

# **Laney**

## **DB SERIES USER MANUAL**

**MODEL : DB150C  
DB150H  
DB300C  
DB300H  
DB400C  
DB400H**

## INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your decision to purchase a **Laney** amplifier.

**Laney** products are designed with ease of operation as a primary objective, however to ensure you derive the best from your new amplifier, it is important you take time to read this user manual and to familiarise yourself with the control functions and facilities available

## BEFORE SWITCHING ON

After unpacking your amplifier check that it is factory fitted with a three pin 'grounded' (or earthed) plug. Before plugging into the power supply ensure you are connecting to a grounded earth outlet.

If you should wish to change the factory fitted plug yourself, ensure that the wiring convention applicable to the country where the amplifier is to be used is strictly conformed to. As an example in the United Kingdom the cable colour code for connections are as follows.

**EARTH OR GROUND - GREEN/YELLOW**  
**NEUTRAL - BLUE**  
**LIVE - BROWN**

This manual has been written for easy access of information. The front and rear panels of each unit are graphically illustrated, with each control and feature numbered. For a description of the function of each control feature, simply check the number with the explanations adjacent to each panel.

Your **Laney DB** bass amplifier has undergone a thorough two stage, pre-delivery inspection, involving actual play testing, as well as valve burn in. Valves are one of the most important components in your **Laney DB** bass amp. However they are also the most fragile component. The glass envelope and valve filaments can easily be damaged in transit without any apparent signs of damage to the box, amp or valves.

When you first receive your **Laney DB** bass amp, follow these simple procedures:

- (i) Ensure that the amplifier is set at the correct voltage for the country it is to be used in.
- (ii) Connect your instrument with a high quality shielded instrument cable. Use of cheap cables will compromise the sound of your instrument and your amplifier.

If there is a problem with your **Laney DB** bass amplifier

DON'T



DO

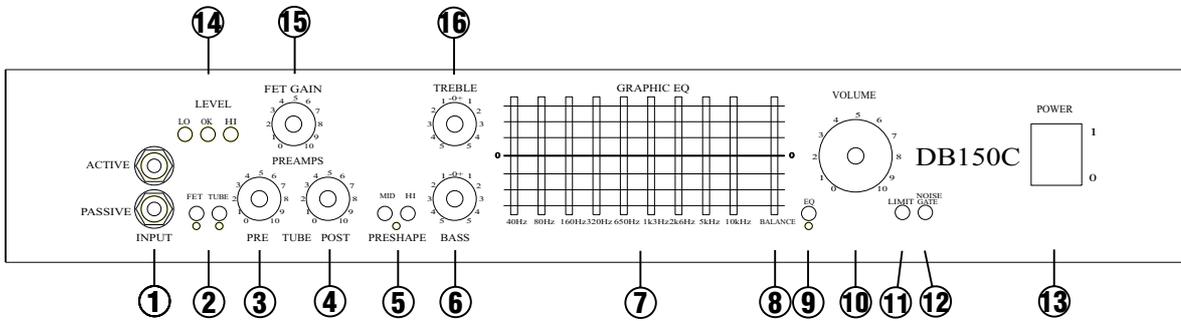


PHONE YOUR DEALER!

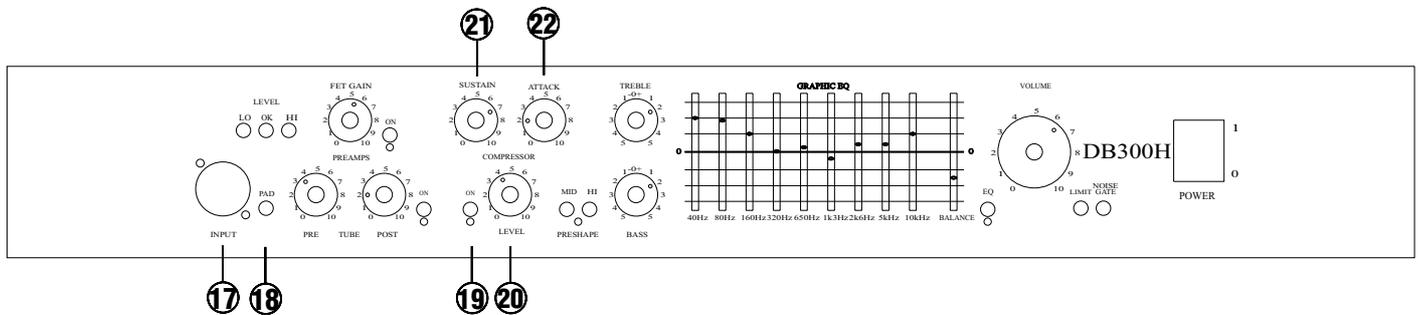
Care of your **Laney** amplifier will prolong it's life.....and yours!.

## FRONT PANEL FEATURES

### DB150C & DB150H



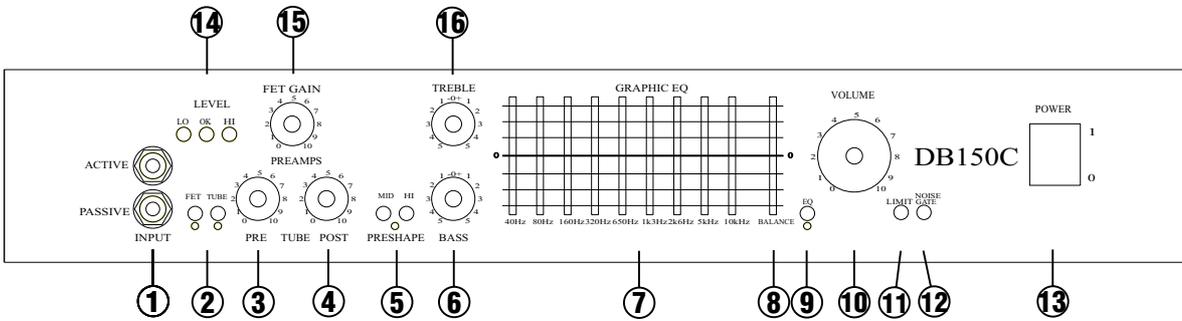
### DB300C, DB300H, DB400C & DB400H



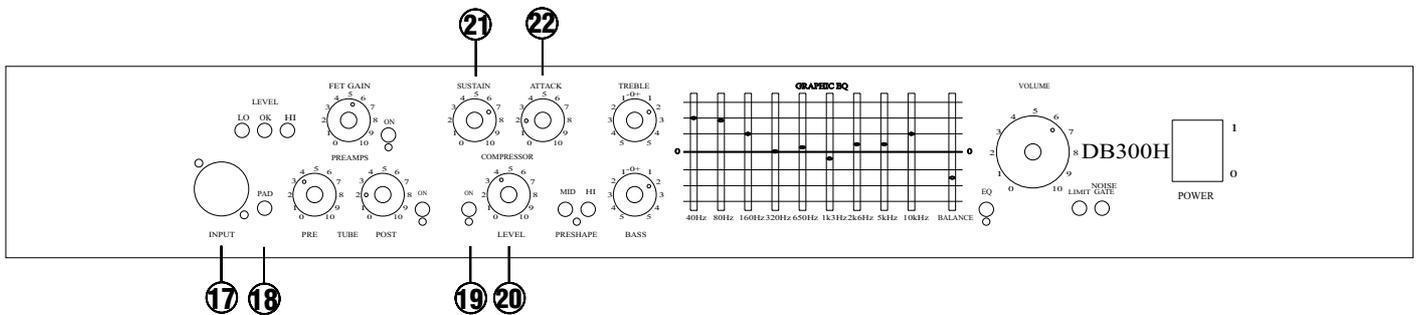
- ① **INPUTS:** Active Input: Low sensitivity input for instrument with active circuitry and high output. Passive Input: High sensitivity input for instrument with normal output i.e. Passive.
- ② **PRE AMP MODE SELECTOR:** Allows access to the different pre amp modes. Pre amp mode selection is achieved by depressing the relevant switch. With no switches depressed the unit defaults to FET. To access both FET and Tube pre amp sections depress both switches simultaneously.
- ③ **TUBE PRE GAIN:** Sets the level of drive in the Tube pre amp circuit. Should be used in conjunction with POST gain control to achieve the desired sound. To achieve a clean sound set the PRE gain level low whilst setting the POST gain relatively high. To achieve a saturated pre amp sound set the PRE gain high and the POST gain relatively low.
- ④ **POST GAIN:** Sets the level of post gain. See above for application.
- ⑤ **PRE-SHAPE:** Two factory set PRE-SHAPES are available. The MID PRE SHAPE produces an overall dip in the mid frequency response of the amp whilst at the same time boosting the low end of the amplifier. The HI PRE SHAPE boosts the upper end frequency response of the amplifier. Both these PRE SHAPES can be selected simultaneously to provide a third factory pre set. These pre shapes can be further modified by the units BASS, MID and GRAPHIC EQ sections. PRE SHAPES are footswitchable on all models except DB150C and DB150H.
- ⑥ **BASS:** Controls the overall bass response of the amplifier
- ⑦ **GRAPHIC:** Nine band GRAPHIC. When switched out the EQ will be set in a flat frequency response. Voicings set via the PRE-SHAPE can be further modified using the GRAPHIC.
- ⑧ **BALANCE:** Balances the pre amplifier output level when the GRAPHIC is assigned. Raising the slider increases the output level of the GRAPHIC. Lowering the slider cuts the output of the GRAPHIC. BALANCE has no effect when EQ is not selected
- ⑨ **EQ:** Enables the onboard GRAPHIC. The GRAPHIC can also be switched via a footswitch on all models. FS2 DB150C/DB150H FS4 footswitch. on all remaining models.
- ⑩ **VOLUME:** Sets the overall listening level of the amplifier

## FRONT PANEL FEATURES

### DB150C & DB150H



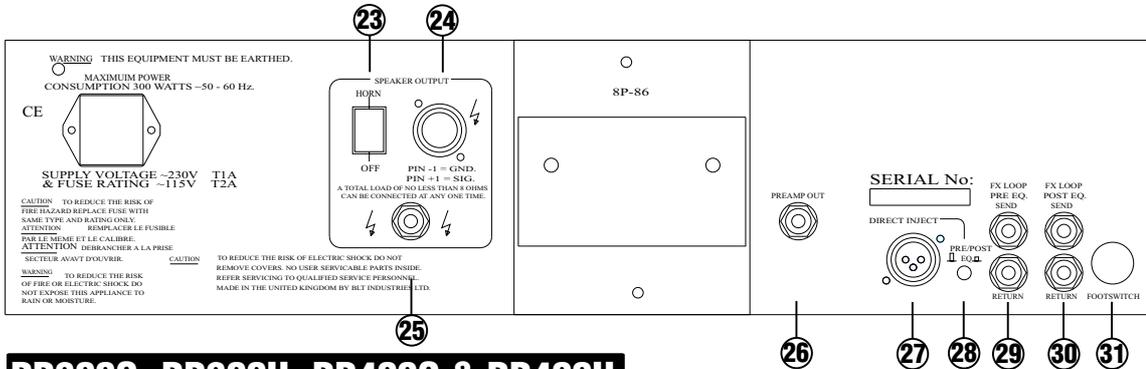
### DB300C, DB300H, DB400C & DB400H



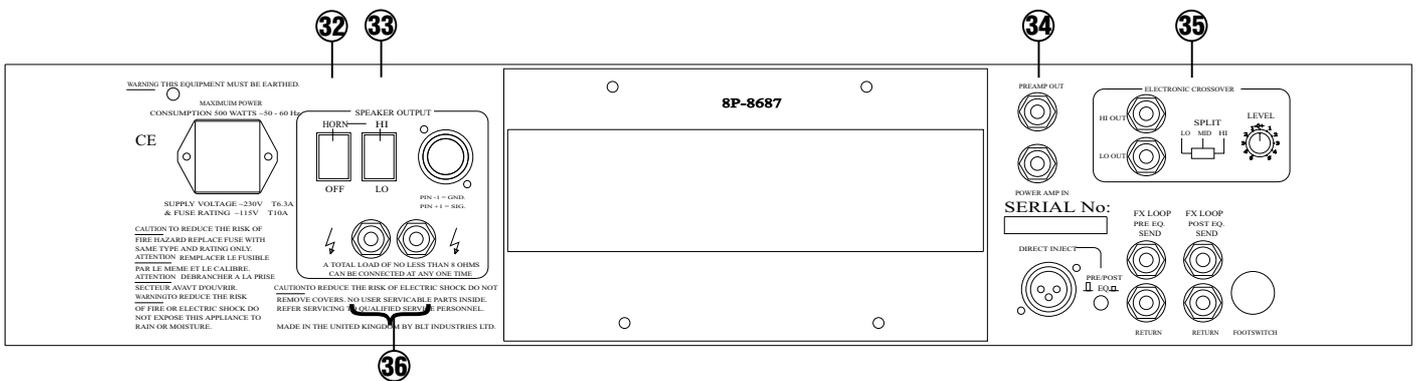
- ⑪ **LIMIT:** Activates a fast attack compressor circuit. This is auto triggered by the output section, and prevent distortion at high output levels.
- ⑫ **NOISE GATE:** When the amplifier is set for a high gain and high output volume; noise, hum and acoustic feedback may become apparent. When selected (Pressed in) the noise reduction circuit is activated when playing ceases, greatly reducing the unwanted noise. Note this is designed to be used at high gain and volme levels, use at low levels can cause unwanted noise and result in premature signal cut off.
- ⑬ **POWER:** Illuminates when amplifier is switched on.
- ⑭ **LEVEL INDICATORS:** Indicates the strength of signal present in the pre-amplifier. If an ORANGE LED is displayed the level of signal should be increased by means of the Pre-amp gains, using the appropriate gain controls. If a GREEN LED is displayed the signal is at its optimum level. If a RED LED is displayed then the level present is too high and should be adjusted accordingly.
- ⑮ **FET GAIN:** Adjusts the level of gain for the FET (solid state) section of the pre amp. This control is only active if the FET pre amp selector is assigned or if both pre amp modes are selected simultaneously
- ⑯ **TREBLE:** Controls the HIGH level frequency content of the amplifier.
- ⑰ **COMBINATION XLR/JACK INPUT:** Allows for the connection of an instrument using either XLR connectors of Jacks
- ⑱ **PAD:** Pad switch for selecting between ACTIVE and PASSIVE input sources.
- ⑲ **ON:** Switches the on board compressor on.
- ⑳ **LEVEL:** Controls the output level of the compressor when the compressor is switched on.
- ㉑ **SUSTAIN:** Controls the compression range and the length of sustain. Turning the control clockwise increases the level of sustain.
- ㉒ **ATTACK:** Controls the envelope of the signal. Turning the control clockwise emphasizes the attack.

## REAR PANEL FEATURES

### DB150C & DB150H



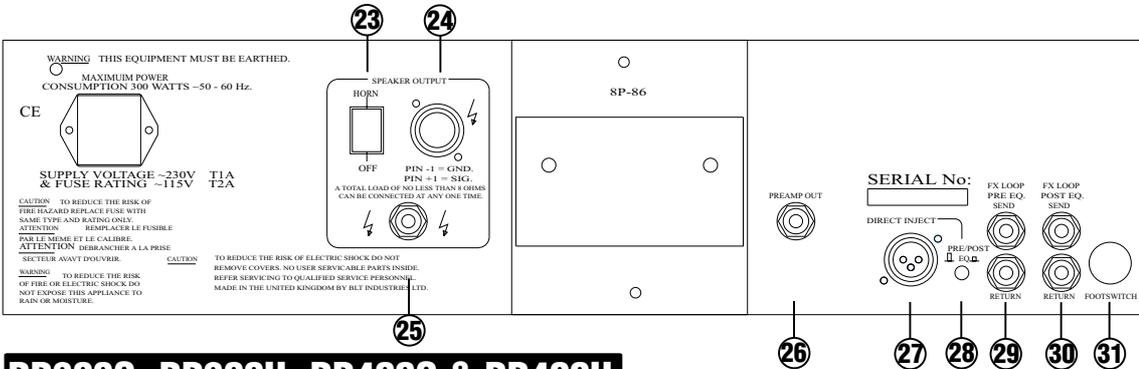
### DB300C, DB300H, DB400C & DB400H



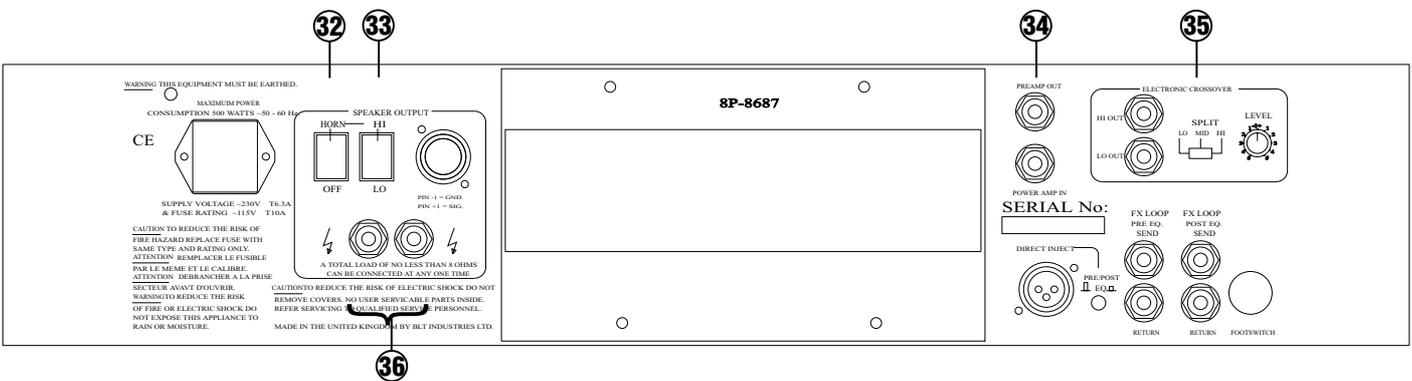
- 23 HORN SWITCH:** Activates the on board COMPRESSION DRIVER. Not present on DB150H.
- 24 SPEAKON OUTPUT:** SPEAKON connector for connecting external speaker cabinet. Total minimum impedance of enclosure connected to this socket must be no lower than 8 Ohm (4 Ohm DB400C/H) when used in conjunction with another cabinet either connected to jack socket (25) or linked from the cabinet connected to the speakon connector. If only a single enclosure is to be used the minimum impedance should be no lower than 4 Ohm. Not present on DB150C
- 25 JACK OUTPUT:** JACK socket for connection of external speaker enclosure. See above.
- 26 PRE AMP OUT:** Provides output to drive external power amplifier.
- 27 XLR DIRECT INJECT:** XLR socket for output of low impedance balanced line signal. Provides signal for use with external mixing desks or PA system
- 28 DI SELECT:** Selects whether the signal sent to the XLR DIRECT INJECT is derived from a PRE EQ signal or a POST EQ signal.
- 29 FX LOOP PRE EQ:** SEND & RETURN jacks for connection of external effects. Effects units connected to this set of send and return sockets receive a PRE EQ signal. Should be used in conjunction with any effect which is going to radically alter the sound of the amplifier, such as Octave dividers, distortion pedals etc.
- 30 FX LOOP POST EQ:** SEND & RETURN jacks for the connection of external effects. An effect unit(s) connected to this set of send and return sockets will receive a POST EQ signal. Should be used in conjunction with effects such as chorus, flanger or any type of digital pedal.
- 31 FOOTSWITCH:** Should be used for connecting the correct type of footswitch to allow the remote switching of the following features. DB150C & DB150H, FS2 for switching of GRAPHIC and INPUT MODE. DB300C/DB300H/DB400C/DB400H, FS5 for switching of INPUT MODE/PRE SHAPE/GRAPHIC and COMPRESSOR

## REAR PANEL FEATURES

### DB150C & DB150H



### DB300C, DB300H, DB400C & DB400H



- ③② **HORN:** Activates the on board COMPRESSION DRIVER. Not present on DB300/400H.
- ③③ **HI/LO SWITCH:** When switched to the HI position the HORN runs at full level. When switched to LO the HORN is attenuated down -6db.
- ③④ **PRE AMP OUT POWER AMP IN:** PRE AMP OUT provides output to drive external power amplifier. This may be used as an additional FX loop when used in conjunction with POWER AMP IN. POWER AMP IN provides an input to the power amplifier for use as a slave amplifier.
- ③⑤ **ELECTRONIC CROSSOVER:** The crossover consists of a HI OUT a LO OUT, a SPLIT function and a LEVEL control. The LEVEL control determines the level of signal sent to either the HI or LO output. The SPLIT control sets the frequency at which the crossover functions and the HI and LO outputs provide a signal to either the internal power amp or an external power amplifier.

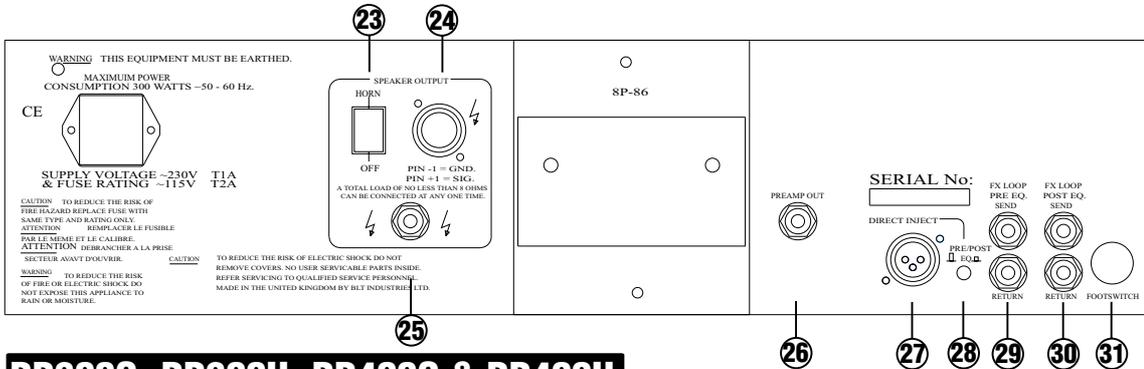
Lets look at the following example to gain an insight into how the crossover can be set up. Lets assume that you have a DB400C and you wish to employ a 1x15 cabinet with a separate power amplifier to handle the bottom end. To do this you would first need to set the crossover frequency to LO. Using a straight Jack connector, connect the HI output to the POWER AMP IN socket (34), This routes the HI frequency signal to the internal power amplifier which is subsequently handled by the onboard speakers. Using a second jack connect the LO OUT socket to the input socket of the external power amplifier connected to the 1x15 enclosure. The DB400C will handle all the MID/HI frequencies whilst the 1x15 will handle all the LO end.

To split the signal to allow a separate 2 x 10" enclosure to handle the HI frequencies whilst allowing the onboard speaker to carry the remaining signal, patch the crossover as follows, SPLIT selector to HI, LO OUT connected to POWER AMP IN, HI OUT to input of external power amplifier connected to 2 x 10" extension cab.

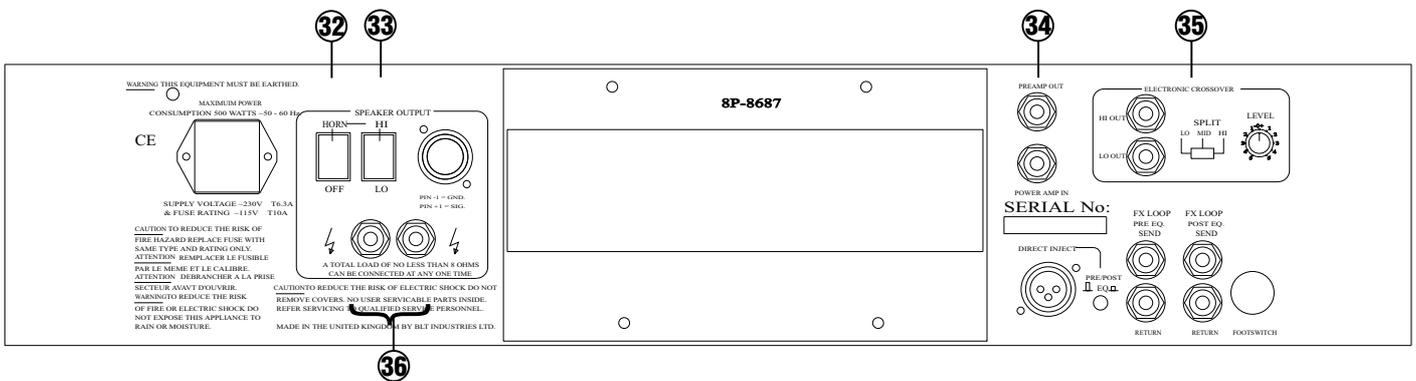
With nothing connected to the crossover patch bay, the unit defaults to full range regardless of where the SPLIT function is set.

## REAR PANEL FEATURES

### DB150C & DB150H



### DB300C, DB300H, DB400C & DB400H



**36** **SPEAKER OUTPUT JACKS:** JACKconnectors for connecting external speaker cabinet . Total minimum impedance of enclosure connected to this socket must be no lower than 8 Ohm (4 Ohm DB400C/H) when used in conjunction with onboard speaker, another cabinet either connected to jack socket (25) or linked from the cabinet connected to the speakon connector. If only a single enclosure is to be used the minimum impedance should be no lower than 4 Ohm (2 Ohm DB400H)

# Laney

BLT Industries Ltd.,  
Newlyn Road,  
Cradley Heath,  
West Midlands.  
B64 6BE.

Tel: (0044) (0)1384 633821  
Fax: (0044) (0)1384 639186  
[Http://www.laney.co.uk](http://www.laney.co.uk)

In the interest of continued product development BLT Industries Ltd. Reserves the right to amend product specification without prior notification.