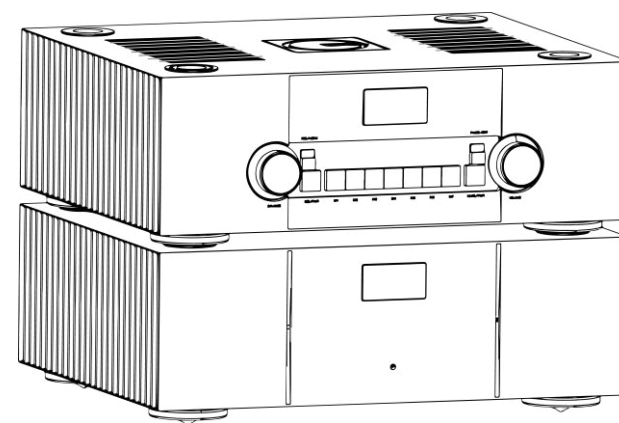


# USER MANUAL

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MIMESIS REFERENCE  
Analogue Preamplifier



Thank you for purchasing the Goldmund MIMESIS REFERENCE Preamplifier.

You have acquired one of the best preamplifiers ever made for professional and domestic uses. Please take some time to read this manual. It provides you with useful information to make your pleasure of listening to the MIMESIS REFERENCE even higher.

## INTRODUCTION

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### MIMESIS REFERENCE Analogue Preamplifier

Since 1978, Goldmund has been dedicated to developing audio equipment of the highest quality and accuracy to immerse you in the most realistic audio experience possible.

At Goldmund, we are committed to being at the forefront of the creation, development, and manufacture of the industry's most advanced technologies, including audio systems and music distribution.

Our aim is to provide the most accurate sound possible, with the least possible loss of quality during the various stages. With a team of rigorous engineers, Goldmund is constantly pushing back the boundaries of the exceptional to keep developing its own ever more innovative technology.

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## W A R N I N G !

This high-quality preamplifier possesses new technical features such as ultra-high band width within today's best audio systems.

**Only careful use can provide the satisfaction you are expecting from this product.**

All handling must be performed according to the following instructions to avoid impairing the preamplifier's performance.

Nevertheless, if the instructions are carried out in full, you will notice that the use of the MIMESIS REFERENCE is quite simple and convenient.

### **IMPORTANT**

PLEASE DO NOT CONNECT ANY CABLES OR MOVE ANY PARTS BEFORE READING THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|    |                               |    |
|----|-------------------------------|----|
| 1  | PRELIMINARIES                 | 5  |
| 2  | UNPACKING                     | 5  |
| 3  | CHOICE OF LOCATION & COOLING  | 6  |
| 4  | LINE VOLTAGE ADJUSTMENTS      | 7  |
| 5  | CONNECTIONS                   | 8  |
| 6  | POWER SUPPLY                  | 9  |
| 7  | CONTROLS & USE                | 10 |
| 8  | SOUND QUALITY OPTIMIZATION    | 14 |
| 9  | SAFETY FEATURES & MAINTENANCE | 16 |
| 10 | TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS      | 17 |

# 1

## PRELIMINARIES

For exacting technicians, musicians, and all high-fidelity music purists who demand the very best in reproduction, we strongly recommend the use of top-quality power amplifiers, since most of the analogue signal integrity delivered by the preamplifier can be destroyed by using lower quality amplifiers.

For perfect analogue amplification, Goldmund recommends the Goldmund Telos series of power amplifiers.

The connection between the analogue sources and the preamplifier as well as between the preamplifier and the power amplifiers are also critical. Ultra low reflection interconnect cables are absolutely mandatory to retain the time integrity that the preamplifier is designed to provide.

# 2

## UNPACKING

You will find the following items within the custom packaging:

- The Analogue Preamplifier
- The Power Supply Unit
- Preamplifier to Power Supply cable
- The mains power cord
- The remote control and batteries
- This user manual

Please unpack the components with care.

## 2

## UNPACKING (Ctd.)

### CAUTION

Should you need to return the MIMESIS REFERENCE to the factory or your local representative for warranty repair, please be aware that it must be repacked using the original packaging.

This packaging has been designed to specifically safeguard your MIMESIS REFERENCE during transit. Utilizing alternative packaging is likely to result in damage and invalidate warranty coverage.

## 3

## CHOICE OF LOCATION & COOLING

The Goldmund MIMESIS REFERENCE preamplifier generates a notable amount of heat. It is imperative to ensure adequate cooling. Please refrain from placing the preamplifier in poorly ventilated areas and avoid placing temperature-sensitive equipment on top or nearby.

The power unit has been designed to minimize transformer-induced vibrations affecting the audio circuitry. As a result, the power supply unit is physically isolated from the preamplifier and connected solely by a 85 mm cable. It is advisable to position the power supply and preamplifier as far apart as the cabling permits.

Ideally, the preamplifier should be positioned either adjacent to or above the power supply unit. The power supply should never be located above the preamplifier as this would force transformer vibrations evacuation through the audio circuits on its way to ground.

The power supply also generates a notable amount of heat. Please adhere to the ventilation guidelines to maintain optimal performance and reliability.

## 4

## LINE VOLTAGE ADJUSTMENTS

The Goldmund MIMESIS REFERENCE uses an internal power supply developed by Goldmund, ensuring a complete segregation of voltage between digital and left analogue & right analogue circuitry.

Your power supply unit is configured to function with the mains voltage specific to your geographical area. If any uncertainty arises, verify the power supply voltage switch located on the rear panel. Should you relocate after the preamplifier's purchase to a region with a distinct AC mains voltage, you have the option to manually adjust the voltage settings at the rear of your product or seek guidance from your local Goldmund dealer for expert support.

The voltage selector situated on the rear panel provides the choice between 230V and 115V.

The power supply unit operates seamlessly with both 50Hz and 60Hz AC line frequencies.

For detailed information regarding the acceptable range of main line voltage, please refer to the Technical Specifications section at the end of this manual. Should the nominal line voltage prevalent in your region fall outside this range, please reach out to your local Goldmund dealer for assistance.

## 5

## CONNECTIONS

**CAUTION**

Always remember that a plug with bared connectors is dangerous if in contact with a live socket. This appliance must be earthed.

Connect the non-rewirable power cord supplied to the rear of the power supply and plug it into the nearest wall plug. Use only a 3-lugs grounded plug, for safety and noise reasons. Replacement mains leads can be obtained from your Goldmund retailer.

To get the best sound of the preamplifier, avoid any multiple plugs or extension cords.

**CAUTION**

Take care to always handle the cable by the connectors. Never twist the cable excessively or attempt to connect or disconnect the connector by handling the cable body in place of the connector.

Connect the cabling from the power supply output "Power Supplies" to the preamplifier input point labeled "Power".

**Warning!** The next stage in setting up your MIMESIS REFERENCE is to connect your sources, power amplifiers and other peripheral devices. All devices should be disconnected from mains power until safe.

Connect the preamp analogue output interconnects to the power amp using the RCA female sockets labeled ANALOGUE OUTPUTS or XLR BALANCED OUTPUTS.

Connect the interconnect cables from source devices to the line inputs numbered 1 to 7 labeled IN1 to IN7.

Connect tape machines to any inputs and to the Tape output RCA plugs.



## 6

## POWER SUPPLY

The main POWER switch is located on the rear panel of the Goldmund MIMESIS REFERENCE power supply. In regular use, this switch should be left permanently ON and the circuits of the preamplifier activated or deactivated using the STANDBY ON/OFF.

When the POWER switch is switched ON, the preamp will become operative after few seconds delay to ensure proper stabilization of all the circuitry and avoid any unwanted noise. After this delay, the output of the preamplifier is connected to the power amplifier.

The preamplifier can be powered off by switching the POWER switch to the OFF position. A special safety circuit switches the preamp to MUTE to avoid any disturbance reaching the power amplifier and the speakers, even if the preamplifier is disconnected from the mains supply by accident. However, to optimize the sound quality of the preamplifier and ensure the reliability, the Mimesis Reference should remain powered ON continuously and is only deactivated using the Standby function.

## 7

## CONTROLS & USE

The Goldmund MIMESIS REFERENCE is designed to capture, control, shape and nurture the fragile source inputs, supporting adjustment of volume and balance to deliver your desired output signal. The primary control functions supporting these processes are outlined below.

### STANDBY

To activate the preamplifier (set to ON) put it into STANDBY ON mode by pressing the SET/PWR and the MUTE/PWR buttons simultaneously.

To deactivate the preamplifier (set to OFF) press these same SET/PWR and MUTE/PWR buttons simultaneously once more.

In standby mode, the two red LEDs near the PWR button will be illuminated intermittently (approximately every five seconds).

### PHASE

The PHASE switch reverses the polarity of the signal (180° out of phase) simultaneously on both channels. A red led is illuminated to indicate the activation of the phase modification.

### INPUT SELECTION

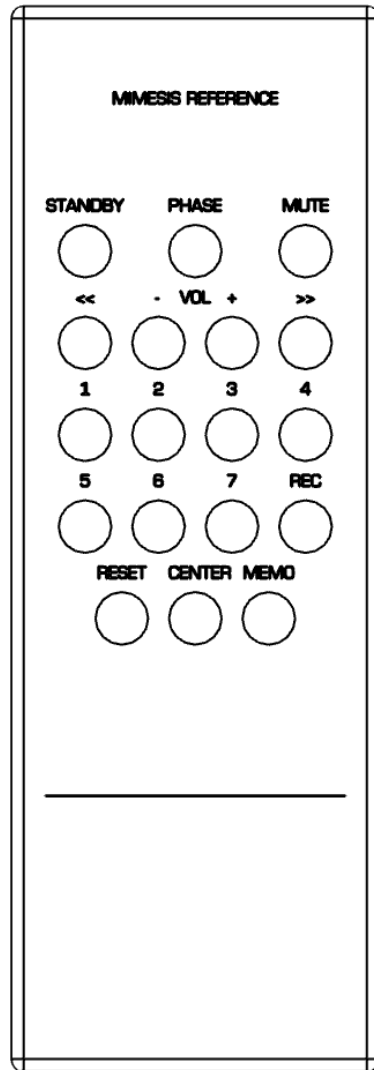
To select the source, you want to listen to, use buttons 1 to 7 to activate each of the 7 input options. When the input is activated, the front panel display will indicate which input is selected.

### VOLUME ADJUSTMENT

The right-hand volume level adjustment knob is used to adjust VOLUME.

## 7

## CONTROLS &amp; USE (Ctd.)

**MUTE**

Press the MUTE/PWR button to mute output.

This switch turns off the output of the preamplifier, without disconnecting the power supply. It can be used to temporarily turn the volume down without touching the volume control.

Volume and balance adjustment are still possible when the preamplifier is muted.

**BALANCE ADJUSTMENT**

The left-hand rotary switch is used to adjust BALANCE.

If the volume value is set to zero, balance modification is not visible: left and right volume will be displayed at zero.

The left and right output volumes can be re-equalized after balance adjustment by using the CENTER selector on the Control.

**VOLUME MEMORY**

This function is only accessible via the Remote Control. It allows the volume to be automatically set to the level fixed when the unit is turned ON.

To adjust the level, first select the desired output level, and then press MEMO on the Remote Control. If at any time during playback you wish to return to this level, just press the RESET button.

**RECORD**

To select the RECORD INPUT function, press the REC/MENU button. The display will read SELECT REC INPUT. Then press the input button to select the RECORD INPUT.

## 7

**CONTROLS & USE (Ctd.)****RECORD (Ctd.)**

To check which RECORD INPUT is selected, press the REC button on the Remote Control.  
If you want to remove the recorded input, press REC/MENU button first and then press the MUTE/PWR button.

**PARAMETERS MENU**

To access to this menu, press the SET/PWR first, hold it and then press REC/MENU. Press REC/MENU button to move on to the next menu page.

To exit the menu press the SET/PWR first, hold it and then press REC/MENU buttons once more time.

**1. Display brightness**

The MIMESIS REFERENCE supports seven display brightness levels.

Press PHASE/EDIT button to increase display brightness.

Press MUTE/PWR button to decrease brightness.

**2. Display Timing**

The MIMESIS REFERENCE supports four-time out values are available.

These are:

- 10 seconds of display time,
- 20 seconds,
- 30 seconds or
- Permanent display

## 7

**CONTROLS & USE (Ctd.)****PARAMETERS MENU (Ctd.)****3. Balanced Input**

The MIMESIS REFERENCE supports the option of either unbalanced or balanced inputs on inputs 5, 6 and 7.

The default setting is for the inputs to be unbalanced. Select balanced input functions using the IN5 to IN7 buttons.

Use these input selectors in conjunction with the PHASE/EDIT button to change input properties.

**4. SSP Input**

The SSP input function supports a direct link from input to output bypassing preamplifier circuits. Select input using the IN1 to IN7 buttons.

To select SSP INPUT = NONE (for example to avoid lopping a Tape Out monitor, select MUTE/PWR.

## 8

# SOUND QUALITY OPTIMIZATION

### EDIT MENU

To access to this menu, press the SET/PWR, hold it and press the PHASE/EDIT buttons simultaneously.

Press PHASE/EDIT button to pass to the next menu 'page'. To exit the menu, select the SET/PWR first, hold it and the PHASE/EDIT buttons again.

### 1. Global Gain

Global input gain limits can be modified to between +12 to -12dB.

Use the right rotary switch VOLUME to change preamplifier global gain. The new limit set will be displayed. The input gain value can then be modified if outside the new limits.

Global Gain should always be set before adjusting Input Gain. If this rule is not followed the global adjustment may conflict with the individual input gain adjustment. The Input Gain should therefore be re-checked and re-adjusted.

### 2. Input Gain

Select input using the 'IN1' to 'IN7' button

Use the right rotary switch VOLUME to change input gain

Input gain limits are fixed by the global gain.

The maximum gain difference between inputs is 24dB.

## 8

**SOUND QUALITY OPTIMIZATION (Ctd.)****3. Input Name**

The default Input Channels can be reassigned using up to 14 characters.

Select input with IN1 to IN7 button

Use the left rotary switch BALANCE to select the character to be changed.

Use the left rotary switch VOLUME to change the character.

**WARM-UP SONIC EFFECT**

If the preamplifier has been left un-powered for some time, the optimum sound quality may only be attained after many hours. The critical circuits have to warm up to around +55 degrees Celsius (+131 degrees Fahrenheit) before achieving their optimal performances. This is why Goldmund recommends that the MIMESIS REFERENCE is always powered on.

**ABSOLUTE PHASE**

Your MIMESIS REFERENCE preamplifier has an absolute phase inverter switch.

Absolute phase optimization can be difficult to achieve with CD's since at the current state of the technology, the phase coherency of this source is not sufficient to allow an adequate difference between the two positions.

Many vinyl recordings are made without care for the absolute phase and different LP's can have different optimum positions. Trial and error is therefore often necessary.

**GOLDMUND "MECHANICAL GROUNDING"**

In the MIMESIS REFERENCE preamplifier, Goldmund has implemented its renowned construction method to provide an optimized vibration evacuation path.

## 8

### SOUND QUALITY OPTIMIZATION (Ctd.)

To get all the benefits of this improvement, the MIMESIS REFERENCE must be located on a very rigid support, directly coupled to the building. Avoid any decoupling material. If carpet decouples the preamplifier and ground, use pin-point supports to couple the furniture to the floor.

The MIMESIS REFERENCE preamplifier is equipped with four adjustable conical feet, integral to the renowned Goldmund "Mechanical Grounding" principle. These feet play a pivotal role in ensuring effective vibration transmission to the preamplifier's support structure, thereby facilitating the expulsion of detrimental vibrations within the unit. Depending on the levelness of the chosen installation surface, it may be necessary to adjust one or more of these feet to ensure the preamplifier is aligned.

## 9

### SAFETY FEATURES & MAINTENANCE

#### PROTECTION CIRCUIT

The MIMESIS REFERENCE preamplifier uses a special protection circuit to protect the power amplifier and the speakers against a power supply failure or AC shutdown of the preamplifier.

#### MAINTENANCE

To clean your MIMESIS REFERENCE use only a soft, clean, dry or slightly damp cloth. Avoid using domestic cleaning products.

**Warning!** Always turn the power off before cleaning your preamplifier.

There are no user serviceable parts inside the MIMESIS REFERENCE. Unauthorized servicing or alteration invalidates the manufacturer's warranty. All inquiries relating to product servicing and operation should be referred to the local authorized retailer supplying and supporting your Goldmund equipment.



## 10

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

**OUTPUT LEVEL**

- Nominal level: 1.55 V RMS
- Maximum output level (balanced): 9.6 V RMS
- Maximum output level (unbalanced): 4.8 V RMS
- Output impedance: 50 Ohms

**FREQUENCY RESPONSE**

These values for any level to 10 V RMS:

- +/- 0 dB, 20 Hz to 20 kHz
- +/- 3 dB, 0.2 Hz to 1.2 MHz

**INPUT SENSITIVITY**

- Nominal level: 100 mV
- Saturation level: 5 V RMS
- Nominal input impedance: 39 kOhms
- Separated input level adjustment for each of the 7 line inputs: -12 to 12 dB

**INPUT LEVEL**

- Maximum input level (balanced): 9.6 V RMS
- Maximum input level (unbalanced): 4.8 V RMS

**GROUP DELAY**

- Propagation delay <300 ns stable with frequency from DC to 200 kHz

**DISTORTION**

- 1 V RMS output level, 80 kHz measurement bandwidth
- 600 ohms termination impedance
- THD unbalanced input to unbalanced output 0.0002 % flat with frequency

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS (Ctd.)

### DISTORTION (Ctd.)

- THD balanced input to balanced output 0.0001 % flat with frequency
- IMD unbalanced input to unbalanced output 0.0002 %
- IMD balanced input to balanced output 0.0001 %

### SPEED

- Slew rate of the amplification stages: 2500 V/us
- Rise time: < 400 ns

### CROSSTALK

- Separation: > 105 dB between channels
- (20 Hz — 20 kHz)

### NOISE

- Signal-to noise ratio on line input: > 126 dB (0.01 Hz - 10 MHz)
- Weighted ASA A: > 136 dB

### POWER

- Nominal line voltage: 115 V or 230 V
- Input voltage range: +/- 15 %
- Maximum power consumption: 70 W

### GROUNDING

- Separated ground and earth signal
- Connection optional between earth and ground to cancel all ground loops

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS (Ctd.)

### SAFETY FEATURES

- Automatic switching to MUTE if the AC line drops or is interrupted
- Automatic protection against tape loops

### FRONT PANEL CONTROLS

- MUTE/POWER switch control
- VOLUME control
- BALANCE control
- RECORD/MENU switch
- PHASE/EDIT switch
- 7 INPUT CONTROL switches

### REAR PANEL CONNECTORS & CONTROLS

- Power connector
- Earthing post (yellow-green)
- Output connectors XLR (right & left) balanced
- Output connectors RCA (right & left) for Tape and Line outputs
- Signal grounding post (black)
- Input connectors XLR (right & left) balanced
- Input connectors RCA (right & left) for Tape and line inputs
- Link float switch
- RS232 Connector

### POWER SUPPLY CONTROLS

- Main fuse (2.5 A slow-blow)

## 10

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS (Ctd.)

**SIZE & WEIGHT****Preamplifier:**

- 44 W x 16 H x 40.6 D (cm) — 17.3 W x 6.3 H x 16 D (inch)
- 20 kg

**Power Supply:**

- 44 W x 16 H x 39 D (cm) — 17.3 W x 6.3 H x 15.4 D (inch)
- 25 kg

Information and product specifications contained in this manual are subject to change without prior notice.

Visit our website at [www.goldmund.com](http://www.goldmund.com)