

**GECKO® GENESIS AG 400H / AG 700H**

# **OWNER'S MANUAL**



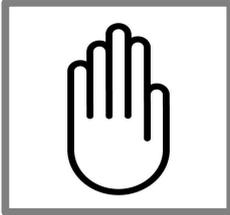
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# GECKO® SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS & SYMBOLS GUIDE

For your own safety and to avoid invalidation of the warranty, all text marked with these symbols should be read carefully.

## SYMBOLS:



### NOTES

Contain important information and useful tips on the operation of your equipment.



### WARNING

The lightning flash with arrowhead symbol within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated dangerous voltage within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock.



### CAUTIONS

The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance. Please read the manual carefully.



### HEADPHONES SAFETY WARNING

Contain important information and useful tips on headphones outputs and monitoring levels.



## SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS:

- To reduce the risk of electrical shock, do not remove covers. No user serviceable parts inside. Please refer servicing to qualified personnel.
- To reduce the risk of electrical shock or fire, do not expose the equipment to rain or moisture.
- Do not impose unnecessary stress on your equipment (i.e. placing heavy objects on it, overscrewing its mounting etc).
- Read and keep the instruction manuals in a safe place for future references.
- Do not attempt to clean the equipment with chemical solvents as this may damage the finish. Clean only with dry cloth.
- Do not block any ventilation openings.
- Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus that produce heat.
- Do not defeat the 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 grounding prong is provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for the replacement of the obsolete outlet.
- Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
- Unplug the apparatus during lightning storms or when it is not in use for a long period of time.

- Use only attachments / accessories specified by the manufacturer.
- Always shut down power supply when not in use to save energy and for prolonged lifespan.
- Exposure to extremely high noise levels may cause permanent hearing loss. Individuals vary considerably in susceptibility to noise-induced hearing loss, but nearly everyone will lose some hearing if exposed to sufficiently intense noise for a period of time. The U.S. Government's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has specified the permissible noise level exposures shown in the following chart. According to OSHA, any exposure in excess of these permissible limits could result in some hearing loss. To ensure against potentially dangerous exposure to high sound pressure levels, it is recommended that all persons exposed to equipment capable of producing high sound pressure levels use hearing protectors while the equipment is in operation. Ear plugs or protectors in the ear canals or over the ears must be worn when operating the equipment in order to prevent permanent hearing loss if exposure is in excess of the limits set forth here:

Duration/Day (Hours)	dB, Sound Pressure Level (SPL)	Descriptions
	Below 90 dB	Safe zone
8.00	90	Hearing damage
6.00	92	
4.00	95	
3.00	97	
2.00	100	Serious hearing damage
1.50	102	
1.00	105	
0.50	110	
0.25 or less	115	Human pain threshold

**GECKO MUSIC GROUP**

No. 59, 59-1, 61, 61-1, 63, 63-1, Jalan PE 3, Taman Paya Emas,  
 Paya Rumput, 76450 Melaka, Malaysia.

Mobile: +6012.204 2175

Email: info@geckomusic.net • Website: www.geckomusic.net

# FOREWORD

Dear Friends,

Thank you very much for purchasing quality products by **GECKO MUSIC GROUP**. I am indeed very delighted that we have journeyed this far, setting new standards in the audio and music industry while touching and changing lives along the way!

At **GECKO MUSIC GROUP** we focus on developing nothing but the best professional audio equipment and premium grade musical instruments you ever need! It has been our philosophy all this while that good sound reproductions can be achieved at a fraction of a premium. Our engineering team is constantly doing research and development to meet this objective. We thank God that by HIS grace, we have succeeded in developing the revolutionary C.R.I.S.T.A.L.® Audiophile technology that is changing the way how sound is being encoded, reproduced and managed!

On behalf of **GECKO MUSIC GROUP**, I would like to pledge our continuing commitment to uphold our traditions in serving music and audio communities around the world with more value-added highest possible quality GECKO® professional audio equipment and premium grade musical instruments!

Once again, thank you very much for your support.

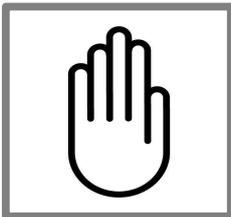
Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Daniel Foo', with a small dot at the end of the final stroke.

Daniel Foo  
Founder / Chairman  
**GECKO MUSIC GROUP**

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**NOTES:** This manual covers the GECKO® GENESIS AG 400H and the GECKO® GENESIS AG 700H. As both devices are virtually identical, this manual will discuss the GECKO® GENESIS AG 700H.

# INTRODUCTION

The latest GECKO® GENESIS series power amplifiers incorporate GECKO®'s unique 3-tier C.R.I.S.T.A.L.® Audiophile Class H output design. This breakthrough design employs 3-layered Class H intelligent audiophile spectrum processing, coupled with advanced system protections and Ultra Quiet Cooling (UQC) system management. This innovative engineering results in thrice the audiophile clarity, greater energy efficiency and very low heat generation whilst maintaining the superb road-worthy performance and reliability. The GECKO® GENESIS C.R.I.S.T.A.L.® Audiophile Class H Power Amplifiers use powerful yet lower weight-to-ratio toroidal transformers, making the amplifiers relatively lighter.

The GECKO® GENESIS C.R.I.S.T.A.L.® Audiophile Class H Power Amplifiers are the first high performance line of amplifiers specifically designed to provide exceptional audiophile reference quality for professional recording/mastering studios, live sound reinforcement, as well as for an audiophile's home applications.

Available models:

GECKO® GENESIS AG 400H C.R.I.S.T.A.L.® Audiophile Class H Power Amplifier;

GECKO® GENESIS AG 700H C.R.I.S.T.A.L.® Audiophile Class H Power Amplifier.

# CONTROL ELEMENTS

## FRONT PANEL



### 1. POWER SWITCH

Push in on the top [I] of the rocker switch to apply AC mains power to the amplifier. Push in on the bottom [O] of the rocker switch to turn the amplifier OFF.

When turned ON, the blue ACTIVE indicator LED and the red PROTECT indicator LED will illuminate while the cooling fans will rotate at higher speed (start up temperature control measure); after 1.5 seconds the red PROTECT indicator will distinguish and the cooling fans enter Ultra Quiet Cooling (UQC) mode.

### 2. COOLING AIR EXHAUST VENTS

Cool air is drawn from the surrounding environment into the rear of the amplifier by the cooling fans, while the warm air exits through the front vents of the amplifier. This process help keeps the amplifier cool.



**CAUTIONS:** Do not block the front or rear air vents!

### 3. LED INDICATORS

#### ACTIVE (BLUE LED)

Illuminates when main power supply is active on a particular channel.

#### PROTECT (RED LED)

The PROTECT indicator lights whenever the OUTPUT is muted by protection circuitry.

#### SIGNAL (GREEN LED)

Shows signal is present on a particular channel.

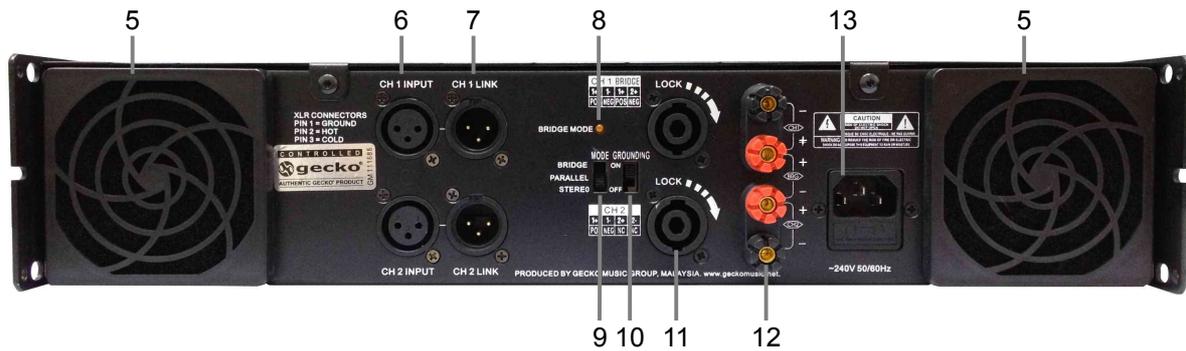
#### CLIP (AMBER LED)

Shows OUTPUT capability is being exceeded, with clipping distortion.

### 4. ATTENUATOR CONTROLS

Turn the ATTENUATOR controls clockwise to increase gain and counter clockwise to decrease gain. The ATTENUATOR controls are marked in dB of attenuation. The maximum clockwise position is 0dB (no attenuation) and maximum counter clockwise position has attenuation of -80dB.

## REAR PANEL



### 5. FAN INLET PORTS & FILTERS

These variable-speed fans provide back to front filtered airflow for clean Ultra Quiet Cooling (UQC). Fan filters (removable without tools) are provided to minimize entry of dust and dirt.

### 6. INPUTS

Two female XLR type INPUT connectors are provided (one per channel).

### 7. LINKS

Two male XLR type LINK connectors are provided (one per channel) to loop-thru signal from one amplifier to another.

### 8. BRIDGE MODE LED

Indicates (amber LED lights up) the amplifier is working in BRIDGE MODE.

### 9. MODE SELECTOR

Select the desired INPUT configuration by sliding the MODE selector to the corresponding position.

BRIDGE - upper position;

PARALLEL - middle position;

STEREO - lower position.

### BRIDGE MODE

This BRIDGE mode setting combines both channels into a single channel with twice the output voltage. Signal is applied to CHANNEL 1's INPUT only. Both ATTENUATORS are used to control signal level; in addition, both must be adjusted to the same setting.

### PARALLEL MODE

This setting connects both INPUTs together. One input signal feeds both channels. Do not connect different sources to each INPUT. Each channel's ATTENUATOR control and speaker connection remain independent. In PARALLEL mode, CHANNEL 1 and CHANNEL 2's INPUTs are internally connected in parallel. Use only one INPUT when operating in PARALLEL mode.

### STEREO MODE

Each channel remains independent, and each may be used for a different signal.



**CAUTIONS:** Use only one INPUT when operating in PARALLEL or BRIDGE mode.

#### 10. GROUNDING ON/OFF SELECTOR

The recessed GROUNDING ON/OFF (factory-set to the 'ground' at [ON] top position) selector electronically connects signal ground to the chassis/AC ground. In a properly designed system (for safety purposes and to minimize noise), amplifiers should be connected to ground through the AC line cord. Also, whenever possible, the signal source equipment should share the same AC ground as the amplifier. In some cases, this may not be possible, and a ground loop results. If this happens, the first step is to slide the GROUNDING selector to the bottom [OFF] position. In this position, the signal ground is lifted and completely isolated from the chassis/AC ground. Do not switch the GROUNDING selector to [OFF] position if the amplifier and the signal source equipment are on the same AC ground. Should the ground loop problem persist after the GROUNDING selector has been set to [OFF] position, then the shield on balanced input lines should be grounded at one end only (usually the signal source).

#### 11. 4-POLE SPEAKON® OUTPUT CONNECTORS

These two connectors accept 2-pole and 4-pole SPEAKON® connectors. The CHANNEL 1 connector is wired for both channels so it can be used for BRIDGE (monaural) wiring or stereo wiring of two speakers to a single SPEAKON®. Be sure to connect the speaker wiring as shown on the chassis. Use either SPEAKON® or BINDING POST output connections for speaker wiring.

#### 12. 5-WAY BINDING POSTS

Connections to the BINDING POSTs can be made with bare wire, banana plugs, or spade lug terminations. Make connections to both CHANNEL 1 and CHANNEL 2 terminals for STEREO or PARALLEL mode, or a single connection across the red ("hot") terminals only for CHANNEL 1 and CHANNEL 2 for BRIDGE (monaural) mode. Use either BINDING POST or SPEAKON® output connections for speaker wiring.



**CAUTIONS:** Do not connect the amplifier's OUTPUT to loads with less than 2Ω impedance.

#### 13. FUSED IEC - AC POWER CORD RECEPTACLE

Plug the AC power cord (supplied) into the GECKO® GENESIS Audiophile Class H Power Amplifiers. Plug the other end into a standard wall power outlet. The fused IEC - AC receptacle protects the amplifier from possible electrical hazards caused by power overload. Take care to route power cables away from audio lines.

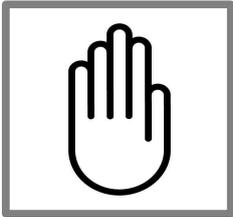


**WARNING:** Be sure to verify your actual line voltage is the same as the voltage level required by your amplifier. Connection to an inappropriate power source may result in fire or electric shock, and extensive damage which is not covered by the warranty.

# OPERATIONS

## **THERMAL PROTECTION WITH ULTRA QUIET COOLING (UQC) SYSTEM**

GECKO® GENESIS series amplifiers use a twin-tunnel forced-air cooling system to maintain a low, even operating temperature. Drawn in by dual 45 cubic feet-per-minute (CFM) fans on the rear panel, air flows through the cooling fins of the channel heat sinks (dissipating power transistor heat), then exhausts through the front panel slots. The “intelligent” variable-speed DC fans are controlled by Ultra Quiet Cooling (UQC) heat sink temperature-sensing circuits. When the amplifier is turned on, the fans briefly “rev up,” then slow to an idle; this indicates that the temperature sensing circuits are operating normally. The fan speed increases only as required by heat sink temperatures, keeping fan noise to a minimum. Under extreme thermal load, the fans will force a very large volume of air through the heat sinks. If either heat sink surpasses the maximum allowed temperature, the Ultra Quiet Cooling (UQC) sensing circuit will open the output relay, disconnecting the load from that channel. If the power transformer overheats, another Ultra Quiet Cooling (UQC) sensing circuit opens both channel output relays until the transformer cools to a safe temperature.



**NOTES:** To ensure optimum cooling, periodically clean the amplifier fan filters (removable without tools). Also make certain that there is enough space around the front of the amplifier to allow the cooling air to escape. If the amplifier is rack-mounted, do not use doors or covers on the front of the rack; the exhaust air must flow out without resistance. If the amplifiers are to be housed in racks with closed backs, allow at least one (1U) standard rack space of opening in the front of the rack for every four amplifiers.

## **SHORT CIRCUIT PROTECTION WITH IMPEDANCE SENSING CIRCUITRY (ISC)**

If an output is shorted (i.e. defective speakers or crossed speaker wires) the Impedance Sensing Circuitry (ISC) and thermal circuits will automatically protect the amplifier. The ISC circuit senses the short circuit as an extremely stressful load condition and attenuates the signal, protecting the channel’s output transistors from over-current stress. If the short circuit remains, the load will be disconnected by the thermal protection circuitry (output relay opens).

## **DC VOLTAGE PROTECTION**

If an amplifier channel detects DC voltage at its output terminals, the output relay will immediately open to prevent speaker damage. The PROTECT LEDs will light.

## **ACTIVE CLIP LIMITING CIRCUITRY (ACLC)**

At the amplifier’s full power limit, or clipping point, Active Clip Limiting Circuitry (ACLC) will be activated. This is indicated by illumination of the CLIP LED. The channel gain is automatically reduced, protecting the speakers from potential damage from the high power, continuous square waves that would otherwise be produced. ACLC may be activated by uncontrolled feedback, oscillations, improper equipment gain settings, or an equipment malfunction upstream from the amplifier. Only steady or excessive clipping (not normal program transients) will trigger ACLC. The circuit is virtually transparent in operation and full signal bandwidth is maintained.

## **SOFT START CIRCUITRY (SSC)**

Soft Start Circuitry (SSC) operates every time the amplifier is turned ON or is reactivated after a protect condition is corrected. The SSC gradually increases gain to the ATTENUATOR setting avoiding unnecessary stress on the speakers.

## **SUBSONIC FREQUENCIES PROTECTION WITH DYNAMIC HIGH PASS FILTER (DHPF)**

Built-in Dynamic High Pass Filter (DHPF) provides subsonic frequency protection for each channel. In addition, a relay will open if excessive subsonic energy appears at the output.

## INPUT/OUTPUT PROTECTION

The amplifier's INPUTs are isolated by accurately-designed resistive filters, which are part of the balanced INPUT circuit. This protects the INPUTs from burn out due to extremely high input signal or RF interference. The amplifier's OUTPUTs are isolated from capacitive and inductive loads by ultrasonic filters that decouple the speaker terminals slightly at frequencies above approximate 60kHz.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

This section contains troubleshooting hints. A problem can usually be isolated by using step-by-step evaluation, and comparing the function of both channels. Please refer to the front and rear illustrations as required.

### POSSIBLE PROBLEM 1 - "NO SOUND"

(i) ACTIVE LED (blue) does not light: Indicates no AC power is present. Check AC plug, AC cord, AC switch, and AC outlet with another device. Check also continuity of the fuse;

(ii) ACTIVE LED (blue) lights: INPUT or OUTPUT is not connected, or the channel is faulty. If one channel is working, use it to test the INPUT and speaker wires from the faulty channel. If there is still no sound, trace those connections back to the preceding unit and speaker to isolate the fault. If the good channel works using the faulty channel's cables, then the fault is somewhere in the faulty channel. Check the soldering on the cable connector (INPUT), and check the connections on the SPEAKON® connectors or the binding post for looseness (OUTPUT). Is the ATTENUATOR control turned up?

### POSSIBLE PROBLEM 2 - "WEAK SOUND"

Usually indicates lack of input signal or incorrect gain adjustment of your source at some point. If the sound is very thin or muffled, suspect that one driver in a multi-way speaker has failed.

### POSSIBLE PROBLEM 3 - "WEAK AND DISTORTED SOUND"

(i) The amplifier's CLIP LED (amber) lights during the distortion usually indicates a shorted speaker cable, and or the speaker is blown out;

(ii) The CLIP LED does not light during the distortion indicates the distortion is happening outside the amplifier. Check for misadjusted or defective units before the amplifier, or bad speakers on the affected channel. Verify that your INPUT gain is in the safe range to prevent overload.

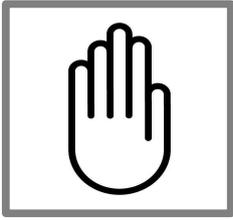
### POSSIBLE PROBLEM 4 - "SOUND CUTS IN AND OUT"

(i) Generally caused by a bad connection somewhere along the system cabling works. To test, jiggle the INPUT/OUTPUT cable near to their connectors, and check if there is an intermittent sound. An intermittent connection to one side of the balanced INPUT can cause a 6dB fluctuation of input level;

(ii) If the sound stops for a minute or two, and then resumes by itself, check the amplifier for overheating. Ensure the amplifier's air vents are not blocked.

### POSSIBLE PROBLEM 5 - "UNWANTED NOISES"

(i) **Hum.** Defined as a fairly rounded 60-cycle tone. Severe hum is usually caused by broken cables or connectors with disconnected ground (shield), and or with corrosion. A mild hum, often with a little more "tone" or harmonic content, is usually the result of ground loops. This problem is caused by 60-cycle magnetic fields, which radiates from power transformers and multiple AC power lines. Try repositioning the signal cables away from the various components.



**NOTES:** Tape recorder heads, phono cartridges, and electric guitar pick-ups are especially sensitive to this type of interference, and must be kept away from high power electronics.

(ii) **Buzz.** Defined as a very “razzy” kind of hum. This is usually caused by interference from solid state light dimmer circuits. Follow the same precautions shown above, and make sure the electronics are not connected to an AC outlet which has a dimmer control.

(iii) **Hiss.** Defined as a smooth “shhh” kind of noise. This is usually caused by electronic equipment with improper impedance values, hence the high noise floor. Match the impedance of your source equipment, speakers, cable and connectors correctly to eliminate the hisses.

(iv) **Crackles.** Defined as a “popcorn” noise. Crackles which occur during audio peaks or when the electronics are vibrated usually indicate bad connections.

## MAKING CONNECTIONS

The GECKO® GENESIS C.R.I.S.T.A.L.® Audiophile Class H Power Amplifiers are designed and conceived for professional recording/mastering studios, live sound reinforcement, as well as for an audiophile's home applications.

For all connections, refer to the following steps:

1. Before connecting the amplifier to speakers and audio devices (i.e. mixing console, equalizers, dynamic processors) be sure that all devices are turned OFF. Also be sure that all of the amplifier's ATTENUATOR controls are set all the way down.
2. Make connections using quality audio cables (i.e. GECKO® TRUTH T3AL and T2) and connectors (i.e. GECKO® OLYMPIAN connectors) according to your requirements.
3. To avoid causing damage to speakers, power up the devices in the following order: Peripheral devices → mixing console → power amplifiers (or powered speakers). When shutting the system down, turn OFF the power in the reverse order: Power amplifiers (powered speakers) → mixing console → peripheral devices.
4. Although it requires no special ventilation, ambient temperatures should not exceed 113°F (45°C) when equipment is powered.

## INSTALLATION AND MOUNTING

The GECKO® GENESIS C.R.I.S.T.A.L.® Audiophile Class H Power Amplifiers are two (2U) standard rack space units. All mountable in standard 19” rack. Four (4) front-panel mounting holes are provided on each amplifier. Rear mounting ears give additional support, and use of rear support is highly recommended in all mobile and touring sound systems.

# SPECIFICATIONS

## Amplifiers:

GECKO® 3-Tier C.R.I.S.T.A.L.® Audiophile Class H

## Frequency Response

18Hz ~ 25kHz

## Rated Outputs:

### GECKO® GENESIS AG 400H:

4Ω: 800W per Channel, 8Ω: 475W per Channel, 8Ω: 1600W (BRIDGED)

### GECKO® GENESIS AG 700H:

4Ω: 1250W per Channel, 8Ω: 775W per Channel, 8Ω: 2400W (BRIDGED)

## Amplifier Protections:

Mid-Point DC Drift, Short Circuit (ISC), Open Circuit, Thermal (UQC), Overload, Clip Limiter (ACLC), Soft Start (SSC), Subsonic (DHPF), Ultrasonic and RF

## Systems:

Impedance Sensing Circuitry (ISC), Ultra Quiet Cooling (UQC), Active Clip Limiting Circuitry (ACLC), Soft Start Circuitry (SSC), Dynamic High Pass Filter (DHPF), GROUNDING ON/OFF, BRIDGE/PARALLEL/STEREO, Energy Efficient/Low Heat Emission Design

## Input Connectors:

XLR Female (2)

## Output Connectors:

4-Pole SPEAKON® (2), 5-Way Gold Binding Post (2 Pairs)

## Link Connectors:

XLR Male (2)

## Physical Properties:

### GECKO® GENESIS AG 400H:

Enclosure: Steel with Brushed Aluminium Faceplate

Color: Metallic Grey

Net Weight: 15.20Kg

Dimension: (H) 90mm x (W) 483mm x (D) 440mm

### GECKO® GENESIS AG 700H:

Enclosure: Steel with Brushed Aluminium Faceplate

Color: Metallic Grey

Net Weight: 18.40Kg

Dimension: (H) 90mm x (W) 483mm x (D) 440mm

Specifications subject to change without prior notice. Manufactured under ISO9000 certified management system.

# GECKO® TERMS OF WARRANTY

## WARRANTY:

GECKO MUSIC GROUP warrants its GECKO® products for a period of three (3) years from the original date of purchase, in accordance to the warranty regulations described below.

## WHAT IS COVERED:

During the applicable warranty period, GECKO MUSIC GROUP warrants the product against defects in materials and workmanship and against malfunctions. GECKO MUSIC GROUP will remedy all such defects and malfunctions without charge for parts or labour if the warranty applies. In the case that other parts are used which constitutes an improvement, GECKO MUSIC GROUP may, at its discretion, charge the customer for the additional cost of these parts. Final determination of warranty coverage lies solely with GECKO MUSIC GROUP.

## WHAT IS NOT COVERED:

1. If the product needs to be modified or adapted in order to comply with applicable technical or safety standards on a national or local level, in any country which is not the country where the product was originally developed and manufactured, this modification/adaptation shall not be considered a defect in material or workmanship.
2. Normal wear and tear, in particular, of faders, cross faders, potentiometers, keys/buttons, valves, guitar/bass strings, machine heads, pick-up covers, vinyl covers, illuminants, and similar parts are not covered by this warranty.
3. Improper handling, neglect or failure to operate the unit in compliance with the instructions given in the user or service manuals.
4. Connection or operation of the unit in any way that does not comply with the technical or safety regulations applicable in the country where the product is used.
5. Damages/defects caused by force of nature or any other condition that is beyond the control of GECKO MUSIC GROUP.
6. Any repair or opening of the unit carried out by unauthorized personnel (user included) will void the warranty.
7. Modification or removal of serial numbers.

## OBTAINING WARRANTY SERVICE:

To return a GECKO® product for warranty service, first fill out the **Online Technical Report** on **[www.geckomusic.net](http://www.geckomusic.net)** and submit for an authorization/service number. Write the authorization/service number so that it is prominently displayed on the outside of the shipping carton. Any products received without an authorization/service number that is clearly visible upon arrival at the factory will be refused. Enclose proof of the original delivery date or a copy of the original sales receipt/invoice. Enclose a description of the suspected defect or malfunction and the condition, if any, which caused the problem. Return the product to GECKO MUSIC GROUP.

## WARRANTY SHIPPING:

You are responsible for prepaying shipping costs F.O.B. GECKO MUSIC GROUP, Melaka, Malaysia. Shipped product(s) must be properly packaged. Use original shipping cartons and packing materials where possible. GECKO MUSIC GROUP is not responsible for damages resulting from inadequate and or improper packing. Products received with damages due to improper packaging will be deemed out of warranty.

Products which do not meet the terms of this warranty will be repaired exclusively at the buyer's expense. GECKO MUSIC GROUP will inform the buyer of such circumstance. If the buyer fails to submit a written repair order within six (6) weeks after notification, GECKO MUSIC GROUP will return the unit C.O.D. with a separate invoice for freight and packing. Such costs will also be invoiced separately when the buyer has sent in a written repair order.

**WARRANTY RIGHTS:**

This warranty is exclusive and extended to the original buyer and is not transferable to anyone who may subsequently purchase this product. No other person (apart from authorized GECKO® Stores) shall be entitled to give any warranty promise on behalf of GECKO MUSIC GROUP.