

van den Hul The BAY C5 HYBRID

The Bay is the entry level interconnect from the carbon technology cable pioneers. Van den Hul pride themselves on the fact that they research and design every cable in-house. The Bay and the D - 300 III HYBRID are the entry level interconnects in the range. The Bay features their unique proprietary carbon technology, championed by van den Hul in their Linear Structured Carbon[®] (LSC) hybrid configuration. It is a coaxial construction consisting of forty 0.12mm strands with a dense silver coating of LSC carbon insulated with polyethylene. It has a double screen of stranded braid over a LSC saturated layer to protect against RF noise. The cable comes with a ten-year performance guarantee (United Kingdom) - not bad for a £38 product!

Sound wise, it's a top hole product. There's slightly more at the top end here than with the Chord Company's Calypso which makes for slightly more high frequency detail. Choir voices had realistic presence, with precise consonants along with good body. The church acoustic was also well brought out in the recording, creating a rounded and full sound. With Turin Brake's 'Underdog' the acoustic guitars again had good body and rhythms were precise and fast. The lead voice was well catered for and presented forward in the mix with the accompanying instruments doing exactly that and not intruding into the vocal line.

The Bay is a very good cable and a steal at the price. It follows the company's tradition of well-built cable with a very well balanced sound that will fit in well with most budget/midpriced systems.



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