LINE 6

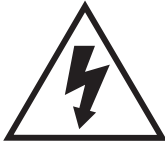# POD® HD500X

PILOT'S GUIDE ▶

MANUEL DE PILOTAGE
PILOTENHANDBUCH
PILOTENHANDBOEK
MANUAL DEL PILOTO
取扱説明書

Important Safety Instructions

CAUTION
RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK
DO NOT OPEN

WARNING : TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE SCREWS. NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.

WARNING : TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THE APPLIANCE TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.

CAUTION: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device pursuant to Part 15 of FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

The lightning symbol within a triangle means "electrical caution!" It indicates the presence of information about operating voltage and potential risks of electrical shock.

The exclamation point within a triangle means "caution!" Please read the information next to all caution signs.

Please Note:
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CE

Line 6, Inc.:
The POD, Clifton House, Butler's leap.
Rugby, Warwickshire, United Kingdom, CV 21 3RQ

26580 Agoura Road,
Calabasas, CA 91302-1921 USA

SERIAL NO:_____

You should read these Important Safety Instructions. Keep these instructions in a safe place

- Read these instructions.
- Keep these instructions.
- Heed all warnings.
- Follow all instructions.
- Do not use this apparatus near water.
- Clean only with dry cloth.
- Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
- This apparatus shall be connected to a MAINS socket outlet with a protective earthing connection.
- Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
- Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
- Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
- Use only with the cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus. When a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid injury from tip-over.
- Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
- Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
- The apparatus shall not be exposed to dripping or splashing and that no objects filled with liquids, such as vases, shall be placed on the apparatus.
- WARNING: To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture.
- The appliance coupler is used as the disconnect device, the disconnect device shall remain readily operable.
- Connect only to AC power outlets rated: 100/120V 220/240V 50/60Hz (depending on the voltage range of the included power supply).
- Prolonged listening at high volume levels may cause irreparable hearing loss and/or damage. Always be sure to practice "safe listening."
- Service is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as:
  - power-supply cord or plug is damaged.
  - liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus.
  - the unit has been exposed to rain or moisture.
  - the unit is dropped or the enclosure is damaged.
 - the unit does not operate normally or changes in performance in a significant way.

Welcome To POD HD500X

POD HD500X delivers more processing power and unparalleled flexibility to inspire your creativity. With an extensive collection of HD amps, 100+ studio and stomp effects, professional-grade footswitches with backlit LED rings, and comprehensive I/O, POD HD500X is the ultimate multi-effects processor for your stage and studio rig.

When you're ready to dig deeper, we recommend you get the Advanced User Guide & Model Gallery for POD HD500X by visiting us online at www.line6.com/manuals. And while you are online, be sure to download the free POD HD500X Edit software application from our Downloads page. Basic operations are covered here in this user manual, so let's get started.

Front Panel Controls
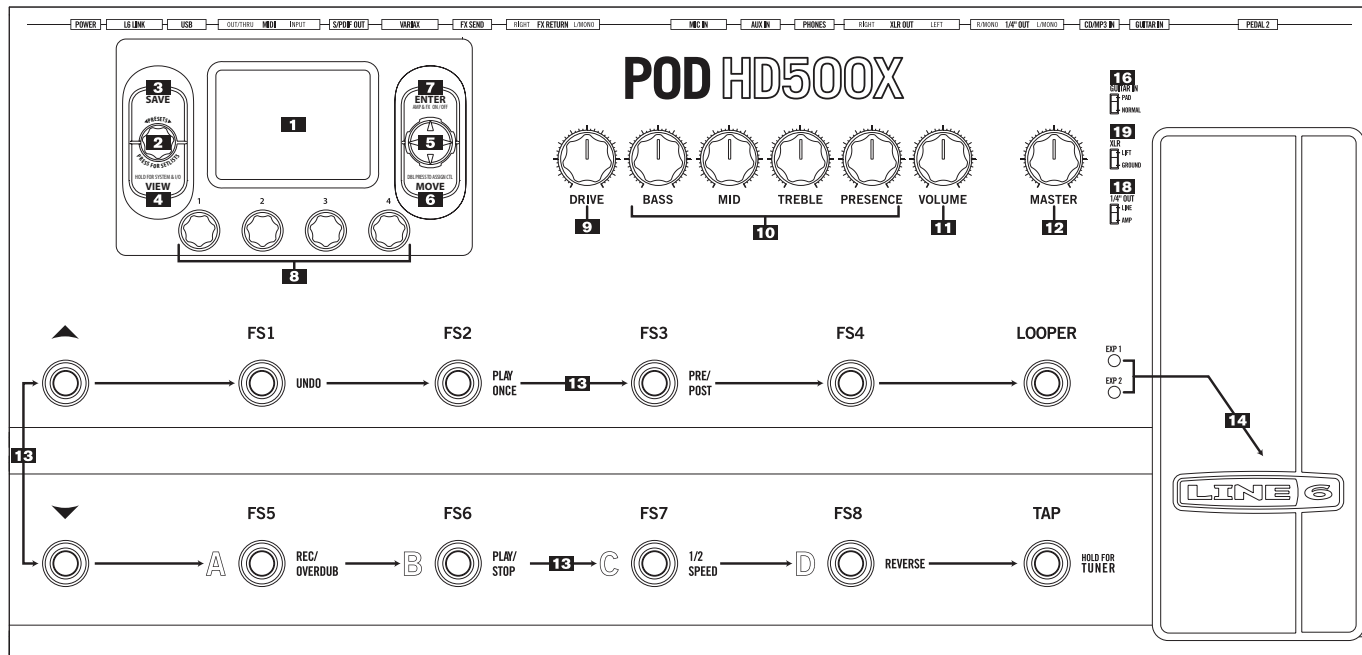
1. **Display -** The LCD is your window into the power of the POD HD500X.

   Home Pages - are the default view on your POD. There are 3 user-selectable views for the **Home Page**.
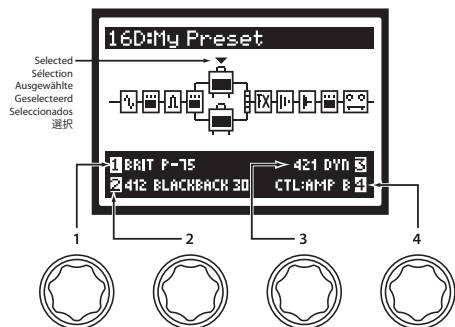
The **Signal Flow View** shows you all the amp and effects model "blocks" in your signal chain. From this view you can edit or move any component affecting your tone in the signal path. Use the **4 Way Nav Pad** to select an Amp, FX, or Looper block. At the bottom of the Signal Flow View screen, as well as in most other screens, you'll see up to four parameters that are accessed using the **Multi-Function Knobs** - these parameters are specific to the currently selected Block**.**
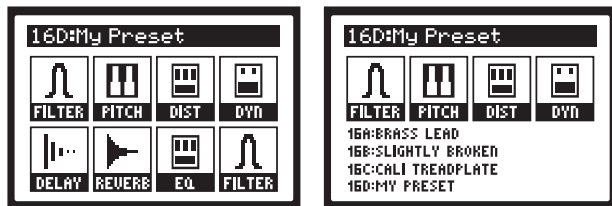

Press the **VIEW** button to switch focus to the **Performance View**. This screen displays the FX and/or Presets that are currently assigned to your POD HD500X footswitches **FS1** through **FS8**. Footswitches **FS4 - FS8** can be configured to either toggle FX Blocks 4 - 8 On/Off, or provide instant access to the **A, B, C, D** Preset channels within the current Bank via the Setup Pages (Press and Hold the **HOME** button to access System Pages).

Press the **VIEW** button once more to show the **Big User View**, which shows you the bank and channel number where the current preset is stored.
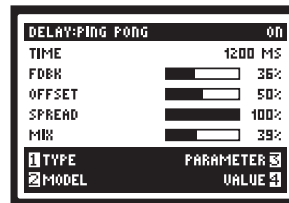
Edit Pages - These pages show all parameters available to tweak for a processing block or system setup page. From the Signal Flow View, you can double press **ENTER** to access an edit page for the current selection block. See the advanced guide available online for more information.

2. **Presets Knob / Set Lists Button -** Turn this knob to select through all of the stored presets. Presets are saved in groups called **Set Lists** making it easy to keep different presets grouped for specific applications. To load a new **Set List**, press the **Set Lists** button and use the **4-Way Nav** to highlight a **Set List**. Highlighting a **Set List** provides options for loading and re-naming **Set Lists**, as well as re-ordering the presets stored within the **Set List**. **NOTE:** When re-ordering presets you must press the **Set Lists** button in order to save any changes.

3. **Save Button -** Press this button to save changes to a factory preset or your very own custom creations – every preset location is available to be overwritten. Use the **Multi-Function knobs** to rename the preset and select the **Set List** and preset location. Press the **SAVE** button again to complete the save operation. Press any other button to cancel.

4. **View Button -** Press this button to switch from any of the 3 user selectable **Home Page** views – **Signal Flow View**, **Big User View**, or **Performance View**. Press and hold the **VIEW** button to access the **SYSTEM & I/O** edit pages where you can assign the **Display** contrast, configure inputs/outputs and assign the control behavior of your footswitches.

5. **4 Way Nav Pad -** Used to move through options within the various pages of POD HD500X. Press the pad left, right, up, and down to highlight items in the **Display**. This pad is also used to navigate through multiple pages.

6. **Move Button -** Press this to perform various move functions. From the **Signal Flow View** you can use the **4 Way Nav** to highlight items in the signal chain. Pressing the **MOVE** Button allows you to "grab" that item and move it elsewhere in the signal path by using the **4 Way Nav**. Press the **MOVE** Button again to "drop" the item into its new position.

   From the **Set List** page you can use the **MOVE** button to reposition presets to a new Set List or memory location.

   Double-press the **MOVE** button to assign a controller to any effects block parameter.

   Note: The Looper and Amp Models have some conditional behavior regarding their placement in the signal flow. See the Advanced User Guide for details.

7. **Enter (ON/OFF) Button –** While in **Signal Flow view**, press this button to turn effects blocks on or off. Double-press **ENTER** to access deep edit pages. Deep edit pages display all of the editable parameters associated with the highlighted block. Hold **ENTER** to bring focus to **Foot Switch Assign mode**.

The **ENTER** button is also used to load **Set Lists** and presets.

8. **Multi-Function Knobs –** These four knobs provide controls for various functionality depending on the display's current focus, but generally speaking the knobs will control parameters displayed in the lower quarter of the main display as follows: **Knob 1** controls the upper left parameter, **Knob 2** controls the lower left parameter, **Knob 3** controls the upper right parameter, and **Knob 4** controls the lower right parameter. Please refer to the Advanced User Guide for more detail.

9. **Drive - DRIVE** is like the gain knob on most amps; controlling how much "dirt" or distortion you get in the sound. POD HD500X can run up to two amps at once so make sure you select the amp you want to be adjusting with the amp control (via the CTL: Amp parameter) before turning the **DRIVE** knob.

10. **Tone Controls - BASS**, **MID**, **TREBLE** and **PRESENCE** controls are customized for each Amp Model to give you optimal tonal control. When you turn any of these knobs, the display will briefly show the current settings of the **DRIVE**, **BASS**, **MID**, **TREBLE** and **PRESENCE** knobs. Remember, when running two amps to be sure to select the amp you want to adjust before turning these knobs.

11. **Volume Knob -** This adjusts the output level of your selected amp model without affecting the tone or distortion characteristic of the amp model.

12. **Master Volume Knob -** This controls the overall output level of POD HD500X, including the headphone level. Changing the **MASTER VOLUME** level does not change your tone, so you can get the tone you want at any volume level. This setting is global and is not saved when you store settings into the POD HD500X memory locations.

    Note: POD HD500X will generally give the best signal-to-noise performance when you have the **MASTER VOLUME** control at maximum. With the **MASTER VOLUME** control turned down low, you may get extra hiss – which obviously isn't what you want – if you turn up your mixer or recorder's output to compensate. In order to allow you to set the **MASTER VOLUME** as high as possible when connecting to recording, mixing, and other studio gear, be sure

you are plugging POD HD500X 1/4-inch outputs into line level, not microphone or guitar level inputs. Line level inputs should allow you to turn POD HD500X **MASTER VOLUME** up all the way (or close to it) and thereby get the best sound possible.

If your gear has inputs that function as mic/line level inputs, try to set the trim for those inputs to the minimum level, and POD HD500X **MASTER VOLUME** to maximum, when setting levels. There is also a switch which allows you to set the line outputs to amp (instrument) or line level.

Having said all that, it is recommended that you start with the **MASTER VOLUME** control set to minimum and slowly turn the control clockwise towards maximum before any audio clipping (the bad kind of distortion) occurs.

13. **Foot Switches -** In standard operation your foot switches work as follows:

Bank Up, Down - These choose amongst 16 banks of presets in your current **Set List**. Once you've navigated your way to a new bank, step on the **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** Foot Switch to actually load a preset from that bank.

FS 1- FS 4 - (Top row) These assignable foot switches turn the effects and amp models on or off just like a MIDI controller or board full of analog pedals.

A, B, C & D - (Bottom row) From the factory these foot switches provide instant access to presets **A**-**D** from the current bank selected. You can change this behavior in the **SYSTEM & I/O** pages to provide four additional assignable on/off controls. Even in this mode (**FS 5-8**) you can still access presets by pressing the **Bank Up, Down** Footswitches. Pressing either the **Bank Up, Down** Footswitches cues the current bank for access to **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** – loading the preset causes the footswitches to instantly revert to **FS 5-8** mode.

Tap Tempo - Stomping the **TAP** button a few times sets the tempo of all effects with the **TAP** feature assigned to them. Most time-based effects in POD HD500X can have the **TAP** setting affect parameters set to a specific note value. Press and hold **TAP** to enter **Tuner**

**Mode**. Now you've got a fancy chromatic tuner in your **Display**.

Looper - Equips your POD HD500X with up to 48 seconds of looping capability. The **PRE/POST** footswitch allows you to set your loop recording and playback either before amp and effects modeling or after (LED off=PRE, LED on=POST). Recording in **PRE** mode (LED off) let's you record your guitar, then audition various effects with your loop playing back, while recording in **POST** mode (LED on) captures your amp and effects in the loop and then layer different sounds by changing presets. Stomp **REC/OVERDUB** to start recording a loop then stomp **PLAY/STOP** to end loop and immediately start playback. You can overdub additional parts by again, stomping the **REC/OVERDUB** switch. Stomp **PLAY/STOP** to stop or start playback. If you make a mistake on your last overdub press **UNDO** to erase it. Use **1/2 SPEED** at any time to double the loop time normally available at Full Speed and hear playback at half the original loop speed - this changes the pitch of everything down 1 octave too. Press **REVERSE** to hear your playback backwards - xirdneH imiJ ekil tsuJ. You can exit **Looper Mode** even when a loop is still playing to switch presets or turn amps and effects on/off and return back to add additional loops. How cool is that?

The factory default settings for the Looper Display is **ALL VIEWS**. If the user wants to set it to **PERFORMANCE VIEW** then it will only show in the display while in this mode. The benefit to the default is the user will always know if they're in looper mode or not. The **PERFORMANCE VIEW** setting has the benefit of being able to manipulate model parameters while looping.

Note: Changing the state of the **PRE/POST** footswitch while the loop is playing back can dramatically change the volume, so be careful!

14. **Expression Pedals -** The lights to the left of this pedal show when an **Expression Pedal** is engaged and active. The pedal equipped on your POD HD500X can toggle between **EXP 1** and **EXP 2** functionality via the pedal's integrated toe switch. You can add a second **Expression Pedal** to give simultaneous controls of **EXP 1** and **EXP 2** via the **PEDAL 2** Input on the back of your POD HD500X. You can assign these pedals for **Volume**, **Wah**, or to tweak multiple parameters of any effects and amp models in your signal path.

Rear Connections
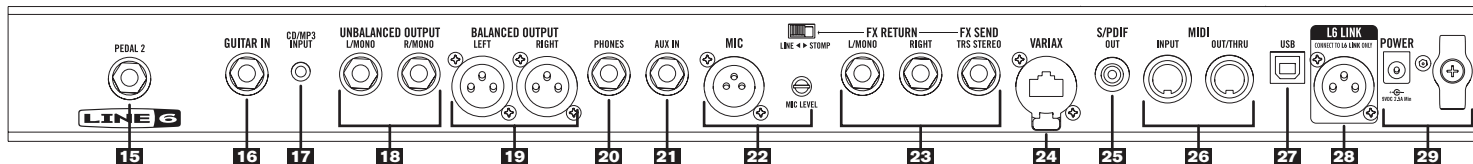
15. **Pedal 2 -** Connect a standard expression pedal, such as the Line 6 EX-1, and you'll be able to assign it to control the Volume, Wah or effects parameter functions.

16. **Guitar In -** Plug your guitar cable in here. If you are using high gain or active pickups you may want to set the **Guitar In** switch on the top of your POD HD500X to **PAD**. There's really no rule, use what sounds best.

17. **CD/MP3 Input -** Connect a CD player, MP3 player, drum machine or other device here, and you'll hear it through the **PHONES**, **UNBALANCED OUTPUT** and **BALANCED OUTPUT**. Use your device's output control to adjust the volume relative to your guitar tone. Start with the volume on your device at its lowest setting and bring it up to the volume you desire.

18. **Unbalanced Output -** connect 1/4" cables here to send your sound to a guitar amplifier, recorder, mixer or PA system. Set the **1/4" OUT** switch on top of your POD HD500X to **AMP** when sending to a guitar amp or **LINE** for devices with -10dBV inputs typical of mixers and recorders.

19. **Balanced Output -** connect balanced XLR cables here for an ideal connection to digital recorders or as direct sends to the house mixer or PA when playing live. If you are experiencing hums and buzzes, set the **XLR** switch on top of your POD HD500X to **LIFT** to eliminate ground loops between your equipment.

20. **Phones -** Plug headphones in here. The volume is set by the **MASTER VOLUME** knob. Always use safe listening practices, starting with a low level and turning up from there if you need more volume.

21. **Aux In -** This mono, unbalanced 1/4" input can be used for a second guitar or just about any other instrument. Visit the **SYSTEM & I/O** edit pages for **AUX IN** routing options.

22. **Mic Input -** plug in your microphone here and use the **MIC LEVEL** control to get a nice, healthy level. Visit the **SYSTEM & I/O** edit pages for routing options.

23. **Effects Loop -** provides a stereo (when using a TRS cable) **FX SEND** and a stereo **FX RETURN**. Set the **FX LOOP LEVEL** switch to **LINE** to operate at higher peak-to-peak voltage, making it optimal for line level devices. The loop can also be used with stomp boxes by setting the **FX LOOP LEVEL** switch to **STOMP**.

24. **Variax Digital Interface -** this input provides power and a direct digital audio connection between a Line 6 Variax guitar or bass and the POD HD500X. Visit the **SYSTEM & I/O** edit pages to assign signal routing options.

When you are ready to connect a Variax, use only Line 6 supplied Variax-compatible cables – not standard Ethernet or other cables – to avoid damage to the jack.

You can learn more about the Variax family of guitars, each one giving you the sound of an entire guitar collection in one instrument, at www.line6.com.

25. **S/PDIF -** This jack sends out 24-bit digital versions of the Direct Out signals. The **SYSTEM & I/O** edit pages lets you choose the sample rate and adjust level.

26. **MIDI -** Connect POD HD500X to your MIDI equipment to send and receive Program Change Messages for selecting presets.

POD HD500X **MIDI OUT** connects to another device's MIDI IN; its **MIDI IN** goes to another device's MIDI OUT.

27. **USB -** The USB jack lets you connect directly to a USB equipped computer for direct recording and to take advantage of many computer-powered features including free, downloadable editor/ librarian software, POD HD500X Edit. Read the Advanced Guide available online to learn more.

28. **L6 LINK –** is a powerful, proprietary connection developed by Line 6 to enable easy, reliable, one-cable connectivity between various Line 6 products. In the case of the DT50 Series guitar amplifiers and POD HD (300/400/500/500X) series multi-effects processors, this connection allows both products to sync and communicate uniquely with each other. L6 LINK passes both audio and control data in a single cable, and the resulting operation allows users to plug a single cable from their POD HD family processor into a DT50 series amp and receive many incredible benefits:

- No additional cables are required to connect a POD HD (300/400/500/500X) to a DT50 series guitar amplifier.

- Changing Tone settings (for example) on either the POD HD or DT50 immediately updates your tone.

- Edit a preset on a POD HD by simply turning knobs on the DT50 as one would any other guitar amp, then save it on the POD HD to perfectly recall every time the preset is selected.

- This one is crazy cool! Calling up a particular amp model or preset on the POD HD enables the DT50 to dynamically reconfigure itself in the analog realm to optimize its components to match the source amplifier. Change your preset on a POD HD, and the DT50 will immediately align itself in the analog realm to such things as the appropriate Class A or A/B operation, Biasing method, Feedback topology, Triode/Pentode operation of the power tubes and more!

- Automatic sensing allows linked multiple (daisy chained) amps to operate in a variety of ways, depending on which POD HD is connected.

At minimum, all POD HDs support stereo operation with linked DT50s, and POD HD500X supports up to four uniquely linked amps with configurations like wet/dry mode easily available.

29. **Power -** Connect your Line 6 Power Supply here to power the unit. Unplug to turn it off. Wrap your power supply cable around the "T" shaped cable tree once or twice to prevent an accidental disconnect.
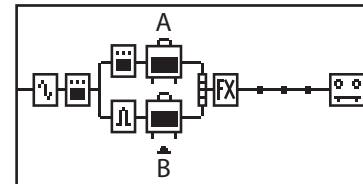
Editing Your Tone - The Basics

Amp Blocks

A single Amp Block can be placed in the "Pre" or "Post" signal flow positions...
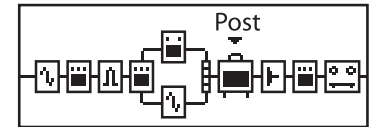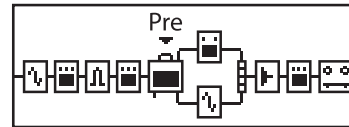
...or, two Amps can be used if positioned within the Paths A & B. You can remove Amp Block B from the signal path in any dual Amp Block preset by selecting Amp Block A and moving it to a pre or post position using the **MOVE** button.

The Amp Blocks have 3 available states: On, Off (bypassed) or Disabled (sometimes referred to as a "Null" state for the Block).
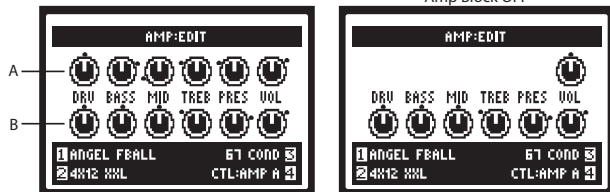
Editing Amp, Cab & Mic Parameters

When an Amp Block is selected, you can use the Multi-function knobs 1 - 4 to select Amp, Cabinet, or Mic Models. When using a dual amp setup, Knob 4 allows you to assign which amp gets controlled by the **DRIVE**, **VOLUME**, and **TONE** knobs.

Amp Block OFF

A —
B —

Turn any of the Amp Tone knobs to adjust the desired settings for the selected Amp.

DRIVE BASS MID TREBLE PRESENCE VOLUME
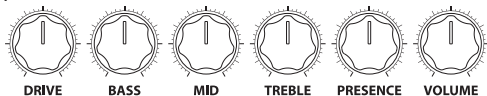
Whenever you adjust any of the Amp Tone knobs, you'll see the "Momentary" **AMP: EDIT** LCD screen temporarily displayed, showing the actual values of the Tone knobs for both current Amp A & Amp B Models. Or, to manually display the **AMP:EDIT** screens, double-press the **ENTER** button when an Amp Model is selected. You'll see the screen's respective controls adjust as you adjust the **DRIVE**, **VOLUME**, and **TONE** knobs. The black "dots" around each knob indicate its last-saved value. With an Amp Block off you'll see only a VOL knob. This is a separate parameter strictly for the Amp Model's Bypass Volume. Use the **VOLUME** knob on your device to adjust this, and its value is stored separately with the Preset for whenever the Amp Block is Bypassed.

You can use the Amp Model deep edit parameters to completely change the behavior of any amp model from subtle to extreme. It's like having your very own amp techinician by your side. From page 1 of the **AMP:EDIT** screen, press the **4 Way Nav Pad** right arrow button to view page 2.

Knob 1 - MASTER sets the amount of power amp distortion. This parameter is highly interactive with all deep edit parameters.

Knob 2 - Sets the amount of SAG in the power amp. At higher settings the model becomes "squishy" with more touch sensitivity and improved sustain.

Knob 3 - Controls how much heater hum and AC ripple interacts with your tone. At maximum setting things get really freaky - you've been warned.

Knob 4 - Sets the **Multi-Function** knobs to alter the settings on this page for Amp A or Amp B.
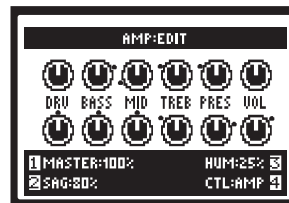
Press the **4 Way Nav Pad** right arrow button again to view page 3.

Knob 1 - Adjusts the bias of the power tubes. At maximum the amp is operating in Class A. Set to minimum you get a very "cold" Class AB biasing.

Knob 2 - Bias Excursion is a phenomenon that occurs only as the power tubes are pushed. Set low for a tighter feel. Set high for more tube compression (**Note:** Turn **DRIVE** & MASTER up to experience this phenomenon).

Knob 4 - Sets the **Multi-Function** knobs to alter the settings on this page for Amp A or Amp B.
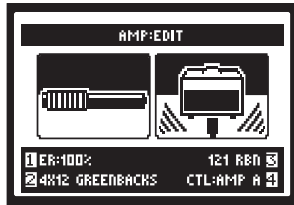
Press the **4 Way Nav Pad** right arrow button one more time to view page 4.

Knob 1 - Sets the amount of "early reflections." Higher settings add more reflective room sound to your tone.

Knob 2 - Turn to change Cabinet Models .

Knob 3 - Selects Microphone type.

Knob 4 - Sets the **Multi-Function** knobs to alter the settings on this page for Amp A or Amp B.

NOTE: When scrolling through the Amp Models, you'll see that we've also included a complete set of "Preamp" versions of each Amp as well. You can choose one of these to obtain the tone of just the preamp stage of the amp. This can be very useful if you want to run your POD HD500X output into an external amplifier. Deep editing parameters are not applicable to the Preamp Models.

FX Blocks
For each Preset there are always a total of 8 FX Blocks, each capable of loading any FX Models or the FX Loop. When in the Signal Flow View screen, select any FX Block and you'll see options at the bottom of the screen, adjustable using the Multi-Function Knobs 1-4. From the **Signal Flow View** with an FX Block selected **Knob 1 -** Select from among the FX Model categories - Dynamics, Distortion, Modulation, Filter, Pitch, EQ, Delay, Reverb, Vol/Pan, Wah, FX Loop, or none. **Knob 2 -** Choose the desired Model from the Model Type list. **Knob 3 -** Choose from up to 5 adjustable parameters for the selected FX Model. Alternatively, double-press the **ENTER** button to display the Edit Mode screen, where all parameters are simultaneously viewable for the selected FX Model. **Knob 4 -** Adjusts the value for the currently selected parameter.

Each FX Block also offers the following features: **On/Off:** Toggle the FX Block "On" or "Off" by pressing the **ENTER** button once. Your signal will still flow through the effect, but will not be processed by it. **Move FX Position:** To move any FX Block, start within the Signal Flow View and select the FX Block to be moved. Press the **MOVE** button and you'll see the selected FX Block appear "raised" to indicate it is now moveable.

Use the **4 Way Nav Pad** to move the FX Block to the desired position. Once the FX Block is in the desired Position, press the MOVE button again to drop it into place.

FX Loop
You can select to load the FX Loop in any of the 8 FX blocks. This allows you to position the POD HD500X hardware FX Loop anywhere you like within the current Preset's signal path.

Just as with FX, you can access options for the FX Loop at the bottom of the Signal Flow View, or in the Edit Mode screen. You can also toggle the FX Loop "On" or "Off" by pressing the **ENTER** button once.

Mixer Block
The Mixer is permanently positioned at the end of the parallel Paths A & B and provides individual Level and Pan controls for each Paths' output before fed to the "Post" position. When the Mixer is selected in the Signal Flow View, its four parameters are available at the bottom of the screen, accessible using the Multi-function Knobs 1-4.

Knob 1 - Volume A controls the volume level of the Path A output. 0 dB is unity gain.

Knob 2 - Volume B controls the volume level of the Path B output. 0 dB is unity gain.

Knob 3 - Pan A adjusts the left/right stereo balance of the Path A output.

Knob 4 - Pan B adjusts the left/right stereo balance of the Path B output.

Note: Changes to the mixer levels can affect the way any effects and amp models are "driven" when placed before them in your signal chain. For example, turning up the mixer in front of an amp model may cause the amp's distortion characteristic to change...a testament to the authentic behavior of our amp models.

Expression Pedal Assignment
POD HD500X includes two Pedal Modes, **EXP 1** and **EXP 2**, each of which can be assigned to any FX Model parameter, or even an FX Loop parameter. The **EXP 1** and **EXP 2** Pedal Modes can each be assigned to control independent FX parameters.

The "on-board" Pedal can switch between either the **EXP 1** or **EXP 2** Pedal Modes. Click the "toe switch" to toggle between **EXP 1** and **EXP 2.** When an Expression Pedal is connected to the **PEDAL 2** input on the back of POD HD500X it controls **EXP 2**.

Controlling Amp & FX Parameters

Configuring the **EXP 1** & **EXP 2** parameter assignments is done within the **Controller Assign** screen. To access the Controller Assign screen, go to the Signal Flow View and select the Amp or FX Block for which you'd like to create an Expression Pedal assignment. Select the desired FX block, then double-press the **MOVE** button. The Controller Assign screen is then displayed specifically for the Amp or FX Model currently loaded in the selected Block. Use the Multi-function Knobs 1-4 to configure the Pedal assignments options specifically for this FX Model.

Knob 1 - Selects the parameter for the current Model that you want to control with an EXP.

Knob 2 - Selects the controller that you want to assign to the parameter. Choose **Off** to have no Pedal assignment, or choose **EXP 1** or **EXP 2**.

**Knob 3 -** Sets the parameter value you'd like for the Pedal's "heel" position.

Knob 4 - Sets the parameter value you'd like for the Pedal's "toe" position.

Assigning an FX or Amp Block to a Footswitch

FS1 through **FS8** footswitches, as well as the Exp Pedal's "toe switch" can be configured to toggle any of the FX or Amp Blocks On/Off. From within the Signal Flow screen, select the FX or Amp Block which you want assigned to one of your footswitches. Then Press and hold the **ENTER**

button to display the Footswitch Assign screen. The Footswitch Assign page is similar to your Signal Flow view. Use Multi-function **Knob 1** to select the footswitch to which you want this FX Block assigned. **Note:** you can assign multiple FX Blocks to a single footswitch or Exp Pedal's "toe switch". You can reference the current Preset's FX footswitch assignments by pressing the **VIEW** button to display the **Performance View** screen.
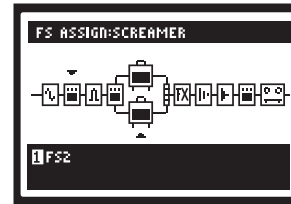
Set Lists

POD HD500X stores up 64 Presets within each of its 8 Set Lists. The big idea here is that you can load any one of these Set Lists to then gain access to any of its Preset locations.

From any screen, simply push the **PRESETS** knob to display the **Set Lists** screen.
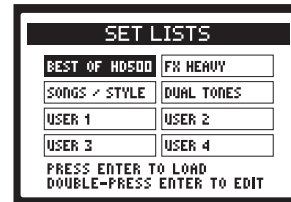
Load a Set List: Use the **4 Way Nav**, or turn the **PRESETS** knob to select any Set List, then press the **ENTER** button. This immediately loads the selected Set List, making all its Presets available. Note that your previously loaded Preset is automatically closed, and the Preset of the same Bank/Channel location number from the new Set List is loaded.

Rename a Set List: With the desired Set List selected, press the **SAVE** button to display the **Rename Set List** screen. To edit the name, use Multi-function Knob 3 to select the desired character, then use Knob 4 to edit the character. Once complete, press **SAVE** again to commit your new name.

Editing a Set List: While in the Set Lists screen, double-press the **ENTER** button to display the list of Presets in the current Set List, where you can reference each Preset's Bank/Channel location, load a Preset, or rearrange the Presets into in any order you like. Use the **4 Way Nav Pad**, or turn the **PRESETS** knob to select any of the 64 locations. Press the **ENTER** button to immediately load the selected location's Preset. Press the **MOVE** button and use the **4 Way Nav Pad** to move a selected Preset to a new location, press **MOVE** again to place it. Once you've completed all of your changes, press the **Presets** knob to commit your changes.

Working with Presets

Each of the 8 Set Lists within POD HD500X includes 64 Channel locations for holding Presets. Each Preset includes all current FX & Amps in use, all their parameters, their position within the signal flow, footswitch & pedal assignments, Mixer settings, as well as input options and other Setup options, as indicated throughout this Guide.

Accessing Presets: From any of the Home View screens, simply turn the **PRESETS** knob to increment through all 64 locations within the currently listed Set List and immediately load the desired Preset. Alternatively, you can access Presets that reside within any Set List from within the Set List - Preset screen.

Bank & Channel Footswitches: POD HD500X also offers Preset selection completely "hands-free" by way of the Bank Up ▲ , Bank Down ▼ and Channel **A, B, C, D** (**FS5 - FS8**) Footswitches. Note that you'll need to set the **System - FS Mode** setting to **"ABCD"** to allow **FS5 - FS8** to instantly access the Channel locations. Press the **A, B, C** or **D** switch to instantly recall its Channel location within the currently selected Bank. Navigate through Banks by pressing the Bank Up ▲ and Bank Down ▼ footswitch and you'll see the Queued Bank screen displayed.

Then press the **A, B, C** or **D** footswitch to load the respective Preset from the desired Bank.

Saving Presets: To retain any new changes made to a Preset, or if you want to rename or move the current Preset to a different Set List and/or new Channel location, you can use the Save function. To initiate the Save function, press the **SAVE** button to display the Save Preset screen.
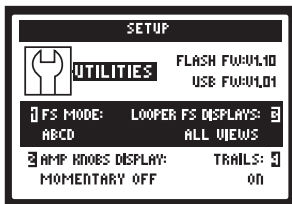

Use the Multi-function Knobs 1-4 to choose your Save functions. **Set List (Knob 1):** Choose any one of your 8 Set Lists here in which you'd like to save your Preset. By default, you'll see your currently loaded Set List. **Destination (Knob 2):** Choose the specific Bank/Channel location within the selected Set List to save your Preset. **Note that this will permanently overwrite the Preset within the destination location once you commit the save**. Choose an empty location if you don't wish to replace an existing Preset. **Cursor & Character (Knobs 3 & 4):** To rename your Preset, select a character with Knob 3, then use Knob 4 to edit the selected character. Once you've completed the above settings, press the **SAVE** button to commit. Or, to cancel the save, press the **PRESETS** knob or **VIEW** button.

System Setup

To access the System Setup options, press and hold the **VIEW** button. Here you can configure several device functions, Input & Output settings and more. There are multiple Setup pages available. Use the **4 Way Nav Pad** to navigate to the desired screen. On each page, up to four options on the lower portion of the screen can be adjusted using the **Multi-Function Knobs**.

Setup: Utilities Options

```
                    SETUP
                              FLASH FW:V1.10
         UTILITIES            USB FW:V1.01

       1 FS MODE:     LOOPER FS DISPLAYS: 2
         ABCD              ALL VIEWS
       3 AMP KNOBS DISPLAY:      TRAILS: 4
         MOMENTARY OFF             ON
```

The top portion of the screen lists the **Flash Memory** and **USB Firmware** versions currently installed on your POD HD500X device. You can use Line 6 Monkey to easily check for and install all available updates. The lower portion of the screen offers four options, adjustable using the Multi-function Knobs 1 - 4.

Knob 1 - This option configures the function of POD HD500X foot-switches FS5 through FS8. This setting is "global" (persists regardless of the current preset). Choose **FS 5-8** for "Pedalboard Mode," where these footswitches toggle FX blocks 5-8 On/Off. (While in Pedalboard Mode, the A, B, C, D functions are still accessible by pressing the Bank Up/Down footswitches.) Choose **ABCD** for "Preset Mode," where these footswitches act as Preset Channel switches.

Knob 2 - Allows you to have the LCD screen momentarily display the Amp Tone Knob settings whenever adjusting any physical amp knob. This is a global setting.

Knob 3 - When the **LOOPER** footswitch is toggled on to engage Looper Mode, the Performance View screen automatically changes to display Looper footswitch functions. This is a global setting. The two selections here offer the following behaviors when Looper Mode is active: **All Views** shows the Looper controls in the LCD regardless of the currently selected View. **Performance View** shows the Looper screen as the Performance View screen (and allows the 3 Home View screens to still be displayed when toggling the **VIEW** button).

Knob 4: When set to "On" allows the echo repeats and/or decay of Delay and Reverb FX to continue when the Model is toggled off - this affects the FX Loop block as well...how cool! With the Trails option "Off" the decay is muted instantly when toggling the Model off. Note that the Trails feature does not provide a "spillover" of the FX decay when changing Presets. The Trails setting is saved per Preset.

Setup: Utilities Options

```
       1 LCD CONTRAST:    AC FREQUENCY: 2
         30                   60 HZ
       3 TAP TEMPO LED:
         ON
```
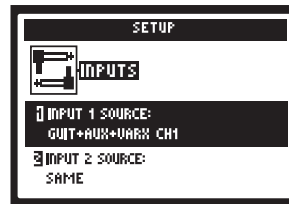
The adjustable options at the bottom of the screen are as follows - all are global settings.

Knob 1 - Adjusts the contrast of the POD HD500X LCD screen.

Knob 2 - Choose "On" to have the LED light for the TAP footswitch flash to indicate the current Tap Tempo value.

Knob 3 - The AC hum typical of the AC Vacuum Tube Heater component is an important part of the tonality of a tube amplifier. We've provided the option here to set the AC Rate to match that of the USA (60Hz) or UK (50Hz) frequency for authenticity and compatibility when feeding POD HD500X to a tube amp plugged in to either type of power source.

Setup: Input Options

```
                    SETUP
         INPUTS

       1 INPUT 1 SOURCE:
         GUIT+AUX+VARX CH1
       2 INPUT 2 SOURCE:
         SAME
```

Use this page to choose among the various hardware inputs as a source for your patch.

Setup: Output Options

SETUP
OUTPUTS
MODE:
STUDIO DIRECT
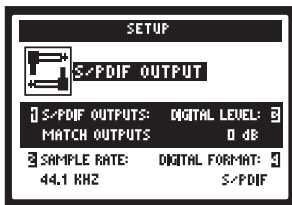
The **Mode** setting on this page allows you to configure the type of signal fed to your POD HD500X analog outputs to optimize for direct recording versus connecting to an external amplifier. This is a global setting.

Knob 1 - Selects the **Output Mode**. **Studio/Direct:** For connecting "Direct" to a mixing console or recording device. **Combo and Stack settings:** These 4 options are all designed to optimize your tone for connecting to an external amplifier. The signal includes "Live" Cab Models,with no Mic Model or "AIR" convolution, with a special EQ curve added for each. **Combo Front** & **Stack Front:** For connecting into the front input of a typical combo amp or amp head + external cab, respectively. When choosing either of these Modes, you'll see additional options for further tone shaping. **Combo Power Amp** & **Stack Power Amp:** For connecting to the power amp of a combo or head amp.

Setup: S/PDIF Output Options

SETUP
S/PDIF OUTPUT
S/PDIF OUTPUTS: DIGITAL LEVEL:
MATCH OUTPUTS   0 dB
SAMPLE RATE: DIGITAL FORMAT:
44.1 KHZ   S/PDIF

These options are strictly for configuring the signal fed to the **S/PDIF OUT**. Use this 24-bit digital connection when connecting to the S/PDIF input of other devices, such as a computer audio interface or digital mixing console. When using S/PDIF, be sure you've syncronized the external device's digital input to the POD HD500X's S/PDIF digital output.

Knob 1 - Selects the type of output mode signal fed to the **S/PDIF OUT**: Match Outputs (uses the same output setting as configured on the Page 4 Setup:Outputs screen or Dry Input (your Source Input signal with no Amp, Cab, Mic, "E.R." or FX processing applied).

Knob 2 - Selects the sample rate of digital signal: 44.1kHz, 48kHz, 88.2kHz or 96 kHz.

Knob 3 - Increases the amplitude of the S/PDIF signal: 0 dB (unity gain) to up to +12 dB.

Setup: MIDI/Tempo Options

SETUP
MIDI/TEMPO
MIDI CHANNEL: TEMPO SYNC:
1   PRESET
MIDI OUT/THRU: TEMPO:
OUT   120 BPM
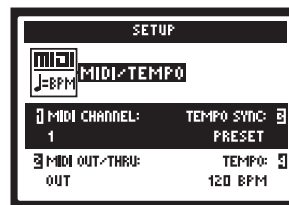
Knob 1 - Sets the system Base MIDI Channel that POD HD500X utilizes for both receiving and sending MIDI communication via the MIDI DIN Input/Output.

Knob 2 - Allows the MIDI Out DIN to be switched between a MIDI Output versus MIDI Output + Thru.

Knob 3 - The "Speed" or "Time" parameters of all tempo-based FX can optionally be set to a note value to follow the above Tap Tempo BPM value. This Tempo Sync option, is a global setting that allows you to choose whether the FX follow the Tap Tempo as a per-Preset value or globally.

Knob 4 - This is an alternative way to enter in a tempo or fine tune the "Tap Tempo" for your current Preset, as opposed to stomping rhythmically on the **TAP** footswitch. This value is saved individually per Preset.

Setup: Variax Options

```
         SETUP
  ╔═══╗
  ║▦▦▦║ VARIAX
  ╚═══╝
  ┌─────────────────┐
  │1 VARIAX CONTROL:│
  │  DISABLED       │
  └─────────────────┘
```

These options are for use with a Line 6 Variax® guitar when connected to the **VARIAX** input on the back of POD HD500X. **Knob 1 -** Set to **Enabled** if you'd like POD HD500X to control your Variax. You'll see additional options in the screen when you have a Variax connected and choose **Enabled**. These options differ depending on the specific Variax type that is connected, (Electric, Acoustic or Bass). Set to **Disabled** and your Variax will be heard, but it won't respond to Preset changes.

Setup: L6 LINK™

```
         SETUP
  ╔═══╗
  ║L6 ║ L6 LINK:AUDIO
  ╚═══╝
  ┌──────────────────────┐
  │1 AMP 1:      AMP 3: 3 │
  │  LEFT/RIGHT  AMP MODEL A│
  │2 AMP 2:      AMP 4: 4 │
  │  RIGHT       AMP MODEL B│
  └──────────────────────┘
```

You can configure the POD HD500X signal to feed to up to four Line 6 DT50™ amplifiers using the Line 6 LINK connection. These settings are saved per Preset. See the additional documentation available online at http://line6.com/support/manuals/

Pedal Calibration

Before you put the POD HD500X on-board Pedal to use, it is recommended that you calibrate it to optimize its functionality. Begin with POD HD500X powered off. Hold down the ▶ on the **4 Way Nav Pad** while powering the unit on, until you see the following "Test Mode" screen, and then proceed with the steps below:

```
  ┌──────────────────┐
  │ Pedal Cal  −     │
  │ Buttons    −     │
  │ Pots       −     │
  │ Encoders −       │
  │ Flash      −     │
  │ SDRAM      −     │
  └──────────────────┘
```
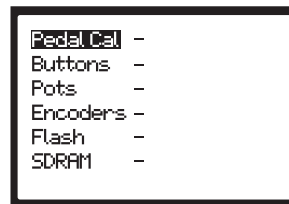
1. If not already selected, use ▲▼ on the **4 Way Nav Pad** to select "Pedal Cal," as shown above.

2. Press the **VIEW** button.

3. Set the pedal to the minimum "heel" position, then press the **A** footswitch to set a value for the Duty Cycle. You'll see the value set to "100."

```
       Pedal Cal
       Duty Cycle
          100
```

4. Set the pedal to the maximum "toe" position, then press the **B** footswitch to set a value for the Duty Cycle. Again, you'll see the value set to "100," as in step 3.

5. Press the **C** footswitch to prepare for automatic selection of the Scaled Pedal Value and move the pedal from min. to max. You should see the Scaled Pedal Values read "0" at the heel position and "255" and the toe position. If you get values other than 0 and 255, power off and repeat these steps, starting at step 1.

```
  Pedal Cal            Pedal Cal
  Duty Cycle           Duty Cycle
  100                  100

  Scaled Pedal Value   Scaled Pedal Value
    0                    255
```

6. Press the **D** footswitch to save the settings. You'll be returned to the Test Mode screen and the Pedal Cal item will show a "P" to indicated that the pedal calibration is complete! Power your device off and back on again to start using it.

```
Pedal Cal  P
Buttons    -
Pots       -
Encoders   -
Flash      -
SDRAM      -
```
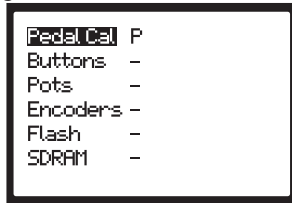
M Series Effects, HD Amp Modeling, Flexible Signal Routing, and Dynamic DSP…

All this sonic power don't come for free bud – Being able to route up to 8 M Series Effects in any order, pre or post amp, and even a parallel split would be plenty powerful on its own. Add the option to run 2 HD Amp Models, the most authentic amp modeling magic yet, and you gotta start to think – Oh, that's a spicy meatball! To create models with such authenticity, some models require more DSP resources than others. Rather than greatly reduce the amount of models and routing options in POD HD500X, we decided to implement a Dynamic DSP system which allows you to create a huge variety of sounds from a single box! Some models, such as Pitch Shifters and Reverbs take a lot of the available DSP. Most other effects can require much less, allowing for an increase to the amount of available simultaneous FX. If there is not sufficient DSP to load a particular model, the model select function will indicate that the model is unavailable. Models which are bypassed reserve the DSP they require when enabled to prevent DSP spikes when stomping FX on and off. Unused models can be set to a disabled or "model of none" block to free up more DSP. It might sound complex but it's really quite simple and will be virtually invisible to many users. See the Advanced User Guide for more details.

Visit Us Online

Get the Advanced Guide and more online at **www.line6.com/manuals**. Get up to speed on your POD HD500X deep editing features with our Advanced User Guide available online. While you're online be sure to register your POD or simply fill out and mail us your included registration card. Registering gets you all set up for warranty service should you have an issue with your amp, and also qualifies you for contests, special offers and more.

Display Icon Reference

HD Amp Model Block	Dynamic Effect Block	Distortion Effect Block	Wah Effect Block
EQ Effect Block	Modulation Effect Block	Delay Effect Block	Reverb Effect Block
Filter Effect Block	Pitch Effect Block	Effects Loop	48 Second Looper
Multi Effect (Foot switch On/Off assigned to more than one effect)			