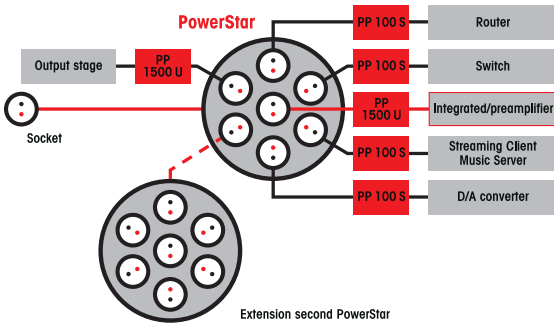
Ampère L



After more than 30 years of development, Maxwell U and Faraday U gave me such clear and surprising sonic advances in sound quality that I had to assess the importance of cables for music reproduction even more highly than I already did. The changing requirements due to the increasing number of high-frequency interference fields in our homes certainly play a role in this, at least for the signal cables. The same applies all the more to the power grid. The increasing number of digital technical devices and the expansion of regenerative power sources, think of inverters, lead to an ever-increasing high-frequency load on the power grid. In my experience, even small amplitudes, e.g. from a small switching power supply unit, can be clearly audible and can permanently reduce the fun of listening to music. In this respect, the mains power supply is of paramount importance for the sound, which is often still underestimated. This is also due to the fact that there are many products on the market today that influence the sound, but do not always really improve it.
In my experience, practically all measures in the mains area are audible. Obviously subtle influence on the mains current results in a corresponding change in the music signal. From my point of view, a lasting improvement of the sound is only possible if the underlying physical effects that influence the sound are recognised and solutions are worked out empirically. In fact, in no other field of audio technology is „try and error“ more important than in the field of mains. Whereby the „errors“ or misconceptions during the development stage should result in a deeper understanding of the audible effects in order to make progress. However, as a developer, I often have to be satisfied with experimental results and working hypotheses. This does not make the work any easier, because the relationships found through experimentation have to be questioned again and again.
One wants to be sure that not only an experiment-specific effect is effective and one ends up in a dead end in terms of development. For example, Audioplan CRC - the control of mechanical vibrations in conductors to avoid unwanted self-induction - was originally developed for signal and loudspeaker cables. For these cables, the effect or impact of CRC is absolutely plausible. This does not apply to mains cables with their „230V signal“. Nevertheless, test cables of all generations over 25 years have shown that the otherwise identical mains cable with CRC was always clearly superior. Better dynamics, clarity, fine detail and cleanliness are the effects of CRC, but I am not able to provide a satisfactory technical explanation.
Quantitatively the effect is small, but qualitatively it is so significant that I cannot imagine an Audioplan mains cable without CRC. This is a pity, because CRC makes cable production very complex, as the processing of damping fibres and copper strands is a technical challenge.
The words „quantitatively small effect, qualitatively great importance“ describes the development of the Ampère L best in my view. Of course, it is easier for me to talk about the splitting and nesting of the conductors, which leads to a better filter effect. Or to describe how not using a shield, with the appropriate geometry of the cable, allows a similarly low dispersion of the field but avoids the disadvantages of dynamic loss. To explain that the multiple conductive coating of the damping fibres improves the filtering effect is obvious. I can describe the refinement of the cable by the use of different dielectrics and their coating, which leads to a certain control over the propagation of high-frequency currents. Perhaps I should also mention the handwork that is the only possibility to achieve certain damping properties, because machines would only produce „cable clutter“ in this process.
And yet this description would not do justice to the Ampère L, because I have actually had the construction kit for its realisation in my hands for 10 years. Of course, many developments were necessary as a prerequisite. But in the end, a lot of time and patience, a lot of „try and error“ were essential to put the different elements together correctly in order to „un-wind“ the Ampère L in the truest sense of the word.

Technical Data	Ampère L
Mains voltage	230 V ~
Test voltage	2500 V
Current carrying capacity	32 A
Construction	Nested partial conductors, 5.0 mm²
Damping	with Audioplan CRC and CDC technology
Length	1.5m standard, other lengths on order
Connections	Schuko, US, C13, C19 in pure copper, other types on request