

# *Little Labs*

# *Little Labs*

**REDCLOUD  
8810USERS  
BALANCED  
ATTENUATOR  
PACK**

**LITTLE LABS  
6711 WHITLEY TERRACE  
HOLLYWOOD CA 90068**

**E-MAIL:  
LITTLELABS@LITTLELABS.COM**

**WEB:  
WWW.LITTLELABS.COM**

**SALES, SERVICE  
TECHNICAL SUPPORT  
& FAX:  
323-851-6860**

**PRELIMINARY  
OPERATORS MANUAL**

# Little Labs

A. Depending on if you have the Redcloud 8810U8ERS plugged into a patch bay or a snake, you will need to plug the monitor signal either into the female xlr's (or the patch points) and the male xlr's (or patch points) out to the powered monitors in a group of two. For left and right use either 1&2 or 3&4 or 5&6 or 7&8. Then you push the button on the Redcloud 8810U8ERS for that group let's say 1&2, Then your stereo volume will be controlled by attenuator 1, attenuator 2 will then be disabled.

Q. Will the Redcloud 8810U8ERS overload?

A. The Redcloud 8810U8ERS is designed for line level signals, being passive it will not overload, Keep in mind though, and perhaps this is stating the obvious, it is not designed for post power amp high current speaker signals.

Q. Attenuator 2 (or 4 or 6 or 8) is not controlling the level, what give?.

A. The bottom stereo button 1/2 needs to be unpushed (or for 4, 3/4 etc.)

Q. Where do I set the controls of the unit while using it with pro-tools for unity gain?

A. The controls should all be set, all the way clockwise.

Q. Can I use a snake using 110ohm rated digital AES/EBU cable with the Redcloud 8810U8ERS?

A. Yes as long as it's wired in the analog standard db25 tascam pinout.

Q. Can I attenuate a digital AES/EBU signal through the Redcloud 8810U8ERS?

A. NO!!

# Little Labs

## 8810U8ERS FAQs

Q. What kind of cable do I need to interface the Redcloud with 8 channels of my pro tools and how do I hook it up?

A. You will need a db25 to db25 analog snake, they are made by Hosa, Proco, Mogami, Digidesign and a bunch of others. Expect to spend anywhere from \$20 to \$120. Unplug the male db25 connector from the analog in on your protools, plug that into the input db25 of the Redcloud 8810U8ERS, Take the new db25 cable and plug that into the Redcloud db25 out and plug the other end into the protools analog in.

Q. What kind of cables do I need to get in and out of the Redcloud 8810U8ERS for general use?

A. You have a lot of off the shelf solutions to choose from. The most basic approach is male and female xlr snakes which break out easily to interface with any balanced line level inputs or outputs. These are made by Hosa, Proco, Mogami, Digidesign and a bunch of others. You can find other type connectors on db25 snakes such as TRS and TT, but you have to look a little harder for these.

Q. What kind of cables do I need to interface the Redcloud 8810U8ERS with my patchbay?

A. If you have a db25 i/o on your patchbay you'll need two db25 to db25 snakes. Connect the input row into the input of the redcloud, connect the output row into the output of the redcloud. Isn't that easy! If you have an elco interfaced bay or hard wired bay use the pin out as shown on the pin out page and get to work!

Q. So I want to use two channels of the Redcloud 8810U8ERS for a stereo volume control for my powered monitors, what do I do?

Congratulations on your purchase of the Redcloud 8810U8ERS Balanced Attenuator Pack. This box is simply, as it's catchy name says, eight attenuators. An attenuator also called a fader, in this case a rotary fader, can be used for many applications. What the Redcloud 8810U8ERS was originally designed for was to insert it pre the analog inputs of pro tools. Inserting the Redcloud before the pro tools allows you to easily turn down the level hitting the pro tools so you can turn up the gain of your mic pre, to where you want it for it's sonic character, without overloading the input of the pro tools. There are of course many other applications you will find for the Redcloud 8810U8ERS and with the db25 connectors on the back, interfacing with any modern patch bay is a no-brainer.

This box was originally designed for Don Smith aka Redcloud who pushed me patiently to make an attenuator box like this. Don I first met in 1980 when I was a tech at Salty Dog Studios. I remember putting up on one of our 3M79 two-track tape machines, Don's listen tape, and when I saw whom he had worked with, I was pretty nervous handling that tape! Through the years Don's sometimes-unorthodox techniques often drove other techs a little nutty, but we always got on well. Those almost twenty years in the all night studio trenches with Don allowed me to meet and work with, as a behind the scenes tech, some great artists, The Stones, U2, Tom Petty, Stevie Nicks and many others. Thanks Don! This manual is preliminary meaning it will be full of typos and grammatical errors, but it should get you started.

Yours truly,

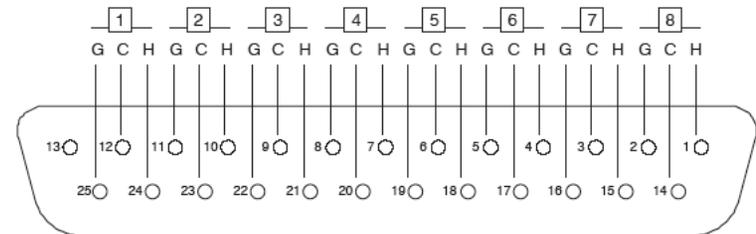
Jonathan Little

# Little Labs

## REDCLOUD-8810U8ERS BASICS

The Redcloud 8810U8ERS is a rock solid and very compact, 8 channel balanced attenuator pack utilizing the now universally popular db25 connector (tascam type) in/out pin out. The highly flexible unit can be button selected for stereo or mono attenuation in groups of two. The Redcloud 8810U8ERS can be utilized as eight balanced mono attenuators or up to four balanced stereo attenuators or even externally wired as eight stereo unbalanced attenuators. The special attenuators used are a 5k $\Omega$  impedance, allowing devices to easily drive the attenuator but also able to drive relatively long cables without high frequency loss. The Redcloud 8810U8ERS can also be rack mounted, making it possible to have up to 32 channels of attenuation in a 1U rack space. Uses include, simple analog faders pre or post pro tools, volume controls for multiple speaker systems, or any job that needs a stereo or mono rotary attenuator. Plug it into your db25 modular patch bay and patch it in anywhere you need high quality passive attenuation (more places than you might initially think). The Redcloud 8810U8ERS will be a must have accessory in any engineers tool box!

## REDCLOUD 8810U8ERS I/O PIN OUT



H = HOT  
C = COLD  
G = GROUND

Shown above is the pin out of the Redcloud I/O. Originally adapted by Tascam, but now used universally by everyone.

If you would like to use the Redcloud 8810U8ERS for eight stereo unbalanced attenuators you will have to use a custom snake wired this way, instead of the cold, hot and ground you need to wire it left, right and ground. When you push the 1/2 (or 3/4 or 5/6 or 7/8) you will be controlling two stereo volumes from one attenuator. Maybe that's a good reason to bring back quad!