



JANTZEN AUDIO
DENMARK

Reviews by Audio Experts

Troels Gravesen/Denmark: www.troelsgravesen.dk

Having set up the two speakers as described above (3-way system with all Superior Z-cap except for mid in one speaker), the fun started. One speaker with Superior Z-caps (SZC) to the mid, the other with Cross-caps (CC). All other things the same. Frequency response was checked and was the same for the two speakers within 0.5 dB.

The two speakers certainly didn't sound the same. One was brighter than the other. The CC version sounded brighter compared to the SZC, but at the same time, while listening to the SZC version my perception of the sound could swap - and all of a sudden I could hear the Superior Z-cap version being the brightest. The "problem" is this: With the CC the sound is somewhat more compressed compared to the SZC version. With the CC the midrange appears to be located around the speaker front panel plane, where the SZC has a significant deeper soundstage, thus less presence is perceived, yet it allows you to focus your attention to the bright (treble part) of the instruments and voices and then - brighter. Quite simple actually. The SZC will allow you to focus on details that standard MKPs simply cannot resolve.

During this exercise I changed the position of the speakers from time to time - left and right. These are dipole or rather semi-dipole speakers and dependent on room position. However, still what is described here followed the speakers no matter what position they had. The SZC simply reveals detail and a depth in the acoustic scenario the CC are not capable of. The CCs certainly aren't bad, not at all. They very much sound like what we're used to hear from the majority of hi-fi speakers.

Silver Gold Z-cap:

I have used the Silver Gold Z-cap in both CD players and amplifiers and they are excellent coupling capacitors.

Tony Gee/Holland: www.tg-acoustics.com

Superior Z-caps:

Sound:

Very neutral and coherent balance, they don't seem to highlight anything and I mean that in a positive way! They are a little flatter in presentation than their more expensive brother, the Silver Z-Cap but still better than the Clarity Cap SA in depth and spatial information. In direct comparison with a Clarity Cap SA they are less up-front in the lower treble and have a very good texturing of acoustic instruments like a violin for example. In the upper treble they are slightly brighter than a Mundorf Silver/Gold which probably explains the good spatial information and separation. Compared to the Jantzen Audio Silver Z-Cap I find them the more musical of the two and I will definitely add them to my favorites list.

Superior Silver:

Sound:

More transparent than the less expensive Superior Z-Cap, very detailed. Sometimes too detailed for my liking which makes them less coherent than the Superior Z-Cap. They give some emphasis on the upper treble but are still more civilized than a Clarity Cap SA for example; they have a so-called "high-end" flair. Objectively speaking they are better than the Superior Z-Cap but I prefer the Superior Z-Cap for its more neutral presentation.

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Jürgen Ultee / Germany:

I did a close listening test between the caps (Superior Z-cap and Superior Silver) and I was impressed.

Listening to the Superior Z-caps, you can hear the difference best with female voices, e.g. Dianna Crall, Cassandra Wilson, etc. the voice comes warmer, more female over the SZC than through the Cross-caps. Also the Superior Silver are very good, they have a bit more of resolution but nevertheless they are very smooth sounding. That is very interesting, because most caps with remarkable resolution sound a bit harsh most of the time, but not the Superior Silver, really good! Impressive are the silver lead out types, I have only very small µF-values but in the tube amp gear they sound great - much room between the instruments, lots of aura, smooth sounding. But they need a long burn-in time, so someone should not judge them too early.

Same is true for the Superior Z-caps; they need their burn-in time but then sound great. The SZC are more good-natured about burn-in, after some hours they are fine from start.

Silver Gold Z-cap:

After an extended burn-in period the silver/gold caps became nice sounding. After the burn-in period the sound became smoother than the Silver Z-cap, with a good resolution.

This makes the Silver Gold Z-cap very good for customers using over-brilliant audio chains.

Franck Tchang / France: www.francktchang.com

The Superior Z-cap and Silver Z-cap - from Jantzen Audio, Denmark are my favorite.

Open and without compression in any frequency range, nice acoustic feel, especially very natural sounding. Highly recommended!

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David Mozingo, North Carolina - USA

Jantzen Superior vs. Auricap

Hello,

I ordered the 0.10uf/1200v & 0.22uf/1200v Superior Z -capacitors from www.partsexpress.com in Springboro, Ohio. Your caps sound "amazing" my friend. Well I just had to email you about this great product.

Taelemans/Finland

I made a better filter using Jantzen Superior-caps, again a huge step forward vocals gain texture, you can hear the breath of the singer in-between words, one of the best I heard up until now.

Ole/Denmark:

Hi Jantzen,

I Have just tried the Superior Z-caps and these are nothing short of excellent. Appear to be more musical and detailed without being dominant in the high-frequency range compared to other brands. At the price it's a winner.

Jeff, California -USA

One of the best capacitors for crossovers.

I'm no real expert on building crossovers, and I don't recommend just anyone to go and get a 26 dollar capacitor. I built my own home high-level speakers and end up saving probably \$1000-\$2000 in labor and designing the enclosures. So I thought these caps weren't going too far and I hope they last a very long time.

TPS, Catskills, New York - USA

This is the One!

I purchased this capacitor as a upgrade replacement for the another high end capacitor used in my preamp. Though it will take some time to break in, the result was immediate and intimate. Excellent clarity and neutrality. The reeds are sharp and focused. String instruments especially the fret boards are heard very well and clearly I am very satisfied.

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Jimmy R, Muskegon, MI - USA

Jantzen Superior Z-cap

Finally, a reasonable priced 2% metalized poly cap that doesn't sound micro phonic and zippy in a crossover application!

Ever look at the value tolerance of most of the other highly rated "audiophile grade" capacitors? These plus or minus 10% tolerance ratings to me do not dictate a precision made capacitor. When used in a crossover application, the crossover point value of each speaker could vary by as much as a 20%.

Could you imagine using such loose tolerance caps in a signal path of an amplifier? I can't.

You shouldn't have to pay extra to have a pair matched. Good caps do not need matching.

After years of trying many of these horribly electronic sounding in vogue caps of the extreme high end of audio, it is very refreshing to know that someone at Jantzen actually listens to their products.

The Jantzen Superior Z-cap leans toward the sound of paper in oil caps, very analogue-like, wide open, and realistic sounding.

Highly tuned to a mere 2% tolerance, this makes me wonder just how much better Jantzen's silver z-caps could possibly be, but you know that will be the next cap I try.

Extremely fine product, much, much better sounding than the overpriced and underdeveloped "yellow" or "white" groups of "audiophile" grade caps currently in vogue.

MJA from Sydney, Australia

Good value for money

Nice clear balanced sound, not harsh or dull.

Nate Diggidy from Maryland

Another top player in the premium capacitor field

I used these along with some Jantzen Cross Caps in a crossover mod for my Magnepan MMG's. The speakers are sounding better than ever. I wouldn't hesitate for a second to choose these caps again. Expensive but good.

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