audio data inside the Oppo player, applies its proprietary de-jitter algorithms and then sends the native data via its proprietary and optical PLink interface to the DAC, where a multitude of algorithms await them for further isolation from the digital source.

PRODUCT STRATEGY

Why would Playback Designs with its ultra high performance products embark on a product strategy relying on Oppo's technology that is designed for different market applications?

The answer is simple: Playback Designs always offers honest deals for its customers and believes in designing products with the simple goal of maximizing performance based on proven science, rather than overpriced technologies in areas that either hinder performance or don't enhance it.

Case in point: the combination of Merlot DAC and Oppo player with OpBox modification can achieve sonic performance equal or better than many other systems costing many times as much. We couldn't justify any expense re- or over-engineering the already existing Oppo player. It would not result in an honest product.