



Tellurium Q Blue/Blue £297

From the west – yes, but not wild in any sense, this brand specialises in smooth, subtle sounding cables

DETAILS

PRODUCT
Cable loom

ORIGIN
UK

TYPE
Interconnect/
speaker cable

FEATURES

- Interconnect: unspecified material
- Speaker cable: unspecified material
- Prices: interconnect £180/1m, speaker cable £16.50 per metre unterminated

DISTRIBUTOR
Tellurium Q

TELEPHONE
01458 251997

WEBSITE
telluriumq.com

Something of an enigmatic company, the recently launched Tellurium Q is only a few years old, and has made a name for itself with its distinctively smooth and – some would say – creamy-sounding range of power leads, interconnects and speaker cables. Its technical director is Colin Wonfor, whose range of excellent-sounding Inca Tech and Magnum amplifiers in the eighties and nineties will bring back memories for more seasoned audiophile campaigners. Fittingly, the company is now making amplification, too.

Unlike the other manufacturers in the group test, Tellurium Q refuses to provide any product details and so doesn't specify any materials used. Suffice to say that its 'Blue' products are the entry-point to a range that goes up to some stratospherically priced stuff, and that the interconnect cables and speaker cables are designed for one another specifically. It has recently been revised, and the company is claiming great things for it. In terms of the build and finish, it is to a high standard, but looks unremarkable; many will applaud

these two for their sober appearance and general lack of 'bling', which can surely only be a good thing!

Sound quality

If the Black Rhodiums are relatively nondescript sonically, not interfering too much and generally getting on with the job, the Tellurium Q cable loom is altogether more characterful, albeit in a nice way. The Emeli Sandé track shows these cables to be more fluid and mellifluous than the Black Rhodiums, the Blues obviously letting the phrasing and intonation of her vocals come out more to the fore. There is a greater sense of musical involvement, more of a feeling of 'being there' and the music tugging on the emotional heartstrings. The musical map is much more explicit, the song having a sense of direction and starting off in one place and taking you somewhere else. It just comes over as a more emotional sort of cable combination.

The Beethoven piece flags it up as having a more organic sound – not just in its rhythm, but in its tonality. Panelists talk in terms of it being a little more open, yet not quite as bright and topky as the upper midband of the Black Rhodium, Atlas and Chord. It throws out a fair deal of detail and the listeners all comment on the good tone of the violins, which are sinewy yet not screechy. They talk in terms of it having a far deeper, less brightly etched midband, one which appears to dissolve back into the speakers a bit more and seems less caught within their boundaries – although we later find that these cables can't quite match the excellent van den Huls in terms of realistic stage depth.

The high frequencies don't seem quite as explicit as many of the cables



www.hifichoice.co.uk

BLIND-LISTENING
CABLE LOOMS £297-£460 **GROUPTEST**

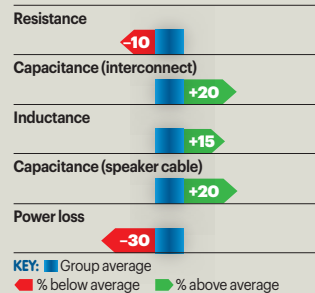
ON TEST

Our measurements certainly indicate that Tellurium Q's Blue interconnect has changed from samples tested last year. We can only assume the 'Patent Pending' has been updated accordingly. This year's version appears to use a slightly reduced conductor (copper) cross-section as the loop resistance has increased from 51mohm to 86mohm. However, suggesting the geometry has also changed, both capacitance (50pF/m) and inductance (just 0.21µH/m) have both usefully been reduced. In fact Tellurium Q Blue has both the lowest capacitance and inductance of the group.

The flat, parallel-geometry speaker cable necessarily has a far higher inductance at 0.96µH/m while the limited cross-sectional conductor area delivers the second highest loop resistance of the group at 24mohm/m. The power loss of 0.026dB/m, while not high, is twice that of all but the Atlas. **PM**



RESULTS AT A GLANCE



here – the Tellurium Q loom doesn't beam information out to you as much as some. The Paul Simon track sounds smoother and silkier than many, and this works all the way down into the bass, which is much fuller. Sadly though, it is looser; in the reference system it seems just a little slow on the uptake, lacking the pin-point precision of some.

Overall, an excellent cable loom in its distinctive way – and one that the panel feels to be one of the most – but not the most – musically satisfying of all those tested. Still, it's a rather characterful listen, which some will love and others won't, so as always try before you buy ●

Hi-Fi Choice

OUR VERDICT

SOUND QUALITY



LIKE: Satisfyingly musical and smooth sound

VALUE FOR MONEY



DISLIKE: Not the last word in insight or low-level detail

BUILD QUALITY



WESAY: Generally a highly enjoyable cable to listen to, well worth trying out

FEATURES



OVERALL



REPRINTED FROM **Hi-Fi Choice**