## DESCRIPTION

THE MATCHBOX HD is an active interface amplifier that properly interfaces unbalanced "consumer" IHF-standard or Semi-Professional audio equipment with professional studio gear. THE MATCHBOX HD is a bi-directional unit, with four independent amplifiers providing stereo input and output audio interface. Two amplifiers convert a stereo HI-Z unbalanced source to LO-Z balanced outputs at studio level. A second pair of amplifiers converts a stereo balanced studio line source to unbalanced compatible outputs. All four output levels are adjustable. The special "HI GAIN" mode increases the system gain to accommodate exceptionally low unbalanced levels. All circuitry is active and direct-coupled for absolute sonic transparency, making THE MATCHBOX HD ideal for use with digital audio sources such as DAT recorders and computer-based digital sound editing systems.

## INSTALLATION

1. Connect the UNBALANCED inputs of the Matchbox to the outputs of an unbalanced device, e.g., the "line outputs" of a DAT recorder.
2. Connect the UNBALANCED outputs of the Matchbox to the inputs of an unbalanced device, e.g., the "line inputs" of a DAT recorder.
3. Connect the BALANCED inputs of the Matchbox to the outputs of a balanced signal source, e.g., the line-level outputs of a professional audio console. NOTE: If the source feeding the Matchbox is unbalanced, install a jumper between pins $1 \& 3$ on the male XLR plug.
4. Connect the BALANCED outputs of the Matchbox to the inputs of balanced studio equipment, e.g., the line-level inputs of a professional audio console. NOTE: If the Matchbox is used to feed an unbalanced load, connect to pins 1 (Gnd) and $2(\mathrm{HI})$ only! DO NOT short pin 3 to ground.

All XLR connectors should be wired as follows: Pin 1=Gnd Pin 2=HI Pin 3=LO All audio grounds are isolated from the AC ground, which is connected to the Matchbox chassis.

The Matchbox is shipped with all level controls set so that unbalanced input/output levels of -10 dBv will produce balanced input/output levels of +4 dBu . If other output levels are required, the Matchbox gains may be readjusted via the OUTPUT ADJ controls on the front panel. Use a small screwdriver to carefully adjust the trimpots.

HI GAIN MODE: Some unbalanced equipment, such as computer-based digital audio editing systems, use unbalanced audio levels that are lower than IHF standard. In this case, the HI GAIN mode should be used. Remove the Matchbox cover, and locate JP1 and JP2, near the right side of the PC board. Move JP1 and JP2 to their HI GAIN positions. This will increase the unbalanced input gain by 6dB. It may also be necessary to reduce the unbalanced OUTPUT levels (on front panel) to prevent overdriving the audio inputs of the device being used.

## SPECIFICATIONS

INPUT LEVEL
INPUT IMPED
GAIN
OUTPUT LEVEL
OUTPUT LOAD
FREQ RESPONSE
NOISE LEVEL
DYNAMIC RANGE
DISTORTION POWER INPUT
PHYSICAL DIMEN

UNBAL input to BAL output
-10 dBv nom (HI GAIN: -20dBv) 10K ohms (HI GAIN: 5K ohms) +6 to +20 dB (HI GAIN: add 6dB) 0 to +8 dBu nom, +26 dBu max 600 ohms or higher, balanced DC to $20 \mathrm{kHz},+/-0.25 \mathrm{~dB}$ -100dBu, $20 \mathrm{kHz} \mathrm{b} / \mathrm{w}$ 122dB, $20 \mathrm{kHz} \mathrm{b} / \mathrm{w}$ .008\% at any frequency 115/230 VAC, $50 / 60 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3 \mathrm{~W}$ 5.70 "w X 1.65 "h X 5.60 "d; 2.5 lbs



