

# Cable Q

## Extending their growing range of cable options, Paul Rigby reviews Tellurium Q's Black USB Cable

It's a USB cable but it's unique. Normally, when you push music through a USB cable, the data, which arrives in blocks, includes narrow bits which represent the high frequency portions of the final music. Within current USB cables, these bits are largely lost because the cable isn't fast enough to cope, the sampling continues but the narrow bits are largely ignored because they are seen as errors. Not with the Black. There are other improvements too, relating to bass, for example...but Tellurium Q are keeping quiet about those.

My reference Furutech Formula 2 (£70) provided a swinging rhythm with a musical bass but the lower frequencies were a lot more powerful via the Tellurium Q Black (TQB).

Via A David Bowie WAV of the LP, 'Low', there was real mass to the TQB bass with a weight that helped

to balance the track. There is a critical point to make here, however. Whenever a piece of audio equipment is praised for producing a greater infusion of bass, that is often followed up by indications that the bass has leaked upwards into the midband, choking dynamics and throttling detail. Not here. Bass was dramatically enhanced but it knew its place, giving wallop to the lower frequencies but freeing the upper frequencies to still provide a lightness of touch that was essential for a full sonic reproduction.

The structure of the rest of the mix was also interesting as it was not just layered but also graded. The midband was far more populated giving the soundstage a busy feel. The Furutech provided an excellent sense of clarity which the TQB matched but then went two steps further by digging out a whole heap of new



detail. The insight of the TQ was quite remarkable.

Moving to the better recorded WAV, 'There Goes My Heart' from Carol Kidd', the Furutech produced a simple, soothing playback but the TQB opened the door fully when previously only an aural crack was visible. The vocal now reflected a wealth of texture with an emotional grain that is essential when a jazz vocalist is trying to interpret a well known song in an effort to place a sense of ownership over it. Here, the attendant acoustic guitar was also more precise with a sense of meticulous string-play that gave the track a new level of precision.

A brilliant performer, the Tellurium Q Black USB cable transforms digital playback, giving you less noise and more music. **PR**

### VERDICT



Technically innovative, the Tellurium Q Black USB cable offers hard, punchy bass lines combined with upper mid delicacy.

### TELLURIUM Q BLACK USB CABLE £298

Tellurium Q

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[www.telluriumq.com](http://www.telluriumq.com)

### FOR

- low distortion
- clarity
- enhanced bass
- detail insight

### AGAINST

- nothing