SOUNDBITES

ISOTEK EVO3 PREMIER MAINS CABLE £79.95

Last November, Hampshire based mains specialists, IsoTek, introduced a new affordable mains cable called the EVO3 (Evolution 3) Premier that costs £79.95. The core of the cable are three 2sq mm conductors made from 99.9999% OFC

which are silver coated. This is covered in an extruded Teflon dielectric and given a rotational twist to aid EMI and RFI rejection. A cotton filler reduces microphony and adds internal strength. Between this and the flexible, heat resistant PVC outer sheath is a paper wrap.

The moulded IEC and three pin mains plugs were specially designed and manufactured by IsoTek, and boast solid copper conductors coated in 24ct gold.

Using the cable to power a Leema Acoustics Agena phonostage, replacing a first generation IsoTek cable, the effect was transformative. The older cable had a raw honesty in its presentation. This one had at least the same honesty behind it, but was more sophisticated. I found that there were improvements from tonal colour to its substantiveness. It felt weightier yet more agile, and more fluid and detailed.

Changing over to using it to power the Leema Antilla CD player, I again found an

improvement. This time the EVO3 Premier replaced a Merlin Cables lead. In this case the sound had more open and obvious detailing. The Merlin had a smoothness that was very pleasant, but with the Premier I could pinpoint the start and finish of a sound with greater accuracy.

I also tried it on the Leema Tucana ll amplifier (150W). It did a reasonable job but the sound felt as though there was a little bit of restraint in it. Used on the less demanding Rotel RA-04 amplifier (40W) I found it benefitted the sound.

This lead seems to offer a level of performance that can compete effectively with considerably more expensive cables. It works very well with low current equipment, and with low powered budget amplifiers. I think it is so effective and such good value for money that I now have three. **TB**

IsoTek
www.isoteksystems.com