

MX-5011 PROFESSIONAL TAPE RECORDER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE MANUAL FIFTH EDITION

Otari, Inc.

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WARNING

This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions manual, may cause interference to radio communications. It has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A computing device pursuant to Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against such interference when operated in a commercial environment. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause interference in which case the user at this own expense will be required to take whatever measures may be required to correct the interference.

CAUTION

To prevent fire or shock hazard:

Do not expose this unit to rain or moisture.

Do not remove panels (unless instructed to do so).

There are no user-serviceable parts inside.

Refer servicing to qualified service personnel.

PLEASE READ THROUGH THE SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE.

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

| 1. | Read Instructions | All safety and operating instructions should be read before the device is operated. |
|-----|---------------------------|---|
| 2. | Retain Instructions | The safety and operating instructions should be retained for future reference. |
| 3. | Heed Warnings | All warnings on the device and in the operating instructions should be complied with. |
| 4. | Follow Instructions | All operating and use instructions should be followed. |
| 5. | Water and Moisture | The device should not be used near water — for example, near a bathtub, wash bowl, sink, laundry tub, in a wet basement, near a swimming pool, etc. |
| 6. | Carts and Stands | The device should be used only with a cart or stand that is recommended by the manufacturer. |
| 7. | Ventilation | The device should be situated so that its location or position does not interfere with its proper ventilation. For example, the device should not be situated on a bed, sofa, rug, or similar surface that may block the ventilation openings; or, placed in a built-in installation, such as a bookcase or cabinet that may impede the flow of air through the ventilation openings. |
| 8. | Heat | The device should be situated away from heat sources such as a radiator, heat register, stove or other appliances (including amplifiers) that produce heat. |
| 9. | Power Sources | The device should be connected to a power supply only of the type described in the operating instructions or as marked on the device. |
| 10. | Grounding or Polarization | Precautions should be taken so that the grounding or polarization means of the device is not defeated. |
| 11. | Power Cord Protection | Power supply cords should be routed as they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them, paying particular attention to cords at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the device. |
| 12. | Cleaning | The device should be cleaned only as recommended by the manufacturer. |
| 13. | Non-Use Periods | The power cord of the device should be unplugged from the out-let when left unused for a long period of time. |
| 14 | Object and Liquid Entry | Care should be taken that objects do not enter and that liquids are not spilled into the enclosure through openings. |
| 15. | Damage Requiring Service | The device should be serviced by qualified service personnel when: A. The power supply cord or the plug has been damaged; or B. Objects have entered, or liquid has been spilled into the appliance; or C. The appliance has been exposed to rain; or D. The appliance does not appear to operate normally or exhibits marked change in performance; or E. The appliance has been dropped, or the enclosure damaged. |
| 16. | Servicing | The user should not attempt to service the device beyond that described in the operating instructions. All other service should be referred to qualified personnel. |

COMMUNICATION WITH OTARI

FOR SERVICE INFORMATION AND PARTS

All Otari products are manufactured under strict quality control. Each unit is carefully inspected and tested prior to shipment.

If, however, some adjustment or technical support becomes necessary, replacement parts are required, or technical questions arise, please contact your Otari dealer or contact Otari at:

Otari, Inc.

4-33-3 Kokuryo-cho Chofu-shi, Tokyo182 Japan

| Phone | : (0424) 81-8626 |
|-------|--------------------|
| Telex | : J26604 OTRDENKI |
| Fax | : (0424) 81-8633 |
| Cable | : OTARIDENKI TOKYO |
| | |

Otari Deutschland GmbH.

Rudolf-Diesel-Str.12 D-40670 Meerbusch 2 (Osterath) F.R.Germany Phone : (02159) 50861

 Tiolic
 : (02137) 30001

 Telex
 : 8531638 OTEL D

 Fax
 : (02159) 1778

Otari Corporation

378 Vintage Park Drive Foster City California 94404 U.S.A. Phone : (415) 341-5900 Telex : 650 302 8432 MCI UW Fax : (415) 341-7200

Otari Singapore Pte., Ltd

40 MacTaggart Road Singapore 1336 Phone : (65) 284-7211 Telex : RS 36935 OTARI Fax : (65) 284-4727

Another part of Otari's continuing technical support program for our products is the continuous revision of manuals as the equipment is improved or modified. In order for you to receive the information and support which is applicable to your equipment, and for the technical support program to function properly, please include the following information, most of which can be obtained from the Serial number label on the machine, in all correspondence with Otari:

- Model Number:
- Serial Number:
- Date of Purchase:
- Name and address of the dealer where the machine was purchased and the power requirements (voltage and frequency) of the machine.

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Section 1 Introduction

This section contains general information about the MX-50II two channel analog tape recorder and about this manual.

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1.1 General

The Otari MX-50II series tape recorders are economical high-performance 1/4" tape recorder/reproducers utilizing the latest technology in analog tape recording. The MX-50II series recorder/reproducers are comprised of two machines in the following configurations.

Table 1-1

MX-50II Series Machine Configurations

| Model | Track Configuration |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| MX-50II-N | NAB 2 track 2 channel |
| MX-50II-D | DIN Stereo |

Main Features:

All machines in the series will accept any size reel from a 5" EIA reel to an 11.2" DIN reel. Different size reels can be used for supply and take-up.

The front panel pitch control provides $\pm 8\%$ variable speed range. The capstan motor speed can also be controlled by an external source of 9600 Hz (nominal) square waves for easy interface with a synchronizer or similar controller. The speed range under external control is -50-+100%.

An optional VOICE EDIT MODE PCB assembly allows listening at twice normal play speed without pitch shift for easy editing of lecture and interview work or for transcription.

For convenience of tape editing work, the monitor speaker unit and headphone connector with channel selector switches are equipped.

The built-in tape timer displays the current tape position as Hours, Minutes and Seconds. The tape timer incorporates a search-to-cue locator with one cue point memory and a zero location memory.

All machines in the series feature front panel selection of two operating speeds, with internal switch selection of either high (15 ips and 7.5 ips) or low (7.5 ips and 3.75 ips) speed pair operation.

The MX-50II series machines provide switch selection of NAB or IEC equalization with front panel indication of equalization. XL type connectors are provided for inputs and outputs.

1.2 Using this Manual

This manual is intended for use with both MX-50II models. For convenience, the descriptions and references apply to the MX-50II-N, where any differences exist between this model and others in the series, those differences will be fully explained in context.

◆ **Organization:** This manual is divided into nine sections beginning with this Introduction which contains general information about the MX-50II Series and about the manual.

Section 2, Installation, contains the information necessary when first unpacking and installing the machine. The information and procedures contained in this section should be followed very carefully when the machine is first unpacked and installed.

Section 3, Controls and Indicators, contains a keyed reference guide to the operating controls, indicators, and connectors on the machine. This section contains detailed information about each control and its function. Refer to this section when you have a question about the function of a particular control, indicator, or connector.

Section 4, Operation, describes the operation of the MX-50 machines, and is divided into two parts; a. A table of machine operating modes listing each mode and the controls necessary to enter that mode; and b. Detailed operating instructions, which describe each operation and the controls and indicators associated with that operation.

Section 5, Maintenance and Alignment, provides the information necessary to perform routine maintenance operations, including head cleaning and demagnetizing and capstan motor lubrication. It also covers the audio and transport adjustments associated with normal operation of the machine.

Section 6 Printed Circuit Board Layouts and Parts Lists, contains two-color "x-ray" views of the printed circuit boards (PCBs) showing component locations and foil traces. This section also contains Parts Lists of the electronic components associated with each PCB.

Section 7 Exploded Views and Parts Lists, contains assembly drawings of the machine "exploded" to show internal parts and hardware, and the order of assembly. Each drawing is keyed to an accompanying Parts List containing the Otari part number for each mechanical component.

Appendix contains the installation instruction for optional accessories.

The final section contains the **Schematic Diagrams** for electronics assemblies and major printed circuit boards.

Conventions within this Manual

This manual uses the following notation:

Buttons, Switches Indicators, LED lamps Modes PLAY BUTTON OF TAPE TIMER READY INDICATOR PLAY OF PLAY MODE

The six major transport control buttons are not labeled on the machine, but are labeled on the button caps with graphic symbols. This manual uses the name of the button rather than the graphic symbol whenever the buttons are referred.

| Button Symbol | Name |
|---------------|----------------------|
| • | PLAY |
| \bullet | RECORD |
| | STOP |
| | FAST FORWARD (F.FWD) |
| | REWIND |
| ∢● > | CUE |

1.3 Specifications

1.3.1 Transport **Track Configuration** 1/4" (6.3 mm), 2 track Heads Erase x 1 Record x 1 Reproduce x 1 Motors Capstan x 1 Quartz PLL Servo Controlled Direct Drive Brushless DC Motor Reel x 2 AC Induction Motor **Reel Size** Max. 11.2" (DIN) 15 and 7.5 ips (38.1 and 19.05 cm/s) **Tape Speeds** High speed version 7.5 and 3.75 ips (19.05 and 9.5 cm/s) *manufactured to order Low speed version* Max. ±0.2% **Tape Speed Accuracy Tape Speed Deviation** Max. 0.2% Vari Speed ±8% **VEM Tape Speed** +100% with optional VEM accessory, at 7.5 ips and 3.75 ips only. Wow and Flutter (Peak Weighted DIN 45507) 15 ips Max. ±0.06% 7.5 ips Max. ±0.08% 3.75 ips Max. ±0.12% Start Time* 15 ips Max. 0.4 s *Time required to accelerate 7.5 ips Max. 0.3 s to double the specified Wow and Flutter value 3.75 ips Max. 0.25 s Stop Time 15 ips Max. 0.5 s 7.5 ips Max. 0.4 s 3.75 ips Max 0.4 s Fast Wind Time 100 s for 2,500 ft 60 Hz 120 s for 2,500 ft 50 Hz

1.3.2 Electronics

NOTE: All specifications are measured with AMPEX #456.

| Line Input | Mode Input Impedance Nominal Level | Transformerless Active Balanced 10 kΩ +4 dBu (MX-50II-N) +6 dBu (MX-50II-D) |
|--------------|--|--|
| | Max. Level | +30 dBu |
| | Connector | XL type |
| Line Output | Mode | Transformerless Single End |
| | Output Impedance | Min. 5 Ω |
| | Nominal Level | +4 dBu (MX-50II-N) |
| | | +6 dBu (MX-50II-D) |
| | Max. Level | +22 dBu |
| | Connector | XL type (Male) |
| Phone Output | Load Impedance | Min. 8 Ω |
| | Connector | 1/4" (6 mm) Stereo Phone Jack |

| Equalization | | NAB/IEC switchable | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|----------------------|--|
| Reference Fluxivity | | 250 nWb/m (185 – 510 nWb/m adjustable) | | | | | |
| Frequency Respons | se (Overall) MX-50II-N: SRL = 250 nWb/m MX-50II-D: SRL = 510 nWb/m | 15 ips 30 Hz - 20 kHz ± 2 dB (SRL) 7.5 ips 30 Hz - 18 kHz ± 2 dB (SRL -10 dB) 3.75 ips 20 Hz - 10 kHz ± 2 dB (SRL -20 dB) | |) dB)) dB) | [MX-50II-D SRL -20 dB] [MX-50II-D SRL -20 dB] [MX-50II-D SRL -20 dB] | | |
| Signal to Noise Ratio MX-5011-N | | Unweight 15 ips 7.5 ips 3.75 ips | nted with audio filter (30 Hz – 18 kHz) NAB IEC Recording Level Min. 69 dB Min. 70 dB 1040 nWb/m Min. 71 dB Min. 67 dB 1040 nWb/m Min. 64 dB Min. 67 dB 740 nWb/m | | | g Level b/m /m | |
| | MX-50II-D | 15 ips 7.5 ips 3.75 ips | Min. 69 dB Min. 66 dB Min. 62 dB | Min. 70 dB Min. 67 dB Min. 63 dB | 1040 nW 1040 nW 740 nWb | b/m b/m /m | |
| Distortion (THD) | | Max. 0.3% (MX-50II-N: 1 kHz, 250 nWb/m, 15 ips, Rec/Rep) Max. 0.7% (MX-50II-D: 1 kHz, 510 nWb/m, 15 ips, Rec/Rep) | | | | | |
| Crosstalk | | Min. 55 dB (MX-50II-N: 1 kHz) Min. 50 dB (MX-50II-D: 1 kHz) | | | | | |
| Depth of Erasure | | Min. 75 dB (MX-50II-N: 1 kHz, 1040 nWb/m, 15 ips) Min. 70 dB (MX-50II-D: 1 kHz, 1040 nWb/m, 15 ips) | | | | os) os) | |
| Bias and Erase Frequency | | 150 kHz ±10 kHz | | | | | |

1.3.3 Physical

| Power Requirements | 100/117/220/240 Volts $\pm 10\%$ single phase AC, 50 or 60 Hz |
|------------------------|---|
| Power Consumption | 100 VA |
| Operating Environment | 5°-40°C, 20-80% RH |
| Storage Environment | -20°-45°C, 10-80% RH |
| Weight | 25 kg (55 lbs) |
| Dimensions (W x D x H) | 430 x 455 x 250mm (16.9" x 7.3" x 17.1") |



| Standard Accessory | NAB Hub Reel Hold Down Knob | 2 pcs | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------|--------------------|
| - | Power Cable | 1 pc | |
| | Fuse 2A | 1 рс | |
| | Fuse 3A | 1 рс | |
| | Fuse 4A | 1 рс | |
| | Fuse 5A | 1 рс | |
| | Time Lag Fuse | 2 pcs | 1 pc for MX-50II-N |
| | Lubrication Oil | 1 рс | PZ9E003 |
| | Operation Manual | 1 рс | OS3-322 |
| Optional Accessory | Transport Remote Control Unit | CB-127-S | CB-127 |
| | Mono Head Kit | KH-43X-S | |
| | Scissors | SB-12X | for MX-50II-D |
| | Scissors (Reverse cut angle) | SB-13D-S | for MX-50II-D |
| | 10.5" NAB Reel | ZA-51A | |
| | 11.2" DIN Reel | ZA-5EG | |
| | Rack Mount 19" Rack Adapter | ZA-5EK | |
| | VEM Unit | ZA-5EL | |
| | Pedestal (Stand) | ZA-5ET | |
| | Input Transformer | ZA-5EY | |
| | Output Transformer | ZA-5EZ | |
| | Proximity Sensor | SR-21F-S | |

1.3.4 Accessories

Otari reserves the right to change specifications without notice or obligation.

Section 2 Installation

This section contains the necessary information for unpacking, inspecting, and installing the MX-50II, and includes procedures for customizing the MX-50II.

| 2.1 | Unpacking and Inspection | 2-2 |
|-----|--------------------------|---------|
| 2.2 | Connecting the MX-50II | 2-3 |

2.1 Unpacking and Inspection

◆ **Uncrating the Machine:** We recommend that you open the carton carefully and retain the packing materials at least until proper operation of the machine has been established.

When sending the machine back to Otari or to your Otari dealer, follow the packing instructions printed on the carton.

CAUTION: The MX-50II weighs approximately 25 kg (55 lb.). Although uncrating and installation can be done by one person, it is recommended that you do these procedures with another person.

The carton contains the following standard accessories:

| Item | Part No. | Q'ty | Notes |
|---------------------|----------|-------|--|
| Reel Clamper | KWOHV | 1 set | |
| Power Cord | PZ9D003 | 1 | for MX-50II-N |
| Power Cord | PZ9D229 | 1 | for MX-50II-D |
| Time Lag Fuse | FH9-018 | 1 | |
| Time Lag Fuse 3.15A | FH9-020 | 1 | for MX-50II-D |
| Fuse 2A | FH7F020 | 1 | 5 x 20 mm |
| Fuse 3A | FH7F030 | 1 | 5 x 20 mm |
| Fuse 4A | FH7F040 | 1 | 5 x 20 mm |
| Fuse 5A | FH7F050 | 1 | 5 x 20 mm |
| Lubrication Oil | PZ9E003 | 1 | for capstan motor bearing |
| Operation Manual | OS3322 | 1 | |
| M4 x 6 Screw | | 4 | for re-attaching bottom cover after removing bottom feet |

◆ Inspection: Before making any electrical connections, inspect the machine visually. If there is any evidence of damage due to rough handling during transportation, a claim should be filed with the transportation company. Do not connect or operate the MX-50II until the inspection has been completed, and any damage identified and corrected if necessary.

• **Customizing your MX-50II:** Some of the operating methods can be changed according to your preferences.

- 1. Remove the rear cover by removing the four screws on the top of the machine, the upper rear feet, and the two screws above the slanted portion of the rear cover. Refer to **Figure 2-1**.
- 2. Loosen the two screws at the top of CONTROL PCB ASSEMBLY and hinge it down to horizontal.
- **3.** Change the settings of the DIP switch on CONTROL PCB Assembly if necessary. Refer to **Table 2-2**.

Table 2-1Standard Accessories



Figure 2-1 Opening the Transport Rear Cover

Table 2-2

DIP Switch Functions

| Switch | Function | Factory Setting |
|--------|--|-----------------|
| SW1-1 | Punch In (How to enter Record mode) | off |
| ON | Press RECORD when in Play mode. | |
| off | While Holding RECORD down, press PLAY. | |
| SW1-2 | Punch Out (How to leave Record without stopping the transport) | off |
| ON | Press PLAY. | |
| off | While holding RECORD down, press STOP. | |
| SW1-3 | Speed Pair Selection | off |
| ON | Low Speed Pair = 7.5 and 3.75 ips. | |
| off | High Speed Pair = 15 and 7.5 ips. | |
| SW1-4 | Vari Speed During Record mode. | ON |
| ON | Ext and Vari Speed modes cannot be entered during Record mode. | |
| off | Ext and Vari Speed modes can be entered while in Record mode. | |
| SW2 | Fader Control Logic Level Selection (MX-50II-D Only) | М |
| Μ | Make (Normally open) contact closure, or logic level active low. | |
| В | Brake (Normally closed) contact closure, or logic level active high. | |

NOTE: Turn off the power to the MX-50II whenever changing the setting of SW1 or SW2. The change of setting does not take effect until the power is turned back on.

Please refer to **Appendix** for more information about operating the MX-50II at 3.75 ips.

2.2 Connecting the MX-50II



Figure 2-2 Power Connector Pin Assignment



Figure 2-3 Audio Connector Wiring (MX-50II-N) ◆ Power Connection: Insure that the voltage and frequency supplied to the machine agree with the machine's power requirement printed on the label on the connector panel or on the carton. Make sure that the MX-50II POWER switch is turned off then connect the supplied power cord from the AC mains to the machine.

◆ Connecting the Audio Signal: The audio inputs to the MX-50II are balanced. The outputs are unbalanced.

INPUT CONNECTORS of the MX-50II-N are wired as follows:

Pin 1 = Shield (GND), Pin 2 = Cold, Pin 3 = Hot.

OUTPUT CONNECTORS of the MX-50II-N are wired as follows: Pin 1 = GND, Pin 2 = GND, Pin 3 = Hot.

INPUT CONNECTORS of the MX-50II-D are wired as follows: Pin 1 = Shield (GND), Pin 2 = Hot, Pin 3 = Cold.

OUTPUT CONNECTORS of the MX-50II-D are wired as follows: Pin 1 = GND, Pin 2 = Hot, Pin 3 = GND.

Connector Pin Assignments

| Table 2-3 |
|---------------------------------|
| REMOTE Connector Pin Assignment |

| No. | Description | Level | 1/0 | No. | Description | Level | I/0 |
|------|--------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|---------|------------|
| 1. | RECORD Switch | Low | In | 20. | Capstan Spd Control Clock (*2) | | In |
| 2. | PLAY Switch | Low | In | 21. | Tape Speed A (*3) | H/L | Out |
| 3. | STOP Switch | Low | In | 22. | Tape Speed B (*3) | H/L | Out |
| 4. | F.FWD Switch | Low | In | 23. | External Pitch Control Enable | Low | In |
| 5. | REWIND Switch | Low | In | 24. | NC | _ | _ |
| 6. | Lifter Switch | Low | In | 25. | NC | _ | _ |
| 7. | NC | _ | _ | 26. | NC | _ | _ |
| 8. | NC | _ | _ | 27. | NC | _ | _ |
| 9. | Safety Switch Shut off | Low | Out | 28. | NC | _ | |
| 10. | Record Mode Tally | Low | Out | 29. | NC | _ | |
| 11. | Play Mode Tally | Low | Out | 30. | NC | _ | |
| 12. | Stop Mode Tally | Low | Out | 31. | NC | | _ |
| 13. | F.FWD Mode Tally | Low | Out | 32. | NC | _ | |
| 14. | REWIND Tally | Low | Out | 33. | +5V ±10% Reg. Power Supply (| max 150 | 0 mA) |
| 15. | NC | _ | _ | 34. | 24–40V Unreg. Power Supply (I | max 500 | ,) mA) |
| 16. | Signal Ground | | | 35. | 24–40V Unreg. Power Supply (I | max 500 | ,) mA) |
| 17. | Tach. Pulse (*1, 9) | | Out | 36. | Power Ground | | , |
| 18. | Tape Direction (Fwd=Low) | H/L | Out | 37. | Power Ground | | |
| 19. | NC | _ | _ | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| NOTE | S: 1 Tach Pulse Rate (pulse/s) | 3.75 | ips = 30, 7.5 | ips = | 60, 15 ips = 120 | | |
| | 2 Capstan Control Freq. | 9.6 kl | Hz = nominal ta | , ape sp | peed. | | |
| | | Accept | table external f | requei | ncy range = 4.8–19.2 kHz | | |
| | 3 Tape Speed Definition | 3.75 | ips Speed A = | Low, | Speed B = Low | | |
| | | 7.5 ip | s Speed A = | Low, | Speed B = High | | |
| | | 15 ips | Speed A = | High, | Speed $B = Low$ | | |
| | 4 Connector Type | D-sub | 37 pin (female | e) | | | |
| | 5 Output Signals | Outpu | t Type = Open | Collec | tor | | |
| | | Vol = | 0-0.5 V, Iol = | = 20 r | nA (max), V⊫ = TTL Level | | |
| | | Leaka | qe Current = 20 | ΟμΑ | | | |
| | | Pull U | p = 10 k Ω (te | rmina | ted to +5 V) | | |
| | | Vон (H | iqh Level) = + | 30 V | (max) | | |
| | 6 Input Signals | Fan-in | = 1.5 | | . , | | |
| | 1 5 | VIL = (|)—0.5 V (2.4 i | nA), | V⊪ = 2.5–5.25 V (60 µ A) | | |
| | 7 Cable Length: | max 1 | 0 m (32 feet) | | · · · · | | |
| | 8 Input Command Pulse: | 100 r | ns (min) | | | | |
| | 9 Tach Pulse: | 50 µ s | s (min) | | | | |
| | 10 Capstan Clock Duty Cycle: | 40–6 | 0% | | | | |

Table 2-4

FADER Connector Pin Assignment (Only MX-50II-D models)

| No. | Description | 1/0 |
|-----|-------------------|-----|
| 1. | Fader Play Switch | In |
| 3. | Repro Contact* | Out |
| 6. | Signal Ground | _ |
| 8. | Repro Contact* | Out |
| 9. | Frame Ground | _ |
| | | |

NOTE: To enter PLAY, connect pin 1 to pin 6. Pins 3 and 8 are closed when in Repro Mode.

Section 3 Controls and Indicators

This section describes the controls, indicators, and connectors on the MX-50II tape recorders.

| 3.1 | Transport Control Panel | -2 |
|-----|-------------------------|--------|
| 3.2 | Connector Panel | -8 |

3.1 Transport Control Panel



Figure 3-1 Transport Control Panel — 1

| [1] | POWER SWITCH | Pressing the upper portion of this switch causes power to be applied to the machine. |
|-----|--------------------------------|--|
| [2] | MONITOR LEVEL KNOB | This control adjusts the level of the signal at PHONES connector [4] or built-in Monitor Speaker [32]. |
| [3] | Monitor Channel Select buttons | These buttons select the channel or channels to be sent to PHONES CONNECTOR [4] or built-in MONITOR SPEAKER [32]. Pressing CHANNEL 1 BUTTON selects channel 1 for monitoring, pressing CHANNEL 2 BUTTON selects channel 2. One or both buttons may be pressed at any time. |
| [4] | PHONES CONNECTOR | This 1/4" tip-ring-sleeve phone jack provides signal output for headphones having input impedance of 8 Ω or greater. Connecting the headphone to this connector cuts off the signal to MONITOR SPEAKER [32]. |

| [5] | VU meters | Each VU METER incorporates a PEAK INDICATOR which illuminates when the signal reaches a level equivalent to 1040 nWb/m. |
|-----|--|--|
| [6] | INPUT AND OUTPUT LEVEL CONTROLS | These controls adjust the line input and output levels. When SRL SWITCH [7] associated with INPUT or OUTPUT LEVEL CONTROLS is pressed, and its indicator illuminated, the corresponding level controls have no effect. |
| [7] | SRL switches and indicators | When one of these switches is pressed, the "O VU" indication on VU METER [5] corresponds to the reference flux level (SRL: Standard Reference Level). |
| [8] | READY/SAFE SWITCHES AND READY INDICATORS | Setting one or both of these switches to "READY" places the corresponding channel(s) into Record Ready Mode, in which the input(s) to the channel(s) will be recorded on the tape when the transport is placed into Record Mode. Setting this switch to "READY" while the MX-50II is in PLAY MODE places the channel in Record Mode immediately. Setting one or both of switches to "SAFE" places the corresponding channel(s) into SAFE MODE, in which recording cannot take place. Setting either READY/SAFE SWITCH to "SAFE" while the MX-50II is in Record Mode causes that channel to leave Record Mode immediately. READY INDICATOR flashes when the channel is in Record READY MODE, and becomes steadily illuminated when the channel is in Record Mode. |
| [9] | INPUT/TAPE SWITCH AND TAPE INDICATOR | This switch selects the machine output and monitor signals. When the switch is set to "INPUT", the signal at that channel's OUTPUT CONNECTOR is the signal present at that channel's INPUT CONNECTOR. When the switch is set to "TAPE", the signal at that channel's OUTPUT CONNECTOR is the signal present on tape reproduced by that channel's reproduce head. TAPE INDICATOR will be illuminated. |



Figure 3-2 Transport Control Panel — 2

| [10] REEL SIZE S/L KEY | Selects the tape tension to match the reel size being used. |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| [11] TAPE SPEED LO/HI KEY | Pressing this key causes the tape speed to change. |
| [12] NAB and IEC indicators | Indicates the current position of EQUALIZATION IEC/NAB SWITCH [38] on the connector panel. |
| [13] Tape Timer | Displays the current tape location as Hours, Minutes, and Seconds. |
| [14] SEARCH ZERO, CUE AND CLEAR KEYS | Pressing Search ZERO KEY places the transport into Search ZERO MODE. Search CUE KEY is used to store and/or initiate a search to a stored tape location. Pressing CLEAR KEY together with another key clears TAPE TIMER [13] or the memory associated with that key. CLEAR + Search ZERO resets TAPE TIMER to 0.00.00. CLEAR + Search CUE clears stored cue point memory. |

| [15] FADER BUTTON AND INDICATOR* | Pressing this button enables the fader start line on FADER CONNECTOR [35] on the connector panel. When the fader start function is enabled, PLAY and STOP BUTTONS on the transport are disabled. *(MX-50D Only) |
|----------------------------------|--|
| [16] CUE BUTTON AND INDICATOR | Pressing this button during FAST WIND MODES initiates CUE MODE, in which the tape lifters retract allowing the tape to be in contact with the reproduce head for audio monitoring at wind speed. |
| | Holding CUE BUTTON pressed causes the tape lifters to remain retracted as long as the button is held pressed. Tapping CUE BUTTON quickly causes the lifters to remain retracted until the next time CUE BUTTON is pressed. |
| [17] EDIT BUTTON AND INDICATOR | Pressing this button while in Stop Mode causes the MX-50II to enter Edit READY MODE, in which the take-up motor is turned off, the safety switch for the supply swing arm is deactivated, and EDIT INDICATOR flashes. Pressing PLAY BUTTON while in Edit Ready Mode, or pressing EDIT BUTTON while in PLAY MODE, causes the MX-50II to enter DUMP Edit Mode, in which the take-up reel does not rotate allowing tape to be "dumped" from the transport. |
| | NOTE: If there is slack in the tape path and the safety switch for the supply swing arm is deactivated, EDIT READY MODE will be activated when EDIT BUTTON is pressed, and DUMP EDIT MODE will start when PLAY BUTTON is pressed. |
| [18] RECORD BUTTON AND INDICATOR | Places the transport into Record Mode. |
| [19] PLAY BUTTON AND INDICATOR | Places the transport into P_{LAY} MODE. Pressing this button when there is slack in the tape path causes the take-up reel to rotate very slowly until the slack is removed, then the transport enters P_{LAY} MODE. |
| [20] STOP BUTTON | Pressing this button when the transport is in Record, Play, Dump Edit, Fast Forward, or Rewind mode causes the tape motion to stop. |
| [21] REWIND BUTTON | Places the transport into REWIND MODE, in which the tape moves from the take-up reel to the supply reel at fast wind speed. |
| [22] F.FWD BUTTON | Places the transport into FAST FORWARD MODE, in which the tape moves from the supply reel to the take-up reel at fast wind speed. |



Figure 3-3 Transport Control Panel — 3

[23] Speed Mode button and indicators

Repeatedly pressing this button causes the speed mode of the MX-50II to step through the four speed modes (FIX, VARI, EXT, VEM) in the sequence (if the optional VEM PCB assembly is not installed, Voice EDIT mode cannot be selected).

- □ In FIX SPEED MODE, the capstan motor speed is controlled by the internal crystal oscillator.
- □ In VARI Speed mode, the tape speed is controlled by Pitch Control KNOB [24].
- □ In EXT SPEED MODE, the tape speed is controlled by the external speed reference signal connected to REMOTE CONNECTOR [34] on the rear panel. If the speed mode is set to EXT, and the PITCH ENABLE line (Pin 23 on REMOTE CONNECTOR) is not activated, FIX INDICATOR will remain illuminated, and EXT INDICATOR will flash. Set the speed mode to EXT when using a synchronizer or resolver to control the MX-50II. Refer to §2.2 for additional information about controlling the tape speed using an external controller.
- □ In VOICE EDIT MODE (VEM), the tape is reproduced at two times the currently selected speed, but the pitch of the signal remains constant.
- If SW1-4 on CONTROL PCB assembly is "ON", the MX-50II cannot enter VARI or EXT SPEED MODES when in Record Mode.

| [24] | Pitch Control knob | When the speed mode is set to VARI, the Pitch Control changes the tape speed in Record and PLAY MODES. |
|------|--------------------------------|---|
| [25] | Head Assembly | The erase, record, and reproduce heads are mounted on the head assembly. Azimuth, height, zenith and wrap are individually adjustable on the reproduce and record heads. |
| [26] | Pinch Roller | The tape is driven by the rotation of the capstan shaft against this roller. |
| [27] | Capstan Shaft | The Capstan Shaft is directly driven by a Quartz crystal Phase Locked Loop controlled brushless DC servo capstan motor. |
| [28] | Guide Roller | This roller provides tape guidance and helps isolate the heads from variations in tape motion caused by irregularities in tape supply. |
| [29] | Tachometer Roller | The tape motion causes this roller to rotate, which generates tach pulses which are used to calculate tape time and tape direction. |
| [30] | Supply and Take-up Swing Arms | These arms help correct tape tension fluctuations due to changes in tape pack diameter or irregularities in tape pack. The take-up swing arm is provided with a safety switch which stops the transport when the tape becomes unthreaded from the reel or when too much slack develops in the tape path. |
| [31] | Supply and Take-up Reel Tables | Reel tables with reel clamps for $5-7$ " reels. When using a 10.5" NAB reel, use the supplied reel clamper. Select the appropriate tape tension for the reel size being used by pressing REEL SIZE S/L KEYS [10]. Different reel sizes can be accommodated on each reel table by selecting the appropriate switch setting. |
| [32] | Monitor Speaker | The monitor speaker is used to monitor the signal recorded on the tape. The monitor speaker can output the signal from channel 1, channel 2, or both channel 1 and 2 (selected with the MONITOR CHANNEL SELECT BUTTON [3]). |

3.2 Connector Panel





| [33] INPUT AND OUTPUT CONNECTORS | These XL type connectors are for audio input and output. Refer to §2.2 for more information about connector wiring. |
|----------------------------------|--|
| [34] REMOTE CONNECTOR | This 37 conductor D-type connector contains transport control command lines, status tally signals, and external speed control signals. The optional Remote Control Unit plugs into this connector. Refer to §2.2 for more information about connecting a synchronizer, resolver, or other controller to this connector. |
| [35] FADER CONNECTOR* | This 9 conductor D-type connector contains transport playback command lines and tally contact closure for interface to a broadcasting console. Refer to §2.2 for more information about interface to this connector. *(MX-50D Only) |
| [36] POWER INPUT CONNECTOR | Connect the supplied AC power cord to this connector. |
| [37] GROUND TERMINAL | This connector provides a location for connecting an external chassis ground to the MX-50II. |
| [38] EQUALIZATION IEC/NAB SWITCH | This switch selects the equalization for recording and playback. This switch should be set to "NAB" when using NAB standard equalization for recording and playback. This switch should be set to "IEC" when using IEC standard equalization for recording and playback. |

Section 4 Operation

This section contains, first, a list and accompanying brief explanation of each of the operating conditions (or modes) of the MX-50II, and second, a detailed explanation of each operation or activity associated with the operation of the MX-50II Tape Recorder. Please read both parts of this section when first becoming familiar with the machine, and then refer to them whenever more information about the operation of the machine is required.

Information regarding installation of the machine is provided in Section 2 of this manual. If you are uncrating and hooking up the machine for the first time, please refer to Section 2 before continuing with this section.

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4.1 Modes of Operation

Table 4-1

Transport Modes

| MODE | CONTROL | EXPLANATION |
|--------------|------------------------|--|
| Stop | STOP | Tape motion stops. |
| Play | PLAY | Tape moves from supply to take-up at the currently selected speed. |
| Fast Forward | F.FWD | Tape moves from supply to take-up at fast wind speed. |
| Rewind | REWIND | Tape moves from take-up to supply at fast wind speed. |
| Record | RECORD (or +PLAY)* | Any channel in Record Ready begins to Record. |
| Edit Ready | STOP + EDIT | Transport is ready for Edit or DUMP Edit Mode. |
| Dump Edit | PLAY in Edit Ready | Tape moves towards take-up reel but take-up reel does not turn. |
| Cue | CUE in Rewind or F.Fwd | Lifters will be retracted to allow audio to be monitored. |

 * Selected with SW1-1 on CONTROL PCB assembly.

Table 4-2

Audio Channel Modes

| MODE | CONTROL | EXPLANATION |
|---------------|----------------------------|---|
| Ready | READY/SAFE switch to Ready | The selected channel will enter RECORD when RECORD and PLAY are pressed. |
| Safe | READY/SAFE switch to Safe | The selected channel will not enter RECORD. |
| Input Monitor | INPUT/TAPE switch to Input | The signal at the OUTPUT connector for that channel is the signal present at the INPUT connector. |
| Repro Monitor | INPUT/TAPE switch to Tape | The signal at the OUTPUT connector is the signal on tape reproduced by the Reproduce Head. |

Table 4-3 Locator Modes

| MODE | CONTROL | EXPLANATION |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Search Cue | Search CUE with stored location | Tape is moved to the Cue Point at Fast Wind speed and Stops. |
| Search Zero | Search ZERO | Tape is moved to 0:00:00 at Fast Wind speed and Stops. |

4.2 Mounting the Reels and Threading the MX-50II

4.2.1 Placing the Reels on the Machine

◆ For 5–7" EIA Reels

- **1.** Turn the reel clamp portion of the reel spindle until it lines up with the three reel drive blades on the reel table.
- **2.** Place the reel on the reel table, so that the reel drive blades are inserted into the slots in the reel.
- **3.** Lift and turn the reel clamp portion of the reel spindle 60 degrees (until it clamps the reel in place).

• For 10.5" NAB Hub Reels

- **1.** Turn the reel clamp portion of the reel spindle until it lines up with the three reel drive blades on the reel table.
- **2.** Place the reel adapter on the reel table and lift and turn the reel clamp portion of the reel spindle 60 degrees (until it clamps the adapter in place).
- **3.** Place the reel on the reel adapter and lift and turn the upper portion of the adapter until it locks the reel in place.

• For AEG (or DIN) Hubs (Optional)

- **1.** Turn the reel clamp portion of the reel spindle until it lines up with the three reel drive blades on the reel table.
- 2. Place the reel adapter on the reel table and lift and turn the reel clamp portion of the reel spindle 60 degrees (until it clamps the adapter in place).
- **3.** Place the hub of tape on the adapter and rotate the adapter 90 degrees to lock the hub in place.



Figure 4-1 Reel Mounting

4.2.2 Threading the Tape

- 1. Mount an appropriate empty reel on the machine. Place the empty reel on the take-up reel table. Place the reel of tape on the supply reel table.
- Press REEL SIZE SUP and REEL SIZE T.UP KEYS to set the reel tension to correspond with the size of the reels being used on each reel table. Set REEL SIZE KEY to "L" when using 10.5" NAB reels or 11.2" AEG hubs on the corresponding reel table. Set REEL SIZE KEY to "S" when using any other reel size (5" or 7") on the corresponding reel table.
- **3.** Thread the tape from the supply reel to the take-up reel as shown in **Figure 4-2** and turn the take-up reel counterclockwise to remove the slack from the tape path.
- 4. Press SPEED LO/HI KEY to change tape speed if desired.
- For information regarding changing machine speed pairs (15/7.5 or 7.5/3.75) refer to **Appendix**.



Figure 4-2 Tape Threading

4.3 Transport Modes

◆ Play mode: To enter PLAY MODE, press PLAY BUTTON. The tape will move from supply reel to take-up reel at the currently selected tape speed. The indicator above PLAY BUTTON will become illuminated. PLAY MODE can be entered from any other mode except EDIT READY and SEARCH MODES. To exit from PLAY MODE, press STOP, F.FWD, or REWIND BUTTON.

◆ Fast Forward mode: To enter FAST FORWARD MODE, press F.FWD BUTTON. The tape will move from the supply reel to the take-up reel at fast wind speed. FAST FORWARD MODE can be entered from STOP, PLAY, REWIND and RECORD MODES. To exit from FAST FORWARD MODE, press STOP, PLAY, or REWIND BUTTON.

◆ **Rewind mode:** To enter REWIND MODE, press **REWIND** BUTTON. The tape will move from the take-up reel to the supply reel at fast wind speed. REWIND MODE can be entered from STOP, PLAY, FAST FORWARD and RECORD MODES. TO exit from REWIND MODE, press STOP, PLAY, or F.FWD BUTTON.

◆ **Record mode:** To enter Record Mode, when a channel is in Record Ready Mode, press PLAY BUTTON while holding RECORD BUTTON down*. The indicator above RECORD BUTTON will become steadily illuminated when the MX-50II is in Record Mode. To exit from Record Mode without stopping the tape, press STOP BUTTON while holding RECORD BUTTON or press PLAY BUTTON*.

* The method of entering and leaving RECORD MODE is selected by the position of SW1-1 and SW1-2 on CONTROL PCB ASSEMBLY. Refer to **§2.1** for further information.

◆ Edit Ready mode: To enter EDIT READY MODE, while in STOP MODE, press the EDIT BUTTON. The indicator above EDIT BUTTON will flash when the MX-50II is in EDIT READY MODE. EDIT READY MODE can be entered even if there is slack in the tape path.

◆ Dump Edit mode: To enter EDIT PLAY MODE while in EDIT READY MODE, press PLAY BUTTON. The pinch roller will engage the capstan, the take-up reel will not rotate, and the tape will be spilled from the right side of the transport. To enter DUMP EDIT MODE while in PLAY MODE, press EDIT BUTTON. The take-up reel will stop rotating and the tape will be spilled from the right side of the transport. Pressing STOP BUTTON during DUMP EDIT MODE causes tape motion to STOP and EDIT MODE to be canceled.

◆ Cue mode: To enter CUE MODE while in FAST FORWARD or REWIND MODE, press CUE BUTTON. The tape lifters will be retracted and the audio attenuated allowing the signals on the tape to be monitored while tape is moving at fast wind speed. Tapping CUE BUTTON quickly causes the tape lifters to remain retracted until the next time CUE BUTTON is pressed. Holding CUE BUTTON pressed causes the lifters to remain retracted only as long as CUE BUTTON is held pressed.

4.4 Audio Channel Modes

◆ Record Ready mode: To place any channel into RECORD READY MODE, set RECORD/READY SWITCH for that channel to "READY". READY INDICATOR and the indicator above the RECORD BUTTON will flash. When the RECORD BUTTON, or the RECORD and PLAY BUTTONS (depending on the position of SW1-1 on CONTROL PCB ASSEMBLY), are pressed, any channel which is in RECORD READY will begin to RECORD.

◆ **Record Safe mode:** To place either or both channels in Record SAFE MODE, set RECORD/SAFE SWITCH for that channel to "SAFE". Any channel which is in SAFE MODE will not enter Record.

◆ Input Monitor mode: To place both channels in INPUT MONITOR MODE set INPUT/TAPE SWITCH to "INPUT". The signal at OUTPUT CONNECTORS, VU METERS, MONITOR SPEAKER, and PHONES CONNECTOR will be the signals present at INPUT CONNECTORS. The amber indicator will become illuminated.

◆ **Repro Monitor mode:** To place both channels in REPRO MONITOR MODE set INPUT/TAPE switch to "TAPE". The signal at OUTPUT connectors, VU meters, MONITOR SPEAKER, and PHONES connector will be the signals on tape reproduced by the reproduce head.

4.5 Locator Modes

The MX-50II series tape recorders feature a built-in locator which has one point memory and a zero location memory.

◆ Storing a Tape Location: To store a tape location in the cue point memory, locate the tape at the point to be stored, and press SEARCH CUE KEY if its indicator is not illuminated. If the indicator is illuminated, a tape location is already stored. To store a new location, clear the cue point memory by pressing CLEAR and SEARCH CUE KEYS simultaneously.

◆ Clearing a Tape Location: If the indicator in CUE KEY is illuminated, a tape location is already stored. To clear the cue point memory, press CLEAR and SEARCH CUE KEYS simultaneously.

◆ Search mode: To enter SEARCH MODE, press SEARCH CUE KEY if its indicator is illuminated, showing that a tape location has been stored as that cue point. The MX-50II will move the tape at fast wind speed to the cue point and stop. During SEARCH MODE, the location being searched to will be shown on the display briefly, and the key indicator will flash.

◆ Search Zero mode: To enter SEARCH ZERO MODE, press SEARCH ZERO KEY. The tape will move at fast wind speed to the location corresponding to 0:00:00 on TAPE TIMER, and stop. During the SEARCH the indicator in SEARCH ZERO KEY will flash.

NOTE: Pressing PLAY BUTTON during SEARCH or SEARCH ZERO MODE causes the MX-50II to enter PLAY MODE immediately upon reaching the destination. Pressing any other transport control button (F.FWD, REWIND, or STOP) during SEARCH causes the MX-50II to leave SEARCH and enter the selected mode of operation.

NOTE: SEARCH OF SEARCH ZERO OPERATION IS disabled when the MX-50II is in RECORD MODE.

4.6 Vari Speed mode

To enter Vari Speed mode, in which the tape speed is controlled by the Pitch Control knob, press Speed Mode button until VARI indicator becomes illuminated.

NOTE: VARI and EXT speed modes are disabled when the MX-50II is in RECORD if SW1-4 on CONTROL PCB ASSEMBLY is "ON".

4.7 Voice Edit mode

(Optional with installation of VEM PCB ASSEMBLY)

To enter VOICE EDIT MODE, in which the tape speed is increased to twice normal play speed but the pitch of the signal remains constant, press SPEED MODE BUTTON until VEM INDICATOR becomes illuminated. (If the optional VEM PCB ASSEMBLY has not been installed, the speed mode cannot be set to "VEM".)

NOTE: VOICE EDIT MODE can not be entered when the tape speed is 15 ips.
Section 5 Maintenance and Adjustment

This section describes the maintenance and adjustment procedures which are necessary to keep the MX-50II in peak operating condition, and when components are replaced for any reason.

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5.1 Routine Maintenance

This section describes the maintenance procedures which should be performed at regular intervals.

5.1.1 Demagnetizing the Heads and Tape Path

Demagnetizing should be performed before every recording session and prior to performing any alignments. Demagnetizing should always be done with extreme caution:

DEMAGNETIZING CAUTION: To avoid damage to the MX-50II, always be sure the POWER is off before proceeding. The magnetic field created by the demagnetizer is extremely powerful and could seriously damage the electronics if the power is on. Remove all recorded tapes, especially alignment tapes from the vicinity. Never turn the power to the demagnetizer on or off unless it is at least 1 meter (3 feet) away from the MX-50II. Turning the power on or off in close proximity can cause an extremely strong moving magnetic field which could possibly place a permanent magnetic charge on parts of the machine. Under normal circumstances the demagnetizer would not be powerful enough to remove these charges, and the parts might have to be removed and discarded. ONLY USE HIGH FLUX DENSITY DEMAGNETIZERS; inexpensive "Hi-Fi" type demagnetizers can leave residual fields that will cause more harm than benefit.

- **1.** Turn off the power to the MX-50II. With the demagnetizer at least 1 meter from the MX-50II, plug the demagnetizer into the AC mains and turn it on.
- 2. Slowly move the demagnetizer toward the supply swing arm until the tip is approximately 3 mm (1/8") away from the arm. Slowly move the tip of the demagnetizer up and down along the arm so that the entire surface is exposed to the demagnetizing field. DO NOT TOUCH ANY PART OF THE MX-50II WITH THE DEMAGNETIZER. Slowly move the demagnetizer at least 1 meter away from the MX-50II.
- **3.** Working from left to right repeat Step 2 for each of the following parts in the tape path:
 - A. Supply Swing Arm E. Supply Tape Lifter I. Take-up Tape Guide
 - B. Guide Roller F. Record Head
- J. Capstan Shaft
- C. Supply Tape Guide G. Take-up Tape Lifter K. Take-up Swing Arm
- **D.** Erase Head **H**.
 - H. Reproduce Head
- When all the above parts have been demagnetized, slowly move the demagnetizer at least 1 meter away from the MX-50II and turn it off or unplug it.



Figure 5-1 Demagnetizing the Head

5.1.2 Cleaning the Heads and Tape Path

It is extremely important to clean the entire tape path regularly. Oxide and dirt will be shed from the tape and accumulate on these parts, causing a build-up that can degrade audio performance, cause slippage, and cause undue wear on the tape.

CAUTION: Never use any metallic item or abrasive to clean the heads or any other tape guidance parts. Never use spirits, lacguer thinner, acetone or other solvents on the tape heads. Rubbing alcohol should be avoided since it contains oil that will leave a residue.

Moisten a cotton swab in pure isopropyl alcohol, and wipe the entire surface of the following parts:

- A. Supply Swing Arm E. Supply Tape Lifter
- I. Take-up Tape Guide
- J. Capstan Shaft
- C. Supply Tape Guide G. Take-up Tape Lifter K. Take-up Swing Arm H. Reproduce Head

F. Record Head

- D. Erase Head

B. Guide Roller

- COTTON SWAB HEAD

5.1.3 Lubrication

The capstan motor bearing requires lubrication. USE ONLY OTARI OIL P/N *PZ9E003.* To lubricate the capstan motor bearing, follow these steps:

- Lay the machine on its back, with the reel tables uppermost. Remove 1. the head housing cover by pulling it away from the deck plate.
- Remove the pinch roller by unscrewing its cap and removing the pinch 2. roller and its guard from the shaft. Note the position of the pinch roller guard as it mates with indexed cuts on each side of the pinch roller shaft. The pinch roller guard must be properly aligned before tightening the screw.
- 3. Remove the head base cover by removing the two screws which attach it to the deck plate. The screws are located above and to the left and right of PITCH CONTROL KNOB. Gently pry the capstan dust cap off using a small screwdriver in the pry hole in the dust cap. The pry hole is located near the exposed shiny deck plate.
- Remove the felt pad from on top of the bearing, and insert 3 drops of oil 4 in the cavity surrounding the bearing. Apply one drop of oil every 3 to 6 months depending on machine usage. Do not over lubricate, and be careful not to apply oil to the portion of the capstan shaft which contacts the tape.
- Check the pinch roller bearing. Apply one drop of oil if necessary. 5.
- Snap the dust cover back in place, and reassemble in reverse order of 6. disassembly.





Figure 5-3 Capstan Motor Bearing Lubrication

5.2 Transport Alignment

Although the MX-50II tape transport does not require frequent alignment, realignment is required whenever any component is changed. We recommend that you check the performance of the machine at least every six months or every 2000 hours of operation and perform adjustments if necessary.

The following tools and equipment are required for transport alignment.

- □ 7" plastic reel with large hub
- □ Spring scale (0-2000 grams) OTARI P/N YVP2050G
- Hand tools
- □ Reel of the tape type that is normally used for sessions
- □ 2 m (6 ft.) long piece of string
- Dual trace oscilloscope
- Frequency counter
- Otari Head Inker or marker pen for white board

5.2.1 Head Position Adjustment

IMPORTANT NOTE: Head azimuth adjustment procedures for the reproduce and record heads are described in **§5.3**. The height, zenith and wrap of each head has already been adjusted at the factory and DO NOT REQUIRE ADJUSTMENT UNLESS A HEAD IS CHANGED.

- 1. Thread the machine with tape which can be discarded after this use, and visually adjust the head height and zenith using the screws in front of, and behind each head.
- 2. After coarse adjustment visually, apply marker pen or head marking ink to the head surface. Place the machine into PLAY MODE for approximately 2 minutes.
- **3.** Carefully unthread the tape, and inspect the face of head where the passage of the tape has worn away the ink.
- 4. Adjust the head height and zenith and repeat steps 2 and 3 until the head gaps are exactly centered in the height of the wear pattern, and the wear pattern is rectangular rather than trapezoidal. Refer to **Figure 5-4**.
- 5. If the wrap adjustment is required, remove the head base cover by removing the two screws that attach it to the deck plate. Then remove the head assembly by removing the four screws and lift it away from the deck plate.

NOTE: The head cables will still be attached to the machine. Do not pull on the head cables.

- 6. Loosen the wrap adjustment screws at the bottom of the head assembly (2 each for record and reproduce heads) slightly so that the head can be moved by hand. Do not loosen the screws too much.
- **7.** Reinstall the head assembly on the machine, ink the head as in Steps 2 and 3, and adjust the wrap until a suitable wear pattern is obtained.
- **8.** When the wear pattern indicates that the wrap adjustment is correct, carefully remove the head assembly and tighten the wrap adjustment screws. Reinstall the head assembly, mounting it with its screws, and clean the heads and tape path.







Figure 5-4 Head Position Adjustment

REEL TABLE

DECK PLATE

REEL TABLE

6.5 mm (0.256 in)

5.2.2 Reel Table Height Adjustment

- 1. Measure the distance from the top surface of the deck plate to the metal surface of the reel table. If the distance is 6.5 mm (0.256 in), then no adjustment is required. Refer to **Figure 5-5**.
- 2. If adjustment is required, remove the rear cover by removing the eight screws. Loosen the two M4 hex socket cap screws that hold the reel table to the motor shaft using an 3 mm hex wrench and move the reel table in or out as required. Be very careful not to rotate the reel table in relation to the motor shaft. Tighten the screws.

CAUTION: IF YOU HAVE ANY DOUBT WHETHER THE SET-SCREWS ARE STILL ALIGNED WITH THE FLATS ON THE MOTOR SHAFT, DO NOT TIGHTEN THE SCREWS; LIFT THE REEL TABLE COMPLETELY OFF THE SHAFT AND INSPECT THE ALIGNMENT.

3. Test the adjustment by threading the machine with tape on 7" reels and entering FAST FORWARD MODE (if adjusting the take-up reel table) or REWIND (if adjusting the supply reel table). Observe the tape as it is wound onto the reel. If the tape winds onto the center of the reel, then the adjustment is correct.

5.2.3 Reel Brake Adjustment

- 1. Attach one end of a 2 m (6 ft) piece of string to the hub of a 7" large hub reel. Attach the other end of the string to the spring scale.
- 2. Turn off the power to the machine.
- Place the reel on the supply [take-up] reel table so that the reel rotates counterclockwise [clockwise] when the string is pulled. Refer to Figure 5-6. Pull on the spring scale to unwind the string while noting the reading on the spring scale. Since the reading is dependent upon the speed with which the string is pulled, you should repeat the measurement two or three times and average the results. If the average reading is 320 ±20 grams, then no adjustment is necessary.

Perform the following Steps only if adjustment is required.

- 4. Remove the rear cover by removing the eight screws. Loosen the two screws that hold the top of CONTROL PCB ASSEMBLY, and allow it to fold down.
- **5.** Loosen the screw marked "**A**" in **Figure 5-6**, and move the spring anchor. Moving the spring anchor toward the brake arm decreases the brake tension.
- 6. Repeat the measurements in Step 3, and readjust if necessary.





o REEL MOTOR

SIDE VIEW

с

Figure 5-5 Reel Table Height Adjustment

5.2.4 Tape Lifter Adjustment





Figure 5-7 Tape Lifter Adjustment

- **1.** Remove the head housing cover.
- 2. Thread the machine with tape and place the machine in FAST WIND MODE.
- **3.** With the machine in FAST WIND MODE, check the separation between the tape and the surface of the supply side tape guide.

If the separation is 1–1.5mm (0.04–0.06") then adjustment is not necessary. Perform the following Steps only if adjustment is necessary.

- 4. Remove the rear cover by removing the eight screws.
- **5.** Loosen the two screws that hold the top of CONTROL PCB ASSEMBLY, and allow it to fold down.
- **6.** Loosen the two screws that attach the lifter solenoid bracket to the deck plate and slide the solenoid until the clearance between the tape and the supply side tape guide is correct. Tighten the screws.

5.2.5 Pinch Roller Adjustment

- **1.** Make a loop of string approximately 30 cm (12") long and place it around the pinch roller shaft.
- 2. Attach the spring scale to the free end of the loop.
- 3. Turn on the power to the MX-50II.
- 4. Press EDIT and PLAY BUTTONS so the pinch roller engages the capstan shaft.
- **5.** Pull on the spring scale until the pinch roller just becomes separated from the capstan shaft. Note the reading on the spring scale at that time.

The spring scale reading should be 2000 \pm 150 grams. If the reading is correct, then no adjustment is necessary. Perform the following steps only if adjustment is necessary.

- **6.** Remove the rear cover by removing the eight screws and lifting the cover off the machine.
- **7.** Loosen the two screws that hold the top of CONTROL PCB ASSEMBLY, and allow it to fold down.
- **8.** To adjust the pinch roller pressure, loosen the three screws that attach the pinch roller solenoid bracket to the deck plate and move the solenoid. Moving the solenoid toward the center of the machine decreases the pinch roller pressure. Tighten the screws.
- 9. Repeat the measurement and repeat the adjustment if necessary.



PINCH ROLLER SOLENOID

Figure 5-8 Pinch Roller Solenoid Location

5.2.6 Capstan Motor Servo Adjustment

This procedure is not necessary unless the capstan motor is changed.

- **1.** Remove the rear cover by removing the eight screws and lifting the cover off the machine. Loosen the two screws that hold CONTROL PCB ASSEMBLY and allow it to fold down.
- 2. Thread the machine with tape and apply power.
- 3. Set the tape speed to 15 ips. Select Fixed Speed MODE.
- 4. Connect the oscilloscope to check point CP3 and CP2 (GND) on CONTROL PCB ASSEMBLY. Refer to Figure 5-9.
- 5. Enter the machine into PLAY MODE and adjust the oscilloscope controls so that it shows one complete cycle of the 0–5 V square wave. While playing the tape, adjust VR7 so that the duty cycle of the displayed waveform is approximately 50%.
- 6. While observing the oscilloscope, apply a load to the capstan motor by briefly pinching the capstan shaft between your thumb and forefinger. Adjust VR4 on CONTROL PCB ASSEMBLY for minimum recovery time.
- **7.** Set the tape speed to 7.5 ips, and repeat Step 5 using VR6, and then repeat Step 6 using VR 3.
- **8.** Set the tape speed to 3.75 ips, and repeat Step 5 using VR5, and then repeat Step 6 using VR2.
- 9. Connect the frequency counter to CP1 and CP2 (GND).
- **10.** Set PITCH CONTROL KNOB to the center of its range. Make sure the machine is in Fix SPEED MODE.
- 11. While playing the tape, adjust VR1 until the counter indicates 9600 Hz ± 10 Hz.

Capstan Servo Gain (3.75 ips/7.5 ips/15 ips)

12. Disconnect the frequency counter and close the rear cover of the machine. Clean the capstan shaft and pinch roller.



VR5/VR6/VR7



May 1991

5.3 Audio Channel Alignment

Tools and Equipment required

□ Calibration tapes suitable to the tape speed you will use most often. Otari Recommends the following calibration tapes.

For MX-50IIN (NAB Equalization)

| Tape Speed | Flux Level | MRL* Catalog No. |
|------------|------------|------------------|
| 15 ips | 250 nWb/m | 21J205 |
| 7.5 ips | 250 nWb/m | 21T204 |
| 3.75 ips | 250 nWb/m | 21F101-A |
| | | |

* Magnetic Reference Laboratories

For MX-50IID (IEC Equalization)

| Tape Speed | Flux Level | EQ | BASF Part No | Notes |
|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 38 cm/s | 510 nWb/m | 35 µ s | 09800169XA | Level/Head Height |
| 38 cm/s | 320 nWb/m | 35 µ s | 09795187XB | Calibration |
| 19 cm/s | 510 nWb/m | 70 µ s | 09800169XB | Level/Head Height |
| 19 cm/s | 320 nWb/m | 70 µ s | 09795187XE | Calibration |
| 9.5 cm/s | 250 nWb/m | 90+3180 µ s | 09795187XG | Calibration |

- □ An AC voltmeter calibrated in milliVolts and deciBels, having a high input impedance so as not to disturb the circuit under test.
- □ A general purpose dual-trace oscilloscope such as those made by Tektronics, Leader, Hitachi, Hewlett-Packard, etc.
- □ A sweepable test oscillator capable of generating sine waves at frequencies from 20 Hz to 20 kHz, at +4 dBu (or whatever standard operating level your studio uses (such as -10 dBu, or +6 dBu, etc.)).
- □ A reel of tape of the type normally used for sessions.
- Hand Tools.
- □ A non-magnetic alignment screwdriver with a blade small enough to fit the trimmers on the PCBs.
- □ A tape head demagnetizer (degausser).
- Pure (90%) isopropyl alcohol, cotton swabs, and lint-free cloth for cleaning the tape path.

CAUTION: DO NOT USE RUBBING ALCOHOL, as this can leave water and oil residues, and DO NOT USE ANY OTHER SOLVENT, as it may delaminate the heads.

5.3.1 Input/Output Level and Peak Indicator Adjustments

These adjustments generally should be performed when first receiving the machine, and then again only when any audio component such as heads are changed. The PEAK INDICATOR is factory preset to illuminate at a level equivalent to 1040 nWb/m, which corresponds to approximately 3% THD.

- 1. Open the MX-5011 bottom panel to gain access to AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB ASSEMBLY.
- Adjust the external oscillator to produce 1 kHz sine waves at your operating level (e.g., -10 dBu) and connect it to the channel 1 INPUT CONNECTOR of the MX-50II. Connect the AC voltmeter to the channel 1 OUTPUT CONNECTOR. Press INPUT SRL SWITCH so that SRL INDICATOR becomes illuminated (SRL On). Press INPUT/TAPE SWITCH to place the machine in INPUT MONITOR MODE (indicator Off).
- **3.** Adjust VR301 [CH 1 INPUT LEVEL] ON AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB ASSEMBLY until VU METER indicates 0 VU. Adjust VR106 [CH 1 OUTPUT LEVEL] so that the AC voltmeter indicates the same as the level being supplied to the MX-50II.
- 4. Repeat Steps 2 and 3 for channel 2 using VR401 [CH 2 INPUT LEVEL] and VR206 [CH 2 OUTPUT LEVEL].
- 5. In the table below, locate the flux level at which you operate the MX-50II. The input level corresponding to 1040 nWb/m is the "additional level" above the level which causes VU METER to indicate OVU.

| Flux Level | Additional Level |
|------------|------------------|
| 185 nWb/m | 15.0 dB |
| 250 nWb/m | 12.4 dB |
| 370 nWb/m | 9.0 dB |
| 370 nWb/m | 9.0 dB |

- **6.** Set the oscillator to produce 1 kHz sine waves at your studio level plus the "additional level" shown in the table (e.g., if your studio level is -8 dBu at 250 nWb/m, then set the oscillator for +4.4 dBu).
- 7. Connect the oscillator to the channel 1 INPUT CONNECTOR. Adjust VR105 [CH 1 PEAK IND] until PEAK INDICATOR in the channel 1 VU METER just illuminates.
- 8. Connect the oscillator to channel 2 and repeat Step 7 using VR205.

| VR101/VR201 | CH 1/CH 2 REPRO LOW FREQ COMP |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| VR102/VR202 | CH 1/CH 2 REPRO EQ, HI SPEED |
| VR103/VR203 | CH 1/CH 2 REPRO EQ, LOW SPEED |
| VR104/VR204 | CH 1/CH 2 REPRO LEVEL |
| VR105/VR205 | CH 1/CH 2 PEAK IND |
| VR106/VR206 | CH 1/CH 2 OUTPUT LEVEL |
| J101/J201 | CH 1/CH 2 REPRO LOW FREQ COMP ON/OFF |
| J102/J202 | CH 1/CH 2 OUTPUT LEVEL RANGE |

| VR301/VR401 | CH 1/CH 2 INPUT LEVEL |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| VR302/VR402 | CH 1/CH 2 REC EQ, LOW SPEED |
| VR303/VR403 | CH 1/CH 2 REC EQ, HI SPEED |
| VR304/VR404 | CH 1/CH 2 REC LEVEL |
| VR305/VR405 | CH 1/CH 2 REC BIAS |
| L304/L404 | CH 1/CH 2 DUMMY LOAD |
| J301/J401 | CH 1/CH 2 INPUT LEVEL RANGE |
| J501/J502 | CH 1/CH 2 7.5 & 3.75 IPS OPERATION |

Figure 5-10

Controls on the AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB Assembly



5.3.2 Reproduce Electronics Adjustments

NOTE: In the procedures that follow, it is assumed that your chosen studio operating level is +4 dBu. If your chosen studio operating level is different, then change the references to +4 dBu to the level you have chosen.

Precautions Before Making Adjustments: These procedures should be completed before any alignment procedures are performed.

- a. Check that the level matching procedures in §5.3.1 have been performed.
- **b.** Check to be sure that EQUALIZATION IEC/NAB SWITCH is correctly set.
- c. Clean and demagnetize the tape path.

5.3.2.1 Reproduce Head Azimuth Adjustment

- **1.** Thread the machine with the 15 ips reproducer calibration tape and set tape speed to 15 ips. Set INPUT/TAPE SWITCH to "TAPE".
- 2. Connect one oscilloscope input channel to the channel 1 OUTPUT CONNECTOR. Connect the other oscilloscope input channel to the channel 2 OUTPUT CONNECTOR. Configure the oscilloscope to display the input waveforms as a "lissajous" pattern using the X-Y display function. Adjust the oscilloscope controls so that both signals have equal amplitude when displayed.
- Locate and play the 1 kHz portion of the calibration tape and adjust the screw marked "REP AZ (Repro Azimuth)" in Figure 5-11, until the pattern on the oscilloscope becomes a straight line at a 45 degree angle as shown in Figure 5-11.
- **4.** Play each increasing frequency section of the calibration tape (2, 4, 8, 10, 12.5, 16, and 20 kHz) and adjust the "**REP AZ**" screw.

NOTE: Less and less adjustment is required as the frequency increases to cause the oscilloscope pattern to become correctly displayed. At higher frequencies, it will be impossible to achieve a perfectly straight line, some amount of jitter is normal. Adjust the azimuth screw until the best possible result is obtained.



5 3.2.2 Reproduce Level Adjustment

If the machine is to be used primarily at 15 ips, perform the following procedure at 15 ips. If the machine is to be used primarily at 7.5 ips then perform this procedure at 7.5 ips.

- 1. Connect the AC voltmeter to the channel 1 OUTPUT CONNECTOR.
- 2. Thread the machine with the calibration tape, press OUTPUT SRL SWITCH (SRL On) and set both READY/SAFE SWITCHES to "SAFE". Set INPUT/TAPE SWITCH to "TAPE".
- **3.** Play the 1 kHz at reference level portion of the calibration tape and adjust VR104 [CH1 REPRO LEVEL] on AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB ASSEMBLY so that the AC voltmeter indicates +4 dBu.
- **4.** Connect the AC voltmeter to channel 2 and repeat Step 4 using VR204 [CH2 REPRO LEVEL].

5.3.2.3 Reproduce Equalization Adjustment

NOTE: This procedure adjusts the high frequency reproduce equalization. The low frequency reproduce equalization is adjusted during the record alignments. Due to the fringing effect which occurs at low frequencies, adjusting the low frequency reproduce equalization using the reproducer calibration tape does not produce accurate results.

- 1. Thread the machine with the 15 ips reproducer calibration tape.
- 2. Set SPEED LO/HI KEY to "HI".
- **3.** Set both READY/SAFE switches to "SAFE". Set INPUT/TAPE switch to "TAPE", and press OUTPUT SRL switch (SRL On).
- 4. Connect the AC voltmeter to the channel 1 OUTPUT CONNECTOR.
- Play the 10 kHz portion of the reproducer calibration tape and adjust VR102 [CH 1 REPRO EQ H] on the AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB assembly until the AC voltmeter indicates +4 dBu.
- 6. Connect the AC voltmeter to channel 2 OUTPUT CONNECTOR, and adjust VR202 [CH 2 REPRO EQ H] until the AC voltmeter indicates +4 dBu.
- 7. Thread the machine with the 7.5 ips reproducer calibration tape.
- 8. Set SPEED LO/HI KEY to "LO".
- 9. Connect the AC voltmeter to the channel 1 OUTPUT CONNECTOR.
- **10.** Play the 10 kHz portion of the calibration tape and adjust VR103 [CH 1 REPRO EQ L] until the AC voltmeter indicates -6 dBu.

NOTE: 7.5 ips calibration tape equalization tones are recorded at 10 dB below reference level.

11. Connect the AC voltmeter to channel 2 OUTPUT CONNECTOR and repeat step 10 using VR203 [CH 2 REPRO EQ L].

5.3.3 Record Electronics Adjustment

5.3.3.1 Record Bias Adjustment

Table 5-1Recommended Overbias (Unit: dB)

| Tape Speed (ips) Frequency (Hz) | 3.75 10 k | 7.5 10 k | 15 10 k |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|------------|
| AGFA PEM 468 | 8.0 | 5.0 | 3.0 |
| AGFA PEM 469 | 8.0 | 5.5 | 3.5 |
| AMPEX 406/407 | 7.0 | 4.5 | 2.7 |
| AMPEX 456 | 8.0 | 5.5 | 3.0 |
| BASF LGR50P | 7.5 | 5.5 | 3.5 |
| BASF SM911 | 8.0 | 5.0 | 3.0 |
| SCOTCH 206/207 | 7.0 | 4.5 | 2.7 |
| SCOTCH 226/227 | 8.0 | 5.0 | 3.0 |

- **1.** Thread the MX-50II with the tape type that you normally use for sessions and set SPEED HI/LO SWITCH to "HI" (15 ips).
- 2. Set the external oscillator to produce sine waves at 10 kHz at +4 dBu. Connect the oscillator output to both INPUT CONNECTORS. Connect the AC voltmeter to the channel 1 OUTPUT CONNECTOR.
- **3.** Set both READY/SAFE switches to "READY" and set INPUT/TAPE switch to "TAPE". If INPUT SRL INDICATOR is not illuminated, then press INPUT SRL switch (SRL On).
- 4. Place the machine in Record MODE.
- 5. Set VR305 [CH 1 BIAS] fully counterclockwise. While observing the AC voltmeter, turn VR305 clockwise until a peak in the indication on the AC voltmeter is observed. Continue turning VR305 clockwise until a decrease equal to the selected overbias amount is observed. Refer to Table 5-1 for overbias amounts for various tape types.
- **6.** Connect the AC voltmeter to channel 2 OUTPUT CONNECTOR and repeat Step 5 for channel 2 using VR405.

5.3.3.2 Record Head Azimuth Adjustment

- **1.** Set an external oscillator to produce 1 kHz sine waves at +4 dBu or at your chosen studio level. Connect the oscillator to both INPUT connectors.
- 2. Thread the machine with a reel of the tape type usually used for sessions. Set both READY/SAFE switches to "READY", and set INPUT/TAPE switch to "TAPE".
- **3.** Connect the vertical inputs of the dual-trace oscilloscope to both OUTPUT CONNECTORS as shown in **Figure 5-12**. Place the machine into Record MODE. Configure the oscilloscope to display the input signals as a lissajous pattern using the X-Y display function.
- Adjust the record head azimuth adjustment screw until the display on the oscilloscope becomes a straight line at 45 degrees as shown in Figure 5-11.
- 5. Set the oscillator to 10 kHz, and repeat Step 3.
- 6. Set the oscillator to 16 kHz, and repeat Step 3.



Figure 5-12 Record Azimuth Adjustment Setup

5.3.3.3 Record Level Adjustment

- 1. Thread the machine with tape.
- 2. Set the external oscillator to produce sine waves at 1 kHz at +4 dBu. Connect the oscillator output to both channel INPUT connectors.
- **3.** Set both READY/SAFE switches to "READY", set INPUT/TAPE switch to "TAPE", and check to make sure that both SRL switches are engaged (SRL indicators illuminated).

NOTE: If you are performing this adjustment at 7.5 ips, then disengage INPUT SRL switch, select INPUT MONITOR MODE, and set INPUT LEVEL CONTROLS SO the VU METERS indicate -10 VU. Then switch back to TAPE MONITOR MODE.

- 4. Place the machine into Record MODE.
- 5. Adjust VR304 [CH 1 REC LEVEL] on the AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB assembly so that channel 1 VU METER indicates 0 VU (-20 VU if you are aligning at 3.75 ips). Check to see that there is no difference in the indication on VU METER when switching between INPUT and TAPE MONITOR MODES.
- 6. Repeat step 5 for channel 2 using VR404.

5.3.3.4 Record Equalization Adjustment

NOTE: These adjustments should be performed after the reproduce equalization and record bias adjustments.

- 1. Thread the machine with tape and set SPEED LO/HI KEY to "HI".
- 2. Set the external oscillator to produce sine waves at 10 kHz at +4 dBu. Connect the oscillator output to both channel INPUT CONNECTORS.
- If this procedure is being performed at 15 ips, then press INPUT SRL BUTTON to activate the SRL. If this procedure is being performed at 7.5 ips then disengage INPUT SRL BUTTON and set INPUT LEVEL CONTROLS SO that VU METERS indicate -10 VU (-20 VU for 3.75 ips).
- **4.** Set INPUT/TAPE switch to "TAPE". Set both READY/SAFE switches to "READY", and place the machine into Record.
- 5. Adjust VR303 [CH 1 REC EQ H] on AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB assembly until the channel 1 VU METER indicates OVU (-10 VU at 7.5 ips).
- 6. Repeat Step 5 for channel 2 using VR403.
- **7.** Set SPEED LO/HI KEY to "LO", and repeat Steps 3 through 6 using VR302 (for channel 1) and VR402 (for channel 2).

5.3.3.5 Low Frequency Reproduce Equalization Adjustment

- 1. Set the external oscillator to produce sine waves at 100 Hz at +4 dBu.
- 2. Press INPUT SRL and OUTPUT SRL BUTTONS (indicators illuminated). If you are performing this adjustment at 7.5 ips then disengage INPUT SRL BUTTON, and adjust INPUT LEVEL CONTROLS for 10 VU. Set INPUT/TAPE SWITCH to "TAPE".
- 3. Set SPEED LO/HI KEY to the speed you use most often.
- 4. Place the machine into Record MODE.
- **5.** Adjust VR101 [CH 1 REPRO LOW COMP] on AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB ASSEMBLY until the channel 1 VU METER indicates 0 VU (-10 VU at 7.5 ips).
- 6. Repeat Step 5 for channel 2, adjusting VR201 [CH 2 REPRO LOW COMP] for 0 VU (or -10 VU) on the channel 2 VU METER.
- 7. Sweep the external oscillator from 30 Hz to 250 Hz and verify that the frequency response is within ± 2 dB.

5.3.3.6 Bias Oscillator Transformer Dummy Load Adjustment

NOTE: This adjustment is not required except when the erase head is changed.

- 1. Remove the bottom cover to gain access to AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB ASSEMBLY.
- **2.** Connect the oscilloscope probe to the wiper (arm) of VR305 [CH 1 BIAS]. Use the GND test point as ground.
- **3.** Thread the MX-50II with the tape type normally used for sessions and place both channels in Record MODE.
- 4. While recording on both channels, repeatedly switch between "READY" and "SAFE" on channel 2 while observing the oscilloscope. Adjust L404 for minimum difference in the waveform when changing from "READY" to "SAFE".
- **5.** Connect the oscilloscope probe to the wiper (arm) of VR405 [CH 2 BIAS]. Use the GND test point as ground.
- 6. While recording on both channels, repeatedly switch between "READY" and "SAFE" on channel 1 while observing the oscilloscope. Adjust L304 for minimum difference in the waveform when changing from "READY" to "SAFE".

Section 6 Printed Circuit Board Layouts and Parts Lists

The following P.C.B. pattern layout drawings and parts lists are provided for service reference. Parts list includes only main parts or the parts difficult to obtain in the field.

Also the lists include the parts which should be replaced with the exact same parts supplied by Otari to maintain the performance. Many diodes, transistors, and ICs are well described in the schematic diagrams attached to the machine, so to find out the correct parts number of those parts you need, refer to the schematic diagrams.

| 6.1 | Control PCB Assembly | 6-2 |
|-----|------------------------------|---------|
| 6.2 | Audio Amplifier PCB Assembly | 6-7 |



6.1 CONTROL PCB Assembly

| Ref. No. | Description | Otari Part No |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| IC1 | M5L8085AP | IM5L8085 |
| IC2 | Main ROM Assembly | PG-1391 |
| IC3 | HM6116P-4 | I-0021 |
| IC4 | TC74HC373P | IQ373 |
| IC5 | TC74HC393P | IQ393 |
| IC6 | MC14518 | IMC14518 |
| IC7 | MC14520 | IMC14520 |
| IC8 | SN74HC139N | IQ139 |
| IC9, 10 | SN74HC138N | IQ138 |
| IC11 | 32 bit up down counter | I-0012 |
| IC12 | MC14013 | IMC14013 |
| IC13–15, 20, 21, 23–25 | MC14174 | IMC14174 |
| IC16 | MC14555 | IMC14555 |
| IC17 | MC14539 | IMC14539 |
| IC18 | IL082CP | IIL082CP |
| 1019 | NE555N | I-NE555V |
| 1022 | TC74HC273P | 10273 |
| 1026, 27, 29 | MC14503 | IMC14503 |
| 1028 | SN/4HC244N | IQ244 |
| 1021 | SN/4HCUUN | IQUU |
| | MC14011 | |
| 1032 | | IIVIC 14049 |
| 1033 | | |
| 1034, 35 | M51057RI | INISZZSF |
| 1030, 44 | MC14104 | |
| 1037 | M5210D | |
| | MC14070 | IMC14070 |
| IC42 | MC14081 | IMC14081 |
| IC45 | NJM7818A | IHC818 |
| IC46 | M5230I | 1-0062 |
| IC47. 48 | MPC7805 | IHC7805 |
| IC49 | MPC7824 | IHC7824 |
| IC50 | MPC7812 | IHC7812 |
| Q1-7, 22-32, 38-47, 64-69, 72 | DTC124EF | Q-0008 |
| Q8-16, 48, 49, 62 | RN1224 | Q-0T008 |
| Q17, 18 | RT1N241S | Q-0009 |
| Q19 | 2SA995G | QA995G |
| Q20, 21, 63 | 2SC1815BL | QC1815BL |
| Q33–37 | 2SC1627 | QC1627 |
| Q50–53, 73 | 2SA1020Y | QA1020Y |
| Q54–56 | 2SD1415 | QD1415 |
| Q57–59 | 2SB1020 | QB1020 |
| Q60 | 2SC2655Y | QC2655Y |
| Q61 | DTA124EF | Q-0005 |
| Q70 | 2SD525 | QD525 |
| Q/1 | 2SB595 | QB595 |
| D1–10, 12–35, 37, 38, 43 | 1SS133 | PNTSST33 |
| DTI, 44–46 | ISR-35-100 | PN-0319 |
| D37-41 | | |
| | 1 LK 124 4 D 4 D 4 1 | |
| | 404041 M7 1200 Dolou | |
| NET, Z Vital | WE-12110 REIdy | D710004 |
| n iai VP1 | 10 10µ 0.144 MITZ 110063-00 Potentiometer | FZ46003 RV/252116 |
| VR2_7 | 410065-00 Potentiometer | RV/21/11/ |
| **** / | | 117217117 |

CONTROL PCB Assembly

AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB Assembly

6.2 AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB Assembly

| | _ | |
|---|-----------------------|----------------|
| Ref No. | Description | Otari Part No. |
| IC501 | NJM2043D | I-0031 |
| IC 502–507, 509–514 | M5219P | I-0067 |
| IC508 | NJM4556D | I-0009 |
| Q101–105, 201–205, 109, 209, | 2SK362BL | Q2K362BL |
| 110, 210, 114, 214, 119, 219, | | |
| 301, 401, 303, 403, 304, 404, | | |
| 307, 407, 308, 408 | | |
| Q106, 107, 206, 207, 115, 215, | 2SC3327B | QC3327B |
| 116, 216 | | |
| Q108, 208, 111, 211, 113, 213, | 2SJ104V | Q2SJ104V |
| 120, 220, 302, 402, 305, 405 | | |
| Q112, 212, 515, 516 | 2SA1015GR | QA1015GR |
| Q117, 217 | 2SC3421Y | QC3421Y |
| Q118, 218 | 2SA1358Y | QA1358Y |
| Q309, 409, 306, 406, 310, 410, | 2SC1815BL | QC1815BL |
| 311, 411, 514 | | |
| Q312, 412, 502, 508, 513 | RT1N241S | Q-0009 |
| Q313, 413, 501, 503–507, | RT1P241S | Q-0005 |
| 509–512, 517 | | |
| Q518, 519 | 2SC3581F | QC3581F |
| D112, 212, 113, 213 | 1K60 Diode | PN1K60 |
| T501 | Bias Osc. Transformer | TF41008 |
| VR101, 201, 302, 402, 303, 404 | Potentiometer 50K(B) | RV254115 |
| VR102, 202 103, 203, 104, 204, 304, 404 | Potentiometer 5K(B) | RV253116 |
| VR105, 205 | Potentiometer 10K(B) | RV214114 |
| VR106, 206, 301, 401 | Potentiometer 20K(B) | RV224117 |
| VR305, 405 | Potentiometer 20K(B) | RV224118 |
| RL301, 401 | RZ-12W-K Relay | RY2CC105 |
| SW1 | Switch SSW-114 | WH34066 |

Section 7 Exploded View Drawings and Parts Lists

The following exploded view drawings and parts lists are provided for service reference. Each drawings has own parts list followed with a same key number and title.

When ordering parts, give a full description, using both the part number and the name of the part. If there seems to be a discrepancy between the drawings herein and your MX-50II, contact Otari; we assume no liability for improper servicing due to changes and improvements which we make that subsequently render certain of those documents obsolete. Most all of exploded view drawings are not prepared for the parts which differ from those for the MX-50II, please refer to the parts list in which you will find the proper information. Following are the lists of the exploded view drawings included in this edition.

| 7.1 | Case Assembly | . 7-2 |
|-----|--|-------|
| 7.2 | Head Assembly | . 7-4 |
| 7.3 | Reel Assembly | . 7-6 |
| 7.4 | Transport Assembly (1) | . 7-8 |
| 7.5 | Transport Assembly (2) | 7-10 |
| 7.6 | Transport Assembly (3) | 7-12 |
| 7.7 | Amplifier and Connector Panel Assemblies | 7-14 |



7.1 Case Assembly

| No. | Parts Name | Parts No. | Remarks |
|-----|------------------------|-----------|---------|
| 1. | Cover L, Side | K114701 | |
| 2. | Cover R, Side | K114702 | |
| 3. | Sash A, Side | K114707 | |
| 4. | Block A1, Corner | CY5013 | |
| 5. | Block B1, Corner | CY5015 | |
| 6. | Handle | CY1051 | |
| 7. | Panel Assembly, Bottom | K1147-A | |
| | Foot | K114706 | |
| | Spacer | KZ7A861 | |
| 8. | Cover, Rear | K114703 | |
| 9. | Foot | CY4013 | |
| 10. | Bracket B, Cover | T005321 | |

Case Assembly

7.2 Head Assembly

| No. | Parts Name | Parts No. | Remarks |
|-----|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1. | Cover Assembly, Head | KH-43VA | without hole |
| 2. | Cover Assembly, Head | KH-44AA | with hole |
| 3. | Head Assembly, Erase | GH4E004H | NAB |
| | Bracket, Head | KH0D169 | |
| 4. | Head Assembly, Record | GH4R005E | NAB |
| | Bracket, Head | KH0D168 | |
| 5. | Head Assembly, Reproduce | GH4P027D | NAB |
| | Bracket, Head | KH0D170 | |
| | Case, Shield | KH0B028 | |
| 6. | Spring, Head Adjust | GS2019 | NAB |
| 7. | Head Assembly, Erase | GH4E082E | DIN |
| | Bracket, Head | KH0D169 | |
| 8. | Head Assembly, Record | GH4R100F | DIN |
| | Bracket, Head | KH0D168 | |
| 9. | Head Assembly, Reproduce | GH4P099E | DIN |
| | Bracket, Head | KH0D170 | |
| | Case, Shield | KH0B028 | |
| 10. | Housing, Support | KH43V01 | |
| 11. | Guide, Tape | KG4A005 | |
| 12. | Base, Head | KH0C075 | |
| 13. | Stud | KZ71A141 | |
| 14. | Shield, Reproduce Head | KH0B036 | |
| 15. | Spring, Head Adjust | GS2147 | DIN |
| 16. | Plug, Hole | PZ1G118 | |

Head Assembly

7.3 Reel Assembly

| No. | Parts Name | Parts No. | Remarks |
|-----|----------------------------|-----------|---------|
| 1. | Pin, Reel Shaft | KW0E058 | |
| 2. | Spring | GS2109 | |
| 3. | Clamp, Reel | KW0B052 | |
| 4. | Nail, Reel Drive | KW0E063 | |
| 5. | Reel Table Assembly | KW-41DF | |
| 6. | Holder, Reel Table | KW0B054 | |
| 7. | Screen | PZ1B077 | |
| 8. | PCB Assembly, REEL MDA | PB-4MNA | |
| 9. | Bracket A, Reel MDA PCB | T005317 | |
| 10. | Bracket B, Reel MDA PCB | T005318 | |
| 11. | Bracket, Reel Motor Spacer | T005319 | |
| 12. | Transformer, Power | TF11128 | |
| 13. | Motor, Reel | MR1C032S | |
| 14. | Chassis, Reel Motor | KW-41GC | |
| 15. | Brake Drum Assembly | KW-41GA | |
| 16. | Band, Brake | KW0D048 | |
| 17. | Bracket R, Brake | KW0E065 | |
| 18. | Bracket L, Brake | KW0E066 | |
| 19. | Bracket, Brake Spring | KW4P014 | |
| 20. | Arm L, Brake | KW0D049 | |
| 21. | Arm R, Brake | KW0D050 | |
| 22. | Solenoid | GP1A08 | |
| 23. | Tube, Rubber | AS4Z120A | |
| 24. | Spring | GS1173 | |
| 25. | Clamp, Cable | | |
| 26. | L-Angle | KW0D058 | |
| 27. | Guide, L | KW0D056 | |
| 28. | Guide, R | KW0D057 | |
| 26. | Retaining Ring, E-Type | F7503.0 | |

Reel Assembly

7.4 Transport Assembly (1)

| No. | Parts Name | Parts No | Remarks |
|-----|-----------------------------------|----------|---------|
| 1. | Block, Splicing | T004109 | |
| 2. | Base, B1, Housing | T005316 | |
| 3. | Panel, Deck Skin | T007302 | |
| 4. | Panel, Top | T007301 | |
| 5. | Panel L, Side | T0053-C | |
| 6. | Panel R, Side | T0053-D | |
| 7. | Plate, Shield | T005305 | |
| 8. | Housing, Receptacle (LLR-12) | CN412523 | |
| 9. | Housing, Plug (LLR-12) | CN412530 | |
| 10. | Bracket, Connector | T005314 | |
| 11. | Bracket A, Control PCB | PB4MK01 | |
| 12. | Bracket B, Control PCB | PB4MK02 | |
| 13. | Bracket, Hinge | T005307 | |
| 14. | Bracket D, Control PCB | PB4MK03 | |
| 15. | Heatsink A | KZ1A095 | |
| 16. | Insulator, Transistor | PZ4B054 | |
| 17. | PCB Assembly, CONTROL (MX-50II-N) | PB-4MKAA | |
| | PCB Assembly, CONTROL (MX-50II-D) | PB-4MKBA | |
| 18. | | | |
| 19. | Bracket, Fuse PCB | T005303 | |
| 20. | PCB Assembly, FUSE | PB-7RGA | |
| 21. | Cover, Fuse | T005306 | |
| 22. | Screw | KZ6A124 | |
| 23. | Screw | KZ6A104 | |
| 24. | Retaining Ring | F952Z001 | |
| 25. | Speaker | SF1009 | |
| 26. | Bracket, Speaker | T007307 | |
| 27. | Bracket A, PCB | T007308 | |
| 28. | Bracket B, PCB | T007309 | |
| 29. | PCB Assembly, MONITOR AMP | PB-1CYA | |

Transport Assembly (1)

7.5 Transport Assembly (2)

| No. | Parts Name | Parts No. | Remarks |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----------|---------|
| 1. | Cap, Roller | KI4P003 | |
| 2. | Ball Bearing | BA1Z064 | |
| 3. | Spring B, Roller | GS2145 | |
| 4. | Spring A, Roller | GS2143 | |
| 5. | Collar B | KZ7C102 | |
| 6. | Roller | KI0A065 | |
| 7. | Shaft B, Roller | KI4P001 | |
| 8. | Cap, Knob | KN1099 | |
| 9. | Knob | KN1108 | |
| 10. | Button A2 (Yellow) | KN2183 | |
| 11. | Base A1, Housing | T007311 | |
| 12. | Collar A | KZ7C101 | |
| 13. | Roller Assembly, Tachometer | GR04014 | |
| 14. | Ring, Tach. | SR3Z033 | |
| 15. | | | |
| 16. | | | |
| 17. | Bracket, VR | T005320 | |
| 18. | Bracket, Speed Mode PCB | T005308 | |
| 19. | Shaft A, Roller | GR41A02 | |
| 20. | Spacer | KZ9E115B | |
| 21. | Bracket, VR | GR41A01 | |
| 22. | PCB Assembly, TACHO SENSOR | PB-7RLA | |
| 23. | PCB Assembly, SPEED MODE | PB-7RJA | |
| 24. | Shaft, Arm | KA0A050 | |
| 25. | Guide, Tension Arm | KA0D006 | |
| 26. | Arm, Tension | KA0A049 | |
| 27. | Spring | GS1174 | |
| 28. | Bracket L, Safety Sensor | T005311 | |
| 29. | Bracket R, Safety Sensor | T005312 | |
| 30. | Tube, Rubber | PZ1C151 | |
| 31. | PCB Assembly, SAFETY | PB-7RKA | |
| 32. | Cover, Left Tension Arm | T005304 | |
| 33. | | | |
| 34. | Spring | GS2146 | |
| 35. | Washer | PZ1C135 | |
| 36. | Spacer | KZ9A020B | |
| 37. | Collar | KZ7C120 | |
| | | | |

Transport Assembly (2)

7.6 Transport Assembly (3)

| o. Parts Name | Parts No. | Remarks |
|---|---|---|
| Roller Assembly, Pinch | KP-4S-B | |
| Cover A, Pinch Roller | KP0C031 | |
| Shaft, Pinch Roller | KP0B053 | |
| Stopper, Lifter Arm | KR4U007 | |
| Tube, Rubber | PZ1C133 | |
| Stopper, Pinch Roller | KP4U004 | |
| Pin A, Lifter | KR4U002 | |
| Pin B, Lifter | KR4U003 | |
| Arm Shaft, Lifter | KR4U004 | |
| . Anchor, Spring | KZ5B018 | |
| . Arm, Lifter | KR4U001 | |
| 2. Spring | GS1170 | 2.5x60 |
| Spring, Lifter | GS1169 | |
| I. Link, Lifter | KR4U005 | |
| 5. Screw | KZ6A103 | |
| . Shaft Arm, Pinch Roller | KP4U003 | |
| Roller Arm Sub Assembly | KP-4U-A | |
| B. Bracket, Pinch Roller | KP0E031 | |
| Bracket, Pinch Roller Solenoid | GP1B14 | |
| Plate, Solenoid Shielding | KP4U002 | |
| . Rubber Tube | PZ1C136 | 3x5x7 |
| . Washer | PZ1C135 | 8x12x4 |
| Shaft, Pinch Roller | KP0F010 | |
| I. Link, Pinch Roller | KP4U001 | |
| 5. Spring | GS2144 | |
| Spacer, Capstan Motor | KZ7A328 | |
| Bracket, Capstan Motor | T005313 | |
| Capstan Motor Assembly | KC-41D | |
| . Spring Pin | F62314 | |
| Bracket, Lifter Solenoid | KR4U006 | |
| . Solenoid, Lifter | GP1R01 | |
| 2. Washer | PZ1C137 | 8x12x10 |
| Retaining Ring, E-type | F7503.0 | |
| Spring, Pinch Roller | GS1172 | |
| 5. Spring Anchor | KZ5B018 | |
| . Shaft, Arm | KZ7A862 | |
| . Rubber Tube | PZ1C151 | 3.5x7.5x5 |
| B. Washer, Polyslider | F524-6 | |
| . Washer, Polyslider | F523-6 | |
| I. Spring Pin | F62322 | |
| $c \cdot \cdot$ | Parts Name Roller Assembly, Pinch Cover A, Pinch Roller Shaft, Pinch Roller Stopper, Lifter Arm Tube, Rubber Stopper, Pinch Roller Pin A, Lifter Pin B, Lifter Arm Shaft, Lifter Anchor, Spring Arm, Lifter Spring Spring, Lifter Link, Lifter Screw Shaft Arm, Pinch Roller Roller Arm Sub Assembly Bracket, Pinch Roller Rubber Tube Washer Spring Spring Spring Shaft, Pinch Roller Rubber Tube Washer Spring Pin Bracket, Lifter Solenoid Spring Spring Spring Spring Shaft, Pinch Roller Spring Shaft, Pinch Roller Spring Shaft, Pinch Roller Spring Spring Pin Bracket, Lifter Solenoid Solenoid, Lifter Washer Retaining Ring, E-type Spring Pin Retaining Ring, E-type Washer, Polyslider Washer, Polyslider Washer, Polyslider Washer, Polyslider Spring Pin | Parts NameParts No.Roller Assembly, PinchKP-4S-BCover A, Pinch RollerKP00031Shaft, Pinch RollerKP08053Stopper, Lifter ArmKR4U007Tube, RubberPZ1C133Stopper, Pinch RollerKP4U004Pin A, LifterKR4U002Pin B, LifterKR4U003Arm Shaft, LifterKR4U004Arm, LifterKR4U001SpringGS1170SpringGS1170Spring, LifterKR4U005ScrewKZ6A103StorewKZ6A103Shaft Arm, Pinch RollerKP4U003Roller Arm Sub AssemblyKP-4U-ABracket, Pinch RollerKP0E031Bracket, Pinch RollerKP0F010Link, Link RollerKP4U002Rubber TubePZ1C135Shaft, Pinch RollerKP4U001SpringGS2144SpringGS2144SpringGS2144Spring PinF62314Shaft, ArmKZ58018Shaft, ArmKZ58018Shaft, ArmKZ58018Shaft, ArmKZ7862Spring Pinch RollerS172Spring Pinch RollerS2144Solenoid, LifterGP1801Shaft, ArmKZ58018Shaft, ArmKZ58018 <tr< th=""></tr<> |

Transport Assembly (3)

7.7 Amplifier and Connector Panel Assemblies

| 1 | No. | Parts Name | Parts No. | Remarks |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|------------|---------|
| | 1. | Guard, Power Switch A | KN5015 | |
| : | 2. | Bracket, Power Switch | T005310 | |
| | 3. | Switch, Power | WH92194 | |
| 1 | 4. | Cap, Knob | KN1099 | |
| | 5. | Knob | KN1108 | |
| | 6. | Spacer | KZ6C048 | |
| | 7. | Cap, Knob | KN1102 | |
| 8 | 8. | Knob | KN1109 | |
| | 9. | Spacer | KZ6C054 | |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | 10. | Counter Escutcheon Assembly A | T0053-B | |
| | 11. | Switch Escutcheon A (Smaller) | PZ4A028 | |
| · | 12. | Switch Escutcheon A | PZ4A030 | |
| | 13. | VU Meter | ME11025 | |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | 14. | Holder, VU Meter | A1153-A | |
| | 15. | PCB Assembly, VU METER | PB-7RBA | |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | 16. | PCB Assembly, TIMER DISPLAY | PB-7RHA | |
| | 17. | PCB Assembly 1 (MX-50II-N) | PB-7RCA | |
| | | PCB Assembly 1 (MX-50II-D) | PB-7RCB | |
| | 18 | PCB Assembly 2 | PB-7RDA | |
| | 19 | PCB Assembly IN/OUT CONTROL VR | PB-7XNA | |
| | 20 | Bracket VR | A118701 | |
| | 21 | Bracket Phone Jack | A115302 | |
| | 22 | Phone Jack | CN602001 | |
| | 23 | PCB Assembly MONI VOLUME | PB-1DCA | |
| | 24 | Bracket PCB | A115303 | |
| | 25 | Side Panel Amplifier I | A115304 | |
| | 26 | Side Panel Amplifier R | A115305 | |
| | 27 | Plate Rear | A115307 | |
| | 28 | Bracket Switch | Δ115306 | |
| | 20. | | PR-1RCA | |
| | 30 | Rutton A1 (Grev) | KN2184 | |
| | 30. 21 | Panel Connector Δ (MY-5011-N) | CB77001 | |
| | 51. | Panel Connector R (MX_5011 D) | CB77101 | |
| | 22 | Plate Connector A | CB77003 | |
| | 32. 22 | Connector | CN237326 | |
| | 33. 24 | Scrow Lock | CN7B_212 | |
| | 34. 25 | Connector (MX-5011-D) | CN200325 | |
| | 35. | Terminal Ground | CN001040 | |
| | 30. 27 | | CN60301040 | |
| | 37. 20 | Connector | CN102104 | |
| | 30. 20 | Connector | CN102105 | |
| | 37. 10 | Prockat Amplifiar DCP | TU05202 | |
| | 4U. 11 | Spacer | | |
| | 41. 12 | Spacer | NZ91133A | |
| | 4Z. 12 | | | |
| | 43. 11 | | NNZ 144 | |
| | 44. /F | Dutton STOD | | |
| | 43. 44 | Dutton WIND | | |
| | 40. | Button CLE | KINZ 143 | |
| | 47. | Button EDIT | KN2145 | |
| | 4ð. 40 | | | |
| | 47. 50 | DULIUII, FADER (IVIX-DUII-D) | | |
| | 50. | Siuu | KZ9ATUUU | |
Amplifier and Connector Panel Assemblies

Hardware

| | Name | Code | | Name | Code |
|------|---|------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Bind SEMS Screw | BS | P | Hex Head Bolt | Н |
| | Pan SEMS Screw | PS | | Hex Nut | N |
| Ô | Triple Screw | TS | 0 | Flat Washer | W |
| | Binding Head Screw | В | 0 | Fiber Washer | FW |
| | Pan Head Screw | Р | 0 | Plastic Washer | PW |
| (II) | Flat Countersunk Head Screw | F | 0 | Stainless Steel Washer | SSW |
| | Oval Countersunk Head Screw | 0 | 9 | Spring Washer | SW |
| | Truss Head Screw | T (| Ç | Lock Washer | LW |
| P | Pan Screw with Spring Washer and Flat Washer | PZ | \bigcirc | Knob Washer | KW |
| | Hex Socket Head Screw | С | 9 | Retaining Ring, E-type | E |
| | Hex Socket Headless Set Screw, Flat | S | \bigcirc | Retaining Ring, C-type, Outer | CO |
| Ş | Hex Socket Headless Set Screw, Pinpoint | SP | \bigcirc | Retaining Ring, C-type, Inner | CI |
| | Button Head Socket Cap Screw | BC | and | Spring Pin | SPN |
| 0 | Flat Head Socket Cap Screw | FC | Example BS 3 x | | — No indication: Zinc — N: Nickel |
| | Tapping Pan Head Screw | ТР | | Plating | — B: Black Zinc — K: Black Nickel |
| | Tapping Flat Countersunk Head Screw | TF | | D: Diameter of D: Diameter of Code | ,, Thread (mm) |
| | Flat Head Wood Screw | FWS | Example | 2: Washer Code D: Diameter (r | nm) |

All screws conform to ISO standard, and have a cross-recessed head, unless otherwise noted. ISO screws have a point inscribed in the head.

4

Appendix: Optional Accessory Installation Procedure

This section contains the necessary information for installing the optional accessories.

| A: | Rack Mount Kit (ZA-5EK) | AP-2 |
|----|------------------------------------|------|
| B: | Pedestal (Stand) | AP-3 |
| С: | Input and Output Transformers | AP-4 |
| D: | VEM (Voice Edit Mode) PCB Assembly | AP-6 |
| E: | Low Speed Conversion | AP-7 |

A: Rack Mount Kit (ZA-5EK)

- **1.** Remove the side covers (and handles) by removing the ten phillips head M4 screws.
- 2. Attach the rack mount adapters to each side of the machine using the M4 x 6 screws as shown in Figure below.
- 3. Attach the spacer panel to the rack mount adapters using M4 x 6 screws.
- 4. Remove the bottom feet from the machine.

CAUTION! WHEN RE-ATTACHING THE BOTTOM COVER, DO NOT USE THE LONG SCREWS THAT WERE USED TO ATTACH THE BOTTOM PANEL WITH THE BOTTOM FEET. THESE SCREWS ARE TOO LONG FOR SECURING THE BOTTOM PANEL ONLY AND WILL CONTACT THE PC BOARD INSIDE CAUSING A SHORTCIRCUIT. USE M4 x 6 SCREWS SUPPLIED WITH THE MACHINE.

5. Mount the machine in the rack.



Mounting the Rack Mount Adapters

B: Pedestal (Stand)

- **1.** Remove the side covers (and handles) by removing the ten phillips head M4 screws.
- **2.** Attach the rack mount adapters to each side of the machine using the M4 x 6 screws as shown in **Rack Mount Kit Installation**.
- **3.** Attach the spacer panel to the rack mount adapters using M4 x 6 screws.
- 4. Remove the bottom feet from the machine.

CAUTION! WHEN RE-ATTACHING THE BOTTOM COVER, DO NOT USE THE LONG SCREWS THAT WERE USED TO ATTACH THE BOTTOM PANEL WITH THE BOTTOM FEET. THESE SCREWS ARE TOO LONG FOR SECURING THE BOTTOM PANEL ONLY AND WILL CONTACT THE PC BOARD INSIDE CAUSING A SHORTCIRCUIT. USE M4 x 6 SCREWS SUPPLIED WITH THE MACHINE.

- 5. Assemble the stand as shown in Figure below.
- 6. Mount the machine in the pedestal using the M5 x 8 screws.



Assembling the Stand

A: Optional Input/Output Transformers

ZA-5EY Input Transformer Assembly and ZA-5EZ Output Transformer Assembly are mounted on the reverse side of the connector panel.

- 1. Remove the side covers (and handles) by removing the ten phillips head M4 screws. Remove the rear cover by removing the eight phillips head screws and lifting the cover off the machine.
- 2. Remove the knobs from the amplifier control panel. Remove the amplifier chassis, by removing the ten screws that attach the amplifier chassis to the side and rear panels. Remove the connector panel by removing the four phillips head screws that attach it to the amplifier chassis.
- 3. If you are installing input transformers, change resistors R305, R306, R405, and R406 on the AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB assembly to 10 k Ω .
- 4. If a 600 Ω input impedance is required, solder across the jumper positions marked "a" on the INPUT TRANSFORMER PCB ASSEMBLY.
- 5. If non-floating input is required, solder across the jumper positions marked "b" on the INPUT TRANSFORMER PCB ASSEMBLY.
- 6. If non-floating output is required, solder across the jumper positions on marked "a" on the OUTPUT TRANSFORMER PCB ASSEMBLY.
- **7.** Select the required output impedance by soldering across the jumper positions on the OUTPUT TRANSFORMER PCB ASSEMBLY as shown below. (At factory shipping, these are shorted.)

| Load Impedance | b | C |
|--------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Load > 3.7 k Ω | Short | Short |
| Load between 86–3.7 k Ω | Short | Open |
| Load < 860 Ω | Open | Open |

- 8. Disconnect connectors CN508, CN101 (Ch 1), and CN201 (Ch 2) from the AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB ASSEMBLY.
- **9.** Connect the connecting cable assembly (ZA-64K) to CN1 (7 pin header) on the INPUT TRANSFORMER PCB assembly.
- **10.** Attach the PCB Bracket to the INPUT TRANSFORMER PCB ASSEMBLY using the M3 x 6 triple screws.
- **11.** Attach the input transformer assembly to the connector panel using the two M3 binding head screws.
- **12.** Attach the output transformer assembly to the connector panel using the four M3 binding head screws.
- **13.** Connect the cable from the input connectors to CN2 on the input transformer assembly.
- **14.** Connect the cable from the input transformer to CN508 on the AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB ASSEMBLY.
- **15.** Connect the cables from the output connectors to CN1 (Ch 1) and CN2 (Ch 2) on the output transformer assembly.
- **16.** Connect the cables from the output transformer assembly to CN101 (Ch 1) and CN201 (Ch 2) on the AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB ASSEMBLY.

- **17.** Reinstall the parts removed.
- 18. Perform the input/output level setting procedure in §4.3.2.



Input/Output Transformer Mounting Holes



Wiring of the Transformers

C: VEM (Voice Edit Mode) PCB Assembly

The VEM PCB assembly is a small printed circuit board assembly which allows the MX-50II to be used for twice-speed listening without the pitch change normally associated with increasing the tape speed.

- 1. Remove the side covers (and handles) by removing the ten phillips head M4 screws. Remove the rear cover by removing the eight phillips head screws. Open the CONTROL PCB ASSEMBLY by loosening the two captive screws and allowing the PCB to hinge down to horizontal.
- **2.** Remove the knobs from the amplifier control panel. Remove the amplifier chassis, by removing the ten screws that attach the amplifier chassis to the side and rear panels.
- **3.** Attach the PCB bracket to the VEM PCB ASSEMBLY using the four M3 x 6 triple screws.
- 4. Connect the cable assembly to CN1 (8 pin) and CN2 (7 pin) on the VEM PCB ASSEMBLY.
- 5. Locate the VEM PCB mounting holes on the back side of the deck plate on the take-up side of the machine as shown in Figure below. Mount the VEM PCB ASSEMBLY to the deck plate using two M3 x 6 triple screws.
- 6. Connect the cable assembly from the VEM PCB assembly to CN503 on the AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB assembly.
- 7. Reinstall the parts removed.

□ **Operation Instructions for VEM:** Press the SPEED MODE BUTTON until the VEM INDICATOR becomes illuminated. When the PLAY BUTTON is pressed, the tape speed will be increased to twice the selected speed, but the pitch of the recorded material will remain unchanged.

NOTE: In VOICE EDIT MODE, the pitch-shifted audio signal appears only at the HEADPHONE CONNECTOR OF MONITOR SPEAKER.



VEM PCB Mounting

E: Low Speed Conversion Kit (ZA-31Y) for operation at 3.75 ips

The MX-50 will operate satisfactorily at 3.75 ips with NAB equalization but the equalization trimmers will not have enough range to compensate for component aging and head wear. Therefore, if continued operation at the Low Speed pair is expected, Otari recommends the installation of the Low Speed Conversion kit ZA-31Y. Please perform the following procedure.

- 1. Install Jumpers J501 and J502 on the AUDIO AMPLIFIER PCB ASSEMBLY.
- **2.** Change R123 and R223 from 2.2 k Ω to 6.8 k Ω .
- **3.** Change R124 and R224 from 4.3 Ω to 6.8 k Ω .
- 4. Change R330 and R430 from 1 k Ω to 100 Ω .
- 5. Change VR103 and VR203 from 5 k Ω to 10 k Ω .
- 6. Change C320 and C420 from 0.0015 μF to 0.0082 $\mu F.$
- 7. Change C322 and C422 from 0.0082 μF to 0.012 $\mu F.$
- 8. Change C323 and C423 from 0.0082 μF to 0.015 $\mu F.$
- 9. Change L301 and L401 from 12 mH to 3.9 mH.
- 10. Change L302 and L402 from 3.9 mH to 10 mH.
- **11.** Remove the following components:

R125 and R225 (6.8 kΩ) R328 and R428 (1.8 kΩ) R506, R507, R544, and R545 (100 kΩ) C318 and C418 (0.01 μF) C505 and C523 (1 μF/50 V BP) D105, D205, D307, D407, D511, and D512 (1SS133) Q105, Q205, Q308, and Q408 (2SK362BL)

- **12.** Set SW1-3 on the CONTROL PCB ASSEMBLY to the On position.
- 13. Perform Audio Channel Alignments.

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