



Hifi magazine
from Czech republic
reviews RS components:

LEGO beauty of Pro-Ject: CD Box RS / DAC Box RS (Pre Box RS Digital) / Stereo Box RS

CD Box RS is a toploading transport that can accept external clock signal and sends out digital data through multiple digital outputs – coaxial, optical S/PDIF, AES/EBU and proprietary Sonic output. The DAC Box RS (and also Pre Box RS Digital) boasts of multiple input options – apart from **Sonic, that I highly recommend to dig out the best sound quality**, there is the 24/192 asynchronous USB input, S/PDIF, coaxial and four optical inputs. It is more than enough so that the DAC Box RS could become a nerve centre of any digital audio system, especially when it supports 32/44,1/48/88,2/96/176,2/192 kHz sampling rates as well as **DSD 64/128**.

Pro-Ject recommends to use the Sonic communication link between the CD transport and the DAC and that is how I reviewed the components. I tried to use Toslink and can confirm that the **Sonic was superior by big margin**. Through Toslink the sampling rate went automatically down to 88kHz and the music lost its ebb and flow, it became a bit stiff and restless.

Stereo Box RS is an integrated stereo amplifier – **the amp sounded so powerful and competent** that I referred to its manual to see the power capabilities. With 2x 120 W (specified into 4 ohms, guaranteed stability down to 2 ohms) **the Stereo Box RS should have no issue with any speakers**, yet you need more power for dynamic response in big rooms you can always upgrade to separates (Pre Box RS and Amp Box RS, 2x 180 W) or to monoblocks (1x 195 W). By using a separate power supply (Power Box RS) the power capacity of the system raises the bar to 2x 250 W / 4 ohms).

Ergonomy and friendliness

All the Pro-Ject units come with **outboard power** converter so that AC is stopped outside the units. It helps to control noise and facilitates easier placement of the devices – the thickest cable may be the interconnect, not the power cable.

All the Pro-Ject units come with those **great toggle switches** that lend a touch of **Nagra-look** to the devices, especially when combined with **perfect aluminium craftsmanship**.

The joy of sincerity

The **RS boxes of Pro-Ject finely delineated the differences** between an acoustic bass and its electric counterpart - and I do not mean the sound fundamentals, rather the difference in miking technique. The Pro-Jects showed remarkable talent for Spanish guitar too. There was **no digital edge or something**, clearly the merits of the excellent CD Box RS and DAC Box RS combo. The **smooth sound** of the Pro-Jects is **warm and engulfing without sacrificing a bit of transparency or definition**. Simply put, **the Pro-Jects were to my ears truer to recordings**.

„The sound of the RS line already stirs the high-end pond.“