

Harmonix CS-120 Improved-Version

The model CS-120 returns to market after a few years of absence.

In the product line of the renowned Japanese manufacturer appeared the loudspeaker cable CS-120. It is interesting, because it was in the Harmonix portfolio some time ago, but then it was withdrawn from sales. However the push from the clients was so big, that the company decided to return it to the catalog. So the new CS-120 is nothing else as the improved version of the older cable. The changes are not substantial, those were introduced to the bundle of conductors and the materials used for the construction of the cable. The most important thing is, that the spades (the cable is available only with spades) were covered by a double layer of gold and rhodium. This should make them more resistant to wear – constant pressure by the amplifier or loudspeaker terminals should no longer lead to removal of the conduction improvement layer and allow for better contact with the terminals.

Higher class

Harmonix treats cables as a kind of blood veins functioning in one organism together with the electronics. Throughout of those veins is vital for the quality of work of the individual elements. Advanced processes of resonance tuning and choice of materials is the key to success. I will not hide, that when I first came in contact with Harmonix products, they immediately gained my recognition and esteem for their constructors. I had the chance to listen to systems fully cabled with those cables and have a closer look, or rather listen, at many models. Regardless if those were power cables, interconnects or loudspeaker cables – I always had similar impression of “unchoking” of the system. Something like release of the music in the full frequency range. The dynamics of the newest CS-120 is impressive! But this is not the aspect, that draws the attention of the listener,

but the way the Harmonix reproduces the timbre. Listening to discs of Patricia Barber, or heavy rock by AC/DC, I always sensed delicate tube warmth in the sound and above average musicality. Without aggression in the highest frequencies, CS-120imp delivers, at the same time, incredible details. Wind instruments, like Miles Davies’ trumpet, got the shine and unobtrusive lightness, not losing the weight. The CS-120 in the improved version will enchant mostly lovers of vocal music, because due to it, the human voices sound incredibly natural, truthful and palpable. This Japanese cable is in my opinion a construction opening the doors to truth of high-end for relatively small money. When you become the owner of this Harmonix cable, then you love to use it forever, and you may want to upgrade the electronics, because the CS-120 will never be the limiting factor.

by Arkadiusz Ogrodnik

Verdict

Quality of sound



POSITIVES: Freedom in operating with every, even most minute sound. Perfect control of the bass, precise space reproduction. Very flexible.

Price/Performance



Manufacturing quality



Performance



General assessment



NEGATIVES: The spades are not as user friendly as banana plugs, and some amplifiers, especially British ones, accept only bananas.

GENERAL: Unrestrained timbre and dynamics make it an ideal supplement to high quality systems.



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