

Safety Precautions - Read Me!

Valve amplifiers are safe unless they are physically damaged, misused, poorly located, or are being worked-on without taking appropriate safety precautions. Valve equipment contains hazardous voltages, (several hundred volts, or more), and it can hold a high-voltage charge for a very long time even after the power is switched-off.

Valve circuitry can be very hazardous, even after the power is switched-off.

If you are working on valve circuitry you must ensure that the internal high voltage power supply is fully discharged:

- *Only work on active valve circuitry if you are experienced in working with high voltages.*
- *Make sure somebody is with you, and have an emergency resuscitation chart on the wall of your work area.*
- *Switch off the equipment at the power point and remove the power-plug.*
- *Wait several minutes and then check the HV power supply with a DC voltmeter. Do not touch any part of the circuitry unless the DC voltmeter is reading less than 30V.*
- *Even if the voltmeter reading indicates that the power supply is safe, never trust the meter alone - always double-check. Use a thick insulated wire (bared at the ends), or a screwdriver with a plastic handle, to short out the power supply to the chassis-ground.*
- *If you need to take measurements or trace signals in valve circuitry while it is switched-on, always keep your free hand in your pocket. Never hold the chassis.*

Never work on hazardous voltage equipment if you are alone.

Valves run very hot and can cause a nasty burn. They can also ignite materials that come into contact with them, such as curtains flapping in the wind.

- *Position valve equipment carefully so it is away from combustible materials.*
- *Leave at least 200mm clearance on all sides and top for adequate ventilation.*
- *Do not locate valve equipment near curtains or any flammable material.*
- *Never leave a valve amplifier switched on when unattended.*
- *Keep out of reach of children*

Never leave valve equipment unattended. Always switch it off after use.