

BASIS

BASIS AUDIO, INC.

A.J. CONTI TRANSCENDENCE TURNTABLE

USER'S GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for selecting the *A.J. Conti Transcendence*. We are confident that you will come to view your decision as one of the most musically rewarding equipment choices in your audio experience. This is a superior turntable whose design principles are elucidated by solid, sensible engineering practices, and executed with extreme care and precision in fabrication and assembly.

Basis Audio founder A.J. Conti was driven by his love of music to create better turntables and tonearms. Using a "systems approach" the turntable was broken down and optimized one subassembly at a time. No aspect of turntable design was taken for granted. After 30 years of pursuing the sound of analog master tapes – with fanatical attention to detail during analysis, design, and manufacturing – A.J. ultimately achieved his goal of creating the most transparent record playback system that effortlessly reveals the true sound of the music.

Your Basis *Transcendence* is a refined technical instrument that will inspire a new level of appreciation for your valued record collection. The incredible precision of your turntable will allow you to feel a deeper connection with the music. You can now enjoy decades of great music with startling clarity and stunning realism as if you were actually there for the recording. This is a truly profound musical experience...your experience... the *A.J. Conti Transcendence* experience...

SETTING UP YOUR A.J. CONTI TRANSCENDENCE

Your new *Transcendence* turntable has been carefully and thoughtfully designed to allow its full performance potential to be obtained by anyone, without the need for special knowledge or tools. Please familiarize yourself with the unique features of the *Transcendence* outlined in these pages (and the relevant tonearm and accessory instructions) and provide ample space in which to assemble the unit. You may also find it helpful to get assistance moving heavy components. You are now just a few short minutes away from hearing your records played on the finest turntable in the world!

1. Unpack all boxes. White gloves and a Basis polishing cloth are provided. Isopropyl alcohol or Pledge can be used for cleaning as needed.
2. Place the 4 suspension pods on your turntable stand using the full-scale drawing to guide you. The turntable footprint is about 18 ½" square. Each pod sits at a corner of the base with the groove closest to your stand table.
3. Place the base on top of the suspension pods. The base is heavy (about 50 pounds) so please use caution lifting and lowering it. Adjust the position of the pods for an even overhang (about 1/8" is typical but not critical). Slightly lift the base off the pods to allow the pods, one at a time, to center themselves and to ensure each suspension pod is in an "unstressed position".
4. Carefully place the bearing, motor, and tonearm mounts in the positions on the drawing.
5. Orient the bearing assembly such that the vacuum hose and ground wire exit toward the rear of the turntable. Do this carefully, without tipping, so the hard edges do not scratch.
6. Orient the motor assembly such that the switch faces away from the bearing. A small acrylic block is supplied to help ensure the correct distance between the motor and bearing mount.

7. The bottom of the platter is marked with an arrow pointing to the center. This arrow is intended to point at the notch in the periphery of the platter support portion of the bearing. This orientation of the platter and bearing gives the intended factory alignment of these two precise parts. When lowering the platter take great care to place it **SLOWLY AND GENTLY** on the bearing to prevent damage to the thrust surfaces.
8. Install the tonearm support cup assembly in the tonearm mount using a 3/32 hex driver for the VTA lock screw. This lock screw in the tonearm mount typically faces the rear, with the cable support rod protruding from the mount at the 11 o'clock position when viewed from above/front.
9. Using the supplied spindle to pivot distance gauge (the aluminum bar with two holes), slightly move the position of the tonearm mount until the tool will slip onto the spindle and tonearm pivot pin with ease. This mounting distance is critical, whereas dimensions on the drawing and the acrylic block are just for reference to facilitate set up. Adjust the tonearm cup so the tool is level when the underside of the tool is resting on the cup. Lightly tighten the VTA lock screw.
10. Note that when performing the above operation, the tonearm cup will have to be rotated to a position that will not be correct for playing a record. Draw a line on the cup post where it meets the top of the tonearm mount or use the VTA micrometer to preserve the VTA position as an approximate starting position. Basis recommends starting with a level armtube - see the tonearm instructions for more information. Rotate the tonearm cup to the correct orientation to play records (with the tonearm rest facing front and VTA micrometer to the left) and tighten the lock screw.
11. Gently place the tonearm pivoting assembly onto the pivot in the cup assembly. Be careful to support the weight of the cables – see the tonearm instructions for more information.
12. Install the tonearm cable support on the horizontal support rod protruding from the tonearm mount and tighten the set screw. Shape the thin tonearm wires into a smooth vertical arch.
13. Mount and align your cartridge per manufacturer's instructions and the tonearm instructions.
14. Install the drive belt. The lower pulley surface is always used with the Synchro-Wave – see the instructions for more information regarding the use of the Power Supply – otherwise the upper crowned pulley surface is for 45 RPM operation and the lower surface is for 33 RPM operation.
15. Please note that when you install the belt you may need to use one hand to keep the belt on the pulley while slowly rotating the platter with the other hand, a few revolutions, until the belt centers itself on both the pulley and platter.
16. Plug in the motor. When using the Basis Synchro-Wave Power Supply it is preferable to leave the motor switch in the ON position and use the ON/OFF switch on the Synchro-Wave front panel to start and stop the turntable. Adjust the speed of the turntable - please see the Synchro-Wave instructions and strobe disk for more information.
17. If you are using the Basis Vacuum Record Hold Down System, plug in the vacuum hoses and set up the vacuum components – please refer to the vacuum instructions and schematic.
18. Connect the bearing and tonearm ground wires to the ground on your phono stage, preamplifier, or a true ground.
19. Enjoy the sound of your Basis Audio *A.J. Conti Transcendence* turntable!

BASIS AUDIO, INC.
LIMITED TEN (10) YEAR WARRANTY

BASIS AUDIO, INC. warrants this product to be free from defects in workmanship and materials for a period of 10 years from date of purchase.

Purchaser must submit to **BASIS** within 30 days of purchase the completed, signed, and dated warranty registration form and a copy of the bill of sale for this warranty to become valid. Failure to provide the warranty registration form to **BASIS** within the thirty day period shall render this limited warranty void and inapplicable. This information is for warranty purposes only, and will only be seen by Basis Audio. We never sell, trade or share customer information.

This warranty is subject to the following conditions: This warranty applies only to the original purchaser/owner. Warranty is void and not applicable if this product is or has been operated or handled in any way not consistent with the guidelines set forth in the owner's manual.

Warranty is void and inapplicable if product has been abused/damaged as a result of negligence, or damaged in shipping/handling.

Warranty is void and inapplicable if this product has been modified, repaired or tampered with by anyone other than **BASIS** or an authorized service representative.

Should this product fail to meet the above warranty purchaser assumes obligations to re-package and return the unit to the dealer, **BASIS AUDIO, INC.**, or a designated service representative at his/her own expense.

Where the above conditions have been complied with, **BASIS AUDIO, INC.** shall without charges for parts and/or labor, repair the defect and return the unit to purchaser FREIGHT COLLECT.

Implied warranties related to the above are limited to the duration of this warranty.

Warranty is not extended to cover ANY incidental or consequential costs or damages to the purchasers.

Certain states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, or exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the aforementioned limitations and exclusions may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights, which vary from state to state.