

Some good news to report in this Bullet Plug newsletter:

1. UK company "DNM" wins Product of the Year Award in What Hi-Fi Magazine - for Bullet Plug cable.

Congratulations to Martin Morecroft from DNM Reson - who won the What Hi-Fi "Product of the Year" award for his DNM Reson Bullet interconnect. The interesting spin on this is that the DNM interconnect cable is a 1984 design - that has enjoyed a new lease on life with Bullet Plug termination.



THIS YEAR'S WINNER

DNM Reson Bullet

PRICE | £80

In with a Bullet plug – or rather four – is this year's winner, one of the most neutral and transparent cables available for under £100



WHY NAME AN interconnect after the plugs with which it's fitted?

Well, according to DNM, the Aussie-made Eichmann Bullet Plugs it is now using are the first major improvement to the RCA plug in 50 years. By reducing the amount of metal in the plug, and using a single point for the earth connection rather than a more conventional collar, the Bullet Plugs are designed to reduce the effect of the plug on the cable with which it's used.

That's a bold claim, but it's backed up by performance, both against the standard Reson cable and price-comparable rivals: these are the most open-sounding interconnects we've heard for under £100, and bear out DNM Reson's faith in the use of solid core conductors – a philosophy to which it has subscribed since way back in the early 1980s.

Vocals are crystal clear, while instruments are well separated and coherent. The top-end is sweet and detailed, while the bass has bags of punch and extension.

These lightweight cables may not look like much, but in an arena where less is more their neutrality is just what the audio doctor ordered.

The DNM Reson cable familiar, but the plugs make all the difference.



2. Silver Bullet Plug now available.

The silver Bullet Plug has arrived - and is now available - in small quantities to start. The silver is 4-nines pure - and the sound quality is just great. Compared to the standard tellurium copper plug, the silver plug offers a little more detail, definition, weight and high frequency air. The perfect partner for silver cables! But why stop there - the silver plug works well with any cable! For those interested - silver offers conductivity of 106% IACS (International Annealed Copper Standard - where copper is 100%), while brass - as used in most RCA plugs - is 28% IACS.

Here's some early comments from the Industry:

"Silver Bullet is a killer. Simply the best connector available. Actually it is less connector than any other I tried. When you only take good look at Silver Bullet, you know right away that it is going to disappear when you connect it with wires."

"Great plug, more detail more air and closer to the music."

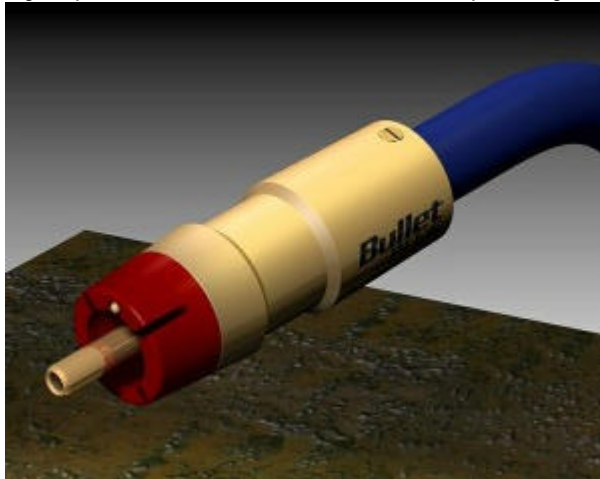
"Silver is just more alive, fresh and clean sounding. Very impressive!"

3. Machined aluminium housings available.

Good news for those who prefer a metal look over the standard Bullet Plug nylon polymer housing. Production of the gold anodized machined aluminium housing is now complete. The aluminium

4. Alternative connection technique paying dividends.

I mentioned in the last Bullet Plug newsletter that some cable designs will benefit from an alternative connection technique - by connecting the signal conductor at the tip of the hollow signal pin. Several manufacturers have reported good results when using this method.



There is no hard and fast rule, and trial and error is still the best way to judge. However I can report the following:

SOLID CORE cables:	Best results when connected at the rear solder platforms.
RIBBON cables:	Best results when connected at the rear solder platforms.
STRANDED cables:	May provide better dynamics and more open sound stage when connected at the tip.
COAX cables:	May work best when signal is connected at the tip - trial and error.
LITZ cables:	The jury is still out - suggest experimenting.

After reterminating dozens of cables with Bullet Plugs - I firmly believe that the Bullet Plug will improve the performance of ANY analog, digital or video cable - provided you experiment with connection technique. When you arrive at the best termination for your cable design - miracles happen!

5. Bullet Plug Review - Matts Meyer in Swedish Magazine "HiFi & Musik"

If you are sceptical about cable comparisons, you are probably even more of a sceptic when it comes down to comparing different connectors. But this is probably where the worst problems are present!

We have used two identical cable pairs: one of them soldered with Neutrik plugs, the other pair with the Bullet Plug. Via a CD player equipped with two parallel analog outputs, a blind test was easier than ever. Even though the inputs on our amplifier were relay controlled, we also performed our listening tests with only one pair of cables connected at a time, the other remaining unconnected.

Are there any audible differences? Without a doubt. In 100 per cent of the cases, the Bullet Plug sounded cleaner, with an enhanced stability, and a more full and three dimensional sound. We were prepared that the Bullet Plug would have a more detailed sound, and even though it sounded both purer and provided essential benefits in detailing, it was the fact that it gave a much fuller sound with much more solidity that struck us most.

The Neutrik also gave the impression of a much narrower sound field. The more distant the sound, the more narrow the sound field. The Bullet Plug, on the other hand, gave a much greater illusion of depth, and kept the same generous width all the way. A very worthwhile improvement. H&M"