

## EXCELSIOR MIDIVOX "Serie II" CONDENSED INSTRUCTIONS

(To be used side by side to the Operating Guide)

- 1) Make all connections when mains power is off.
- 2) At power up the accordion is set to POLY Mode by default: "POLY" and "TREBLE" lights come on.

The following controls are available in POLY Mode:

EDIT	To enter EDIT Mode (see later)
PRESET	To enter PRESET Mode (see later)
B.OCT	To transpose the Bass range one octave up
T.OFF	Treble Off. Switches off midi transmission from the treble keyboard.
CONST	To switch off swell pedal volume control over Bass and Chord sounds.
POLY	- When off, switches to OMNI Mode (see later in EXPANDER SET -UP)
TREBLE	Also called "section switches". They select the section CHORD(or Midi Channel) where the Program Change Messages are BASSsent, thus allowing separate effect selection for treble, bass and chord sounds. Please note that the expander units must be able to recognize Midi Program Change Messages separately over the proper Channels (see later: EXPANDER SET-UP).
SOLO	The SOLO section sends midi information related to the treble keyboard over Midi Ch. #4. At power off the SOLO section is not enabled and no messages are sent over Midi Ch. #4.

Press "SOLO" to enable the SOLO section: the red light comes on and all information related to the treble keyboard are now sent over CH. #1 and CH. #4 simultaneously.

If the expander units connected to the accordion are correctly programmed, it is possible to get two different sounds at the same time playing on the right hand side.

The "SOLO" switch has a double function: it works as section switch like "TREBLE", "CHORD" and "BASS" to allow separate effect selection for the SOLO section (Midi Ch. #4), and also as ON/OFF to enable or disable Midi transmission over Ch. #4.

When "SOLO" is on, if you want to select a different section without disabling Solo transmission, press another section switch (i.e. TREBLE, CHORD, or BASS).

The SOLO light goes off, but the operation over Midi Ch. #4 is still enabled.

Instead, when "SOLO" is on, if you want to switch off midi transmission over CH.#4, press "SOLO" once more : the red light goes off and the TREBLE light comes on.

BANK	Bank Hold : useful when selecting effects and presets. See OPERATING GUIDE for more details.
+64	To be used in conjunction with the numbered pushbuttons, to select up to 128 effects or presets.
1	Numbered pushbuttons. In POLY Mode they are used to
2	select effect numbers which will be sent to the expander
3	units over the midi channel selected by the section
4	switch (TREBLE: Ch.#1, CHORD: Ch.#2, BASS: Ch.#3, SOLO
5	Ch.#4).
6	Always a two-digit number must be selected (octal code).
7	See the OPERATING GUIDE (page 4-6) for larger details 8and a useful cross-table.

### 3) OPERATION IN EDIT MODE.

In EDIT Mode it is possible to store up to 128 "presets" or, in better words, combinations of effects for all four sections, which can be recalled during a musical performance in a very simple way.

Professional players can store their own combinations of effects, and won't have to worry any more about switching the right effects for each section during their performances.

Thank to the VLS system (Volume Level Scaling) it is also possible to store,

along with presets, also volume information for each section. All information are stored into a permanent RAM block, and will be retained until you decide to change them. They can be edited, modified and deleted as you like.

Mind that in EDIT mode some of the pushbuttons switch to a different function: those are PRESET, T.OFF, CONST, POLY and BANK which become respectively COMP(are), ERASE, VLS, SAVE, COPY.

To store your presets, operate according to the following instructions:

- 1) From POLY Mode, enter EDIT Mode pressing "EDIT": the Poly and Treble lights go off, and the EDIT light comes on.
- 2) Select the preset number you want to create. The preset number is selected according to the usual octal codification (two digits) and it represents the memory location where the preset information will be stored to.
- 3) Select a section switch, i.e. TREBLE, CHORD, BASS or SOLO, according to the section in which you want to select an effect. The proper section light comes on.
- 4) Select the effect number following the usual codification (two digit octal number). After selecting the number, the section light goes off to signal that data have been accepted.
- 5) Select another section switch if you want to store effects in other sections, and then repeat from step 4). Otherways, go to the following step.6) Press SAVE to store the preset in memory.
- 7) Repeat from step 2) in case you wish to store other information. Mind that if you select the same memory location as before, the new datas will overwrite the previously stored ones.
- 8) Leave the EDIT mode switching off "EDIT".  
You are now in POLY Mode as before. If you want to use your stored presets you must leave the POLY mode and enter the PRESET mode: see the proper chapter below.

#### Use Of The Volume Level Scaling Function (VLS)

VLS function allows the user to store volume information along with presets. Mind that the VLS function works only if the expander unit recognizes the Control Change #7 Midi Message - if the volume swell pedal works, it does.

VLS operation must be accomplished in EDIT mode. When creating presets, you can store volume information or not. You can even add volume information to an already stored preset.

How to add volume information to an already stored preset:

- 1) Enter EDIT mode.
- 2) Select the preset number.
- 3) Select the section where you want to vary the volume level.
- 4) Press "VLS": the VLS light comes on.
- 5) Select a number from 1 to 8 (just one!) according to the followings:
  - "1" means 100% of the relative volume level (no variation);
  - "2" means 90% of the relative volume level;
  - "3" means 80% of the relative volume level;
  - "4" means 70% of the relative volume level;
  - "5" means 60% of the relative volume level;
  - "6" means 50% of the relative volume level;
  - "7" means 40% of the relative volume level;
  - "8" means 30% of the relative volume level;The VLS light goes off.
- 6) If necessary repeat from step 3) for other sections.
- 7) Press "SAVE" to save the updated preset.
- 8) If necessary repeat from step 2) for other presets.
- 9) Leave the EDIT mode switching "EDIT" off.

Steps from 2) to 6) can be also executed during preset creation, along with effect storing.

For larger details, see the OPERATING GUIDE, pages 8-9.

#### Further Information About EDIT Mode

Already stored presets can be easily modified simply writing over them.

But, if you want to erase a preset entirely, you must use the ERASE function.

See the OPERATING GUIDE at page 9, par. 5.3, lines 9-26, for use of COMP(are), COPY and ERASE functions.

#### IMPORTANT:

If you find out that after operating the ERASE switch you can't go on storing new information under the same preset number or you can't select any other preset, that means that your accordion is equipped with the first firmware release.

In this case, to get the proper operation, operate as follows:

- 1) Press "EDIT";
- 2) Select the preset to be ERASED;
- 3) Press "ERASE";
- 4) Press "SAVE"
- 5) Select same preset number to store new information in the erased preset, or
- 6) Select new preset number to be erased or edited.

Steps 4) and 5) are not necessary if your accordion is equipped with the latest firmware release. (Released since Sept. 12, 1988).

#### 4) OPERATION IN PRESET MODE

This is the mode of operation that must be entered if you want to use the presets stored in EDIT Mode.

To enter the PRESET Mode, press the "PRESET" switch.

The PRESET light comes on.

In PRESET mode the "TREBLE", "CHORD" and "BASS" switches are not enabled. The "SOLO" switch works only as "SOLO Section On/Off".

All other controls work as in POLY Mode, but the numbered pushbuttons, which now select the stored presets instead of single effects.

In better words, each number you select will point to a memory location: any of the information (effects and/or VLS) it retains will be recalled and the expander units will be set accordingly.

If no information is retained (preset still clear or erased), nothing will happen.

If you stored full information for Treble, Chord, Bass and Solo including effects and volumes (VLS) into a preset, with a simple preset selection (a two digit number) you will change effects and volume in all sections, all at the same time!

Though presets can be accessed only in PRESET mode, the pedal switch "PRESET UP" will always scan and recall stored preset upwords, even if the accordion is set to POLY mode.

This gives you the freedom to select presets and/or single effects during your performance, without need of mode switching.

For a proper use of the "PRESET UP" switch, see the Operating Guide, page 7.

#### 5) EXPANDER SET-UP

MIDI-wise, the accordion is actually a four section Midi Master Keyboard. It can send all information over four Midi Channels, thus to get full operation, the expander or expanders connected through the MIDI line must be programmed to receive information over the proper channels.

See the MIDIVOX Midi Chart (last page of Operation Guide) to learn about the Midi Messages transmitted by the MIDIVOX accordions.

Nowadays, the most of expander units available on the market are multi-instrument expanders, that is they can receive information over more than one channel and can generate different sounds at the same time. The only limit is polyphony, that is the number of tones which can play simultaneously.

The player must be aware of this fact when selecting the expander unit to be used with his MIDIVOX.

Infact, the cheapest 8-note-polyphony expanders may not give a full featured operation, as the accordion naturally needs 4 notes for the left hand side and 5 for the right hand (total 9).

Moreover, a few notes (3 or 4) should be assigned to the SOLO section to get this section work.

Thus we recommend the use of one 16-notes-polyphony expander or two 8-notes polyphony units.

A reduced polyphony may also give good outcomes, but in this case a cut-off of overlapping notes may sometime result.

Multi-instrument expanders need to be programmed into partitions (instruments) to operate over different midi channels simultaneously.

A simple programming for an 8-note expander unit is the following:

INSTRUMENT OR PARTITION #1 : Midi Ch. 1 (TREBLE), No. of notes:3;

INSTRUMENT OR PARTITION #2 : Midi Ch. 2 (CHORD) , No. of notes:3;

INSTRUMENT OR PARTITION #3 : Midi Ch. 3 (BASS) , No. of notes:1;

INSTRUMENT OR PARTITION #4 : Midi Ch. 4 (SOLO) , No. of notes:1.

This kind of programming allows use of SOLO section too, with the limit of one note of polyphony.

The TREBLE section has a 3-note polyphony, which may be acceptable, provided you do not play with full hand.

When notes overlap , a certain cut-off may happen, even in other sections, depending on the expander key-assigning routine.

THIS IS NOT A DEFECT OF THE MIDIVOX SYSTEM!

See carefully your expander operating guide for understanding correct operation.

Also, for correct operation of the Midivox system, you must check the followings:

- 1) Your expander must recognize volume control under MIDI Control Change #7 Message;
- 2) Your expander must recognize Program Change Messages over four channels separately (INDIVIDUAL);
- 3) Your expander must comply with the standard rule of MIDI Spec. 1.0 which states that " no status byte is needed if not changed from the last midi message received".

#### OMNI MODE

Switching off "POLY", the accordion is set to Omni On (Poly Off) mode.

When in Omni mode, all information regarding notes and effects related to BASS, CHORD and TREBLE sections are sent over Ch.1 only. The SOLO section, instead, works as usual. When switching from Omni to Poly and backwards, a Midi Mode Message is sent through Channels 1,2,3.

If the expander unit can recognize those messages, it too switches to Omni mode thus keeping the full polyphony.

But, if the expander unit can't work in Omni mode, or it doesn't recognize Mode switching messages, it still keeps the same partition and, supposing we programmed it as above, only INSTRUMENT #1 will be able to receive information over Ch.1.

The result is that only a single instrument of only 3 note-polyphony will play under control of the accordion, with severe note limitations.

Also, Midi codes actually assigned to the accordion treble and bass keys may cause some problems when operating in Omni mode.

Infact, according to the natural range of chords in the accordion, some of the treble keys have the same code (same pitch) as those forming chords. Thus, when chord and treble sections send messages over the same channel (that's the case when in Omni mode), inevitably the two section interfere, causing random cut -off of respective tones. Please be aware of the above facts, when switching to Omni mode.

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The above instructions do not replace the MIDIVOX Operating Guide

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