

Parasound Halo JC 1+

Thank you for putting our new Parasound Halo JC 1+ under John Atkinson's microscope. JA enumerated its improvements over the original JC 1, which he tested for *Stereophile* 17 years ago.

Your readers might be interested in knowing that well into the JC 1's second decade, we had no intention of replacing it. After all, the JC 1 continued to humble newer and vastly more expensive power amplifiers. However, in 2014, over the course of many long conversations, John Curl proposed specific design upgrades that would result in a significantly better product. As we came to understand more about Curl's theories, we decided to explore a "JC 1 replacement project" based on his insights. What we didn't anticipate was that implementation would be far more challenging than expected, given the more sophisticated design and the quality of custom and proprietary parts. One design upgrade rooted in John's theories was to improve the input stage and the driver stage, both woefully neglected by designers whose focus is invariably on the output stage. John has elevated the importance of the input and driver stages to preserve the audio signal *before* it reaches the output stage. This made a corresponding improvement in the output stage performance, virtually free of noise for distortion-free pristine sonic reproduction.

The JC 1+ is by far the most carefully designed and vetted product in our long history, and we are delighted with the results. As we like to say at Parasound, "You have yet to hear how great your speakers are." I invite *Stereophile* readers who are interested in learning more about the saga of the JC 1+ development to read the detailed story at parasound.com/pdfs/the-jc-1+-story.pdf.

—Richard Schram, President & CEO
Parasound Products