

Thorens Restek V1



5/6/2020

Author: Karsten Hein

Category: **Gear & Review**Tag: **Pre-Amplifiers**

[Go to comments](#)

The Restek Elektronik Hugo + Elschoth oHG was founded in September 1975 by two electronics engineers. In its early years, the company manufactured not only HiFi equipment, but also electric vehicles and components for industrial applications. The first HiFi components were produced at the company's headquarters in Fuldabrück from 1977. Although each unit sold was designed and hand assembled locally, Restek partnered with the HiFi equipment manufacturer Thorens in the distribution of their products. Although Restek is best known for their exceptional FM-3003 tuner, the V1 class A preamplifier was among the company's very first products ever produced. The label 'High End Audio made in Germany' has kept the company in business until this day, and one of the company two founders, Mr. Adrianus Elschoth, is still heading the company today.

Restek manufactured two preamplifiers by the name of V, namely the V1 that is shown here and the V2a which offered extended functions, such as remote switching, separate headphones level adjustment and connections for two tape loops instead of just one. The V1 is perhaps the purist's choice and does offer some very promising features. A stepped volume attenuator assures maximum contact and channel balance at each volume level, separate output level attenuators at the back of the unit allow for optimum balance setting and adjustment to the amp. For the sake of signal integrity, all unnecessary switches and attenuators have been left out, such as tone level adjustments or loudness circuitry. The Restek V1 can handle both MM and MC phono cartridges and, next to phono, has cinch/RCA connections for a tuner, a non-specified device such as a DAC, and for a reel to reel deck.

The unit is able to play back frequencies from 2 to 200.000 Hz. Linearity measured between 20 and 20.000 Hz is at a stunning +/- 0 dB (THD 0,001%) and even for phono at a mere +/- 0.2 dB (THD 0,004%). In the days when it was first released to the public, the then young German 'Audio' magazine even compared this unit of a relative newcomer to the established products of Burmester and other High End manufacturers of the time. Often, the extent to which a company stands behind their products can be seen by the amount of support that one can expect to receive, say, 40 years after the initial date of purchase. In the case of Restek, service can very well be regarded as excellent. Here is why:

When in 2017 the unit shown here came to show first signs of ageing, we were pleased to learn that there was not only service available, but also a complete upgrade. This included: Replacement of the relays and all electrolytic capacitors, adjustment and replacement of components that were outside the specifications, circuitry modifications according to the latest standard, and the installation of new operational amplifiers. In other words, a complete reworking of the more than 40 years old unit, to prepare it for the new millenium.

Specifications

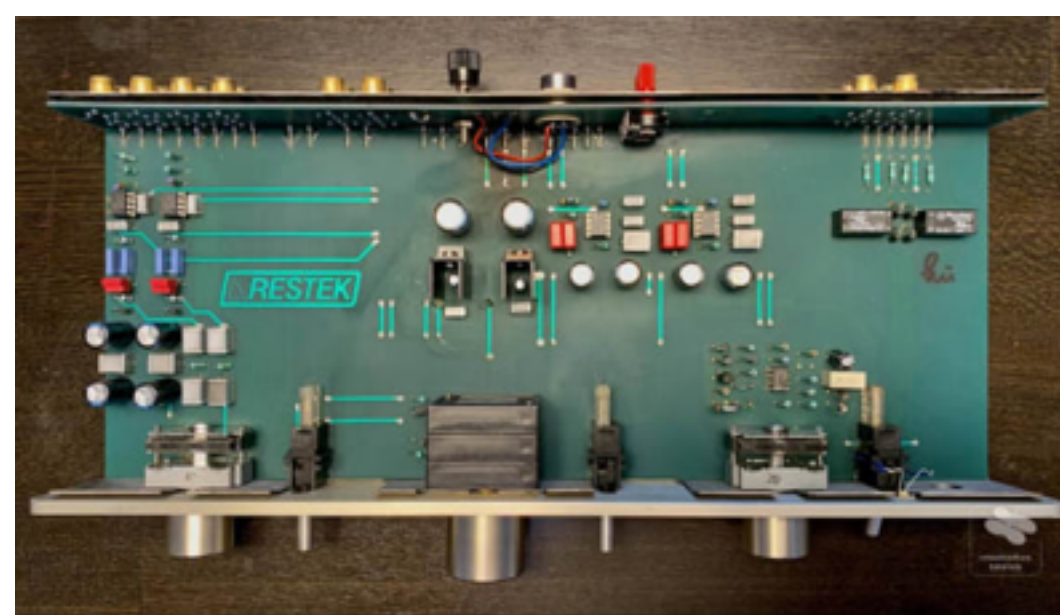
- Type: Class A transistor preamplifier
- Frequency range: 2-200.000 Hz
- Frequency response (2-200.000 Hz): -3dB
- Frequency response (20-20.000 Hz): +/- 0 dB, phono +/- 0.2 dB
- Total harmonic distortion: 0,001%, phono 0,004%
- Ext. potential difference: 128 dB (phono)
- Channel separation: 110 dB
- Intermodulation: 0,001%
- Slew rate: 15 V/uS
- Dimensions: 360 mm x 50 mm x 190 mm
- Weight: 3,6 Kg



[View full-size image](#)



[View full-size image](#)



[View full-size image](#)

[Share article via email](#)

[Share article on Facebook](#)

0 Comments eiaudio Disqus' Privacy Policy

[Login](#)

[Favorite](#) [Tweet](#) [Share](#)

Sort by Best

Start the discussion...

LOG IN WITH OR SIGN UP WITH DISQUS



Name

Be the first to comment.

[Subscribe](#) [Add Disqus to your site](#) [Do Not Sell My Data](#)

DISQUS

BACK