



**Hi-fi news**  
**PRODUCT**  
**OF THE YEAR**  
**WINNER**  
**2006**

**ZANDEN AUDIO MODEL 2000 PREMIUM CD TRANSPORT  
MODEL 5000 SIGNATURE DAC £19,500/£12,950**

Often bandied about in high-end audio is the phrase state-of-the-art, yet this two-box CD player from Japanese company Zanden richly earns this accolade through the meticulous application of the best of old and new technologies.

Starting with the transport's crystal clock, advertised as the most accurate in consumer audio today, coupled with the use of a 12S high-speed data interface, this CD transport sits at the highest echelon of music CD disc reading. Avoiding

all digital filters, the 5000 Mk IV converter has been described as the world's finest 16-bit D/A converter. Perhaps no other digital front-end has captured the essence of music from CD in such a believable, analogue-like way.