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I. Getting Started

A. Safety Instructions

Please follow these guidelines:

A) Vents are provided for heat dissipation at the rear of the amplifier. Maintain at least a 1” space around these vents to provide sufficient ventilation. If you decide to rack mount the amplifier make sure you do not block the vents.

B) Keep all sources of fire, such as lighted candles, away from the amplifier.

C) This product is approved for use in any climate.

D) Do not expose the product to dripping or splashing. Do not place objects filled with fluid on the amplifier.

E) Amplifier must be connected to a mains socket outlet with a protective earthing connection.

F) The appliance coupler (AC cord) is the disconnect device. The disconnect device shall remain readily operable at all times.

B. Manual Conventions

In this manual, words that appear in *italics* represent actual physical controls on the AG 500SC.

C. Basic Setup

Plug in your instrument and the footswitch. Your combo by itself is 8 ohms and 250 watts of power. You can add an 8 ohm extension speaker and you will have a 500 watt bass rig.

With the *Master* volumes down, turn on your amplifier. Adjust as follows:
**Preamp:**
1. Turn the *Gain* up while playing. Turn up until the *Clip* light flashes and then back off until the light stops flashing. You have now optimized your signal to noise ratio.

2. If you have a particularly high output instrument it may be necessary to push the –10dB button in to prevent clipping of the input buffer. This button is located next to the *Input* jack and when pushed in it lowers your input signal by 10dB.

3. Turn up the *Master* control until you reach the volume you need.

**D. Protection Modes**

*Overcurrent Mode:*
In this mode the preamp remains active, but the power amp mutes. The *Status* light does not flash. Power cycle the amp to reset. This may happen if the load is too low, or if you plug and unplug cabinets while playing.

*Thermal/ DC Mode:*
In this mode both the preamp and the power amp mute. The *Status* light flashes. Power cycle the amp to reset. This may happen if the AC line power is not correct, if the amp is overheating, or if there is risk of damage to the amp or speakers.
II. Features and Functions

A. Front Panel Features

Input Pad:
-10dB

Preamp Section

Bright: +5dB >4kHz shelving
Treble: +/- 13dB @ 4kHz shelving
High Mid: +/- 14dB @ 800Hz peaking
Low Mid: +/- 14dB @ 400Hz peaking
Bass: +/- 18dB @ 40Hz shelving
Deep: +6dB <100Hz shelving

Effects Loop Section

Send: Output level = -infinity to +22dBu
Adjust the level of the Send output to get the maximum performance from your effects unit.

Return: Sensitivity = -20dBu to +infinity
(This range of signals can be adjusted to get the nominal output level at the speaker output.) Adjust this knob to optimize the signal level returning from the Effects Loop. If it is turned up too high, you can clip the return circuitry of the AG 500. If it is turned down too low you might not be able to get loud enough.

Pull -20dB: Boosts the level of the Return signal by 8dB.
This allows you to use a studio effects unit (line level) or a stomp box (instrument level) in the Effects Loop. If the signal returning from the Effects Loop is too quiet, pull this knob to boost the Return signal.
**Pull Series**: Removes any “dry” (un-effected) signal from the signal path.
When this knob is pushed in the Effects Loop is configured in “parallel” and you can mix your “dry” signal with the signal from the Effects Loop. When this knob is pulled out the Effects Loop is configured in “series” and all of your signal will pass through the Effects Loop. If you do not have anything plugged into the Effects Loop pulling this knob will cut off your signal completely.

**D.I. Section**

**D.I. Nominal Output Level**: -20dBu

**D.I. Pre/Post Button:**
- **Pre**: Your signal goes to the D.I. XLR output jack before your Gain and EQ settings, but after the -10dB input pad.
- **Post**: Gain, EQ, Master settings and effects will be sent to the D.I. XLR output jack.

**Lift/Ground**: If there is a hum when using the D.I. there may be a ground loop. In many cases pushing in the Lift/Ground button can fix this problem.

**B. Rear Panel Features**

**Speaker Outputs**: Two Speakon outputs and two ¼” outputs are provided. Any combination may be used as long as the load does not exceed 4 ohms.

**Tuner Output**: One ¼” Tuner output is provided. When the amplifier is muted your signal will still reach the tuner.
C. Cabinet Features

Tweeter: This controls the volume of the tweeter. If the control is fully counter clock-wise the tweeter is off. If the control is fully clock-wise the tweeter is at full volume. Begin with the control at 12 o’clock and adjust to taste.

III. Warranty Information

Please send in your Warranty Registration card or register online upon receipt of your amplifier. The AG 500SC combos have a 3 year limited warranty against manufacturing defects. If you experience a problem with your amplifier, please contact techsupport@aguilaramp.com to receive a Return Authorization number or for information on the nearest authorized repair center.