

Analog Interconnects Harmonix CI-230 Mark-II



Introduction

Harmonix brand is owned by a Japanese company Combak Corporation described the widely during the test mats gramophone symbol Harmonix TU-800EXi. I wrote then that, **Combak Corporation** is the owner of such renowned brands as Reimyo Enacom, Bravo! (And Harmonix, of course); is also a shareholder of record label JVC XRCD. Centralala Combak Corporation is located in the Japanese city of Zushi in Kanagawa Prefecture. Harmonix, you can write - a brand-legend. It is known throughout the world, enjoys an excellent reputation among music lovers and audiophiles. Mainly engaged in the production of audio cables, which are considered to be one of the best on the market - are among the top in the world. The offer includes the entire range of power cables, interconnects and speaker cables. Harmonix is also a known manufacturer of items and equipment designed to improve the sound, ie. tuning. Thus, in the portfolio, you can find all kinds of noise eliminators (series Enacom), anti-vibration feet, racks, caps cables (Core-Ring), base and cap for tuning CDs, but also the accessories are tuning listening rooms. These are special disks that are arranged in different places of peace. A separate section is devoted to the Harmonix tuning turntable - the proprietary clamps onto a turntable and turntable mat symbol TU800-EXi offered in two colors printing: silver and gold.

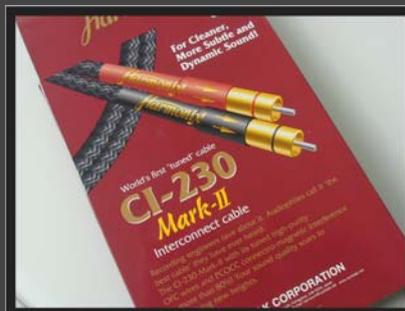
The entire catalog Combak Corporation is available [HERE](#) . Harmonix cables described CI-230 Mark-II derived from the Polish distributor of brand Harmonix -'s **My Audio** from Wroclaw.

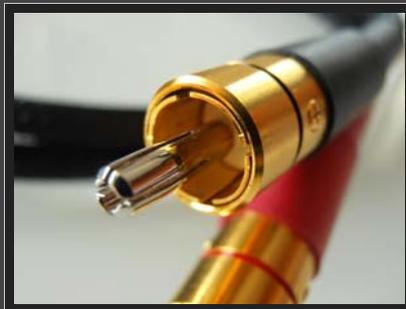
Appreciation and construction

Series CI-230 is one of the cheapest on offer Harmonix - for testing interconnects received with a length of 0.75 m (price 1 529 zł) but are also available in lengths of 1 m, 1.5 m, 2 m and 2.5 m, the price with wires extending gradually increasing by a further approximately 400 zł. On the surface, these amounts may seem large, but taking into account the fact that the chart-topping Harmonix cables cost a considerable fortune (about 40 000 zł per unit), optics, this turns out to be a relative, and prices Cable CI-230 downright bargain, or at least moderate (as audiophile standards).

As is customary Harmonix, the company did not disclose any details about the anatomy of the cables - except for a few trinkets. You can only find out that the construction of the two internal cables used OFC oxygen-free copper crystal PCOCC highest quality - eliminated more than 80% of a connection-magnetic interference (ang. Connectro-magnetics interference). Harmonix cables equipped with plugs his own design. They are very solid and aesthetic - with a thin layer of pure gold. In turn, stems RCA plugs look rhodium - are embedded in the hard white plastic material of the dielectric. Plugs are stretched over shrinkable sleeve (red or black) - printed on it is a logo Harmonix and arrows showing directionality wires. The outer sheath is made of black fiber hard and durable plastic, which ensures przewododom longevity because of its abrasion seems impossible. In general, you should write that interconnects Harmonix CI-230 Mark-II is a product aesthetic, made of high quality materials, assembled meticulously and precisely - until you want to write that typical Japanese high-tech.

The manufacturer shall ensure that the wires before the implementation of mass production and advanced undergo the tedious process of tuning, so that their sound was perfectly balanced and completely harmonious. As you read on the packaging: "Sound engineers rave about cables CI-230, and audiophiles call them the best cables, any heard so far." It is a kind of hyperbole, but most likely the Japanese designers have hard evidence to be proud of your product, what you should and falls not otherwise see as empirically. So it's time to start listening.





Listening experience

To intensify listening experience mainly used the test interconnect system connecting the headset as a guide source with headphone amplifiers. Mostly it was DACs M2Tech Young DAC (plus power supply battery M2Tech Palmer Power Station) and Rega Saturn-R on the one hand and amplifiers Ming Da MC66-AE, iFi iCAN, Taga HTA-700B Harmony and Musical Fidelity X-Can v .3 - on the other. Headphones are Audeze LCD-X and HiFiMAN HE-400. Only sometimes I connected interconnects for large audio system - only for the purposes of this test.

The first time I listened to ducts Harmonix their own listening system - before I repeatedly get acquainted with their sound in a variety of salons and audio with friends audiophiles. That's why I was curious as CI-230 Mark-II resound in their own home. The sound turned out to be surprisingly smooth and harmonious, not exposing any of the bands. The sound was juicy and firm, with excellent speed and drive'm. Cables provide a complete and reliable sound right proportions and sizes of instruments and human voices. The message was on the lightly insulated side of the sound, which favored the disclosure of emotions contained in the recordings, but also energy and power, as the details and subtleties were given extra weight and dimension that allowed them to actually exist. Importantly, the cables do not in any way interfere with the listening space - it does not expand, but not narrow. Do not add depth, not shallow scene. They are optimal in this regard. Jedak feature that most falls I liked, is that it does not sharpen Japanese interconnects sound, not pushing forward artifacts recordings, know how to find the right balance between authenticity of the sound, and his beautiful musicality. This characteristic is typical of a very advanced conductors and cables described Harmonix, despite the fact that the cheapest offer in the company, is undoubtedly predispose to a higher level of hi-fi.

Conclusion

Harmonix interconnects CI-230 Mark-II are made securely and accurately - almost the jubilersku. They offer excellent sound: clean and musical - rich and accurate. Deliciously harmonious. For middle-class audio systems fit like a glove, and the headsets are ideal. Complete recommendation. Price in Poland - 1 529 zł for version 0.75 m.

