

**ROCKTRON**  
TECHNOLOGY FOR GUITARISTS

**PATCHMATE**

**LOOP 8**

**MANUAL**

May be covered by one or more of the following: U.S. Patents  
#4538297, 4647876, 4696044, 4745309, 4881047, 4893099, 5124657, 5263091,  
5268527, 5319713, 5333201, 5402498 and 5493617.  
Other patents pending. Foreign patents pending.



Your PatchMate LOOP 8 has been designed to comply with the following Standards and Directives as set forth by the European Union:

**Council Directive(s):** 89/336/EEC, 73/23/EEC, 76/769/EC, 1994/62/EC, 2000/53/EC, 2002/95/EC

**Standard(s):** EN55022, EN50082-1, EN60065

This means that this product has been designed to meet stringent guidelines on how much RF energy it can emit, and that it should be immune from other sources of interference when properly used. Improper use of this equipment could result in increased RF emissions, which may or may not interfere with other electronic products.

To insure against this possibility, always use good shielded cables for all audio input and output connections. This will help insure compliance with the Directive(s).

## SPECIFICATIONS

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Active Input Impedance	1.5M ohms
Active Output Impedance	150 ohms
Input Jacks	1/4" mono
Send Jacks	1/4" mono
Return Jacks	1/4" mono
Output Jacks	1/4" mono
Power requirements	9VAC 3.4amps 4 pin DIN connector
Dimensions	1 rack space, 19" wide, 1 3/4" tall, "???" deep
	Weight ????
MIDI In/Thru/Out	7 pin DIN, (standard 5 pin cable plugs in without phantom power feature) Thru/Out 5 pin DIN
Phantom power	Provided on MIDI IN jack pins 6 and 7 - 9VAC 2amps
Presets	128
MIDI program change	0-127
Midi control	Change commands in groups of 8 with 16 banks 0-7, 8-15, 16-23.....120-127
Relays	Gas filled, contacts gold plated

## PRECAUTIONS

NOTE: IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ THIS SECTION TO PROVIDE YEARS OF TROUBLE FREE USE. THIS UNIT REQUIRES CAREFUL HANDLING.

- All warnings on this equipment and in the operating instructions should be adhered to and all operating instructions should be followed.
- Do not use this equipment near water. Care should be taken so that objects do not fall and liquids are not spilled into the unit through any openings.
- The power cord/adapter should be unplugged from the outlet when left unused for a long period of time.
- Do not block any ventilation openings (if applicable). Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
- Only used attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
- Do not use this product with any case, stand, tripod, bracket or table that is not specified by the manufacturer. Insure that the case, stand, tripod, bracket etc. is properly adjusted and setup (follow all instructions). Extra care and caution should be taken to avoid tip over and injury.
- Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused during long periods of time.

Refer all service to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power supply or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus or if the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally or has been dropped.

**DO NOT ATTEMPT TO SERVICE THIS EQUIPMENT. THIS EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE SERVICED BY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL ONLY. DO NOT MAKE ANY INTERNAL ADJUSTMENTS OR ADDITIONS TO THIS EQUIPMENT AT ANY TIME. DO NOT TAMPER WITH INTERNAL ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AT ANY TIME. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY VOID THE WARRANTY OF THIS EQUIPMENT, AS WELL AS CAUSING SHOCK HAZARD.**

### **OPERATING TEMPERATURE**

Do not expose this unit to excessive heat. This unit is designed to operate between 32° F and 104° F (0° C and 40° C). This unit may not function properly under extreme temperatures.

# Introduction

## PatchMate LOOP 8

Guitar players beat our doors down requesting a NEW version of the world famous Rocktron PatchMate....and we have delivered! The PatchMate LOOP 8 provides 128 programmable presets. Eight LOOPS can be configured for multiple purposes. Channel switching, effects LOOPS, guitar routing and more are provided in the PatchMate LOOP 8

The PatchMate LOOP 8 is easy to set up and program with real time user controls. Program the unit from the front panel using the lighted buttons. Recall presets using MIDI program changes. Control any LOOP in real time using MIDI Continuous Controllers. The PatchMate LOOP 8 supports intelligent latching and momentary switching sensing, which allows the user to use any MIDI Continuous Controller number without any other programming effort!

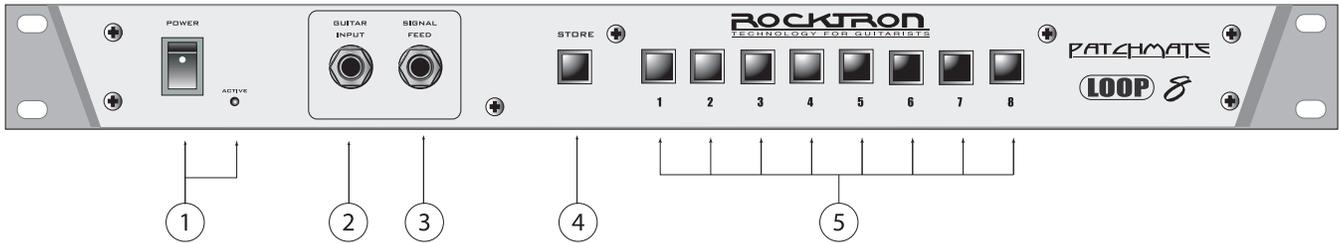
The PatchMate LOOP 8 has buffered ACTIVE and PASSIVE inputs, with PASSIVE/ACTIVE and ACTIVE outputs on the back. The PatchMate LOOP 8 may be set to any MIDI channel and is programmable from the front panel. It may also be configured for use on any of 16 banks of controllers via the front panel switches and has MIDI In/Out/Thru and is an ideal addition to any rack set up.

Using Rocktron's SMART CONTROLLER TECHNOLOGY, the PatchMate LOOP 8 can also be used for momentary amplifier switching!

Rocktron footcontrollers such as the All Access Limited, All Access, MIDI Mate and MIDI Xchange are recommended additions to the PatchMate LOOP 8 for ultimate control over your gear!

Enjoy!

# PatchMate LOOP 8 Front Panel



## 1 POWER Switch and LED

Use this switch to turn on and off the PatchMate LOOP 8. When the LED is lit the power will be ON. When the LED is out, the power is OFF..

## 2 ACTIVE Input Jack

Plug your guitar into this jack to use the buffered input. This ACTIVE Input Jack is connected to an active buffer that helps maintain signal strength when driving multiple devices in parallel. This "buffered" output is present on the "ACTIVE OUTPUT" on the back panel of the PatchMate.

ACTIVE INPUT (front panel) → BUFFER (internal) → ACTIVE OUTPUT (back panel)

Note: When the ACTIVE INPUT Jack is used, the buffered signal is present at the PAS.-ACT. OUTPUT as well, allowing you to connect another device to this jack.

ACTIVE INPUT (front panel) → BUFFER (internal) → PAS.-ACT.. OUTPUT (back panel)

## 3 PASSIVE Input Jack

Plug your guitar into this jack if you would like to bypass the buffered input allowing your guitar signal to "feed thru" wire to wire. This "feed thru" signal is present on the "PAS.-ACT. OUTPUT" on the back panel of the PatchMate

PASSIVE INPUT (front panel) → PAS.-ACT. OUTPUT (back panel)

Note: When the PASSIVE Input is NOT being used the ACTIVE (buffered) OUTPUT will be present at the PAS.-ACT. OUTPUT. Thus, you can connect another device to PAS.-ACT. OUTPUT and it will have the buffered signal.

ACTIVE INPUT (front panel) → BUFFER (internal) → PAS.-ACT.. OUTPUT (back panel)

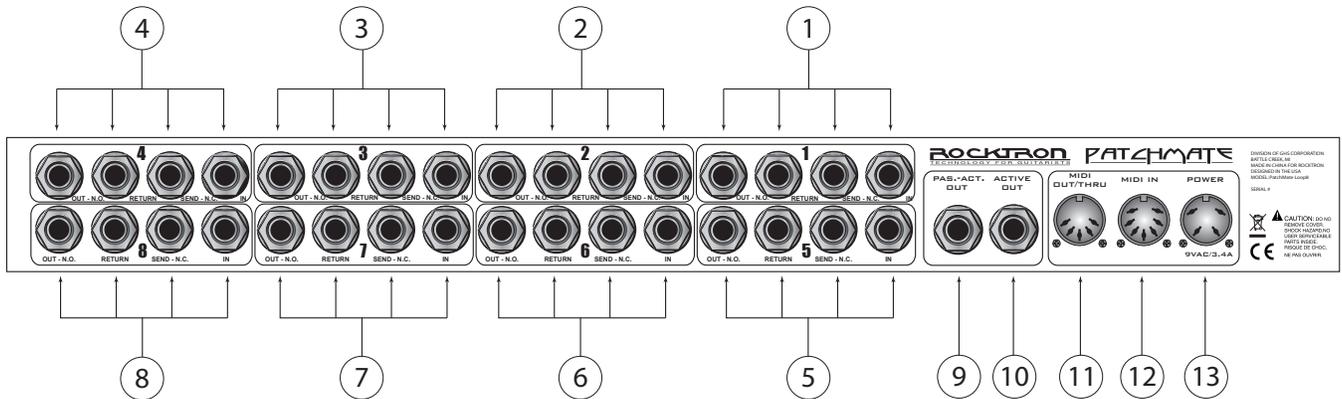
## 4 STORE Button

Use this button to store any changes you have made to a preset. When a change has been made the Store button will be "lit". Press the store button to "store" any changes you have made.

## 5 LOOP Buttons

These blue lighted push buttons will display the "current" status of the PatchMate. If a button is lit, that LOOP is active. If the button is not lit, the LOOP is not active or off.

# PatchMate LOOP 8 Back Panel



## 1 LOOP Section Number "1"

These jacks are used to connect your first device in the signal chain. These jacks correspond to the LOOP Button Number "1" on the front panel of the PatchMate LOOP 8.

## 2 LOOP Section Number "2"

These jacks are used to connect your second device in the signal chain. These jacks correspond to the LOOP Button Number "2" on the front panel of the PatchMate LOOP 8.

## 3 LOOP Section Number "3"

These jacks are used to connect your third device in the signal chain. These jacks correspond to the LOOP Button Number "3" on the front panel of the PatchMate LOOP 8.

## 4 LOOP Section Number "4"

These jacks are used to connect your fourth device in the signal chain. These jacks correspond to the LOOP Button Number "4" on the front panel of the PatchMate LOOP 8.

## 5 LOOP Section Number "5"

These jacks are used to connect your fifth device in the signal chain. These jacks correspond to the LOOP Button Number "5" on the front panel of the PatchMate LOOP 8.

## 6 LOOP Section Number "6"

These jacks are used to connect your sixth device in the signal chain. These jacks correspond to the LOOP Button Number "6" on the front panel of the PatchMate LOOP 8.

## 7 LOOP Section Number "7"

These jacks are used to connect your seventh device in the signal chain. These jacks correspond to the LOOP Button Number "7" on the front panel of the PatchMate LOOP 8.

## 8 LOOP Section Number "8"

These jacks are used to connect your eighth device in the signal chain. These jacks correspond to the LOOP Button Number "8" on the front panel of the PatchMate LOOP 8.

# PatchMate LOOP 8 Back Panel...continued....

## **9 PAS. ACT. OUT**

Use this jack to plug into the next unit in your signal chain or the desired LOOP. This jack can also be used as an output for the guitar signal when splitting the signal.

## **10 ACTIVE Jack**

This jack is used to send your guitar signal to your desired device, such as an amplifier.

## **11 MIDI OUT/THRU Jack**

Use this to jack to plug into the first MIDI controllable device in your signal chain.

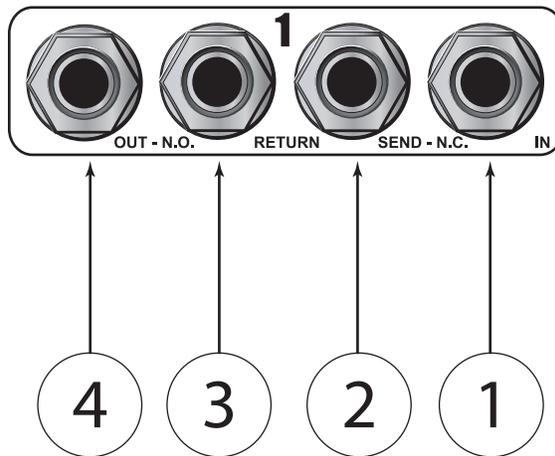
## **12 MIDI IN Jack**

Use this jack to plug in your MIDI controller. This jack is a 7 Pin MIDI Jack, however a standard 5 Pin MIDI Cable can be used. If plugging into a Rocktron MIDI controller such as the All Access, MIDI Mate or MIDI Xchange, we recommend using the Rocktron RMM900 7-Pin MIDI Cable (sold separately). Pins 6 and 7 supply phantom power to the Rocktron MIDI controller when using the RMM900.

## **13 POWER Jack**

Plug the included 9VAC 3.4A adapter into this jack to provide power to the unit. Please follow all precautions as outlined in this manual and the manuals of the products that are being plugged into the PatchMate LOOP 8. Failure to follow these precautions may void the warranty.

# Individual LOOP Jacks Descriptions



## 1 IN Jack

This is the first jack in the signal chain. The audio signal will enter the "LOOP" through this jack.

## 2 SEND - N.C. Jack

This jack is used to send the signal to the desired audio device.

## 3 RETURN Jack

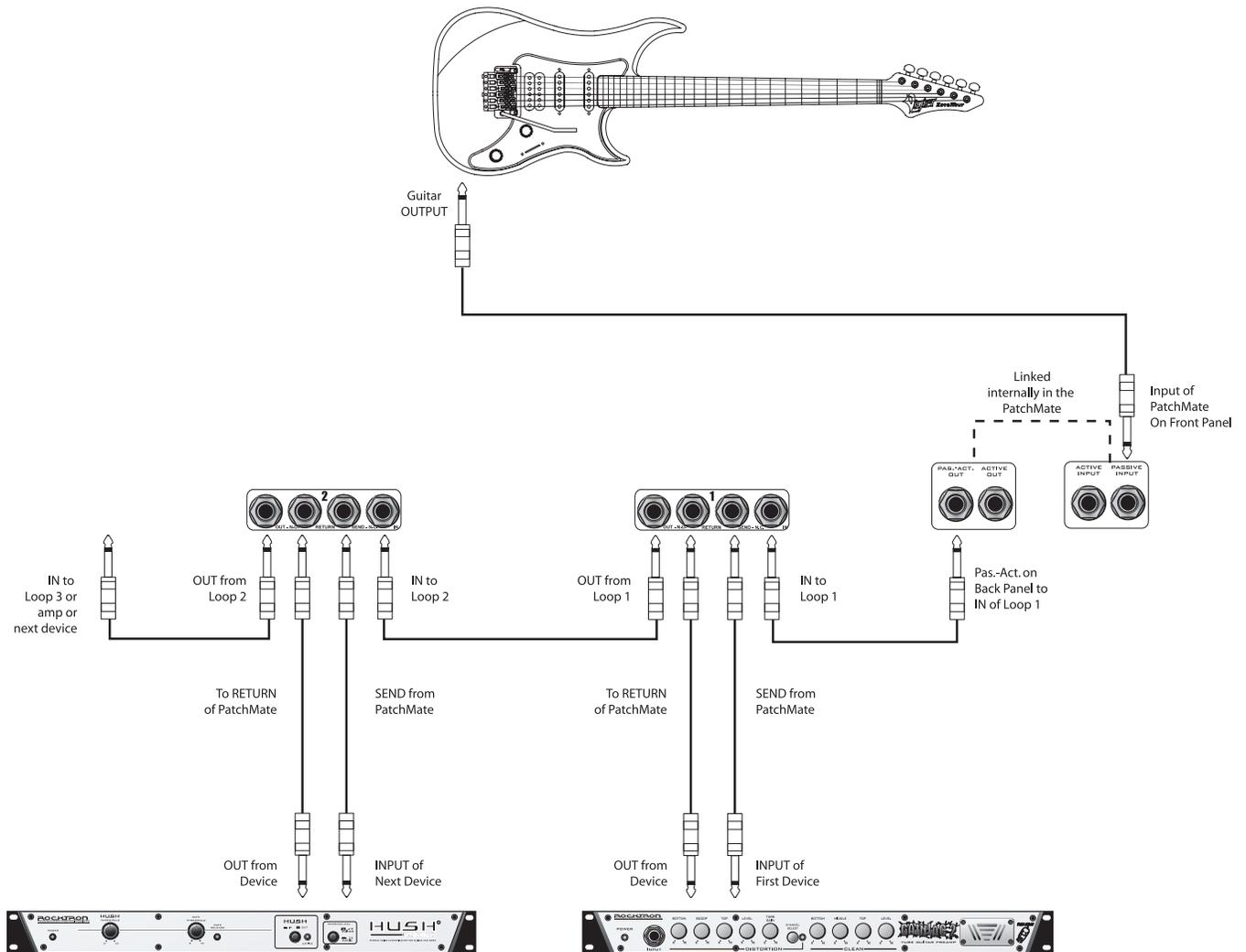
This jack is used to receive the returned signal from the desired audio device..

## 4 OUT - N.O. Jack

This jack is then used to send the signal to the next LOOP or next device in the signal chain.

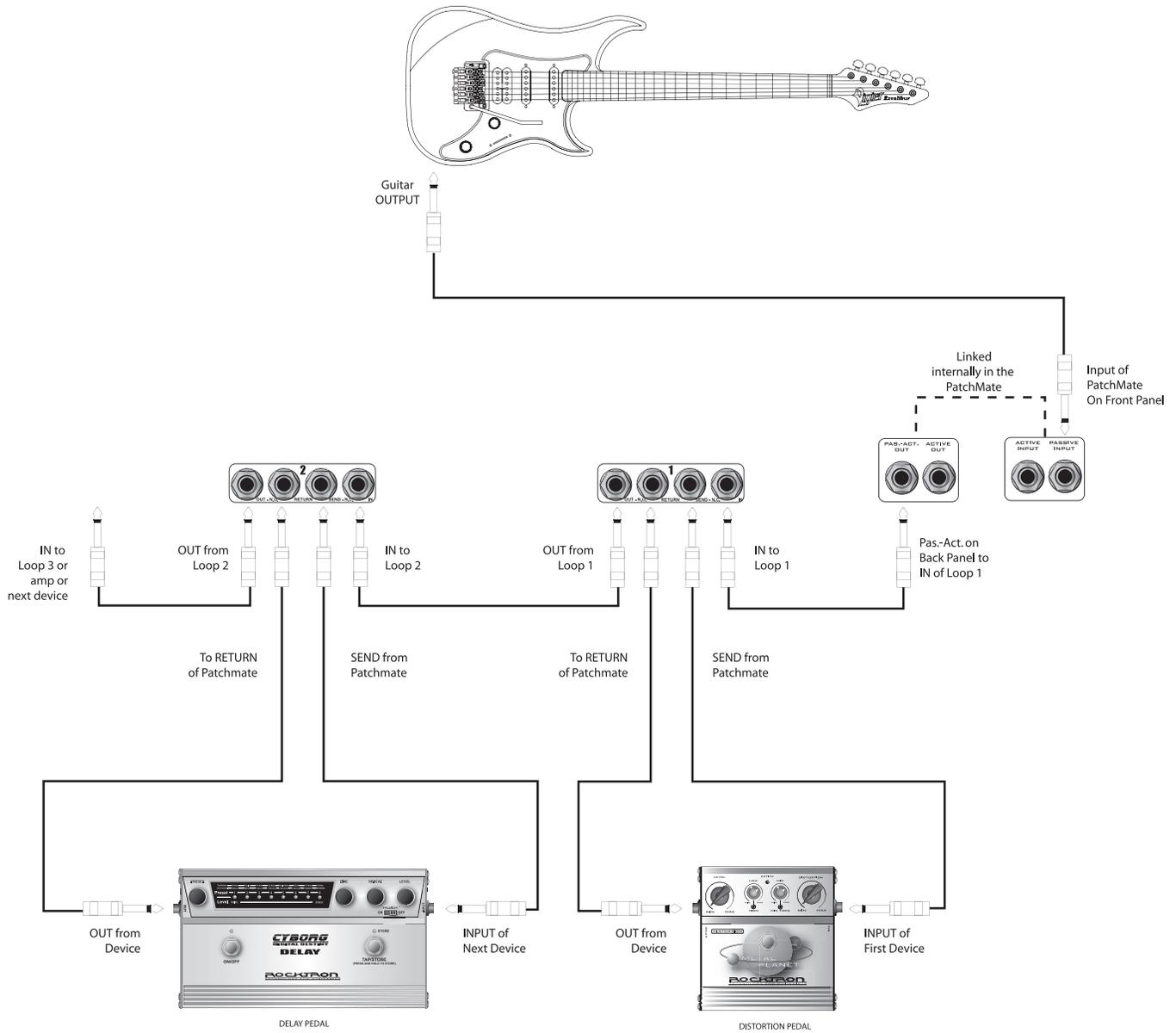
# Connections

This connection diagram shows one way to use the LOOPS in the PatchMate. Although only two connections are shown here, you can follow a similar progression of connects using LOOPS 3-8.



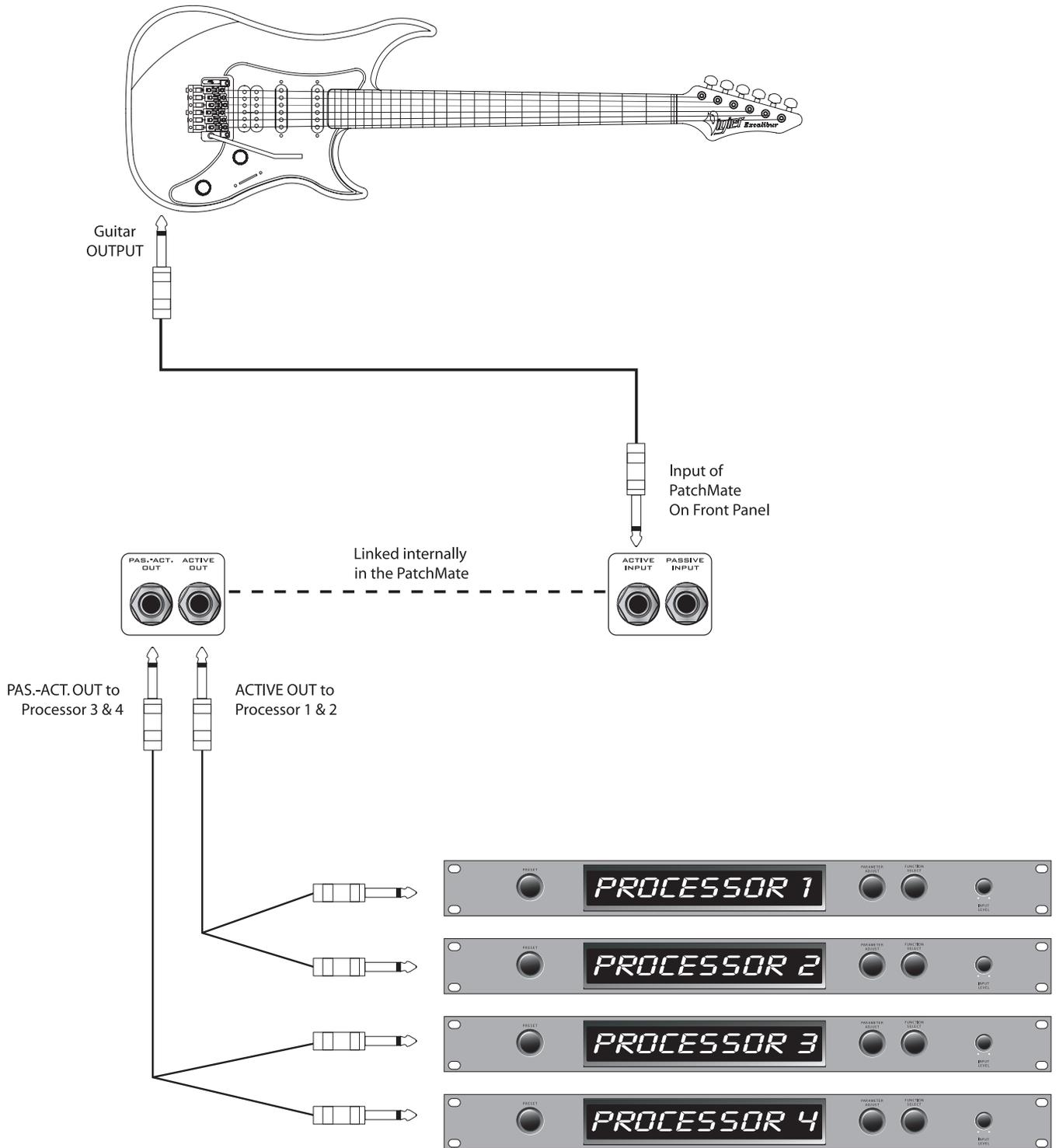
# Connections....continued....

This connection diagram shows one way to use the LOOPS in the PatchMate to connect stompboxes (pedals). Although only two connections are shown here, you can follow a similar progression of connects using LOOPS 3-8.



# Connections....continued.....

This connection diagram shows one way to use the LOOPS in the PatchMate to connect to multiple effects processors.



## Connections....continued....

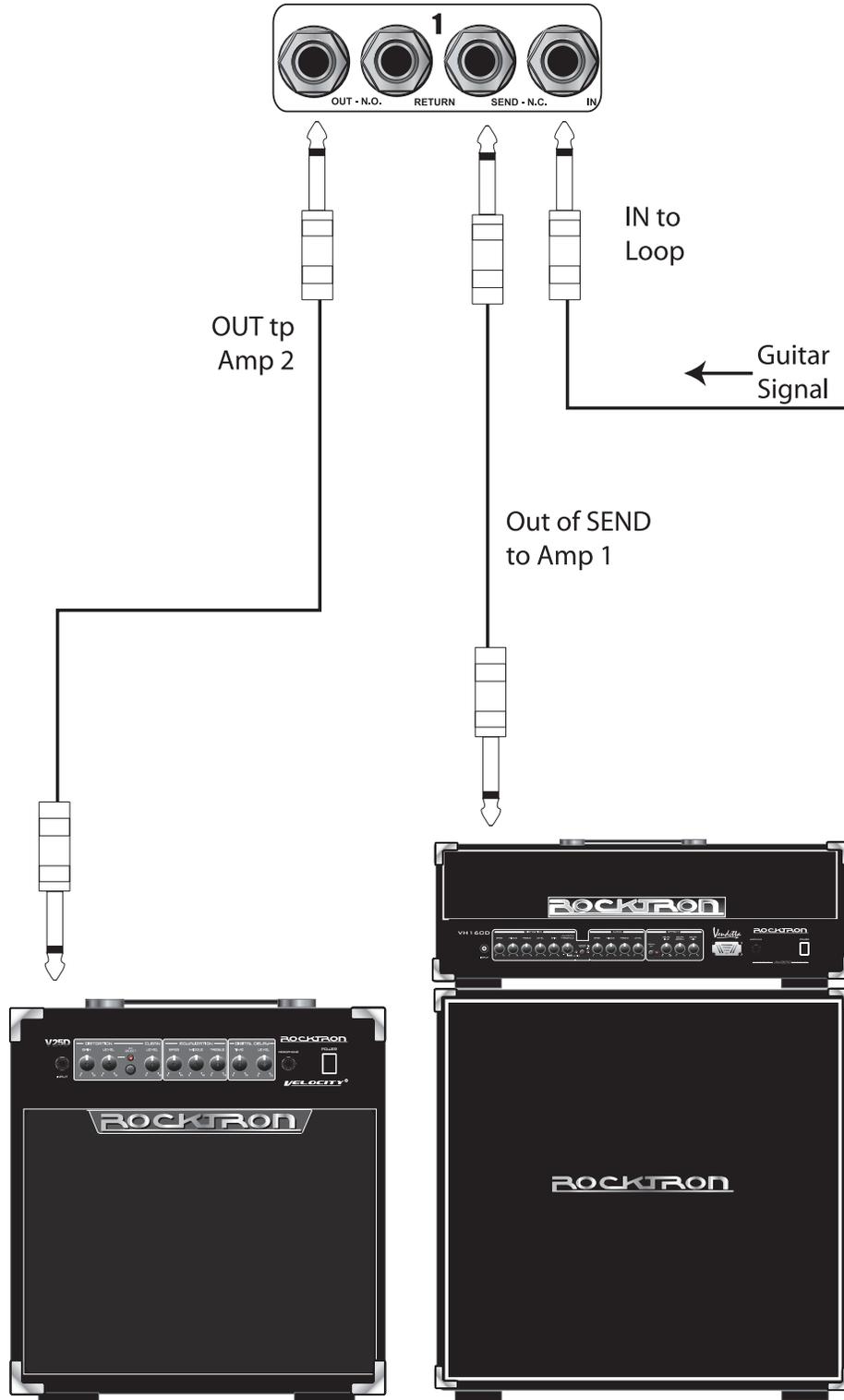
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This connection diagram shows one way to use the LOOPS in the PatchMate to connect to two different preamp.



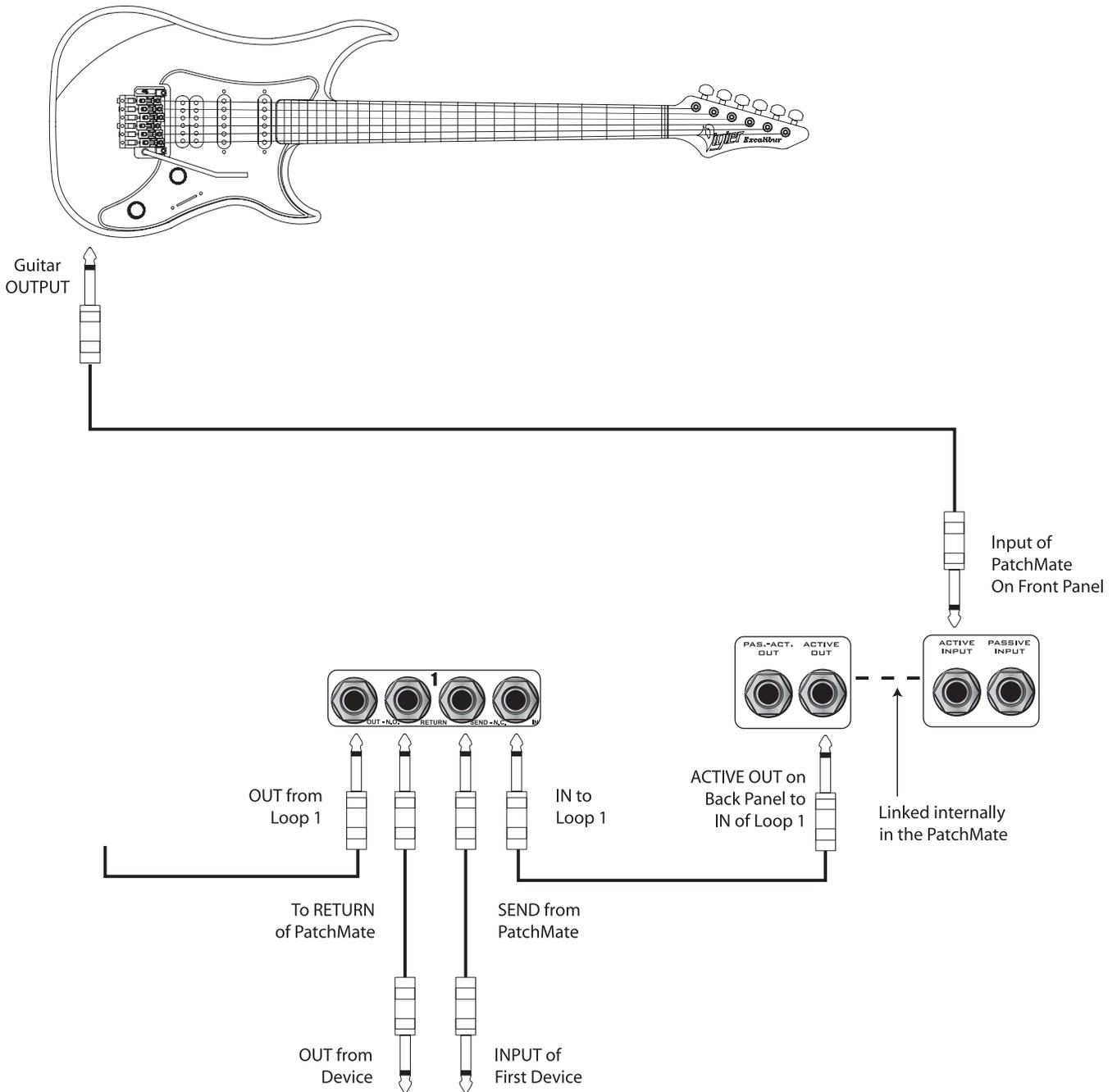
## Connections....continued....

This connection diagram shows one way to use the LOOPS in the PatchMate to connect two amplifiers and select between the two.



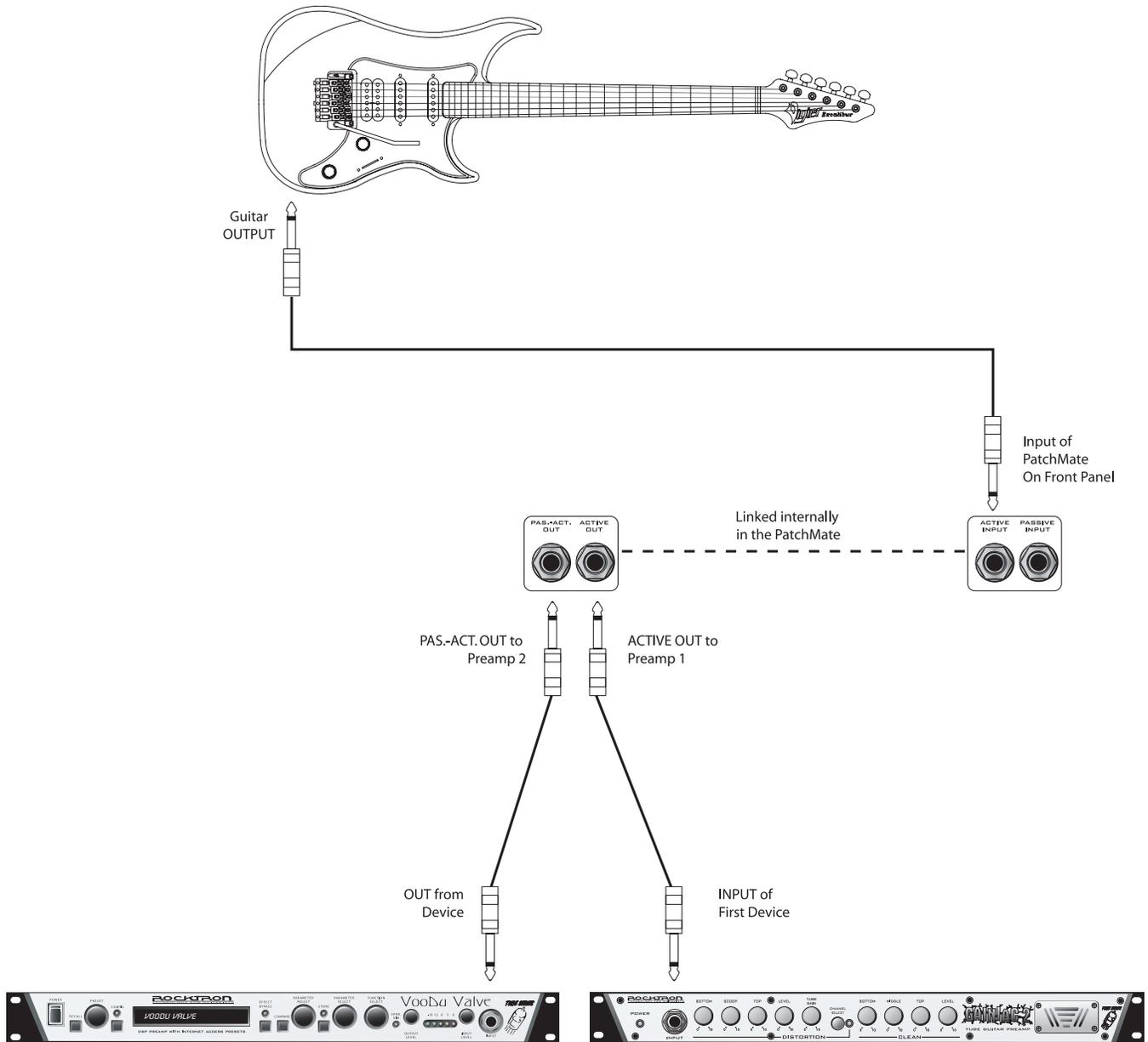
# Connections....continued....

This connection diagram shows one way to use the PatchMate's buffered connection.



# Connections....continued....

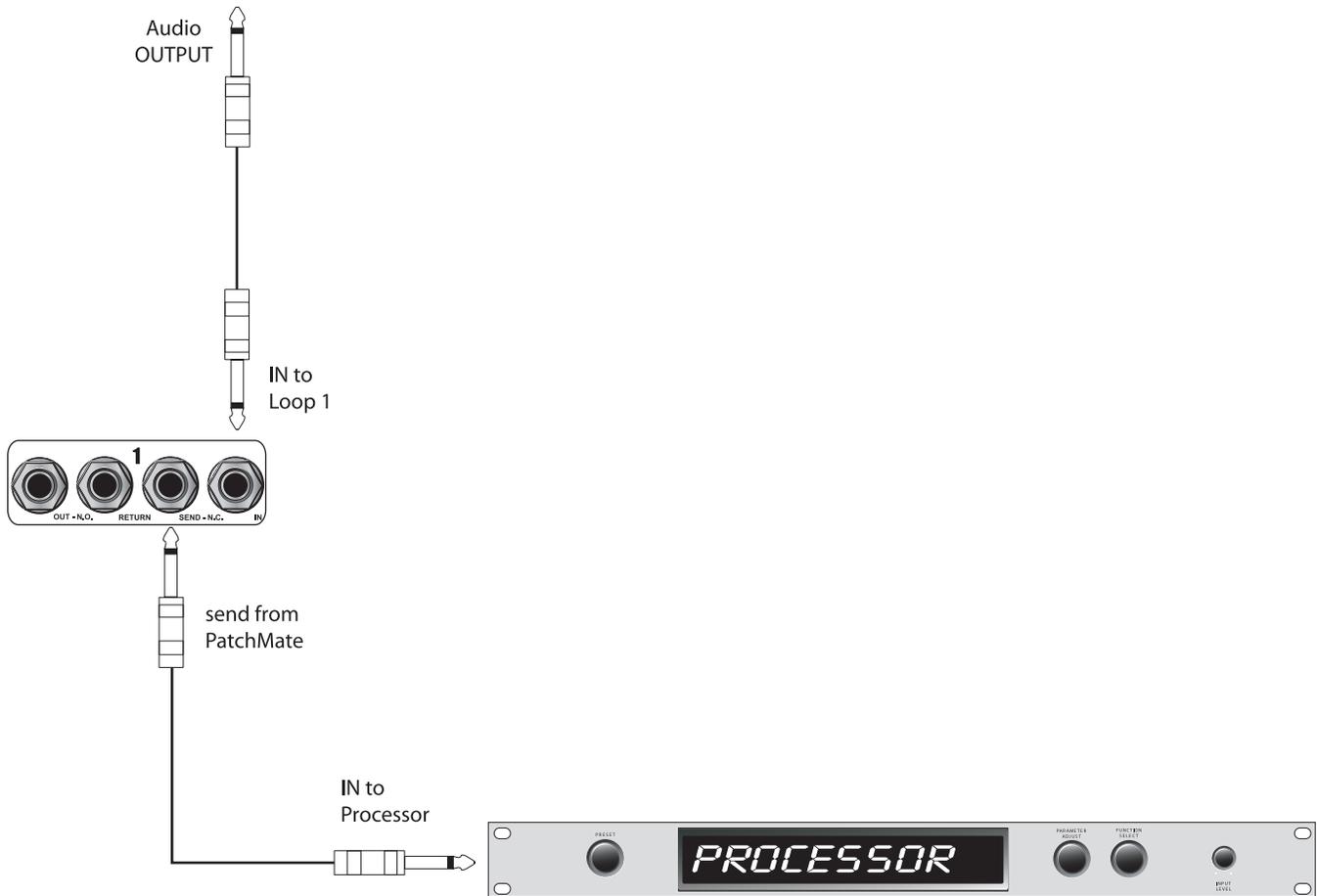
This connection diagram shows one way to use the PatchMates buffered connection to connect to two different preamps.



## Connections....continued.....

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This connection diagram shows one way to connect the PatchMate to "MUTE" an effects processor where parallel effect routings are being implemented.

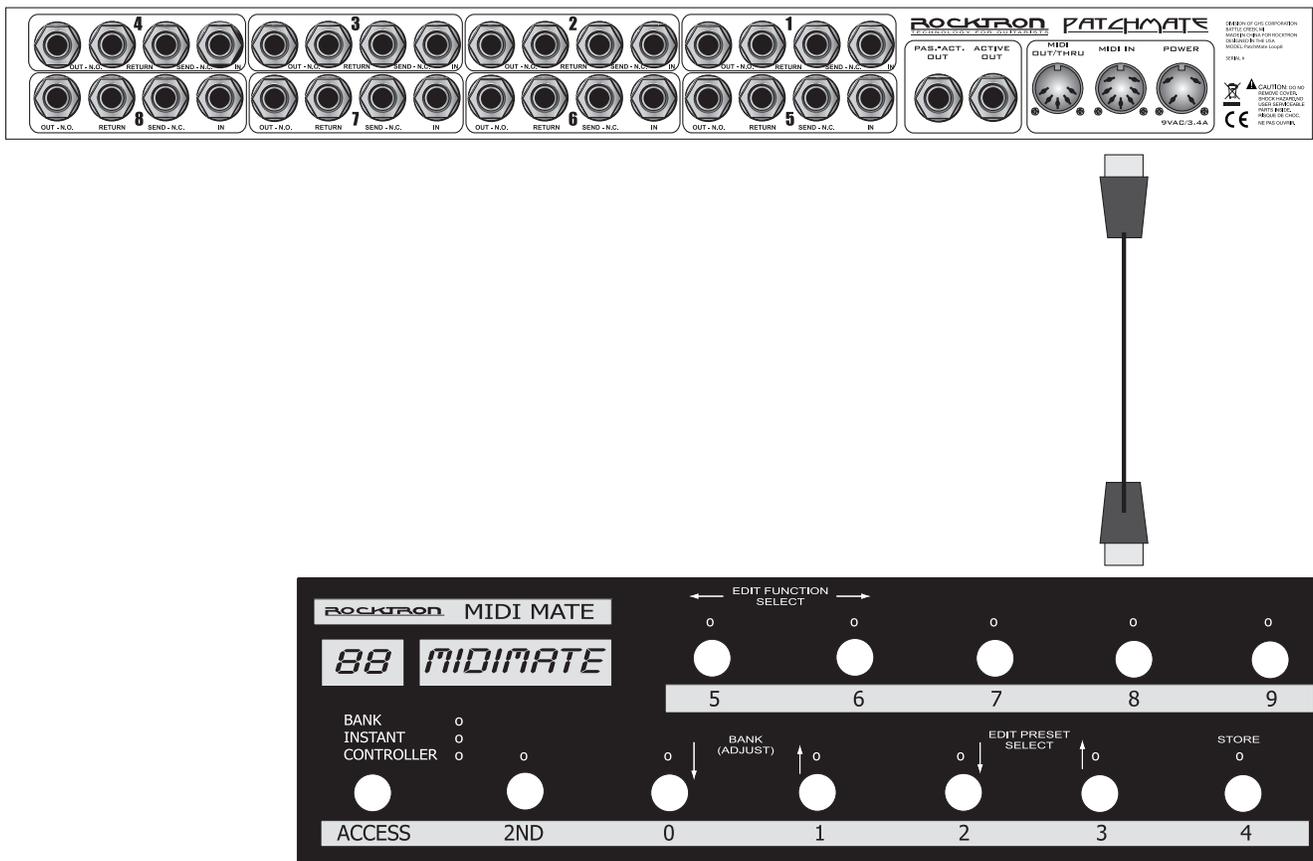


## Connections....continued....

This connection diagram shows how to connect the PatchMate to a MIDI Controller such as the Rocktron MIDI Mate (use similar connections for the Rocktron All Access, All Access LTD and MIDI Xchange).

Note: Internal PHANTOM POWER is provided by the PatchMate Loop 8 via the MIDI IN connector pins 6 & 7 and will power your Rocktron MIDI Controller eliminating the need to have a power adapter plugged directly into the MIDI Controller.

The power provide is 9VAC. To use this feature you will need a Rocktron RMM900 MIDI Cable (sold separately). See the Rocktron website - [www.rocktron.com](http://www.rocktron.com) for more information.



The PHANTOM POWER feature is provided exclusive to support all ROCKTRON MIDI CONTROLLER products. Please refer to your owners manual before attempting to use this option with a MIDI CONTROLLER other than a Rocktron product. Rocktron can not be held responsible for any damages arising from improper use or connections.

# Setup your PatchMate:

To setup your PatchMate please follow these instructions.

1. Press and hold the STORE BUTTON until it begins blinking then release it to enter the MIDI CONFIGURATION PROGRAMMING MODE.

2. The Front panel will be displaying the current MIDI CHANNEL configuration information. To modify the MIDI CHANNEL information press the desired button combination. Once you have made your selections PRESS and RELEASE the STORE BUTTON .

\*You may PRESS CANCEL[ 6 ] ON then PRESS STORE and release if no changes are needed

## LEGEND

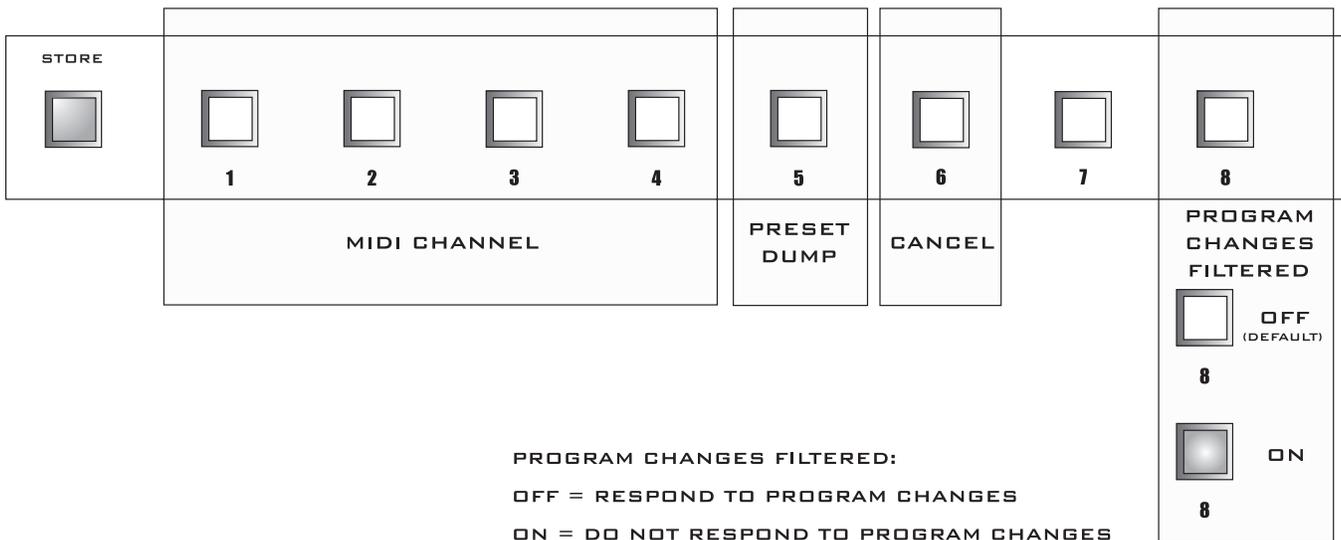


= LED OFF

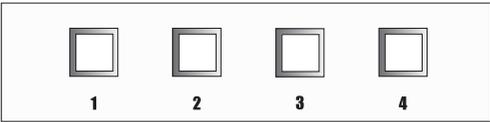
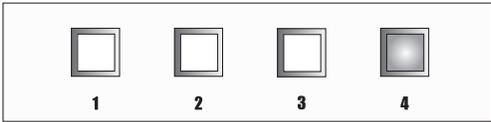
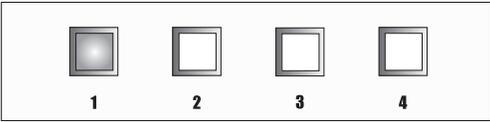
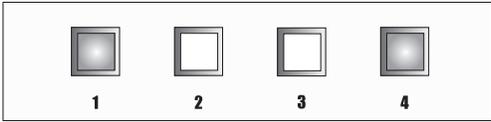
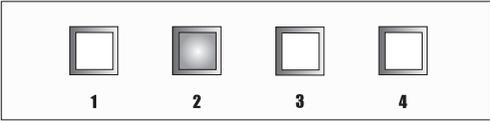
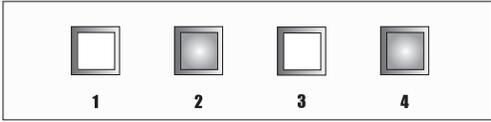
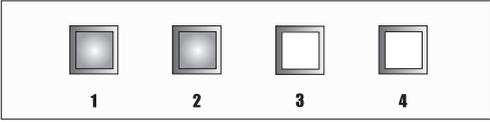
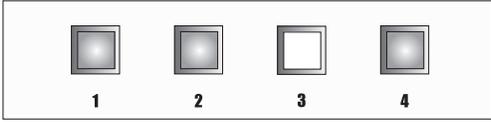
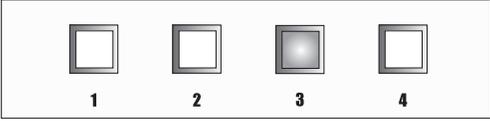
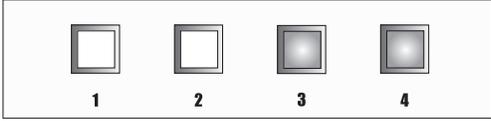
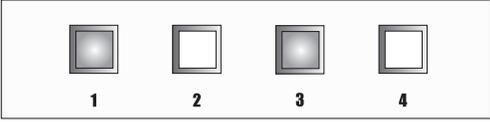
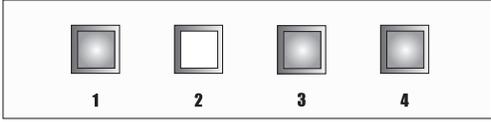
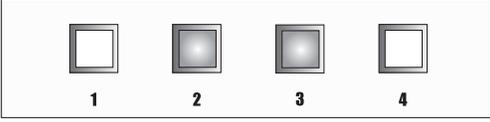
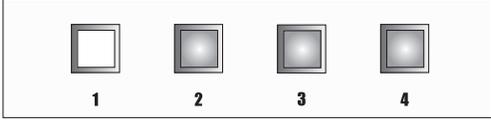
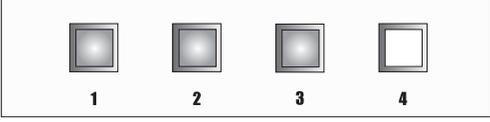
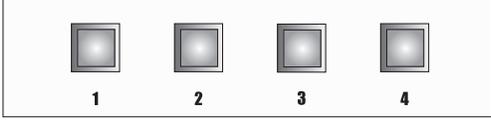


= LED ON

## MIDI CONFIGURATION PROGRAMMING (DEFAULT)



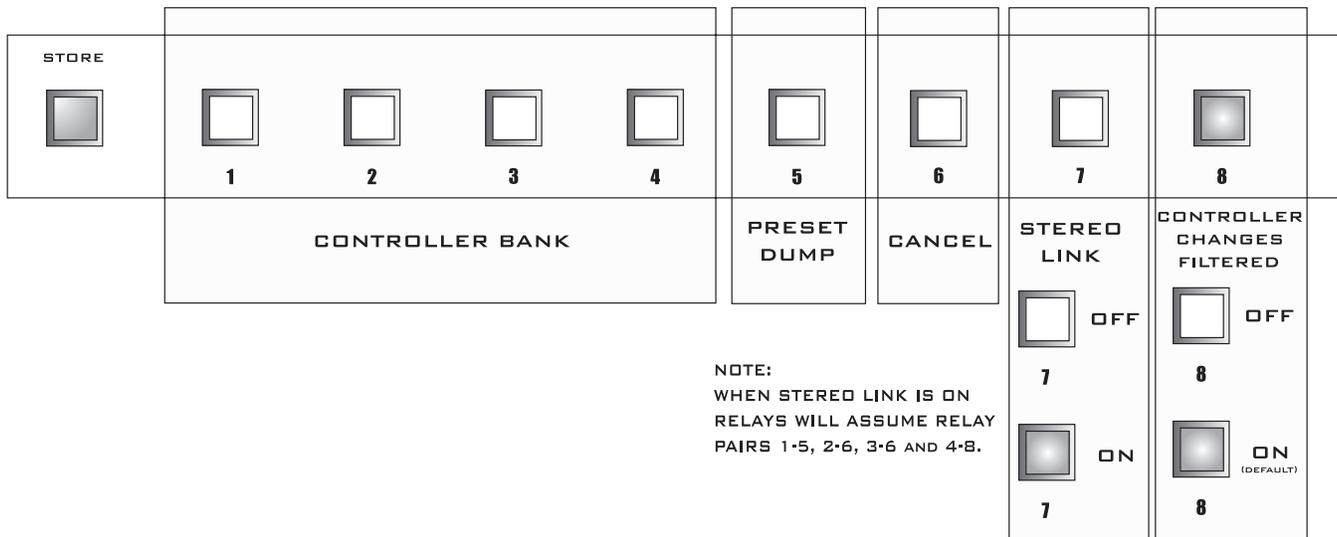
# MIDI Channel Select

1		9	
2		10	
3		11	
4		12	
5		13	
6		14	
7		15	
8		16	

# MIDI Controller Setup

3. The FRONT PANEL BUTTONS [ 1 thru 8 ] will blink twice and the STORE BUTTON will start blinking faster signifying that the MIDI CONTROLLER information is now being displayed.
4. You may now make your selections or you may PRESS CANCEL [ 6 ] ON then PRESS and RELEASE the STORE BUTTON .
5. When you are ready to store the information simply PRESS and RELEASE the STORE BUTTON. The STORE BUTTON will blink slowly followed by the recall of preset 1. Programming is now completed.

## MIDI CONTROLLER PROGRAMMING (DEFAULT)



# MIDI Controller Setup

BANK	MCC	BANK	MCC
1	0-7	9	64-71
2	8-15	10	72-79
3	16-23	11	80-87
4	24-31	12	88-95
5	32-39	13	96-103
6	40-47	14	104-111
7	48-55	15	112-119
8	56-63	16	120-127

\*CANCEL:

PRESS SWITCH 6 then PRESS and RELEASE the STORE BUTTON to CANCEL the PROGRAMMING MODE.

Note: If CANCEL is executed any modified information will not be retained.

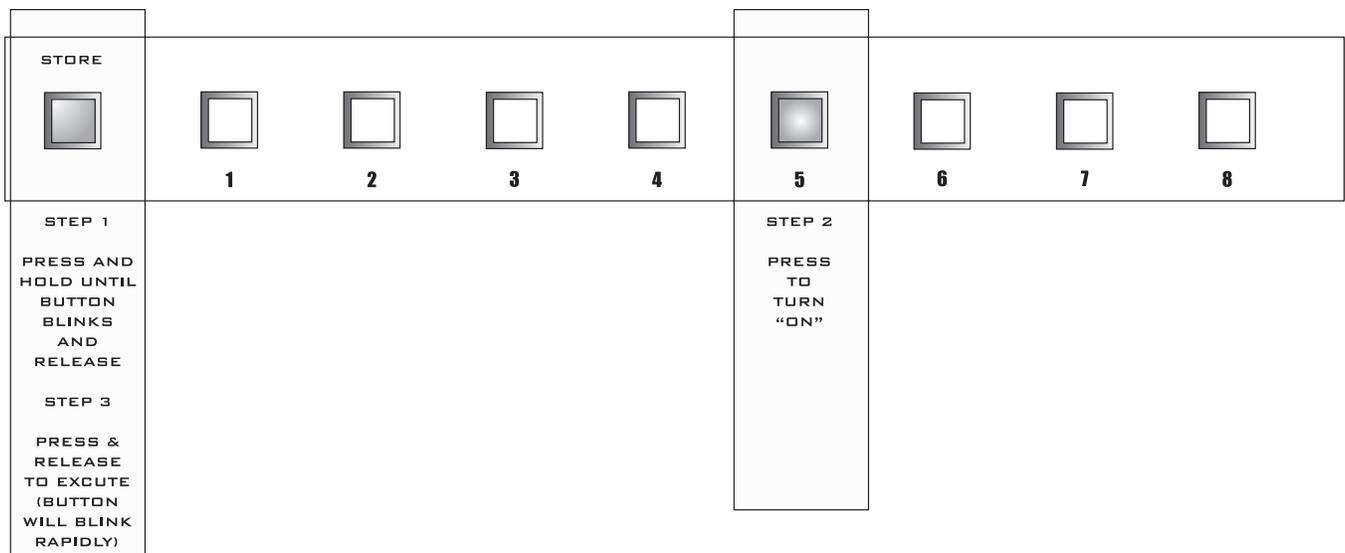
STEREO LINK: When selected BUTTONS 1-4 will become the control over the linked pairs.  
[ 1 to 5 ] [ 2 to 6 ] [ 3 to 7 ] [ 4 to 8 ].

# Preset Dump

## MIDI PRESET DUMP PROCEDURE:

1. Press and hold the STORE BUTTON until it begins blinking then release it to enter the MIDI CONFIGURATION PROGRAMMING MODE.
2. PRESS SWITCH [5] TO ILLUMINATE IT [ PRESET DUMP ].
- 3) PRESS and RELEASE the STORE BUTTON to execute a dump of all user preset data via MIDI. The STORE BUTTON will blink rapidly during this process.

After the PatchMate LOOP 8 has finished the Midi Preset Dump process the PROGRAMMING MODE will be canceled and the PatchMate LOOP 8 will return to the current PRESET.



# Setting up the PatchMate using MIDI Program Changes

## SETTING PatchMate USING MIDI PROGRAM CHANGES

Now that you have configured your PatchMate LOOP 8 MIDI CHANNEL to the same channel as your midi controller along with enabling PROGRAM CHANGES ON, you are now ready to program your presets.

Make sure you have exited the MIDI CONFIGURATION PROGRAMMING MODE before using your PatchMate LOOP 8 with a Midi Controller.

1. Connect your Midi Controllers MIDI OUT to the PatchMate LOOP 8's MIDI IN using a 5 PIN MIDI cord.
2. RECALL the desired preset you want to edit using your MIDI CONTROLLER.
3. Set the RELAY STATES using the front panel buttons.
4. Press STORE and release.

The PatchMate LOOP 8 will respond by blinking the STORE BUTTON one (1) time.  
REPEAT STEPS 2-4 for all presets..... That's it!

## SMART LOOP CONTROLLERS

The PatchMate LOOP 8 includes ROCKTRON's exclusive Smart Controller Technology which allows the PatchMate LOOP 8 to receive Latching or Momentary controller messages then applying user programmed release delay times.

This feature provides the user the ability to control Amplifiers that use momentary pulses to switch channels using latching or momentary midi continuous controller messages with a pre determined delay applied to the switch release. This delay value is determined by the reception of the on state value.

If the values received were

127 = ON  
0 = OFF

The relay operation will be executed immediately when received..... No delay will be applied....

However if the value for the on state is anything else other than 127 the following delay to release will be calculated using the following equation

$$[ \text{ON VALUE} * 2 ] * 1 \text{ millisecond}$$

So if the value for on was 125 then the time the relay would be on for would become

$$[ 125 * 2 ] * 1 \text{ ms} = 250 \text{ ms or about a Quarter of a Second.}$$

## Setting the PatchMate using MIDI Program Changes..continued....

On the initial reception of this ON state value the target relay will be activated followed by the execution of the delay release timer.

Note: When this feature is being used any transmitted value of 0 will be ignored as the delay will handle the off state execution.

Therefore Momentary amplifier switching may be attained without the need to provide a momentary controller message.







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TECHNOLOGY FOR GUITARISTS

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**LOOP 8**

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**www.rocktron.com**

