

FMJ

advance product information **ARCAM C31 stereo pre amplifier**



key product features

- **reference quality 2-channel pre amplifier**
- **hermetically sealed reed relay input switching with immeasurable distortion**
- **completely DC coupled for highest level of signal integrity**
- **contactless electronic control of volume levels**
- **clean design signal path free of extraneous circuitry**
- **buffered unbalanced and balanced audio outputs (for driving longer cables)**
- **optional single stage phono pre amp for MM/MC cartridges**
- **large core low flux density toroidal-based power supply**
- **front panel display and menu-driven user interface**

With nearly 30 years experience in high fidelity audio design, Arcam has gained a world-class reputation for audio performance. The new FMJ C31 pre amplifier represents the pinnacle of Arcam's achievements in stereo playback systems. When partnered with the FMJ P1 monobloc power amplifiers, it represents the very best of Arcam's quest for ultra-high quality music playback and delivers a wonderfully faithful reproduction of even the most demanding source material.

The design of the C31 features a simple, accurate and clean signal path. The reed relay input switching dispenses with the compromises of mechanical or conventional relay designs, resulting in switching with immeasurable noise and distortion. The studio grade electronic volume controls deliver precision variation of volume level whilst maintaining the subtle nuances of the music and delivering long-term reliability.

Connections are designed to be flexible with conventional unbalanced (for direct connection to power amplifiers and the purest fidelity), buffered unbalanced (for longer cable runs) and balanced output connections for use in electrically noisy environments. Inputs are wide ranging and include five line level inputs, two independent tape loops and an optional single stage MM/MC phono input .

**The C31 is designed and manufactured by Arcam in the UK
Available late May 2005**

UK Recommended Retail Price £1,200

Copyright A & R Cambridge Ltd. E & OE April 2005

key features of the C31

pre-amplifier section

- All new audiophile pre-amplifier design with very low noise and distortion
- Very short audio signal path for cleanest possible sound
- No tone controls for lowest distortion and noise
- DC coupled using servo to remove any DC from input signals
- New improved Burr Brown volume control
- High quality Burr Brown op-amps in signal path
- Hermetically sealed reed relay input switching with immeasurable distortion and noise*
- Four-layer printed circuit boards allow control of power supply reduction of electrical noise
- Processor mode option for seamless integration with AV surround decoders
- Audiophile grade Stargate and Rubicon capacitors for signal transparency
- Optional single stage MM/MC phono preamp

** Note:- Because the contacts in reed relays are hermetically sealed, they can switch low-level signals as low as fempto amps and nano volts. Electromechanical relays cannot do this because they are not hermetically sealed and have polymer films build up on their contacts that require a voltage arc to break through this layer before conduction can take place. Similarly, semiconductors have capacitance, leakage currents and semiconductor offsets to deal with that introduce distortion and limit the switching and detection of low voltages and currents. Also, the reed relay has no moving parts and therefore, under signal conditions will switch greater than 50 million operations fault free. Electromecanical relays can at best switch up to the low millions of operations. Because its armature moves about a pivot point, wearing occurs, reducing life*

output stage

- Buffered balanced and unbalanced audio outputs
- Independently buffered tape paths
- Front panel headphones socket driven by dedicated headphone driver circuit
-

construction

- Acousteel critically damped chassis to reduce microphony
- 8mm extruded aluminium faceplate for mechanical integrity and electrical shielding
- Additional aluminium casework and unique electrical shielding materials
- Clear easy-to-read front panel display

power supply

- Large core low flux density toroidal based power supply
- Massive 2x10,000uF bulk decoupling capacitors to reduce voltage variation on input to audio regulators
- Dual regulated system for analogue power supplies

general

- Power consumption (max) 30VA
- Size 430W x 370D x 110H mm inc. feet
- Weight (net) 9.3kg