

PRESS RELEASE

McIntosh announces new flagship SACD/CD player and new music streamer

Reference-level source components offer best-in-class sound quality from streaming and CD/SACD





Binghamton, NY, USA, May 16th, 2018: McIntosh, the global leader in prestigious home entertainment and ultimate-quality audio for over 65 years, has announced two new flagship 'best-in-class' source components: the **MCD600 SACD/CD Player** and the **MS500 Music Streamer** (both £7,995 each) www.mcintoshlabs.com

MCD600 SACD/CD Player (£7,995)

McIntosh's new flagship SACD/CD player is built around a newly designed digital circuit which encompasses a new premium-quality 8-channel, 32-bit upsampling PCM/DSD digital-to-analogue converter (DAC).

Incoming audio signals (PCM) benefit from upsampling to 32-bit/384kHz resolution for improved sound quality and the **MCD600's** Quad Balanced mode configuration dedicates four DAC channels to each channel (left and right).

In addition to disc playback, the MCD600 can also play music from flash drives from a conveniently located front panel USB input. Numerous file formats are supported including AAC, AIFF, ALAC, DSD (up to DSD128), FLAC, MP3, WAV (up to 24-bit/192kHz) and WMA. User-generated CD and DVD Data Discs are also supported.



The MCD600 includes both fixed and variable balanced and unbalanced outputs; the variable outputs combined with its volume control **allow the MCD600 to be connected directly to a power amplifier** without needing a preamplifier.

For added flexibility and the benefit of McIntosh-quality D/A conversion for connected devices, coaxial and optical digital inputs are included. Headphone users can also benefit from McIntosh's proprietary built-in High Drive headphone amplifier with 6.35mm front panel headphone output. Coaxial and optical digital outputs enable convenient digital connections to external devices, too.



The MCD600 features classic McIntosh styling with a polished stainless steel chassis, black glass front panel, illuminated logo, knobs and aluminium end caps. The front panel features new direct-LED backlighting, while the top has a new screen-printed glass panel listing performance specs and a block diagram.

MS500 Music Streamer (£7,995)

McIntosh's flagship streamer is highly sophisticated and yet easy to use, and effortlessly integrates into home audio systems and networks. The Linux-based MS500 combines both internet-based music streaming services, including Tidal and Spotify®, and locally stored digital music, including lossless files with up to 24-bit/192kHz resolution, into one device with McIntosh's legendary audio standards.

The MS500 offers ultra-quiet operation, thanks to two key features: local music and the operating system are stored on a durable 500GB solid-state drive (SSD) with no moving parts, plus a new fan-less processor (combined with improved ventilation) eschews the need for noisy cooling fans.



The MS500 has built-in interfaces for leading music streaming services including: Spotify*; TIDAL; Deezer; Murfie; Pandora*; Rhapsody*; SiriusXM* and TuneIn (services subject to change). Internet radio stations can also be added as presets.

Highly flexible, the MS500 offers three USB inputs which allow external storage drives to be connected. Any of the USB ports can also be used to connect an external component with a built-in DAC; utilising this external DAC, one additional independent audio zone can be created.

The MS500's Linux-based operating system brings welcome stability and is also extremely responsive to user inputs. The operation is via the included remote control, a web browser or with free apps for Apple and Android devices.

The streamer is compatible with many popular home automation systems allowing for easy integration into an existing set-up. It features a timeless black glass front panel, illuminated logo and aluminium end caps in the classic McIntosh design.

Pricing and availability

Orders can be placed now with authorised McIntosh dealers with shipping expected to begin in May (US) and June/July (UK); both units are priced at £7,995

Contacts for publication

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Images

MCD600 <u>here</u> MS500 <u>here</u>

About McIntosh

Founded in 1949, McIntosh Laboratory is known for offering distinguished quality audio products, superior customer service and the ultimate experience in music and film. All McIntosh products are handcrafted at the Binghamton, NY factory by over 150 employees with a passion for music and the McIntosh heritage. McIntosh continues to define the ultimate home entertainment experience for discriminating consumers around the world, with the iconic "McIntosh Blue" Watt Meters globally recognized as a symbol of quality audio.

Since its inception, McIntosh has been powering some of the most important moments in music history and pop culture. From President Lyndon Johnson's inauguration speech to Woodstock to the infamous Grateful Dead "Wall of Sound," McIntosh has not only witnessed history, it has shaped it. With McIntosh, customers have the ability to create their own premium audio experience – and truly live their music. Visit www.mcintoshlabs.com to learn more.