

Français

darTZeel **HIGH END AUDIO**
Swiss made World Class Audio Equipment

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Stereo Times

October 2003: Marshall Nack, from the e-zine **Stereo Times**, writes about the darTZeel, too. **His article** is a very favorable appraisal of the NHB-108 model one

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darTZeel NHB-108 model one stereo amp

Marshall Nack

October 2003

Specifications:

Type:

Solid-state stereo amplifier

Output power:

100 watts RMS @ 8 ohms
160 watts RMS @ 4 ohms

Gain: 26 dB @ 8 ohms

Input Impedance: RCA: >100 kohms, 5 Hz to 200 kHz

Output Impedance: < 0.33 ohms, from 20 Hz to 20 kHz

Frequency Response: 10 Hz to 100 kHz, +0, -0.5dB

THD: < 1%, 7 Hz to 77 kHz

Signal to noise: > 105 dB

Serial Number: TZ-UA1081.004

Dimensions: 440mm W X 335mm D X 170mm H

Weight: 30 kg (65 pounds)

Price: \$9898.98 introductory price, soon to be \$12,121 because of exchange rates

Distributor Information:

Delétraz Engineering

5, chemin des Halliers

CH-1234 Vessy / Geneve

Switzerland

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Email: **info@dartzeel.com**

Website: www.dartzeel.com

This is an interesting amplifier. Hervé Delétraz, the designer and manufacturer of the darTZeel NHB-108, is known to be an unconventional engineer, and this is the singular fruit of his labor over a sixteen-year period in the consumer audio area. Two lengthy and, at times, quite humorous user manuals are provided.

The Owner's Manual is mandatory reading to learn about features and correct usage.

The Audiophile's technical manual explains the designers' goals and delves into the theory behind the numerous circuit innovations and design choices.

Highlights of these choices include: no DC servo compensation or current limitation, no negative feedback at the outputs, and only two bipolar output devices per channel. This is a purist/minimalist design regarding the integrity of the signal. The designer feels the timing of musical events carried in the virgin signal is a fragile thing, and is easily compromised when circuits are "improved." A heroic effort is made to avoid this. Beyond those two bipolar output devices nothing touches the signal: all fuses, switches and contacts are outside the signal path.