



NEW PRODUCT INFORMATION – 14th May 2012

Naim's new DR Power Supplies: Further Technical Information

Naim has updated its power supplies to feature a new discrete regulator (DR). This is the first time Naim has made such a major change to its power supplies in over 35 years.

Following the previous communication announcing the new DR power supplies please find below some further technical information for your reference in advance of the DR power supplies press launch on Monday.

Please note that **all information relating to this update is strictly under embargo until 5pm Monday 14th May 2012**. Thank you for respecting this embargo.



The new Naim Discrete Regulator

The new Naim Discrete Regulator – technical points in brief

The project that bore the new Naim Discrete Regulator was a 2-year labour of love for Naim's Technical Director Roy George to optimise further the performance of Naim power supplies, a feat previously not thought possible. Power supplies fitted with the new discrete regulator deliver a significant and repeatedly demonstrable performance increase.

- This new topology is inherently low noise and capable of fast recovery to transient current demands. It also has the advantage that it works equally well for both positive and negative supply rails.
- The components used in the Naim Discrete Regulator were carefully selected to optimise performance in listening tests.
 - The compensation capacitors in the amplifier stage are polystyrene types, just as used in the NAP 500.
 - The filtering capacitors are film types, not microphonic ceramics.
 - The decoupling capacitors are tantalum electrolytics not aluminium electrolytics.
 - While extensive use is made of surface-mount components, the critical feedback resistor in the amplifier stage is a selected through-hole type.
- The DR is just one part of a Naim power supply. Naim has reviewed and optimised every aspect of the five power supplies into which it has been incorporated. Transformer mounting, wire gauge, wire routing, mechanical decoupling, internal layout and reservoir capacitors have all been scrutinised to ensure that the DR's benefits are fully realised.

What is a voltage regulator?

A voltage regulator is an electronic device designed to maintain a constant DC output voltage regardless of fluctuations in its supply voltage and variations in current draw from its output. An ideal voltage regulator would add zero noise and have zero output impedance – but all practical voltage regulators generate finite output noise and show some transient variation in output voltage if current demand changes suddenly. In developing the Naim Discrete Regulator Naim has created a discrete-component regulator that betters industry standard monolithic voltage regulators in these respects and, even more importantly, has had its design and component selection refined in the listening room to deliver maximised sound quality from Naim's audio circuits.

For further technical explanation, please refer to the white paper.

New DR power supplies: production dates and pricing

The new DR supplies are due to enter production w.c. 14th May and will replace the current models. Prices will be as follows:

555 PS	£4,770.83 (list)	£5,725 (UK RRP)
NAC 552 (inc 552 PS)	£14,616.67 (list)	£17,540 (UK RRP)
XPS	£2,795.83 (list)	£3,355 (UK RRP)
SuperCap	£3,162.50 (list)	£3,795 (UK RRP)
HiCap	£995.33 (list)	£1,195 (UK RRP)

Existing units: update policy and pricing

It will be possible to retro-fit the new discrete regulator to existing power supplies, however the task is complex, and such units can only be updated by a highly trained technician. Only a handful of operatives outside of Naim's Salisbury offices will be able to undertake this.

Naim is offering a special update price for updates to the new specification to affected power supplies that were shipped from Naim after 1st February (outside UK) and 1st March (in the UK). These prices have been heavily subsidised and only apply to existing units shipped after the above dates and Naim will be strict in regulating this. The prices reflect the level of complexity of the update for each product.

555 PS	£322.23 (list)	£386.68 (UK RRP)
552 PS	£518.54 (list)	£622.25 (UK RRP)
XPS	£268.10 (list)	£321.72 (UK RRP)
SuperCap	£419.40 (list)	£503.28 (UK RRP)
HiCap	£141.97 (list)	£170.36 (UK RRP)

Those units that qualify for the special update price will be prioritised in the first instance, however from October / November 2012 ALL existing units will be able to be updated and further information, including prices for these updates, will be released nearer to the time.

End customers will be advised to contact their local Naim retailer for further information about updates to existing units.

Marketing Assets

Press release & white paper

A press release and a white paper have been produced to assist in the communication of this update. They are both available to download from Naim Resources in the grouped resource 'DR Power Supplies Launch'. If you require artwork files for translation purposes, please contact chelsea.hinton@naimaudio.com.

Images

Images of the new Naim Discrete Regulator and the new supplies' rear panels are also available from Naim Resources. A new DR logo on the rear panel identifies the new supplies from the old; other than this the power supplies remain unchanged aesthetically.



555 PS rear panel showing the new DR logo