

# MC250.8

## User's Manual

EIGHT CHANNELS POWER AMPLIFIER



 **LTO**<sup>®</sup>  
www.altoproaudio.com  
Version 1.1 Nov. 2006  
— English —

## SAFETY RELATED SYMBOLS



This symbol, wherever used, alerts you to the presence of un-insulated and dangerous voltages within the product enclosure. These are voltages that may be sufficient to constitute the risk of electric shock or death.



This symbol, wherever used, alerts you to important operating and maintenance instructions. Please read.



Protective Ground Terminal



AC mains (Alternating Current)



Hazardous Live Terminal

**ON:** Denotes the product is turned on.

**OFF:** Denotes the product is turned off.

### WARNING

Describes precautions that should be observed to prevent the possibility of death or injury to the user.

### CAUTION

Describes precautions that should be observed to prevent damage to the product.



Disposing of this product should not be placed in municipal waste and should be placed in separate collection.

### WARNING

#### • Power Supply

Ensure that the mains source voltage (AC outlet) matches the voltage rating of the product. Failure to do so could result in damage to the product and possibly the user.

Unplug the product before electrical storms occur and when unused for long periods of time to reduce the risk of electric shock or fire.

#### • External Connection

Always use proper ready-made insulated mains cabling (power cord). Failure to do so could result in shock/death or fire. If in doubt, seek advice from a registered electrician.

#### • Do Not Remove Any Covers

Within the product are areas where high voltages may present. To reduce the risk of electric shock do not remove any covers unless the AC mains power cord is removed.

**Covers should be removed by qualified service personnel only.**

No user serviceable parts inside.

#### • Fuse

To prevent fire and damage to the product, use only the recommended fuse type as indicated in this manual. Do not short-circuit the fuse holder. Before replacing the fuse, make sure that the product is OFF and disconnected from the AC outlet.

#### • Protective Ground

Before turning the product ON, make sure that it is connected to Ground. This is to prevent the risk of electric shock.

Never cut internal or external Ground wires. Likewise, never remove Ground wiring from the Protective Ground Terminal.

#### • Operating Conditions

Always install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

To avoid the risk of electric shock and damage, do not subject this product to any liquid/rain or moisture. Do not use this product when in close proximity to water.

Do not install this product near any direct heat source.

Do not block areas of ventilation. Failure to do so could result in fire.

Keep product away from naked flames.

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Read these instructions

Follow all instructions

Keep these instructions. Do not discard.

Heed all warnings.

Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.

#### • Power Cord and Plug

Do not tamper with the power cord or plug. These are designed for your safety.

Do not remove Ground connections!

If the plug does not fit your AC outlet seek advice from a qualified electrician.

Protect the power cord and plug from any physical stress to avoid risk of electric shock.

Do not place heavy objects on the power cord. This could cause electric shock or fire.

#### • Cleaning

When required, either blow off dust from the product or use a dry cloth.

Do not use any solvents such as Benzol or Alcohol. For safety, keep product clean and free from dust.

#### • Servicing

Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel only.

Do not perform any servicing other than those instructions contained within the User's Manual.

## PREFACE

Thank you for choosing MC250.8 eight channel Power Amplifier and thanks for choosing one of the results of ▲LTO AUDIO TEAM job and research.

For our ▲LTO AUDIO TEAM, music and sound are more than a job... is first of all passion and let us say our obsession!

We have been designing professional audio products for a long time in cooperation with some of the major brands in the world in the audio field.

The ▲LTO line presents unparalleled analogue and digital products made by Musicians for Musicians in our R&D centers in Italy, Netherlands, United Kingdom and Taiwan. The core of our digital audio products is a sophisticated Software Team for many years.

Following this idea we create our products and we will create the new ones! From our side, we guarantee you and we will guarantee you also in future the best quality, the best fruits of our continuous researches and the best prices.

Nothing else to add, but that we would like to thank all the people that made the MC250.8 eight channels Power Amplifier and thank our designers and all the ▲LTO staff, people who make possible the realization of products containing our idea of music and sound and are ready to support you , our customers, in the best way, conscious that you are our best richness.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

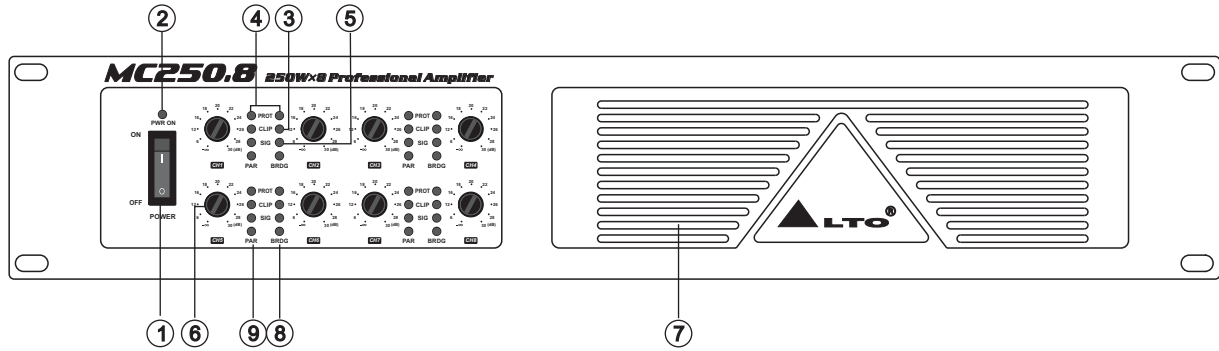
The MC250.8 eight Channels Power Amplifier is designed for professional use and provides unparalleled quality. It includes soft start, signal limit, four variable-speed-low-noise fans, and includes eight independent channels with separate power supply. Each channel is equipped with independent protective circuitry against open circuit, short circuit, mismatched loads and overheat. Furthermore, every channel has also a protection LED that lights up before the amplifier is in normal operation and flashes when the amplifier is in over-load protection or short-circuit protection, and lights up when over-heat protection or DC protection occurs. CLIP LED that shows true amplifier clipping. The high quality components and the carefully designed circuits ensure excellent audio performance and an extremely linear frequency response, giving crystal-clear sound in the high range and an up-front, full-bodied bottom end. This amplifier guarantees total reliability and a trouble-free use even in the most demanding conditions. We believe the MC250.8 not only look great, but provide a perfect performance, what you get is unprecedented performance at an incredibly attractive price.

## 2. FEATURE

- Innovative design and high stability power amplifier
- Fan-cooled AB class high power amplifier in 19", 2U size
- 8 independent channels with separate protection system
- DC, infrasonic, overheat & short circuit protection
- Smart-designed protection system for auto re-operation after fault
- Parallel-input: channel 1 to channel 2, channel 3 to channel 4, channel 5 to channel 6, channel 7 to channel 8
- Allowing selection of Stereo, Bridge or parallel operation
- Ultra low-noise and hum
- High-pass filter , allow selection of flat, 35 Hz or 75Hz, protect speakers and prevent speaker transformer saturation with minimal effect on program material.
- DIP switch control for clip limit, high-pass filter, bridge-mono stereo selections
- AUTO variable- speed-low-noise fans ensure high reliability even under demanding conditions.
- Detachable Euroblock: " Barrier strip" input connectors.
- Rugged amplifier in a strong, compact chassis

### 3. CONTROL ELEMENTS

#### 3.1 The Front Panel



#### ① Power Switch

It switches on / off MC250.8 main power.

#### ② Power LED

This LED lights up when the amplifier is powered on

#### ③ Clip LED

When the respective channel's output signal distortion exceeds 0.5%, the red LED (clip) indicator lights up. it will warn you that the level of the input signal is too high and may cause distortion, please attenuate the level of the input signal.

#### ④ Protection LED

This red LED indicator lights up when the amplifier is powered ON, and the soft-start protection system is working. No sound is outputted during soft-start protection. If short-circuit protection or over-load protection is activated, this indicator flashes and no sound is outputted. The speakers system is actually disconnected with the amplifier outputs when this indicator flashes. when over-heat protection or DC protection is activated. At this time, protection LED lights up, and audio output is shut down automatically, and no sound is outputted. When the amplifier have no malfunction, all the protection systems deactivate and protection LED lights off.

#### ⑤ Signal LED

After signal is inputted, LED becomes brighter while the signal level increases.

#### ⑥ Level Control

This pot is used to adjust output level.

#### ⑦ Fan

The unit is equipped with two fans in the front, which can accelerate the flow of air to lower the temperature inside unit. The inside temperature determines the fan speed, which controls the inside air flowing speed.

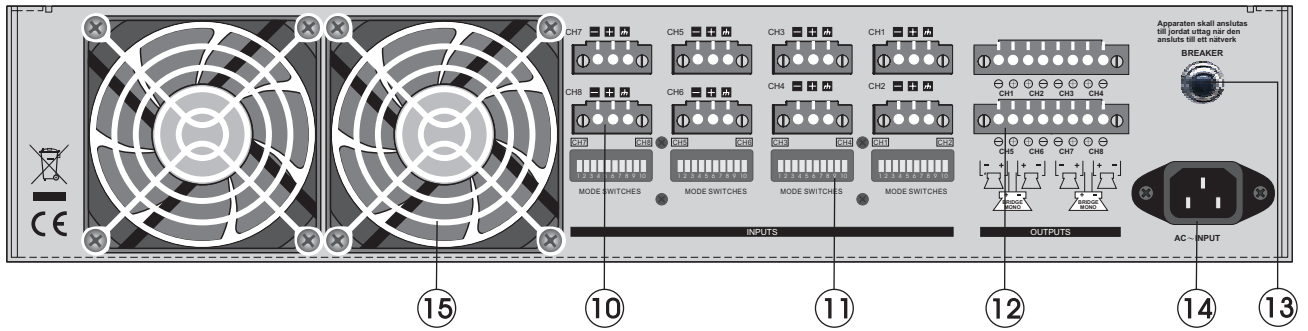
#### ⑧ Bridge Mode LED Indicator

When you operate the unit in bridge mode, the LED indicator lights up. As for the bridge mode, refer to 3.2 rear panel ⑪

#### ⑨ Parallel Mode LED Indicator

When you operate the unit power amplifier in parallel mode, the LED indicator lights up. As for the parallel mode, refer to 3.2 rear panel ⑪

### 3.2 The Rear Panel

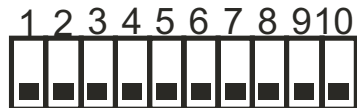


#### ⑩ INPUT Terminal

This unit is provided with balanced terminals, which are used to connect the input signal. Channel 1 and channel 2 are used in bridge and parallel mode.

#### ⑪ Mode Selector

You can choose the right function and output you need via the mode selector switch. In order to make you acquire these settings, now let me introduce the dip switch.



This switch is made up of 10 small dip switches, these small dip switches from 1 to 5 control one channel, these rest ones (6-10) control the other channel, ok, you can choose the right mode setting you need via these small dip switches. Take the dip switch of channel 1 and channel 2 for example. Channel 3 and channel 4 are the same as channel 1 and channel 2

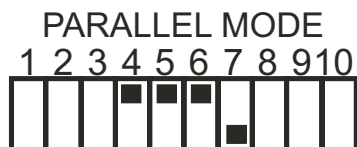
#### - Output Mode Selector

This unit provides three output modes: stereo, bridge and parallel. Here are some details:

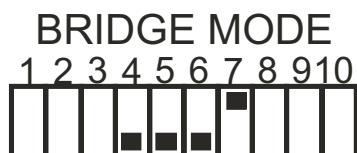
**Stereo mode:** set the small dip switches 4, 5, 6, 7 down to the bottom, then channel 1 and channel 2 are in stereo mode;



**Parallel mode:** set the small dip switches 4, 5, 6, to the top, and the small dip switch 7 down, then channel 1 and channel 2 are in parallel mode.



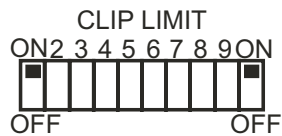
**Bridge mode:** set the small dip switch 7 up to the top, and the dip switches 4,5,6 to the bottom, then channel 1 and channel 2 are in bridge mode.



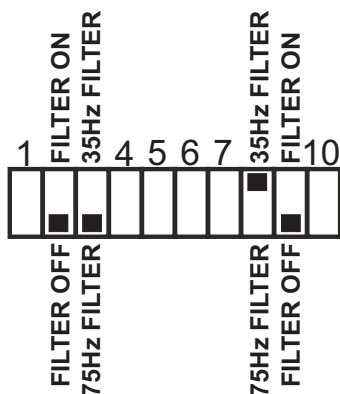
Please refer to chapter 5 for the connection of loads in detail.

### - function selector

**Clip limit** : set these small dip switches of 1(ON) and 10(ON) at "ON" position , then the clip limit of channel 1 and channel 2 has been working; once the output level is reach or exceed the level that is predetermined by the threshold setting selected, it may result in the undesirable distortion .in order to avoid the distortion, the clip begins; if the dip switch are set at "OFF", the clip limit doesn't work.



**Filter**: this unit are equipped with two low cut filter eliminating unwanted low- frequency signals like rumble noise: 75Hz and 35Hz. When 2& 9 are set to the top position, set 3&8 to the top position, 35Hz low cut filter is activated. Set 3&8 to the bottom position, 75Hz low cut filter is activated.



### ⑫ Output Terminal

You can output the powered signal by the specific output connectors according to the actual application circumstance. When the output terminal is connected with speaker, you can complete the connection as the way we signed in this manual  
Caution: turn off the unit before connecting the output connectors so as to avoid any electric shock!

### ⑬ Breaker

This switch works as fuse for protecting the unit from damage. When the unit is overloaded or the temperature inside the unit is too high, this push-button will spring up and break the power supply. The power supply will be restored with pushing this switch again.

### ⑭ AC-Inlet

This standard IEC receptacle is supplied to allow to connect your MC250.8 to mains via the supplied power cord.

### ⑮ Fans on rear panel

The unit is equipped with two fans in the back, which can accelerate the flow of air to lower the temperature inside unit. The inside temperature determines the fan speed, which controls the inside air flowing speed.

## 4. Installation

### 4.1 Mains connection

Do not insert the power cord into this unit until voltage has been correctly set. Please confirm if the power cord is connected correctly . Please ensure that the MC250.8 professional power amplifier is supplied with the correct voltage before turning on this unit. If you can't power up this unit while turning on the mains switch (1), check the Breaker (14) on the rear panel first, and check if it is in the release state. Otherwise, contact the technician or qualified personnel for checking if the unit power is 3000W or for any other service.

Caution: To reduce the risk of electric shock, do not perform any servicing other than contained in this manual unless you are qualified to do so. Please turn off this unit before any installation and connection, esp. when you connect your unit into the sound system. This is important to prevent damage to the unit itself as well as other consequent speaker system. This is important to prevent damage to the unit itself as well as other consequent speaker system. The mains connection of the MC 250.8 professional power amplifier is made by using the enclosed power cord and a standard IEC receptacle, and it meets all of the international safety certification requirement.



## 4.2 Rack Mounting

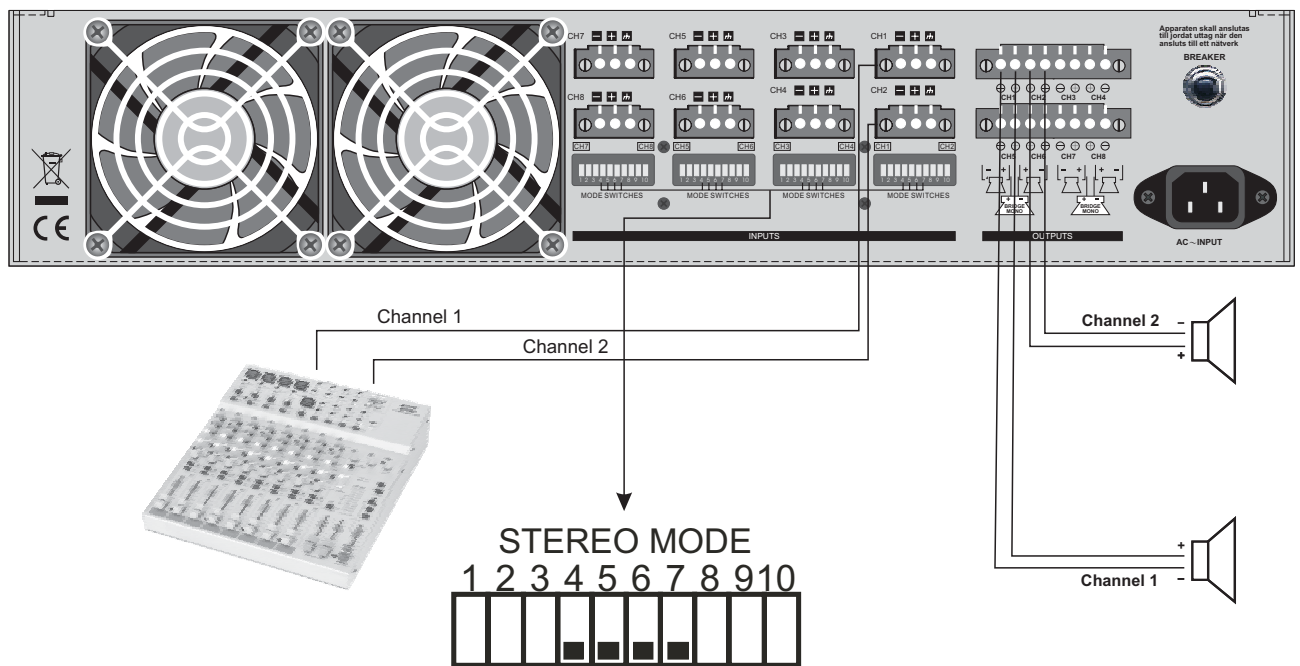
the most secure mounting is on a universal rack shelf available from various rack manufactures or your music dealer. The MC250.8 professional power amplifier fits into one standard 19" rack unit of space. Be sure that there is enough air space around the unit for sufficient ventilation. If heat release is inadequate, this unit will retain heat inside, which may cause the protection, or even a fire.

## 5. Application

The MC250.8 provides three operating modes with each unit: stereo mode, parallel mode and bridged mode, you can decide each specific operating mode according to your actual application circumstance. Following examples will show you the typical connections, you can refer to install your MC250.8 into a sound system:

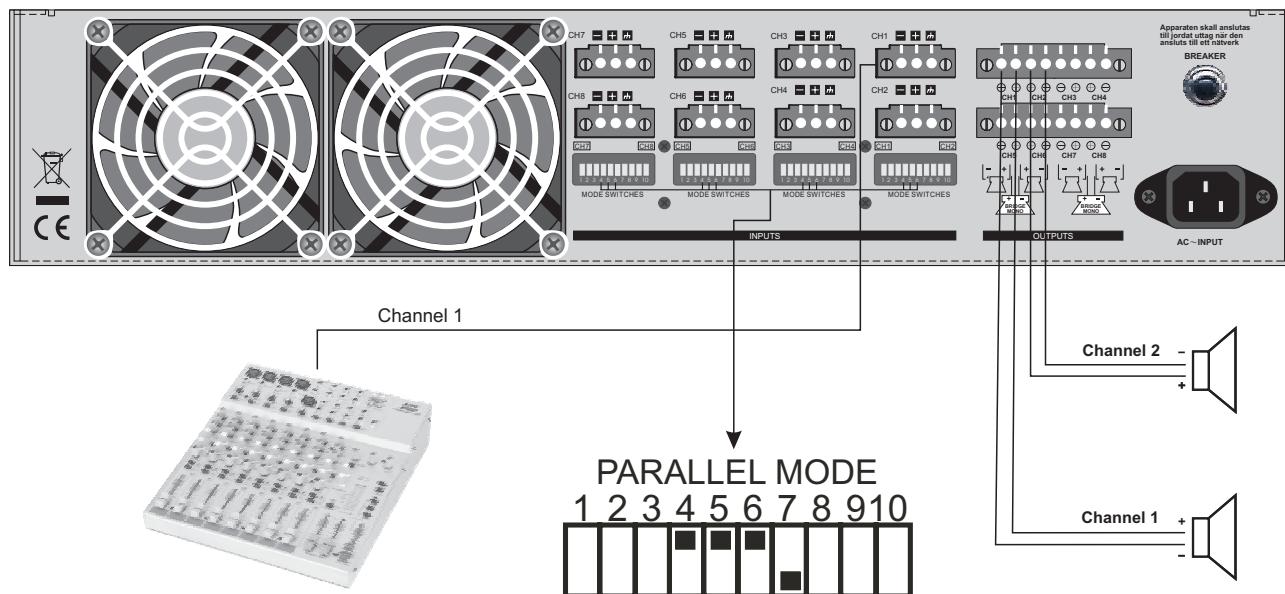
### 5.1 Operate MC250.8 Power Amplifier In Stereo Mode

In this mode, each channel works independently. The signal inputted from one channel will be outputted from the corresponding channel.



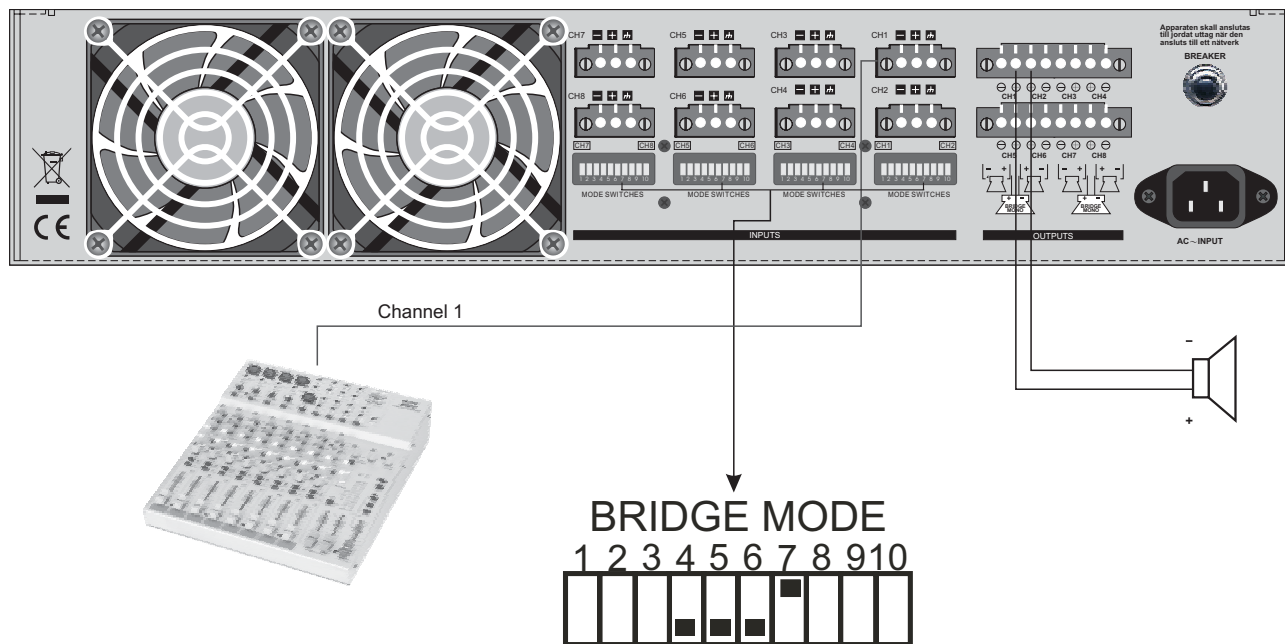
## 5.2 Operate MC250.8 Power Amplifier In Parallel Mode

In this mode, the channel 1 input signal will be output from the output connectors of both channel 1 and channel 2. The channel 2 input jack is not used. The channel 1 and channel 2 volumes can be adjusted independently. Furthermore, channel 1 can only be paralleled with channel 2, channel 3 only with channel 4, channel 5 only with channel 6, and channel 7 only with channel 8.



## 5.3 Operate MC250.8 In Bridge Mode

In this mode, signal inputted from channel 1 can be output from the bridge output connectors. In this case, use the channel 1 volume control to adjust the volume. Turn the volume control of channel 2 counterclockwise completely. Then, you can control the volume of the whole system by adjusting the channel 1 volume control. Furthermore, channel 1 can be bridged with channel 2 only, channel 3 with channel 4 only, channel 5 with channel 6 only, and channel 7 with channel 8 only.



## 6. CAUTION FOR APPLICATION

### 6.1 General Application instruction

the following instructions describe the common ways to install your MC250.8 power amplifier into a sound application system:

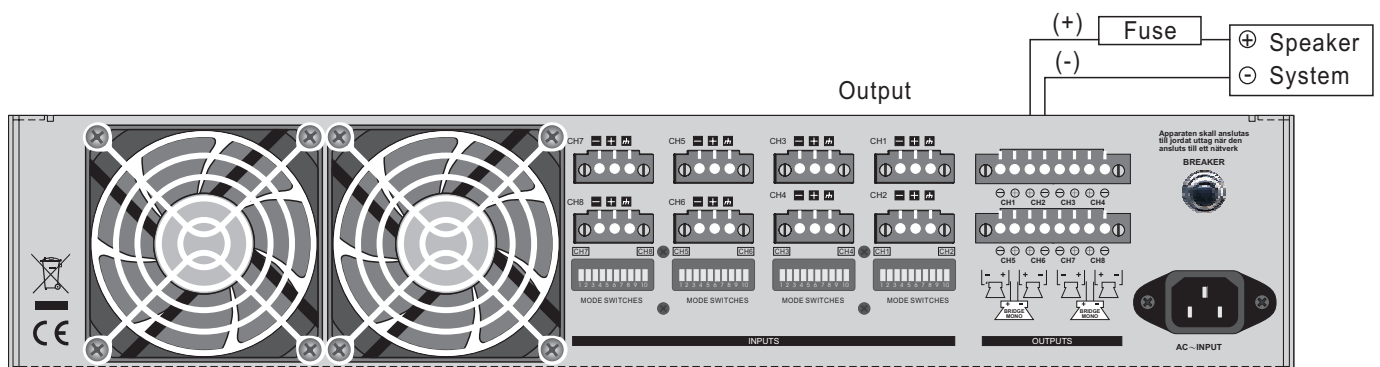
First, turn off power switch before connection.

Refer to chapter 5 for speaker connection

MC250.8 power amplifier may be operated in one of the three modes, please slide the mode selector for the Specific operating mode

### 6.2 caution for speak connection

The output capacity of MC 250.8 power amplifier is very high, be sure to use a speaker system that has sufficient input capacity. If the input capacity of your speaker system is lower than the rated output of the MC250.8 power amplifier, you can protect your speakers by connecting a fuse serially between the speaker and the amplifier as shown below.



Use the following formula to determine the fuse capacity according to the speaker's input capacity.

$$P_o = I^2 R \rightarrow I = \sqrt{P_o / R}$$

$P_o$ [W] : Speaker's continuous input capacity (noise or RMS)

$R$ [ $\Omega$ ] : Speaker's nominal impedance

$I$ [A] : Required fuse capacity

As to the speaker cable, if you use a long one, use as thick a cable as possible to prevent deterioration of the damping factor or power loss inside the cable.



## 8. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

<b>Model</b>	<b>MC250.8</b>
Output Power	
20Hz 20kHz @0.1%THD , stereo Mode	
8 ohms per channel (EIAJ)	8x180W
4 ohms per channel (EIAJ)	8x250W
Bridge Mono Mode	
8 ohms, 1kHz, 0.1% THD (EIAJ)	4x500W
Distortion (SMPTE-IM)	<0.05%
Frequency Response	20Hz- 20kHz $\pm$ 1dB, -3dB point: 10Hz- 60kHz
Damping Factor, 1kHz, 0.1%THD(EIAJ)	>300@8 ohms
Signal to Noise, 20Hz-20kHz	90dB
Voltage Gain	40x ( 32dB)
Input sensitivity @ 4 ohms	1Vrms
Input clipping	10 Vrms (+22dB)
Input impedance	10Kohms unbalanced, 20 Kohms balanced
Controls	Front: AC Switch, Ch1 - Ch8 Gain Knobs Rear: MODE SWITCHES
Indicators	Power - On: Blue LED Protection: Red LED Signal: Green LED Clip: Red LED Parallel-input: Yellow LED Bridge: Yellow LED
Connectors, each channel	Input: Terminal Block Output: Screw-terminal Barrier Block
cooling	Continuously variable- speed fan, front - to - rear air flow
Load protection	On / Off muting, overheat & short circuit protection
Power supply	220-240 ( 110-120) Vac 50-60 Hz
Dimensions	17.7" ( 44.95 cm) (D)* 3.5" ( 8.9 cm) (H)*19.02"(48.3 cm)(L)
Net weight	21.6Kg

## 9. WARRANTY

### 1. WARRANTY REGISTRATION CARD

To obtain Warranty Service, the buyer should first fill out and return the enclosed Warranty Registration Card within 10 days of the Purchase Date.

All the information presented in this Warranty Registration Card gives the manufacturer a better understanding of the sales status, so as to purport a more effective and efficient after-sales warranty service.

Please fill out all the information carefully and genuinely, miswriting or absence of this card will void your warranty service.

### 2. RETURN NOTICE

2.1 In case of return for any warranty service, please make sure that the product is well packed in its original shipping carton, and it can protect your unit from any other extra damage.

2.2 Please provide a copy of your sales receipt or other proof of purchase with the returned machine, and give detail information about your return address and contact telephone number.

2.3 A brief description of the defect will be appreciated.

2.4 Please prepay all the costs involved in the return shipping, handling and insurance.

### 3. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

3.1 ▲LTO warrants that this product will be free from any defects in materials and/or workmanship for a period of 1 year from the purchase date if you have completed the Warranty Registration Card in time.

3.2 The warranty service is only available to the original consumer, who purchased this product directly from the retail dealer, and it can not be transferred.

3.3 During the warranty service, ▲LTO may repair or replace this product at its own option at no charge to you for parts or for labor in accordance with the right side of this limited warranty.

3.4 This warranty does not apply to the damages to this product that occurred as the following conditions:

- Instead of operating in accordance with the user's manual thoroughly, any abuse or misuse of this product.
- Normal tear and wear.
- The product has been altered or modified in any way.
- Damage which may have been caused either directly or indirectly by another product / force / etc.
- Abnormal service or repairing by anyone other than the qualified personnel or technician.

And in such cases, all the expenses will be charged to the buyer.

3.5 In no event shall ▲LTO be liable for any incidental or consequential damages. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above exclusion or limitation may not apply to you.

3.6 This warranty gives you the specific rights, and these rights are compatible with the state laws, you may also have other statutory rights that may vary from state to state.

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