



NORDOST



“...fundamental and a really worthwhile musical asset to systems of all levels”

- CHRIS THOMAS, HI-FI+ MAGAZINE



Nordost's QRT audio enhancers are designed to alleviate the impact of poor quality AC and DC power on your sensitive electronics, provide proper grounding, optimize data transfer for audio applications, and synchronize electromechanical resonances. The revolutionary QRT technology found in the QBASE, QPOINT, QSOURCE, QNET, QVIBE, QKOIL, QKORE, and QLINE will transform your hifi audio system, completely redefining your listening experience.

The effects of QRT products are cumulative and best heard when used collectively. **These effects include a lower noise floor, increased image depth with tighter focus, wider soundstage, as well as improved overtones, pacing, dynamic range and musical expression.**





# QBASE – AC DISTRIBUTION UNIT

The key to achieving a properly balanced and musically coherent performance is quality AC supply. Before AC current hits your sound system it is contaminated by the millions of appliances in the thousands of houses in the hundreds of miles of power lines between the power plant and your power strip. However, there are several measures that can be taken to ensure that the AC you are working with is as clean as possible—the most crucial being a solid ground.

Incorporating Nordost's QBASE unit into your sound system is the first necessary step in creating solid grounding. In a typical hifi rig wired without Nordost's QBASE unit, performance is inhibited due to conflicting flows of the signal and ground paths. These opposing flows enhance noise. The only way to address this problem and control ground flow is to change impedance levels. Thanks to a unique method deemed "star-earth topology", a simplistic yet effective principle in which the impedance of every outlet (with the exception of the "primary earth" outlet) is lifted by .5 Ohm, Nordost's QBASE is able to control ground flow without any form of in-line filtering or active circuitry. Elevating the ground in this passive manner forces it to flow "downwards", towards primary earth. For that reason, we recommend using that particular socket for your preamplifier or integrated amplifier. This simple change achieves three indispensable effects: it creates an uninterrupted, straight-line AC distribution path from the wall to each individual component, isolates each component by deterring the ground flow between them, and eliminates conflicting flow between signal and ground paths. These

combined improvements have a remarkably noticeable impact on your soundstage, providing a lower noise floor without any high frequency compressions, increasing image depth, and enhancing overtones in the music.

Nordost's QBASE units are comprised of a mechanically tuned, extruded aluminum body outfitted with highly durable connectors which have been specifically engineered to maintain excellent connectivity after extended use. Each PC board houses extremely heavy traces, designed to accommodate high currents and is internally wired with Nordost Mono-Filament cabling. Additionally, in order to prevent overheating and provide overcurrent protection, each QBASE unit is fitted with a dedicated fuse. QBASE units are available in both 4 and 8 socket versions when using US (NEMA), EU (Schuko) and AUS connectors and are available in a six socket version when using UK connectors.

Four socket QBASE units, or QB4s, are fitted with C-14 IEC (15/10Amp) inputs. QB6 and QB8 units are available in both C-14 IEC (15/10Amp) and C-20 IEC (20/16Amp) models.

15 Amp (US)  
13 Amp (UK)  
10 Amp (EU, AUS)



IEC-C14

20 Amp (US)  
16 Amp (EU, AUS, UK\*)



IEC-C20

\* Unit Fuse @ 13 Amp





# QPOINT – RESONANCE SYNCHRONIZER

Every component in a sound system has several individually resonating parts within them. When these electromechanical resonances oscillate concurrently but not in unison, the discordant vibrations become a source of electrical noise, resulting in smeared, muddy sound. Nordost's QPOINT eliminates this internal electrical noise by synchronizing these resonances, consequently enhancing the coherency and timing typically lacking in even the most high-end audio systems.

The QPOINT Resonance Synchronizer emits a pulse-pattern which manipulates all electromechanical resonances within its immediate proximity so that they resonate in unison with each other. In for its effects to accommodate all of the various electronics in the industry (including but not limited to solid state or tube amplifiers, digital or analog source components, traditional line stages

or modern digital processors), and even tailor results to the personal preferences of the user, the QPOINT has been designed with two modes. Mode I and II each generate unique patterns, which emphasize different musical characteristics as they lower the noise floor. Users can switch from Mode I to Mode II instantaneously to evaluate which sonic properties fit the needs of each unique electronic device in their hi-fi system.

The QPOINT is modular in nature. Its effects are cumulative and are best used alongside other Nordost QRT products. For best results, the QPOINT should be used in conjunction with Nordost's QSOURCE Linear Power Supply. Nordost's QPOINT Resonance Synchronizer ensures your electronics are all working in concert, in order to enhance the coherency, articulation, and musical structure of your system.



# Q SOURCE – LINEAR POWER SUPPLY

The QSOURCE is the first Linear Power Supply designed specifically for a hi-fi audio application. While the external switch-mode power supplies that have become standard within the audio industry may be efficient and convenient, they are unquestionably lacking in terms of audio fidelity. Generic switch-mode power supplies provided with DC-run audio components generate high noise output levels that inevitably find their way into the audio reproduction chain. The QSOURCE, on the other hand, provides a stable, clean output of DC power, while maintaining extremely low noise levels, which improves sonic articulation, heightens dynamics, and expands the sound stage.

The QSOURCE uses a top-of-the-line transformer with a unique circuit design to convert AC to DC power, while an internal QRT module smooths out DC output and removes electrical anomalies and noise artifacts from the line. Converting power in this way provides excellent regulation, very low

ripple, and outstanding transient response which, from a sonic perspective, allow your components to achieve their peak performance.

While the QSOURCE is the perfect upgrade to Nordost's QPOINT, powering as many as four Resonance Synchronizers at one time, it was designed with versatility in mind. In addition to the four, 5V outputs designated for QPOINTS, the QSOURCE provides two outlets that can supply 9V, 12V, or 19V and 12V, 19V, or 24V respectively, which can be chosen to match the requirements of your electronics, including the QNET Network Switch.

Whether using it in conjunction with the QPOINT, or as a standalone power supply for DC-dependent audio components, Nordost's QSOURCE Linear Power Supply will bring new dimension to your sound system, allowing you to enjoy richer and more nuanced musical performances.





# QSOURCE DC CABLE

The QSOURCE DC Cable is a purpose-built conduit that completes the transmission chain from the QSOURCE to the QPOINT, QNET, and other DC-run components in your system. Nordost has always touted the importance of power cords in hifi systems, and DC power is no exception. Nordost's first DC mains cable is arranged in a shielded, twisted pair construction, which prevents internal noise from generating within the cable. Additionally, the QSOURCE DC Cable takes advantage of Nordost's proprietary Micro Mono-Filament technology, increasing signal speeds by introducing an air-dielectric to the cable design,

in order to best serve your QPOINT Resonance Synchronizers.

The caliber of power cord used with components directly determines the performance quality of your hifi system. Just as an AC power cord can act as a choke-point on your system, using DC power cords that don't live up to the standard of your components can be equally damaging. By upgrading to the Premium QSOURCE DC Cable, you can better match your DC power cord to your system, in order to enhance the performance-level gained from your DC-run components.

## QSOURCE DC CABLE SPECIFICATIONS

- Fluorinated Ethylene Propylene (FEP) insulation
- Micro Mono-Filament technology
- Shielded Twisted Pairs
- 2 x 22 AWG, Solid Core, Silver-plated, OFC
- Available terminated: LEMO to LEMO (both QPOINT and QNET configurations), LEMO to 5.5mm x 2.1mm DC connector, or LEMO to 5.5mm x 2.5mm DC connector



## PREMIUM QSOURCE DC CABLE SPECIFICATIONS

- Fluorinated Ethylene Propylene (FEP) insulation
- Micro Mono-Filament technology
- Shielded Twisted Pairs
- 2 x 18 AWG, Solid Core, Silver-plated, OFC
- Available terminated: LEMO to LEMO (both QPOINT and QNET configurations), LEMO to 5.5mm x 2.1mm DC connector, or LEMO to 5.5mm x 2.5mm DC connector







# NET – NETWORK SWITCH

Over the past two decades, the way in which people listen to music has evolved tremendously. Today, even the most discerning of audiophiles have embraced digital sources into their systems. However, in some cases, this adoption has moved faster than the technology, forcing users to integrate non-audio-grade components into highly specialized systems. This is especially true with standard network switches, designed to be used with TVs or computers, which introduce noise, cross-contamination, and interference into your hifi system.

Nordost's QNET is different. The QNET is a layer-2, five-port Ethernet switch that has been specifically designed with audio performance in mind. Compared to other audiophile network switches currently found on the market, which are typically standard switches with a simple upgrade to either the power supply or oscillators, the QNET is completely redesigned from the ground up. Every aspect of this product, from part to placement, was made to perfect the transmission and receipt of high-speed audio signals, while achieving extremely low noise operation.

Internally, the QNET uses a high speed, multi-layered, impedance-controlled layout, which optimizes signal routes, minimizing reflections, interference, and crosstalk. It also boasts an extremely low-noise, stable oscillator for the main clock of the device, which allows for minimal jitter and phase noise. It is equipped with six dedicated power supplies, which provide unencumbered current to all parts of the switch, while minimizing noise cross-contamination and ensuring clean, interference-free operation.

Externally, the QNET is manufactured using an extremely durable aluminum housing. This housing not only acts as a heat sink and shield for the device, but also provides physical separation for the five, independent ports, each accommodating an 8P8C (RJ45) connector. The physical separation of each of these ports is a critical, unique design element, ensuring minimal crosstalk and interference within the device.

Each port on the QNET is optimized for its application. Three of the five ports are auto-negotiated 1000BASE-T (1 Gbps) capable, which should be used for the router and other generic network devices. The remaining two ports are fixed to 100BASE-TX (100 Mbps), a speed at which internal noise reduction is possible, making these ports best used for primary audio servers/players or external media sources.

The QNET is provided with its own DC power supply. However, to achieve the best results, the QNET should be powered by Nordost's QSOURCE Linear Power Supply and connected with Nordost's award-winning Ethernet Cables.

Whether you stream music and/or video from a local server, a NAS drive, or from the internet, upgrading your digitally-run system with Nordost's QNET will make all the difference. This premium network switch will deliver enviable dynamic range, extension, and clarity to your system. As a result, the voices and instruments in your music will stand out against a surprisingly black background, giving you the fluid, life-like performance that you are looking for from your digital experience.









## VIBE – AC LINE HARMONIZER

Nordost's QVIBE is an active line harmonizer that adds a carefully calculated range of harmonic overtones directly onto the AC line. The QVIBE will drop the noise floor as well as add a noticeable increase in image depth, dimensionality, and realism of both musical and visual performance.

The function of the QVIBE, or Qv2, is two-fold. Its primary purpose is to transmit additional frequencies onto the AC line that impact the mid and upper base ranges of sound. The secondary objective is to remove irregularities in the sine wave that could negatively impact sonic performance. The active circuit board used in the Qv2 is programmed to emit a frequency pulse 60 times per second, mirroring the peaks and troughs of a sine wave. These precisely timed bursts help to maintain the shape of the wave,

where there could be tendencies for it to collapse, eliminating any harsh quality to the sound.

The QVIBE is housed in a mechanically tuned carbon-fiber body and equipped with either gold-plated US (NEMA) or EU (Schuko) connectors. It is compatible with voltages from 110V to 240V, and can be used with a Schuko/AUS or Schuko/UK adaptor if required. The Qv2 is most effective when placed in close proximity to your system, and should ideally be plugged into your QBASE; however, its results can be heard when placed into any spare socket on your system's AC line. While the QVIBE can be used by itself, its sonic impact is cumulative, and using two or four Qv2 devices will more than double or quadruple its results.



## KOIL – AC LINE ENHANCER

The QKOIL is a load resonating coil (LRC) enhanced with Nordost's patented Micro Mono-Filament technology, which generates a passive electronic field to create beneficial visual and sonic effects on the AC current. Using our MMF technology in a loading application prevents time delay and distortion of the transmitted signal, making the AC current that much closer to the desired "distortionless condition". The sensory results: an improvement in the overtones and pacing of the music, as well as a lower noise floor and a greater sharpness in the upper frequencies, depth and focus of visual qualities.

Nordost's QKOIL, or Qk1, is housed in a mechanically tuned carbon-fiber body and equipped with either a gold-plated US (NEMA) or EU (Schuko) plug. It is compatible with voltages from 110V to 240V, and can be used with a Schuko/AUS or Schuko/UK adaptor if required. Plug the QKOIL into any spare socket on your

system's AC Line and experience first-hand the surprising, yet indisputable, effect it will have on your A/V components.

Like other QRT products, the benefits of the QKOIL are cumulative and Qk1s are even more impressive when applied collectively. It can be used as a stand-alone product or to complement a full QRT system.









# KORE – GROUND UNIT

A great deal of the electrical noise in hifi systems is caused by imperfections in the power domain. These imperfections may be generated by airborne pollution on the AC line that are induced, in part, by increasing amounts of Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, and cellular signals. Airborne pollution can take the form of high frequency interference, noise, and stray magnetic fields, which lead to AC line contamination. A poor, or “unclean”, ground causes more performance imperfections than most people realize. Without an effective ground point, the entire foundation of your sound system becomes jeopardized—and unfortunately, most listening rooms simply do not have access to a designated line, attached to a ground rod. In these instances, a simple, effective, and internal option is needed: Nordost's QKORE Ground Unit.

The QKORE is a parallel grounding device, which provides an artificial, “clean” earth for hifi audio systems using both an electrical and mechanical approach. This unique product combines Nordost's patented Mono-Filament technology with purpose-built, Low-Voltage Attractor Plates

(LVAPs), constructed with a proprietary metal alloy and a passive electronic circuit, in order to draw stray high frequency noise and voltage-generated magnetic fields to a manufactured earth point, leaving a clean reference behind. This passive system is contained in a mechanically tuned housing, and outfitted with gold-plated, WBT binding posts, which easily connect each component to an artificial ground. By providing for a balanced and very “clean” ground point, by-products of electrical balance imperfections between voltage and ground are no longer added to other pollutants, dramatically increasing high quality audio circuit performances.

The QKORE grounding system is the most effective, comprehensive grounding solution in the consumer electronics market. When introduced to a hifi audio system, the results are immediate and dramatic—the noise floor drops, the increase in harmonic accuracy and clarity is unmistakable, and the overall musicality in system performance is elevated.





## QKORE1

- Furnished with one “QBASE Ground” binding post to ground your distribution block.
- Offers an effective ground on the primary side of the power supply.
- Provided with a 2M Banana to Banana QKORE Wire.



## QKORE3

- Furnished with 3 multi-use binding posts to ground audio circuitry.
- Grounds system components on the secondary side of the power supply, where the audio circuit is.
- Provided with a 2M RCA to Banana QKORE Wire.



## QKORE6

- Furnished with three multi-use binding posts for audio circuitry, two binding posts for left and right monoblocks, and one “QBASE Ground” binding post to ground your distribution block.
- Offers an effective ground on the primary side of the power supply, for a distribution block, as well as on the secondary side, for system components, including those with separate left and right chassis.
- Provided with a 2M Banana to Banana QKORE Wire and a 2M RCA to Banana QKORE Wire.



It is recommended to use one QKORE1 in conjunction with one QKORE3. However, if your system includes monoblocks, or you are searching for an all-in-one grounding solution, we advise using the QKORE6.

## QKORE WIRE

In order to complete this comprehensive grounding system, Nordost has also designed a designated QKORE Wire, which is constructed to provide the path of least resistance to ground, for the stray, high-frequency, low-voltage potentials that can affect the performance of your sound system. The QKORE Wire is a mechanically tuned cable that utilizes Nordost's patented Micro Mono-Filament technology, combined with extruded FEP insulation, and constructed with a silver-plated OFC, solid core conductor. The QKORE Wire can be terminated with the following connectors: spade, banana, male-XLR, female-XLR, BNC, RCA, USB A, USB B, or RJ45 (CAT/Ethernet).

- Fluorinated Ethylene Propylene (FEP) insulation
- Micro Mono-Filament technology
- 16 AWG (Standard) / 14 AWG (Premium) Conductor
- Silver-plated 99.9999% solid core OFC





# QLINE – GROUND WIRE

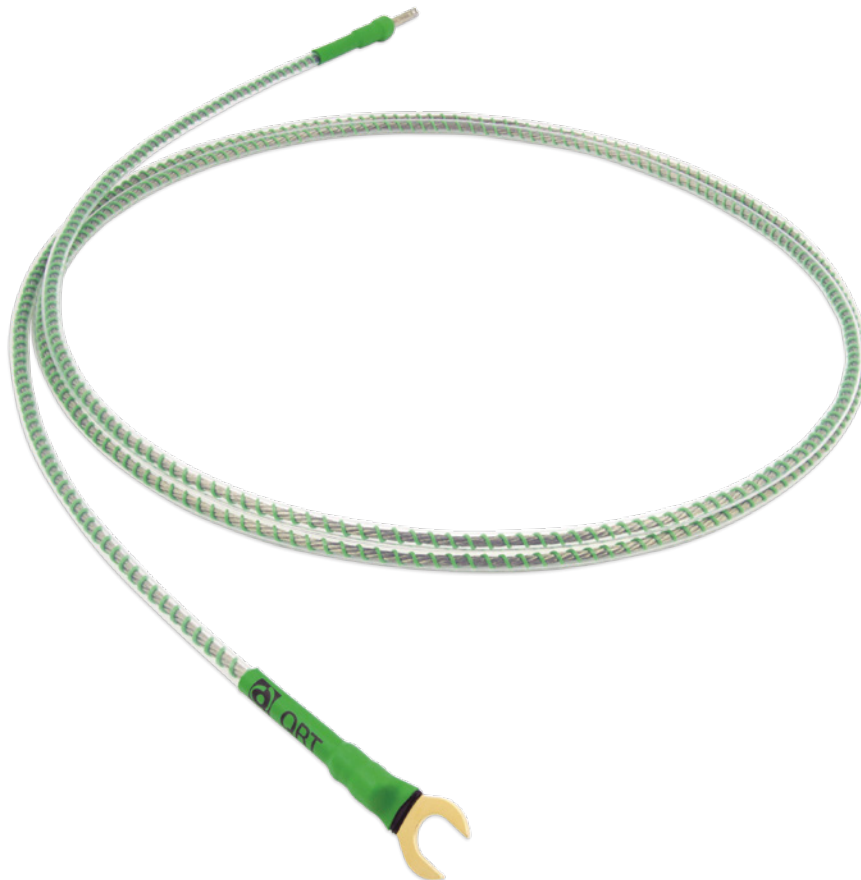
One of the most incessant problems that can plague a hifi system is that annoying hum. Noise is triggered when two circuits carrying different amounts of current overlap each other, or when a loop is created by stray magnetic fields generated by transformers in connected equipment. This problem is only magnified when your system is spread between several connected wall outlets throughout your listening room, as many are. The only solution to this problem: separate the circuits so that no overlaps occur by providing a designated ground.

While the easiest way to provide a designated ground for your sound system is achieved by using our QKORE grounding system, homeowners with the ability to install an outdoor ground rod will find Nordost's QLINE Ground Wire an indispensable tool. Utilizing Nordost's patented Micro Mono-Filament technology, combined with extruded FEP insulation, the QLINE is the missing link needed to complete the circuit —connecting

the QBASE ground post to a designated, external ground rod or grounding box, through its uniquely low resistance path. Proper grounding will transform your system, offering enhancements in 3D imaging as well as lowering the noise floor.

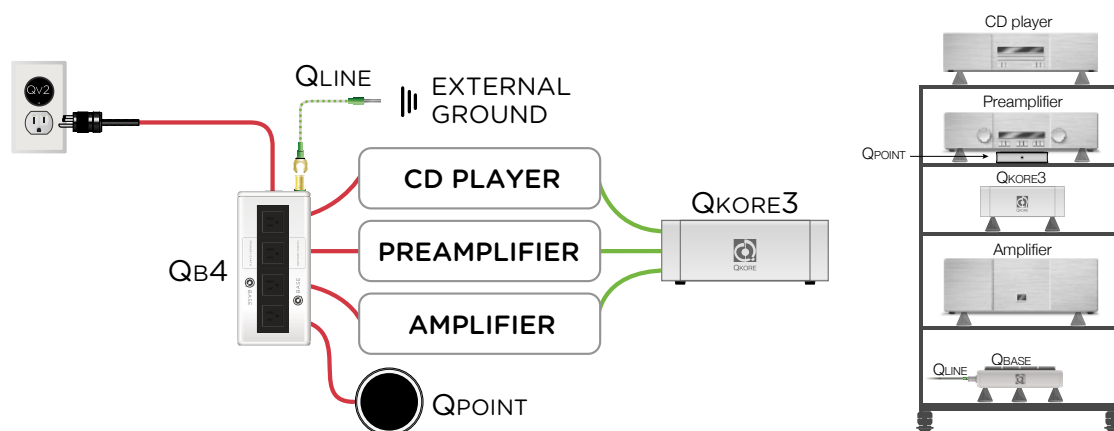
Nordost's QLINE is available in multiple lengths with airtight, waterproof terminations in order to accommodate your specific needs. It is important to recognize, that while installing a designated ground for your hifi system is the most efficient and direct approach to eliminate ground loops and AC hum, there are some states and countries that prohibit the use of a second ground. Please consult a local electrician to ensure that the improvements you make on your sound system remain to code.

- Fluorinated Ethylene Propylene (FEP) insulation
- Micro Mono-Filament technology
- 10 AWG plated 99.9999% OFC stranded conductor

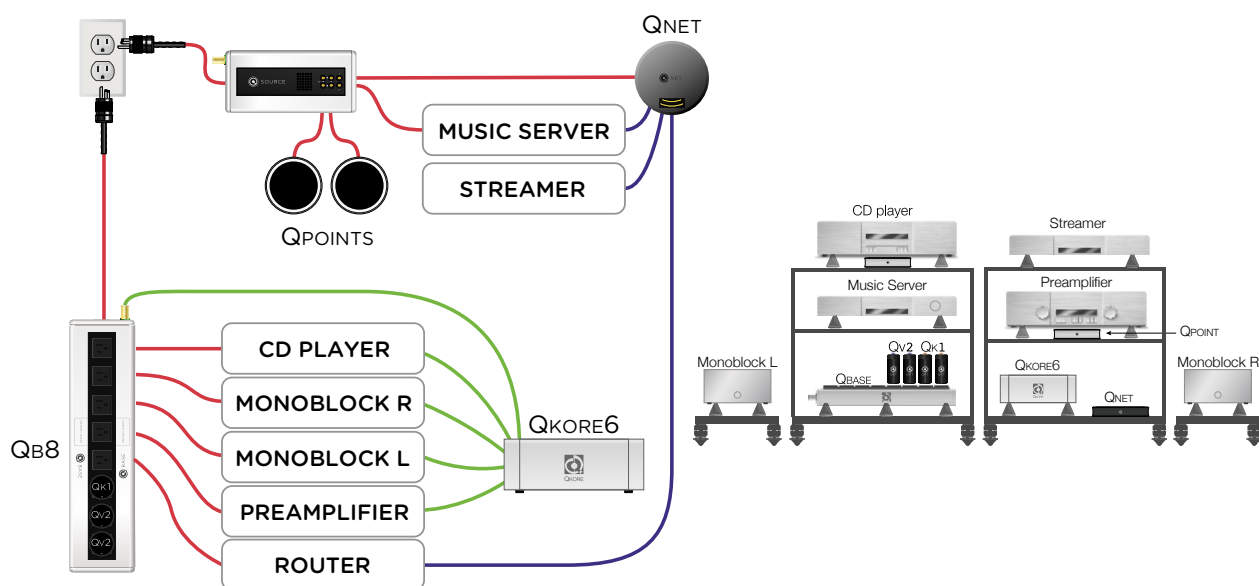


# USING QRT PRODUCTS IN YOUR SYSTEM

REFER TO THE DIAGRAMS BELOW TO SEE TWO WAYS QRT PRODUCTS CAN BE USED TO IMPROVE YOUR SYSTEM'S PERFORMANCE.



OR





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