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TEAC CORPORATION

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Esoteric Launches the N-01XE Network/DAC
Featuring the Core Technologies of the Flagship Model

Esoteric proudly launches the N-01XE, the next-generation network/DAC featuring the “Master Sound Discrete DAC G2” and the “Esoteric Network Engine G4”, the two core technologies of the flagship model, the Grandioso N1. The product will be available for international shipment from the beginning of November 2026.

Product Name	Model Name	Estimated Delivery Date	Sales Region
Network / DAC	N-01XE	November 2026	Worldwide





Product Overview

The N-01XE network/DAC is more than the successor to the acclaimed N-01XD SE. By incorporating the Master Sound Discrete DAC G2 and Esoteric Network Engine G4, both derived directly from the flagship Grandioso N1, it brings Esoteric's latest digital playback technologies to the prestigious 01 Series.

Esoteric's proprietary "Master Sound Discrete DAC" has evolved into its second-generation G2 architecture, achieving even higher performance while preserving its signature musicality. The next-generation "Esoteric Network Engine G4" enables even purer streaming via optical network connections.

The N-01XE's built-in DAC employs a fully dual-mono configuration with independent power transformers for the left and right channels. Supplying each circuit with its own robust linear power source contributes to a smooth, natural, and remarkably analog-like sound.

N-01XE — Key Features

- **Network / DAC:** Designed for premium digital music streaming and high-resolution file playback.
- **4th-Generation Esoteric Network Engine G4:** Supports native DSD 22.5 MHz playback and features an SFP optical network port. **XE**
- **Master Sound Discrete DAC G2:** New-generation FPGA based Multi-Level $\Delta\Sigma$ DAC, fully designed and manufactured in-house using precisely selected discrete components. **XE**
- **ES-Link Analog:** Esoteric's proprietary current-transmission link for compatible preamplifiers, delivering exceptionally natural sound.
- **Independent x5 Linear Power Supplies (Dual Mono DACs/Network/Digital Audio/Microcomputer):** Delivers powerful, exceptionally transparent sound. **XE**
- **Low-Feedback Discrete DC Power Regulator:** Contributes to a more open, dynamic, and lifelike sound.
- **ES-Link5:** Esoteric's proprietary ultra-wideband HDMI cable link with Esoteric SACD transport.
- **Wide Range of Digital Connectivity:** ES-Link5 x1 [L/R], USB x1, XLR x1, Coax x1, Opt x1.
- **Music Server Function:** Connect a USB storage device for convenient local music playback.
- **Master Sound Discrete Clock for Digital Player:** Ultra-high precision internal clock circuit.
- **10MHz Clock Sync Capability:** Compatible with Esoteric G-01XD and G-05 master clocks.
- **Wide Range of Supported File Formats:** DSF, DSDIFF, FLAC, ALAC, WAV, AIFF, MQA, MP3, AAC.
- **Esoteric Sound Stream App:** Provides extremely comfortable operation on smartphone/tablet.
- **Support for Multiple Streaming Services:** Tidal, Tidal Connect, Qobuz, Qobuz Connect, Roon, Spotify, QQ Music.
- **Multi-Layer Chassis:** Prevents interference between circuit components.
- **Semi-Floating Top Panel:** Enhances sonic openness.
- **Advanced Isolation Feet:** Provides focused sound and an open soundstage. **XE**

XE : New to the XE edition.



Master Sound Discrete DAC G2 — Key Features

- **FPGA-Based, Multi-Level $\Delta\Sigma$ D/A Converter:** Fully designed and manufactured in-house.
- **Proprietary 64-bit/512-Fs $\Delta\Sigma$ Modulator:** One of the most powerful processing architectures in the industry.
- **Unique Discrete Circuit:** Completed without using conventional DAC chipsets.
- **FPGA Digital Processing Algorithms:** Independently optimized for DSD and PCM, with dedicated algorithms developed separately for each format.
- **Industrial-Grade, Ultra-High-Precision MELF Resistor Elements**
- **Manufactured in the Esoteric Factory:** One of the world's premier PCB mounting facilities, equipped with oxygen-free reflow furnaces and hospital-grade clean rooms.
- **Extensive Use of Audio-Grade Components:** Including Esoteric's exclusive IDM-01 amplifier modules.
- **Low-Noise New Register Network:** Provides cleaner imaging and lower noise. **G2**
- **Redesigned Power Supply:** Extensively separated FPGA power lines, and hot/cold analog power lines, achieving ultimate supply purity. **G2**
- **"Esoteric-HCLD" High Current Line Driver:** Super high slew-rate design (2,000V/ μ s) bringing out all the dynamics and energy of music.

G2: New to the G2 (Generation 2) architecture.



N-01XE — Specifications

- **Digital inputs:** ES-Link $\times$ 1 pair (L/R), XLR $\times$ 1, RCA $\times$ 1, Optical $\times$ 1, USB (type-B) $\times$ 1, SFP $\times$ 1, RJ45 $\times$ 1, USB drive (type-A) $\times$ 1
- **Analog audio outputs:** XLR/ES-Link Analog $\times$ 1 pair, RCA $\times$ 1 pair
- **Clock sync input:** BNC $\times$ 1 (50 Ω , 10MHz)
- **External control input:** 12V trigger input $\times$ 1 (3.5mm mono mini jack)
- **Frequency response:** 5Hz to 30kHz (-3dB)
- **S/N ratio:** 113dB (A-Weight)
- **Distortion:** 0.001% (1kHz)
- **Power supply:** AC220–230V, 50/60Hz (Europe)
AC120V, 60Hz (USA/Canada)
- **Power consumption:** 26W (in standby: 0.3W)
- **External dimensions (W $\times$ H $\times$ D, including protrusions)** 445 $\times$ 161.5 $\times$ 437 mm (17-5/8" $\times$ 6-3/8" $\times$ 17-1/4")
- **Weight:** 25.7kg (56 3/4 lb)

Product URL / News URL

Grandioso N1 <https://www.esoteric.jp/en/product/n-01xe/top>

News Release <https://www.esoteric.jp/en/support/news/735>

High Res Images, Marketing Materials

[N-01XE](#)

[Esoteric Official Marketing Web Site](#)



The design goal of Esoteric is to recreate the original master sound.

Esoteric is a high-end audio manufacturer established in 1987.

Based in Tokyo, all products (ranging from network audio players, SACD players, DACs to amplifiers) are hand built in our factory to exacting standards. Cutting edge technologies, engineering excellence, state-of-the-art Japanese craftsmanship and passion for innovation — all coming together to unveil new dimensions in musical experience.

N-01XE Product Detail



Authentic. Emotional.

Exquisite mechanical construction. A unique discrete circuit design that faithfully reproduces the texture of music. A powerful power supply forms the foundation for three-dimensional sound. The exceptionally substantial chassis built without regard for cost. The elegant finish achieved through a combination of various machining techniques.

The Esoteric “01” Series is the premium line that embodies all these hallmarks of Esoteric. Continuously advancing audio engineering while refining every technology to its purest expression, the “01” Series has become the iconic expression of Esoteric’s heritage of innovation and tradition. With its authentic, emotionally engaging sound and uncompromising musical performance, the “01” Series has consistently set new standards in premium audio reproduction. Crafted with the pride of Japanese artisanship, Esoteric's commitment to quality and attention to detail demonstrates our deep respect for all music lovers.

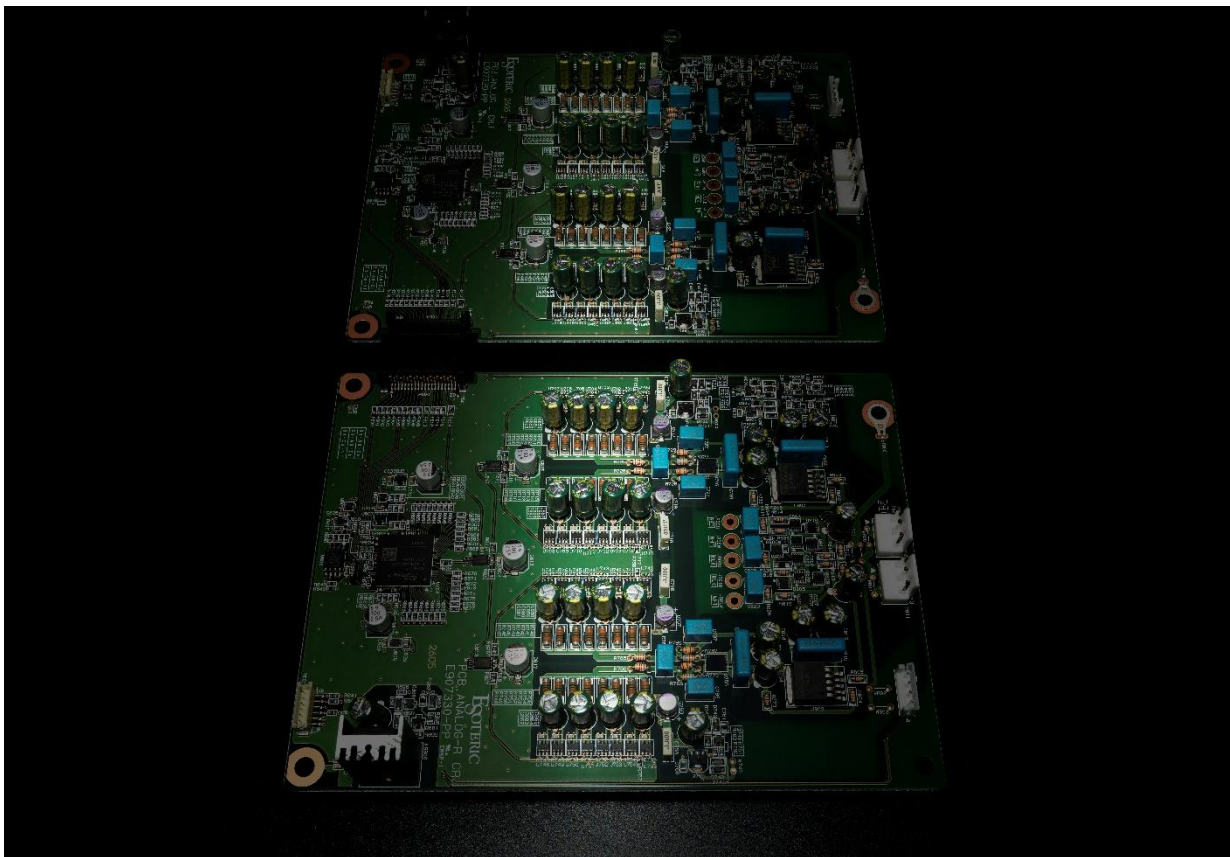




Featuring a Next-Generation Discrete DAC and Network Engine

The N-01XE network/DAC is more than the successor to the acclaimed N-01XD SE. By incorporating the Master Sound Discrete DAC G2 and Esoteric Network Engine G4, both derived directly from the flagship Grandioso N1, it brings Esoteric's latest digital playback technologies to the prestigious 01 Series. Esoteric's proprietary "Master Sound Discrete DAC" has evolved into its second-generation G2 architecture, achieving even higher performance while preserving its signature musicality. The next-generation "Esoteric Network Engine G4" enables even purer streaming via optical network connections.

Although the N-01XE is a stereo unit, its built-in DAC employs a fully dual-mono configuration with independent power transformers for the left and right channels. It features a large-scale design incorporating a total of five independent power transformers: one each for the left and right DACs, the network engine, digital circuits and the microcontroller. Supplying each circuit with its own robust linear power source contributes to a smooth, natural, and remarkably analog-like sound.



Master Sound Discrete DAC G2

Bringing Out All the Dynamics and Energy of Music

Esoteric Master Sound Discrete DAC G2 is a fully in-house-designed, FPGA-based, multi-level $\Delta\Sigma$ (delta-sigma) D/A converter built with meticulously selected discrete components. The ultimate goal is to effortlessly reproduce the true dynamics and power of music, far surpassing the limitations of conventional DAC IC chips. Its large-scale circuit design comprises 32 elements per channel and features completely independent key components. Breathtakingly powerful, dynamic, and musical, this architecture delivers the ultimate pure listening experience, without compromise.

Esoteric Master Sound Discrete DAC G2 supports the latest high-resolution digital formats, including 22.5 MHz DSD and 768 kHz PCM signals. To achieve D/A conversion that fully matches the unique characteristics of both DSD and PCM, dedicated FPGA digital processing algorithms have been independently developed for each format.

The DAC employs ultra-high-precision MELF resistors and IDM-01 amplification elements. By integrating these selected discrete components, the N-01XE achieves sound quality marked by vivid live presence, superb dynamics, and an organic, natural texture.

Esoteric's advanced board-mounting technologies cultivated through the production of circuit boards for the audio, medical, aerospace, and defense industries ensure the exceptional manufacturing quality of the Master Sound Discrete DAC G2.

Evolution to G2 (Generation 2)

The second-generation Master Sound Discrete DAC G2 is the result of our commitment to achieving new heights in sound quality.

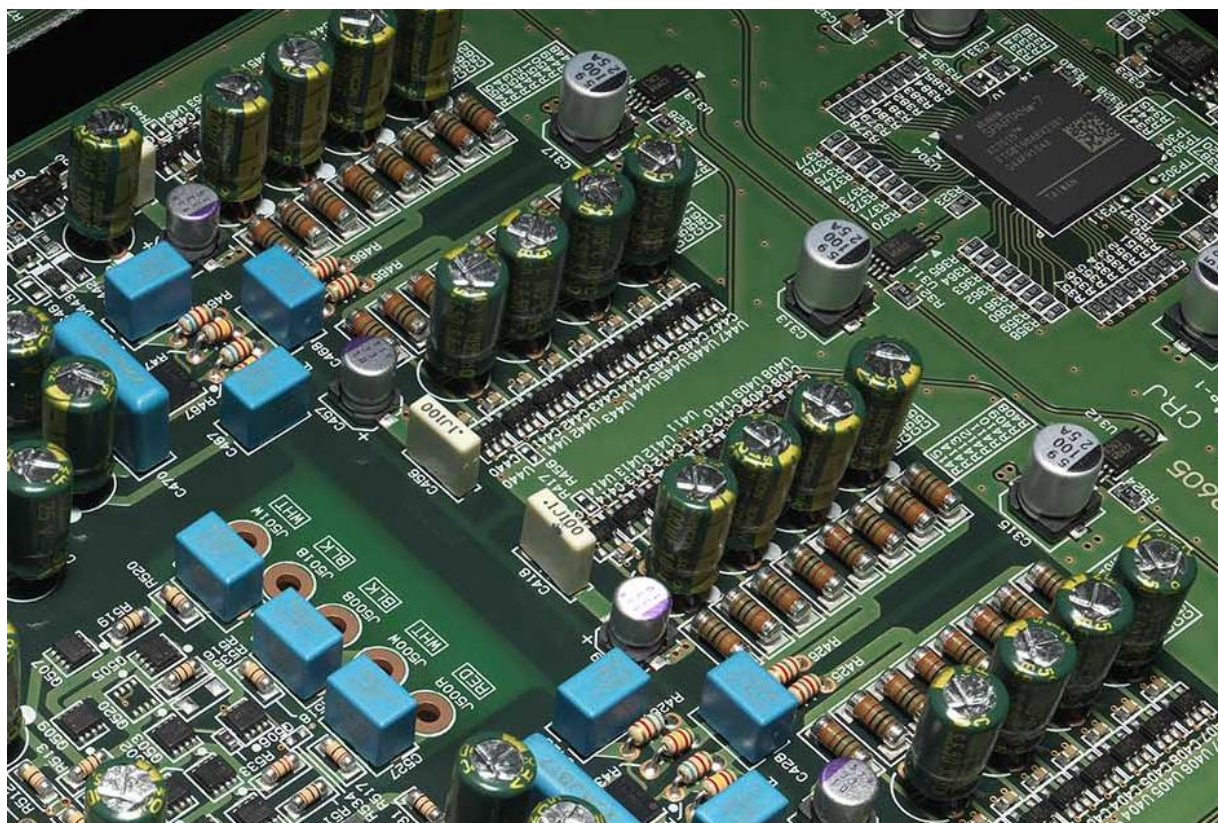
New Low-Noise Register Network

In a DAC, the resistor network is a critical circuit that converts the digital signal generated by the FPGA into an analog signal through precision resistor elements.

For the new G2 version of the DAC, Esoteric applied development achievements from our flagship network streamer, the Grandioso N1. This approach simplified and optimized the circuit responsible for switching the resistor elements on and off. In addition, capacitors placed in close proximity to the resistor network improve current supply stability, enabling the generation of purer analog signals with significantly reduced noise.

Even Purer Separate Power Supply Lines

A new approach was adopted that involved separating the power supply lines for the FPGA and the other digital domain circuits, as well as the hot and cold power supplies for the analog domains. Each section is powered by its own power regulator. Reconstructing the power lines further improved sound purity.





Esoteric Network Engine G4 (left) and its dedicated linear power supply system

ESOTERIC Network Engine G4

The N-01XE is equipped with the 4th generation Esoteric Network Engine G4, a top-of-the-line engine with the processing power worthy of a premium grade network streamer / DAC. The G4 engine features large-capacity RAM, a powerful CPU, and an SFP port for optical network connections.

The Esoteric Network Engine G4 is a concentrated embodiment of the design philosophy unique to high-end products. It boasts a dedicated linear power supply that is completely independent of the audio power supply, ensuring signal purity. Each component of the engine is independently powered through separate transformer windings. Moving beyond conventional switching power supplies, Esoteric incorporates premium components such as a large toroidal transformer, custom capacitors, Schottky barrier diodes, and other oversized parts. This meticulous engineering results in a sound that is smooth, vinyl-like, and richly detailed.

The Esoteric Network Engine G4 is equipped with a built-in network switch function and has two network interfaces: an Ethernet RJ45 connector and an SFP port.

By connecting the N-01XE to an external network switch using an SFP module and fiber optic cable, you can isolate the signal from network noise, achieving unparalleled purity in playback. Alternatively, a metal cable connection using a Direct Attach Cable (DAC) can simplify the network signal path by reducing the number of circuits involved. For maximum flexibility, both the RJ45 and SFP ports can be used simultaneously, tailoring the setup to your preferences and requirements.