



# Silent Angel Bonn N8 Pro

## HIGHLY COMMENDED DIGITAL COMPONENT: NETWORK SWITCH

**T**he Bonn N8 Pro is Silent Angel's flagship network switch. It's as wide as many 16-port examples but supports eight RJ45 connections, enough for most audio-specific installations. It has a switched mode power supply onboard and an IEC mains connection but there's a second socket to allow a PSU upgrade with a 12V external supply. Uniquely, it includes a connector for an external 10MHz word clock, although it includes an onboard TCXO clock of high quality. It also includes a ground point, for ground plane noise busting devices such as those made by CAD, Tripath, and more.

A dedicated network switch like the Bonn N8 Pro not only distributes Local Area Network connectivity to the audio system, it acts as a barrier to electronic noise on the network, which is often caused by wireless routers. This is more than just a theoretical improvement; in

our listening tests, Jason Kennedy felt that, "the sense of relaxation was palpable and allowed the music to be expressed more clearly. There is even a sense of the sound breathing and the image gaining in depth." He also felt that, "There is clearly more detail being allowed through or not obscured by noise and this means that everything is fleshed out, including timing and realism."

Using the Bonn N8 Pro with a grounding box, Jason found it "opened the image up still further by taking out more noise to give a smoother, sweeter sound." He concluded the review by saying, "I like the fact that this is a strong component in its own right yet there are a number of ways to upgrade it without replacement. Silent Angel are onto something good here."

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