

Gallery: Audio Electronics at CES 2012

Theta Prometheus Amplifier

Photo: [Brent Butterworth](#)



Theta's known for the Dreadnaught, an exotic tower-style amplifier that uses no global negative feedback and sure sounded awesome when I tested one about 10 years ago. But the high distortion of the no-global-feedback design just didn't fly with Morris Kessler, the man who bought Theta in 2007 and is best known as founder of ATI and co-founder of SAE. So for Theta's new Prometheus amp, Kessler used a new Class D topology called N-Core; the Prometheus represents the first use of N-Core in a consumer product. The amp uses a conventional linear power supply designed by Theta. The \$6,000-each 250-watt monoblock has a claimed A-weighted signal-to-noise ratio of 128 dB and distortion rated at less than 0.01%.