Isolation Base

Users Manual

Rev 1 (3/2015)

Isolation Base Specifications

Inputs: IEC Input, 100VAC, 120V AC, or 220 -240 VAC. 50 or 60 Hz
Outputs: Australia, European “Schuko”, S. African/India, UK, Nema 5-20 USA
Power Limit: 300 Watts
Warning - this product has a very specific function

This product has been designed for a very specific role, to prevent outside electrical noise from influencing the DAC - Amplifier interface. In a perfect system the product should have no effect, but if power line noise is influencing your sound, this product should eliminate that variable. To accomplish this, the product must be installed exactly as shown.

One Input, one output

Plug the Isolation base into your AC power source. Plug your DAC into the Isolation Base. Nothing else. No plug strips, no power conditioners. No power cords with lifted grounds. It is important that a ground connection be made between the Isolation Base and the building ground.

The Isolation Base as the ability to provide different output voltage from the input voltage. Both output and input are labelled, especially if different. It might be configured for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>100 V In, 100 V Out</th>
<th>120 V In, 120 V Out</th>
<th>240 V In, 120 V Out</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 V In, 120 V Out</td>
<td>120 V In, 240 V Out</td>
<td>240 V In, 240 V Out</td>
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Please be careful not to plug in the wrong voltage as damage will most likely occur.

Jumper In - Basic Operation

The Basic Operation provides isolation only for the DAC. This gets you half the protection available, but leaves the very important Amplifier interface open to noise. This is a quick easy way to test the IsoBase. Be sure the jumper is in place between the Chassis Ground and Amplifier Ground. This is the shipping configuration. NEVER OPERATE WITHOUT THE JUMPER OR A GROUND WIRE ATTACHED. Plug in the DAC and listen to the results. 

IsoBase is shown with jumper in. This is one way to use the product. No ground wire should be connected in this mode.

Jumper Out - Enhanced Operation

The Enhanced Operation provides isolation only for the DAC and the amplifier interface. This gets you the full protection available. With the jumper disconnected, connect the supplied ground wire from the AMPLIFIER GROUND lug to the chassis of the amplifier. Note this connection is dependent on the amplifier so you will have to look for the best place to attach the wire. Generally the easiest place would be to loosen a screw on the Amplifier Chassis and slip the open Spade lug under the screw head and tighten the screw. The only other place a true ground may be found is on the ground pin of the power connector to the AMP but this will not be easy to connect too.

With a Preamp - Enhanced Operation

To include a Preamp in the protection, a second IsoBase must be used. Plug the Preamp into the second IsoBase and disconnect the jumper. Attach the included ground wire from the AMPLIFIER GROUND lug on one IsoBase to the AMPLIFIER GROUND lug on the second IsoBase.

DO NOT CONNECT TO EITHER THE INPUT OR OUTPUT LUGS ON THE AMP. If you have monoblocks or multiple amplifiers, just connect to one of the amplifiers to avoid making a ground loop. Plug in the DAC and listen to the results.

For the best performance, use the Amplifier Ground option. Loosen top Ground Clamp and pull jumper out of the way. Install the ground wire as shown.

Find a convenient screw in the chassis of the AMP. Loosen the screw and slip the open ground lug under the screw head.

The ground wire has an open and closed lug on each end. Pick the end that most easily attaches to the AMP. Generally the open end would be for the AMP and the closed end for the IsoBase.