Furutech
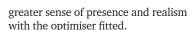## NCF Clear Line LAN and USB line optimisers

MADE TO BE inserted into a spare Ethernet or USB-A socket on your setup, these audio-grade optimisers are designed to enhance playback performance of digital and network music source components by reducing the noise that can enter the path of your system. This is an entirely passive product and contains Furutech's NCF (Nano Crystal Formula) – a crystalline material that generates negative ions to reduce static and convert thermal energy into far infrared.

Both versions incorporate 24k gold-plated non-magnetic connectors while specially treated audio-grade electrolytic capacitors are used to reduce noise in the signal paths. The housing is made from four layers of hybrid NCF carbon fibre, together with stainless steel resonance damping rings. The main body and shell are fixed with factory-adjusted anti-shock stainless steel screws. All metal parts are treated with Furutech's two-stage 'Alpha' cryogenic and demagnetisation process to improve conductivity and stability while reducing stress.

Clear and present
We first test the NCF Clear Line LAN optimiser by plugging it in to an unused port of the *HFC* Gigabit Ethernet hub, which connects a Western Digital NAS to our Cambridge Audio Azur 851N streamer. We then play a 24-bit/192kHz WAV recording of Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* performed by the National Symphony Orchestra. We immediately detect a greater sense of presence and realism with the optimiser fitted.

We next switch to our PC connected to a Furutech ADL Stratos DAC (*HFC* 455) via a USB cable and plug the NCF Clear Line USB optimiser into an unused USB port. Playing a 24-bit/192kHz WAV of *That Old Black Magic* by Clare Teal with the Syd Lawrence Orchestra, the vocals have great energy and excitement. The timing and pace is superb and we become aware of a slightly quieter noise floor with the optimiser installed. Both of these devices certainly seem to do what they say on the tin and so represent decent value for money. **NR**

▶ DETAILS
PRICE
£205 each

WEBSITE
furutech.com

OUR VERDICT
★★★★★