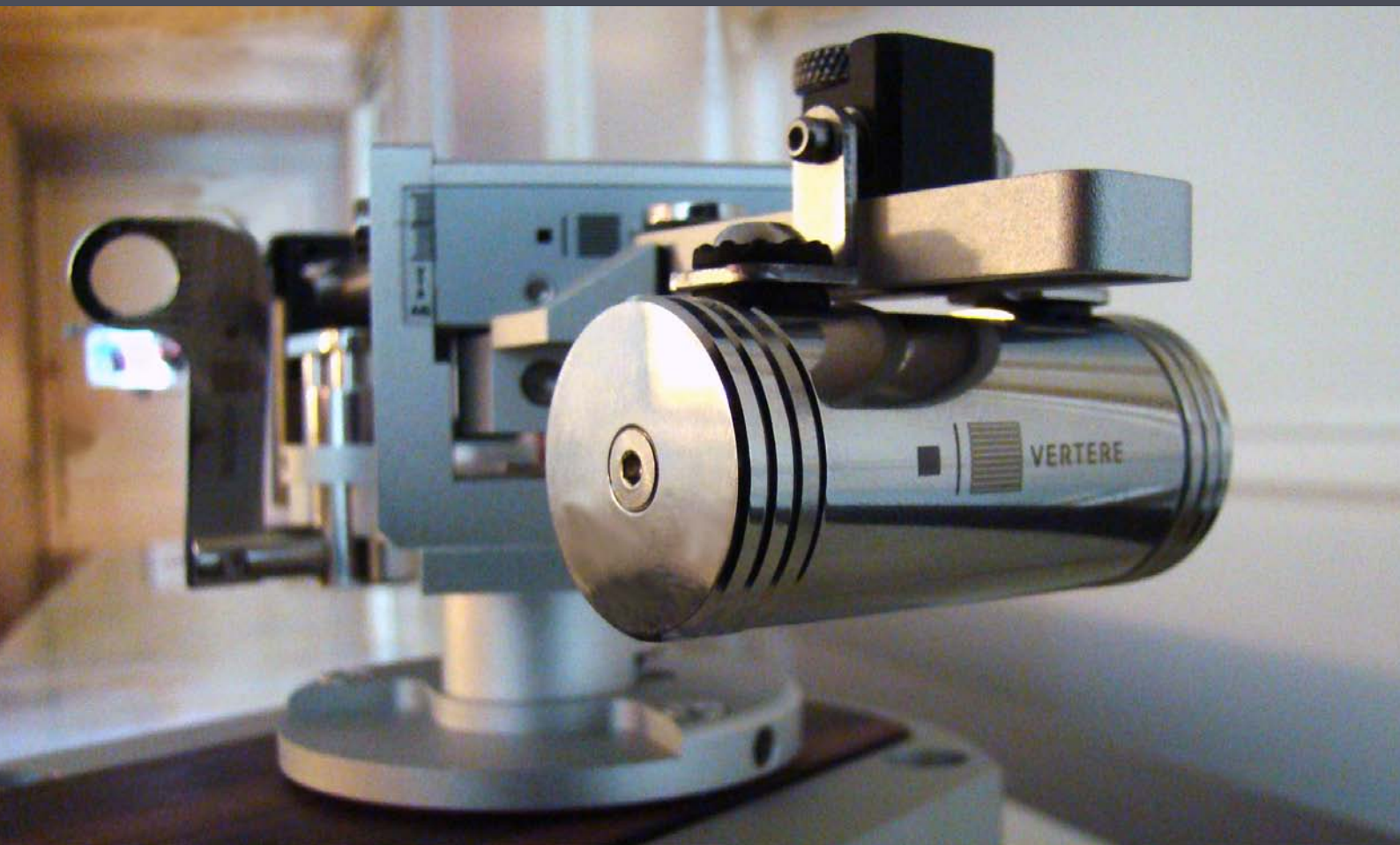




Vinyl replay: the best gets better



Reference Tonearm

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If you love music, you may agree that vinyl records give the most rewarding and enjoyable musical experience. Despite the rise of CD and digital downloads, vinyl has never gone away.

And the astonishing truth about vinyl records is that they can just go on sounding better. Every time you improve your system, you'll get more music out of those same grooves.

When your system takes a big step forward, those records are fresh and new again, and you just can't stop listening.

But what really makes a system sound good? What makes the difference between a system that's just OK, and one that really brings the music?

With all too many systems, the sound is great in some aspects, but something more is needed to make the performance come together as a musical whole! Yet the answer can be found...

Address the weakest link first

Vertere's philosophy is simple and straightforward. It's based on the fact that any hi-fi system is only as good as its weakest link. By definition, everything in the chain degrades the signal. The issue is how? And by how much?

So, the aim must be to find the component that's causing the most degradation. When the weakest link is seriously compromising the performance, it limits progress in every way.

If you don't address the weakest link, you can spend any amount of time and money on other parts of the system, but end up with no real improvement!

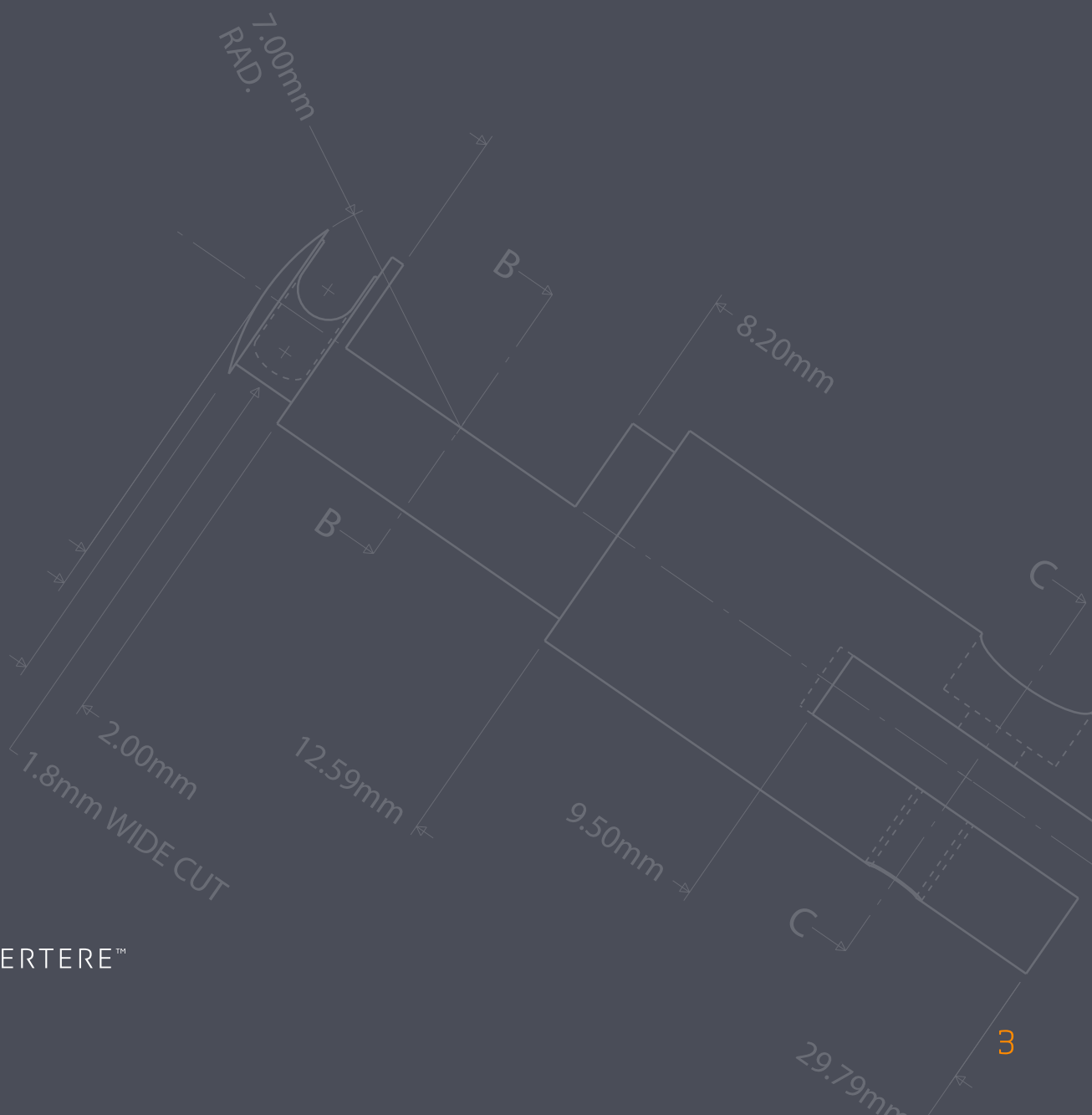
In many years of research, Vertere has applied a methodical approach to analyse system performance. Since 2006, with the introduction of its original Hand-Built Pulse, Vertere has continued to demonstrate conclusively that for almost any system, the weakest link is the connecting cables.

The next step

When poorly-specified cables are replaced with Vertere's Pulse cables, the results speak for themselves. The other components in the system begin to reveal their true level of performance. Everything becomes better and more enjoyable!

But this is only the start, because now you are ready to go further. You can start your quest for the next weakest link.

In analogue systems, there's usually no doubt which component is in fact this next weakest link. It is the tonearm. There are good reasons for this, because in some ways, the tonearm presents the biggest design challenge of any hi-fi component.



What should the tonearm do?

A tonearm has to support the cartridge and accommodate the record. To support the cartridge effectively, the tonearm must be rigid. To accommodate the record, however, it requires freedom of movement.

Specifically, the tonearm has to hold the cartridge perfectly still in relation to the centre line or mean position of the groove at any point. But at the same time, the tonearm has to be free to move so that it can constantly follow this crucial mean position as the groove spiral takes the stylus across the record from the beginning to the end.

These two requirements are not exactly opposing, but they are complexities that demand innovative design approaches and faultless engineering, if state-of-the-art performance is to be achieved.

Vertere Reference Tonearm

Now, true to its mission, Vertere has launched a true state-of-the-art component, which can transform the performance of high-end record playing systems. The Vertere Reference Tonearm has been created to push the boundaries of analogue reproduction by systematically addressing every aspect of tonearm performance.

Each individual part of the unit is bespoke and has been specifically designed to complement the overall philosophy, design and purpose of the Vertere Reference Tonearm.

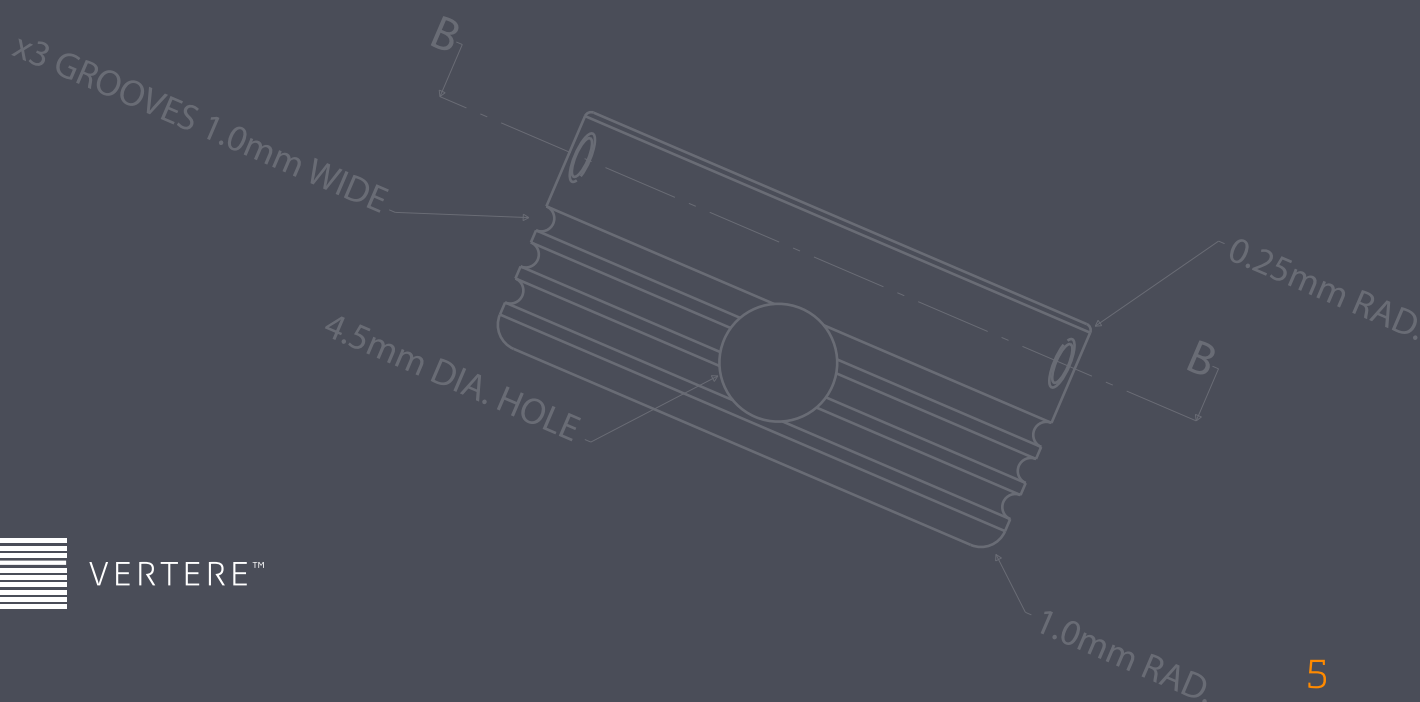
In one crucial development, the limitations of all conventional tonearm bearing systems have been overcome. In the Vertere Reference Tonearm, the arm's vertical and horizontal pivoting motion is provided by non-rotating polymer-metal laminate films.

Because there are no sliding surfaces, the change-of-direction friction of conventional bearings is eliminated. The result is the first truly 'noiseless' tonearm bearing.

However, every other part of the arm has been given equal attention, in a design where each detail contributes to the excellence of the whole.

At the rear of the arm, the main counterweight is articulated in the vertical plane through a pair of precision ball race bearings, while the counterweight support beam is in turn articulated in the horizontal plane, again using a ball race bearing.

This helps to ensure proper tracking even on warped records, automatically compensating the effective tracking force with the rise and fall of the warp.



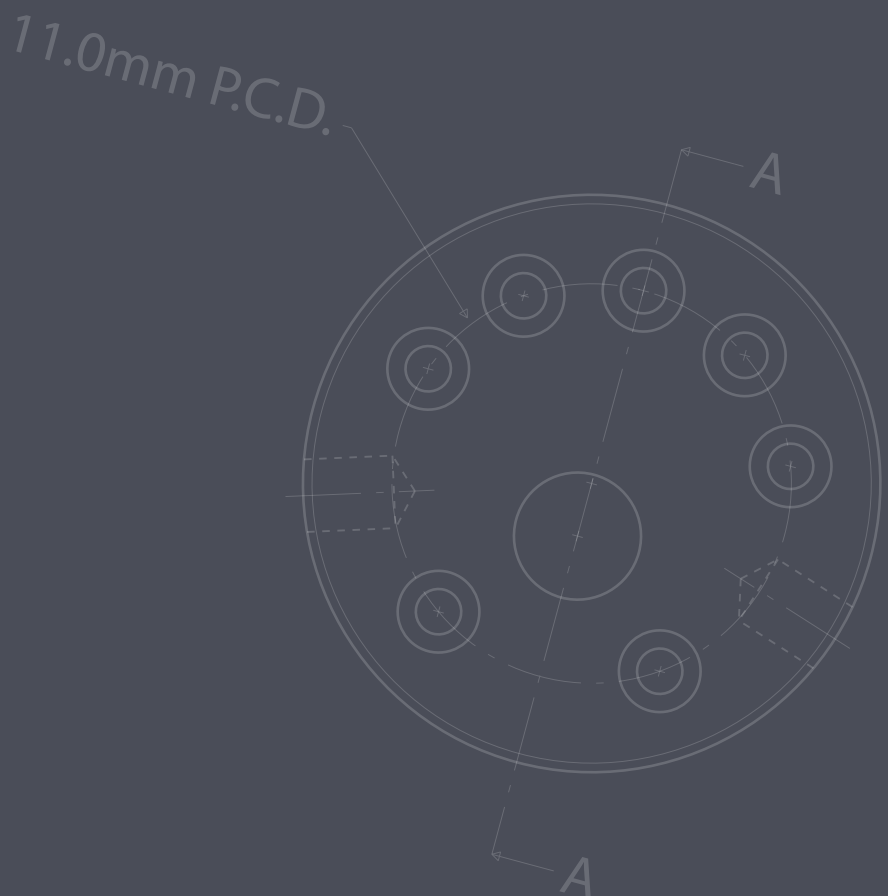
While the polished stainless steel standard counterweight, with additional discs, gives optimum matching for most cartridges, an alternative weight with tungsten carbide insert is provided for use with heavier cartridges.

For ideal rigidity, the arm tube and headshell are both machined from solid titanium, then fuse-welded together to form a homogeneous single component.

Dynamic stability is assured because the arm's vertical-motion bearing plane is coincident with the stylus contact point at the surface of the record, while the counterweight's centre of gravity is set below this plane.

Horizontal and vertical motion bearings are offset by 23mm, so that the arm's effective length is different in the two planes, and correctly optimised for tracking accuracy and information retrieval.

Internal wiring is a special version of Vertere Hand-Built Pulse cable, in one continuous run from the cartridge tags to the exit cable connector at the base of the tonearm. All connectors and contacts are custom made with three times the standard thickness of gold plating.



Making Light

Special care has been taken to make sure that the arm will be easy to calibrate and a delight to use. The tonearm cueing light, integrated into the headshell, is a blessing when playing records as well as being an essential aid when setting up a cartridge.

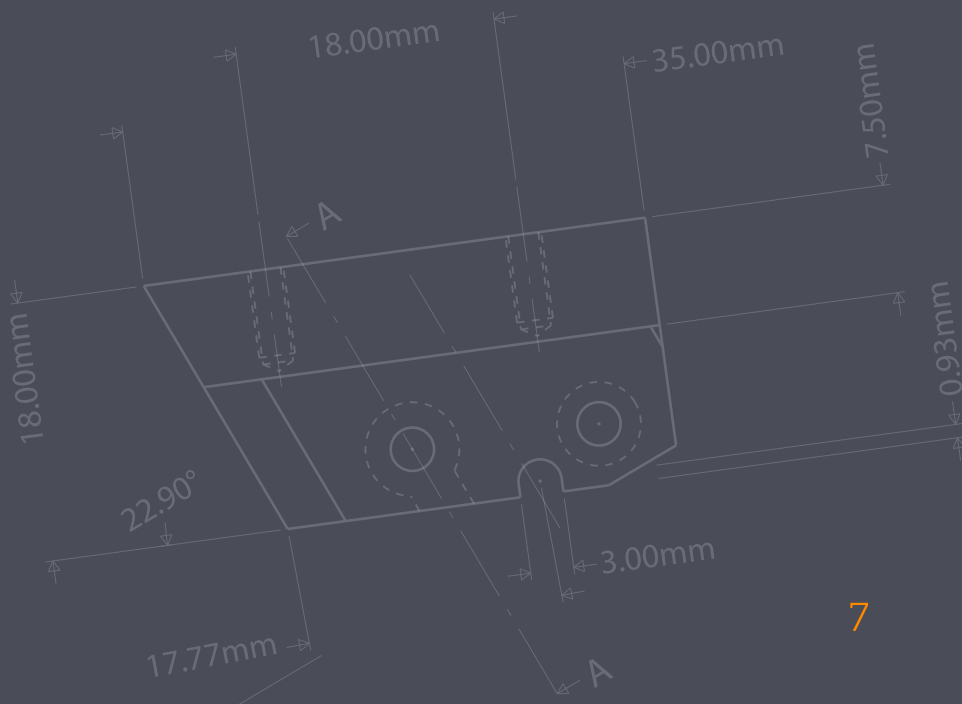
It discreetly and pleasingly illuminates the record grooves in the area around the stylus contact point, making it easy to cue records precisely without disturbing the mood lighting of your listening room.

With its own dedicated power supply, the light may be dimmed or switched off at will. The lift/lower mechanism itself is custom-built from solid stainless steel and has been precision engineered to ensure smooth, firm and accurate cueing.

When it comes to calibration, the Vertere Reference Tonearm is properly engineered to give complete accuracy and certainty in cartridge set-up. Precise setting of VTA is made easy by a fine adjustment screw that's additional to the main setting of arm pillar height, while the arm mounting also provides for fine adjustment of azimuth.

Bringing the music

The performance of a record playing system using the Reference Tonearm is enhanced to a new level of resolution, clarity, dynamics, timing and sheer power that is normally associated with live music.



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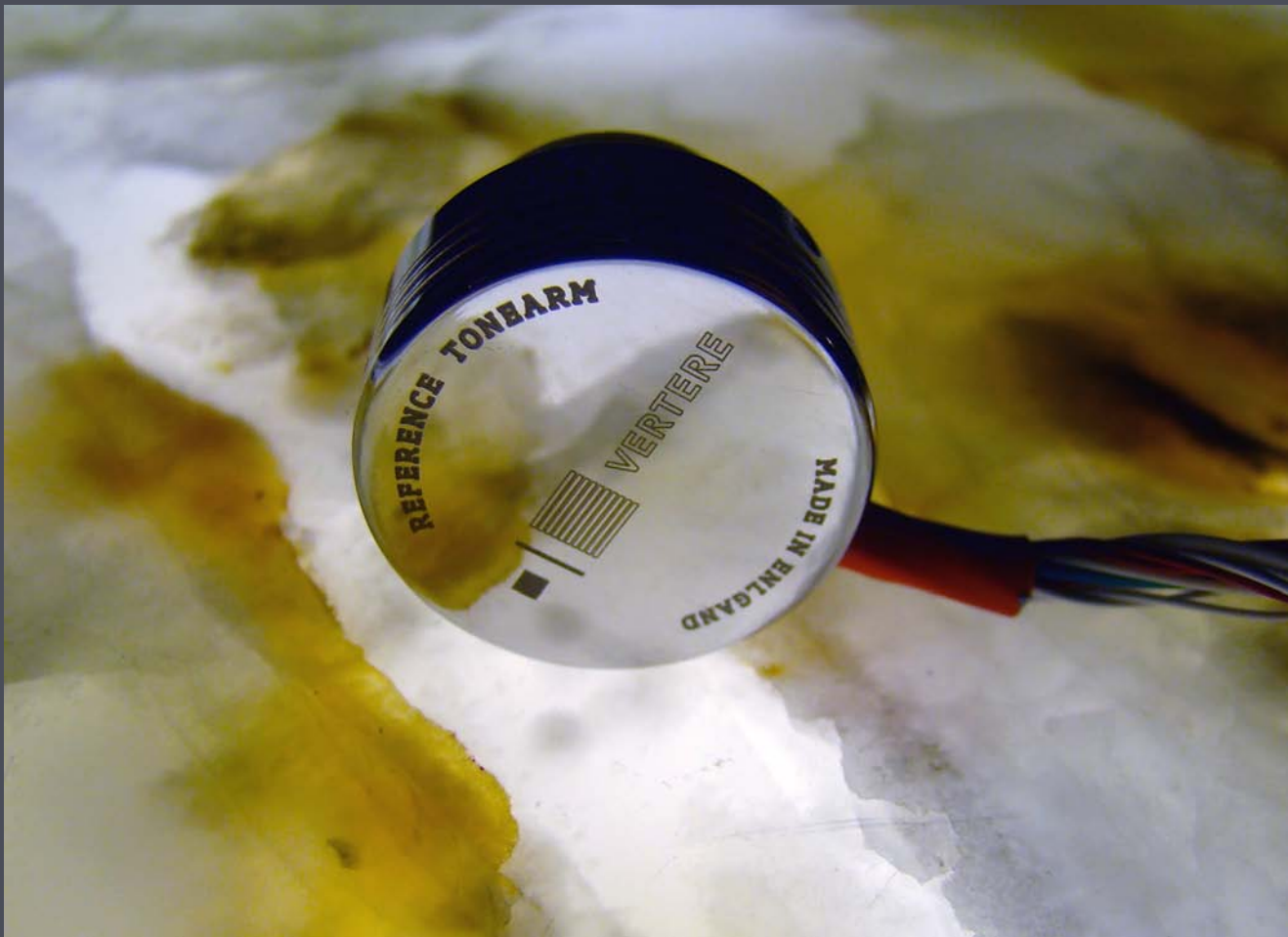
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Specifications

Type	Pivoted
Effective length	240mm Horizontal 263mm Vertical
Overhang	17.5mm
Offset Angle	22.9°
Head-shell	Titanium
Arm Tube	Titanium
Bearing Yoke Structure	Aluminium Alloy
Bearing Type	Non-rotating Metal/Polymer Film
Counter Weight	Stainless/Tungsten Carbide Articulated x3 Ball Races
Internal Wiring	Special Hand-built Pulse Signal & LED Power Wiring x3 Thickness Gold Plated Contacts
Connector	Proprietary Cartridge & Cable connectors x3 Thickness Gold Plated Contacts Vertere 7-way Tonearm Connector
Tonearm Cable	Special Hand-built Pulse x3 Thickness Gold Plated Contacts D-Fi LED Power Cable
Queuing Light Power Supply	Battery Powered
Standard Counterweight (x1)	142 g
Standard C/W Disc (x6)	Each 7.6 g
Special Counterweight (x1)	83 g
Tungsten Carbide C/W Insert (x1)	114 g
Special C/W Disc (x4)	Each 7.6g
Overall Weight (With Std C/W & x4 Discs)	Approx. 590 g

