[Review] 'Pure Analog' Olnick, asking for the existence of a cable-Allnic ZL-3000

Fullrange

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ALLNIC ZL-3000

'퓨어 아날로그' 올닉, 케이블의 존재를 묻다

Last Saturday, June 27, at the parent company's logistics center in Gayang-dong. In spite of the weekend, men and women, young and old, lined up in front of them, starting with young students in the morning and white haired seniors. It was the day of the Seoul Record Fair, which is now celebrating its fifth birthday. Upon entering, there were performances of rock and folk bands and numerous LP label booths under the high ceiling of the spire. There was also a CD sales booth, but above all, LP was at the center. In 2014, the research result that LP demand increased with sales of more than 50% was also valid in Korea. Of course, this is not an enormous increase in numbers, but it is true that people who want to enjoy LP sound have increased despite being young and old.

Not long ago, when I stopped by Audio Mentos, Olnik Audio's direct store, the scenery was no different. Already on-line, the albums that fill up the LP rack, whether it's out of stock Rische LP, jazz, rock, or classic, caught the eye. And the audio installed in the various listening rooms all seemed to see the resurgence of the analog era: vacuum tubes, full range, backload horns and turntables. Digital amplification, streaming networks, and the trend of lossless audio streaming services are the opposite of the current digital trend.

Olnick Audio began its history with the use of Permalloy, as you can see from its naming 'All Nickel Transformer Audio'. Founded by Western Electric's GE Elmen, the Permalloy alloy was revived again in the 20th century and used as the core material for Olnick's sound. If you think about why you can use a metal alloy that is easy to use and use nickel alloys, it is also for real analog signals. Not only did this hard work, which required high manufacturing costs, but also demanding alloying know-how, resulted in excellent performance. Although it is a domestic maker, it may be natural that Ornic was first recognized for its performance in the European and American markets, home of high-end audio.

But Olnick's identity, such as the use of nickel-alloy transformers and three-pole vacuum tubes, shines on analog equipment. The phono amp is still the most popular model among Olnick's numerous model lineups, with the best performance. In addition, Olnick-made cartridges such as Puritas have earned the highest ratings in Europe and the US, surpassing the leading cartridges overseas. Of course, we recently launched the DAC, conscious of the digital trend, but **the philosophy that penetrates all of Olnick's product lineup cannot be disputed even if it is called 'pure analog'.**

In the midst of this, the new lineup launched at the same time, opening the Maison de Olnick, is not an amplifier or a DAC cable. You can't help but wonder how the cable released by Olnick Audio, with its pure analog design philosophy, appeared in the world. That's because, while the trend is busy with wireless transmission, active design, and so on, cable is still a critical sound quality material in the high-end world.

- The exact size is smaller than C4. As long as I don't have much connection with Dynaudio…
- I want to write too much, but this time I think it will be hard. Used price cheap later…

The two cables that Olnick launched, the ZL-3000 and the ZL-5000, were in my hands, the ZL-3000 speaker cable. Its appearance is very simple, and its light weight and clean terminal treatment are noticeable. Looking at both terminals as a horseshoe terminal, it was found that it was rhodium plated. It also has a splitter for vibration control. But if you take a closer look, you can find a unique facet.

Let's look at the terminal section. In general, many audiophiles prefer direct connection, but if you handle the terminal properly, termination of the terminal has a lot more advantages in terms of electrical and durability. Of course, there are two ways to handle with terminals, one for soldering the terminals with wire. In this case, the resistance value rises sharply, resulting in high electrical losses. Therefore, many manufacturers crimp terminals to wire rods to make cables solderless. However, even in this case, there is a problem such as the termination becomes loose or the cable is corroded. What is the ideal way?

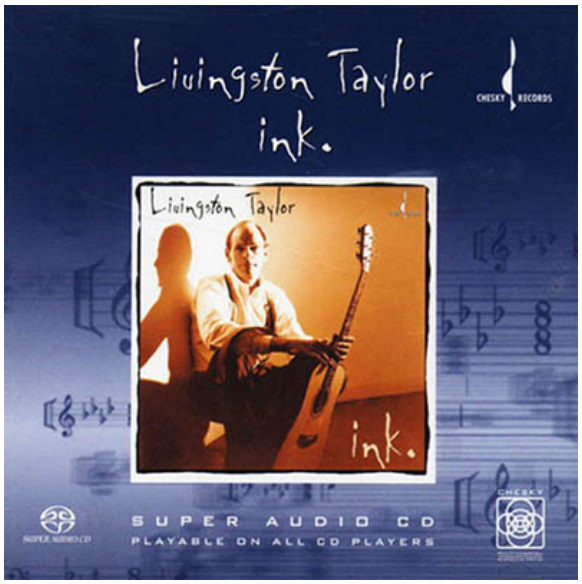
Olnick's method is to completely weld the terminals and cable conductors at high temperatures. This is a way to almost completely eliminate contact resistance caused by terminal and cable termination. However, the problem is that at high temperatures, cables and terminals can melt irregularly. In fact, after all, **Olnick succeeded in high temperature welding with its own technology and applied it to the ZL series.**

Another unique feature is the design of the terminals. Roughly speaking, it is a general form of horseshoe terminal, but if you look closely, the horseshoe is bent inward one more time. The reason for this is to improve the bonding, which is quite important in cables. In general, horseshoe terminals, banana terminals are commonly used, of which horseshoe terminals are preferred. This is because the contact area can be maximized in the electrical signal transmission. **The ZL-3000 is here to make one more bend of the horseshoe terminal and to make it elastic. In this case, when the binding post is tightened, the elasticity is increased, which leads to a very high binding force. It will never loosen over time and it will dramatically increase your connection. Horseshoe terminals made of titanium copper are rhodium-plated and cryogenically processed, which will provide very high efficiency in signal transmission.**

In addition, the cable has been carefully designed in several areas, including a double shield structure for magnetic and electromagnetic shielding, and using an insulating material that is excellent in eliminating resonance. Finally, the splitters for vibration absorption are also commendable. Cable conductors have not been identified yet, but they have been thoroughly selected after years of thorough ear testing for conductors with the most perfect balance and musical expression.

The coherent concept through the ZL-3000 is to minimize contact resistance, maximize contact area and contact force, and minimize vibration and electrical interference. I wondered how this design would be reflected in sound quality. The test used KUDOS Super10 speakers and NaimAudio XS-2 integrated amplifiers, BMC pure DACs, and VPI turntables.

To be honest, loudspeakers, power cables, and inter-cables vary considerably over time. However, the first impression I felt as soon as I connected was not forgotten over time. In other words, objective performance indicators such as resolution, detail, bass extension, and density can get better over time, but the underlying propensity itself doesn't change.



Listen to **Livingston Taylor's Isn't She Lovley (24bit / 88.2kHz, Flac)** . Too much for testing, so the music itself is not very inspiring. That's why it's soundly insensitive to the change. However, the Olnick ZL-3000 makes a difference. If you ask whether the change is an improvement in performance or simply a change, you can say that it is both a change and an improvement. If you want to divide the weight, intermediate is beyond. The first impression is that the balance is calm and tidy. **It is very stable and comfortable compared to many cables used in the past. The soft, plain mid-range is as moist as a product of flour dough and is as natural as water.**

In the case of cables that are usually popular, there are actually a lot of irritating cables. For example, if the low end is overblown and distorted, some people like to be powerful. But the sound of the bass swelling may never be an objectively good sound, although it may suit your personal taste. On the contrary, it is said that the low range information may be blown away and the low range may be firm with the blurred vision. It's as if the black resolution in the image is so bad that people and objects are not easily distinguished in dark scenes. It is by no means an excellent sound, it is a shortened and closed sound.

ZL-3000 doesn't feel omitted or exaggerated. This means that there aren't many special colors or distortions. In fact, the unique tone of the nickel permalloy trance dominates olympic amplifiers and source equipment. Deeply carved sounds that can't be replaced by any trance. But the cable was different. The color of the strings that you hear **in Tchaikovsky's Serenade (24bit / 192kHz, Flac) played by Trondheim Solisten is** an accurate representation of the original sound. First of all, each particle is fine based on its excellent amount of information. Dynamic expressions do not have any appetite for any particular section or nuanced expression. **It's quite natural and neutral at the same time. It overlaps with the expression of neutrality and coherence pursued by the modern high-end.**

Listening to Bach Weltemford Clavier (16bit / 44.1kHz) played by Andras Schiff delivers excellent balance and plenty of harmonics. There are many clues about sound sources that can be found in piano recordings. It is no exaggeration to say that almost all information is available. Pianos include components, as well as small accessories and mirrors that clearly capture the shortcomings of cables. The greatest ability the ZL-3000 can do in the system is to reduce the distortion of sound. **It is faithful to the first role of the cable, which delivers the signal from the amplifier to the speaker. There is no grain in the treble and it is open. Excellent harmonics, the**

reverberation of the piano sound is very delicate. The sound is clean, clear and detailed, and it feels like pure water where no contamination is found.

The important proposition that the Olnick ZL-3000 tells the audiophile is that the existence of the cable is something in the system. If the sound changes too loudly due to the cable, the system or cable may be at fault. The pure purpose of the speaker cable is to send the signal from the amplifier to the speaker without loss or distortion. Most of these cables, however, are quite expensive at the high end. By minimizing contact resistance, the speaker cable produced by Olnick through the maximum connection power and the maximum extension of the contact area makes it sound like a single wire. The grain is clean, there is no dynamic reduction and the nucleus is deep and distinct. However, it does not expand and reproduce certain indicators and is firmly neutral.

The best audio is one that feels like it's gone. I want to increase the volume and keep listening to music. Conversely, if you want to turn down the volume and get tired of listening to music, that's bad audio. After listening to the Olnick ZL-3000 for a few days, I forgot the existence of the cable. Olnick's pursuit of pure analog sound was implicit in the ZL-3000.

ZL-3000 Specification

Conductor Anaerobic Copper (OFC)
Dielectric Silicone Rubber + PVC Triple Cloth
Cloth Crystal Clear PVC + Pure Copper
12mm **overall** diameter

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Splitter Black Duralumin (With 4 Silicone Rings)
Termination Patented High Elastic Spade
Income Source Audiomentos (http://www.audiomentors.co.kr)
Dealership Maison de Olnick (http://allnicshop.co.kr)
Price 2.5 million won (2.5 meters)

REVIEWER

코난 / 칼럼니스트

음악과 하이파이 오디오에 대한 해박한 지식을 바탕으로 진취적이고 중립적인 리뷰를 지향하는 오디오 리뷰어이자 칼럼니스트.아날로그와 디지탈을 넘나드는 하이파이에서 홈시어터, 멀티미디어에 이르는 폭넓은 레퍼토리를 편견 없이 다루고자 한다.블로그 '맛있는 오디오' 를 운영하고 있으며 이 외 여러 웹진에 글을 기고하고 있다.

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Launched ALLNIC AUDIO high-end speaker cable 'ZL series' in Europe and North America

World-renowned high-end audio company ALLNIC AUDIO (Allic Audio / CEO Park Kang-soo) is pleased to introduce the ZL series 'ZL-7' and 'ZL-5', which are comparable to overseas luxury speaker cables. Simultaneously launched in North America and North America, which led the development of the new high-end speaker cable 'ZL series'.

Olnick, get a big blow with the hole method Olnick HPA-3000

Earlier headphone amps that open the door to an ever-increasing number of headphone markets. I hope you read it nowadays.

Make the sound of Olnick in perfection. Allnic L-3000

Let's talk about Olnick's second story, the preamp. Or to be more precise about Olnick to a set of amplifiers, including power amplifiers, when the three boxes came home, the second, the toxic one, was heavier. strange. The first one was definitely a mono power amplifier… 'Free is small, light and power…

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