Meridian take the 506 one step closer to the award winning standard of the 508 18-bit CD player. The new 18-bit 506 uses the same D/A conversion technology developed with Crystal Semiconductor for the 508 CD Player but without the added expense of precision re-clocking.

The unique Meridian drawer system combines the user benefits of tray-loading with the important performance benefits of top-loading. The pick-up mechanisms use a carbon and glass-fiber anti-vibration disc clamp.

The 506 uses a Meridian CD transport that gives all the playability advantages of a pickup optimized for high-speed data recovery, with the famous Focault focus arrangement that gives adjustment-free setting, long life and great sound.

This CD transport uses in-house control software that, amongst its many features, adapts the player to the parameters of each CD. The laser pick-up uses a radical, proprietary analogue-processing system that de-jitters the data coming from the disc before it is decoded.

Contrary to market trends, Meridian refuses to compromise in the error-correction and digital signal processing capability of their CD players. The 506 uses a state-of-the-art decoder IC that provides an exceptional ability to correct disc defects.

The resulting sound is open, sweet, dynamic with spatial resolution.
Performance
18 bit differential-mode push-pull Digital -- Analogue conversion

Inputs and outputs
Digital outputs on optical, and S/PDIF cable
Analogue outputs unbalanced

Construction
Precision data-grade Focault-focus linear three-beam laser pick up
Mechanical loader incorporating glass and carbon fiber damping wheel
Audiophile grade components used throughout
Full remote control using Meridian System Remote (MSR) provided
Absolute phase adjustable from remote
Meridian in-house servo software for higher play ability and better sound
Precision analogue-domain de-emphasis
Black textured enamel and glass finish
Dimensions 88mm (3.46in) H, 321 (12.64) W, 332 (13.07) D – Weight 5kg (10lbs)