

Atlas Cables

Equator Achromatic Speaker Z 2.0 speaker cable

IF YOU'RE LOOKING for a reasonably priced upgrade for your speaker cables this might fit the bill. The Equator 2.0 is a 2mm² cable using Oxygen Free Copper (OFC) conductors contained in a high-density Polyethylene foam (PEF) dielectric. PEF is significantly more efficient than PVC or polyethylene insulation and, according to Atlas, offers better measured performance and an audible improvement in dynamics. The core assemblies are contained in a cotton yarn to reduce microphony and the cable is finished in a pearl white outer sheath. The two separate conductors are housed in a single jacket and then split into two single leads at both ends through a plastic boot. The cable is terminated in Atlas' Achromatic Z-plug, which is proprietary low

mass, self-cleaning and precision crimped (cold-weld). It is also available terminated with cold-weld OFC spade connectors.

Flexible friend

The cable is pretty flexible and I have no problems connecting it between my valve monoblocks and speakers. I kick off proceedings with a powerful recording of Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* played by The National Symphony Orchestra. I'm presented with a sound that is detailed, full and open. The violin solos are clear and not at all harsh, while the full orchestral sections are dynamic and spacious. I don't have any sense that the speaker cable is restricting the signal to my speakers.

Next up is *Easy Living* played by Archie Shepp on the saxophone and



Mal Waldron on the piano. The balance of the two instruments is perfect and the top end of the saxophone is clear without sounding at all edgy.

I finish off by trying the Atlas with some baroque music and play a Chasing The Dragon copy-master tape of Interpreti Veneziani performing Tartini's *Violin Concerto in E minor D.56*. The instrument placement is spot on and I am able to locate all of the players within the soundstage. The Equator Achromatic Speaker Z 2.0 delivers excellent performances and is a very well-made cable. **NR**

▶ DETAILS

PRICE
£231 for a 3m pair
WEBSITE
atlas-cables.com

OUR VERDICT

