Crystal Cable Absolute Dream

Although a limited number of ‘monocrystal’ cables can already be found on the market, Crystal Cable’s Absolute Dream is the first to use monocrystal metallurgy not only for its core but for its shielding as well. The Absolute Dream also utilizes patented Bridge technology and custom carbon Furutech connectors in addition to the already unique construction properties that first appeared in Crystal Cable’s Dreamline series.

Monocrystal

Normal crystalline metals are built from molecular crystals that are rounded on all sides. Naturally, when crystals of this form are packed together there will always be space between them. Between crystal groups oxide layers can act like a semiconductor, introducing non-linear behavior. Maintaining copper oxygen-free over time appeared to be impossible. Cables built like this will inevitably age and therefore perform with increasingly diminished returns over time.

The conductivity of high purity silver is superior to that of copper while silver oxide does degrade the sound less than copper oxide. Having no oxidation at all is even better. Therefore, from their first cable on, Crystal Cable has used their proprietary silver-gold metallurgy where the spaces between the silver crystals are filled with gold. As a conductor gold is only slightly less efficient than silver and copper and it offers the advantage of preventing oxidation. This was the best solution our metallurgists could find. Until now.

For the Crystal team it was clear that monocrystal metal was the way to go. Since there is only one large crystal, there is simply no unnecessary space between atoms. Unfortunately the production methods known were extremely slow, critical and prohibitively expensive. The use of monocrystal metal as the base material for Crystal cables came within reach when a new production process was developed. The first monocrystal prototype impressed our researchers massively both by its off-the-chart technical measurements and staggering sound performance. This compelled Crystal Cable to add a new top level cable range on the fundamentals of the Dreamline cable series allied to this consequential new discovery.
Construction
Each pure monocrystal silver core is covered with helically wound Kapton® and Teflon® dielectrics. These Dupont materials have unique thermal, mechanic and electric properties. Crystal Cable has solved the production method of helically winding thin foils many years ago. The advanced mechanical construction benefits all our cables: stable electrical properties even while bending the cable, almost non-existent microphony and an ultra-efficient shielding. The shield in this case is built of two braided layers, one layer of silver plated monocrystal copper and one layer of gold plated monocrystal silver. This novel combination of metal properties is in our opinion technically and sonically the most advanced technique known today. The outer layer is covered by a transparent sleeve giving the cable a truly unique appearance. Four of these coaxes are twisted into one cable; two signal-carrying coaxes further improve the signal-to-noise ratio and lower the micro-distortion to the bare minimum. The other two coaxial constructions work in the unique and patented Crystal Cable Bridge set-up ensuring absolute sound signal stability.

The Bridge
Crystal Cable developed a revolutionary new, patented system to further minimize quality loss in interlink cables. It is well known that in an electric circuit the biggest voltage drops occur over the highest resistance. That is also where the sound quality drop is the biggest. So Crystal Cable engineers designed a resistor with an almost negligible resistance, only slightly higher than that of the cable but of no consequence to the signal. For the resistive material Crystal Cable uses a piece of extremely pure silver that adds no distortion at all. It furthermore acts as an ultra-high frequency noise filter, preventing any possible distortion in amplifier circuits. Since the biggest drop in voltage is over that extremely pure resistor, there will be no quality loss. Added to that is an extra set of wires that more than doubles up the return path and neutralizes earth leakage current. This system, also available as a retrofit set for other cables, brings a clear improvement in low level detail, stereo imaging, natural focusing and a deep black background.

The Connectors
Almost any cable has to end in a connector. Terminating audio and video cables is no easy feat where quality is such a significant issue. Firstly, cable connectors serve the purpose of interfacing with chassis connectors. The contacts need to be exposed to air, engendering environmental strain. To avoid oxidation, connectors are often plated with precious metals like gold or rhodium. Mounting the conductors to the connector is yet another challenge. Depending on the cable model, Crystal Cable uses silver solder and crimp techniques, ensuring extremely low losses for the given application. And there are many more considerations, like the influence of
the connector housing and strain relief on the electrical properties, safety regulations and so on. For the Absolute Dream we closely worked together with connector specialist Furutech to adapt their carbon line of connectors to suit the Absolute Dream. Their \( \alpha \) (Alpha) OCC rhodium-plated conductors and carbon fiber, nonmagnetic stainless eutectic copper alloy housing come very close to there being no connector at all.

**Evaluation tips**
Evaluating Crystal Cable products can be done at random, but we recommend that you start by listening to the power cables first before replacing other cables in the set. The uniquely effective shielding properties of our cables is best shown in this approach. Furthermore it is advisable to examine your set-up with only Crystal Cable wiring, even if you only plan to buy one type of cable. The reason is clear: all Crystal Cable products are aimed at diminishing the negative influences a cable can have. As a consequence our cables are immune to magnetic, electrostatic or mechanical forces. This is especially audible if the ultra-low noise level is maintained throughout the set. Only one small cable with lesser specifications will cause a higher noise level and masks at least a part of the performance of the Crystal Cable. The same is true for micro-distortion. Not many cables perform at the same level as our cables do. Naturally, results may vary depending on the other components used. However, when you start off completely wired with Crystal Cables and then replace one cable with another product, it just might be easier to identify the benefits of our cable. This is true for each and every one of our cables, whether they be speaker, digital, phono, firewire, interconnect or power cables. Even more so for the Absolute Dream series since we believe it is very close to perfection. Please do not take our word for it; just trust your listening skills in a well planned evaluation.

**Elegance**
Our goal is to provide you with the best musical experience possible. We go to great lengths to maximize sonic performance of the musical signal. At the same time we realize that our products are often used in the living room and therefore have to look good. Some might find that to be a woman’s choice. And they could be right. The technical design is done by engineers using physical modeling and other space-age technologies. The voicing and the aesthetic design is done by our president Gabi van der Kley-Rynveld, using her expertise drawn from her time as a performing classical pianist.
Absolute Dream
by
Crystal Cable

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