

Loudspeaker User's Manual



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INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your purchase of a Renkus-Heinz loudspeaker. This manual will help you install and use your Renkus-Heinz loudspeaker properly, so that it delivers years of trouble-free operation and superior performance, as it was designed to.

RIGGING SAFELY

Before hanging or flying any Renkus-Heinz loudspeaker you should be familiar with the cabinet load ratings listed in this manual along with the rigging techniques and any special safety considerations appropriate for your intended use. Use only the UMH points on the loudspeaker cabinet intended for suspending the loudspeaker. You must determine the load requirements, dynamic loading and any other contributing factors affecting the suspended loudspeakers and any necessary safety factor for specific applications. You must also calculate the required load rating of the connection to any structure. Renkus-Heinz recommends that all rigging be done by qualified personnel in accordance with and in compliance with all federal, state and local regulations.

NOTICE: As the installer, you assume all liability for proper design, installation and use of any rigging systems. Renkus-Heinz strongly recommends the following rigging system practices:

1. Thoroughly document your rigging with detailed drawings and parts lists.
2. Have a licensed structural engineer, architect or other qualified professional review and approve the rigging design and any building attachments before you hang the loudspeakers.
3. It is always best to have a qualified professional rigger install and inspect the rigging system.

WARNING! Hanging loudspeakers is a serious undertaking that should be done only by qualified and experienced personnel. Renkus-Heinz is not responsible for any non-Renkus-Heinz products or for any misuse of Renkus-Heinz products.

UNPACKING & CHECKING FOR SHIPPING DAMAGE

Your Renkus-Heinz loudspeaker was completely tested and inspected before leaving the factory. Carefully inspect the shipping carton before opening it, and then immediately inspect your new loudspeaker. If you find any damage notify the shipping company immediately. Only the consignee may institute a claim for damages incurred in shipping. Be sure to save the shipping carton and all packing materials.

SELECTING A POWER AMPLIFIER

Renkus-Heinz loudspeakers have three power specifications: RMS, Program and Peak. The Program rating is printed on the model number sticker on the back of the loudspeaker.

There are several methodologies and standards for rating the power handling of a loudspeaker. The most conservative are the EIA RS-426-A (1980) eight-hour test and the IEC268-1 (1985) 100 hour test. Both use pink noise with a 6dB crest factor, (the voltage of the signal peaks are 6dB greater than the RMS voltage of the noise, as compared to conventional pink noise which has a 12-16dB peak to RMS ratio) however, the frequency spectrum of the stimulus signals differ, with the EIA test being more taxing to woofers and the IEC test being harder on HF drivers.

In both cases what is being measured is the loudspeaker's ability to dissipate heat over a long test period—the thermal power handling. Renkus-Heinz's RMS power ratings are based on these stringent tests.

In 1984, the Audio Engineering Society devised a test standard for loudspeakers which also used 6dB crest factor pink noise, but in limited bands and for a two hour duration. This methodology results in somewhat higher power handling ratings, typically 3dB. Renkus-Heinz's Program ratings are equivalent to AES ratings. Renkus-Heinz's peak ratings are 6dB greater than our RMS ratings, though many manufacturers are rating their loudspeakers at 6dB above the shorter-duration AES rating. Using the more conservative peak rating better insures the long-term survival of drivers in high output usages.

When selecting a power amplifier for your loudspeaker you should consider the needs of your specific application. To provide the full output capability of your loudspeaker, you should choose an amplifier whose RMS output rating falls between the RMS and Program ratings of the loudspeaker. This means the amplifier's peak output may exceed the capacity of the loudspeaker. Factory-calibrated Loudspeaker Specific Processing in a Renkus-Heinz controller will always deliver the most reliable protection for your loudspeaker along with the best possible sound.

CONNECTING TO AN AMPLIFIER

Renkus-Heinz loudspeakers are available with four types of connectors; four- or eight-pole Neutrik SpeakOn connectors, terminal barrier strip, or rubber-jacketed wire pig-tail. The model/serial number label lists the connections for proper hook-up. We use the same numbering conventions for SpeakOn and terminal strip connectors: See Table 1 for proper wiring instructions. Pig-tail connections are color coded:

the proper wiring is shown on the model number plate. Always use crimp-on terminals with the terminal strip connections - do not connect bare wire.

It's possible that your speaker was specially ordered with a different type of connector, so always be sure to check the model number plate on your loudspeaker and follow the wiring diagram and instructions it displays.

Table 1

Loudspeaker Type	Terminal or SpeakOn Connection			
	1+, 1-	2+, 2-	3+, 3-	4+, 4-
Fully Passive	Full Range	Not Used		
Bi-Amp, Two-way	Low	High		
Bi-Amp, Three-way	Low	Mid/High		
Tri-Amp, Three-way	Low	Low *	Mid	High
Subwoofer	Woofer 1	Woofer 2 *		
Passive Mid/High		Mid/High		
Active Mid/High	Mid **	High **	Mid ***	High ***

Notes:

Standard connections shown. Check model plate for your specific connection!

* When woofers wired separately

** Terminal strip or SpeakOn NL4 connection

*** SpeakerOn NL8 connection (Touring products)

OPERATING TIPS

- Don't drive any of your electronic equipment into clipping, particularly the power amplifiers. This can damage your loudspeaker.
- If driven into clipping, even the amplifier with a power output rating lower than Renkus-Heinz's power rating can cause damage to a loudspeaker.
- Avoid sustained microphone feedback. This may cause failure of mid and high frequency drivers.
- Avoid extreme boosts on equalizers as these can cause excessive input to the drivers at the boosted frequencies. Cutting frequencies is preferred to correct for frequency response problems. These problems include attenuating feedback frequencies or reducing excessive energy at certain frequencies due to room acoustics.
- Your loudspeaker should sound very good. However, even the finest loudspeaker won't sound good in a room with poor acoustics. There is little you can do to overcome room acoustic problems with electronic adjustments. Carefully placing and aiming of the loudspeaker so that most of the sound is directed only at the audience is helpful in difficult rooms.
- Renkus-Heinz loudspeakers are capable of sound levels that can damage human hearing. Take precautions so that audiences are not exposed to such levels. If you must expose yourself to these kinds of volume levels, wear hearing protection.
- Be careful when moving or lifting the loudspeaker. Careless handling could result in injury to you or damage to the loudspeaker.

SWITCHING TO BI-AMPLIFIED OPERATION

Some Renkus-Heinz loudspeaker models can be switched from fully passive operation using the internal crossover to bi-amplified operation using an external controller/crossover/DSP unit. These models can be identified by a round indicator window below the model name on the input connector panel. If you choose to use your loudspeaker in the bi-amplified mode, be sure to use a Renkus-Heinz controller or obtain the DSP settings for your model from Renkus-Heinz. Be sure to follow the section on setting limiters in this manual if you choose to use your own DSP unit. Your loudspeaker will have shipped wired for fully passive use, to convert to bi-amplified usage, follow these steps.

- 1) Remove the screws holding the input panel to the loudspeaker cabinet and then carefully remove the panel from the cabinet. A loudspeaker cable plugged into one of the inputs makes a handy "handle" for this procedure. See *figure one*.

Figure 1



- 2) On the inside of the connector panel, you'll find a PC board and two connectors. The two position connector will have a cable assembly plugged into it with the wires leading to the passive crossover. The four position connector will be empty. *Circled in Figure 2.*
- 3) Follow the wires to the passive crossover. Unplug the two-wire cable assembly from the crossover network by squeezing the locking tabs on either side. *Circled in Figure 3.*
- 4) On the other end of the crossover network will be a four-wire cable assembly with the wires leading from the network to the individual components. Unplug this cable in the same manner. *Indicated by arrow in Figure 3.*
- 5) Plug this four pin connector into the four pin receptacle on the input connector panel. The connector is keyed and will only insert the correct way. *Circled in Figure 4.*
- 6) Neatly tie the unused two-conductor wire harness to the panel so it's available if it is ever desired to convert the loudspeaker back to fully passive operation. *Indicated by arrow in Figure 4.*
- 7) Reinstall the input connector panel. Be careful not to over tighten the screws as you may strip the cabinet wood. Note that you can now see the white connector through the window indicating that the loudspeaker is configured for bi-amplified use. *Circled in Figure 5.*
- 8) If you want to convert the loudspeaker back to fully passive operation, simply reverse these steps.



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

LIMITER CALIBRATION

You can use other signal processors with Renkus-Heinz loudspeakers, but in order to protect them from damage, you must do your best to re-create the process Renkus-Heinz Engineering uses to set up the limiters. The following procedure is as close as you can get without access to the specialized equipment we use at the factory.

You will need a sine wave generator (or a test CD with sine waves of various frequencies) and a volt meter.

- 1) Set up your system's gain structure.
- 2) Disconnect the loudspeakers from the amplifier. Do not set the limiters with the loudspeakers connected - you will damage the loudspeakers. This damage is not covered by our warranty!
- 3) Feed a sine wave signal into the amplifier. Use a frequency in the lower part of the driver's pass band: 60 Hz for subwoofers, 200 Hz for lows and fully passive speakers, 1 kHz for mid-ranges or mid-highs and 2.5 kHz for compression drivers.
- 4) Connect the volt meter to the amplifier outputs.
- 5) Check Table 2 for the maximum RMS voltage that should reach the loudspeaker based on its Program power rating. Raise the level of the signal generator until the volt meter reads two or three volts above the specified voltage.
- 6) Reduce the threshold control of the limiter until the voltmeter reading is at or below the maximum from Table 2.

Table 2

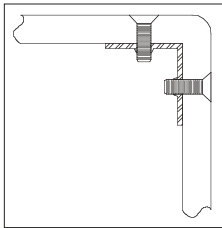
Loudspeaker Program Power Rating	Maximum Amplifier Output			
	Max. VRMS 8 Ohms	Max. VRMS 4 Ohms	Max. P - P Voltage 8 Ohms	Max. P - P Voltage 4 Ohms
40	13	9	51	36
60	15	11	62	44
120	22	15	88	62
140	24	17	95	67
160	25	18	101	72
200	28	20	113	80
260	32	23	129	91
300	35	24	139	98
350	37	26	150	106
400	40	28	160	113
500	45	32	179	126
520	46	32	182	129
600	49	35	196	139
700	53	37	212	150
800	57	40	226	160
1040	64	46	258	182
1400	75	53	299	212
1600	80	57	320	226

FOR OTHER POWERS: VRMS = SQRT ((PROGRAM POWER/2) x Z)

Following the above procedure will provide some protection against overpowering and damaging your loudspeakers. It is important to note that if your amplifier is capable of peak-to-peak voltages in excess of those in the table, you also need to provide fast acting peak limiters for your system. Renkus-Heinz controllers have all these functions incorporated into their design and only Loudspeaker Specific Processing calibrated at the Renkus-Heinz factory satisfies the terms of our warranty. If you use third party processing that is calibrated in the field, you will not be able to obtain warranty replacements for blown speaker components.

If you do not need the full output of the loudspeaker for your application you can save money by using a smaller amplifier. You will still get the best performance with Renkus-Heinz Loudspeaker Specific Processing.

USING THE UNIVERSAL MOUNTING HARDWARE ATTACHMENT POINTS



WARNING! Hanging loudspeakers is a serious undertaking that should be performed only by qualified and experienced personnel. An architect or structural engineer should verify any building attachment points. Renkus-Heinz is not responsible for any non-Renkus-Heinz products or for any misuse of Renkus-Heinz products. This publication gives general information only and is not a manual for rigging or overhead suspension.

Installation versions of Renkus-Heinz loudspeakers typically have 12 threaded UMH attachment points. You can install forged, load-rated shoulder eye bolts (available from Renkus-Heinz) into these points for use in hanging the loudspeaker. Never suspend a loudspeaker from unrated hardware. Figure 1 shows a sectional view of a UMH attachment bracket. While the UMH brackets are glued in at the factory, we still recommend that you remove adjacent bolts one at a time so that there is no danger of pushing the bracket into the cabinet accidentally.

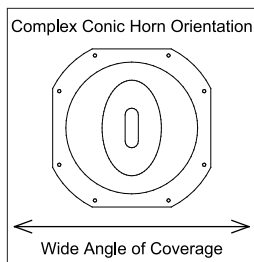
Renkus-Heinz recommends the following maximum working loads per loudspeaker cabinet when using Renkus-Heinz supplied eye bolts: 1/4-20 or M6 thread - 270lbs/122kg, 3/8-16 or M10 thread - 450lbs/204kg. You should use a minimum of two of the UMH points to suspend any Renkus-Heinz loudspeaker. Always use thread locking compound for any eyebolts or other fasteners used to suspend loudspeakers.

U-BRACKET AND LOUDSPEAKER MOUNTING HARDWARE

If you ordered your loudspeaker with optional u-bracket or speaker mounting hardware, your loudspeaker will ship with flat head bolts installed in the attachment points. These flat head bolts are installed as place holders and are not intended for use with the brackets. Use the bolts that come with the u-bracket assembly to attach the loudspeaker. See the instruction sheet enclosed with the brackets for details.

If your loudspeaker was shipped with a compatible nut plate for use with the OmniMount or Allen Products MultiMount, you can use the bolts installed in the nut plate to attach the loudspeaker to the mount.

COMPLEX CONIC HORN ORIENTATION



Most of Renkus-Heinz's Complex Conic horns are physically symmetrical and designed to allow rotation within the enclosure. Figure 2 shows the Complex Conic horn orientation. For wide horizontal dispersion, the diffraction slot in the throat should be vertical.

Our unique TRue Array Principle design requires that Complex Conic horns be oriented with the narrow angle of coverage horizontal. When you order a Reference Point Array, we ship the loudspeakers with the horns in this orientation (diffraction slot horizontal). If you ordered single loudspeakers, the horns will be installed for conventional cabinet vertical/horn horizontal installation. If you wish to use a "tight-packed" array, or install the enclosures in a horizontal position while maintaining wide horizontal coverage, you can easily rotate the horns.

Rotating a Complex Conic horn is easy. First remove the grill. Then remove the eight flat head bolts securing the horn to the cabinet. Gently pull the horn out of the cabinet just enough to clear the cut-out, rotate the horn 90 degrees and replace it in the cutout. Finally, reinstall the bolts and the grill.

LOUDSPEAKERS WITH TRANSFORMERS INSTALLED

Renkus-Heinz loudspeakers are available with transformers installed for use with 70.7V and 100V constant voltage systems. The power rating on the model number plate will list the wattage tap and voltage for the factory installed transformer.

TROUBLESHOOTING TIPS

The two most useful trouble shooting tools are a known good loudspeaker and a known good source. The loudspeaker doesn't have to be especially big, an SGX61 would be fine. And the source could be a portable CD player or iPod with some adaptor cables and a small power amplifier. Using these tools and the troubleshooting chart below, you should be able to diagnose most any problem you may have with your system.

Troubleshooting tips chart

Troubleshooting Problem	Externally Powered Loudspeakers	Self-Powered Loudspeakers
No Sound.	<p>Check to be sure the amplifier is on.</p> <p>Check all cables for clean tight connection to the correct terminals.</p> <p>Check any head-end equipment, is there a mute engaged in a DSP for example.</p> <p>Unplug the speaker cable at the loudspeaker and plug it into a known good speaker. If still no sound, problem is upstream in the electronics. If the known good speaker works, see the section on evaluating failed loudspeakers.</p>	<p>Check to be sure the amplifier is on.</p> <p>Check all cables for clean tight connection to the correct terminals.</p> <p>Check any head-end equipment, is there a mute engaged in a DSP for example.</p> <p>Unplug the signal cable at the loudspeaker and plug it into a known good amplifier & speaker. If still no sound, problem is upstream in the electronics. If the known good speaker works, see the section on evaluating failed loudspeakers.</p>
Distorted Sound.	<p>Make sure no electronics are being over-driven or are clipping--check your gain structure.</p> <p>Unplug the speaker cable at the loudspeaker and plug it into a known good speaker. If the sound is still distorted, problem is upstream in the electronics. If the known good speaker is undistorted, see the section on evaluating failed loudspeakers.</p>	<p>Make sure no electronics are being over-driven or are clipping--check your gain structure.</p> <p>Unplug the signal cable at the loudspeaker and plug it into a know good amplifier & speaker. If the sound is still distorted, problem is upstream in the electronics. If the known good speaker is undistorted, see the section on evaluating failed loudspeakers.</p>
No highs or no lows.	<p>Check any upstream DSP for high-pass or low-pass filters or EQ. On bi-amplified systems, check all connections, be sure nothing is muted.</p>	<p>Check any upstream DSP for high-pass or low-pass filters or EQ. Check to be sure none of the channels are muted on the amplifier.</p>
High frequencies cut off and then come back after a few minutes, then cut off again.	<p>Most Renkus-Heinz loudspeakers are equipped with self-resetting circuit breakers for high frequency driver protection. If it is tripping, it is a sign that you are overpowering the HF driver. This is most commonly caused by using excessive high frequency equalization boost. Reduce or eliminate any HF boost you are sending to the loudspeaker and/or reduce the overall drive level.</p>	<p>Some of Renkus-Heinz' self-powered loudspeakers are equipped with self-resetting circuit breakers for high frequency driver protection. If it is tripping, it is a sign that you are overpowering the HF driver. This is most commonly caused by using excessive high frequency equalization boost. Reduce or eliminate any HF boost you are sending to the loudspeaker and/or reduce the overall drive level.</p>
Bi-amplified loudspeaker lacking both low and high frequencies. Response seems limited to 200 Hz to 5-7 kHz.	<p>The outputs of the controller/crossover/DSP are reversed; the high frequencies are going to the woofer and the low frequencies are going to the Mid-High or High frequency driver.</p>	N/A
Bi-amplified loudspeaker has a large dip in it's response at the crossover frequency.	<p>Check polarity of each section and check to be sure that the correct woofer delay is entered in any third-party DSP crossovers.</p>	N/A
RPA Cluster has large peaks and dips in the frequency response in areas between adjacent loudspeakers.	<p>Check polarity on all cluster elements. If you are not using a Renkus-Heinz controller, be sure to carefully use the recommended DSP settings. Make sure that all amplifier channels have the same voltage gain. Be certain that loudspeakers are assembled in the correct order.</p>	<p>Check polarity on all cluster elements. Make sure that all volume controls are set the same. Be certain that loudspeakers are assembled in the correct order.</p>

EVALUATING FAILED EXTERNALLY POWERED LOUDSPEAKERS

If you've followed the troubleshooting steps above and have found a loudspeaker with a problem, here's how to narrow it down to order the correct replacement parts.

You'll need your known good source and amplifier and a volt-ohm meter.

Remove the grill from the loudspeaker and then remove the woofer and/or the horn & driver, depending on which component you suspect has failed. Carefully note the wire colors and terminal colors or sizes so that you can properly reconnect everything. Note: in many cases the HF driver is intentionally out of polarity with the woofer or mid frequency loudspeaker, this is not a defect and any replacement devices must be connected in the same manner when reassembling the loudspeaker.

Using your ohm meter on a low ohms scale, measure across the terminals of the suspected component. The DC resistance of the voice coil should be a little less than the nominal impedance of the loudspeaker. Three ohms or so for a four ohm loudspeaker, six ohms or so for an eight ohm loudspeaker and 12 ohms or so for a 16 ohm loudspeaker. For woofers, carefully move the cone in and out by hand, the resistance value should not change.

If the resistance is very low, just a couple of ohms or less, this indicates a shorted voice coil. If the resistance is very high or open, the voice coil has failed open. In either case, the loudspeaker must be replaced, re-coned or have its diaphragm replaced if it's a high frequency driver. Contact Renkus-Heinz for replacement parts.

If the resistances are okay, set up your signal source and amplifier to play music a low level, 1 V RMS at the amplifier output is a good level which will not damage any pro-audio component even without a crossover in place. Listen to each component by itself; each should sound clean and undistorted. Any distortion, rubbing or buzzing indicates a failure. Contact Renkus-Heinz for replacement parts.

If the individual components check out okay, but the loudspeaker still fails to function properly, there may be a problem with the passive crossover network - if one is installed. Note that crossover failures are exceedingly rare and are almost always accompanied by driver failures due to extreme over-powering. Without test equipment, it's difficult to test a crossover network properly, but a visual inspection will catch most problems. Look for components with damaged lead wires, burnt traces on the PC board or charred or darkened components. If any of these are found, contact Renkus-Heinz for replacement parts.

EVALUATING FAILED SELF-POWERED LOUDSPEAKERS

Self-powered loudspeakers can be checked using most of the same techniques listed above, but with some differences and extra cautions.

First, use the mute switches on the amplifier to narrow the problem down to just the component or components that have failed.

Before removing the grill or any components, be sure the power has been disconnected from the loudspeaker. High voltages are present inside the cabinet and you could be injured or killed if you don't heed this warning. Switching off the power switch does not remove this hazard; you must disconnect the power from the loudspeaker completely.

Removing the grill and checking the individual components is done in the same manner as for externally powered loudspeakers. Some self-powered loudspeakers have passive crossover networks and these can be inspected in the same manner as well.

Some self-powered loudspeakers have removable input and control modules. Swapping these modules from a known good amplifier of the same type can narrow down the problem to an amplifier or module. Be careful when plugging and unplugging ribbon connectors so as not to damage the cable or the connectors or bend any of the pins.

If you suspect an amplifier problem do not disassemble the amplifier. There are no user serviceable parts in the amplifier. The entire unit must be returned to Renkus-Heinz for repair or replacement. Advance replacement may be available, contact Renkus-Heinz for details.

Renkus-Heinz Painting Guidelines

While most installing contractors take advantage of Renkus-Heinz's Custom Paint option, it is sometimes necessary to paint a loudspeaker cabinet in the field. Please use this document as a guide to achieving the best possible finish on your field painted loudspeaker.

1. Paint Choice

- a. Renkus-Heinz wooden enclosures are painted with a high-solids content, water based enamel. Metal parts and enclosures are powder-coated. In both cases they can be over-coated with any high quality water or alkyd based paint.

2. Surface preparation

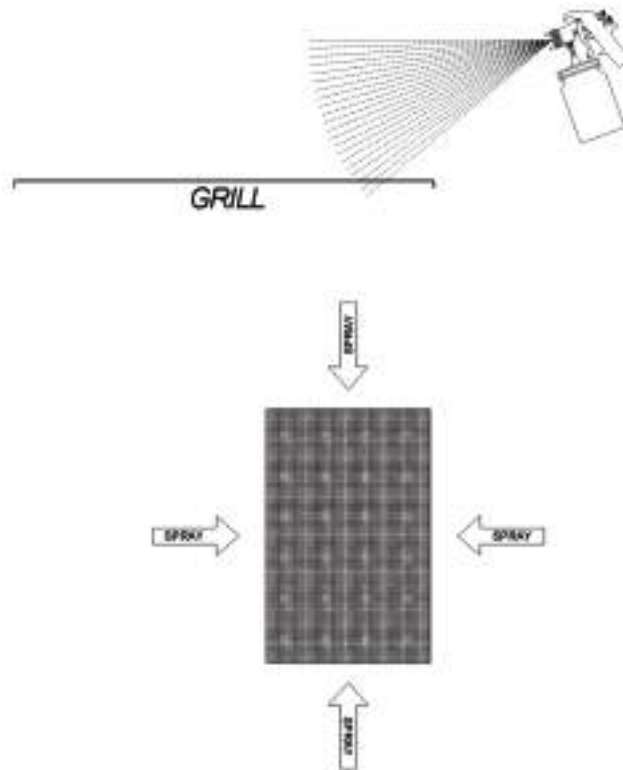
- a. Previously painted or powder-coated surfaces need only to have the gloss removed with fine sandpaper or a Scotch-Bright pad. This will allow the new finish to adhere to the old.
- b. Cabinets that are purchased unfinished are ready to paint with no further sanding needed.
- c. Priming is not generally required.

3. Painting method

- a. On wooden cabinets, paint can be applied with any method, brush, roller or spray. Metal cabinets look best when sprayed.

4. Painting the grills

- a. Painting the grill is the most challenging part of refinishing a loudspeaker. Grills **MUST** be sprayed. Here are the steps necessary to properly paint a grill.
- i. Lightly sand or Scotch-Bright the grill to remove the gloss of the finish.
 - ii. Degrease the grill with mineral sprits or alcohol and allow to completely dry.
 - iii. Spray the grill at a low angle so the paint enters the holes in the grill.
 - iv. You will need to apply eight light coats of paint to the grill, four coats on the back, one from each direction; and four more on the front, again, one from each direction.
 - v. If you don't get the paint all the way into the holes in the grill, the grill will appear to change color as the observer moves off axis.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Renkus-Heinz is dedicated to working with you to solve sound reinforcement problems, whenever and wherever they arise. If you have any questions not answered by this manual, please contact the factory at the numbers or addresses below.

