

English Electric

EE1 Ethernet noise suppressor

IN YEARS GONE by, serious audio enthusiasts worried about clicks, pops and other background noises on their analogue recordings. When digital audio came along with its promise of noise-free reproduction, we felt that we had finally found our ideal recording medium. Alas, it was not to be and we soon discovered that digital recording brings with it a whole new raft of problems, including noise and jitter that can degrade sound quality, and which the DAC has to try to correct. It is therefore far better to eliminate, or at least minimise, noise before it gets to the DAC, which is where this noise suppressor comes in.

The EE1 is a high-performance network noise isolator, designed to sit between Ethernet cables in streaming systems that improves sound and image quality by reducing unwanted noise. It is a

passive design that converts any unwanted noise into heat. The EE1 also benefits from a galvanically isolated in and output, and provides noise attenuation with no reduction in data throughput.

Multi-function

It can be used in a number of different ways: between a data switch and a streamer/server; between a server and streamer or between a router and data switch. It is directional and has the input on one side and the output on the other. Both sides are fitted with RJ45 sockets that will accept standard Ethernet cables.

I connect the input of the EE1 to an output port from my gigabit switch and the output of the EE1 to my Cambridge Audio Azur 851N network player, and play a FLAC of a Vivaldi sonata from the glorious LP *Vivaldi L'Amore Per Elvira* by La Serenissima

at 24-bit/88.2kHz resolution, both with and without the EE1 fitted.

I have to say that the violin sounds considerably more refined with the noise suppressor installed. The violin also seems to move further in front of the orchestral continuo and the soundstage seems deeper. Overall, music appears to emerge from a blacker background, making this a desirable accessory for any digital audio enthusiast. **NR**



▶ DETAILS

PRICE

£300

WEBSITE

englishelectric.uk

OUR VERDICT

