



SPECTRADRIVE

High-Quality Bass Preamp and Drive Pedal with Built-In TubeDrive and SpectraComp TonePrints

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Important Safety Instructions



Terminals marked with this symbol carry electrical current of sufficient magnitude to constitute risk of electric shock.

Use only high-quality professional speaker cables with ¼" TS or twist-locking plugs pre-installed. All other installation or modification should be performed only by qualified personnel.



This symbol, wherever it appears, alerts you to the presence of uninsulated dangerous voltage inside the enclosure - voltage that may be sufficient to constitute a risk of shock.



This symbol, wherever it appears, alerts you to important operating and maintenance instructions in the accompanying literature. Please read the manual.



Caution

To reduce the risk of electric shock, do not remove the top cover (or the rear section). No user serviceable parts inside. Refer servicing to qualified personnel.



Caution

To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this appliance to rain and moisture. The apparatus shall not be exposed to dripping or splashing liquids and no objects filled with liquids, such as vases, shall be placed on the apparatus.



Caution

These service instructions are for use by qualified service personnel only. To reduce the risk of electric shock do not perform any servicing other than that contained in the operation instructions. Repairs have to be performed by qualified service personnel.

1. Read these instructions.
2. Keep these instructions.
3. Heed all warnings.
4. Follow all instructions.
5. Do not use this apparatus near water.
6. Clean only with dry cloth.
7. Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
8. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.

9. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding-type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.

10. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.

11. Use only attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.



12. Use only with the cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus. When a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid

injury from tip-over.

13. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.

14. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.

15. The apparatus shall be connected to a MAINS socket outlet with a protective earthing connection.

16. Where the MAINS plug or an appliance coupler is used as the disconnect device, the disconnect device shall remain readily operable.



17. Correct disposal of this product: This symbol indicates that this product must not be disposed of with household waste, according to the WEEE Directive (2012/19/EU) and your national law. This product should be taken to a collection center licensed for the recycling of waste electrical and electronic equipment (EEE). The mishandling of this type of waste could have a possible negative impact on the environment and human health due to potentially hazardous substances that are generally associated with EEE. At the same time, your cooperation in the correct disposal of this product will contribute to the efficient use of natural resources. For more information about where you can take your waste equipment for recycling, please contact your local city office, or your household waste collection service.

18. Do not install in a confined space, such as a book case or similar unit.

19. Do not place naked flame sources, such as lighted candles, on the apparatus.

20. Please keep the environmental aspects of battery disposal in mind. Batteries must be disposed-of at a battery collection point.

21. Use this apparatus in tropical and/or moderate climates.

LEGAL DISCLAIMER

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LIMITED WARRANTY

For the applicable warranty terms and conditions and additional information regarding MUSIC Tribe's Limited Warranty, please see complete details online at musictri.be/warranty.

1. About this Manual

Thank you for spending your hard-earned money on this TC ELECTRONIC product! We have done our best to ensure that it will serve you for many years to come, and we hope that you will enjoy using it.

This manual is available as a PDF download from the TC ELECTRONIC website.

Please read this manual in full, or you may miss important information.

Please do not operate your TC device before you have made all connections to external equipment as described in the “2.3 Setting Up” section. In the subsequent sections of the manual, we assume that all connections are made correctly and that you are familiar with the previous sections.

We reserve the right to change the contents of this manual at any time.

To download the most current version of this manual, view the product warranty, and access the growing FAQ database for this product, visit the web page tcelectronic.com/support/

2. Introduction

The SpectraDrive pedal is the ultimate grab-and-go utility for bass players, providing intelligent EQ, multiple outputs and dual TonePrint capability. Whether you're tracking bass in the studio and want to record dry and effected signals, performing on stage with separate signals sent to FOH and your amplifier, or practicing with headphones, this pedal has the necessary connectivity. At the heart of the pedal are the TubeDrive and SpectraComp TonePrint slots that allow you to beam various overdrive and compression settings directly from your phone or USB-connected computer, and adjust the intensity with dedicated knobs. With the SpectraDrive in your gig bag, you're well-equipped for any playing situation.

2.1 Unpacking

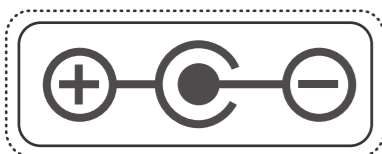
Your TC ELECTRONIC effect pedal box should contain the following items:

- Your TC ELECTRONIC effect pedal
- 1 USB cable (Type A to Mini-B)
- 1 TC ELECTRONIC sticker
- 2 rubber feet
- 9 V power supply

Inspect all items for signs of transit damage. In the unlikely event of transit damage, inform the carrier and supplier. If damage has occurred, keep all packaging, as it can be used as evidence of excessive handling force.

2.2 Setting Up

Connect the 9 V power supply with the following symbol to the DC input socket of your TC ELECTRONIC effect pedal.



- Plug the power supply into a power outlet.
- Connect your instrument to the In jack on the front side of the pedal using a ¼" jack cable.
- Connect the Out jack on the front side of the pedal to your amplifier using a ¼" jack cable. See Chapter 5 for alternate connection scenarios.

3. TonePrint

This TC Electronic product supports TonePrints. To learn more about TonePrints, go to tcelectronic.com/toneprint/

3.1 What are TonePrints?

When you look at your TC Electronic effect pedal, you'll only see a few knobs. Actually, for some pedals, it's just one knob. So – one knob, one function, right?

Actually, there's a lot more to it than meets the eye.

Star-tweaked signature sounds

When TC Electronic builds an effect pedal, the relationship between its controls and many parameters “under the hood” are defined by developers, musicians and product specialists who live and breathe sound. This gives you an excellent starting point: a great-sounding pedal with well-balanced controls.

But wouldn't it be cool to have world-famous bass players – guys like Nathan East, Janek Gwizdala and Ida Nielsen – virtually rewire your compressor pedal, defining what should happen “behind the scenes”?

This is exactly what TonePrints allow you to do.

TC Electronic is working with top guitar and bass players who explore a pedal's hidden tonal potential, redefining the controls and creating their personal TonePrints. And we are making these custom TonePrints available to you. Uploading them to your pedal is really easy (see “Transferring TonePrints to your pedal using the TonePrint app”).

You can change the TonePrints in your pedal as often as you like, and the best part: It's totally free.

3.2 Transferring TonePrints to your pedal using the TonePrint app

Being able to virtually rewire your TC Electronic effect pedal wouldn't be much use if you needed a lot of extra equipment to do it. This is why we created the TonePrint app. The TonePrint app is free software for popular smartphones that allows you to “beam” new TonePrints right into your effect pedal whenever and wherever you feel like it.

Obtaining the TonePrint app

If you own an iPhone, you can download the TonePrint app from Apple's App Store.

If you own an Android phone, you will find the TonePrint app on Google Play.

Once you have the app, no additional downloads or in-app purchases are required. You can access all available TonePrints from within the app, and all TonePrints are free.

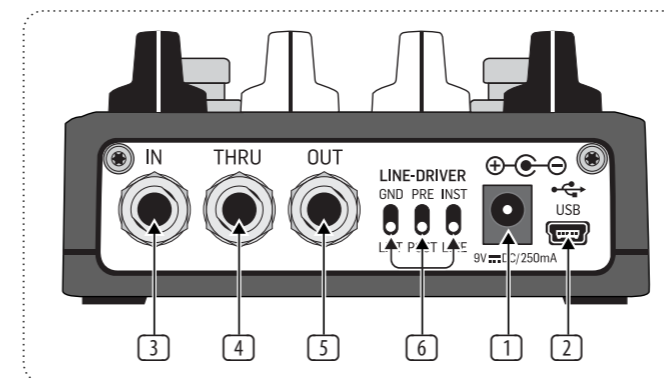
Transferring TonePrints to your pedal – step by step

- Launch the TonePrint app on your smartphone.
- Find the TonePrint you want to use. You can browse TonePrints by Artist or Product (i.e., pedal type). You will also find Featured TonePrints.
- Plug your guitar or bass into your TonePrint pedal.
- Turn your TonePrint pedal on.
- Turn up the volume on your instrument and set the pickup selector to one pickup.
- Hold the speaker of your smartphone next to the chosen pickup and touch “Beam to pedal”.

The pedal's LEDs will blink to acknowledge that the TonePrint has been successfully loaded. TubeDrive TonePrints are signaled on the left LED, and SpectraComp TonePrints on the right.

Note that this pedal does not support custom TonePrint creation via the editor software. However, we have provided plenty of meticulously-crafted TonePrints for both TubeDrive and SpectraComp to ensure that you'll be able to get the sound you're looking for.

4. Inputs, Output and Controls



4.1 Power, audio and computer connection

1 POWER input - To power up your pedal, connect a power supply to its power input socket. The power input socket of your TC ELECTRONIC effect pedal is a standard 5.5/2.1 mm DC plug (centre = negative).

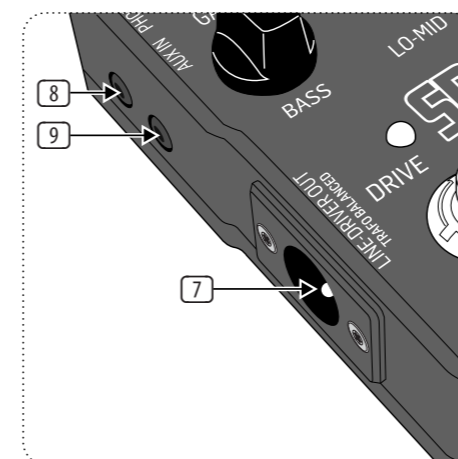
Your TC ELECTRONIC effect pedal requires a 9 V power supply providing 250 mA or more (included).

2 USB port - Use the standard Mini-B USB port on your TC ELECTRONIC effect pedal to connect your pedal to a computer. If there should be firmware updates for this pedal, they can be installed using the USB port – see “6.1 Updating the firmware”.

3 IN jack – Connect a standard ¼" TS cable from your bass to the IN jack.

4 THRU jack – This output sends the unaffected input signal directly out again. This is useful for connecting to a tuner pedal or for sending the “dry” signal to an amp or mixer.

5 OUT jack – Connect a standard ¼" TS cable from the pedal to your amplifier. This signal will carry the affected signal whenever the pedal is not bypassed.



6 Mini switches – These 3 switches only affect the Line-Driver output. The first switch engages the ground lift. The Pre/Post switch determines whether the Line-Driver output carries the affected signal (post), or always carries the bypassed signal (pre). Use the 3rd switch to select between instrument-level output (-15 dB) or line-level output.

7 LINE-DRIVER OUT – Connect an XLR cable from this output to a mixing console.

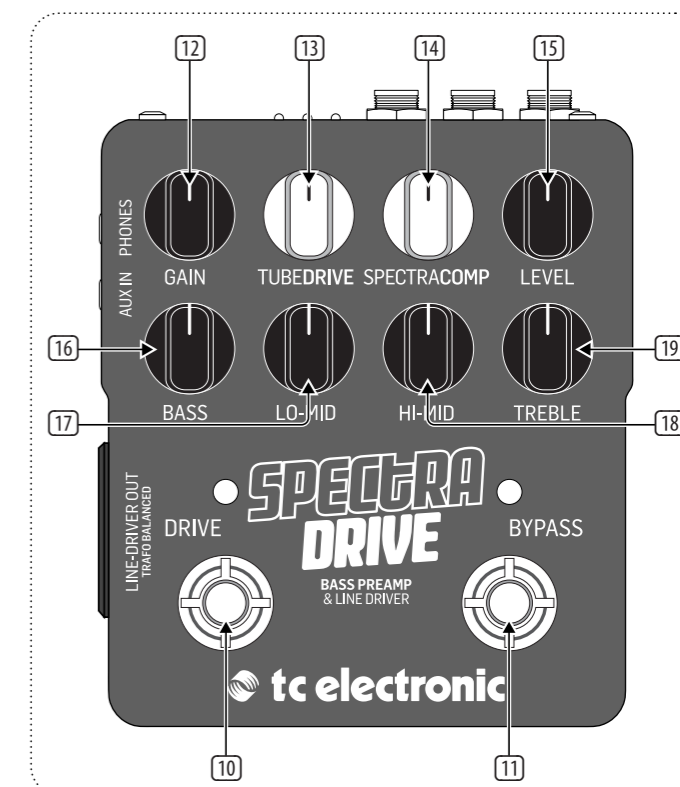
8 PHONES output – Connect a pair of stereo headphones with a ¼" (3.5 mm) TRS plug. Adjust the output with the Level knob (when the pedal is active/not bypassed). Connecting headphones does not mute any of the other outputs.

9 AUX IN jack – Connect a phone, laptop or MP3 player to the pedal with a ¼" TRS cable. This input does not have a level control, so adjust the output on your music player to balance the sound. It may be necessary to turn the Bass knob on the SpectraDrive down in order for the signals to mix correctly.

4.2 Switching

10 DRIVE FOOTSWITCH – This switch controls the on/off state of the TubeDrive circuit only. The left LED will light when TubeDrive is active, but the overdrive will only be heard when the pedal is engaged (right LED lit).

11 BYPASS FOOTSWITCH – This footswitch turns the tone stack and SpectraComp on and off. The pedal is engaged when the right LED is lit. In bypass mode (right LED off), the dry input signal is passed to the outputs. The SpectraDrive is equipped with a buffered bypass to ensure a strong, clear signal even when using longer cable runs.



4.3 Effect controls

12 GAIN knob – This sets the input level as well as the amount of TubeDrive when Drive is engaged.

13 TUBEDRIVE knob – Adjust the output volume of the TubeDrive circuit in conjunction with the Gain knob.

14 SPECTRACOMP knob – Adjust the amount of compression from your TonePrint.

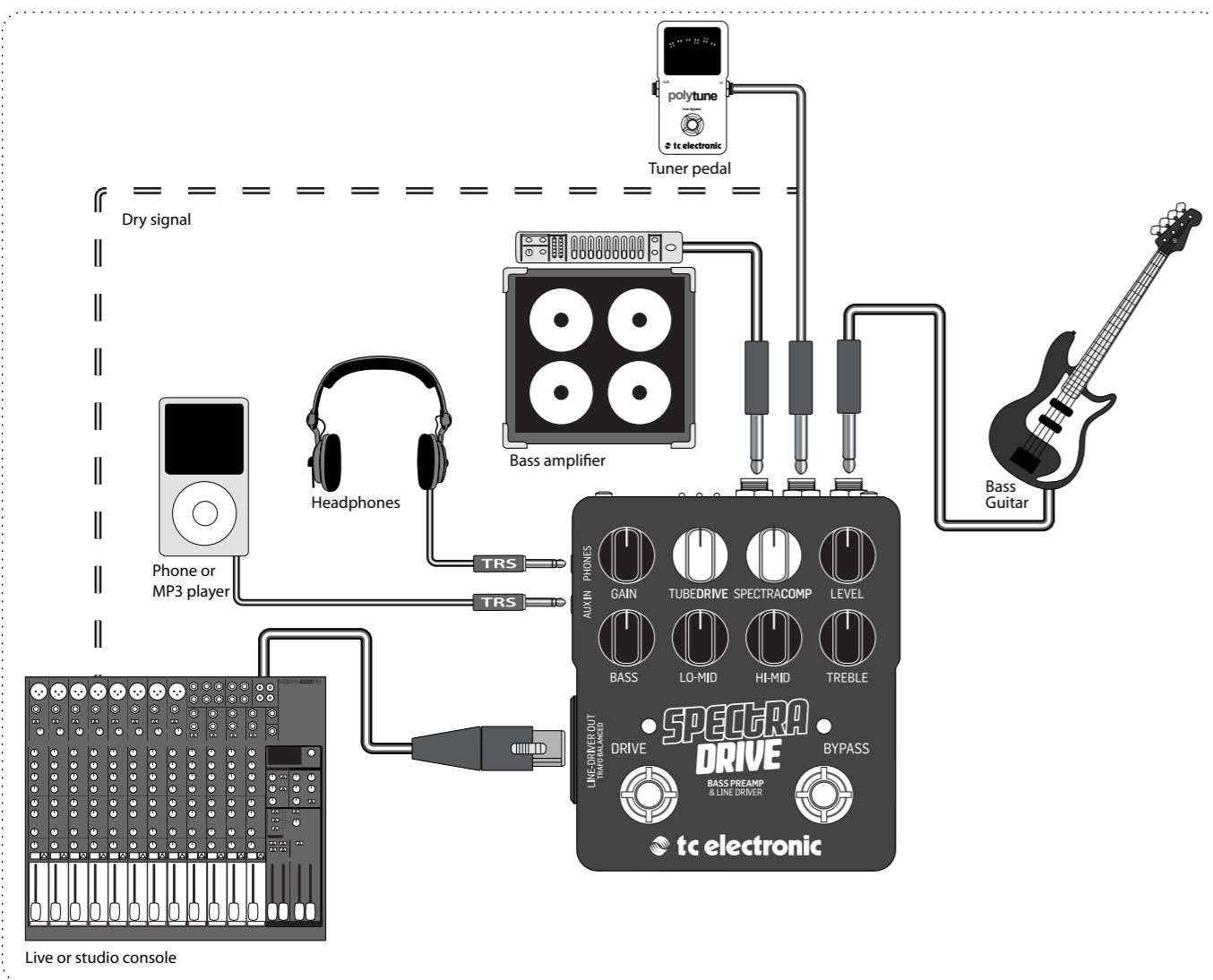
- 15 **LEVEL knob** – Adjust the overall output of the pedal with this knob. Use it in conjunction with the Drive and TubeDrive knobs to balance your bypass, active and overdriven tones. The Level knob has no effect when the pedal is bypassed.
- 16 **BASS knob** – Cuts a max of -24 dB at 50 Hz, or boosts up to 24 dB at 80 Hz. Frequencies are unaffected with the knob at the center 12:00 position.
- 17 **LO MID knob** – Cuts a max of -12 dB at 200 Hz, or boosts up to 12 dB at 160 Hz. Frequencies are unaffected with the knob at the center 12:00 position.

5. Operation

5.1 Connection

Many connection possibilities exist with this pedal, so we'll show you all the common sources for each input and output. Keep in mind that the Thru jack always carries the dry signal and the Out jack always follows the on/off switching. Only the Line-Driver output can do either (via the Pre/Post switch).

If you are incorporating other effects like chorus or delay, these should ideally go after the SpectraDrive. However, if you are using multiple outputs, those additional effects will only be present on one of the signal paths.



- 18 **HI MID knob** – Cuts a max of -18 dB at 630 Hz, or boosts up to 18 dB at 800 Hz. Frequencies are unaffected with the knob at the center 12:00 position.
- 19 **TREBLE knob** – Cuts a max of -24 dB at 1800 Hz, or boosts up to 24 dB at 2800 Hz. Frequencies are unaffected with the knob at the center 12:00 position.

5.2 Signal flow

The signal flow from input to outputs does not follow the physical placement of the knobs. The SpectraComp TonePrint comes first, followed by Gain, TubeDrive, 4-band EQ, and finally the Level control.

As mentioned previously, the Thru jack only carries the dry signal, the Out jack follows the on/off switching of the footswitches, and the Line-Driver jack can operate as a dry output or include the effects.

The Aux input is routed directly to the Phones output and to the Out jack, but is not included in the Thru or Line-Driver outputs. Keep this in mind when playing audio into the Aux jack while also connected to a loud amplifier.

6. Maintenance

6.1 Updating the firmware

TC may provide updates for the built-in software of your pedal, the firmware.

Updating your TC pedal's firmware requires...

- a computer running Microsoft Windows or OS X with a standard USB interface.
- the specified DC power supply for your pedal.

Preparing the firmware update

- Download the newest firmware from the "Support" page for your TC pedal. There are updaters for Microsoft Windows (these are ZIP archives containing the firmware installer) and for OS X (these are disk image files containing the firmware installer).
- Unplug all cables (including the power supply) from your TC pedal.
- Connect the pedal to your computer using a USB cable.
- Press and hold the right footswitch on your SpectraDrive pedal.
- Insert the DC power supply plug.
- The right LED on your pedal should turn on. This indicates that the pedal is ready to receive the software update.
- Release the footswitch.
- Your TC pedal will now be recognized as an updatable device.

Applying the firmware update

- Quit all MIDI-related applications (e.g. your DAW) on your computer and launch the firmware updater you have downloaded in step 1.
- In the firmware updater app, select your TC pedal from the drop-down list under the "STEP 1" heading.
- When the "Update" button under the "STEP 2" heading turns green, click it.
- The updated firmware will now be transferred to your TC pedal. Wait for the progress bar to reach 100%. When the update procedure is complete, the pedal will automatically restart.

6.2 TonePrint Reset

Just in case things get messed up beyond simple repair, we have included a TonePrint reset feature that will restore both TonePrint slots to the factory default. This does not affect the firmware, and if the stock TonePrints change with firmware upgrades, those will be considered the new "defaults".

With the pedal powered off, hold the left footswitch and then insert the DC power supply. Wait 5 seconds, and both LEDs should blink. This confirms the TonePrint reset.

7. Links

Support resources

- TC ELECTRONIC Support: tcelectronic.com/support/
- TC ELECTRONIC – product software: tcelectronic.com/support/software/
- TC ELECTRONIC – all product manuals: tcelectronic.com/support/manuals/
- TC ELECTRONIC user forum: forum.tcelectronic.com/

TC ELECTRONIC on...

- the Web: tcelectronic.com/
- Facebook: facebook.com/tcelectronic
- Google Plus: plus.google.com/+tcelectronic/
- Twitter: twitter.com/tcelectronic
- YouTube: youtube.com/user/tcelectronic

8. Specifications

Bypass mode	Buffered Bypass
Input connector	¼" TS, unbalanced, mono
Impedance	>1 MΩ
Aux input	⅛" mini-jack (3.5 mm) TRS, stereo
Output/Thru connectors	2 x ¼" TS, unbalanced, mono
Impedance	<200 Ω
Line-Driver	XLR, transformer-balanced low impedance
Phones output	⅛" mini-jack (3.5 mm) TRS, stereo
Power input	Standard 9 V DC, centre negative, >250 mA (power supply included)
USB port	Mini USB connector for firmware updates
Dimensions (H x W x D)	54 x 113 x 135 mm (2.1 x 4.4 x 5.3")
Weight	580 g (1.28 lbs)

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION COMPLIANCE INFORMATION



Responsible Party Name: **MUSIC Tribe Brands UK Ltd.**

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Walter Nash Road,
Kidderminster, Worcestershire,
DY11 7HJ United Kingdom**

Phone Number: **+44 1562 732290**

SPECTRADRIVE

complies with the FCC rules as mentioned in the following paragraph:

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at his own expense.

Important information:

Changes or modifications to the equipment not expressly approved by MUSIC Group can void the user's authority to use the equipment.

