Bryston Unveils BDA-2 Outboard DAC

New model features 32-bit DAC’s and high resolution USB inputs bringing added performance and versatility to award-winning DAC lineup

Peterborough, Ontario November 14th, 2012 — Bryston LTD (www.bryston.com), builders of the world’s finest audio electronics and celebrating 50 years in 2012, has announced the introduction of the BDA-2 outboard digital to analog converter (DAC). The BDA-2 builds on the award-winning success of the BDA-1 DAC, adding the latest 32-bit DAC technology and the most advanced USB interface to accommodate the ever expanding computer-based entertainment market.

The Bryston BDA-2 is a state-of-the-art stereo DAC using fully discrete Class-A proprietary Bryston analog circuits, two independent (analog and digital) linear power supplies and dual 32-bit AKM DAC chips. The BDA-2 also utilizes a new asynchronous USB input capable of 192/24bit resolution. The BDA-2 has an MSRP of $2395 US and is shipping to authorized dealers now. The BDA-1 will remain in the Bryston lineup for the foreseeable future.

The BDA-2 delivers inherent flexibility with an impressive array of inputs for high resolution USB, COAX, OPTICAL, AES-EBU and BNC-equipped digital devices. For audio outputs, the BDA-2 offers both balanced XLR as well as unbalanced RCA stereo connectors on the rear panel. The BDA-2 is RS-232 software upgradeable, making it the most user-friendly high performance USB DAC on the market. “With more and more consumers relying on their computers as a source of entertainment in the home, we felt it imperative to offer a DAC with high performance USB inputs,” stated Bryston’s James Tanner. “Additionally, the new 32-bit DAC chips deliver stunning resolution and detail. The BDA-2 was built upon the award-winning BDA-1 architecture, which emphasized isolation, low noise and imperceptibly low levels of distortion and Jitter,” Tanner concluded.

Power Supplies: The BDA-2 power supply employs two independent secondary windings on the power transformer—one each for the digital and analog sections of the device. In the BDA-2, each stage in the digital chain is also independently regulated to prevent any unwanted interactions and to provide rock solid power delivery for any up-sampling/over-sampling process.

AKM 32-bit DAC Chips: The BDA-2 incorporates dual AKM 32-bit DAC chips, some of the highest resolution available on the market today.

Jitter Reduction: The input signal to the Bryston BDA-2 is re-clocked and re-sampled with the highest precision oscillators to reduce any possibility of jitter affecting the sound quality (jitter is a mis-timing of the data being moved from point A to point B in any synchronous digital system). Additionally, the BDA-2’s input receiver and sample rate converter have both been engineered to further reduce jitter to levels too low to measure accurately even with the best test equipment available.

Digital Input Matching Devices: The BDA-2 employs high quality impedance matching transformers providing the optimal interface to virtually any incoming source under all sorts of signal conditions. Lesser quality terminations may degrade the signal and could cause increased jitter.

Discrete Class-A analog stage: The Bryston BDA-2’s analog circuits are constructed of carefully sorted and selected discrete devices (individual transistors, resistors, and capacitors) instead of the more commonly used integrated circuits. The use of discrete devices has enabled Bryston to design a circuit that exactly matches the needs of the BDA-2, resulting in superior sound quality.
Ultimate Quality: Bryston applies techniques and employs custom materials in our everyday manufacturing of electronic equipment that are more typically utilized by the military and aerospace industries. Such techniques ensure unit-to-unit consistency that is vastly superior to mass production. Bryston’s adherence to the use of proprietary parts, sophisticated construction, and refined testing techniques guarantee superb performance and long-term product reliability.

BDA-2 Features:
- Dual 192K/32Bit AKM DAC’s
- Independent dual power Supplies
- Discrete Class A analog output stage
- Selectable synchronous upsampling (176.4K/192K)
- Independent analog and digital signal paths
- Inputs: 192/24 USB (1), COAX (2), OPTICAL (2), AES-EBU (1) BNC (2)
- 44.1, 48, 88.2, 96, 176.4, 192K sampling
- Fully differential balanced XLR and unbalanced RCA stereo outputs
- Transformer coupled SPDIF and AES EBU digital inputs
- SPDIF COAX bypass loop output
- RS-232 software upgrade capable
- Optional remote control
- Remote 12 Volt Trigger
- Compatible with CD drives, sound cards, computers, music servers
- Cosmetically matches Bryston C-Series Products
- 5 year warranty

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About Bryston: Bryston (www.bryston.com) first opened for business in 1962 as a manufacturer of blood analysis equipment, and was named (as an acronym) for its three founders, Tony Bauer, Stan Rybb, and John Stonborough. In 1968, NASA engineer John Russell, Sr. relocated himself and his family to Canada from the US and bought the company, where his son Chris set to work designing the first Bryston amplifier. The Pro 3 made its debut in 1973, and since that time, Bryston components have become legendary for their hand-assembled build quality, performance and reliability in both the pro audio and consumer audio market segments. Bryston amplifiers are utilized in some of the world’s most renowned recording studios and owned by many discerning music industry professionals. Bryston applies manufacturing techniques and materials in the everyday assembly of their electronic equipment that are more typically utilized by the military and aerospace industries. Bryston is now based in Peterborough, Ontario Canada, just northeast of Toronto, and sold through over 150 dealers in North America and 60 countries worldwide.

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