

Concorde + Treble Booster

History:

The Concorde+ Treble Booster is housed in the new **Vision Series** enclosure design and uses both silicon and germanium transistors in a unique configuration to obtain the best tone qualities from the marriage. When I first started designing pedals in 1961 I produced a Treble Booster that was tried and used by my friends including Jimmy Page who then played in local bands. The circuit configuration I used was a standard textbook example but required careful attention to biasing and selection of transistors to obtain the best from this simple circuit. There were many subsequent commercial versions produced in the 1960's of this type of circuit that followed after the time I first designed mine and now I have designed and produced a much more flexible and enhanced version of my early design. The modern clones produced today of the ultra simple 1960 type treble boosters lack in flexibility and in my opinion are of very limited use. The Concorde + however departs from the clones and uses a unique approach of combining a low noise class A silicon drive circuit with passive tone shaping to drive a fully optimised germanium treble booster. This results in giving the simple circuit new life and explores its sonic boundaries to the maximum. It is now possible to add drive and distortion with EQ before the treble booster section .It is also possible to set the silicon drive section to drive the treble booster section much harder than any guitar pickup could ever do without any added distortion but with the added feature of having EQ prior to the treble booster. So if you want the qualities of soft germanium type distortion overload characteristics that this circuit will produce or you want to explore the more radical germanium distortion possibilities the Concorde+ will oblige. The front panels controls of **Drive, Tone** and **Output** control the many tone variations and brings the humble treble booster forward to the future.

The Concorde+ comes in a brand new enclosure design with many added extras to help the modern musician. Many players demand a package that is more modern, flexible and pedal board friendly and will welcome the additional features.

CONCORDE + FRONT PANEL CONTROLS:

DRIVE: The operational window has been carefully adjusted to set the gain of the silicon 1st stage to drive the treble booster section with clean signal levels that are higher than those obtained from the guitar's pickups. When the drive is increased from it's minimum setting the 1st stage will begin to distort and you now are in the new territory of having smooth distortion followed by EQ and then the treble booster section. This area of operation is very useful as the germanium output stage is driven harder. So it is possible to set the DRIVE control to produce clean treble booster action with enhanced drive and EQ or have a combination both silicon and germanium distortion with inter stage EQ. This unique set up gives brand new life and tone variation.

TONE: This controls the inter stage passive equalisation between the 1st stage Silicon Drive section and the final Germanium treble booster section. It has been carefully voiced to give a very musical and useful tool when setting up the final desired tone.

OUTPUT: This controls the final output level, which has enough output level capability to overdrive the 1st stage of the amplifier being used.

VISION SERIES ENCLOSURE ADDITIONAL FEATURES:

MULTI-MODE OUTPUTS / HARD WIRE BYPASS/ TWO BUFFERED OUTPUTS :

The Concorde + has three outputs, a true hard wire output plus two buffered outputs that can drive long cable lengths with no high frequency loss. These two buffered outputs are identical and are disconnected when the hard wire output is being used. This means that you have a choice for all possible performance or equipment situations whether you feel a true hard wire output or buffered outputs will perform best. Generally speaking the low output impedance of the buffer gives a lower noise floor and a more punchy sound but it's so easy to check out and hear the difference and make a real decision that is based on fact not hype.

Mode 1 : There is no jack plug inserted into the Hard Wire Output (HW OUT1).

The input of the buffer is connected through switching contacts on this jack socket (**HW OUT1**) to the foot switching output ("full bypass" or "effect") and the two buffer outputs (**BF OUT2**) and (**BF OUT3**) will thus follow the foot switching action. In this "bypass mode" however the input of the buffer is only connected to the input jack socket of the unit and not to the Concorde+ circuit as well so it can be thought of as "full bypass buffered"

Mode 2 : When a jack is inserted into the Hard Wire Output (HW OUT1).

The input of the buffer is disconnected and no output signal will appear at the two-buffered outputs. The Hard Wire Output (HW OUT1) will follow the foot switching output ("bypass" or "effect"). In this "bypass mode" the Hard Wire Output (HW OUT1) is directly connected to the input jack socket and to nothing else in the unit and is in "full bypass" - "true bypass" or "hard wire bypass" mode as the input is directly connected to the output through the foot switch and to nothing else.

LED : An LED shows the status of the effect. The LED also shows a low battery condition and in this mode it will fail to light in either status thus showing that battery replacement is required.

RAPID BATTERY CHANGE: No more screws to loose!!! Slide the front panel back and there is the battery. It could not be simpler or faster.

LONG BATTERY LIFE: Exceptionally low current consumption: Bypass Mode= 1.18mA
Effect Mode=1.50mA ensures an expected battery life of more than 150Hrs with alkaline type batteries

EXTERNAL POWER ADAPTER / SUPPLY: An external AC adapter (not supplied) can be used and access is through a standard DC power jack (2.1mm centre pin) situated next to the jack sockets. Internal onboard filtering ensures that optimum low noise performance is maintained and diode protection provides peace of mind in case of polarity setting mistakes.

Connection protocol: It uses the standard negative centre pin protocol as used by many leading manufacturers.

Specifications: 9 volts DC. Regulated output is recommended.

Current Rating: 50mA or more.

ERGONOMIC DESIGN / PEDAL BOARD FRIENDLY : The position of the jack sockets and DC power jack are all on the same side of the enclosure and face away from you thus enabling the effect to be optimally positioned in pedal board set-ups

Size: Width 170 x Depth 112 x Height 57mm. Weight: 618g with battery.

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