



# LED Commander

ORDERCODE 50717



**SHOWELECTRONICS FOR PROFESSIONALS**

## **Congratulations!**

You have bought a great, innovative product from Showtec.

The Showtec LED Commander brings excitement to any venue. Whether you want simple plug-&-play action or a sophisticated DMX show, this product provides the effect you need.

You can rely on Showtec, for more excellent lighting products.

We design and manufacture professional light equipment for the entertainment industry.

New products are being launched regularly. We work hard to keep you, our customer, satisfied.

For more information: [iwant@showtec.info](mailto:iwant@showtec.info)

You can get some of the best quality, best priced products on the market from Showtec.

So next time, turn to Showtec for more great lighting equipment.

Always get the best -- with Showtec !

Thank you!



**Warning**..... 2  
    Safety-instructions..... 2  
    Operating Determinations..... 3  
    Return Procedure..... 4  
    Claims..... 4

**Description**..... 5  
    Features..... 5  
    Overview..... 5  
    Controller front..... 6  
    Controller backside..... 7

**Installation**..... 7

**Set Up and Operation**..... 7  
    Operation ..... 8  
        - Channel Assignment..... 8  
        - Factory Reset..... 8  
        - Unpatch Channels..... 9  
        - Enter Program Mode..... 9  
        - Exit Program Mode..... 9  
        - Record a Scene..... 9  
        - Play a Scene..... 9  
        - Delete a Scene – Overwrite a Scene..... 10  
        - Patch more than one channel to AUX..... 10  
        - Patch more than one channel to Fixture faders..... 10  
        - MIDI function..... 10  
        - AUX function..... 10  
        - Record a Chase..... 11  
        - Play a Chase..... 11  
        - Delete a Chase..... 11  
        - Add an extra Step to an existing Chase..... 11  
        - Delete a Step from an existing Chase..... 11  
        - Auto / Music /Manual Mode..... 12

**Maintenance**..... 12

**Troubleshooting**..... 12

**Product Specifications**..... 13

**FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY, PLEASE READ THIS USER MANUAL CAREFULLY  
BEFORE YOUR INITIAL START-UP!**

## Unpacking Instructions

Immediately upon receiving this product, carefully unpack the carton and check the contents to ensure that all parts are present, and have been received in good condition. Notify the dealer immediately and retain packing material for inspection if any parts appear damaged from shipping or the carton itself shows signs of mishandling. Save the carton and all packing materials. In the event that a fixture must be returned to the factory, it is important that the fixture be returned in the original factory box and packing.

Your shipment includes:

- LED Commander
- Incl. Power adapter 1,75m
- User manual



## WARNING



**CAUTION!**  
**Keep this device away from rain and moisture!**



**FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY, PLEASE READ THIS USER MANUAL CAREFULLY  
BEFORE YOUR INITIAL START-UP!**

## SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Every person involved with the installation, operation and maintenance of this device has to:

- be qualified
- follow the instructions of this manual



**CAUTION! Be careful with your operations.**  
**With a dangerous voltage you can suffer  
a dangerous electric shock when touching the wires!**



Before your initial start-up, please make sure that there is no damage caused by transportation. Should there be any, consult your dealer and do not use the device.

To maintain perfect condition and to ensure a safe operation, it is absolutely necessary for the user to follow the safety instructions and warning notes written in this manual.

Please consider that damages caused by manual modifications to the device are not subject to warranty.

This device contains no user-serviceable parts. Refer servicing to qualified technicians only.

### **IMPORTANT:**

*The manufacturer will not accept liability for any resulting damages caused by the non-observance of this manual or any unauthorized modification to the device.*

- Never let the power-cord come into contact with other cables! Handle the power-cord and all connections with the mains with particular caution!
- Never remove warning or informative labels from the unit.
- Do not open the device and do not modify the device.

- Do not connect this device to a dimmerpack.
- Do not switch the device on and off in short intervals, as this would reduce the device's life.
- Only use device indoor, avoid contact with water or other liquids.
- Avoid flames and do not put close to flammable liquids or gases.
- Always disconnect power from the mains, when device is not used or before cleaning! Only handle the power-cord by the plug. Never pull out the plug by tugging the power-cord.
- Make sure that the device is not exposed to extreme heat, moisture or dust.
- Make sure that the available voltage is not higher than stated on the rear panel.
- Make sure that the power-cord is never crimped or damaged. Check the device and the power-cord from time to time.
- If device is dropped or struck, disconnect mains power supply immediately. Have a qualified engineer inspect for safety before operating.
- If the device has been exposed to drastic temperature fluctuation (e.g. after transportation), do not switch it on immediately. The arising condensation water might damage your device. Leave the device switched off until it has reached room temperature.
- If your Showtec device fails to work properly, discontinue use immediately. Pack the unit securely (preferably in the original packing material), and return it to your Showtec dealer for service.
- Repairs, servicing and electric connection must be carried out only by Showtec.
- WARRANTY: Till one year after date of purchase.

## OPERATING DETERMINATIONS

This device is not designed for permanent operation. Consistent operation breaks will ensure that the device will serve you for a long time without defects.

If this device is operated in any other way, than the one described in this manual, the product may suffer damages and the warranty becomes void.

Any other operation may lead to dangers like short-circuit, burns, electric shock, lamp explosion, crash etc.


You endanger your own safety and the safety of others!

*Improper installation can cause serious damage to people and property !*

### Connection with the mains

Connect the device to the mains with the power-plug.

Always pay attention, that the right color cable is connected to the right place.

International	EU Cable	UK Cable	US Cable	Pin
L	BROWN	RED	YELLOW/COPPER	FASE
N	BLUE	BLACK	SILVER	NUL
	YELLOW/GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	EARTH

Make sure that the device is always connected properly to the earth!

## **Return Procedure**

Returned merchandise must be sent prepaid and in the original packing, call tags will not be issued. Package must be clearly labeled with a Return Authorization Number (RMA number). Products returned without an RMA number will be refused. Highlite will not accept the returned goods or any responsibility. Call Highlite 0031-455667723 or mail [aftersales@highlite.nl](mailto:aftersales@highlite.nl) and request an RMA prior to shipping the fixture. Be prepared to provide the model number, serial number and a brief description of the cause for the return. Be sure to properly pack fixture, any shipping damage resulting from inadequate packaging is the customer's responsibility. Highlite reserves the right to use its own discretion to repair or replace product(s). As a suggestion, proper UPS packing or double-boxing is always a safe method to use.

**Note: If you are given an RMA number, please include the following information on a piece of paper inside the box:**

- 1) Your name
- 2) Your address
- 3) Your phone number
- 4) A brief description of the symptoms

## **Claims**

The client has the obligation to check the delivered goods immediately upon delivery for any shortcomings and/or visible defects, or perform this check after our announcement that the goods are at their disposal. Damage incurred in shipping is the responsibility of the shipper; therefore the damage must be reported to the carrier upon receipt of merchandise.

It is the customer's responsibility to notify and submit claims with the shipper in the event that a fixture is damaged due to shipping. Transportation damage has to be reported to us within one day after receipt of the delivery.

Any return shipment has to be made post-paid at all times. Return shipments must be accompanied with a letter defining the reason for return shipment. Non-prepaid return shipments will be refused, unless otherwise agreed in writing.

Complaints against us must be made known in writing or by fax within 10 working days after receipt of the invoice. After this period complaints will not be handled anymore.

Complaints will only then be considered if the client has so far complied with all parts of the agreement, regardless of the agreement of which the obligation is resulting.

## Description of the device

### Features

The LED Operator is a light controller from Showtec and features:

- Easy to use
- Control 8 RGB fixtures
- Adjustable Speed control
- Adjustable fade time
- Free patchable RGB and dimmer channels
- Power supply: AC 12V- 1,25 A
- Power consumption: 20 Watt
- Power connector: Adapter (included)
- 8 groups of fixtures
- All functions and faders patchable
- 16 scenes
- 16 chases
- 2 Auxiliary channels
- Bright LCD display
- 3 and 5 pole XLR output
- Auto program
- Music Control
- 19" rackmounting
- One Chase can contain a max. of 1740 steps
- 16 chases can contain a total of 1740 steps
- Total DMX Channels: 512: 16 individual DMX channels per fixture  
128 individual DMX total
- DMX-512: XLR 3 pole
- Individual RGB Channel Faders
- Grand Master Fader
- Record Function to Record Colors and Chases
- Speed & Fade faders for Chase control
- Equipped with 2 Auxiliary channels to connect your fogger or strobe.

### NOTE:

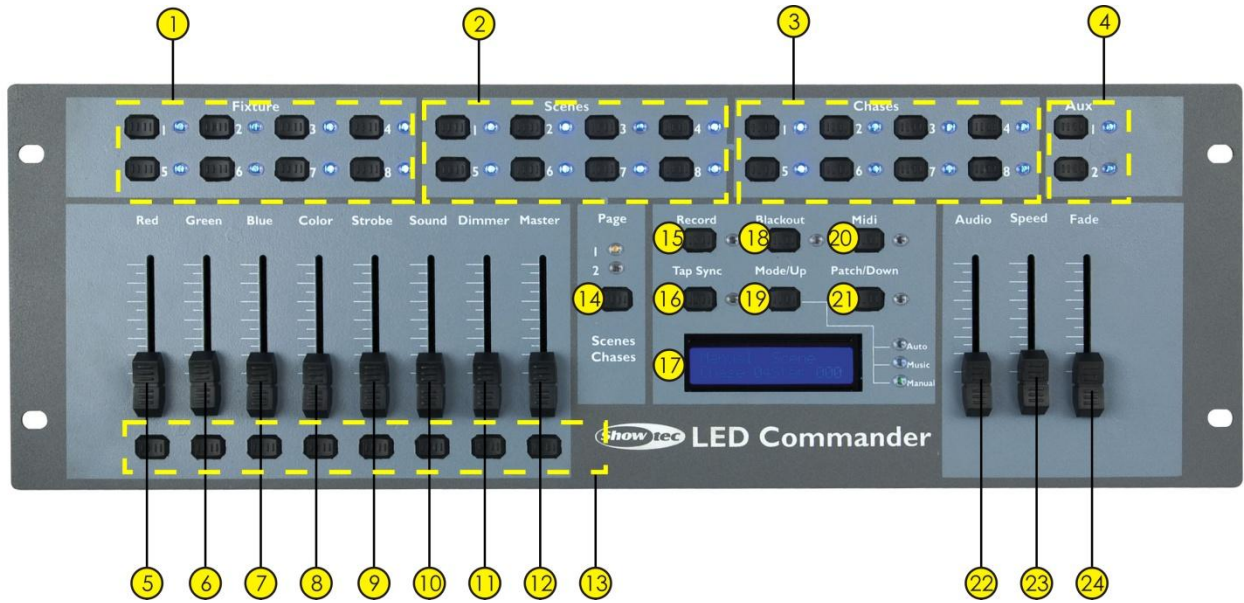
Knowledge of DMX is required to fully utilize this unit.

## Overview



Fig. 1

## Controller Front



**Fig. 2**

- 1) Fixture buttons and LED indicators 1-8: Use Fixture button 1-8 to select a fixture.
- 2) Scenes buttons and LED indicators 1-8: Push a scene button to activate a scene.
- 3) Chase buttons and LED indicators 1-8: Push a chase button to activate a chase.
- 4) Aux Buttons: AUX 1 and AUX 2
- 5) Red Fader: Use the fader to manually set the intensity of the color red.
- 6) Green Fader: Use the fader to manually set the intensity of the color green.
- 7) Blue Fader: Use the fader to manually set the intensity of the color blue.
- 8) Color Fader
- 9) Strobe Fader
- 10) Sound Fader
- 11) Dimmer Fader
- 12) MASTER Fader: Use the Master fader to manually control overall intensity.
- 13) Flash buttons 1-8
- 14) Page button + Page 1/2 LED indicators : When the Page 1 indicator is lit, scenes 1-8 and chases 1-8 are active. When the Page 2 indicator is lit, scenes 9-16 and chases 9-16 are active.
- 15) Record button: Use the Record button to enter Record Mode.
- 16) TAP SYNC button
- 17) LCD Display
- 18) Black Out button: Press the Black Out button to cut all output.
- 19) Mode/Up button incl Auto/Music/Manual LED
- 20) Midi Button
- 21) Patch/Down button
- 22) AUDIO Fader: Use the Audio fader to set the audio sensitivity in Music Mode.
- 23) SPEED Fader: Use the Speed fader to manually set the chase speed during playback.
- 24) FADE TIME Fader: Use the Fade Time fader to manually set the Fade Time during playback.



## Controller Backside

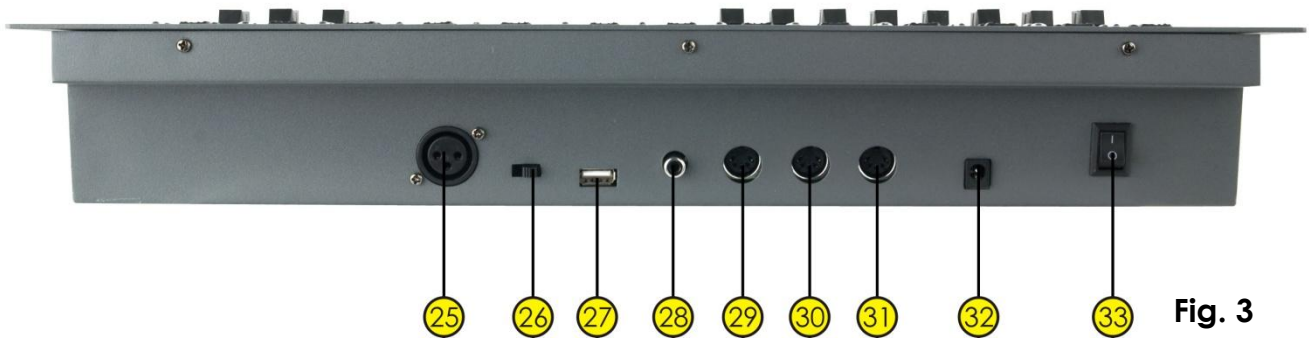


Fig. 3

- 25) DMX OUT
- 26) DMX Polarity Switch
- 27) USB Light
- 28) Audio Input: This jack accepts a line level audio input signal ranged from 100 mV to 1Vpp.
- 29) MIDI Thru: MIDI port for connection to a sequencer or MIDI device.
- 30) MIDI Out: MIDI port for connection to a sequencer or MIDI device.
- 31) MIDI In: MIDI port for connection to a sequencer or MIDI device.
- 32) DC power DC 9-12V 800mA
- 33) ON/OFF

## Installation

Remove all packing materials from the LED Commander. Check that all foam and plastic padding is removed. Connect all cables.

**Always disconnect from electric mains power supply before cleaning or servicing.  
Damages caused by non-observance are not subject to warranty.**

## Set Up and Operation

Before plugging the unit in, always make sure that the power supply matches the product specification voltage. Do not attempt to operate a 120V specification product on 230V power, or vice versa.

# Operation

For more information about working with the LED Commander, you can also view: 

Link: <http://www.youtube.com/showteclight>



## Channel Assignment

- 1) Press and hold the Patch/Down button (21) for 3 seconds. The Patch LED will light up red.
- 2) Choose channel range with the SPEED fader (23). Example: 1, 17, 33, 49, etc.  
Range 17: Start at 17 and stop at 32.
- 3) Choose a DMX channel with the FADE fader (24).
- 4) Press the fixture button (1) you desire. The Fixture LED will light up blue. You can choose 8 different fixtures.
- 5) Now press and release the flash button (13) from the fader you want to patch the DMX channel to.

Example: 

This figure shows that DMX channel 49 is patched to the RED fader (5) of fixture 1.



- 6) Press Patch button for 3 seconds to exit Patch mode.

## Factory Reset

- 1) First turn off the device.
- 2) Now press and hold the Record (15) button + Tap Sync (16) together.
- 3) Now switch on the device.

4) The display will show: 

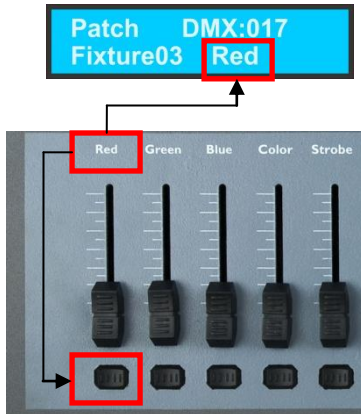
- 5) After 2 seconds the Fixture LEDs 4 and 8 will flash once, indicating the LED Commander is back to factory default settings.

 After the factory reset, the fixture is auto patched: 

<b>Fixture 1</b>	<b>Fixture 2</b>	<b>Fixture 3</b>	• •	<b>Fixture 8</b>
Red CH1	Red CH9	Red CH17	• •	Red CH57
Green CH2	Green CH10	Green CH18	• •	Green CH58
Blue CH3	Blue CH11	Blue CH19	• •	Blue CH59
Color CH4	Color CH12	Color CH20	• •	Color CH60
Strobe CH5	Strobe CH13	Strobe CH21	• •	Strobe CH61
Sound CH6	Sound CH14	Sound CH22	• •	Sound CH62
Dimmer CH7	Dimmer CH15	Dimmer CH23	• •	Dimmer CH63
Master CH8	Master CH16	Master CH24	• •	Master CH64

## Unpatch Channels

- 1) Press and hold the Patch/Down button (21) for 3 seconds. The Patch LED will light up red.
- 2) Deselect the fixture. No LEDs should be lit.
- 3) Use the Speed and Fade faders (23+24), to select the DMX channel you want to unpatch.
- 4) Press the flash button corresponding to the channel name to unpatch the channel.



## Example

If you want to unpatch a certain DMX channel, first deselect all fixture buttons.

Then use the Speed and Fade faders (23+24), until the display shows:

Patch DMX:017  
Fixture03 Red

Then press the flash button Red (13).

The display will now show:

Patch DMX:017  
No assign

## Enter Program Mode

- 1) Press and hold the Record button for 3 seconds. The LED next to to button will light up red.

## Exit Program Mode

- 1) Press and hold the Record button for 3 seconds. The LED next to to button will dim.

## Record a Scene

- 1) Press and hold the Record button (15) for 3 seconds to enter Program Mode.
- 2) Select the fixture you want to program by pressing the desired Fixture button (1).
- 3) Set the faders to the desired values.
- 4) Set the proper page by pressing the Page button. You can choose Page 1 or Page 2 (14).
- 5) Press the Record button (15) and then press the desired Scene button you want to record. All LEDs will flash.
- 6) Press and hold the Record button (15) for 3 seconds to exit Program Mode.

⚠ The existing scenes will be overwritten ⚠

## Play a Scene

- 1) Deselect all fixtures. All LEDs next to the 8 fixture buttons must be OFF.
- 2) Select the proper Page by pressing the Page button.
- 3) To select the desired scene press the Scene button.
- 4) Scenes can be stored on 2 pages. Each page contains 8 scenes.

⚠ Multiple scenes can be mixed together ⚠  
Scenes will react to the Fade fader (24) ⚠

Be sure to use the page button (14).

As an overview you are immediately able to view which scenes are still active on which page. The LEDs, from the scene or chase that is still active, are on.

## Delete a Scene / Overwrite a Scene

- 1) Press and hold the Record button (15) for 3 seconds to enter Record Mode.
- 2) Select the fixture you want to program by pressing the desired Fixture button.
- 3) Set the faders to the desired values.
- 4) Set the proper page by pressing the Page button (14). You can choose Page 1 or Page 2.
- 5) Press the Record button (15) and then press the desired Scene button you want to overwrite.  
All LEDs will flash.
- 6) Press and hold the Record button (15) for 3 seconds to exit Program Mode.

## Patch more than one channel to AUX

- 1) Press and hold the Patch/Down button (21) for 3 seconds. The Patch LED will light up red.
- 2) Use the Speed and Fade faders (23+24) to select the DMX channel you want to patch.
- 3) Assign the DMX Channel by pressing the AUX1 or AUX2 button (4).
- 4) Now select the next DMX channel and patch the AUX button (4) again.  
Repeat steps 2 and 3 as much as you desire.



Aux channels will fade when the Fade time is set on the Fade fader (24)



The Speed Fader (23) will have no effect on the AUX channels.

## Patch more than one channel to Fixture faders

- 1) Press and hold the Patch/Down button (21) for 3 seconds. The Patch LED will light up red.
- 2) Use the Speed and Fade faders (23+24) to select the DMX channel you want to patch.
- 3) Assign the DMX Channel by pressing the channel flash button (13).
- 4) Now select the next DMX channel and push the same flash button to also assign this channel to that fader. Repeat steps 2 and 3 as much as you desire.

## MIDI function

- 1) Press and hold the MIDI button (20) for 3 seconds to enter Midi Mode.
- 2) Use the Speed fader (23) to set the MIDI channel. You can choose CH 1-16.
- 3) Press and hold the MIDI button (20) for 3 seconds to exit Midi Mode.

The MIDI function can be used to link two LED Commanders together or use a MIDI keyboard to control the playback of the LED Commander.

## AUX function

In patch mode, the AUX button (4) can be patched to the DMX channels.

In program and playback mode, press the AUX button (4) to override the programmed AUX setting.

When you want to change back to the programmed setting, press the MIDI button (4) to change back to the programmed setting.

The AUX button setting can be programmed into the steps of the chases.

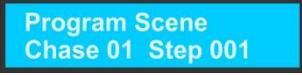
Speed, Fade function.

The speed and fade time of each step of the chase can be set separately.

If you want to override the programmed speed or fade time in playback mode. You can use the Speed and Fade faders (23+24) to override the programmed speed and fade time.

If you want to return to the programmed speed and fade time, after you have manually overridden the speed and fade time, just press the Record button (15) to do so.

## Record a Chase

- 1) Enter Record Mode by pressing the Record button (15).
- 2) Select the proper Page by pressing the Page button (14).
- 3) Select the desired chase by pressing Chase button 1-8 (3).
- 4) Select the desired fixture by pressing Fixture 1-8 (1).
- 5) Set the faders to the desired values.
- 6) Press the Record button (15). All LEDs will flash 3 times, indicating your operation has been successful.
- 7) The display will  , meaning Step 1 in your chase has been recorded.
- 8) For further steps repeat 5, 6 and 7, until you have completed all the desired steps in your entire chase.
- 9) Exit Record Mode.



More than 1 fixture can be programmed/selected when creating steps in chases



## Play a Chase

- 1) Deselect all fixtures. All LEDs next to the 8 fixture buttons must be OFF.
- 2) Select your desired chase by pressing the Chase button.

## Delete a Chase

- 1) Deselect all fixtures, scenes and chases.
- 2) Enter Record Mode by pressing the Record button (15).
- 3) Select the proper Page by pressing the Page button (14).
- 4) Press and hold the Tap Sync button (16). Now press the corresponding Chase button (3), that you want to delete.
- 5) Exit Record Mode by pressing the Record button (15).

## Add an extra Step to an existing Chase

- 1) Enter Record Mode by pressing the Record button (15).
- 2) Select the chase you want to add a step to.
- 3) Use the Mode/Up and Patch/Down buttons to scroll through the chase. The display will show the current step.
- 4) Select the fixture you want to program by pressing the desired Fixture button (1).
- 5) Set the faders to the desired values.
- 6) Press the Record button (15) to save a new step. All LEDs will flash 3 times, indicating your operation has been successful. The new step will be added **after** the selected one.
- 7) If you want to add additional steps repeat 4, 5 and 6, until you have added all the desired steps in your entire chase.
- 8) Exit Record Mode by pressing the Record button (15).



One Chase can contain a max. of 1740 steps  
16 chases can contain a total of 1740 steps



## Delete a Step from an existing Chase

- 1) Enter Record Mode by pressing the Record button (15).
- 2) Select the chase from which you want to delete a step.
- 3) Use the Mode/Up (19) and Patch/Down buttons (21) to scroll through the chase and select the step you want to delete.
- 4) Push the Tap Sync button (16) to delete the step.  
All LEDs will flash 3 times, indicating the step has been successfully deleted.
- 5) Continue this procedure (steps 2, 3 and 4) if you want to delete multiple steps.  
If you are finished deleting the steps, press the Record button (15) to exit Record Mode.

## Auto / Music /Manual Mode

### Auto

- 1) Press the Mode button **(19)** until the LED in front of Auto lights up green.
- 2) You can control the Speed and Fade Time by adjusting the Speed and Fade Time fader **(23+24)**.

### Music

- 1) Press the Mode button **(19)** until the LED in front of Music lights up green.
- 2) You can control the Audio sensitivity by adjusting the Audio fader **(22)**.



Fade Time is available in Music Mode



### Manual

- 1) Press the Mode button **(19)** until the LED in front of Manual lights up green.
- 2) With Tap Sync you can manually go through the chase steps.



Fade Time **(16)** is available in Manual Mode



The LED Commander can be used as a plug-and-play device with the following Showtec products:

- 42431 Par 64 Short, RGB LED
- 42432 Par 64 Short, RGB LED
- 42421 Par 56 Short, RGB LED
- 42422 Par 56 Short, RGB LED
- 42400 LED Pinpoint
- 42401 LED Pinpoint
- 42410 Par 36 Short, RGB LED
- 42411 Par 36 Short, RGB LED
- 42460 LED RGB Par 64 High Power 18 x 3W
- 42461 LED RGB Par 64 High Power 18 x 3W
- 42435 LED Par 64, 24 x 1W
- 42436 LED Par 64, 24 x 1W

## Maintenance

The Showtec LED Commander requires almost no maintenance. However, you should keep the unit clean. Disconnect the mains power supply, and then wipe the cover with a damp cloth. Do not immerse in liquid. Do not use alcohol or solvents.

Keep connections clean. Disconnect electric power, and then wipe the DMX and audio connections with a damp cloth. Make sure connections are thoroughly dry before linking equipment or supplying electric power.

## Troubleshooting

### Showtec LED Commander

This troubleshooting guide is meant to help solve simple problems. If a problem occurs, carry out the steps below in sequence until a solution is found. Once the unit operates properly, do not carry out following steps.

1. Fixture does not respond to controller: Check the DMX-address of the fixture and the controller. Make sure they match. Make sure the connections are correct.
2. Interference between chases; If the same channel is assigned to different running chases, the one with the highest channel value will be put out.
3. If the device does not operate properly, unplug the device.
4. Check power from the wall, all cables, the settings, etc.
5. If all of the above appears to be O.K., plug the unit in again.
6. If nothing happens after 30 seconds, unplug the device.

7. Return the device to your Showtec dealer.

## Product Specification

Model: Showtec LED Commander

Adapter Power supply: AC 12V- 1,25 A

DC input LED Commander: DC 9-12V 800mA min.

Power consumption: 20 Watt

Power connector: Adapter (included)

Easy to use

Control 8 RGB fixtures

Adjustable Speed control

Adjustable fade time

Free patchable RGB and dimmer channels

16 chases

One Chase can contain a max. of 1740 steps

16 chases can contain a total of 1740 steps

Total DMX Channels: 512: 16 individual DMX channels per fixture

128 individual DMX total

16 Scenes

2 Auxiliary channels

Fixtures: 8

DMX-512: XLR 3 pole

Strobe Function

Individual RGB Channel Faders

Grand Master Fader

Record Function to Record Colors and Chases

Speed & Fade faders for Chase control

Dimensions : 482 x 156 x 75 mm (LxWxH)

Weight : 2,48 kg



Design and product specifications are subject to change without prior notice.



Website: [www.Showtec.info](http://www.Showtec.info)

Email: [service@highlite.nl](mailto:service@highlite.nl)



© 2009 Showtec.