

Leading British Engineering and HiFi Brand SME Ltd Is Acquired by Cadence

December 2016 – Steyning, England – Cadence Group is pleased to announce it has taken ownership of British engineering and Hi-Fi specialist SME Limited. Cadence, which already has major controlling interests in other prestigious audio brands, will bring a new level of investment to SME, allowing the company to extend its research and development activities whilst continuing to produce the class-leading products it is globally acclaimed for.



SME Model 30/12

Over the last few years, Cadence has acquired major controlling interests in several highly respected audio brands including the UK's Spondor Audio Systems and Netherlands-based Siltech Audio and Crystal Cables. With a sustained focus on investing in market-leading audio companies, Cadence has a reputation for helping its companies grow further and to extend their research and development activities.

Although famous for turntables and tonearms, SME's unrivalled design and manufacturing capabilities mean that its expertise is sought after by many precision engineering disciplines including Formula 1 and Aerospace, where the highest precision engineering is commanded.

SME's newly appointed CEO, Stuart McNeilis said, '*SME is the most iconic name in tonearm and turntable engineering and epitomises the very best of British engineering. By combining innovation with meticulous manufacturing and attention to detail has made SME a market leader for decades. With increased investment allowing for new product development, the company will build on its legacy of designing and manufacturing the best tonearms and turntables in the world.*'

Simultaneously, SME has appointed high-end audio distributor Padood to look after all sales and marketing activities in the UK and Ireland. McNeilis continues, *“We are delighted to announce this new partnership with Padood, who is one of the leading distributors of high-end audio in the UK. Together, we aim to grow awareness of the SME brand and its products to both traditional audiophiles and a new generation of music-loving enthusiasts.”*

For further information about SME and its products, visit www.sme-audio.com

##ENDS##

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Notes For Editors

About SME – www.sme-audio.com

Founded by Alastair Robertson-Aikman in 1946, SME (Scale Model Equipment) Ltd is one of the Britains leading engineering companies, designing and manufacturing class-leading tonearms and turntables that have received acclaim the world over.

From design and toolmaking through to all aspects of manufacturing including CNC machining, pressure die-casting, injection moulding, metal finishing, electro-plating, anodising and many other processes, SME manufactures all of its precision turntables and tonearms entirely in-house. In addition, the company works across a wide range of high end engineering industries including F1 and Aerospace, providing specialist precision engineering support and capability.

About Padood – www.padood.com

Padood is a new audio sector distributor dealing with best-in-class brands. Providing access to multiple distribution channels with expertise across the premium and luxury sectors of the UK marketplace, the company believes passionately in the products and brands it represents.

The Padood team is constantly scouring the world for hi-fi products which are truly world class and manufacturers who share the same commitment to delivering the very best. The company benefits from having substantial funding from a large Cambridge base investment fund, based on a thesis that there is room for a fresh approach to high-end audio distribution. This approach to business provides the company with access to a large and very skilful team at the core. Padood is committed to showcasing high-end audio in the arena it deserves and have it considered in the same way as other luxury product categories.

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