

# *Little Labs*

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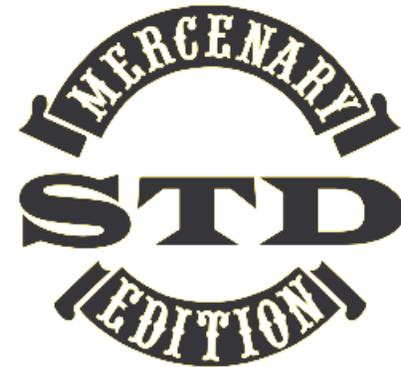
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OPERATORS MANUAL

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base unit together... What do I need to remove them?

A. Use a standard 7/64" allen head driver. No it's not metric!

Q. My STD sounds bad compared to a straight cable and my guitar volume now sounds all scratchy when using the STD.

A. The STD special purpose cables plug internal transistor has blown (a very rare occurrence and typically caused by plugging into something like a lite socket) causing a small amount of DC on the input. You must send it back to us for repair. (Keep your base unit it will remain unaffected).

More to come!

Q.The STD to my ears sounds a cleaner and a bit brighter than when I use my guitar cable, I like it better through my cable.

A. Use a barrel type connector or a pedal with a true bypass between your... guitar > the cable you like > barrel connector or true bypass pedal > Std cable > xlr cable > base unit > guitar amp. Voila, the sound you liked with your old cable preserved!

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## STD FAQs

Q. My STD has low sound level and sounds kind of crappy.

A. Maybe you left the XLR plugged in and the batteries are low? Maybe the dealer you bought it from demoed it to someone who left the XLR plugged in and the batteries are low? I get at least one e-mail a week from someone asking me this question. Why people don't check the batteries first is beyond me! I have been blamed even for ruining a session because the batteries were on there last leg and the guitar sound was crap. Why they didn't stop and check the batteries is crazy. The batteries will last a very long time if you just remember to unplug the xlr when done. It's not my fault!

Q. I have a pedal board (or pedal), where do I plug the STD cable in before or after the pedal board (or pedal)?

A. The STD is designed to be plugged directly in to a passive instruments 1/4" jack (it should be noted active instruments typically can run very long cables without an STD). This buffers the signal before it even hits the cable and is the reason the STD works so well. However the degradation by plugging in after a pedal board is, after much listening, pretty minor, just be sure to use a good cable between your guitar and the pedal board!

Q. I plugged my STD 1/4" plug into my speaker output. Now my STD doesn't work.

A. You blew up the transistor in the STD special purpose cable. You must send the cable back to Little Labs for repair. (Keep your base unit it will remain unaffected).

Q. These funny looking allen head screws used to hold the STD

Dear Audio Professional,

Congratulations on your purchase of the Mercenary Edition STD instrument cable extender. As you probably know, since you bought the STD, long instrument cable runs have a detrimental effect on the tone of your instrument and are much more susceptible to extraneous noise. The STD is the best sounding and most cost effective way of extending your musical instruments cable. Utilizing extensive listening tests with the STD running at 60 foot lengths the STD will match or outperform some of the finest boutique ten foot guitar cables. The STD is built solid in California and with a little care should give you a lifetime of trouble free performance. We are very proud that the STD was chosen by Mercenary Audio to become part of a select group of products with the Mercenary Edition seal of quality. Thanks Fletcher and the whole Mercenary team!

Yours truly,

Jonathan Little

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## **BEFORE USING YOUR STD READ THIS**

### **WHAT IS AN STD?**

The STD consists of two parts' the base unit and a special purpose cable with a male xlr on one end and a 1/4" phone plug on the other. The 1/4" phone plug contains components critical to the operation of the STD and has no user serviceable parts inside (we're not kidding here). The Base unit has an xlr input, two 1/4" jack outputs and a ground lift for the second output. Internal to this unit are two nine-volt batteries, which are included and already installed. The current requirements of these batteries are very low but the xlr input should be disconnected when not in use in order to extend the life of the batteries. We recommend replacing the batteries yearly as an exhausted battery will increase the distortion of the STD and should be avoided.

### **PROPER HOOKUP**

The STD's special purpose cable 1/4" plug end inserts directly into your instrument's jack, the xlr end plugs into an external mic cable which can be as long as 100 feet (this mic cable is not supplied with the STD). The other end of the mic cable plugs into the STD base units female xlr input. You may use a mic tie line as well as a mic cable in between the STD special purpose cable and the base unit, such as in a studio situation. Plug a guitar cable into one of the two output 1/4" jacks on the base unit and plug the other end into your instrument amplifier or direct box. You may plug two devices in at the same time to split off to two instrument amps or split between an instrument amp and a direct box. If a hum occurs in your amp or direct box feed when two devices are plugged into the STD (but not with just one device plugged in) try pushing the earth lift button. This should eliminate what is called a ground loop, which would be the most likely cause of the hum. If you need to feed a head in the control room and a combo style amp in the studio you can feed

one 1/4" out to the head and the other through a long guitar cable to the combo amp located in the studio. This set up can however be more susceptible to hum caused by a ground loop that cannot always be solved by the earth lift button because of the two amplifiers plugged into different AC sockets which could have different ground potentials.

## **WARRANTY**

The STD is warranted against defects in materials and workmanship for one year (this warranty does not include the batteries). If you experience a failure during the warranty period, please call or e-mail Little Labs with details of the failure then return the STD to us. We will repair or replace the unit at our option and return it to you. Remember to include your name, address (no P.O. boxes) and phone number, along with a copy of your original sales invoice showing store name and date of sale. If your STD is past the warranty date, it is in our interest for all Little Labs products to be functioning properly so please follow the same instructions as the warranty repair. We will contact you with the cost of the repair (our repair costs are always reasonable).