# Essential Audio Tools Mains Multiplier 6+ + Current Conductor L + Current Spyder L + Noise Eater

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For stereo equipment experts, the acronym "EAT" is quite unambiguous - it refers to the European Audio Team, a company associated with Pro-Ject that specializes in the production of beautiful turntables, electronic components, cartridges and accessories. All of its products are unique and refined in the smallest details, but it is no wonder, because the head of the entire enterprise is Heinz Lichtenegger's wife, Jozefina, and she likes everything that is interesting, beautiful and unique. It turns out, however, that there is also a second EAT in the audio industry - Essential Audio Tools. This one has nothing to do with turntables, and its domain is power accessories - power strips, conditioners, cables and various types of filters, the task of which is to improve the current with which audiophiles feed their precious blocks. Nothing new - you will think. Haven't we seen enough expensive, advanced splitters, thick power cables and strange inventions in the style of current regenerators rebuilding the "ideal sine wave"? The catch is that Essential Audio Tools products are very, very clever, and their prices are not laughable. When I first saw them, I wondered why no one had thought of this before. Or was it just a passing fancy? Maybe they are just another audiophile gadget that looks cool but does nothing to improve anything except the owner's well-being?

Although Essential Audio Tools accessories are only just gaining popularity on the Polish market, it would be wrong to think that it is a young company taking its first steps in this field. Its roots date back to 1928. The company, whose heir is EAT, was then called H. Stoet's Radio and dealt with broadly understood radio and telephone technology, including the distribution of antennas, industrial transformers, high-quality coils and power supplies. Much later, Mr. Stoet's grandson opened a store in The Hague with tube amplifiers and loudspeakers. With the development of amplifiers, there was an awareness that external factors partially determine the quality of music playback through a stereo system. Stoet's amplifiers were therefore equipped with transformers that also acted as mains filters. However, this was not a solution that all music lovers could use. After all, not everyone had an amplifier whose designers took such nuances into account. The Dutch noticed that the situation is particularly bad when typical equipment is plugged into a wall socket, and the tangle of cables - power, speaker and signal - starts to interact with each other, collecting interference and all the "dirt", from noise and electromagnetic fields generated by the equipment itself, to radio waves. The bottleneck turned out to be the power supply, so they focused on this issue and developed external filters, which supposedly worked even better than a specially designed transformer.

Almost a hundred years later, Essential Audio Tools is a brand operating under the wings of Square Audio, which is based in the industrial area of the town of Rijswijk, near the Dutch coast and The Hague, the hometown of its founders, Leon Spanjersberg and Tom Feenstra. Importantly, not only the design but also the production and assembly of all the devices and accessories available in the EAT range takes place in the Netherlands. The whole process starts with an idea, which is developed into a prototype, listened to, measured and tuned, and finally implemented into series production. Individual components, such as cables and connectors, are purchased from external suppliers, while other parts, such as housings and connectors, are made in-house from materials such as Delrin and POM-C (high-quality plastics that can be

machined on CNC machines and lathes, achieving an accuracy of up to 0.001 mm). The Dutch also attach great importance to ecological issues. POM-C waste from the process is recycled, as are metals, coolants, insulation materials and packaging, so that waste is less than 3% of the materials that come into the company. Square Audio uses only green energy for its work, working as efficiently as possible.

Compared to what most audiophile power supply accessories specialists offer, the Essential Audio Tools offer is out of this world - fortunately in a positive sense. Do you expect every second item on the price list to be something that works on the principle of pure magic or an impressive device whose price knocks you off your feet? This is not the right place. Here we have only six or seven splitters, six power cords and three accessories in the form of a plug. Another device has recently been introduced - the DC Blocker. In total, we have a dozen or so products. An extremely interesting proposition is the smallest Mains Multiplier Myni strip, which instead of "normal" sockets has IEC C13/C14 connectors, thanks to which it takes up less space. The set includes three cables, but we can buy more. Instead of a splitter, we can also choose the Current Spyder L "filtering cable", which can power three devices. Creativity prevails over trinkets. As the distributor said, EAT is an engineering company, so there is little marketing in the classic sense, and the products themselves do not have golden spikes, diamond-studded fuses or magic balls operating on the basis of the philosophy of Tibetan monks. Although we are talking about power accessories, which in themselves remain controversial in some circles, the Dutch try to stay as far away from "audiovodoo" as possible. The prices are also quite reasonable. For example, the Mains Multiplier 5 power strip costs PLN 1,920. For the same amount, we can have the Mains Multiplier Myni power strip with three cables. A 1.5-meter Current Conductor L cable costs PLN 640, and we can get the "spider" for PLN 1,060. To check what it is worth, I decided to test the strip from the top of the price list - Mains Multiplier 6+. Only the flattened "eight with a plus" is more expensive than it. To complete the set I selected Current Conductor L cables, the above-mentioned Current Spyder L "splitter" and the Noise Eater filter.



### Appearance and functionality

Essential Audio Tools splitters and cables are packed in very simple, white boxes decorated only with the necessary descriptions and graphics showing their contents. It does not resemble the packaging of high-end audio accessories in any way, and when I spread the described set on the table, it looked as if I was preparing to perform some kind of electrical installation. If there were a ladder, drill, screwdriver and a freshly opened chicken in five flavors next to it, I would feel like I was during a renovation or moving. The fact that we are paying for the equipment, and not luxury packaging or a forced philosophy, is also visible when we open the boxes. In each of them we will find a small card with a short but concise description of the given model. Function, basic technical data, information about cross-sections, shielding, correct connection or polarity markings - specific and to the point. There is no letter of congratulations or autograph of the company's founder, a certificate of authenticity or the slightest mention of what changes in the quality and character of the sound we should achieve after using this equipment.

### REPORT: Soul Note's hi-end system in the renovated Audiopunkt

The packaging of plug-in filters looks a bit nicer. These are plastic molds with decorative paper inserts, but at least they can be opened like a human being, and not welded around the perimeter. Not a very ecological solution, but unlike a power strip and cables, such gadgets will look good on a store shelf. Pulse Protector and Sound Saver are tools that are not designed to improve the sound of equipment connected to adjacent sockets. The former protects electronics from overvoltages by converting "shots" above 250 V into heat. The company recommends using this device when we have devices in the vicinity or even at home that cause problems and affect the operation of our hi-fi system.

Interestingly, Pulse Protector should be plugged into the socket as close as possible to the problematic equipment. Sound Saver is basically a tester that allows you to check the polarity and condition of the grounding. It does not improve the sound itself, but if we follow its instructions, we should hear the difference. According to EAT, the biggest differences concern spatial efficiency and resolution. Much more interesting, much larger, but also noticeably more expensive is the Noise Eater. As the name suggests, it is supposed to eat up interference, improving stereophony and increasing the amount of detail in quiet listening. A slightly more detailed description of its operation can be found on the back, but these are not the stories of strange content typical of some manufacturers of audiophile accessories.

In short, even plug-in filters, which I initially took for audiovoodoo equipment, operate on fairly simple principles, have one function, and additionally, no one promises us that after using them our system will start playing so that oh my god, kneel down and call a doctor because the old man has gone mad. No. Pulse Protector, Sound Saver and Noise Eater are remedies for specific ailments. For example, only the latter interested me, because the electrical installation in my house is relatively new and well-maintained, I do not have an old fridge or other device that could be a source of surges, but all this electronics - from chargers through alarm clocks, wireless doorbells, smart lamps or air humidifiers to a TV, washing machine, dishwasher and a lot of different audio devices - there are so many that sometimes I feel like I live in a supermarket, in the RTV/AGD department. This must have an impact on the purity of the current that feeds the hi-fi components, and that is exactly what Noise Eater is supposed to do.

The main character of the test is the Mains Multiplier 6+ strip, so let's start with it. The distributor provided me with several different models, but I chose the "six with a plus" because it is equipped with a 16-amp C20 input socket. If you think about it, it makes sense, especially when we have an extensive system to power, which includes devices with a high demand for current. I have often seen thick wires and even buses in the form of large, copper rails in various types of strips, but what good is it if we have a C14 or C16 socket at the input, which can handle a rated current of up to 10 Å. This is where the bottleneck is created. Does it really matter? After all, stereo equipment is not the same as a workshop saw or a welding machine. However, whoever has not had the opportunity to "blow the plugs" while switching on a really powerful amplifier, let him cast the first stone. During normal operation at a medium volume level, audiophile equipment may not consume as much energy as a cryptocurrency mining installation occupying an entire basement, but it is the momentary current that counts - short peaks, which can be clearly seen in heaters equipped with deflection indicators. In order for the equipment to reproduce the full dynamics of the recording, its wings cannot be clipped at the stage of the socket in the strip, through which the current going to all powered blocks must flow.

So why are manufacturers of power accessories reluctant to use such solutions? This was explained to me by the designer of such power strips, who recently stopped installing such sockets in them. In short, the problem is the expectations and habits of customers. 16-amp sockets and plugs have a completely different shape than 10-amp ones. When deciding on a strip with such an input, you also need to buy a cable that fits it. However, the problem is not another expense, because in any case some cable has to run between the wall socket and the power strip (wireless electricity is not yet used in homes, although some great inventors claimed that it is possible). The manufacturer basically does not care whether he ends such a cable with a C13 or C19 plug, especially when we are talking about high-end cables. However, audiophiles tend to experiment and even if the equipment plays great, sooner or later they will come up with the idea to swap two cables and see what happens. Many of them have also managed to gather a smaller or larger collection of cables, which are either used sporadically or lie in a drawer just in case. Well, you know - each of them can come in handy after the next change of speakers, transducer or phono cartridge. When buying a new, better strip, some already have the necessary cables and are only wondering whether it would be better to put Hijiri between the wall and the strip, Acoustic Zena for the amplifier and Cardas for the streamer, or maybe some other combination would be optimal. A power cord with a 16-amp plug, although from a technical point of view it should give better results, is a permanent element of the puzzle in such a situation. First, we will not move it, and second, we will not use any other cable with a "normal" plug in its place. I know this is a twisted explanation, but I did not come up with it. Apparently, many people don't want such cables because it limits their room to maneuver and cuts them off from fun that can last for weeks (when I get home from work today, I'll change the cable and listen to the entire playlist again). Maybe there are also audiophiles, who are more convinced by physics and who don't see a problem with the fact that the strip and the cable connected to it have to be treated as a set? If so, the Mains Multiplier 6+ seems like an interesting proposition. Incidentally, it is one of the cheapest splitters with this type of socket that can be found on the market.

The described strip really stands out from the competition. The casing is already surprising, made of POM-C, a plastic that is a great insulator and effectively dampens vibrations. Another undoubted advantage of this material is its ease of processing. Fortunately, the Dutch did not go crazy, so the device does not have the shape of a pyramid, snowman or octopus. In one of the tests of the Mains Multiplier Myni strip, I read that its casing was made of black anodized aluminum. I was surprised, because the manufacturer does not hide the fact what material it uses. Just take this splitter in your hand, tap the casing with your finger and everything is clear. On the other hand, the body was milled in such a way and with such precision that in the photos it actually looks as if it were made of metal.

The strip stands on four rubber feet that hold the surface perfectly. Nothing should move even when connecting thick cables. Unfortunately, the designers did not provide the possibility of screwing the device to the wall or screwing any spikes or additional stabilizers into the base. Six Schuko sockets allow you to rotate the plug by one hundred and eighty degrees, and the marking of the correct polarity leaves no doubt. A red dot on the socket, a red stripe on the cable and we are home. All sockets are covered by Pulse Protector surge protection. When it comes to filtration, a clear division of duties has been introduced. The first four sockets are unfiltered, so it is recommended to connect devices with a greater appetite for current, such as amplifiers or active speakers. The last two, on the other hand, are filtered for contamination in common and differential mode, which may be important in the case of digital equipment such as CD players, streamers or digital-to-analog converters.

The ingenuity of the Dutch engineers does not end there. The described strip is equipped with colored diodes, one of which informs about the correct polarity of the cable entering the strip, and the other shows the grounding status. The diodes are quite small, so during operation they only emit a delicate, green light. Another interesting solution is jumpers, thanks to which we can manage grounding. If our electrical installation is made lege artis, we will have to connect the green socket with the black one, located right next to it. However, if we have any doubts or another patent in the style of a grounding conditioner or connecting the third pin to the radiator (currently probably few people use such methods), we should connect the two black holes with a jumper. The jumper is completely rigid and fits into the sockets like butter. In fact, the only element missing from the described model is the DC Blocker. EAT introduced it as a separate model, which brings with it advantages and disadvantages. The disadvantage is that it is a device identical to the strip, but equipped with only two sockets - input and output. The first one is a standard IEC C14 connector, so if we wanted to use the DC Blocker in combination with the described strip, the whole idea of using a special 16-amp socket starts to fall apart. The plus side is that the description of this device, and especially the illustrations showing its interior, clearly indicate that the Dutch have done their best. This is a real DC Blocker, not some pitu pitu. Nevertheless, it would be nice if the Mains Multiplier 6+ already had such a wonder inside.

Six Schuko sockets allow the plug to be rotated 180 degrees, and the marking of the correct polarity leaves no doubt. A red dot on the When it comes to cables, the same design philosophy is evident here. Thick braids and big, shiny plugs? No way! Current Conductor L is not much thicker than a typical iron cable. The plugs are decent, but they have absolutely no bells and whistles. And now the question - what do you think is most important in such cables in the Dutch? Cleanliness of the conductors? Geometry? Rhodium-plated contacts? No. In their opinion, effective shielding is key. "We are imperceptibly in a very polluted environment. All around us, fields are

socket, a red stripe on the cable and we are home. All sockets are covered by Pulse Protector surge protection. As for filtration, there is a clear division of duties. The first four sockets are unfiltered, and the last two are filtered for contamination in common and differential mode. created by currents flowing through conductors, signals from radio stations, mobile phones, Wi-Fi and other communication networks. Every device that uses energy causes fluctuations in the network in the form of spikes or surges, or changes in the electromagnetic fields in the air. The effects occur around the device itself and on its mains power supply, but even far from the device the fields are still measurable. This can only be measured with the right equipment, not with our ears. It is commonly believed that shielded power cables better protect connected devices from external influences, which is true. Much more importantly, the field created by the alternating current inside the power cable itself does not reach the interconnects and speaker cables. Interconnects carry small signals to audio devices with high input resistance. This high input

resistance makes the equipment extremely sensitive to interference. Many power cables for audio purposes look beautiful, just like ours. But appearance is not everything! Current Conductor cables are double shielded. The outer shield is not a steel braid (the steel shield does not act as a shield, but is intended to protect the cable from physical force). Instead, Current Conductor cables have a braided high density copper shield with a layer of tin to prevent oxidation. Underneath the tinned copper shield is a 100% closed aluminum foil that attenuates high frequencies. Unlike synthetic foil, this solution works! OFC (Oxygen Free Copper) strands are suitable for conducting large currents without resistive losses (in the form of heat). The ground wire is connected on both sides, the shield is connected only on the power side, as it should be. The connectors provide high pressure and excellent contact surface, which translates into optimal conductivity." - this is almost the entire description of the manufacturer. Isn't it the voice of reason? Not a word about the sound. No stories about how after five years of listening it was possible to discover such a combination of galvanic coatings on the contacts, thanks to which the sound is more transparent and dynamic, and the background becomes pitch black. The task of these cables is simple - they have to conduct electricity without energy loss and not sow interference where other cables usually run, such as interconnects and speaker cables. Something beautiful. There is one question that remains, though, and I will return to it at the end. First, listen.





# Sound

High-end power accessories invariably attract the attention of not only audiophiles, but also outside observers. It is enough to post a photo of such a splitter online, and underneath immediately appears an avalanche of comments that look as if they were copied wholesale from all previous discussions. Some claim that the matter is simple - everyone has to listen and decide whether such equipment contributes something or

is completely unnecessary to them. This is true, but many "thinkers" are not satisfied with such an explanation. After all, how on earth could such a strip and a few thicker cables improve anything? Will they regenerate the current? Will they rebuild the sine wave? Of course not. However, many other issues remain, such as filtration and whether the cables and splitters we use transmit current without losses or constitute a "bottleneck" in the entire chain.

Why is this important? This can be explained very simply. In a stereo system, we usually have at least two key devices - a source and an amplifier. The task of the first is to create an electrical signal based on some type of data (files, records, tapes, etc.). The amplifier uses this signal as a template to create a stronger copy of it - in this form, the signal goes to the speakers. In order for each of these devices to do its job, they need a building block - electricity. This is what the player "mixes" the signal from. This is what creates the amplified copy, which sets the coils in motion. And if the current is crappy, it is no wonder that the sound coming from the speakers does not smell like violets. The question remains, what can we, the small, average consumers of electricity, do about it? We are unlikely to replace the transformer in the housing estate. We also will not go to the power plant and stand by the turbines, supervising their operation. However, we do have an influence on what is on our side, and practice shows that the closer we are to the equipment being powered, the more effective our actions are. Coffee lovers also have no influence on the purity of tap water. They don't organize protests in front of waterworks. They buy filters. And do you know how much the really good ones can cost? Oh, my! And who needs that? After all, all you have to do is boil water in a kettle. Basic physics and biology are out of the question. You should have paid attention in school... And yet many people believe that it's not the same, because you can't make delicious coffee from crappy water.

### GUIDE: Burning in audio equipment - facts and myths

I use my own scale to evaluate power accessories, dividing them into three groups. The first group includes those that protect the equipment but have a negative impact on the sound. The second includes those that do their job and do not spoil the sound (this is already a big step forward). The third group includes those that can even improve it a little. Don't expect miracles, because contrary to appearances, connecting the equipment directly to the wall socket is an option that is hard to beat. If I connect the equipment this way, and then a "magic box" appears between it and the socket, which does something good to the sound, even if the scale of the change is minimal, I consider it a great success. I have been investing in power strips and cables for quite a long time, and only recently did a power strip appear in my system, which I can definitely include in the third group. Previously, it was enough for me that the power accessories did not spoil anything and did not make the sound muffled, glued, gray and devoid of dynamics. I could have jumped to a higher level earlier, but I didn't want the changes to go in one direction. I was looking for something universal and finally I found it. The downside? The price. The power strip with a dedicated cable costs PLN 16,000. Partly for this reason I delayed the test of EAT accessories for a long time. I thought that after such a comparison there would be nothing to collect. I was afraid that I would jump not to the second, but to the first group. To my surprise, the difference was not that big. True, the sound I was used to was no longer the same, but was it a change worth about twelve thousand zlotys? Hmm, I wouldn't say that. After many comparisons, I came to the conclusion that the Mains Multiplier 6+ balances on the border between the second and third groups. If I had to choose, I would put it in the second, although in some aspects of presentation (transparency, smoothness, tone) the Dutch power strip won over the wall socket. By a small margin, but still.

Like the strip I use privately, the Mains Multiplier 6+ does not focus on improving one or several selected areas. It is not a splitter that will sacrifice everything else to make the sound more dynamic and decisive or to widen the stereophonic scene. The whole thing counts here, so installing the strip will not destroy anything, will not destroy the puzzle that we built step by step. In many ways, I can compare the operation of this strip to what most Tellurium Q cables do. At first, you can't hear any revolution. The system plays the way it always did. Only after some time do we realize that something has changed. It is both a bit cleaner and more pleasant. The Mains Multiplier 6+ does not warm up or thicken the sound, and it certainly does not do it in a vulgar way, and yet in my notes, words often appeared around one topic - balance, coherence, smoothness, fluidity, musicality. There is no lack of either dynamics or resolution. Music is not covered with a wool blanket or even a silk curtain. Despite this, some element of culture, order and harmony is introduced or enhanced. It is as if the music had undergone some kind of beautification treatment - cleaning, polishing and arranging every little thing in a more organized way. This is audiophile detailing. On the surface, nothing changes. It is still the same equipment and the same music, but when every component is cleaned and cared for in this way, it immediately becomes more enjoyable. The next step in this direction is adding Noise Eater. At first, I was skeptical about it, but since I often listen to music quietly, while working, the manufacturer's description seemed encouraging to me. And I do not regret trying it. Of course, there was no revolution. The sound did not change any more than after replacing the speaker cables, amplifier or speakers, but something moved. Perhaps many people would not notice it, but when you know your system inside out, when you have used it for hundreds or thousands of hours, small changes become important. We know that the next days, weeks and months will be a little more pleasant for us. So I can confirm that Noise Eater does exactly what its name suggests. I'm wondering whether to keep it, because although its effect is subtle, I perceive it unequivocally positively.

At first, you don't hear any revolution. The system plays the way it always has. Only after some time do you realize that something has changed. It's both a bit cleaner and more pleasant. The Mains Multiplier 6+ doesn't warm up or thicken the sound, and it certainly doesn't do it in a vulgar way, and yet in my notes, words often appeared around one topic - balance, coherence, smoothness, fluidity, musicality. I can say the same about all the cables supplied with the strip. They do their job without turning the system upside down. They are better than a standard, "computer" power cable, but because they do not have a single, clearly defined priority, listening is not an experience that will change the perception of the world for non-believers. The effect of these cables is distributed evenly across all aspects of the presentation, so the changes are limited in scope. In some areas they can be even marginal, on the verge of perception, although when I replaced the Current Conductor L between the strip and the Auralic Vega G1 streamer with the cheaper but still quite decent Melodika MDP cable, the difference was there. Minimal, but audible. So I decided to do the opposite experiment and supplemented the Mains Multiplier 6+ with much more expensive Enerra power cables from the Transcend series. Conclusion? This strip deserves better cables. Maybe not the ones that are more expensive than it, but if someone feels the need, they can up the ante and it won't be throwing money down the drain (if you have a system at a sufficiently high level). The described set is therefore synergistic in terms of sound, but something tells me that if we don't need the C19 socket because we don't have an exceptionally advanced tower or an amplifier that devours electricity like my cat does cheese

crisps, then we can just as well save money by choosing, for example, the Mains Multiplier 5 model. Then we have the power supply issue sorted out for PLN 3,000-4,000 (stripper plus three cables). In terms of sound, there may not be miracles, but such a set should do its job without choking the electronics connected to it. The difference between the Mains Multiplier 5 and the "six plus" is over PLN 2,500. Apart from a different input socket, diodes showing polarity and grounding status, and a jumper that, once mounted in the right position, we probably will never touch anyway, I don't see the justification for paying so much extra. In most systems, it will be better to add that amount to interconnect or speaker cables. Nevertheless, it was worth taking the Dutch accessories for the test, because they are well designed, beautifully made, do not reek of magic and idiotic stories about how the contacts in the splitter sockets enter into electromagnetic resonance with the moons of Jupiter, and do not cost a fortune.



### Construction and parameters

The Essential Audio Tools Mains Multiplier 6+ is a power strip equipped with a high-current IEC C19 input socket, six Schuko output sockets and a Pulse Protector protection system that counteracts rapid voltage changes (peaks) and pulsating changes. As the company explains, the output sockets were selected due to their high contact pressure, which translates into low resistance, necessary for power distribution. The device has two groups of outputs. Four are unfiltered (current passes only through the Pulse Protector) and the manufacturer recommends connecting devices with higher power consumption, such as amplifiers or subwoofers, to them. The last two sockets are covered by two filters - common (Common Mode) and differential (Differential Mode). This group is intended for devices such as preamplifiers, processors, players and smaller amplifiers. The device is equipped with diodes informing the user about the status of the network - polarity and grounding. An interesting solution is the grounding bridge (Ground Bridge), thanks to which it can be "connected" to the pin of the cable supplying power to the strip or disconnected (then the grounding can be done "externally").

The housing of the strip is made on CNC machines from a material called POM-C - a high-quality plastic that combines excellent electrical insulation with anti-vibration properties. Unlike splitters, which are glued or secured against opening in another way, the Mains Multiplier 6+ can be easily unscrewed into two parts - the bottom and the top. Apart from the inside of the sockets, wires and a few resistors, you won't see much here, because the entire chamber with filters has been filled with blue resin. The internal wiring is run in a star. The manufacturer claims that thanks to this, each output can provide maximum efficiency.

Current Conductor L and Current Spyder L power cables use the same braided oxygen-free copper (OFC) conductors. The Dutch company reports that they are ideal for conducting high currents without resistive losses. Every cable in the Current Conductor series is double-shielded. The shield visible through the outer jacket consists of braided OFC copper with a thin layer of tin to prevent oxidation. Underneath, there is an aluminum foil to prevent high-frequency interference from reaching the cable. On the mains plug side, the shield is connected to ground, on the device side it is not. The connectors used are designed to ensure optimal current conduction from the cable to the device with significant contact pressure over the largest possible surface area.

Current Spyder L is a clever way to get rid of the power strip and "tidy up" your cables. The idea is simple - a power cord with a plug on one end and three output cables with IEC connectors on the other. The first part of the "spider" - a single cable - can be 75 or 150 cm long. The second three shorter cables located behind the splitter - comes in two versions. All sections can be 40 cm long, and if it's more convenient for us, they can be different - 20, 30 and 40 cm. According to Dutch engineers, this is quite a smart idea, because fewer contacts (half compared to a classic power strip) means better performance, specifically improved sound purity in quieter parts of music and a more holographic sound stage.

Noise Eater is a plug-in filter designed to remove interference and noise from the mains power supply. The manufacturer advises that it should be placed near the audio equipment, preferably in the same wall socket that powers the power strip, or in the power strip itself that powers the audio equipment. Interestingly, using multiple Noise Eaters in the same place is not recommended. According to the Dutch company, adding additional filters can only work if they are located in different places in our home. Noise Eater can be used for devices such as players, digital-to-analog converters, tuners, phono preamplifiers or integrated amplifiers. Noise Eater is a parallel filter, which means that the current powering the audio equipment does not flow through the filter components. In fact, the filter only "monitors" the mains power supply and then captures distortions. The system contains multiple stages of filtration. Noise Eater also has surge protection between the phase and neutral wire, which converts any pulse above 250 V into heat energy. The circuit itself is encapsulated in resin to prevent vibration. Even the filter housing is a solid piece of POM-C material, so we probably won't get inside.



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## Verdict

Observing the market of audiophile power accessories, one can come to the conclusion that customers adopt only extreme attitudes in this matter - they either spend huge amounts of money on thick cables, conditioners dripping with gold and inventions from the audiovodoo category, or they buy cheap Chinese stuff that is not much different from equipment from a DIY store. And what if we wanted to buy something decent, designed with intelligence, far from stories of strange content and priced humanly? In this category, the choice is small. Seriously - in many high-end chain stores and power strips there are more than those that could interest so-called normal audiophiles. Essential Audio Tools is a real sensation in these realities. Not only do we get well-thought-out equipment for reasonable money, without any magic or unnecessary decorations, but it is also neither garage wirework nor Far Eastern mass production, but a product of a Dutch company with traditions dating back to 1928. Mains Multiplier 6+ is the second strip from the top, so it is still "unnecessarily expensive" (although compared to the competition it is still a budget product), but Mains Multiplier 5 costs less than two thousand zlotys, and Current Spyder L - just over "a thousand". Is it worth it? If you have a trash-class system, then no. If something like budget Pylons with a Yamaha amplifier, then I wouldn't expect miracles either. However, if it is equipment with any potential, it wouldn't hurt to check whether such a power supply will not introduce something good, while at the same time protecting the electronics from unpleasant surprises and interference from the mains. I encourage hi-enders to try Noise Eater. It is much cheaper than magic bricks, network harmonizers or titanium spikes, and it works. Exactly as the manufacturer claims.



# Technical data

EAT Mains Multiplier 6+ Surge protection: Pulse Protector Response time: <25 ns Input socket: IEC C19 Output sockets: 6 x Schuko Maximum voltage: 250 V Maximum voltage pulse: 2500 V Maximum ourrent pulse: 4500 A Maximum direct current (socket with filter): 6 A Maximum direct current (socket without filter): 10 A Maximum total current: 16 A Dimensions (H / W / D): 5.4 / 42.4 / 7 cm Weight: 1.5 kg (piece) Price: PLN 4490

### EAT Current Conductor L

Conductor: Oxygen-free copper (OFC) Shielding: Tinned copper braid, aluminum foil Available connectors: C7, C13, C19 Outer diameter: 10.4 mm Maximum direct current: 10 A (C13), 16 A (C19) Price: PLN 640/1.5 m

### EAT Current Spyder L

Conductor: Oxygen-free copper (OFC) Shielding: Tinned copper braid, aluminum foil Available connectors: C13 Outer diameter: 10.4 mm Maximum direct current: 10 A Price: PLN 1,060 / 0.75 + 0.4 m

### EAT Noise Eater

Maximum voltage: 250 V Maximum voltage pulse: 2500 V Maximum current pulse: 4500 A Maximum energy pulse: 3 x 65 J Response time: <25 ns Dimensions (H/W/D): 12.9/4/4 cm Weight: 240 g Price: PLN 750

### - Configuration

Audiovector QR5, Equilibrium Nano, Unison Research Triode 25, Hegel H20, Auralic Aries G1, Auralic Vega G1, Marantz HD-DAC1, Clearaudio Concept, Cambridge Audio CP2, Cardas Clear Reflection, Tellurium Q Ultra Blue II, Albedo Geo, KBL Sound Red Corona, Enerr One 6S DCB, Enerr Tablette 6S, Enerr Transcenda Ultimate, Fidata HFU2, Melodika Purple Rain, Sennheiser HD 600, Beyerdynamic DT 990 PRO, Beyerdynamic DT 770 PRO, Meze 99 Classics, Bowers & Wilkins PX5, Pro-Ject Wallmount It 1, Custom Design RS 202, Silent Angel N8, Vicoustic VicWallpaper VMT, Vicoustic ViCloud VMT.

The equipment for the test was provided by the Audiopunkt showroom . The article uses photos provided by Essential Audio Tools and taken by the editors of StereoLife magazine.

### Tonal balance







Timbre
• • •
Speed
Cohesion
Musicality
Stereo scene width
$\mathbf{O}  \mathbf{O}$
Stereo scene depth
<b>a b</b>
Markmannhin
workmanship
Price
Prize
REKOMENDACJA











