

This cable first appeared in an HFC group test three years ago, albeit in a slightly different guise. Since then it has changed distributor - Tannoy now handles van den Hul - it's price has fallen and it's seen some minor changes in construction. The basics are the same though: it's a coaxial cable using a mixture of silver-plated copper and vdH's trademark Linear Structured Carbon, which is supposed to improve conductivity at very low signal levels. Insulation is low-loss polythene and good quality phono plugs are fitted with collet termination of the screen, which gives better interference rejection than the more common 'pigtail' connection.

There's no doubting the sonic achievements of this very fine cable. From top to bottom of the frequency range it equals or tops almost every other cable here, with the possible exception of ultimate bass extension. But even there it scores pretty well, offering particularly good detail too. In fact its detail really is in the top rank, giving insights into familiar recordings and making long-term listening not merely enjoyable but compulsive. Stereo imaging is excellent, with very good depth information, and the sound remains

completely cohesive throughout the full dynamic range. Any kind of music is well served and there should be no compatibility problems with equipment either. It's excellent value-for-money and a clear Best Buy.



Ratings:

- Sound
- Value

Overall rating:

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