

SERGE MODULAR MUSIC SYSTEMS
572 Haight Street
San Francisco, CA 94117
(415) 621-6898

14 Feb 84

Jon Kjell Seljeseth
Samtun 36
105 Reykjavik
ICELAND

Dear Jon,

I'll list the answers to your questions:

1. Standard mods are still available, and I'm sending you the list, even if you've already got it. The BIP mod is another jack, so both outputs are available all the time. The OCT gives an octave up, an octave down, and off, for three positions and three different octaves.
2. The DTG and DSG are not compensated internally for temperature change as are the NTO and PCO. This means that they can be expected to drift a little, and will never be as stable as the oscillators. This is not usually apparent at the lower frequencies of LFO's, timing clocks, envelope follower type applications that are the most common use for them. Although we allow them to run very fast, they are not intended primarily as oscillators.
3. The power supply normally runs a little warm, but if it gets too hot to touch, it may be near capacity, and you'll have to get a second supply.
4. The DSG will retrigger with a input pulse if you connect the pulse to the black IN jack. This might seem a strange way to trigger the unit, but it is detailed in the User's Manual. The use of the red TRIG IN jack is not the normal way of patching the DSG for use as an envelope (as strange as that may seem). The DTG, since it is the same circuit as the DSG, can also be triggered in this way only if you have the ACI mod.
5. Yes, the RS can be wired as you suspected. Any input can be connected to the K pad on the SSG board as a source for its smooth and sampled outputs. The inputs are pretty well protected, so voltage swings of +/- 50 volts or more could be applied, although the output swing will be limited to about +/- 10 volts.
6. The scales of your QTKB are not functioning properly. We have changed a capacitor value on the PC board to correct this. The 10 pf ceramic cap as shown in the enclosed diagram is the fix for this weird scaling problems. Check the value of the adjacent 82 pf caps on your PC board and change them if they are some other value. We're enclosing parts if you need them.

7. The small voltage offsets are normal on the quantizer and unavoidable. This won't be noticed of course, except when you completely disconnect the quantizer output from whatever you are controlling. I know of no easy way to avoid retuning your oscillators slightly if you change the routing from the quantizer.
8. The lag time you are noticing through the quantizer is a result of its design and cannot be altered. You may notice that although there are 8 outputs to the unit, there is only one DAC chip (the 7523). The outputs are "multiplexed", switched, one-by-one to get the DAC voltage. The time it takes to get around the any particular channel is the multiplex rate times the number of output channels, and was assigned in the design process as being an optimum time, and is a trade-off with some other critical parameters.
9. Yes, you can add more inputs to the oscillators by adding more 196K resistors to pad K. When we assemble the PC board we use 1% resistors and we match them to about .03% by hand selection to make the two that are on any oscillator very close. That means that if you add more 196K resistors for more 1v/oct inputs, the chances are they won't match as closely as the two normal inputs. If you would like we could supply you with matched sets of resistors (say 3 or 4) and you could replace the two 196K's on board and use the other(s) for your extra inputs. The 1v/oct trimmer on the PC board will have to be re-adjusted slightly for the new resistors to maintain accurate tracking. You may also get satisfactory results using a 190K (or so) resistor and a 10K (or so) trimmer to adjust each new 1v/oct input.
10. I believe it would be possible to put +12 volts through a 33K resistor and pushbutton to pad #15 of the 4520 on the NCOM to reset the count as you describe. No guarantees.
11. 32 stage / 2 row sequencers with the TKB is impossible without some additional logic. A few appropriate CMOS gates could probably do it, but would involve a bit of technical expertise to do it. The lower left 4051 does the switching for the ABCD output, and its output goes into one section of a 324 (left side, pin #12) to be buffered. The switching is on pins 10 and 11 of the 4051, so these two logic lines could be used to drive another couple of gates to get the 32 stage sequencing action. I'm enclosing a portion of the schematic in case you or someone there wants to attempt it.
12. Enclosed is a current catalog and price list.
13. LED's should be driven by something like our little LED driver PC boards, but some gate and trigger outputs can be attached to an LED through a 1K resistor without loading down too much. Again, no guarantees. The power supply won't be hurt, but the output voltage may drop at the jack. You can try a larger resistor for less loading and diminished brightness.
14. Whew!

Sincerely,



Darrel Johansen
General Manager

