



J'AI TESTÉ



# STEALTH USB T-Select

## La liaison USB au sommet

### Fiche technique :

Origine : États-Unis  
Prix : 1 650 euros (1 m)  
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La société Stealth Audio a été créée par Serguei Timachev, propriétaire de l'entreprise et responsable de la recherche et du développement. Le nom Stealth est l'acronyme de ce qu'on pourrait traduire par la technologie du son qui permet une harmonie audible entre les composants. Pour arriver à ses fins, Serguei ne lésine pas sur les moyens en termes de matériaux (composite conducteur à fibre de carbone, argent, or, alliage monocristallin et alliage amorphe) et de fabrication (géométrie complexe non résonante, multicouches et à conducteurs multiples). Il utilise même de l'hélium comme diélectrique sur les très haut de gamme. Tous les câbles sont entièrement assemblés à la main, puis testés aux mesures et à l'écoute avant de bénéficier d'une garantie à vie contre tous vices de fabrication. Le câble USB T-Select est la perle des câbles USB Stealth. Les conducteurs de forme plate sont en alliage de cuivre formulé par le fabricant, les connecteurs USB-A et USB-B sont exclusifs et fabriqués par Stealth, avec une coque en fibres de carbone. Trois modèles de câbles USB sont disponibles. Leur structure électrique est commune, le suffixe T indique qu'il s'agit d'une version « tunable » équipée d'une bague ferromagnétique mobile le long du câble. Selon sa position, elle modifie la focalisation de la scène sonore, un peu à la manière de la mise au point d'un appareil photo. Cette bague est déjà utilisée sur d'autres gammes de câbles Stealth. La position optimale de cet anneau est déterminée après quelques jours d'utilisation du câble qu'on aura préalablement raccordé avec l'anneau placé de manière fixe du côté de la source. Une fois le son obtenu mémorisé, on pourra commencer à jouer avec l'anneau jusqu'à trouver « la » position qui donne la scène qui convient. C'est subtil mais rapidement audible. Le suffixe T-Select indique un tri très sélectif des composants du câble choisis avec des tolérances encore plus serrées. Les quelques écoutes réalisées avec positionnement ad hoc de la bague entre un Mac avec Pure Music et un Devialet 200 ont abouti à des résultats sonores absolument stupéfiants. La comparaison A/B ne s'impose même plus tant les différences sonores entre le câble précédemment en place et le T-Select sont flagrantes. En termes de finesse et de délié dans l'aigu tout d'abord, le Devialet semblant avoir sensiblement perdu de sa matité dans le haut. En termes de justesse immense des timbres ensuite, avec un bilan harmonique plus dense qu'à l'habitude. Et en termes d'aération, d'ampleur et de spatialisation de la scène sonore enfin, grâce à des attaques supersoniques exemptes de crispation qui font défiler les détails à l'infini. Un câble tout simplement remarquable et unique aussi bien pour sa neutralité que pour sa transparence. Une fois raccordé et « tuné », le T-Select ne peut plus vous quitter. Il est impossible de revenir en arrière, sauf si on ne dispose pas des 1 650 euros demandés...

Dominique Mafrand



Stealth Audio company was established by Serguei Tirnachev, owner of the Company and its Engineer-in-Chief, responsible for research and development. Stealth is the name acronym of what could result in sound technology that allows an audible harmony between components. To achieve his ends, Serguei does not skimp on the resources in terms of materials (carbon fiber composite driver, silver, gold, alloy and monocrystalline amorphous alloy) and manufacturing (complex geometry non resonant, multilayer and multi-conductor]. The same uses helium as a dielectric on the very necessary range. All cables are fully assembled by hand and tested, measured and being listened to before receiving a lifetime warranty against manufacturing defects. The USB T-Select is the top of the range Stealth USB cable. The conductive material is copper alloy, the connectors USB and USB-A-B are exclusive and manufactured by Stealth with a carbon fiber shell. Three USB cable designs are available. Their electrical structure is common, the T suffix indicates that this is a version "tunable" equipped with mobile ferronagnétique ring along the cable. According to its position, it changes the location of the sound stage, much in the way of the development of a camera. This ring is already in use on Stealth other cable lines. The optimal position of the ring is determined after a few days of use of the cable, which has previously connected with the ring fixedly positioned on the side of the source. After its got saved, we can start playing with the ring until you find the right position gives the scene that fits. It's subtle but quick audible. T-Select suffix indicates a sorting of the selected cable components with even tighter tolerances. The few tracks made with ad hoc positioning of the ring between a Mac with Pure Music and Devialet 200 resulted in absolutely amazing sonic results. The A / B comparison is not necessary as the sound differences between the previously cabled up and the T-Select are flagrant. In terms of finesse and loosed in acute first, the Devialet pretend to have significantly lost its dullness at the top. In terms of accuracy huge shadows then, with a denser harmonic balance than usual. And in terms of aeration of scale and spatiaisation soundstage finally, thanks to supersonic attacks free of tension that scroll details infinity. A cable is simply outstanding and unique both in its neutrality and for its transparency.

Once connected and Tuned, you will not be able to unplug the T-Select as you cannot go back to another cable: unless you don't have 1650 euro

Dominique Manfrand - Haute-Fidélité magazine reviewer

*An other texte and comments from a customer :*

My system has long evolved together with USB cables, high range of known and recognized in the market, I was satisfied and after spending time on the subject, I thought this neat connection to its true value but this was not rely on Stealth and its recent USB-T.

A connection of this cable, without any break or heating time, it's a real shock! The scene explodes, the level of detail and dynamics are a leap forward for an unqualified USB. The sensation of air around the instruments is impressive, also the refinement.

At the same time, the bandwidth is much more important: I discovered unsuspected frequencies on my speakers, at both ends. All this progress has the level of musicianship well beyond my expectations. The contribution is important and I even added that its pricing is very competitive in terms of competition and performance. In summary, from the first seconds of listening, we understand that there will be no turning back.

After testing different brands supplied cables, I said that my system is heavily Stealth on all its routes, this probably explains why the impact listening are also so important. After his break, I was also able to determine the correct position of his ring from perfect consistency of the sound stage.

The output of the USB Select came later. Concerned and curious to use links without concessions, I wanted therefore to have this cable in hand for a fratricidal duel. Frankly, given the strong physical similarity of the two products, together with an acceptable rate differential, when connect I do not expect that a gain in consequence, be moderate.

It is not so, the contribution of Select is disconcerting, disturbing: the tone of the system changes from the first notes! A new shock occurs, the scene is huge, the sense of depth is unusual for me. What is striking is the accuracy of stamps and especially the restitution of complex messages, such choruses with great orchestral: impressive natural, fluidity and serenity. The delicacy of the message, including its density, very easily noticeable on voices in particular, sobering. It is clear that the contribution of upstream Select, dessert very advantageously Sakras but what a result! The proportion is at the stage of systematic rediscovery of his favorite tracks, and others.

After the praise, sincere and justified, USB-T, then the Select how to qualify? I consider it essential. Inseparable from any system where particular attention has been paid to its connections and its source. Dreaded face the dilemma whether to make the step to the Select, there is no debate. The only way for me to do without his contribution is to ignore: the Sakra USB.

Romain. C - customer

Cheers

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Stefan Thulin  
STH Sound

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