



Patents applied for

SoundSmith Counter “Intuitive” - VPI type

Rev 2



Thank you for purchasing your hand made SoundSmith “Intuitive” for your VPI turntable. You will soon enjoy being able to adjust (and return to) both finely adjusted tracking force and azimuth settings independently and easily. Your Intuitive is supplied with two stickers, allowing you to use it on two VPI arms, or if the original applied sticker becomes damaged over time.

To install the “Intuitive”, secure your VPI. Then remove the VPI counterweight. Once removed, determine the final width of the graphic scale sticker you will need to use. VPI’s biggest weight can use the sticker as sent, but for smaller ones will need to reduce the sticker width. For the medium weight, cut the sticker along its length at the line just after the 6, and for the smallest weight, just after the 4.

Peel the sticker from its backing and start to apply the sticker just a tiny bit beyond the right side of the set screw on the counterweight, centered front to back. As you smoothly wrap it around, observe if it is staying even with respect to the edge of the counter weight. If not, peel it back almost to the beginning, and start over. The sticker should terminate on the left side of the screw with the same spacing as on the right, but it is not that critical to do

so. (Do not throw out the backing paper – it is useful as will be described later)

You may then slip the Intuitive over the stickered counterweight, with the opening to the top and the SOUNDSMITH logo facing the front of the arm. By facing the SOUNDSMITH logo forward, the angled edge of the Intuitive will more easily slip over the stickered weight. Carefully center the Intuitive both front to back and left to right, and re-install the counterweight to the rear of the arm. Perform both Tracking force and Azimuth adjustments in the normal manner with the VPI counterweight, while NOT moving the Intuitive. When both adjustments are close to ideal, tighten the set screw fully to keep the VPI weight securely in place. You may now fine tune the azimuth and tracking force with the Intuitive. Sliding the Intuitive forward and back will allow raising or lowering the tracking force, while rotating CCW or CW will adjust the azimuth of the cartridge from neutral to right side down (CCW), or left side down (CW).

Additional tips:

You may mark the scale with a fine point marker pen, (not ball point) such as a Sharpie, and remove that mark with rubbing alcohol. Marking your settings (or writing them down) will be especially useful for making or returning to earlier settings, or, if you have two VPI tone arms and have applied each of the two supplied stickers to each of the arms. In this way you can quickly and easily transfer the Intuitive to each arm and restore the perfect setting quickly and easily before use.

The Intuitive is designed to have a low friction fit on the scale. Once a perfect alignment is found, you may affix the Intuitive's position in a more secure manner. Cut a piece of the backing paper that is the same width as the counterweight, and about 1/2" long. Install the Intuitive with the strip of paper between its bottom thickest part and the bottom of the weight, as it will then provide much more friction to remain at a desired setting. Thank you again for purchasing this American made SoundSmith product.

Peter Ledermann/ President