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AUDIOTRICITY

## CHIMERA

HIGH-END POWER  
CONDITIONER

OWNER'S MANUAL







# A note from Nuno Silva

FOUNDER, CEO, AND CHIEF DESIGNER OF AUDIOTRICITY

Thank you for purchasing the Chimera Power Conditioner!

Unquestionably one of the world's finest power conditioners, 100% hand made under my supervision throughout the entire process at our own factory. We have combined the best materials with the most advanced manufacturing techniques resulting in a very special product.

There's a reason behind everything and Audiotricity is not an exception! All the effort, dedication and time spent designing, testing and building was to prove the idea that – "A top performer should look and sound like one" – and that's the reason why I started! In addition, when I started I had the goal to build the best sound product within its price range, selecting the best parts without any trade-off to decrease its costs or production time.

Please enjoy the Chimera and I truly hope it will bring you many years of musical enjoyment.

Take a few minutes to read this Owner's Manual before proceeding with the installation of the power conditioner. A thorough understanding of the operational features will allow you to gain the maximum performance and ease of use for which this product was designed.

Sincerely,



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**OWNER'S MANUAL**    CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

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# LEGAL NOTIFICATIONS

**OWNER'S MANUAL** CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

Audiotricity is a European registered trademark. The information in this owner's manual can be subject to change without any previous notice. The current version, 1.3, of this manual was produced by the Audiotricity engineering, sales, and marketing departments.

The information in this manual is the sole property of Audiotricity. Any reproduction in whole or part without the expressed written permission of Audiotricity is prohibited.



**CAUTION:** NO USER SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. Do not open the power conditioner chassis or remove any of its screws. Please contact Audiotricity or your dealer if you have any problems.

**WARNING:** Do not expose this power conditioner to moisture or excessive humidity, and do not use it outdoors. Fire hazard may result.



The lightning ash with arrowhead, within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated “dangerous voltage” within the product’s enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electrical shock to persons.



The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.

**READ ALL WARNINGS AND INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE OPERATING THIS UNIT**

# PRODUCT FEATURES

## OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

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The Chimera is more than a power conditioner. Its architecture, with independent plugs, offers a superior filter performance, avoids cross contamination between plugged components, and adjusts the PFC to match the exact needs of each individual component. By using Chimera, your High-End system will become more resolute than before.

All the Chimera units are built by hand and deliver a stunning performance for High-End audio and video systems.

### PMAF II Filter

This state of art proprietary filter technology takes noise reduction to another level without any undesired effect in the currents. The filter has a multistage design with only passive components which reduces inductance and resistance, and it can be used even with large amplifiers without any constraints.

### IAGDB Surge protection (optional)

This product uses our surge protection proprietary technology. It protects your system against surges without any performance degradation. This technology is implemented in an independent path and uses only passive components without TMOV.

### SIPD Architecture

Our proprietary power distribution architecture ensures not only a completely independent power distribution (avoiding cross contamination between plugged components), but also a symmetrical distribution (the same available current to all plugged components).

### Dedicated ground filter

One of the most common issues is the ground loops, generated between plugged components in your home which creates the well known floor noise. In order to solve this problem, we included a dedicated two stage ground filter.

### Power factor correction

Every power grid has power factor degradation. This power factor degradation can get even worst when you use electric components such as lights and refrigerators. The Hi-Fi system only perform at its best with a 100% power factor, so we have included a power factor correction feature to feed your system with a perfect power factor.



### **DC blocker (optional)**

We included a dedicated DC blocker to remove any DC current contamination that might exist in the power line (it's usually responsible for the typical humming in your speakers).

### **Hydraulic breaker**

The common used thermal breakers or switches add extra resistance, and their performance can be changed according to the temperature and the amount of current needed. By using Hydraulic breakers, we can remove all these constraints without any side effect.

### **Anti-vibration spikes**

The anti-vibration spikes reduces the mechanical vibration of the electrical components, allowing an increase on the power conditioner performance and on all neighbor components.

### **Aluminum chassis**

The Aluminum chassis massively reduces the possible absorption of the noise fields placed near the power conditioner, and of the noise generated by the magnetic fields. Along with the use of Anti-vibration feet, the aluminum chassis also reduce the vibration.

### **Six isolated Furutech FI power outlets**

Each output power outlet is placed in an isolated power distribution branch, with independent filters. It avoids any possible cross contamination between the plugged components, and allows us to design specific filters to specific components and therefore get a better performance from each component.

### **20A Neutrik powerCON input**

By using a 20A Neutrik input, the power conditioner is fed without any power constraint and with all available current in the wall power outlet.

### **Central ground point**

This provides a central ground point for all electronic components in the system; it normalizes voltage differentials between component chassis', which may reduce the ground loops, and it also lowers chassis ground noise using dedicated ground filter.

# UNPACKING AND INSTALLATION

## OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

### Initial inspection

Inspect the shipping container for damage. If any portion of the shipping container, packing material, power conditioner, or accessories are damaged or missing, notify Audiotricity or your dealer and the shipper (if a claim is to be made) immediately.

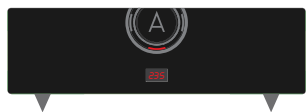
**NOTE:** Many shippers require notification and inspection within 24 hours of delivery to determine the nature of damages incurred.

Your Chimera has undergone extensive performance evaluations such as: listening tests, quality control inspections, and a minimum 72 hour burn-in period prior to shipment and should therefore be in perfect operating condition upon delivery. If the power conditioner does not operate correctly, please notify your Audiotricity or your dealer immediately.

We strongly suggest that you save all of the packing materials. If the power conditioner is returned to Audiotricity or your dealer, the original packing materials must be used for shipment to avoid possible damage. Neither Audiotricity nor the shipper can be held responsible for damages incurred during transit if the original factory packing is not used. All factory returns require that Audiotricity issue a Return Authorization (RA) number prior to shipment.

### Package contents

Ensure that all of the auxiliary components listed below are enclosed within the shipping carton and accessory box. Refer to the illustrations and verify that the proper components are included.



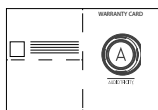
CHIMERA



AC POWER CABLE



OWNER'S MANUAL



WARRANTY CARD



PROTECTION GLOVES



MICROFIBER CLOTH

### Unpacking the Chimera from the case

When the power conditioner is still in its case, please move it to a location near the place where it will be installed. Remove any metal object like watches and rings to avoid any scratch in the unit's chassis. Put on the included white lifting gloves to avoid leaving fingerprints on the chassis as well.

### Installation requirements

The surface that will support the Chimera power conditioner must be capable of safely supporting the nearly 20kg weight of the power conditioner.

The power conditioner doesn't need too much ventilation, it can be mounted tight in the rack without regard for air flow.

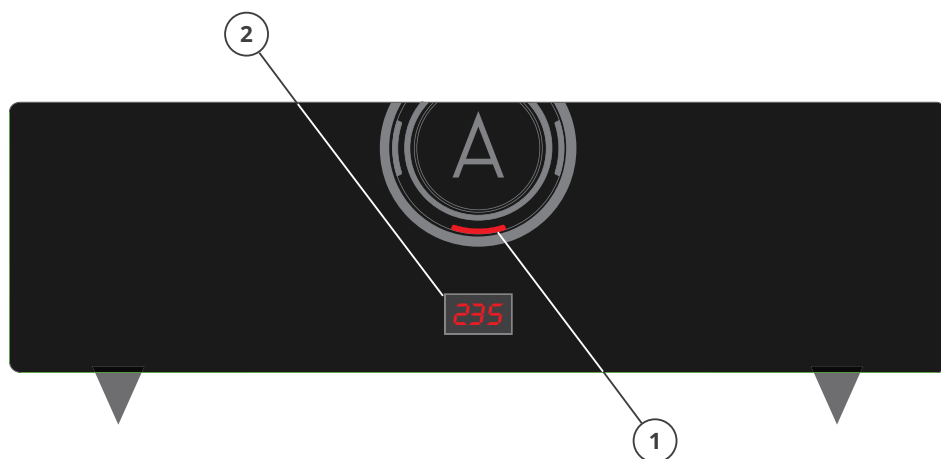
For best possible sound quality and maximum output, we recommend you connect the Chimera power conditioner to a dedicated 15-amp outlet or if possible to a 20-amp direct connection.



**WARNING:** This unit is not water proof. DO NOT submerge unit in water or any other fluid. DO NOT operate unit in an environment of water condensation. DO NOT operate unit with standing water on the floor.

# FRONT PANEL

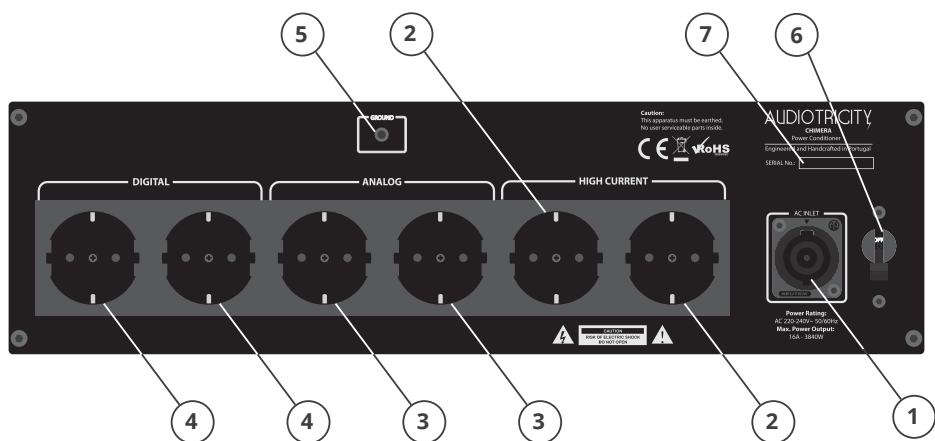
OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER



- 1. Operation Indicator LED:** When the Chimera is in operation, this led is illuminated.
- 2. Digital Voltmeter display:** When Chimera is in operation, this display will continuously monitor your mains voltage with a 3 reads/sec.

# REAR PANEL

## OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER



- 1. 20A NEUTRIK PowerCON input:** This is the Mains power input. You can use the power cable provided with the Chimera or you can use other after-market with 20A NEUTRIK powerCON plug.
- 2. High current outlets:** These outlets are designed with low frequency filtering and with very low resistance to enhance the performance of power hungry components. **Max 16A each.**
- 3. Analog low current outlets:** These outlets are designed with medium frequency filtering in order to improve performance of analog components. **Max 5A each.**
- 4. Digital outlets:** Specially designed to reduce high frequency noise that particularly affects the performance of digital components. **Max 5A each.**
- 5. Central ground point:** Designed to connect all your system components ground at this point providing the same potential for all. It reduces ground noise and breaks any possible ground loop.
- 6. Hydraulic breaker:** This is NOT a master ON/OFF switch. The breaker is designed to protect the unit and the components in the event of an over-current event; you should NOT use it as a master ON/OFF switch. Only use it to power ON/OFF the power conditioner if it will be for long periods of time. Otherwise, the power conditioner should remain in operation.
- 7. Serial Number:** Space reserved to unit serial number.

# MAKING CONNECTIONS

## OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

### Chimera power cable

Chimera requires a 20A NEUTRIK powerCON terminated power cable. We have supplied a high-end power cord with the Chimera. However, many users may wish to use after-market AC power cords available from many cable manufacturers. Only use power cables rated for 20-Amps of continuous current.



**WARNING:** Serious damage to internal circuitry can occur if improperly wired or unapproved AC power cables are used. Do NOT operate this unit with a cable with ground pin disconnected. Also if the unit is plugged into a voltage different from the range listed on the rear panel, it will result in serious damage and will void the warranty.

### Power-up sequence

#### 1. Put the hydraulic breaker in the OFF position

Ensure that hydraulic breaker (6) is turned off before start to connect your Chimera power conditioner.



#### 2. Plug the power cable in the 20A NEUTRIK powerCON input (1)

#### 3. Ensure all system electronic components are in the OFF position

#### 4. Plug each system component into an available outlet

Start with the outlet nearest to the incoming power line with the power amps; follow with the preamp and other analog components; and at last with all the digital components in the farthest outlets.

#### 5. Plug each system component into central ground point

#### 6. Plug the power cable to the wall outlet

#### 7. Put the hydraulic breaker in the ON position

Turn on the hydraulic breaker (6). If the breaker trips automatically right after you turned it on read the "Troubleshooting" section.



## 8. Turn each of the system components ON

Turn each system component on, starting with your sources first ending with amplifiers last. Wait approximately 5 seconds between each component to avoid current spikes.



**WARNING:** Never plug the power cable to the NEUTRIK 20A powerCON input with the cable connected to the wall outlet.

# OPERATION

## OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

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### Initial power-up of the conditioner

Your Chimera power conditioner is shipped with a minimum 72h burn-in period ensuring an outstanding performance right after it's turned on. However, it's performance will continue to improve until the 300 hours of burn-in.

Every time you switch on Chimera it requires approximately 30 minutes to reach optimal operating temperature. Although the power conditioner will sound excellent upon initial listening, the sound quality will improve as it warms up.

### During operation

The Chimera was designed to be always in operation even when you are not using your system. You should only turn off the power conditioner if you won't need it for a long period of time or if it exists any operational problem.

The Chimera power conditioner requires no adjustments during normal operation. If there is no sound or the sound quality is in some way impaired, consult the "Troubleshooting" section.

### Protection Systems

The Chimera power conditioner is equipped with magnetic breaker for protection against excessive AC current draw. Unfortunately, since no protection circuitry or system can completely protect a product from every electrical hazard, certain precautions should be observed. In the event of severe voltage hazards such as lightning or when the power conditioner will not be used for extended periods of time, the power conditioner should be unplugged from the AC mains to avoid potential damage to the internal circuitry. All other audio/video system components should also be disconnected from AC mains power as hazardous voltages can easily travel throughout an interconnected system.



# POWER-OFF

## OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

To power-off the power conditioner, proceed in the inverse order of power-on.

### 1. Turn each system components OFF

Turn each system component off, starting with your amplifiers first ending with sources last.

### 2. Put the hydraulic breaker in the OFF position

Turn off the hydraulic breaker (6) present in the power conditioner rear panel.



### 3. Unplug the power cable from the wall outlet

### 4. Wait 1 minute before proceed with the next steps

The filtering elements store an electrical charge for a short time. This charge is present in the power conditioner outlet pins. This charge will be safety discharged in less than a minute.

### 5. Unplug each system component from the central ground point

### 6. Unplug each system component from the power conditioner

Start with the digital components, follow by the analog components and ending with amplifiers.

### 7. Unplug the power cable from the 20A NEUTRIK powerCON input



**WARNING:** Do NOT ever pull the unit's power cable from the wall outlet while the system is operating. This unit carries very high currents and pulling the cable may cause damage to the wall outlet and power conditioner.



**WARNING:** Do NOT ever unplug power cable from the 20A NEUTRIK powerCON input (1) while cable is connected to the wall outlet. Always disconnect first from wall outlet.



**WARNING:** The filtering elements present in the unit store a electrical charge for a short time. This charge is present in the power conditioner outlet pins and will be safety discharged in less than a minute. In order to avoid risk of electrical shock, always wait a minute between turn off and unplug cables from the power conditioner.

# MAINTENANCE

## OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

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### Maintenance

All Audiotricity products are designed to provide a lifetime of enjoyment and listening pleasure. The Chimera power conditioner is constructed from a precision-machined aluminum; its chassis is sealed to prevent dust from entering the interior of the chassis and thus should never need interior cleaning during the lifetime of the product. All internal circuitry is maintenance-free in which no adjustments of any kind are necessary over the lifetime of the product. If the power conditioner is ever in need of service, updating, or upgrading, it should only be returned to an authorized repair facility or technician for servicing.



**WARNING:** Do not attempt to access the interior of the Chimera power conditioner. Doing so will void your warranty and could expose you to dangerous, potential lethal electric voltages.

### Cleaning

The front panel of the unit should never be cleaned with anything than the provided cloth and plain water. Due to the fine finish of the front panel, use of any other cleaning agent may permanently scratch the finish.

The top cover, sides and bottom are protected by a durable black anodized finish and can be cleaned with the provided cloth or other soft cotton cloth dampened with plain water. Water should be applied directly to the cloth and not the chassis. If a mark has been left on the chassis, do not use any type of abrasive or chemical cleaner to remove the mark.

If you have any questions about the care or cleaning of your Chimera power conditioner, please contact Audiotricity customer support or your dealer before attempting to clean the chassis. The use of a cleanser or abrasive to clean the chassis that has not been approved by Audiotricity will almost certainly damage the finish and will not be covered under warranty.



**WARNING:** Cleaner/water should be applied directly to the cloth and not the chassis.



**WARNING:** We do NOT recommend the use of any kind of contact enhancer fluids, pastes or gels. This kind of products usually leaves a residue that can contaminate or damage the contact metals, decreasing its performance. Never attempt to clean contacts inside the outlets. The only safe product we know is CAIG DeoxIT® and DeoxIT® Gold.

# PERFORMANCE OPTIMIZATION

## OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

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### Burn-In

The power distributor is constructed using massive wiring and heavy duty contacts throughout. For best performance allow at least 300 hours of continuous operation.

### Mounting platforms

Ideally the Chimera should be placed on a proper shelf, amp stand or solid platform. A heavy plank of wood or a granite slab works well also.

### Cones and isolation feet

The Chimera uses steel isolation spikes that were designed specifically to reduce vibration from the underlying platform. You may wish to experiment with other after-market products.

### AC wall outlets

We strongly recommend that you replace the wall outlet at least with a high quality commercial grade unit. The standard wall outlet is not adequate for high current applications. There are also many audiophile grade outlets that are plated with a variety of metals including silver, gold and rhodium, that will perform even better.



**WARNING:** We DO NOT recommend using the Chimera with other power distributors, conditioners or regenerators. Connecting multiple power components in series usually delivers unpredictable or poor results. If extra outlets are needed, use separated Audiotricity power conditioners or an High-End extension block.

# UPGRADE PROGRAM

## OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

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Audiotricity is committed to create long-term relationships with the customers. The Upgrade Program is one example of this commitment because it helps you follow a logical and slowly progression of system improvement, and protects your initial investment.

Audiotricity upgrade program not only let you upgrade to follow levels as you can upgrade to new Technology generations. This way, with a single upgrade, you can give your audio system two level upgraded.

### **Here's how upgrade program works:**

All Audiotricity power conditioners (Mormo, Pholus, Chimera, Chimera Signature, and Stheno) are eligible for the Upgrade Program.

The cost of upgrading is amazingly close to the difference in cost between the original Audiotricity power conditioner and the desired level of the new one.

If you own older-technology Audiotricity power conditioner, upgrading to the next higher level it's also possible for a fraction of the price of the new technology.

Even a customized power conditioner can be upgraded.

If you are interested in upgrading your Audiotricity power conditioner contact Audiotricity or your dealer.

# LIMITED WARRANTY

## OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

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Audiotricity warrants the Chimera power conditioner against manufacturing defects and defects in materials for ten years from the date of purchase from Audiotricity or any authorized dealer, subject to the conditions listed below:

1. The warranty covers only new products purchased directly from Audiotricity or any authorized Audiotricity dealer.
2. The warranty is transferable but only valid if second hand owner registered the transferred product in Audiotricity website.
3. The warranty is valid only if the product has been used according to the instructions in the owner's manual. Damage due to accidents or owner abuse or neglect is not covered under this warranty.
4. All service must be performed by Audiotricity or an authorized Audiotricity dealer. Damage resulting from service by other parties is not covered under this warranty.
5. All products returned for service must be packaged in the original container and must include a photocopy of the original purchase receipt. If the original container has been lost or discarded, contact Audiotricity for a replacement.
6. If the product must be shipped back to Audiotricity for warranty service, the customer shall pay shipping costs. Audiotricity will pay for return shipping.
7. Before shipping the product to Audiotricity for service, the customer must first obtain a Return Authorization (RA) number by calling Audiotricity. The RA number must be marked clearly on the side of the package.
8. This warranty covers only defects in products made by Audiotricity. It does not cover incidental or consequential damages, or damages to other products resulting from defects in Audiotricity products.
9. U.S. residents: Depending on which state you live in, you may have other rights not elaborated in this document. For further information, contact Audiotricity.

# SPECIFICATIONS

## OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

### Maximum Voltage

- EU: 240V
- US: 125V
- Asia: 230V
- UK: 230V

### Maximum Current

- EU: 20A (16A limited by wall outlet)
- US: 20A (20A limited by wall outlet)
- Asia: 20A (16A limited by wall outlet)
- UK: 20A (13A limited by wall outlet)

### Surge Suppression

- Maximum surge current: 30,000 Amps @ 8/20μs

### Over-current protection

- Hydraulic Electromagnetic Breaker
- Max. Voltage Isolation: 3,750V

### Input connectors

- 20A NEUTRIK powerCON (1)

### Isolated zones

- All outlets are isolated: 6 zones

### Outlets

- EU: EU1-16R
- US: NEMA 5-20R
- Asia: NEMA 5-20R
- UK: BS 1363

### Wiring system

- 12 AWG Conductors
- OCC Conductors
- Teflon isolated conductors
- Copper bus-bar

### Noise reduction

- Greater than 70db of noise reduction

### Resistance in power path

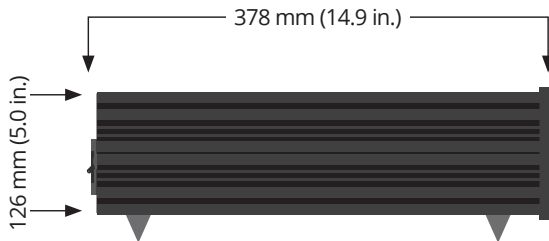
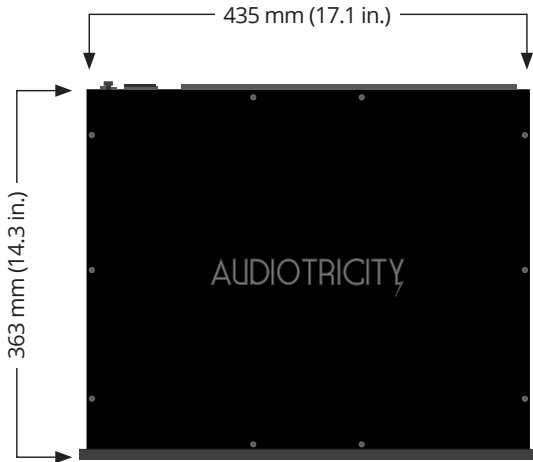
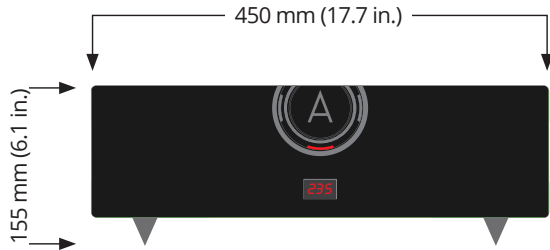
- 18 m Ω

### Construction

- Aluminum chassis
- Anodized aluminum faceplates
- Vibration dampening (internal)
- AC outlet vibration dampening
- High-end isolation spikes

# DIMENSIONS

OWNER'S MANUAL    CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER



# TROUBLESHOOTING

## OWNER'S MANUAL CHIMERA POWER CONDITIONER

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### Conditioner will not power up

If the front operation indicator LED is NOT illuminated, follow the procedure outlined below. If one step succeeds in activating the power, STOP there and ignore the other steps.

1. Turn the hydraulic breaker off.
2. Check at the back of the power conditioner to make sure the 20-amp Neutrik powerCON connector is pushed all the way into the jack on the back of the power conditioner.
3. Make sure the AC cord is plugged into the wall outlet.
4. Check your household electrical box to make sure the circuit breaker has not been tripped. If it has, flip the breaker back on.
5. If the breaker trips again, check the entire length of the power cable to ensure there has been no damage to it. If breaker doesn't trip, jump to step 9.
6. If no damages are visible on cable, disconnect the power conditioner from the wall outlet.
7. Flip the house hold electric box breaker again.
8. If the breaker trips again, call to electric specialist to check your house electrical installation.
9. If the breaker doesn't trip in step 5, put the power conditioner hydraulic breaker in the ON position.
10. If all of these steps fail to return power to the power conditioner, consult Audiotricity or authorized dealer for service.

### Power conditioner hydraulic breaker trips every time I turn the unit on

Don't try to power on the power conditioner again and contact Audiotricity or an authorized dealer for service.



### **Front operation indicator LED is illuminated but none of the plugged components turn on**

Follow these steps in order. If one step succeeds in restoring the sound, stop there and ignore the other steps.

- 1.** Check if the power cables of the components are correctly plug in the power conditioner rear outlets.
- 2.** Check if power cables components are correctly plug in the components IEC inlets.
- 3.** Check the instructions of each component to check if you are following the correct steps to turn the components on.
- 4.** If all of these steps fail to return power to the power conditioner, consult Audiotricity or authorized dealer for service.

### **Sound seems unclear, unfocused or strange in some way**

Follow these steps in order. If one step succeeds in restoring the sound, stop there and ignore the other steps.

- 1.** Follow the power conditioner power off sequence.
- 2.** Unplug all the components from the power conditioner.
- 3.** Connect all your system without using the power conditioner.
- 4.** If sound seems OK now, try to plug your system again to the power conditioner.
- 5.** If the problem persists, consult Audiotricity or authorized dealer for service.

### **Front operation LED indicator is illuminated but front voltmeter display is off**

Contact Audiotricity or an authorized dealer for service.