



SINE S-60A

The Cleaner

The treatment of the primary power supply is still considered as a secondary and ancillary process, in the set-up of a sound reproduction system. However, the cleanliness of the electric current absorbed by an electronic element has a considerable influence over the audio signal quality. The SINE brand focuses on this topic and offers a range of dedicated products.

Just like the acoustics of a room, the power supply remains one of the most unpredictable external factors of a high fidelity system. Listening to a comprehensive audio system, during day time, when the mains voltage attacked by all sorts of parasitic pollutions, resembles to anything but a sine wave, or in the middle of the night, when calm has returned over the phase of the mains voltage, the neutral and earth ground, can reach notably different results. Remedies do exist alike this conditioner, which comes from Asia.

The S-60A Conditioner

The tested model is part of a range of four power conditioning products. SINE is a brand of high-end cables and accessories created by MIC Audio, located in Hong-Kong. It imports also certain audio products brand (of which Focal Pro and Antelope, among others [from France into Hong-Kong]) and proposes also its own realizations like the SINE products. In plane good English, SINE means "sinus" and when it is about sinusoidal voltage, as the mains tension should be, we talk about "sine-wave-voltage". So, there is no ambiguity as to the use of SINE products. Through an IEC male connector, the S-60A is fed with power which it massively cleans

from its impurities before dispatching it towards seven Schuko connectors with thick gold-plated contacts spread into two for digital, four for analogue and one by-pass to use if the electronic connected stage exceeds 1300W. A copper plate shields those connectors from electromagnetic interferences. All connectors and internal conductors in single-stranded thick section copper are cryo treated following a process called CRYO -196°C which consists in keeping them for 48 hours at -196°C. The molecular structure of the material is then altered, which reduces their resistivity in a significant manner and thus diminishes the losses. The chassis is robust and the thick steel cover are completed by an aluminium face plate made of "aviation" quality of 10mm thickness. This metallic mass creates a

serious obstacle to EMI/RFI perturbations. Certain contact points have either gold plated or cover with platinum to improve conductivity. The S-60A rests on four aluminium massive legs, decoupled by a half sphere made of rubber. A cryogenic treated power switch with high-speed interruption properties ensures the powering-in of the apparatus. There are three compensation circuits made of capacitors with double inductors connected at the output of each Schuko group of connectors. When you open the unit, you can see a thick and sealed bottom plate which hides the SINE technology. Indeed a pair of magnetic conduits based on phosphor and bronze tubes through which conductors made of nano crystalline alloy do transit, is placed on a bed of pure graphite granules which engulfs the

Origin :	Hong-Kong
Price :	2480€ for S-60A 1770€ for Coliseum II PC, 1.8m
Dimensions :	340 x 155 x 240mm
Weight :	12kg
Total Nominal Power :	6600W
Total Peak Power :	13200W

► The six Schuko sockets (on the right picture) are distributed into 2 (digital) and 4 (analogue). The plug above the SINE blue cable is dedicated to high consumption units.



resonances and vibrations. Those are the ones that clean the current which transits through the S-60A. The power supply comes in and goes out via spiral conductors which naturally inductive effect reduces the impact of sudden current peaks.

►The S-60A is squat without being cumbersome and perspires mechanical robustness. The secret weapon of the unit lies in the double bottom where magnetic conduits clean the mains voltage. The comfortable power handling allows to position it upstream from your HiFi system.



Phosphor
Bronze

Pure
Graphite

Nano
Crystalline

The Coliseum II power cable

This model is the second most performing cable of the SINE catalogue. Available only in 1.8m length, it uses 3.3mm² leads made of very high purity copper and of silver from "aerospace" quality. They are carefully woven together following a specific pattern and are then covered by six layers of shielding to efficiently interfere with the EMI/RFI perturbations. The empty ones are filled with carbon, which absorbs the static electricity. The external coating is made of blue antistatic nylon. The complete cable, together with the gold-plated contact connectors, undergoes a cryogenic process at -196°C.



Coliseum II PC

LISTENING

We have split the listening session into three steps using the same track record stored on our Macbook, that is to say, [the French song] "Quand le vent nous portera" by Sophie Hunger. First, in our standard configuration, second by connecting our Totaldac d1-six to the SINE conditioner, and finally by adjoining the stereo bloc amplifier FM Acoustics FM611. With the first set-up, the sound reproduction is fluid, natural, with a realistic and well proportionate soundstage. The tones have a very organic character.

Once the DAC is connected to the S-60A output, it is the details precision and the

aeration effect that comes jumps to the ears. Not that the listening was a bit clogged before, but the SINE seems to "clean the car windscreen". Everything is neater; in particular the guitar bass line is better cut out and better held. As the Swiss poetess says in her song, the wind carries the interpreters, on a more aerated scene which seems to have a greater size and which remains always well proportioned. We lose a bit of legato but we significantly gain on analysis. When one adds the stereo bloc at the back of the SINE, the improvement is smaller but quite real with a notably more tonic and well anchored bass.

VERDICT

No doubt is allowed, a good power conditioner like the SINE S-60A brings significant improvements when it manages the power supply of a system. Finally the deep dedusting of the sound achieved by the S-60A frees the harmonic content of the signal without shoving its tonal integrity. As Philippe David (1) used to say, it is a SINEcure.

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(1) a Haute Fidelité magazine journalist and colleague of Dominique.

Haute Fidélité
magazine

