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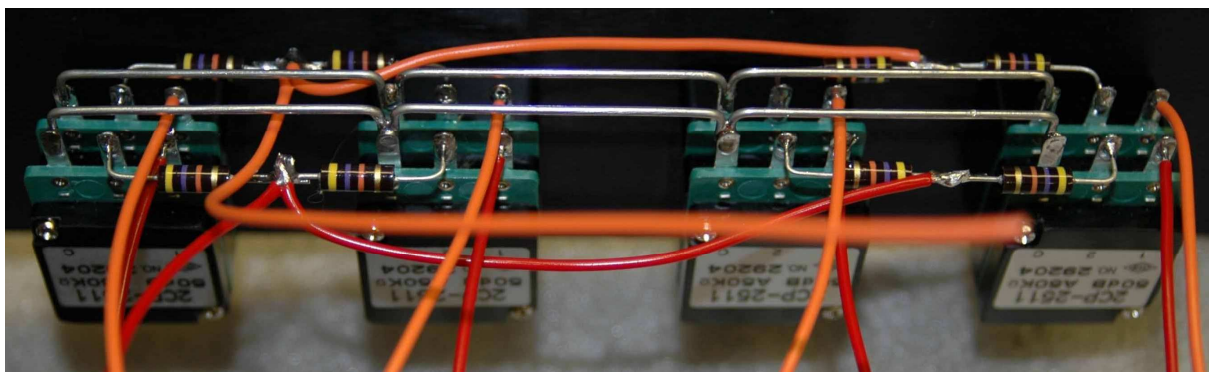
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'Minimalist Bozak CMA 10-2-DLA'

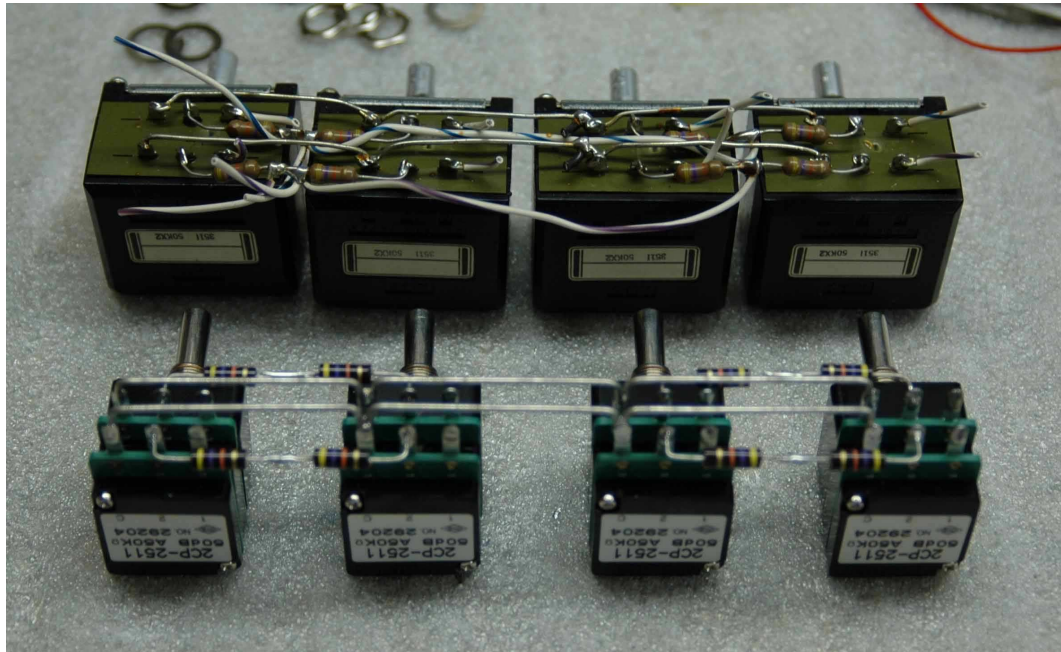


Isonoe were approached by a client who'd managed to pick up a dilapidated Bozak CMA 10-2-DLA in a second-hand emporium in Brazil. The draft was to completely rebuild the mixer from scratch as an 'audiophile unit', removing unneeded features and keeping a minimal signal path, to ensure as little colouration as possible. This mixer was to be used for mixing - and that alone. As can be seen, the Tone control circuitry was removed, as were the balance pots and microphone amplifiers (the mic channels add crosstalk – removing them yields a measurable improvement).

Being somewhat serious about the project, the client opted for expensive TKD 'Ko-on' potentiometers. These pots offer superb channel tracking matching and a consistent, smooth feel:



A comparison between the Ko-on assembly and the original RK40 assembly removed from the mixer:



The client fitted an Isonoe EQ and LRPS, with the signal path as follows: external preamps feed the line inputs of the DLA, whereupon the Tape Output feeds the Isonoe EQ. The EQ's low impedance output feeds a balanced passive attenuator, which feeds a set of active ATC monitors. This means there's only one stage of active circuitry from the DLA in the path, the summing amplifier (a potentiometer, two transistors and that's it!).

A photo of the combination in Portugal, where they now reside:

