

MOMENTUM INTEGRATED AMPLIFIER

OWNER'S MANUAL



Dan D'Agostino
MASTER AUDIO SYSTEMS



*“I stake my reputation on its performance—
and on your satisfaction with it.”*

A note from Dan D'Agostino

FOUNDER, CEO, AND CHIEF DESIGNER OF DAN D'AGOSTINO MASTER AUDIO SYSTEMS

Thank you very much for purchasing the Momentum integrated amplifier. I've designed many integrated amps, but this is the first I've offered under my own name, so it's something special to me.

For this integrated amplifier, I wanted to marry the best aspects of the Momentum stereo amplifier and the Momentum preamplifier in a single chassis, to create a component that would fit more easily into living environments and listening rooms. Usually, an integrated amplifier is a compromised combination of a preamp and an amp. But because this integrated amp is the first with my name on the front, I refused to compromise. Thus, I used the same circuit concepts pioneered in other Momentum components. In most cases I even used the exact same circuit boards.

As with the original Momentum products, I used the through-hole construction that was common back in the early days of my career, but is only rarely used now. Through-hole is much more expensive and time-consuming than the surface-mount construction found in most of today's audio products, but it's sturdier and it sounds better. And it's the only way to make audio products that will last for decades to come.

We built your Momentum integrated amp by hand in our Arizona factory under my close personal supervision. Before we shipped it to your audio dealer, we tested it to make sure every circuit in it works perfectly and delivers the performance I designed into it. You could say there's a little bit of my soul in this amp!

I've created hundreds of products in my career. Even many of my very first products are still in use and prized as collector's items. But the Momentum products are the only ones that carry my signature. I stake my reputation on this amp's performance, and on your satisfaction with it. I hope you enjoy every hour you spend with it, and that it brings you ever deeper into the music you love.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel D'Agostino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "D" at the beginning.



CAUTION: NO USER SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. Do not open the amplifier's chassis or remove any of its screws. Contact D'Agostino LLC or your dealer if you have service needs.

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



The lightning flash 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.

LEGAL NOTIFICATIONS

Dan D'Agostino Master Audio Systems is a registered trademark of D'Agostino LLC. The information in this owner's manual is subject to change without notice. Current Version 1.0 of this manual was produced by the Dan D'Agostino LLC engineering, sales and marketing departments.

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PACKAGE CONTENTS

If any of the following items are missing, please contact your dealer:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| ✓ 1 Momentum integrated amplifier encased in protective static-cling vinyl | ✓ 1 DC cable |
| ✓ 1 remote control | ✓ 1 owner's manual |
| ✓ 1 IR extender module | ✓ 1 pair of white lifting gloves |
| ✓ 1 AC power cord | ✓ 1 microfiber cleaning cloth |

UNPACKING AND INSTALLATION

Unpacking the Momentum integrated amplifier from the Pelican case

While the integrated amp is still in its case, please move it to a location near the place where it will be installed. Remove all jewelry including watches, rings and belts from your person to avoid damage to the exterior of the integrated amp during the removal and installation. We recommend

that two people lift the Momentum integrated amp. Because it is machined from a solid block of aluminum, it is much heavier than it looks.

The finish of the Momentum integrated amp is extremely delicate. We suggest wearing the supplied white gloves when handling the integrated amp to avoid abrasion, fingerprints caused by oils from the skin, etc. Additionally, the machining process used to create the metal parts for the Momentum integrated amp is precise, but not perfect; you may see slight flaws and scratches in the finish, but these are unavoidable and in fact part of the intended look of the amplifier. Please refer to OPERATION: *Maintenance* for instructions on cleaning.

Installation requirements

This integrated amp's dense metal chassis makes it much heavier than most other integrated amps, so make sure the surface that will support this component can safely hold its weight.

Adequate ventilation must be provided for the integrated amp. There should be at least 3 inches of clearance on each side and 3 inches of clearance at the top, and the bottom vents must not be obstructed by thick carpet, dust, etc. We recommend that the integrated amp be installed in an open equipment rack or on an amplifier stand to ensure proper ventilation. The integrated amp may be installed in a closed cabinet or in an equipment closet, but the cabinet or closet must be designed with substantial ventilation at top and bottom; active ventilation (i.e., powered fans) is preferred. Do not place the integrated amp directly on a carpeted floor.

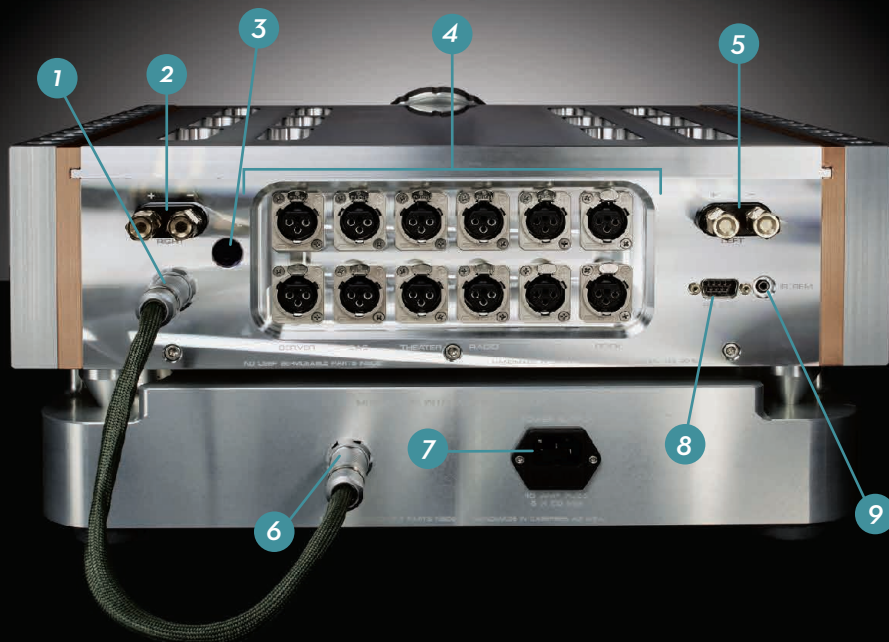
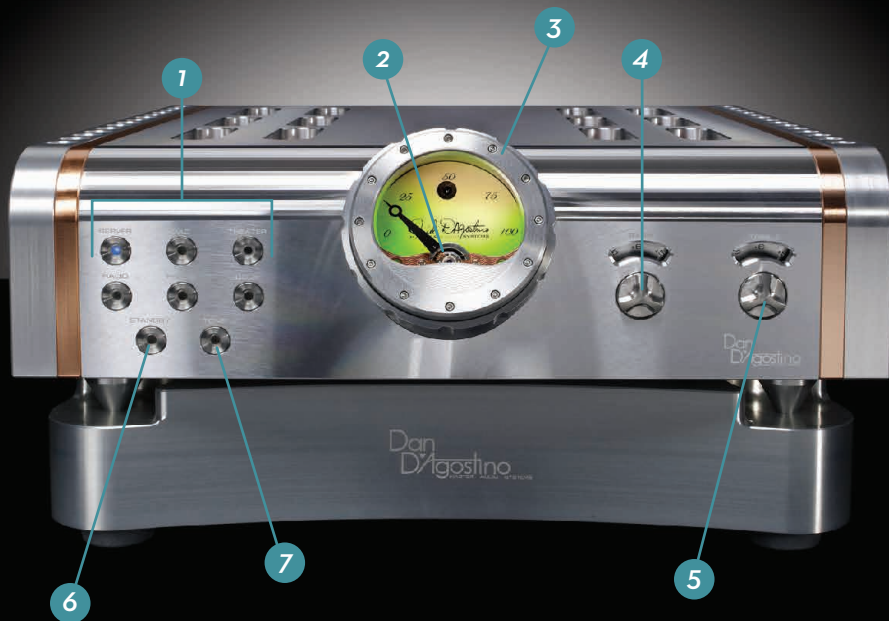
Do not plug the Momentum integrated amplifier or any other Dan D'Agostino Master Audio Systems product into a power strip or power conditioner.

The Momentum integrated amp is designed with special cone feet that screw into the bottom of the main chassis and match up with indentations on the top of the power supply. The bottom of the power supply has soft feet designed to isolate the main chassis assembly from vibration. (These feet will not stain or mar the surface underneath them.)

To attach the cone feet, first remove the vinyl wrap that covers the integrated amp and protect the finish. (Save the vinyl wrap in the box to use again if you ever need to ship the amplifier.) Use two people to turn the integrated amp chassis upside down and place it on a soft but secure surface—a few towels draped over a sturdy table, for example—and place the vinyl wrap atop the towels for extra protection. Screw the feet all the way into the threaded holes on the bottom of the chassis. Now place the power supply in the place where you want to install the Momentum integrated amplifier. Use two people to turn the integrated amp back over again. Place it carefully atop the power supply chassis, lining up the points of the cone feet with the indentations on the top of the power supply.

If you need to return the integrated amplifier for service

If you should need to send the Momentum integrated amp back to us for service, be sure to use the original box and materials for shipment. Before you ship the amplifier, unplug it from the wall and let it cool down for 6 hours. To protect the finish during shipping, rewrap the amplifier in the vinyl covering it came in. Make sure the amp is completely cool and has not been plugged in for 6 hours before you do this. Wrapping the amplifier when it is warm will cause the vinyl to leech into the amplifier's surface and will permanently damage the finish. ■



FRONT PANEL

1. Source selector buttons
2. Volume setting indicator
3. Volume control knob
4. Bass control
5. Treble control
6. Standby/Power On button
7. Tone bypass button

REAR PANEL & POWER SUPPLY

1. Amplifier DC input (from power supply)
2. Right-channel speaker output
3. Headphone jack
4. XLR input jacks
5. Left-channel speaker output
6. Power supply DC output (to amplifier)
7. IEC power cord connector and fuse holder
8. RS-232 control input
9. 3.5mm IR control input

REMOTE CONTROL

The remote control provided with the Momentum preamplifier offers the following functions:

1. Server input selector
2. Balance button
3. Radio input selector
4. DAC input selector
5. Phase button
6. Power on/off button
7. Tone controls bypass/on button
8. Phono input selector
9. Theater bypass button
10. Mute button
11. Dock input selector
12. Volume up button
13. Volume down button



MAKING CONNECTIONS TO THE MOMENTUM INTEGRATED AMPLIFIER

Speaker cables

Install the speaker cables first. We recommend the use of high-quality cables terminated with spade or ring lugs that will fit the Momentum's binding posts. We advise against the use of pin connectors, banana plugs or bare-wire connections.

Note that the positive (+) binding post has a red ring and the negative (-) binding post has a black ring. Double check to confirm that you are connecting your speaker cable's conductors to the appropriate binding posts—red to positive, black to negative. If your cables are marked to show desired signal flow, orient the cable so that the installation conforms to the cable manufacturer's instructions.

To install speaker cables tipped with spade lugs or rings, use a binding post wrench to carefully loosen each speaker binding post. Turn counter-clockwise to loosen. If using spade lugs, insert each spade lug so that its two tines straddle the binding post, then tighten the binding post nut with the binding post wrench. If using rings, remove the binding post nut entirely, place the ring on the binding post, then replace the nut and tighten it securely.

A firm connection, tight enough that the spade lug or ring cannot move, is all that's needed. Too much torque could damage the binding posts. Do not use a conventional wrench to tighten the binding posts.

Interconnect cables

We recommend the use of high-quality balanced XLR audio interconnect cables with the Momentum integrated amplifier. If you have a source device that does not offer XLR connections, please contact your D'Agostino Master Audio Systems dealer to acquire the proper XLR-to-RCA adapters.

First connect the source devices (phono preamp, CD player, etc.) to the appropriate inputs. Connect each XLR cable (or XLR-to-RCA adapter) to the appropriate XLR jack by pushing the plug into the jack. To release the plug, push on the small tab atop the jack and gently detach the plug. Never grasp interconnect cables by the cable itself—you could damage the cable. Be sure to connect left channel to left channel input, right channel to right channel input.

Note that the Momentum integrated amplifier does not incorporate a phono stage; you will have to add an external phono stage in order to use the Momentum with a turntable. We recommend getting a phono stage of the best possible quality in order to get the best from the Momentum.

DC cable for power supply

The Momentum integrated amplifier is supplied with a special DC cable that interfaces the power supply with the main chassis. To connect the cable, simply align the connector in the jack on the back panel and push it into place.

Be sure to hook up the DC cable before you connect the power supply to the AC outlet, and disconnect the AC before you remove the DC cable.

AC cord

The Momentum integrated amplifier power supply is supplied with a high-quality AC cord tipped with a 15-amp IEC connector at the integrated amp end and a three-conductor AC plug at the other end. You may use a different power cord with the Momentum if you wish, as long as it is tipped with a 15-amp IEC connector and a three-conductor AC plug.

After the speaker, interconnect cables, and power supply connector cable are connected, push the IEC connector on the power cord into the IEC jack on the Momentum integrated amp.

Do not plug the Momentum integrated amp or any other Dan D'Agostino Master Audio Systems product into a power strip or power conditioner.

Headphone jack

This 1/4 - inch jack allows easy connection of headphones to the Momentum integrated amplifier. Headphones with a 1/8 - inch plug may be connected using a 1/8 - inch to 1/4 - inch adapter. To activate the headphones press and hold the button of the input you wish to listen to and hold it for 10 seconds. This will turn on the headphones and mute the speakers. To restore sound to the speakers simply repeat the process. This process works with the remote as well.

IR control input

This is a standard IEC5-type 3.5mm input for a remote control signal. This can be used with the included IR extender module so the remote will work even when the integrated amp is installed in a cabinet. It will also work with third-party home automation and IR repeater systems.

To activate this input, turn off the integrated amplifier and disconnect the power cord from the power supply. Plug in the cable from the extender module or third-party system. Now plug the power cord back into the power supply and push the Standby button on front of the integrated amp. The IR receiver on the extender module will now receive commands from the remote, and the IR receiver on the front of the integrated amp will no longer work. To reactivate the front sensor, turn off the power on the integrated amp and unplug the power cord from the power supply, unplug the IR extender cable, then plug the power cord back in and push the Standby button on the front of the integrated amp.

RS-232 input

This DB9-type input allows the Momentum integrated amplifier to be controlled by home automation systems that use the RS-232 protocol. Consult your D'Agostino Master Audio Systems dealer for more information. Current code is available online at www.dandagostino.com ■





OPERATION

Initial power-up of the integrated amplifier

To power-up the Momentum integrated amplifier, simply press the Standby button located on the front of the integrated amp. After power is switched on, the Momentum integrated amplifier requires approximately 30 minutes to reach optimal operating temperature. Although the amp will sound excellent upon initial listening, the sound quality will improve as it warms up, much as the flavor of a fine red wine improves if it is allowed to breathe for a few minutes.

Basic operation

The Momentum integrated amplifier offers a streamlined, simple function array: power on/off, volume, source selection, phase, mute and tone control. Operation is simple but here's a brief description if you need it.

Standby: The Standby button is located on the front panel of the preamp. When the preamp is in standby (Off) mode, the LED in the middle of the button will be lit in yellow. Push the button to turn the unit on. When power is on, the LED in the middle of the button will go off and the volume indicator will illuminate. Push the button once more to turn the unit off. The light for the volume indicator will go out and the LED in the middle of the Standby button will light up.

Volume: Turn the ring around the volume indicator clockwise to raise the volume and counterclockwise to lower it, or use the Volume +/- buttons on the remote. The needle indicator will move toward the right as you increase the volume and to the left as you decrease it. We recommend you turn the volume down when you initially power up the system, and raise it only when you are assured that all components in the system are operating properly.

Gain increase: It is possible to increase the maximum gain of the integrated amplifier. To increase the gain, unplug the power supply, press and hold both the SOURCE and the DAC buttons and plug the power supply back in. Keep pressing the buttons until the integrated amp will turn on. The maximum gain is now increased. To set the gain back to his original value, repeat the steps described, pressing the SOURCE and the STANDBY buttons.

Dark mode: During the Dark mode operational state, the lights on the integrated amp will be off until a different function, input or volume control are changed. To activate and deactivate the Dark mode, turn on the integrated amplifier by pressing and holding the STANDBY button for a few seconds.

Source selection: Simply push the front-panel button or remote button that corresponds with the source you want to hear. The LED in the middle of the front-panel button for the currently active source will light up. The volume will always return to minimum level when you switch input sources.

Theater: By using the Theater Bypass input, you can interface the Momentum integrated amp with a multichannel home theater audio system. To use it, connect the left- and right-channel outputs of your surround-sound processor to the Momentum integrated amp's Theater Bypass input. This input bypasses the integrated amp's volume control; use your surround-sound processor's volume control instead. Push the Theater button on the front panel or remote when you want to listen to surround sound. Push any other source button to return the system to stereo mode.

Tone: To activate the tone controls, push the Tone button on the front panel or remote. The LED in the middle will light up in white, indicating that the tone controls are active.

Bass and Treble controls: When the LED in the middle of the front-panel Tone button is on, these controls will be active. Turn them clockwise to boost, counterclockwise to cut. The front panel indicates the level of boost or cut in decibels (dB). When adjusting these controls, we strongly recommend you first disengage the tone controls using the Tone button; make the adjustment; then push the Tone button again to re-engage the controls. This is because the integrated amp is DC-coupled, with no capacitors in the signal path. This design gives the best sound quality, but it can result in some noise when the treble and bass knobs are turned.

Phase (remote control only): The Phase control inverts the phase of the entire system. While the Momentum integrated amp does not invert phase, many source devices do, and many recordings are produced with inverted phase. Because you have no way of knowing what the proper phase is, you must set this control by ear. Push the Phase button on the remote control to invert the phase. The light on the integrated amp's front dial will turn from green to red when the phase is inverted. Try listening with the phase normal or inverted, and use whichever setting sounds better. If you can't hear a difference, don't worry about it. Depending on the recording, the effects of phase inversion are often subtle and sometimes even inaudible.

Mute (remote control only): The Mute control simply mutes the volume temporarily. Press it once to mute, and again to restore the volume. When the sound is muted, the light in the volume indicator will flash.

Balance (remote control only): The Balance control lets you shift the stereo balance to right or left. To activate it, press the Balance button on the remote. The volume indicator on the face of the integrated amp will swing to show the current balance setting. Use the volume +/- buttons on the remote to change the balance setting. If the needle points straight up, the balance is even between left and right. If the needle points to right or left, the balance is shifted to that side. To return the balance to the center, hold down the Balance button on the remote for 2 seconds. The remote backlight will flash and the needle will return to center.

Maintenance

The Momentum integrated amp requires no user maintenance other than to keep it clean and ensure that the vents remain unobstructed. Like a piece of fine furniture, the Momentum integrated amp has a fine, highly polished finish that can be easily damaged. Do not rub or polish the finish, and do not allow objects to come in contact with it. To clean the integrated amp, spray a small amount of distilled water onto the supplied microfiber cloth and gently wipe the surface along the direction of the metal grain, with light pressure only. Never use a circular motion or heavy pressure, as this can permanently scratch the machined surfaces. Do not rub the surface with the cloth, and do not spray any liquid directly onto the integrated amp. If dust or other contaminants or objects collect around the vents at the top and bottom of the integrated amp, remove small objects by hand and use a shop vacuum or hand vacuum to remove the dust. Use a brush attachment on the vacuum to avoid scratching the surface. If you should need to transport or ship the integrated amp, be sure to use the original packing materials. Allow the integrated amp to cool down for at least one hour before you wrap or package it. ■

TROUBLESHOOTING

Integrated amplifier will not power up

If the front meter is not illuminated, follow the procedure outlined below. If one step succeeds in activating the power, stop there and ignore the other steps.

1. If the LED in the middle of the Standby button on the front of the integrated amp is lit, push the button to turn the integrated amp on.
2. If the LED in the middle of the Standby button is not lit, check to make sure the AC cord is plugged into the wall outlet.
3. Check at the back of the power supply to make sure the 15-amp IEC connector is pushed all the way into the jack on the back of the power supply.
4. Check to make sure the power supply connector cable is firmly connected to the power supply and the integrated amp.
5. Pull out the fuse connector at the back of the power supply, below the 15-amp IEC power cord connector. Check to see if the fuse is blown. (The conductor inside the fuse will be severed and you may see burn marks on the fuse.) Be sure to replace the fuse with one of the proper value and type. Consult your dealer or D'Agostino LLC.
6. Check your household electrical box to make sure the circuit breaker has not been tripped. If it has, flip the breaker back on.
7. If the breaker trips again, check the speaker cable connection on your integrated amp and the speaker to make sure that the terminals are not shorted, and check the entire length of the cable to ensure there has been no damage to it.
8. If all of these steps fail to return power to the integrated amp, consult your dealer for service.

Front indicator is illuminated but you hear no sound

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

1. If you're listening to speakers, make sure nothing is plugged into the headphone jack. If you're listening to headphones, make sure they are firmly plugged into the back of the Momentum integrated amp.
2. Check your source device to make sure it is turned on.
3. Check the source device to make sure it is playing, i.e., if it's a record player, make sure it's spinning and the tonearm is lowered, or if it's a CD player, make sure it's in play mode and not in pause.
4. Make sure the integrated amp is not muted and that the desired source is selected.

5. Check the line-level connections between the source device and the integrated amp. Reconnect any cables that may have become disconnected.
6. Check the cables between the integrated amp and the speakers to make sure they are properly connected and that the cables have not become damaged.
7. If you have a spare pair of interconnect cables (even inexpensive ones will work temporarily), try using them instead of the interconnect cables between the source device and the integrated amp. If this restores sound, replace the defective cables.
8. If all of these steps fail to restore sound, consult your dealer for service.

Sound comes from only one channel

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

1. Push the Balance button on the remote to see what the setting is. If the needle on the front dial is moved to one side or the other, hold the Balance button on the remote down for 2 seconds. The remote's backlight will flash and the needle will return to the center.
2. Check the interconnect connections between the source device and the integrated amp to make sure all cables (and XLR-to-RCA adapters, if you're using them) are securely connected.
3. Check speaker cable connections for the malfunctioning channel. Reconnect any cables that may have become disconnected. Inspect the cable to make sure it has not been damaged. If it has been damaged, replace it.
4. Swap the left-channel interconnect cable from the source device to the integrated amp with the right-channel interconnect cable. If the malfunctioning channel now works but the other channel does not, replace the defective interconnect cable with one of the exact same type. You may have to replace both right and left cables to make sure they match.
5. Try using a different source device. If the alternate source device delivers sound in both channels, it is likely the original source device is defective. Consult the manufacturer of that source device or your dealer for further information.
6. Try switching the cables between the two speakers. If sound still doesn't come from the channel that wasn't working—i.e., if one of the speakers remains silent whether it's connected to the left- or right-channel output of the Momentum integrated amp, and the other speaker works either way—it is likely the speaker is malfunctioning. Consult the manufacturer of the speaker or your dealer for further information.
7. If all of these steps fail to restore sound, consult your dealer for service.

Integrated amplifier functions but remote control does not

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

1. Try pointing the remote directly at the integrated amp (or at the IR receiver if you're using an IR repeater system).
2. Check the IR emitter on the front of the remote to make sure it is not dirty. If it is, wipe off any dust and/or fingerprints with a soft cloth.
3. If you are using the IR extender module, make sure it is not dirty. If it is, wipe off any dust/fingerprints with a soft cloth.
4. If you are not using the IR extender module, turn off the power on the integrated amp and unplug the power cord from the power supply. Make sure no cable is plugged into the integrated amp's remote control input jack, then reconnect the power cord and turn the power back on from the front panel.
5. If you are using the IR extender module or a third-party control system connected through the integrated amp's remote control input jack, make sure the cable is plugged firmly into the jack and that the cable is not damaged. Turn off the power on the integrated amp and unplug the cord from the power supply, then reconnect the power cord and turn the power back on from the front panel.
6. Change the batteries by removing the screws securing the back plate of the remote, replacing the batteries with fresh ones, then replace the back plate.
7. If all of these steps fail to restore operation of the remote, consult your dealer.

MOMENTUM INTEGRATED AMPLIFIER LIMITED WARRANTY

D'Agostino LLC warrants the Momentum integrated amplifier against manufacturing defects and defects in materials for **five years from the date of purchase** from an authorized Dan D'Agostino Master Audio Systems dealer, subject to the conditions listed below:

1. The warranty covers only new products purchased from an authorized D'Agostino LLC dealer.
2. The warranty is non-transferable and is valid only for the original purchaser.
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 an authorized Dan D'Agostino Master Audio Systems 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 D'Agostino LLC for a replacement.
6. If the product must be shipped back to D'Agostino LLC for warranty service, the customer shall pay shipping costs. D'Agostino LLC will pay for return shipping.
7. Before shipping the product to D'Agostino LLC for service, the customer must first obtain a Return Authorization (RA) number by calling D'Agostino LLC. The RA number must be marked clearly on the side of the package.
8. This warranty covers only defects in products made by D'Agostino LLC. It does not cover incidental or consequential damages, or damages to other products resulting from defects in D'Agostino LLC 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 D'Agostino LLC.
10. Residents of other countries: Your authorized importer or dealer bears the direct responsibility for warranty coverage of your amplifier. Please contact your importer or dealer with requests for service under warranty. D'Agostino LLC will work with your importer or dealer to assure that the terms of the warranty are fulfilled.

It is important that you register your Momentum integrated amplifier with us online.

Please visit **www.dandagostino.com** to register your product and to obtain current code for RS-232 protocol.

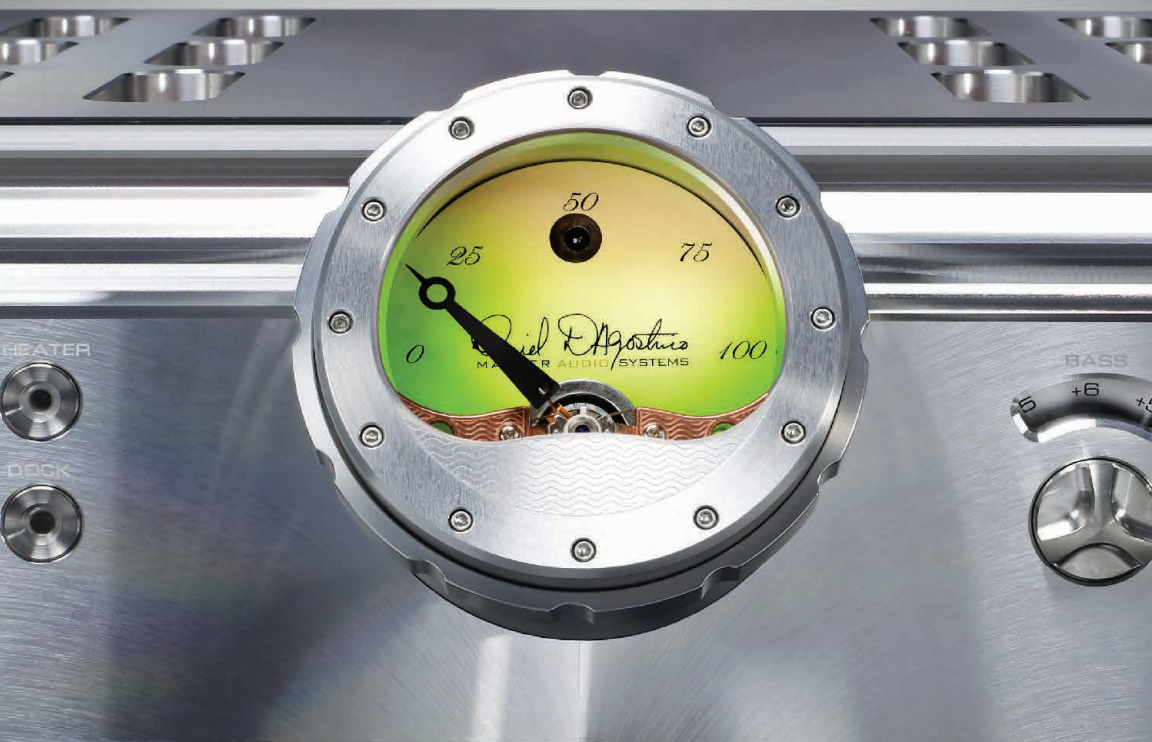
For questions on warranty and service matters, contact D'Agostino LLC at:

+1.480.575.3069 or service@dandagostino.com ■

MOMENTUM INTEGRATED AMPLIFIER

SPECIFICATIONS

Power Output	8Ω 200 watts per channel 4Ω 400 watts per channel 2Ω 800 watts per channel
Frequency Response	0.1 Hz to 1 MHz, -1 dB / 20Hz to 20 kHz, ±0 dB
Distortion (Full output)	<0.1%, 20 Hz to 20 kHz
Signal-to-Noise Ratio	-95 dB, unweighted
Power Consumption at Standby	20 watts
Inputs	6 balanced XLR stereo
Outputs	5-way binding posts
Weight	120 lbs / 54.4 kg with power supply
Dimensions (integrated amplifier)	4.3 x 18 x 16 inches (hwd) / 10.9 x 45.7 x 40.6 cm (hwd)
Dimensions (power supply/base)	4 x 18 x 16 inches (hwd) / 10.2 x 45.7 x 40.6 cm (hwd)



Dan
D'Agostino
MASTER AUDIO SYSTEMS

HANDMADE AND BUILT BY HAND IN THE USA USING
USA MACHINISTS, VENDORS AND PARTS PROCUREMENT.

*For more information about Dan D'Agostino Master
Audio Systems, please visit: www.dandagostino.com*