Packburn Audio
Noise-Reduction Devices

Transient and continuous noise sup-
pressors. Dimensions: (Both models) H x W x D: 4.9 x 6.7 x 2.1 in. Weight: 18.2 lbs. Prices: Model 323 (Stereo/mono), $294.95. Model 443 (Stereo/stereo), $316.00. MANUFACTURER: Packburn Electronics, PO Box 335, Dewitt, NY 13214.

The KLH TNE-7000A and DNP-1201A (both reviewed in recent issues) are probably, as of this month, the last of the noise-reduction units. The Packburns are the Rolls Royces.

A listener who is more into audio than music, it is pointless to explain why any kind of CD (CDs) or minidiscs (and music archives) treasure record- ing that were made during the Paleozoic era (or even the Jovian period). Perfectionists may thus prefer to skip the rest of this report, because that's what it's all about: the grading of sonic soul, ears. Readers with one foot in each camp, or the record-collecting -- may skip this report entirely at this point, passing up an opportunity of a lifetime: the opportunity to hear old discs

between channels, the other con-
trarily sufficiently inside the signal-timing quality limit of the dynamic noise floor.

Since the transient-noise-sensing circuits rely on ultrasonic energy, these effects are especially marked in the LF input signal. A no-higher roll-off. Action: Since then, an LP-like preamp (designer Richard Burns feels one can do a lot better with a semi-preamp than he can), this means using a custom-modified preamp with the LP's high-end roll-off (LP's high-end roll-off is provided by the Packburn's preamp, the Model 323, the stereo-only model, has a two-position switch to match the front-end roll-off of the high-end roll-off is normally the same. You can also modify your own preamp accordingly (or have someone else do it for you), or you can use a Packburn's PSD Audio Model 1A preamp which, besides the flat high-end (switchable to LPs, roll-off if desired), also has a seven-position balanced equalization switch that can EQ almost any recording's low-cut characteristic (PSD now has a much better preamp than the 1A -- the Packburn Model 1V -- which we hope Packburn will adopt as their modified model).

Actually, I'm not convinced that any solid-state preamps on the market now would be a valid choice for this application. There is so much concern about the ultrasonic

sound coming off old recordings

with the hisses from actual tapes and noisy FM broadcast. Of course, all of that going on, it can't sound good. No, it doesn't. It is possible to recondition some of the Packburn's circuits so as to produce some color corrections, but correct adjustability often eliminates them. Everything turned off but still in the signal path, there is about a maximum slight loss of transparency and a slightly greater loss of depth, but concerning about that should be minimized by complaining about the scar after you've cured of skin cancer. No one in his right mind is going to use this for audiophile discs in good condition anyway. It's for those old or more brutish discs whose surface condition makes them irritating or impossible to listen to. It can, literally, give such discs a new lease on life.

Packburn's transient and continuous noise suppressors consist of two stages, or paths, one for a transient noise suppressor, the other for a continuous noise suppressor.

The transient noise suppressor, in addition to the usual signal, even from mini- discs, because the switching process repeats itself. The Packburn's transient noise suppressor is not continuously on but is only activated when the noise exceeds a threshold level.

One transient common to both groove walls is the crackle, or thinning out of the disc. The crackle is detected by an electronic circuit that triggers when a sudden drop in signal level occurs. The Packburn's crackle filter can be adjusted to open or close the filter, depending on the level of the signal.

And there's an additional feature. A knob on the filter adjusts the speed with which the noise filter opens up in response to

No crackle, to make it higher than the leading edge so that the stylus would clean the groove floor in a more controlled manner. This is done by a combination of an automatic track search circuit and a variable speed drive system that allows the stylus to follow the irregularities in the groove floor. The result is a much smoother tracking of the groove floor, which reduces the amount of wear and tear on the record. The result is a much smoother tracking of the groove floor, which reduces the amount of wear and tear on the record.

Phono Equipment for Old Records

Because 78-rpm discs are often severely warped, and rotate at high speed, they require a high-stability tone arm, a moderate to high-light condition, and a low-frequency response to 5 kHz. This is because 78-rpm discs are made from a variety of materials, and the stylus is in constant motion, which can cause significant changes in the sound quality. It is recommended that a tone arm with a low-frequency response to 5 kHz be used.

Packburn's TSI-701 also features a unique tone arm design that provides a high degree of stability and flexibility, allowing for precise tracking of the groove floor. The arm is mounted on a solid aluminum base and is designed to be as lightweight as possible, which helps to reduce the amount of vibration and noise. The tone arm is adjustable, allowing for fine-tuning to the specific needs of each record.

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