TM
SansAmp BASS DRIVER DI
TECH 21·NYC

INPUT
PARALLEL OUTPUT
DRIVE
BASS
PRESENCE
ACTIVE
TREBLE
BLEND
LEVEL
OUTPUT
PHANTOM & GROUND CONNECT
XLR OUTPUT

POWER REQUIREMENTS

* Operable with phantom power supply, minimum 24V DC, regulated, however, 48V DC, regulated, is recommended.

* Utilizes standard 9V alkaline battery (not included). To install, simply remove back plate. (NOTE: The *Input* activates battery. To conserve energy, unplug when not in use.) Power Consumption: approx. 6mA.

* USE **DC** POWER SUPPLY **ONLY!** Failure to do so may damage the unit and void warranty. DC Power Supply Specifications:
- 9V DC regulated or unregulated, 100mA minimum;
- 2.1mm female plug, center negative (-).

Optional factory power supply is available: Tech 21 Model #DC2.

WARNINGS:

* Attempting to repair unit is not recommended and may void warranty.

* Missing or altered serial numbers automatically void warranty. For your own protection: be sure serial number labels on the unit's back plate and exterior box are intact, and return your warranty registration card.

ONE YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY. PROOF OF PURCHASE REQUIRED. Manufacturer warrants unit to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for one (1) year from date of purchase. This warranty does not include damage resulting from accident, misuse, abuse, alteration, or incorrect current or voltage. If unit becomes defective within warranty period, Tech 21 will elect to repair or replace it free of charge. After warranty expires, Tech 21 will repair defective unit for a fee.

ALL REPAIRS for residents of U.S. and Canada: Call Tech 21 for **Return Authorization Number**. Manufacturer will **not** accept packages without prior authorization, pre-paid freight (UPS preferred) and proper insurance.

FOR PERSONAL ASSISTANCE & SERVICE:
Contact Tech 21, Inc., any weekday from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, EST.

MADE IN THE U.S.A.

TECH 21· NYC

333 West 52nd Street, NY, New York 10019
212-315-1116 / Fax: 212-315-0825 / www.tech21nyc.com

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Tech 21 redefined the term "direct box" with the development of SansAmp™ Bass DI, which was introduced in 1992. It incorporates our exclusive Tube Amplifier Emulation circuitry and delivers the warmth and presence of a miked-up bass amp system in a convenient direct box format.

We have expanded this design concept for the bassist whose needs are more diverse. SansAmp Bass Driver DI functions as a pre-amp, a stomp box, and as a direct box. In bypass, SansAmp Bass Driver DI converts the instrument signal to a low impedance balanced output. This prevents signal loss and sound quality deterioration caused by long cable lengths. When you engage the SansAmp Tube Amplifier Emulation circuitry via the on-board footswitch, it not only converts the signal, it gives you the sound and responsiveness of a miked-up pro stage rig --direct into a recording console or P.A. system. You can also *simultaneously* plug straight into a power amp or conventional bass amp.

Tech 21's proprietary circuitry is engineered in the true tradition of tube amplifiers in their *totality* --with a pre-amp stage and an output stage. It incorporates the harmonics and sweet overdrive characteristics uniquely inherent to tube amplifiers. This is largely caused by what is referred to as "push-pull" symmetrical clipping, a feat which a single tube is physically incapable of accomplishing.

SansAmp Bass Driver DI offers an entire sound spectrum of the most coveted traditional bass amp rigs, from vintage to modern styles. You can also obtain *overdriven* sounds without having to invest in a complex system with multiple rack effects. As with each SansAmp model, the controls are designed to give *you* the flexibility to customize your own sound. After all, the greatest inspiration comes from having the sound that's right for you.

SansAmp Bass Driver DI.
Consistent quality sound studio to studio, club to club, arena to arena.

APPLICATIONS

WITH BASS AMP RIG:
  -**As a Stomp Box:** Run the 1/4" *Output* into the front input of an amp. For best results, keep SansAmp Bass Driver DI's *Level* close to unity gain so as not to overload the amp's input, which could yield undesirable distortion.
  -**As a Pre-Amp:** Run the 1/4" *Output* of SansAmp Bass Driver DI directly into the power amp input, a.k.a. "effects return" (if applicable), of an amp. This will bypass the tone-coloring pre-amp section of the amp rig.

TO DRIVE A POWER AMP: Run the 1/4" *Output* to the input of a power amp, and adjust your stage volume with the *Level* control of SansAmp Bass Driver DI.
  NOTE: When running into the power amp input of an amp or a power amp alone, adjust the *Level* as needed. If you are so inclined, this is the time to crank it!

TO RECORD DIRECT: You can plug the *XLR* or 1/4" *Output* directly into the input of a mixer/recorder. Work with the input trim control on the mixer/recorder and be sure not to overload its input. Additionally, bear in mind that full-range systems yield a wide frequency response. Therefore, we suggest you start with the EQ levels at 12 o'clock and increase/decrease to taste.

GUIDE TO CONTROLS

PRESENCE brings out the upper harmonic content and attack. For a smoother high end and for clean settings, decrease to taste.
DRIVE adjusts the overall amount of gain and overdrive, similar to when the output section of a tube amp is being pushed.
BASS & TREBLE
Unlike passive controls that can only cut, these **active** tone controls cut or boost ±12dB from unity gain at 12 o'clock. This powerful EQ section effectively reduces the need for a fixed frequency mid control and enables you to achieve an extensive variety of curves --including a "mid-cut" as well as a "mid-boost."

Adjusting Mid-Range Content: The mid-range level of SansAmp Bass Driver DI is preset. **Boosting** *Bass* and *Treble* gives you the equivalent of a "mid-cut" where the relative mid-range level is lower than the *Bass* and *Treble* frequency levels. **Cutting** *Bass* and *Treble* is the equivalent of a "mid-boost" where the relative mid-range level is higher than the *Bass* and *Treble* frequency levels. NOTE: The overall output level will change in relation to the adjustments you make with the EQ controls. You can compensate accordingly with the *Level* control.

BLEND allows you to blend the direct instrument signal with SansAmp Tube Amplifier Emulation circuitry. In most cases, you will probably have this set at maximum (100% SansAmp). For certain applications, however, such as an ultra-transparent sound or for use with piezo pickup-equipped instruments, you may want to blend-in the direct signal to achieve your desired sound. While the SansAmp Tube Amplifier Emulation circuitry is bypassed when *Blend* is at minimum, the *Bass, Treble* and *Level* controls remain active.

LEVEL adjusts the output level.

THE INS AND OUTS

IMPORTANT: TURN ON FIRST. TURN OFF LAST.

To avoid unwanted and potentially speaker-damaging "pops" when connecting or disconnecting any equipment, follow *Standard Audio Procedures*:

Always mute mixing board and/or turn down amp volume before plugging or unplugging!

INPUT: 1/4", 1megOhm, instrument level. Switches battery power on/off. To avoid battery drain, **unplug when unit is not in use. AND...**
DON'T FORGET TO MUTE!
PARALLEL OUTPUT: 1/4" unbalanced direct output is "hard-wired" parallel with input jack. Instrument signal passes through, UNEFFECTED, to the input of your stage amplification system.

FOOTSWITCH, with corresponding LED indicator: Engages/disengages SansAmp Tube Amplifier Emulation circuitry. *Active*, LED will be on. Tonality and gain structure are affected as determined by the setting of the controls. Delivers effected signal through the *XLR Output* and 1/4" *Output*. Inactive, LED will be off. SansAmp Bass Driver DI functions an an active *transparent* direct box and does not sonically alter the instrument signal.
BALANCED XLR OUTPUT: Balanced low Z output. Sends effected or uneffected signal to mixing console/recorder, depending on the orientation of the *Footswitch*.
1/4" OUTPUT: Unbalanced low Z output. Sends effected or uneffected signal to amp rig or power amp, depending on the orientation of the *Footswitch*.
PHANTOM & GROUND CONNECT SWITCH: When engaged, the ground connects, and unit will accept phantom power through the *XLR Output*. Disengaged, the ground of your stage system and other interconnected gear is lifted (isolated) from the ground of the mixing console.
PHANTOM POWER OPERABILITY allows you to "tap into" the power of a suitably equipped mixer, which, today, most are. As the 3-conductor XLR sends the audio signal to the input of a mixer, the mixer sends voltage back to the unit via the same 3 wires. This eliminates the need for an external power supply. Consult the owner's manual of your mixer for set-up instructions. For live and studio use, let the engineer know your SansAmp Bass Driver DI is phantom power operable.
NOTE: When lifting the ground, phantom power disconnects, and battery (if installed) becomes activated. While operating under phantom power, we recommend keeping a 9V alkaline battery installed at all times to avoid the previously mentioned "pops" when lifting the ground (see page 3).

SPEAKER SIMULATION

Speaker simulation is an integral part of the SansAmp Tube Amplifier Emulation circuitry. It is specifically designed for a smooth, even response as would be achieved by a multiple-miked cabinet --without peaks, valleys, and notches associated with single miking-- and will complement any type of bass speaker cabinet system.

NOTEWORTHY NOTES & CONSIDERATIONS
(that really are worthy of your attention)

1) **SansAmp Bass Driver DI is an interactive tool.** It will react differently to various signal levels, as well as your individual touch. For instance, a hotter signal and a heavy hand will increase the gain structure and result in more overdrive. A cooler signal and a light touch decreases the gain structure for a cleaner sound. By using *Presence*, *Drive* and the EQ controls, you can achieve the proper mix of tonality and gain structure that best suits your style. For instance, if you want the high end to be cleaner and smoother, increase *Treble* and decrease *Presence*. If you want more overdrive, increase *Presence* and decrease *Treble*. This will bring out the upper harmonic content and attack. As you increase *Treble*, the high frequency content increases without changing the harmonic content.

2) **The noise level of SansAmp Bass Driver DI is exceptionally low.** However, it may amplify noise emanating from the input source. Bear in mind that SansAmp Bass Driver DI's controls are unusually sensitive and do not require maximum levels of input to achieve high levels of output. To minimize noise going into SansAmp Bass Driver DI, we recommend the following:

    a) **Active electronic instruments** should have tone controls positioned flat. If you need to boost, do so slowly and sparingly.

    b) **Passive electronic instruments** should have volume and tone controls set at maximum.

3) When you push SansAmp Bass Driver DI to saturation, you get enhanced harmonics, just as you would with an overdriven tube amplifier. Depending on the setting, the unique circuitry limits transient peaks for an even meter reading, so that **outboard compressors or limiters may not be necessary.**
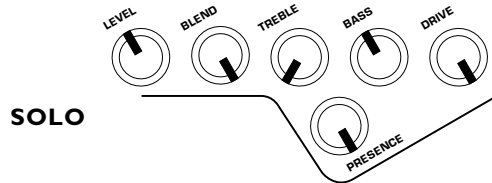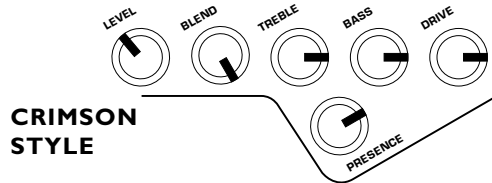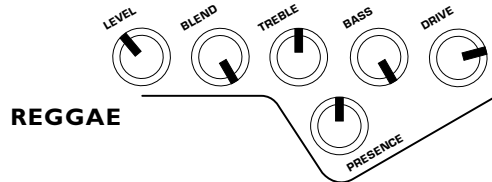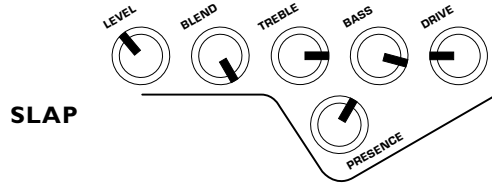
4) **Using effects.** One of the key attributes of SansAmp is the responsiveness to the dynamics and nuances of your playing technique. Therefore, your bass should be plugged directly into SansAmp and effects should be placed *after* SansAmp. If, however, you prefer to place an effect before SansAmp, be sure to set the output level of the effect at unity gain with the output level of the instrument.

SAMPLE SETTINGS

FAT TUBE

**BASSMAN®
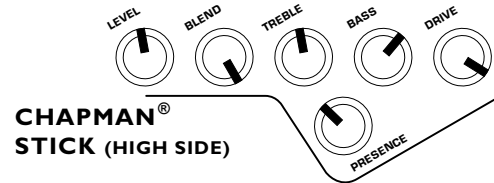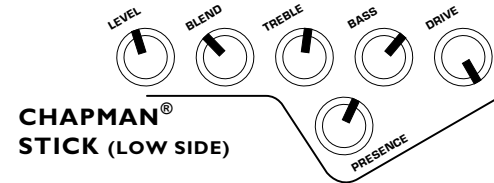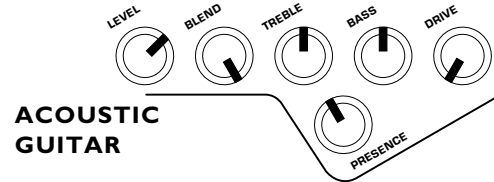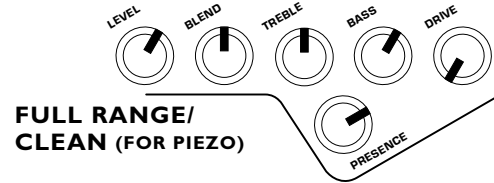STYLE**

SVT® STYLE

**KING'S X
STYLE**
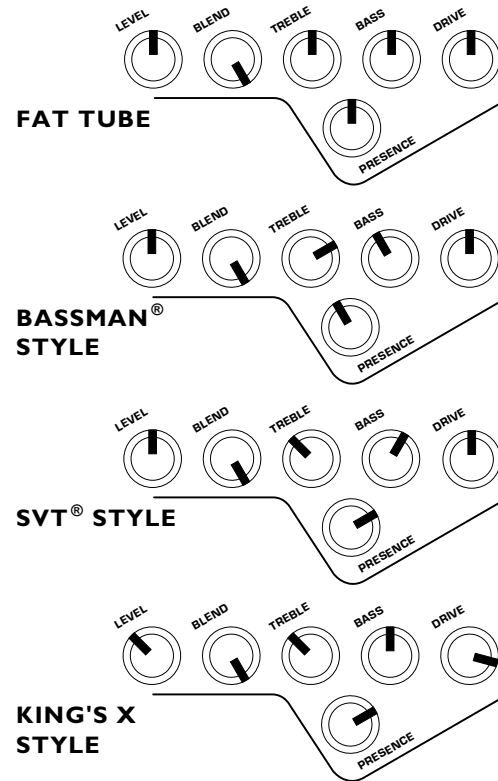
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for descriptive purposes only.

SAMPLE SETTINGS

SLAP

REGGAE

CRIMSON STYLE

SOLO

FULL RANGE/ CLEAN (FOR PIEZO)

ACOUSTIC GUITAR

CHAPMAN® STICK (LOW SIDE)

CHAPMAN® STICK (HIGH SIDE)

CUSTOM SETTINGS

LEVEL BLEND TREBLE BASS DRIVE

PRESENCE

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LEVEL BLEND TREBLE BASS DRIVE

PRESENCE

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PHOTOCOPY THIS PAGE AND KEEP A RECORD OF YOUR CUSTOM SETTINGS.