

Creative Unveils Sound Blaster® X7 Limited Edition

Pearl White Sound Blaster X7 with High Power Adapter and Impressive 1 Ohm Headphone Amplifier Output Impedance Revealed at CES 2015

SINGAPORE – 6 January 2015 – Creative

Technology Ltd today unveiled a limited edition of its latest Sound Blaster[®] X7 at CES 2015.

Recently named a double 2015 CES Innovations

Awards Honoree in both the 'Home Audio/Video Components and Accessories' and 'Computer Hardware and Components' categories, the feature-packed Sound Blaster X7 which is an ultra high-resolution external USB DAC and powerful



audio amplifier now comes in an exclusive pearl white color, includes a 144W power adapter that is capable of delivering up to 100W output to passive speakers, and has a very low headphone amplifier output impedance of 1 ohm to effortlessly drive even the more sensitive in-ear monitors (IEMs) on the market.

The Sound Blaster X7, showcasing at the 2015 International CES, is designed to connect with a range of gaming and entertainment systems as an ultra high-end external Sound Blaster audio solution with an impressive 24-bit/192kHz high-resolution 127dB digital-to-analog converter (DAC) and a powerful 100W audio amplifier. It provides a superior, pure and lossless listening experience for games, music and movies – meeting the most discerning demands of audiophile listeners and enthusiast gamers alike.

Superior Ultra HD (High-Resolution) Listening Experience

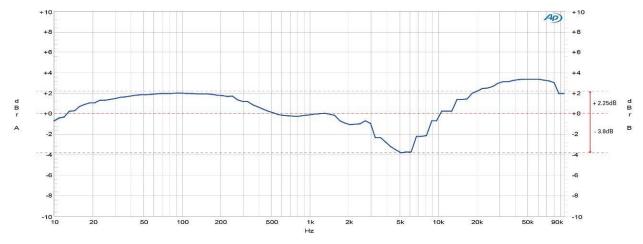
The 144W (24V 6A) power adapter bundled with this limited edition Sound Blaster X7 is capable of harnessing the full potential of the built-in Texas Instruments TPA3116D2 Class-D

amplifier inside to efficiently deliver up to 100W (2 x 50W RMS @ 4Ω) to passive bookshelf and tower speakers – giving users a more superior high-resolution audio listening experience. Coupled with Sound Blaster's proprietary multi-core DSP, the SB-Axx1, and other high-end audiophile-grade components, such as the Burr-Brown PCM1794 127dB DAC, Nichicon "Fine Gold" capacitors, and the Texas Instruments TPA6120A2 headphone amplifier that can support up to 600Ω headphones, this Sound Blaster X7 will greatly enhance audio quality, delivering a powerful mind-blowing immersive gaming or movie audio experience as well as perfectly reproducing the full range of sounds from music recordings with high-fidelity and pristine detail.

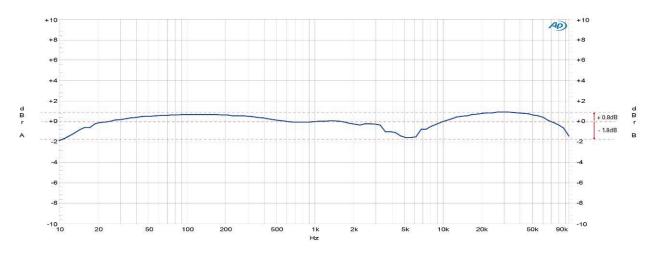
Linear Frequency Response for Low-Impedance In-Ear Monitors (IEMs)

Using one of the lowest-rated impedance IEM in the market with the limited edition Sound Blaster X7 at 1 ohm headphone amplifier output impedance, the Shure SE846 IEM which has a rating of 9 ohms at 1 kHz is able to achieve one of the most linear frequency responses ever. With a small overall variance between +0.5 dB and -1.0 dB, the Sound Blaster X7 is able to reproduce audio almost faithfully. Compared to a typical headphone amplifier using the standard reference design of the Texas Instruments TPA6120A2 headphone amplifier chip at 10 ohms output impedance, one can see from the graph that the frequency response is non-linear with a significant variance between +2.25 dB and -3.8 dB. The frequency response fluctuation shows an increase in low frequencies and loss in mids at 5 kHz which results in coloration of sound when used with low-impedance IEMs like the Shure SE846.

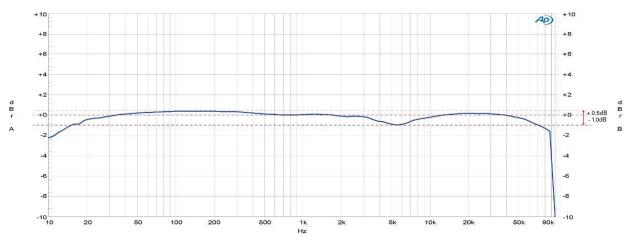
"The Sound Blaster X7 is the most technologically advanced Sound Blaster we have ever created. We combined our decades of expertise in audio with the finest of the finest audiophile-grade components to deliver the most powerful high-resolution audio experience for games, music and movies. The original black edition of the Sound Blaster X7 comes with a headphone amplifier output impedance of 2.2 ohms which is good enough for most IEMs in the market. Now, our engineers have pushed the boundaries further by specially engineering the headphone amplifier circuit with an even lower output impedance of 1 ohm," says Low Long Chye, General Manager of Sound Blaster. "The limited edition Sound Blaster X7 can accommodate both extreme ends of headphones in the market – from the most demanding high-impedance studio headphones to the most sensitive low-impedance in-ear monitors – with minimal distortion to audio content caused by variance in frequency response."



Frequency response of Shure SE846 at standard 10 ohms headphone amplifier output impedance



Frequency response of Shure SE846 at Sound Blaster X7's 2.2 ohms headphone amplifier output impedance



Frequency response of Shure SE846 at Sound Blaster X7's 1 ohm headphone amplifier output impedance

The Sound Blaster X7 will be demonstrated at the Creative Labs, Inc. Booth (30331) in Tech East, Las Vegas Convention and World Trade Center (LVCC), South Halls 3-4, Upper Level & Connector at the 2015 International CES, which runs 6-9 January 2015, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Sound Blaster X7 will also be displayed at CES Unveiled Las Vegas: The Official Media Event of the International CES from 4-7 pm on Sunday, 4 January at Mandalay Bay, Level 3, South Seas Ballroom C.

Pricing and Availability

The Creative Sound Blaster X7 pearl white edition with the 144W power adapter and 1 ohm headphone amplifier output impedance, priced at USD499.99, will be available at the end of January 2015 at the online store at sg.store.creative.com.

The black Sound Blaster X7 with a 70W power adapter, priced at USD399.99, is now available at the online store at sg.store.creative.com.

For more information about the Creative Sound Blaster X7, please visit http://sg.creative.com/p/sound-blaster/sound-blaster-x7-limited-edition

About Creative

Creative is a worldwide leader in digital entertainment products. Famous for its Sound Blaster[®] sound cards and for launching the multimedia revolution, Creative is now driving digital entertainment with cutting-edge audio solutions, premium wireless speakers, wireless headphones and portable media devices. Today, Creative re-invents the Sound Blaster, which has a user base of over 400 million, with its ground-breaking Sound Blaster Roar and Sound BlasterAxx that aim at the new mobile networked generation by bridging the worlds of the computer, smartphones, and tablets. Creative's proprietary technologies, innovative hardware, applications and services leverage the Internet, enabling consumers to experience high-quality digital entertainment – anytime, anywhere.

###

This announcement relates to products launched in the Asia Pacific. Availability is subject to change without notice and may differ elsewhere in the world according to local factors and requirements. Creative, the Creative logo, Sound Blaster, the Sound Blaster logo and Sound BlasterAxx are trademarks or registered trademarks of Creative Technology Ltd in the United States and/or other countries. All rights reserved. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. The CES Innovation Awards are based upon descriptive materials submitted to the judges. CEA did not verify the accuracy of any submission or of any claims made and did not test the item to which the award was given.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Creative Technology Ltd Wynne Leong Tel (65) 6895 4120 wynne_leong@ctl.creative.com August Consulting Alan Lee Tel (65) 6733 8873 alanlee@august.com.sg