

dCS Puccini Player

Service Manual

October 2011

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Contents

Safety and Confidentiality	4
Safety Warnings	4
Disclaimer	4
Confidentiality	4
Unit Description	5
Hardware and Software History	6
Hardware History & Configuration Code	6
Software History	7
Common Set-Up Errors.....	8
Symptom: The unit fails to power up	8
Symptom: The Display turns on when a control is operated, then turns off	8
Symptom: The unit fails to respond to the controls	8
Symptom: The unit fails to lock to a Master Clock	8
Symptom: Crackles, pops or noise occur while playing music	8
Symptom: The audio is low or absent	8
Symptom: No data on the digital outputs	8
Symptom: The Left and Right channels are swapped.	8
Symptom: The sound on one channel is low or missing	9
Symptom: Using a non-dCS Transport, the <i>Puccini</i> does not report 16/44.1	9
Symptom: The Player does not lock to 176 or 192k data on the digital inputs	9
Dismantling Procedure	10
Opening the case – Mk1 - units shipped from September 2007 to March 2008	10
Opening the case – Mk2 - units shipped from March 2008 to March 2009	11
Opening the case – Mk3 - units shipped from March 2009 to present	12
Identification of the sub-assemblies	14
Removing sub-assemblies	15
Reassembly Overview	17
Front panel	17
Side cheeks	19
Top plate	20
Base Plate	22
Subassembly Details.....	23
Common Subassemblies	23
Control Board DCS156541 v7	23
Ring DAC Board DCS002520	23
Power Board DCS152223	24
Mains Transformer DCS002896	24
Display Board DCS300750 / Switch Board DCS300755	25
I/O Board DCS300761	25
Connector Panel Board DCS300765	26
Esoteric Main Board, Front-end Board and UMK5 CD/SACD mechanism	27
Fault-Finding	28
Known Faults and Solutions	28
Symptom: The CD mechanism runs at the wrong speed	28
Symptom: The CD tray opens on command then immediately closes	28
Symptom: The unit cannot read certain discs	29
Symptom: The unit displays "Error 001", the mechanism fails to respond	29
Symptom: Display contrast is poor and cannot be improved	29
Fault Finding Guide	30
Symptom: The mains fuse blows	30
Symptom: The unit fails to power up	30
Symptom: The unit boots up but the CD mechanism does not work	31
Symptom: The unit fails to lock at some sample rates	31
Further tests	31
Servicing the OPU	32
The causes of disc reading problems	32
Cleaning the focusing lens	32

Replacing the OPU	33
Block Diagram	35
Signal Processing Path.....	37
PCM Audio Path	37
I ² C Bus	37
DSD Audio Path	38
Control Interface	38
PLL	39
UA & UD	39
CD Update Procedure	40
Update Procedure	40
Problems?	41
What's new in v1.30?	41
Obtaining and loading a license	41
Re-loading Software from ROM	42
Re-loading the Control software	42

SAFETY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Safety Warnings



Servicing must be carried out by qualified service personnel only.



These products contain circuitry that operate at high voltages and/or currents. Removing safety covers can expose personnel to risk of electric shock or other injury.

Take special care when working on the Power Board, as much of the board is at high voltage.



These products contain static-sensitive devices which can be seriously damaged by incorrect handling. Observe standard anti-static precautions at all times.



This product is lead-free to comply with the RoHS directive. If soldering or de-soldering is required, SAC solder (tin / silver / copper) must be used to ensure reliable repairs.



CD Players and Transports are classified as **CLASS 1 LASER PRODUCTS**. Removing safety covers may expose personnel to laser radiation. If it is necessary to operate the equipment with the laser(s) active, wear appropriate safety goggles and do not stare along the laser beam.

Disclaimer

Data Conversion Systems Ltd. accept no liability for any kind for loss, accident or injury resulting from service activities.

Confidentiality



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UNIT DESCRIPTION



The *dCS Puccini Player* is a 2-channel CD/SACD player intended for stand-alone use or with a *Puccini U-Clock*. The unit is extensively configured by software stored in flash memory. The key features are as follows.

- The internal *dCS Ring DAC™* is a discrete balanced design, which uses no proprietary DAC chips. All data received by the DAC is oversampled to 5 bits at either 2.822 or 3.07MS/s, depending upon whether the data is based on a 44.1 or 48kHz clock.
- Twin laser Esoteric UMK-5 CD/SACD mechanism with aluminium tray.
- Separately buffered stereo Balanced output on 2x XLR3 connectors and stereo Unbalanced outputs on 2x RCA connectors. Both can output either 2V or 6V rms full-scale, set in the menu. The Balanced output stages are a discrete class-A design.
- Digital Volume & Balance controls allow most power amplifiers to be driven directly.
- PCM inputs: 2x SPDIF on 2x RCA connectors. These give direct access to the *Ring DAC™* and will accept up to 24-bit data at 32, 44.1, 48, 88.2, 96, 176.4 or 192kS/s.
- Industry standard Word Clock Input and Output. The unit can either Sync to an external master clock connected to the Word Clock Input or act as a 44.1kHz grade 2 Master Clock, allowing a suitable device to be locked to the Word Clock Output.
- The Player can be set to upsample CD data to DSD before oversampling to *Ring DAC™* format. The owner can obtain a license code from *dCS* that will activate DSD upsampling for the digital inputs.
- PCM outputs: 2x SPDIF on 2x RCA connectors. These carry 16-bit data at 44.1kS/s when a CD is playing.
- Twin crystal oscillators – one for 44.1kHz-related data, the other for 48kHz-related data. Discrete Phase-Locked-Loop circuitry.
- Software may be updated by the user from a suitable CD-R. If the software has become corrupted, the unit may be re-booted from a ROM, fitted to a Programmer Board.
- All-aluminium case.

HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE HISTORY

Hardware History & Configuration Code

For products manufactured since early 2000, the long version of the *dCS* unit serial number may be read from the menu. This contains a great deal of information about the build standard of the unit, allowing *dCS* to advise on the suitability of software updates, whether a hardware update is advisable and (sometimes) the cause of a particular problem.

The example below is a *Puccini Player* with serial number PPR-0S2-7G4-6E3-1C5-012-6001.

A typical serial number	This code group means:
PPR	PRODUCT CODE. SCK = Scarlatti Clock, SDC = Scarlatti DAC, STT = Scarlatti Transport, SUP = Scarlatti Upsampler, PPR = Puccini Player, PUU or PUC = Puccini U-Clock, PCK = Paganini Clock, PDC = Paganini DAC, PTT = Paganini Transport, PUP = Paganini Upsampler, DDC or DDP = Debussy DAC.
0S2	OPTIONS CODE. First character = product options (e.g. 1394 interface fitted). Second character: B = Black, S = Silver. Third character = voltage setting: 1 = 100V, 2 = 115/120V, 3 = 200V, 4 = 215/220V, 5 = 230/240V. Early versions have only 2 voltage settings: 1 = 100-120V, 4 = 200-240V.
7G4	CONTROL BOARD CODE. The build standard of the Control board.
6E3	TOP BOARD CODE. The build standard of the Ring DAC™ board.
1C5	DISPLAY BOARD CODE. The build standard of the Display Board.
012	CASE & BASE CODE. This covers the build standard of the case parts, mains transformer, Power Board, CD mechanism & boards, back panel wiring and anything else.
6001	CONTROL BOARD SERIAL NUMBER. Each Control Board has a unique serial number.

Software History

v1.00	November 2007	This is the first issue
v1.01	February 2008	Reliability improvements, Balance operation amended.
v1.10	March 2009	The unit can lock to Word Clock while receiving data from PCM inputs. LEDs dim at low brightness settings. No longer need to play a CD briefly before using Phase/Channel Check or CD Update. The unit un-mutes correctly if a disc is loaded by pressing PLAY.
v1.12	June 2009	Licensed feature enables DSD upsampling when using PCM inputs. Display Board FPGA code updated to avoid occasional LCD flicker.
v1.20	August 2010	3 PCM filter options added: Classic, Long and Asymmetric. DSD performance improved. Occasional Display Off time-out problems corrected. Display code updated from 1.10 to 1.20.
v1.21	October 2010	Occasional display problems fixed. Occasional pop when changing sample rate fixed.
v1.30	July 2011	Adds 176.4 & 192kS/s capability to the digital inputs to support <i>Puccini U-Clock</i> v2. Programming mode display corrected.

The latest software should be loaded in all units.

COMMON SET-UP ERRORS

Symptom: The unit fails to power up

- Check that the rated supply voltage stated on the back panel matches the local supply voltage.
- Ensure there is power available on the power cable, connect it to the unit. Set the back panel power switch to the **I** position (ON), wait 10 seconds and press the **POWER** button.
- Check that the mains fuse under the mains inlet has not blown. If it has, correct any obvious cause then replace the fuse as described in the manual.

Symptom: The Display turns on when a control is operated, then turns off

- This happens when the Display Settings > Display On/Off menu page is set to OFF. Change the setting to ON to stop the Display blanking out.

Symptom: The unit fails to respond to the controls

- If the indicator beside the **POWER** button is illuminated, the unit is in SLEEP mode. Press the **POWER** button once to return to normal operation.

Symptom: The unit fails to lock to a Master Clock

- Check the SetUp / Clocking menu to ensure the unit is set to lock to Word Clock.
- When playing a disc, make sure the Clock is set to 44.1kHz and is correctly calibrated.
- When using the PCM inputs, ensure the source is also locked to the Clock and that the sample rate is an exact multiple of the Clock frequency.
- Check that the Clock cable is not damaged. Replace it with another cable.
- The ability to lock to an external clock while receiving data from the external inputs was added in software issue 1.10. Please ensure that your software is up to date.

Symptom: Crackles, pops or noise occur while playing music

- The high level of out-of-band noise inherent in SACD data can be demodulated by some power amplifiers, especially if the SACD has been mastered with inferior converters. Try setting the Player's Filter to a higher number.
- The disc may be dirty – clean it carefully with a radial motion.
- The disc may be "copy protected". Check that the Compact Disc Digital Audio logo is printed on the disc. If it is not, the disc is not a genuine CD – please return the disc to the disc manufacturer and demand a genuine CD in exchange.
- The 6V output level setting is high enough to overload some preamplifiers. Change the SetUp > Output > Output Level menu page to the 2V setting.

Symptom: The audio is low or absent

- Make sure the Player is not muted - the blue LED to the left of the STOP/EJECT button should be off. If the LED is on, press the MUTE button on the remote control.
- If you are playing a disc, make sure a digital input has not been accidentally selected.
- If the unit is loaded with software earlier than 1.10, loading a disc by pressing the PLAY button can cause the analogue outputs to remain muted. Update the software to correct this.
- Ensure the **Volume** and **Balance** Controls are correctly set.
- Ensure the source is sending audio data. Non Audio data can cause an automatic mute.

Symptom: No data on the digital outputs

- If you are playing an SACD, there will be no digital output because the Player does not down-sample DSD to PCM.

Symptom: The Left and Right channels are swapped.

- Check that the analogue output cables are not reversed.

Symptom: The sound on one channel is low or missing

- The Output Level setting is controlled by 2 latching relays, one or both can flip over if the unit is bumped hard. To correct this, change the SetUp > Output > Output Level menu page to 6V and then change it to 2V. Check that both channels are now at the same level.
- Check that the **Balance** control is correctly set.
- Check that the audio output cables are correctly connected and undamaged.
- It is possible to connect the balanced analogue outputs to an unbalanced input, provided that pin 3 on both XLRs is connected to ground (pin 1). Do not leave pin 3 floating, as this will make the output level unstable.

Symptom: Using a non-dCS Transport, the *Puccini* does not report 16/44.1

- Some Transports (e.g. Mark Levinson ML31.7, Linn CD21) add dither, so the *Puccini* correctly reports 17/44.1 or something similar.
- Some CD Transports upsample to 48 or 88.2kS/s, the *Puccini* will report the format of the data it receives.

Symptom: The Player does not lock to 176 or 192k data on the digital inputs

- This feature was added in software issue 1.30 - update the software.

DISMANTLING PROCEDURE

Bear in mind that you should not have to completely dismantle the unit to carry out the repair!

Tools required:

- Ratchet screwdriver handle.
- Screwdriver bits: Allen key 2, 2.5 & 3mm A/F, 6mm flat blade, No1 PoziDriv.
- Nut spinners / socket spanners: 5.5mm, 7mm, 12.5mm (1/2"), 14mm (5/16") & 16mm (5/8") A/F.



Do not use ball-ended Allen keys, as these can damage the screw heads.

The design of the case has changed over time, the unit you are servicing may be slightly different from that shown.

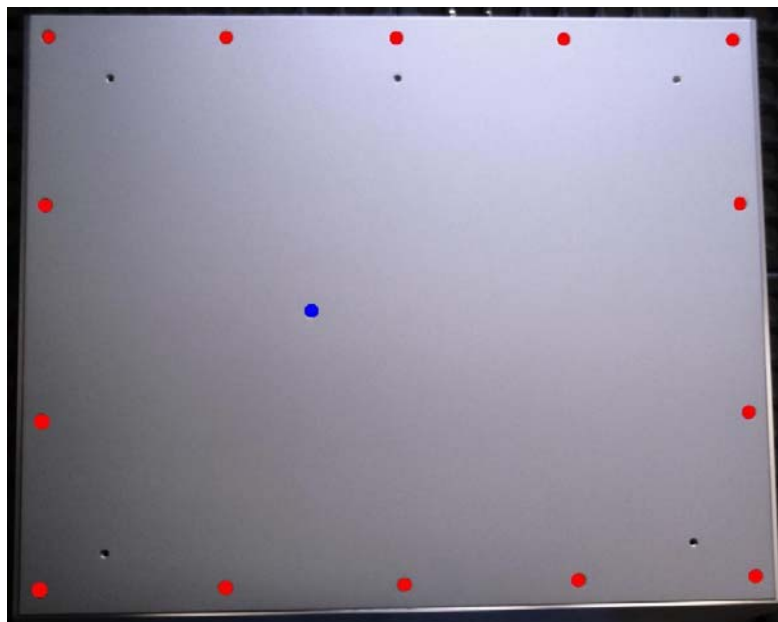


Remember to observe anti-static precautions when dismantling.

The Paganini/Puccini metalwork has evolved since it was first designed, there are now 3 distinct versions in circulation, which we will describe as Mk1, Mk2 and Mk3. Disconnect all cables from the unit. Rest the unit on a soft anti-static surface to prevent damage to the finish.

Opening the case – Mk1 - units shipped from September 2007 to March 2008

Turn the unit upside-down and remove the 14 screws from the base plate, shown in red below. Also remove the screw near the middle of the plate marked in blue. Remove the base plate.



To detach the top cover, first remove the 2 screws in the middle of both side plates, shown in red below.



Inside the unit, remove the 5 screws in the well near the back panel, shown in red below.

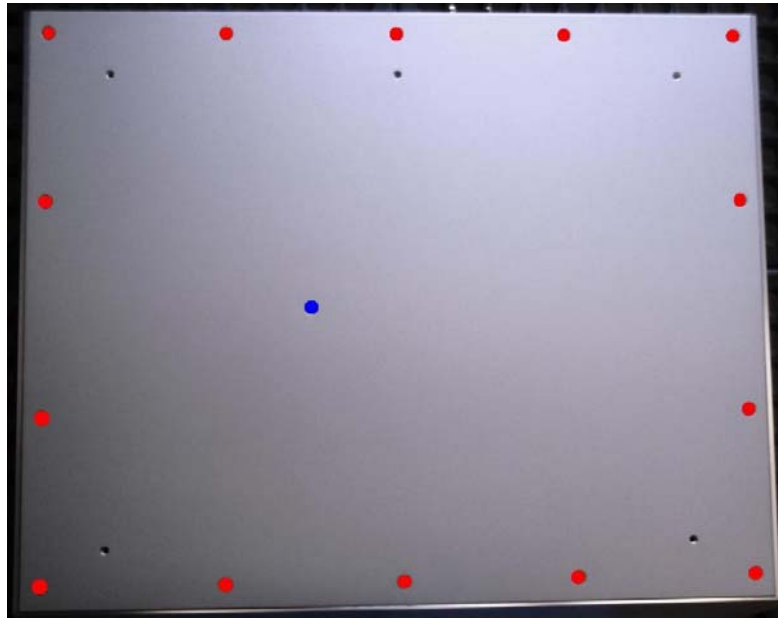


Turn the unit over and slide the top plate backwards about 10mm to clear the slot at the front of the case, then lift the top plate off, complete with 2 small brackets. This gives access to the Power Board and mains transformer.

The top edge of the front panel is attached to the chassis by 4 screws, the bottom edge is attached to a slim bracket by 4 screws. Remove the 8 screws to detach the front panel and access the Display & Switch Boards. Disconnect the ribbon cable from the Display Board.

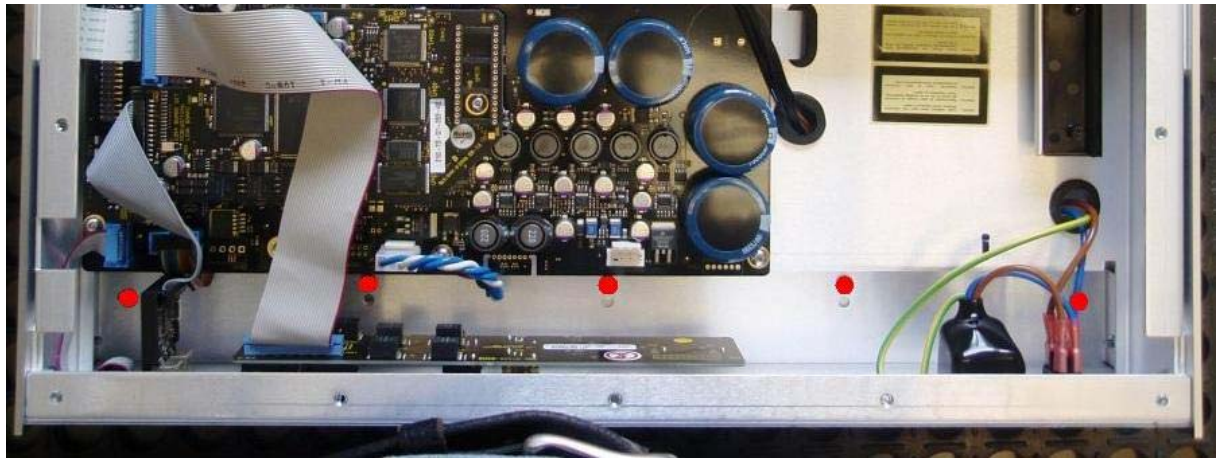
Opening the case – Mk2 - units shipped from March 2008 to March 2009

Turn the unit upside-down and remove the 14 screws from the base plate, shown in red below. Remove the base plate. It should not be necessary to disturb the screw indicated by the blue dot, but do not forcibly remove the base plate in case you have incorrectly identified the version of casework.



To detach the top part of the case, first remove both side plates (each fixed by 6 screws).

Inside the unit, remove the 5 screws in the well near the back panel, shown in red below.

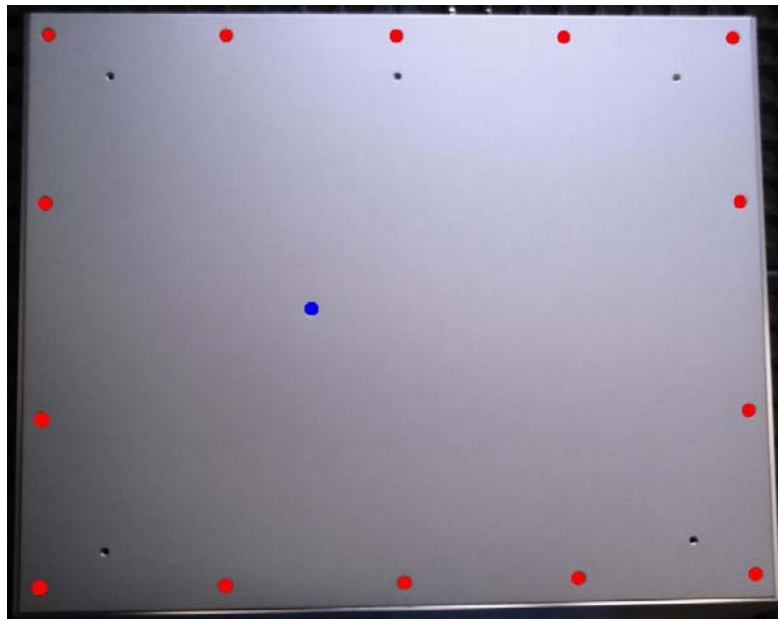


Remove the 2 nuts at the front of each side of the unit (the upper screws are accessed through slots in the side of the chassis) and a third nut near the bottom centre of the chassis. Disconnect the ribbon cable from the Display Board. Slide the upper section of the chassis back 10mm and lift it off.

The front panel bracket & front panel are secured to the top cover by 2 screws on each side. The top and bottom edges of the front panel are attached to the chassis by 4 screws each. Remove the 8 screws to detach the front panel and access the Display & Switch Boards.

Opening the case – Mk3 - units shipped from March 2009 to present

Turn the unit upside-down and remove the 14 screws from the base plate, shown in red below. Remove the base plate. It should not be necessary to disturb the screw indicated by the blue dot, but do not forcibly remove the base plate in case you have incorrectly identified the version of casework.



To detach the top cover, first remove the 2 screws in the middle of both side plates, shown in red below.



Inside the unit, remove the 5 screws in the well near the back panel, shown in red below.



Turn the unit over and slide the top plate backwards about 10mm to clear the slot at the front of the case, then lift the top plate off, complete with 2 brackets. This gives access to the Power Board and mains transformer.

To remove the front panel, first remove both side plates. The front panel bracket is secured to the chassis by three M4 nuts on studs: one near the bottom centre and one near the top of each side. The two pictures below indicate the location of the nuts with red arrows.

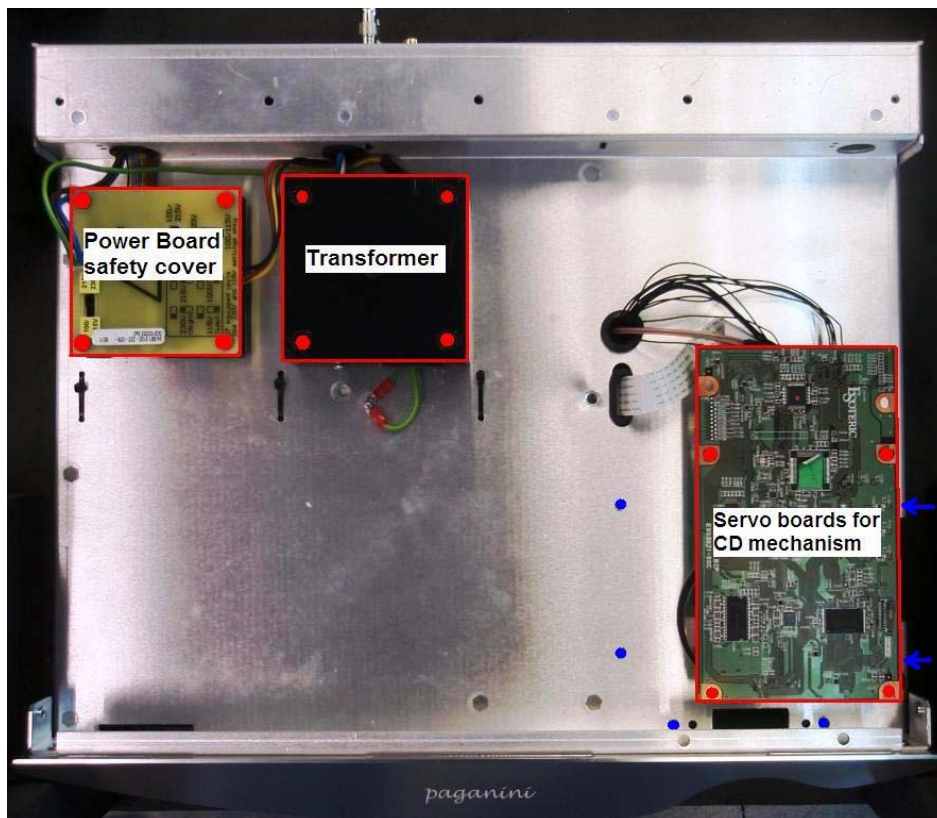
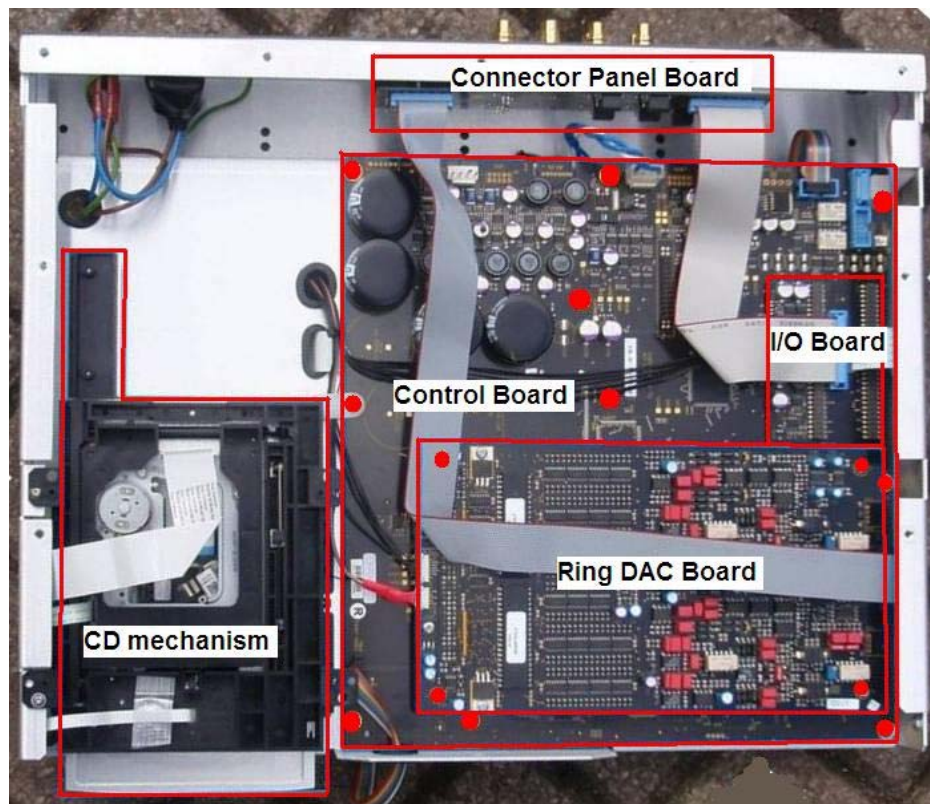


Remove the 3 nuts, then ease the front panel and its fixing bracket off the front of the unit. Carefully disconnect the ribbon linking the Display Board to the Control Board.

Detach the front panel from the bracket to expose the Display & Switch Boards.

Identification of the sub-assemblies

The fixings are indicated by red dots.



The 6 fixings for the CD mechanism are shown by 4 blue dots and 2 blue arrows.

Removing sub-assemblies

Top section:

The **Power Board** is protected by a yellow safety cover, fixed by a screw at each corner. The Power Board underneath is fixed by a hex pillar at each corner. Disconnect the cables and lift the board off the 4 studs.

The mains **Transformer** is fixed by a screw in each corner. Disconnect the cables from the Power Board and Control Board, then detach the green/yellow screen wire from the base plate.

The **Esoteric Main Board** is secured by 4 screws – remove them, disconnect the cables and lift the board off. The **Esoteric Front-End Board** is secured by 4 hex pillars – remove the pillars, disconnect the cables and lift the board off the studs.

The **Esoteric UMK5 Mechanism** located under the 2 Esoteric boards, it is secured to the underside of the chassis by 6 screws. Disconnect the 3 Flat Flex Cables from the Front-End Board, then support the mechanism while removing the 6 screws.

Bottom section:

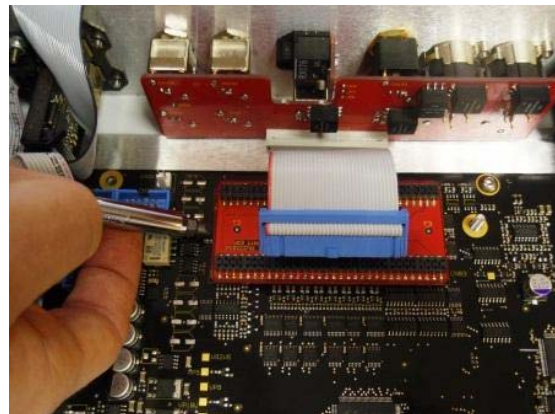
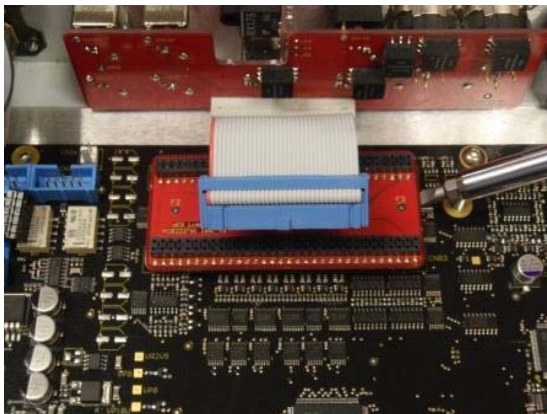
Remove the 4 screws securing the **Ring DAC Board** to the Control Board. Gently pull out the locking clip by a few mm to disconnect the cables, then pull the board off the large DIN connector.

The **I/O Board** (made as part of the Connector Panel Board) is a **very tight press-fit** onto Control Board header CN82/83.



This board is difficult to remove! Careless use of tools can cause serious (and expensive) damage to the Control Board, **for which dCS shall not be liable**. If you really need to remove it and you are not confident you can do so safely, refer servicing to dCS.

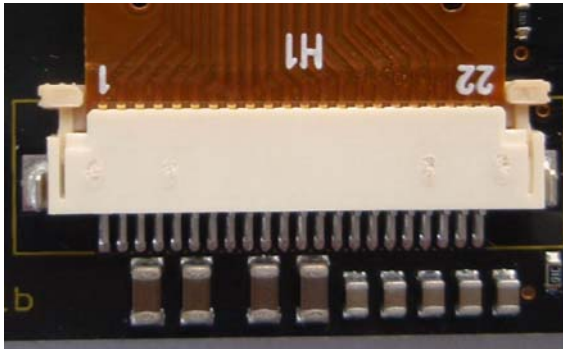
First disconnect the cable to the Connector Panel Board. Use a 6mm flat-blade screwdriver to lever the right side of the board up a few mm, pivoting on the top of the stud. Carefully lever up the left side of the I/O Board in the same way, protecting the Control board with your fingers. When the I/O board has been loosened, lift it off.



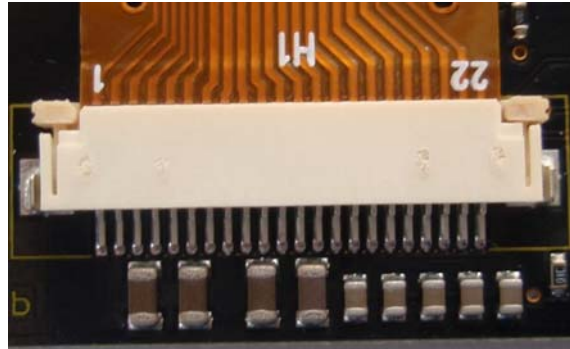
The **Control Board** is secured to the chassis by 10 screws. Disconnect all cables, remove the fixings and lift the Control Board out of the chassis.

The **Connector Panel Board** is fixed to the back panel by the nuts and screws on the connectors themselves.

The **Display Board** is secured to the back face of the front panel by 4 screws and washers. Release the clamps on CN4 by gently pulling them out of the connector by a few mm. When reassembling, take care to ensure the flat flex cable is fully engaged inside CN4 and the clamps are pushed back in.



ZIF clamp open



ZIF clamp closed

The **Switch Board** is secured to the front panel by 5 screws and washers.

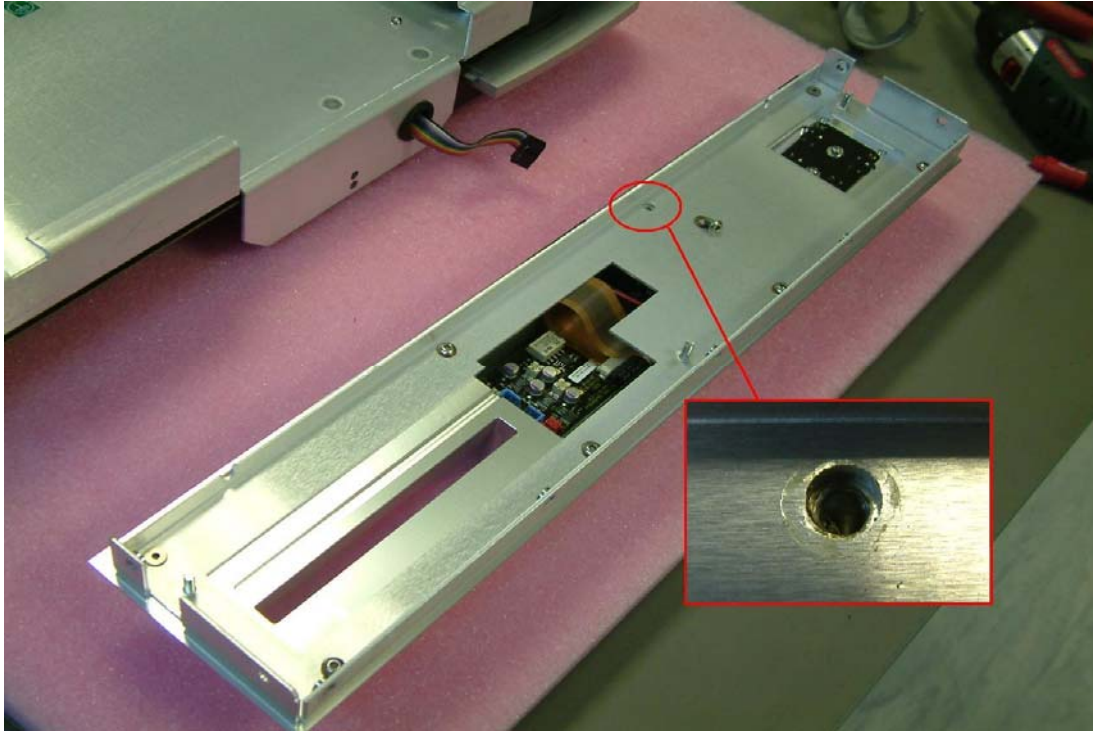
The **LCD module** is clamped in place by foam pads fitted to the back of the **Display Board**. When re-fitting the LCD module, make sure it is correctly located in its machined recess before fitting the Display Board on top.

REASSEMBLY OVERVIEW

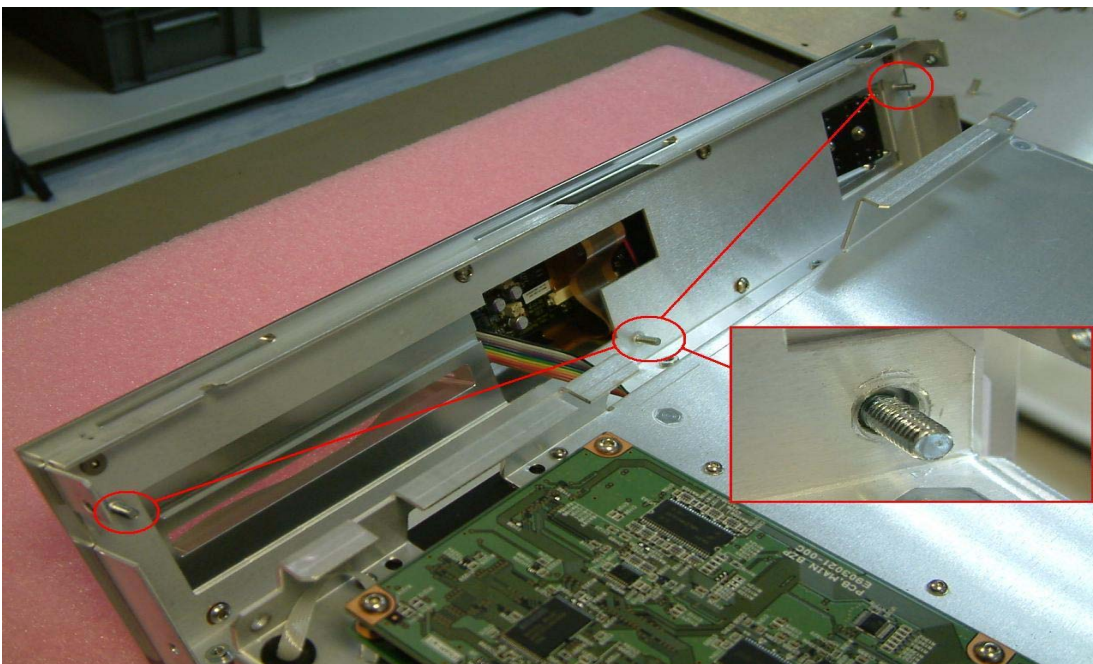
This section deals with squaring and aligning the case parts for when a high degree of dismantling has been necessary. These instructions were written primarily for the Mk3 case (units shipped from March 2009 onwards).

Front panel

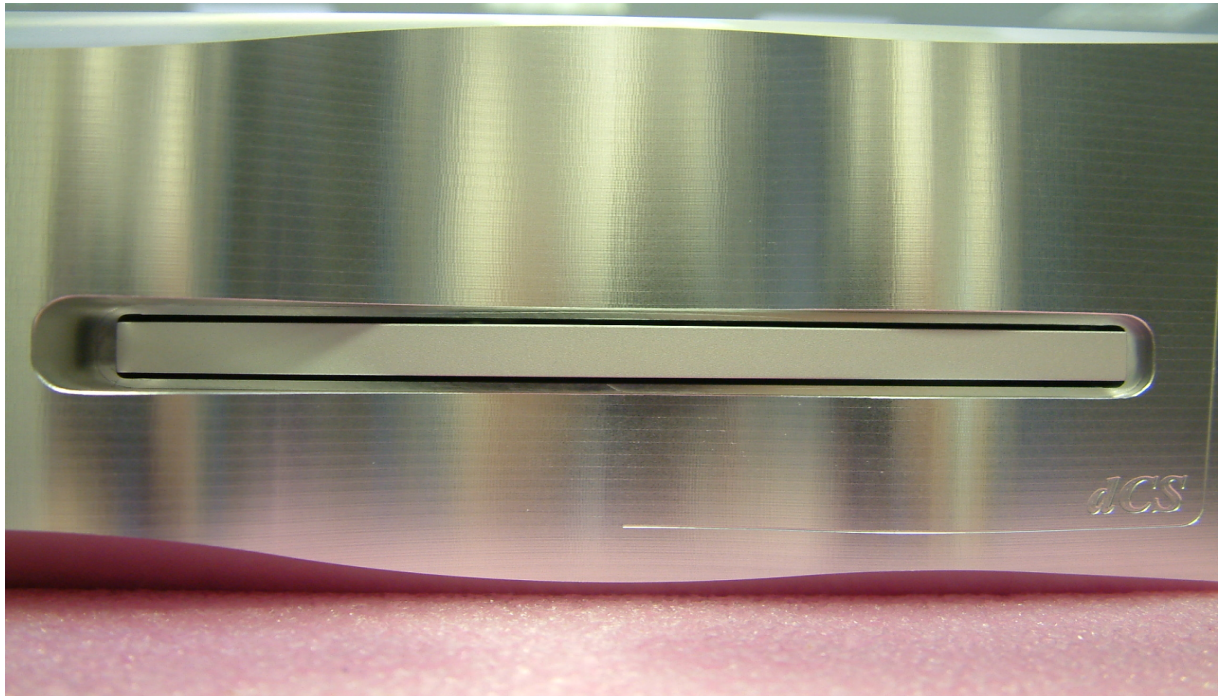
Secure the front panel to the front bracket using M4x6 button head screws. As shown below, align the front panel screw holes to the holes in the bracket before tightening.



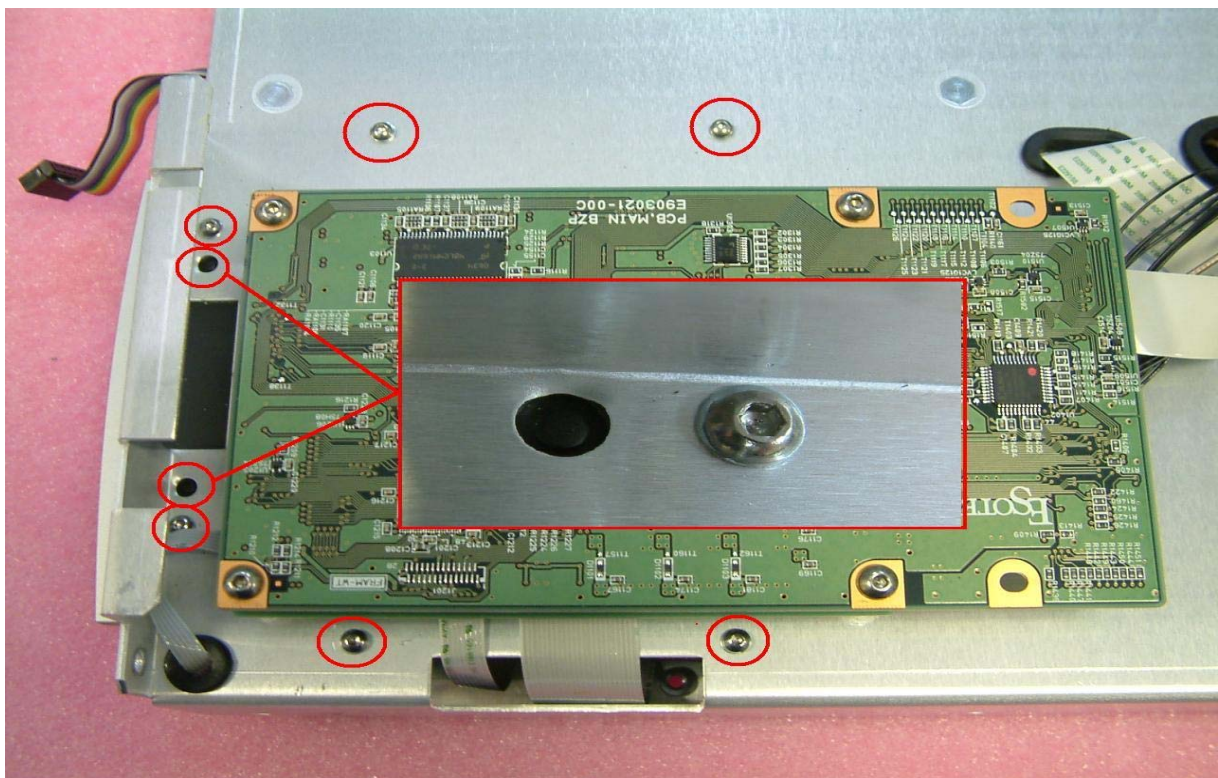
Align the 3 front panel assembly securing studs centrally through the chassis holes and secure loosely with M4 nuts. Adjust so that the CD tray is central in the front panel aperture before tightening.



The gap around the tray should be even as shown below.

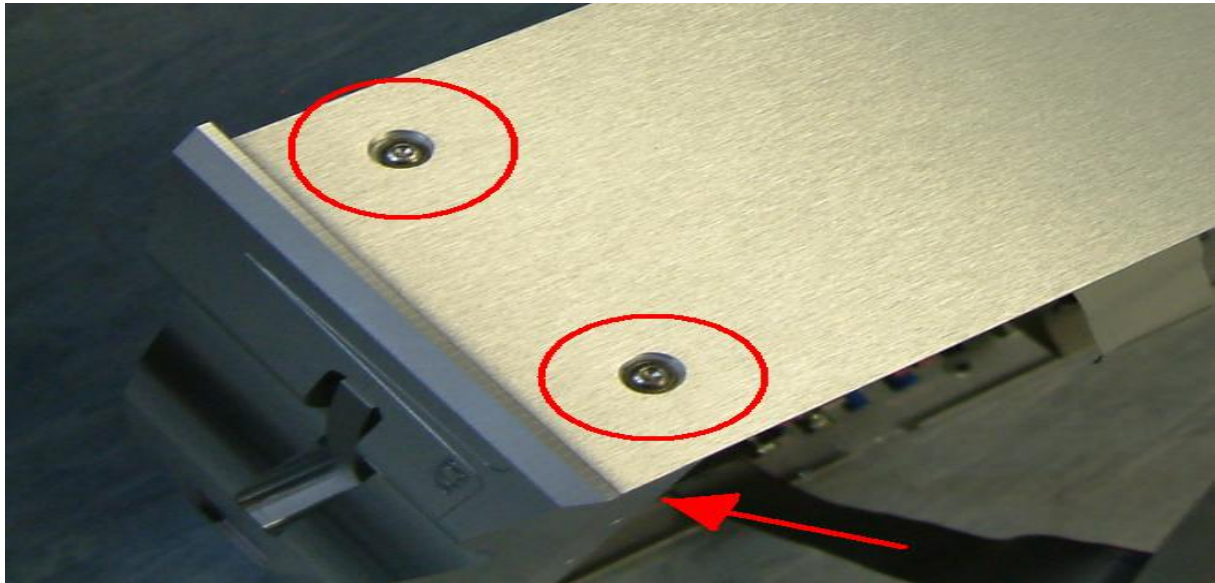


If more left-right adjustment of the tray is needed, loosen the six M3 screws securing the CD mechanism to the chassis (see below), move the mechanism to centralise the tray and tighten the screws. Observe the pips through the holes in the chassis (as shown in the inset) to aid alignment.

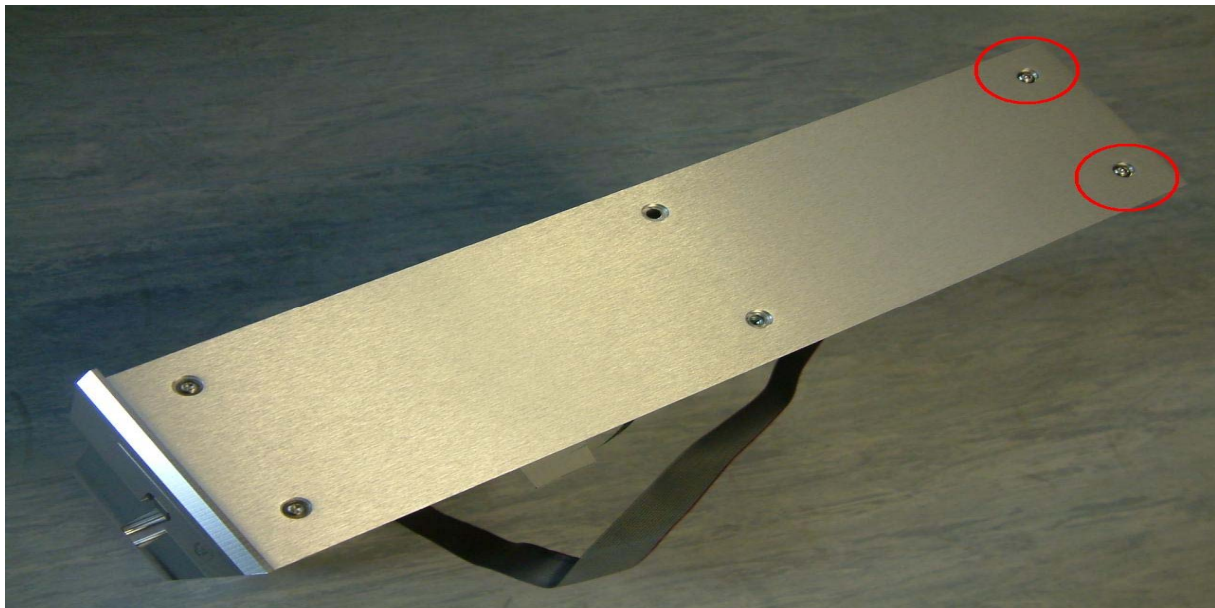


Side cheeks

Align a side cheek to the front panel, keeping the bottom corner of the side cheek flush with the bottom corner of the front panel, secure using the two front screws only.



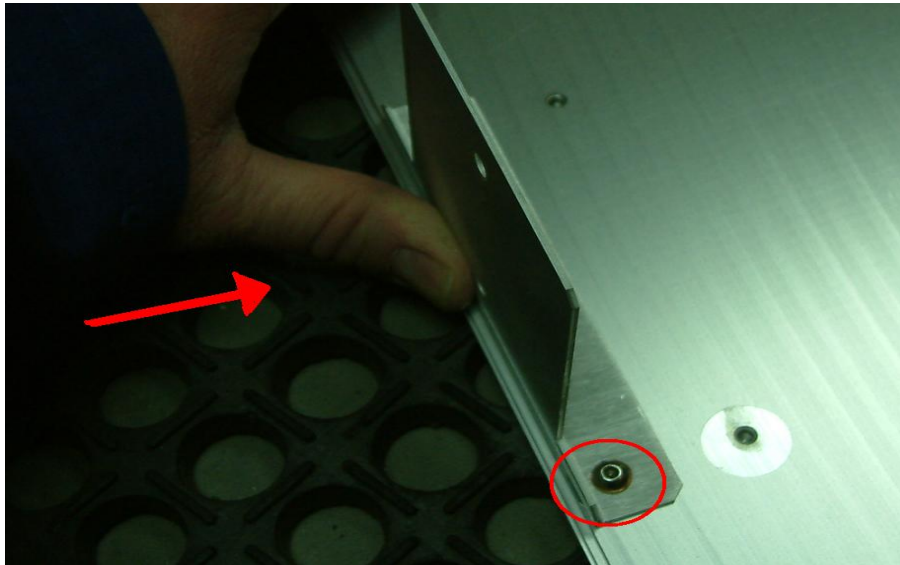
Align the rear chassis holes with the side cheek and secure using two M4 screws.



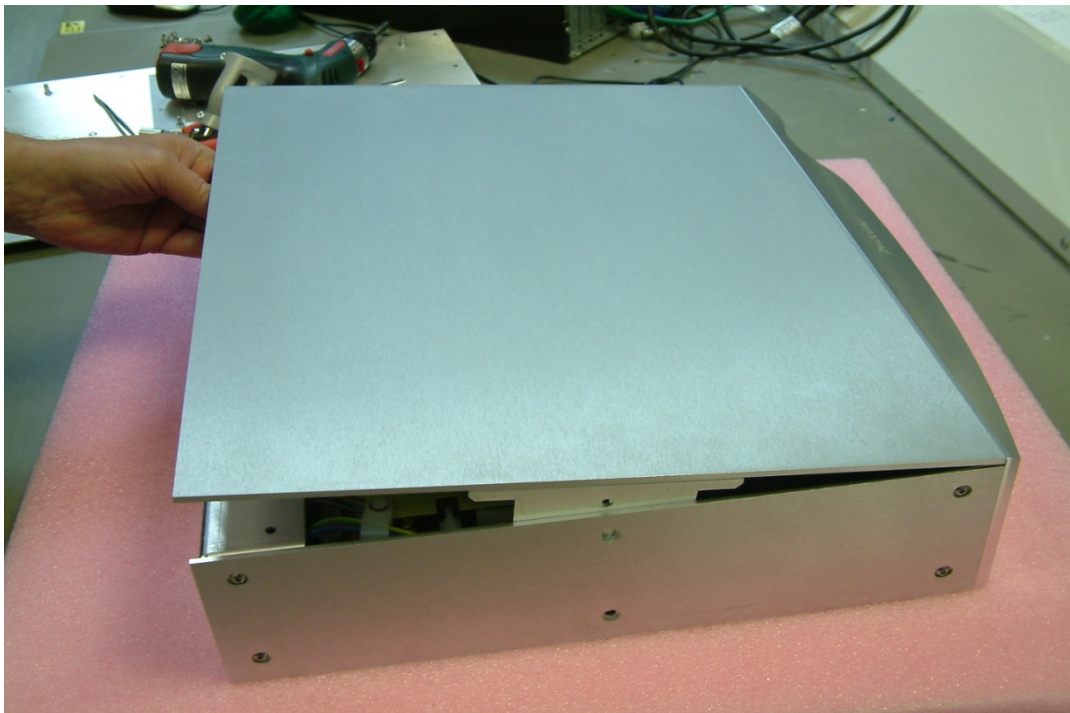
Repeat for the other side cheek.

Top plate

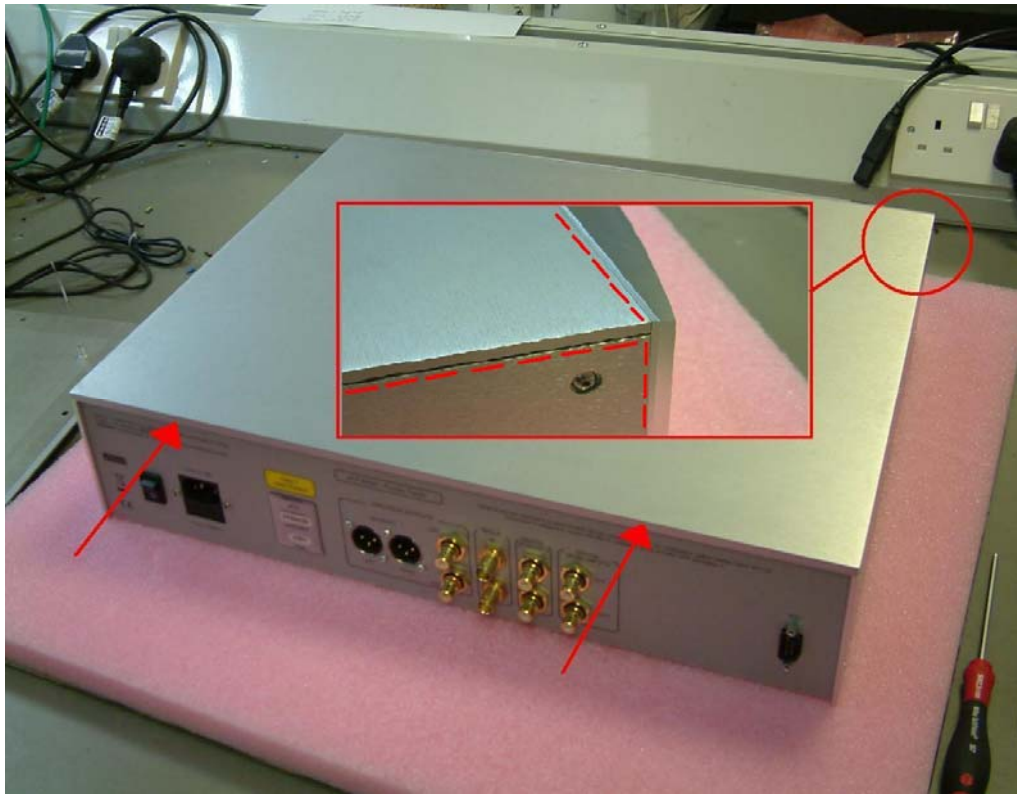
Fit the top plate brackets using M4x6 screws and flat washers. Push the bracket inwards towards the centre of the plate as the screws are tightened.



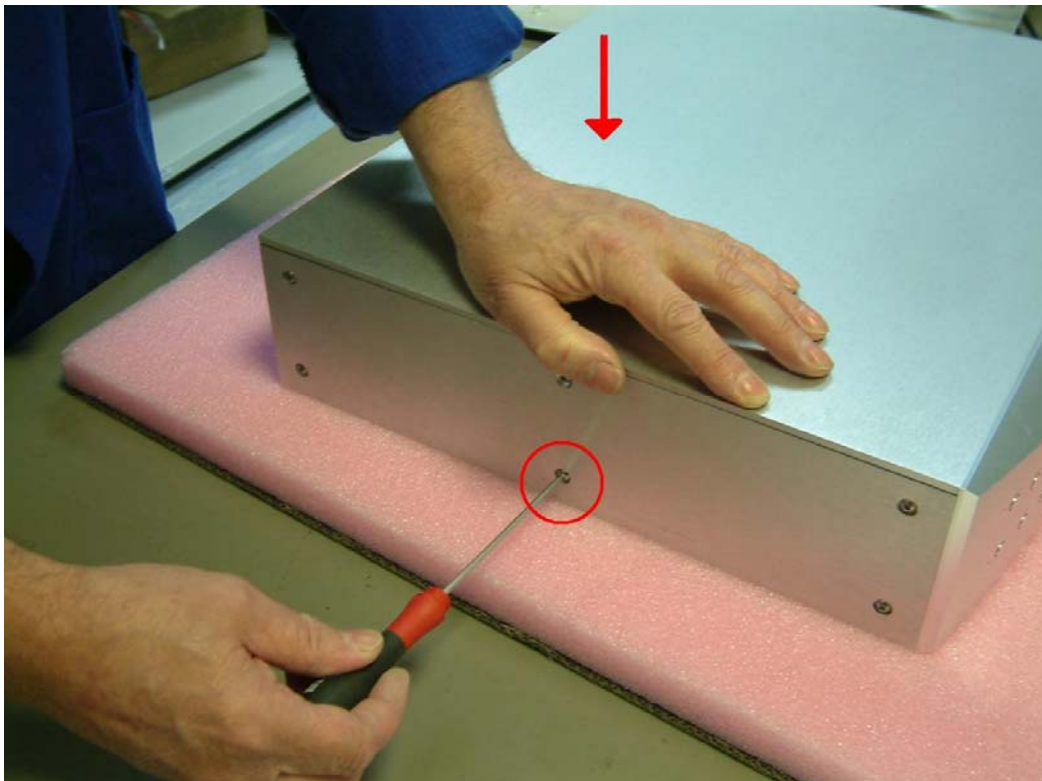
Fit the top plate to the unit, taking care that the top plate brackets do not scratch the outer faces of the side cheeks. Locate the tabs at the front edge of the top plate into the slots in the front panel – this is easier if the panel is inserted at a shallow angle rather than slid in flat.



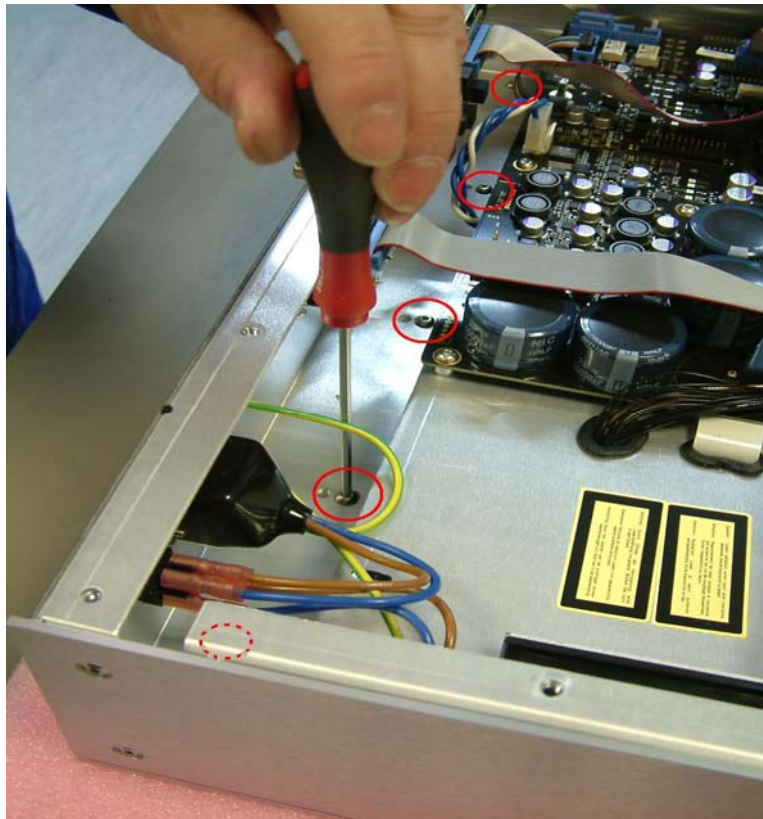
Move the top plate into position by pushing from the rear edge, ensuring that there are no visible gaps where the top plate meets the front panel. Check that the joints between the top plate and side cheeks are tight as shown in the inset below.



Apply hand pressure to keep the joints closed, insert an M4 screw into the lower hole of each side cheek.



Check the unit to ensure all joins are square, then fit M4 screws in the remaining hole in each side cheek. Turn the unit over and fit the five M4x6 screws and washers into the inside face of the chassis to secure the top plate.



Base Plate

Finally, fit the base plate using twelve M4x8 countersunk screws and two M4x12 countersunk screws where shown below.



SUBASSEMBLY DETAILS

Subassemblies which are common to other products are detailed in separate Service Manuals.

Common Subassemblies

Control Board DCS156541 v7



The Control Board carries out all the digital processing and provides regulated DC to the unit. This board is common to most other current *dCS* products, it is configured by software. To date, the 7G or 7J versions of this board has been used on all *Puccini Players*.

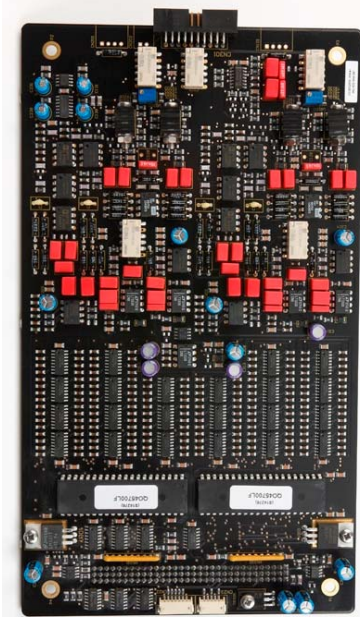
The circuit diagram file is 156540cd7g4.pdf.

The component layout file is 156540cl7g.pdf.

Earlier versions of this board were used on the Classic range.

This board is detailed in the separate **Control Board v7 Service Manual**.

Ring DAC Board DCS002520



The Ring DAC™ Board takes 2-channel 5-bit data from the Control Board and the Ring DAC™ circuit converts it to analogue. This board is common to all current *dCS* DACs / Players. To date, the 6E version of this board has been used on all *Puccini Players*.

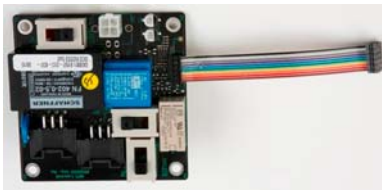
The circuit diagram file is 002520cd6e1.pdf.

The component layout file is 002520cl6e.pdf.

Earlier versions of this board were used on *Elgar* and *Elgar Plus* DACs.

This board is detailed in the separate **Ring DAC™ Board Service Manual**.

Power Board DCS152223



This board filters the mains supply and allows the power to be switched on/off safely from the front panel POWER button. The connection of the mains supply to the Mains Transformer primaries is set by 3 slide switches. It is common to most current products. The Power Board is covered by a yellow insulator board for safety. Several earlier versions of this board were used on the Classic range.

The circuit diagram file is 152223cd5a1.pdf (current version).

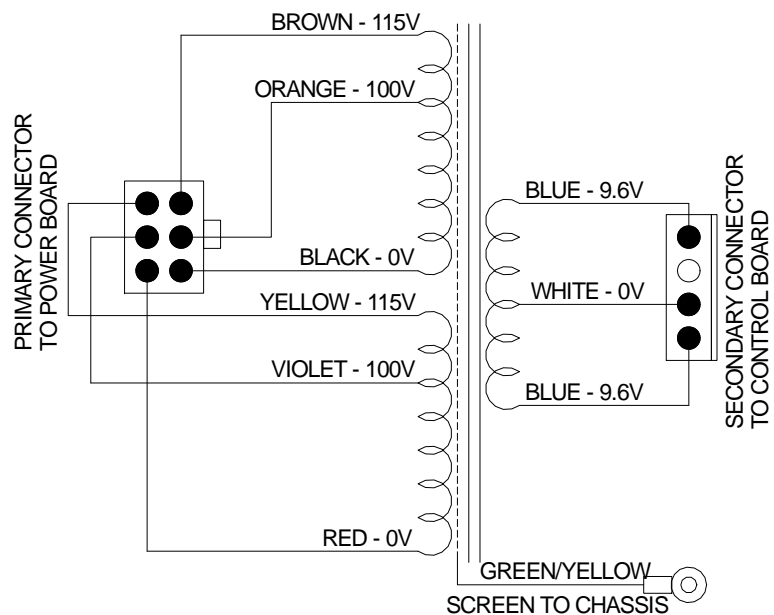
The component layout file is 152223cl5a.pdf (current version).

This board is detailed in the separate **Power Board Service Manual**.

Mains Transformer DCS002896



This transformer is common to all current products except the *Puccini U-Clock*. The twin primaries allow the transformer to be configured for 100, 115/120, 200, 215/220 or 230/240V.



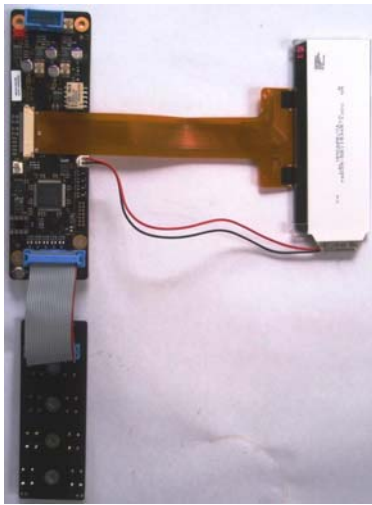
Early versions of this transformer had four primary wires instead of six and offered two ranges: 100-120V and 200-240V. The Power Board used with this early type should be set to 115/120V or 230/240V ONLY (not 100V or 215/220V – otherwise the unit will not power up).

TYPICAL winding resistances are:

- Black to Orange or Red to Violet: 22 ohms
- Black to Brown or Red to Yellow: 25 ohms
- Blue to White: 0.15 ohms

Note that there is a considerable resistance variation from one transformer to another.

Display Board DCS300750 / Switch Board DCS300755



The Display Board drives the LCD display module MOD0160008 (shown at the right side of the picture) and carries the IR receiver. The Switch Board (shown at the lower left side) carries the switches and LEDs, it connects to the Display Board. Switches and LEDs are fitted to the Switch Board to suit the product. The same boards are used on the *Paganini* series and *Puccini Player*.

To date, the 1A, 1B or 1D versions of the Display Board and the 1A version of the Switch Board have been used on all *Puccini Players*. The differences between these versions are minor.

CN1 connects to the rotary encoder (DACs only).

CN2 connects to Control Board CN16. This carries power (+5V / 0V), data, clock, IR remote control and power on/off signals.

CN4 & CN5 connect to the LCD display module.

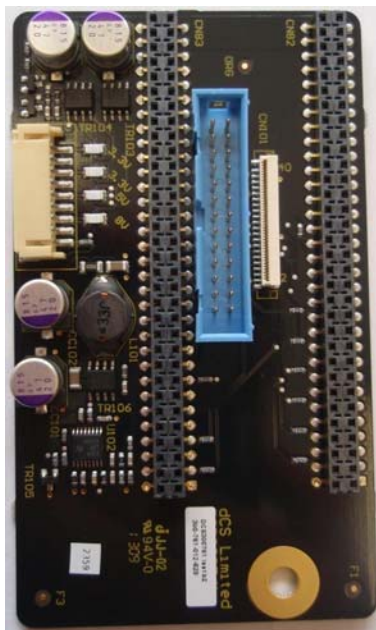
CN8 connects to the Switch Board.

The circuit diagram files are 300750cd1c1.pdf & 3007551a1.pdf.

The component layout files are 300750cl1c.pdf & 3007551a.pdf.

These boards are detailed in the separate **Display Board Service Manual**.

I/O Board DCS300761



This board fits onto the two I/O headers CN82/83 on the Control Board. CN102 connects to the ribbon cable from CN14 on the Connector Panel board.

For Transports and Players, the board includes a +8V DC-DC converter (U102/TR106) and switching transistors (TR101-105) to control the power supplies driving the Esoteric Main Board, connected by CN103. Power to the Esoteric hardware is protected by four 1.5A surface-mount fuses, FS101-104, mounted in a line close to CN103.

FFC connector CN101 carries audio data to/from the Esoteric Main Board.

The retention force of CN82/83 is VERY high. Take great care to avoid damage if it is necessary to detach this board from the Control Board.

The circuit diagram file is 300761cd1b1.pdf.

The component layout file is 300761cl1b.pdf.

Connector Panel Board DCS300765



This board carries the digital I/O connectors and some digital interface components. The AES and SPDIF interfaces (CN7-12) are isolated with pulse transformers T101-106. All digital connections are brought out on ribbon cable CN14, which connects to CN102 on the I/O Board.

This board is common to the *Paganini* Transport / DAC / Upsampler and the *Puccini* Player. Connectors are fitted to the board as required to suit the model.

The circuit diagram file is 300765cd1a1.pdf.

The component layout file is 300765cl1a.pdf.

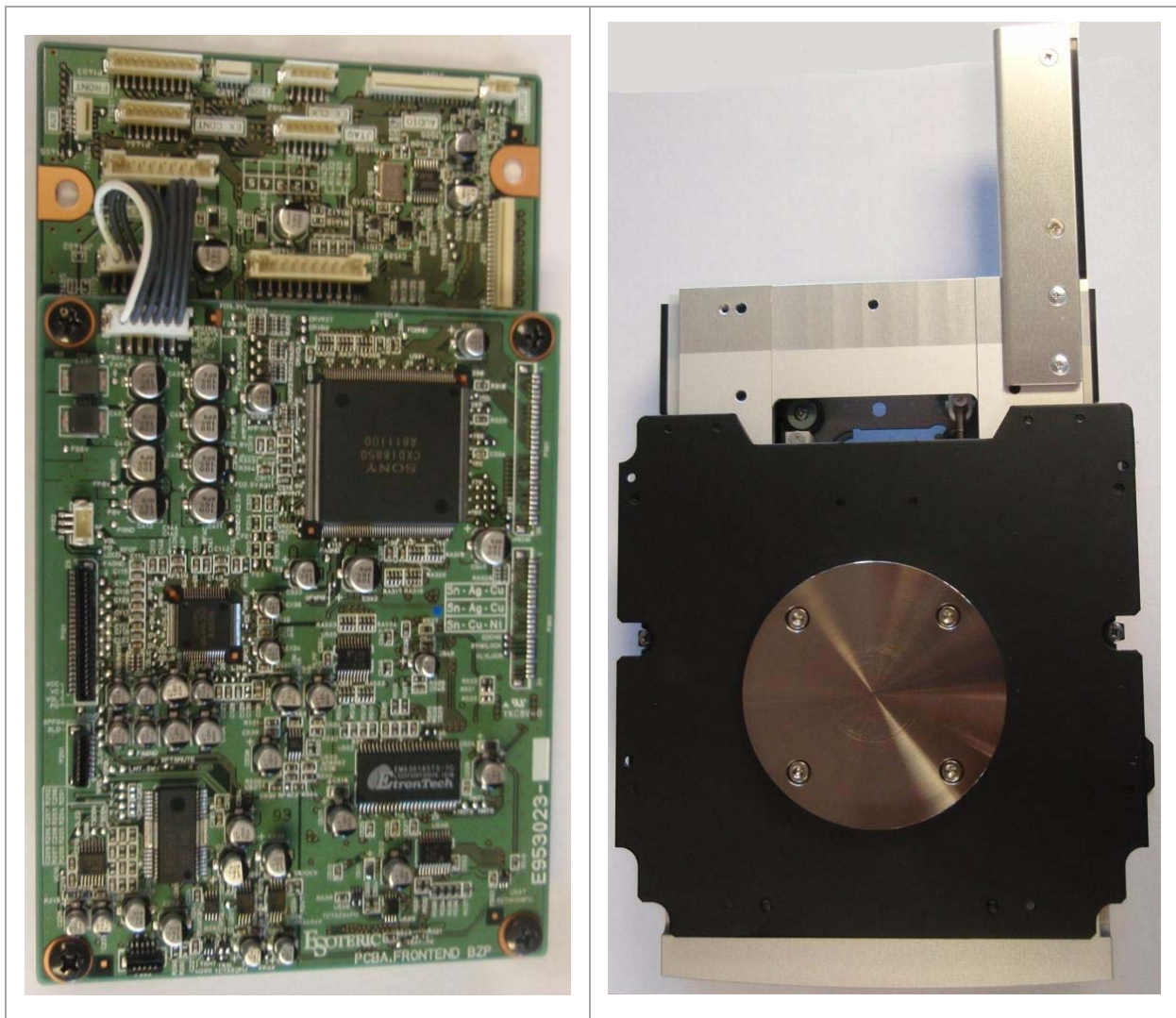
Esoteric Main Board, Front-end Board and UMK5 CD/SACD mechanism

The two boards control the UMK5 CD/SACD mechanism and decode the data read from the disc. The same boards and mechanism are used in the *Paganini* Transport.

The Main Board makes clock & control data connection to the Ring DAC™ Board via P1502 & P1404 and connects to the I/O Board via J1501 & P1103. 2 connectors join P1402 & P1102 on the Main Board to P401 & P503 on the Front-End Board.

The Front-End Board connects to the CD Mechanism by 3 Flat Flex Cables (FFCs): P101 connects to the OPU, P201 supplies the motors and P202 connects to the limit switches.

The circuit diagram and component layouts for these third-party assemblies are restricted and cannot be published.



FAULT-FINDING

Known Faults and Solutions

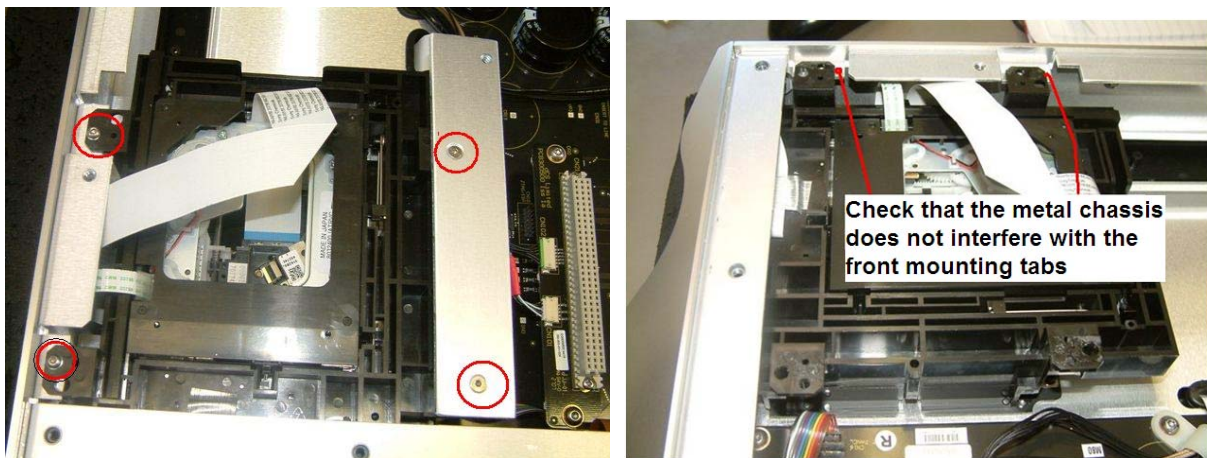
Make sure the latest software is loaded.

Symptom: The CD mechanism runs at the wrong speed

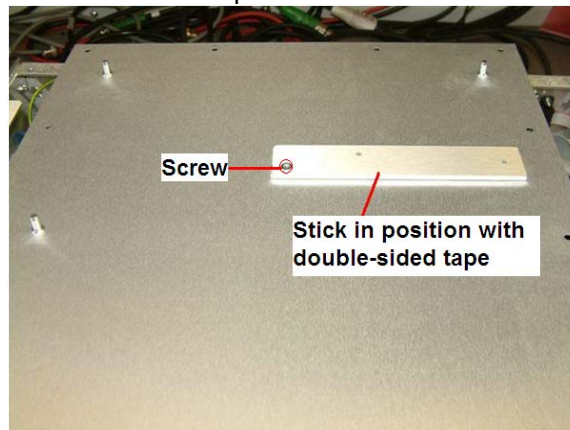
- This indicates a fault around the Control Board clock multiplier chips U606/U607.

Symptom: The CD tray opens on command then immediately closes

- **Older units with Mk1 case only.** This fault is caused by slight flexing of the mechanism due to the mechanism being secured top and bottom. Remove the base plate and check for the 4 screws shown below left – if they are not fitted, the modifications have been done and there is another reason for the fault. Otherwise, remove the 4 screws and the metal bracket. Check that the metal chassis does not interfere with the mechanism's two front plastic mounting tabs



Turn the unit upright and check for correct operation. If the fault is still present, remove the top cover and loosen the 6 screws securing the mechanism from the top. Move the mechanism slightly to release any pressure, then tighten the 6 screws and re-check the tray operation. Fix the metal plate to the inside face of the base plate with the screw and double-sided adhesive tape.



Reassemble the unit and test.

Symptom: The unit cannot read certain discs

- Make sure that the disc or discs causing problems are genuine Red-Book CDs or genuine Scarlet-Book SACDs – see the User Manual for details.
- If the problem is CD playback, make sure that the discs are printed with the Compact Disc Digital Audio logo. Discs that do not have this logo are likely to be “copy protected discs” – these are not genuine CDs, they have been recorded with data in a deliberately non-standard format and we have no obligation whatever to explain why they do not play correctly.
- Over time, dust or dirt accumulates in the optical system and eventually blocks the lasers, interfering with disc reading. Hybrid discs are generally the first to show reading errors.
- The intensity of the laser diodes fade over time, causing increasing difficulty reading discs.

See page **32** for instructions for cleaning the lens and replacing the OPU.

Symptom: The unit displays “Error 001”, the mechanism fails to respond

- “Error 001” indicates a communication problem in the Teac Esoteric hardware between the signal processing micro (B/E) and the servo controller (F/E). This is often cleared by re-booting the unit.
- If the fault recurs, check that the OPU cable is correctly located. Check the 2 Esoteric boards for build errors or dry joints.

Symptom: Display contrast is poor and cannot be improved

- Usually caused by a fault on the Display Board – see the **Display Boards Service Manual**.

Fault Finding Guide

Symptom: The mains fuse blows

This can be caused by a brief mains voltage surge. Check that the voltage setting is correct, then fit a new fuse of the correct type (20x5mm T0.5A L). If the new fuse does not blow, soak for 24 hours to verify the fix.

If the new fuse blows, the most likely causes are:

- Incorrect voltage setting. See the Power Board Service Manual for details.
- A damaged surge arrestor on the Power Board. See the Power Board Service Manual.
- The mains transformer short-circuits. This is VERY RARE, so please do not make assumptions! Test the transformer against the circuit diagram on page 24, checking for short-circuits. Note that the secondary windings (Blue and White wires) have a very low resistance.

To date, we have never seen a fault in the rest of the unit that causes the mains fuse to blow.

Symptom: The unit fails to power up

- Is AC reaching the Power Board? If not, check the mains wiring and mains fuse.
- Is the full mains voltage AC passing through the Power Board to the mains transformers? If not, make sure the Power Board is turned on and find the point at which the circuit is broken.
- Is low voltage AC reaching Control Board at connectors CN17 & CN18? With nominal mains voltage, the AC voltage (referred to the chassis) at pins 1 & 4 (blue wires) should be 10V and at pin 2 (white wire) should be 0V. If the voltage is substantially different, check the transformers for signs of overheating.
- To check the Control Board Power Supply circuitry, measure the DC voltages between GND (or chassis) and the various square test point pads around the board. Typical measurements are:

Name	DC Voltage
VR2V5	+2.500V
VP5	+5.0V
VP9	+8.5V
VP18U	+17.9V

Name	DC Voltage
VP5PSU	+5.0V
VP3PSU	+3.4V
VP3	+3.1V
V1P8	+1.8V

Name	DC Voltage
VN18U	-18.0V *
VP6U	+6.8V
VN8X	-5.9V

* Note that VN18U remains disabled until the unit has fully booted up.

If any of these measurements are different by more than 5%, this indicates a fault in the power supply or that the power supply is being overloaded by the circuitry it is supplying. Power down, disconnect the Ring DAC™ Board, then check to see if this has corrected the voltages.

- If power is reaching the Control Board, check the behaviour of the red diagnostic LED, located near the front right corner of the Control Board. When power is applied, the LED should flash once and then flash twice a few seconds later. It should remain off for about 20 seconds while the board boots up, then turn on. If this does not happen but there is some LED activity, the microcontroller is not running. Try reloading the software from ROM, as described on page 42.
- At the rear right corner of the Control Board, you will see 3 metal-cased crystal oscillators X01, X02 and X03. There is provision for 4 crystals on the board, a red LED behind each turns on when the crystal is powered. At power up, the LED behind X02 should turn on and stay on. During boot-up, the LEDs behind the other 3 crystal positions should flash together on 2 occasions. Check that a 22.6MHz clock appears at U626 pins 3 & 4. If not, X02 or U613 may be faulty.
- If the Control Board microcontroller is running, CN12 may be connected to a PC running Hyperterminal to extract diagnostic information from the Control Board. Please see the **Control Board v7Service Manual** for more information.

Symptom: The unit boots up but the CD mechanism does not work

- The I/O Board supplies power to the CD mechanism via 4 fuses, FS101-104. If a fault or an overload has caused one of these fuses to blow, the CD mechanism will not operate. Check that the same voltage appears on both sides of each fuse, relative to ground. The voltages should be: FS101 +8.0V, FS102 +5.0V, FS103 & FS104 +3.3V. If a fuse has blown, contact *dCS* for advice.

Symptom: The unit fails to lock at some sample rates

- When using the digital inputs, check that the clocking arrangements are consistent with the data rate. For example, the Player cannot lock to a clock at 44.1kHz while receiving data at 48 or 96kS/s, because the two rates are not exact multiples.
- Select the required input and set the SYNC source to Audio. If the unit locks correctly to incoming data at 44.1 or 88.2kS/s but not to incoming data at 32, 48 or 96kS/s, this suggests a fault near crystal X01.
- Select the required input and set the SYNC source to Audio. If the unit locks correctly to incoming data at 32, 48 or 96kS/s, but not to incoming data at 44.1 or 88.2kS/s, this suggests a fault near crystal X02.

Further tests

In most cases, the above information will be sufficient to get an unresponsive unit up and running, or indicate a serious fault on the Control Board – which is normally dealt with at *dCS*.

For faults which affect the analogue outputs, please refer to the **Ring DAC™ Board Service Manual**, as this is the most likely location of the fault.

If the Display Board is not working correctly but the unit is still working correctly as a Player, please refer to the **Display Board Service Manual**. Note that an intermittent ribbon cable connection to the Control Board is a fairly common cause of Display Board problems.

SERVICING THE OPU



**Laser diodes are easily damaged by electrostatic discharges (ESD).
Ensure ESD precautions are in place before servicing the Optical Pick-Up (OPU).**

The causes of disc reading problems

Over time, dust and dirt collect on the focusing lens and penetrate the optical system, causing difficulty reading discs. Among the worst contaminants are tobacco residue and construction dust, because these can coat all the optical parts and quickly build into a film that blocks or disperses the laser light.

CDs are read by an infra-red laser and have relatively coarse features, so they are inherently easier to read than SACD layers. SACDs are read by a red laser, which is much more easily blocked or dispersed by contaminants.

The first symptom is usually difficulty reading hybrid discs – the mechanism fails to read the SACD layer and defaults to the CD layer. Hybrid discs have a lower reflectivity than single-layer SACDs, so they are inherently harder to read.

Laser diodes have a limited life, gradually growing dimmer over a number of years. Eventually, this causes reading problems, usually of either CD or SACD layers.

For these reasons, OPUs are considered consumable items.

Cleaning the focusing lens

In many cases, loose dust can be removed by TWO 1-second blasts of Air Duster directed into the open tray. Do not spray excessively, as the lens suspension is easily damaged.

More severe contamination of the focussing lens requires opening of the CD mechanism.

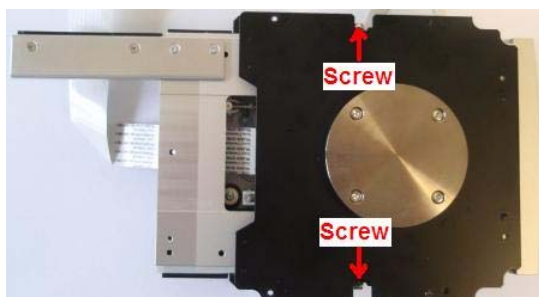
Additional tools required: Torque screwdriver with 0-point Philips bit.

- Identify a sample CD, SACD or hybrid disc that the unit used to read correctly but is now difficult to read. Make sure that it is in good condition.



Note that there are many billions of discs in circulation, and some do not meet the Red Book or Scarlet Book standards. We cannot take responsibility for all the discs in circulation, whether they play correctly on another machine or not.

- Remove the CD mechanism from the unit.
- Remove the 2 screws securing the top plate, slide the top plate 8mm forwards and lift it off.



- Wipe the top of the focussing lens VERY GENTLY with a cotton bud moistened with a small amount of isopropyl alcohol.

- Replace the mechanism top plate and slide it back to engage the locking lugs. Replace the 2 screws and use the torque screwdriver to tighten them to 0.14Nm.



Over-tightening these screws will cause permanent damage to the plastic frame.

- Replace the mechanism in the unit and re-connect to the Front-End Board.

Test the unit with the sample disc to see if the reading problems have cleared. If not, OPU replacement is recommended.

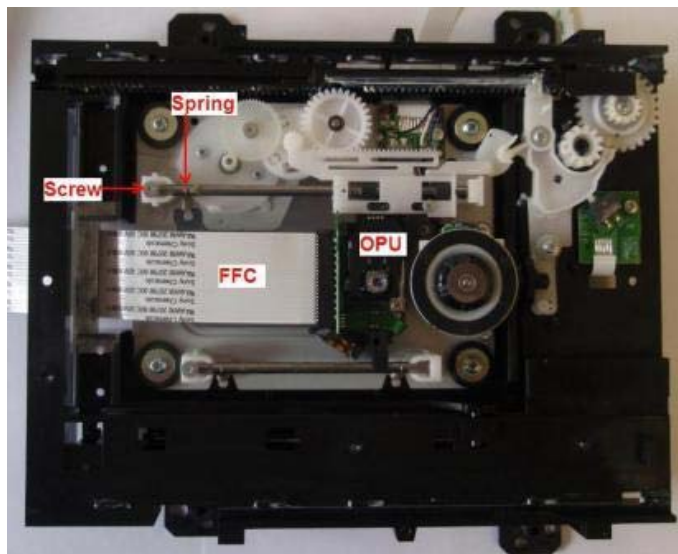
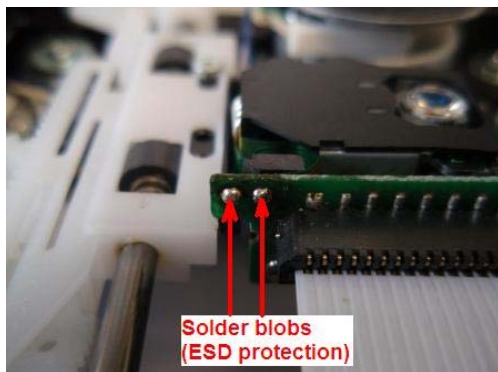
Replacing the OPU

Additional tools required: Philips 00-point screwdriver, needle-nosed pliers, ESD-safe soldering iron, solder wick.

- Order a replacement OPU from dCS, the part number is MOD0190019.
- Remove the mechanism from the unit, remove the top plate as described above and lift off the CD tray.
- In most cases, the old OPU will be disposed of in a safe manner. If you intend to return the old OPU to dCS to support a warranty claim, use an ESD-safe soldering iron and some solder to short the 2 protective blob-pads on the OPU before removing it from the mechanism. These short-circuit the lasers, protecting them from ESD.

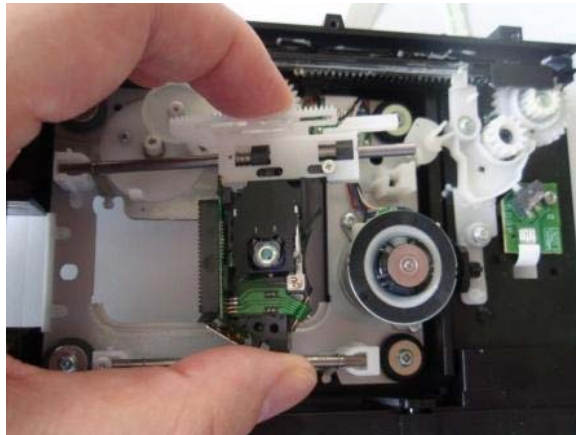


OPUs returned with the solder blobs missing or that show obvious contamination or with no identification cannot be considered for a warranty claim.

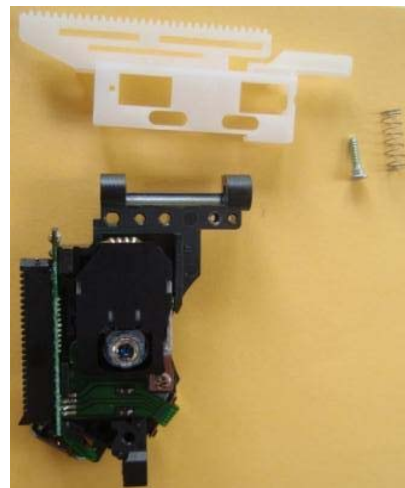
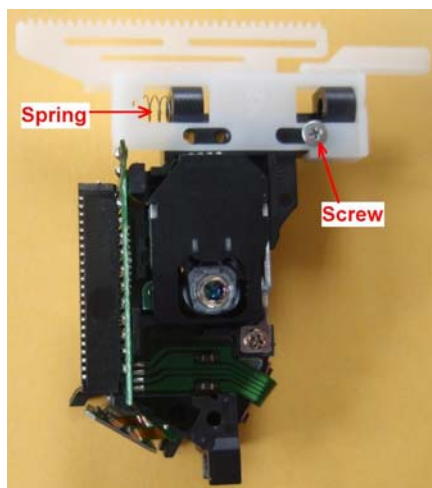


- Disconnect the FFC from the old OPU.
- Check the contacts at the end of the FFC for signs of corrosion (black or blue-green film or crystals). If corrosion is present, remove it with a clean cloth soaked in iso-propyl alcohol. Re-fit the FFC, remove the solder blobs from the OPU, reassemble and test. If there is no corrosion or cleaning does not solve the problem, continue with replacing the OPU.
- Remove the screw securing the long guide rod (see the picture above).

- Taking care not over-stretch the spring (or lose it!), lift the right-hand side of the long guide rod, unclip the OPU from the short guide rod and pull the OPU/rack assembly off the long guide rod.



- Use a pair of needle-nosed pliers to compress the spring that tensions the OPU on the white rack and pull the spring out of the back of the OPU (see the pictures below).
- Remove the screw securing the old OPU to the rack and pull the rack off.

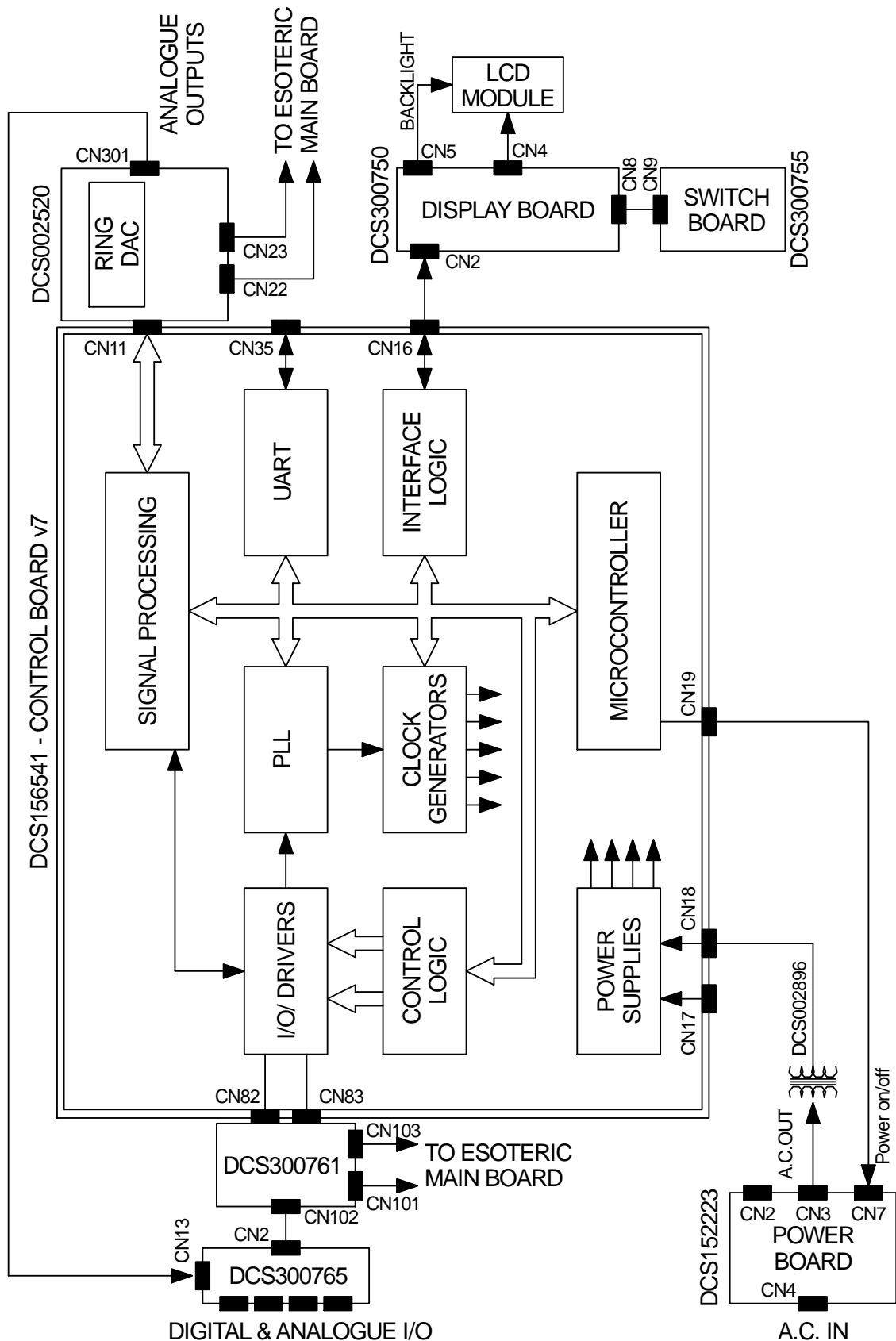


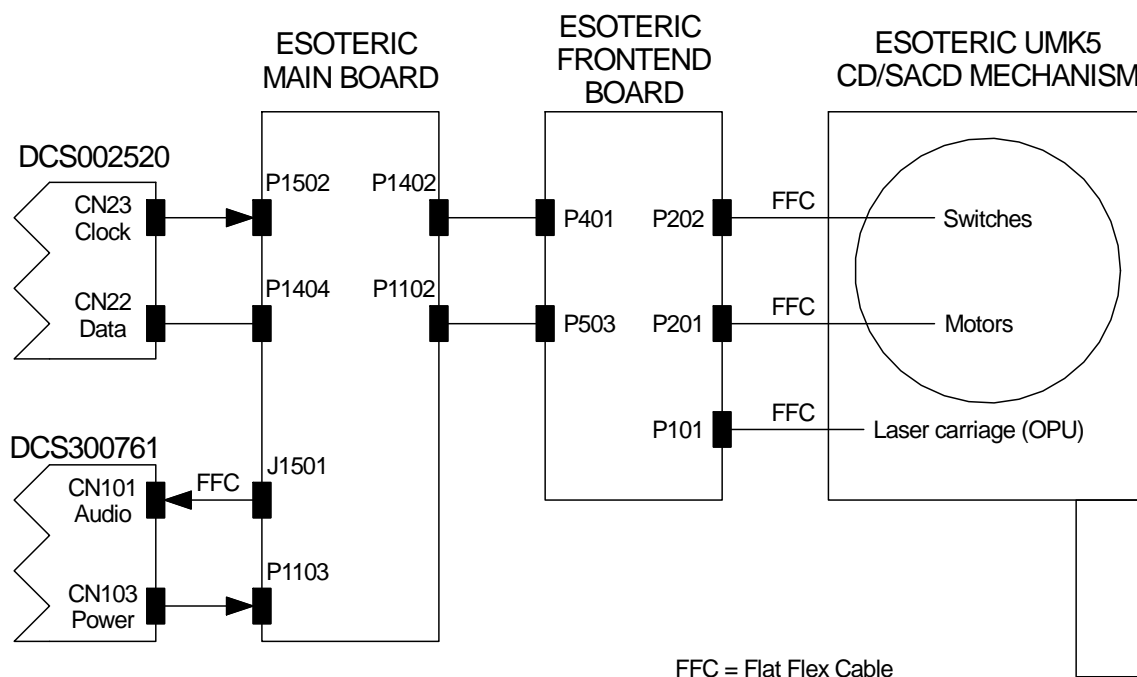
- Fit the rack onto the new OPU and secure with the screw, ensuring the rack is free to slide.
- Use the pliers to compress the spring and push it back between the rack and OPU, so that it aligns with the central hole.
- Lift the right-hand end of the long guide rod again, ease the OPU/rack assembly onto the rod, clip the OPU back onto the short guide rod, gently locate the rack teeth onto the small white gear wheel and push the long guide rod back into its supports.
- Secure the guide rod with the screw. Make sure the OPU can move stiffly over the full range.
- Fit the FFC firmly into the connector on the OPU with the metal contacts upward – it is a tight press-fit.
- Use an ESD-safe soldering iron and a small length of solder wick to remove the two solder blobs near the FFC connector. There must be no solder bridging the pads, or the lasers will not work.
- Lay the tray on top of the mechanism, move it slightly to and fro until the gears mesh and it settles into position. The back edge of the tray overhangs the mechanism by about 2mm.
- Fit the top plate with the straight edge about 9mm behind the front edge of the tray and slide the top back about 8mm, so that the plastic lugs at the sides engage with the mechanism.
- Secure the top with the two screws, using the torque screwdriver to tighten them up to 0.14Nm.
- Fit the mechanism to the Player and test the unit.



If you find the Player boots up but won't read any disc, the most likely causes are that the solder blobs have not been removed or the FFCs have not been correctly fitted.

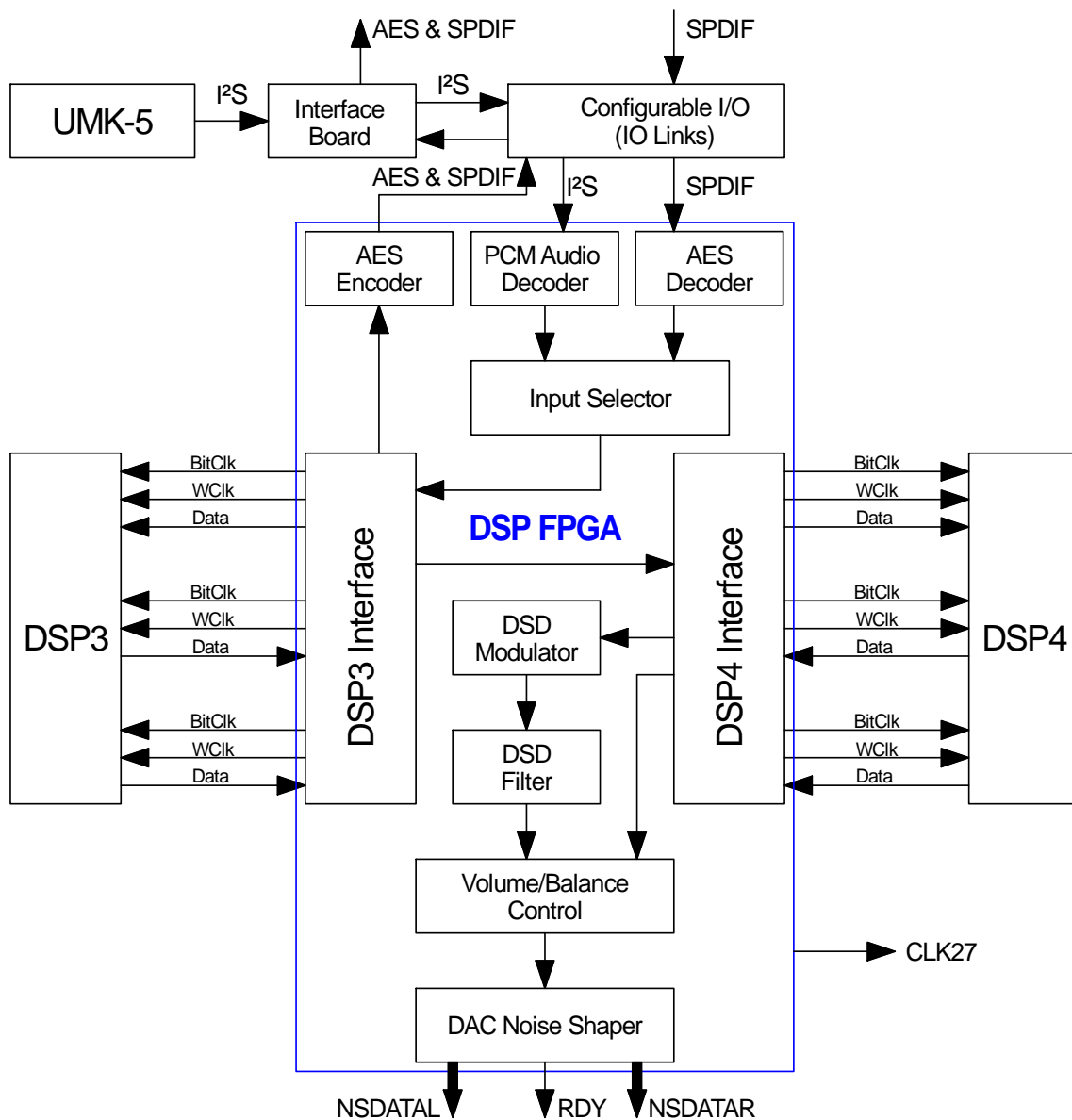
BLOCK DIAGRAM



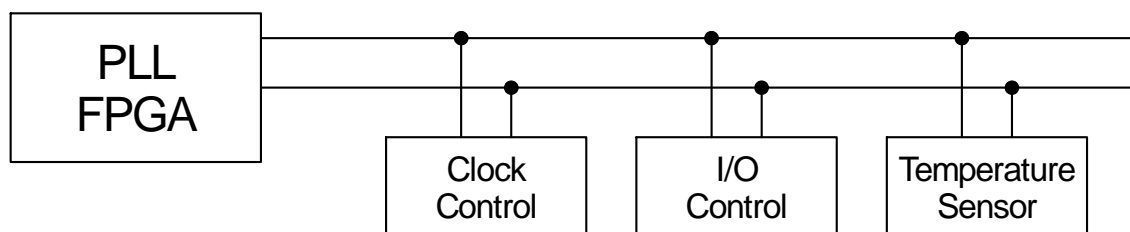


SIGNAL PROCESSING PATH

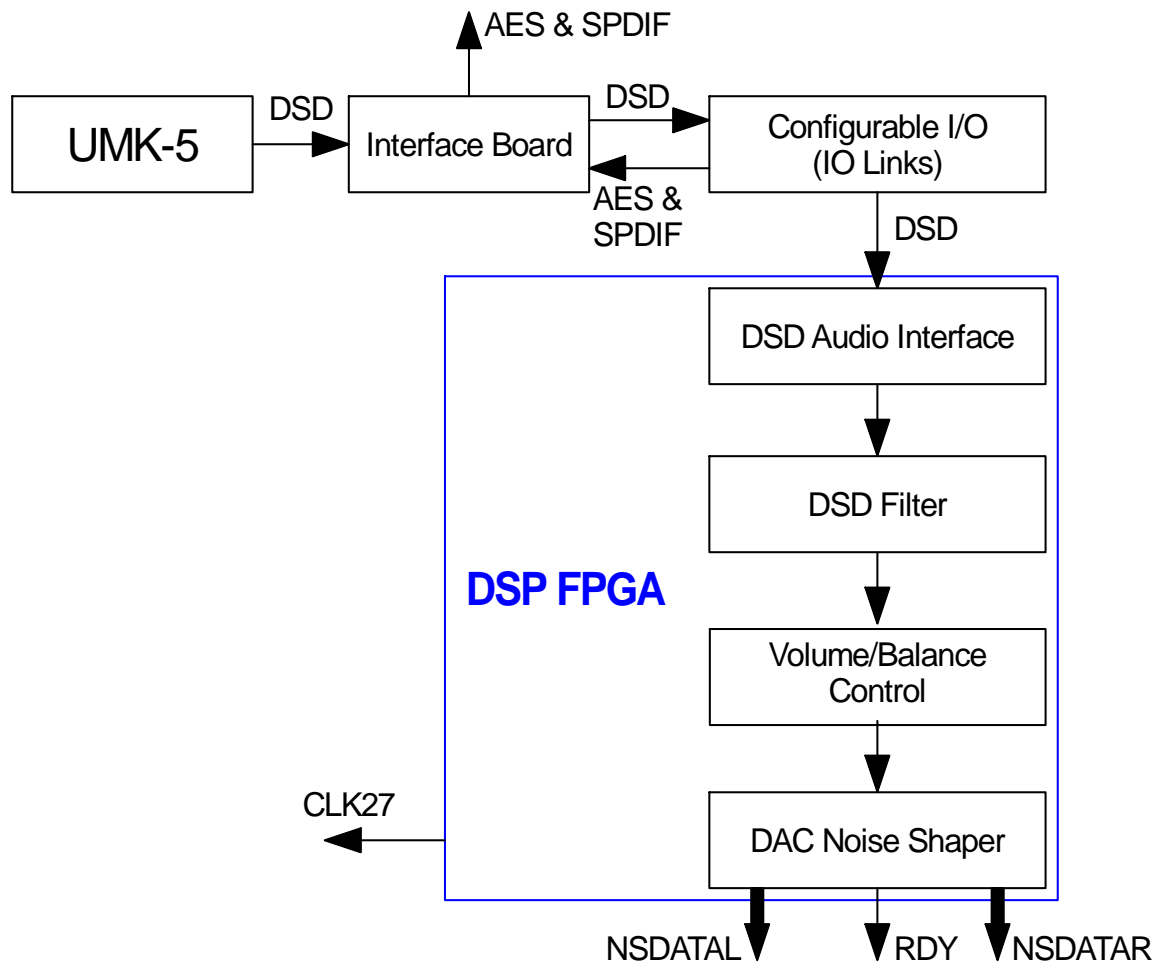
PCM Audio Path



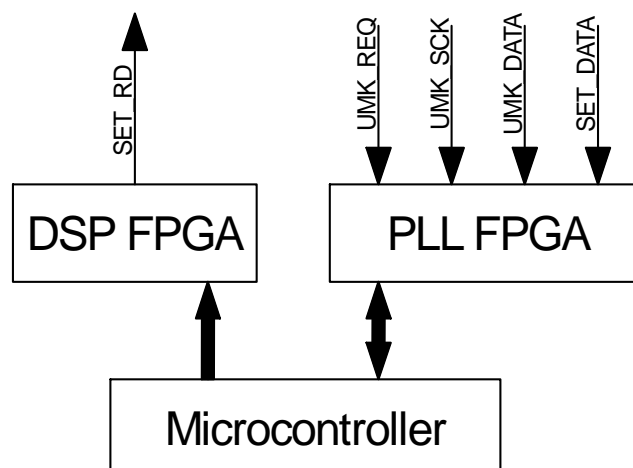
I²C Bus



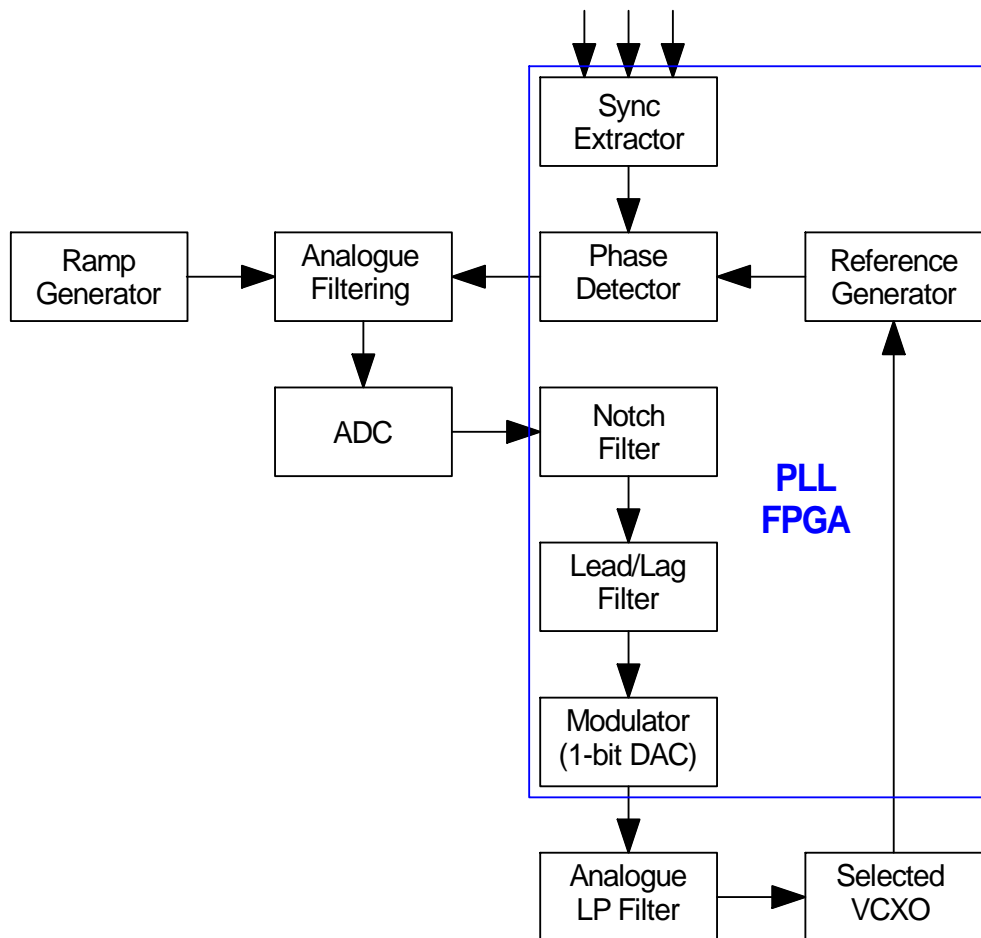
DSD Audio Path



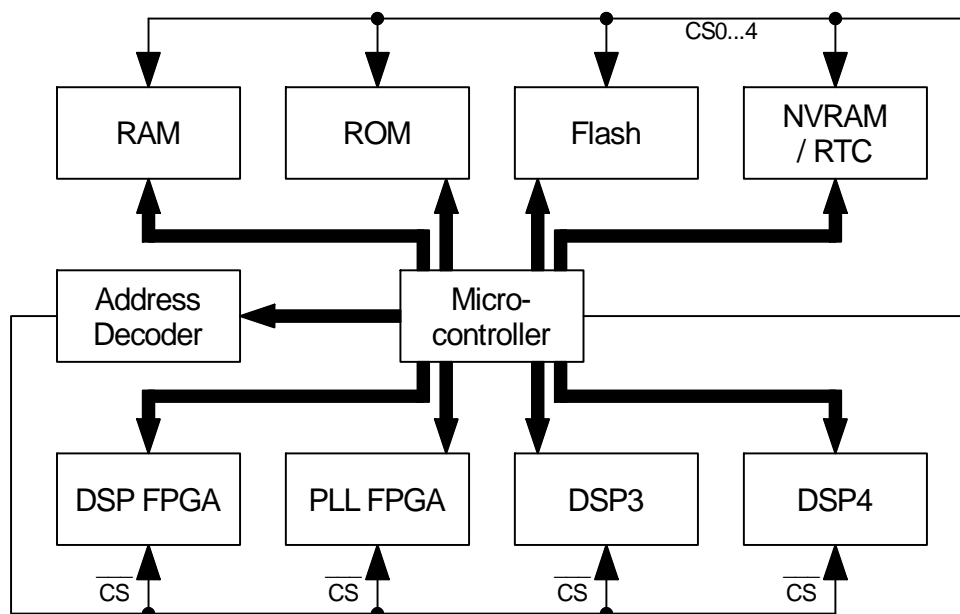
Control Interface



PLL



UA & UD



CD UPDATE PROCEDURE

dCS Puccini Player v1.30 Software Update

Please read these instructions through fully at least once before attempting the update.

The CD supplied with these instructions enables the software in any *dCS Puccini Player* loaded with earlier software to be updated to version 1.30. *dCS* contact information is given at the end of this document. If you are nervous about performing this update, please do not worry, it is quite easy.



Only use CDs provided by *dCS*.

Update Procedure

- Mute your power amplifier
- Load the *dCS Puccini* Update CD into the Player, **PLAY** the disc for about 10 seconds and then press **STOP**. The disc must **not** be playing at this point.
- Open the *Puccini Player*'s menu by pressing the **Menu** button on the front panel. Press the **Menu** button again to select the **Information** menu. Press the **→** button 3 times to highlight the **CD Update** page and press the **Menu** button to start the update.

The update is largely automatic from this point. The display sequence is shown below, with approximate times.

00:00 **Please wait - Starting CD – Scanning – OK** are displayed in sequence.

If there is anything wrong with the *dCS* CD that has been loaded, or it does not match the product, the unit will display **Wrong Disc!** and revert to normal operation. Don't worry – the internal software is unchanged. If either of the above cases occur, contact your *dCS* distributor or *dCS*.

00:25	Ver 1.30	
01:15	1/32	The first block of data is read from the disc.
02:15	2/32	The second block of data is read ...
...		
32:15	32/32	The last block of data is read, then the Player stops.
33:10	Please wait	The unit reboots. DO NOT SWITCH OFF
33:15	Puccini Player	DO NOT SWITCH OFF
35:50	Welcome	
36:00		The unit finishes uploading the new software and reads the disc.

This issue includes a Display software update (version 1.2), which must be installed if the previous software issue loaded in the Player was 1.11 or earlier.

- Press the **Menu** button 3 times to display the **Version Information** menu page. You will see on the display: **Display version: 1.10 (NEEDS UPDATE) PRESS VOL+ TO UPDATE.**
- Press the **VOL+** button once, **DISPLAY UPDATE** will appear on the display.



DO NOT switch off during this stage.

- After 30 seconds, the display will darken, but still show **DISPLAY UPDATE**. Switch the *Puccini Player* off (NOT just to sleep mode), wait 10 seconds, then switch on again. As the unit boots up, you will see **DISP 1.2** in the lower right corner of the start-up screen.

Your *Puccini Player* is now ready for use.

Problems?

- If the display does not change for more than 5 minutes or there is a power failure, switch off the unit at the rear panel switch, wait 10 seconds, then switch on and start the update again.
- If the disc skips or you accidentally advance the Player, the unit will display **Skipped!** Switch off the unit at the rear panel switch, wait 10 seconds, then switch on and start the update again.
- If the **Non Seq** message appears on the display, the most likely cause is that the update CD is faulty. There is no cause to worry as the original software is backed up inside the unit. Check the disc for dirt or damage. If the disc appears to be dirty, wipe it gently from the centre outwards with a dry soft cloth. If it is damaged, contact your local dCS distributor or dCS for a replacement. If it appears to be OK, run the **CD Update** routine again to load the new software.



If your *Puccini Player* starts up correctly but has a problem of some kind, do not repeatedly CD Update as this **cannot** solve the problem.

What's new in v1.30?

The new software upgrades the 2 digital inputs in your *Puccini Player* from 24/96 to 24/192. For more information, please download the latest version of the *Puccini Player User Manual* from www.dcsLtd.co.uk/page/support. Printed copies of the *Puccini Player* 1.3x manual may be purchased from dCS.

Obtaining and loading a license

If you would like to add DSD upsampling for the digital inputs, please visit www.dcsLtd.co.uk (or contact dCS) and register your unit to obtain a license. A license charge will be made for players shipped from dCS before 1st April 2009. Once you have the 25-digit license code, press the **Menu** button twice, press the → button twice, then press the **Menu** button again to open the **Player Information** page. Use the → button to scroll to the bottom of the screen and press the **Menu** button again to display the **License** screen. Enter the 25-digit license code using the numbered buttons on the remote control, then press the **MUTE** button. If you make a mistake while entering the code, use the remote's **Volume +/-** buttons to scroll across the screen and correct the number. Each Player has a unique license code, available only from dCS.

Printed copies of the *Puccini Player* 1.1x manual may be purchased from dCS, or there may be an electronic copy on the update disc, or you can download a copy from www.dcsLtd.co.uk.

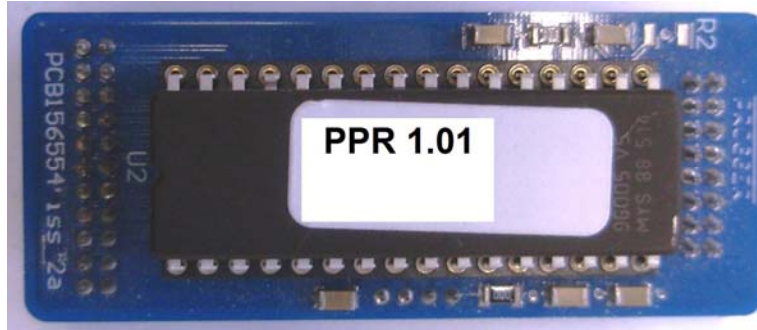
RE-LOADING SOFTWARE FROM ROM

Re-loading the Control software

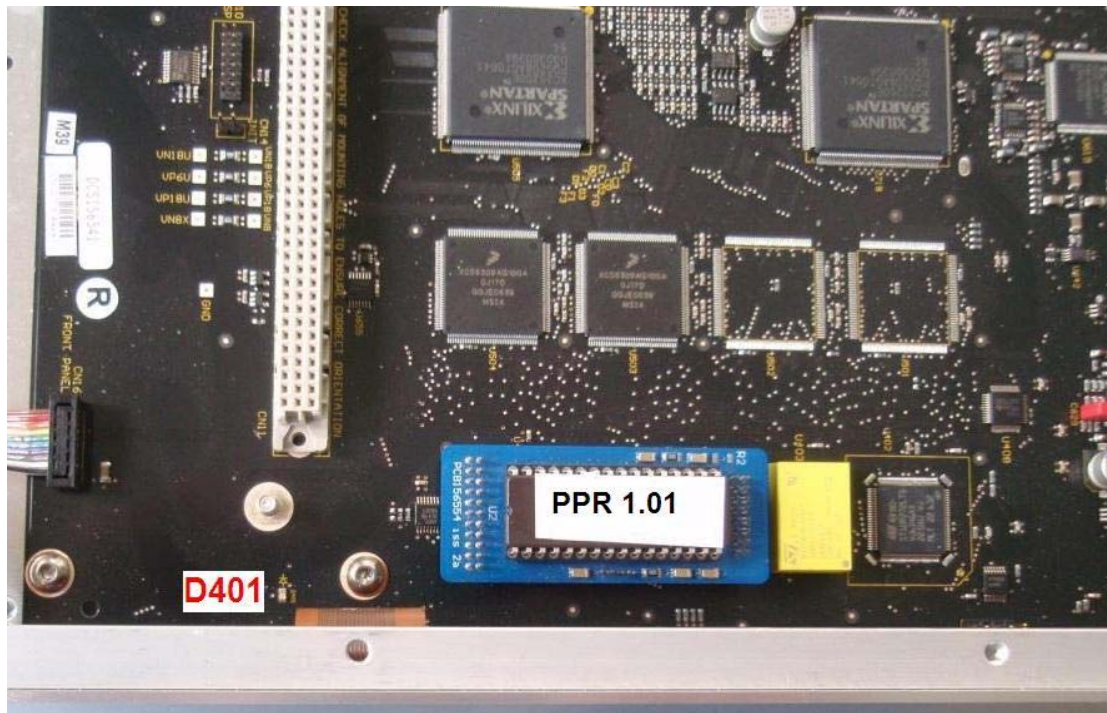
Normally, software can be updated from CD without opening the case, provided the unit boots up and runs correctly.

Occasionally, the software stored in the flash memory becomes corrupt, usually as a result of a power failure or user error while CD Updating. There is also some evidence that nearby electrical storms can do this. If the software has become corrupt, it is necessary to reload the unit from a ROM. To do this, you will need a DCS156554 programmer board and a ROM labelled "**PPR**" which is loaded with the *Puccini Player* software. You can load an older version from ROM and then CD Update to the current version.

- Power the unit up and then pull out the power cable.
- Open the case, disconnect the Display Board ribbon cable and remove the top cover.
- Remove the 4 screws securing the Ring DAC™ Board and pull it off the Control Board.
- Fit the **PPR** ROM to the socket in the programmer board, ensuring that the notched end is beside the "U2" label.



- Fit the programmer board onto the 3 headers near the edge of the Control Board, as shown below, making sure all pins fit into the sockets on the underside of the programmer board.



- Connect the power cable.

The Control Board will power up, red LED D401 will flash once and LEDs elsewhere on the board will turn on. The loading process takes several minutes, please be patient. When it is complete, the red LED D401 will start flashing steadily.



If D401 is still off after more than 10 minutes, the software has failed to load for some reason. Pull out the power cable, make quite sure the programmer board and ROM are correctly seated and repeat the process.

- Disconnect the power cable.
- Remove the programmer board and ROM, put them somewhere safe in anti-static packaging.
- Reassemble the unit, remembering to connect the Display Board cable.
- Open the menu and check that on the **Information / Version Information** page, the **Control version** matches the ROM issue.
- Check that the unit is operating correctly.
- CD Update to the current software issue.