



ASSOCIATED

# ALTERNATOR - STARTER TESTER

Model 8600 1/2 HP

8601 1 HP

## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE MANUAL

### IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

**SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS.** This manual contains important safety and operating instructions for the alternator/starter tester you have purchased. You may need to refer to these instructions at a later date.

**CAUTION: THE WEIGHT OF THE INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS AND/OR THE ASSEMBLED UNIT MAY EXCEED THE SAFE LIMIT THAT MAY BE LIFTED BY ONE INDIVIDUAL. EXTREME CARE SHOULD BE EXERCISED WHEN HANDLING THIS MACHINE !**

- a) Always wear safety glasses while conducting tests. Foreign matter in the device being tested may fly out at high speed and cause personal injury.
- b) Keep fingers, loose clothing, ties, etc. away from the "V" belt drive components, rotating pulleys, fans, and starter drive mechanisms.
- c) Make sure the device under test is mechanically secure prior to the start of testing.
- d) Keep one hand on the vise knob to stabilize the unit under test and the other hand on the test switch.
- e) Use only a properly grounded, 20 AMP., 120 VAC, 60 Hz. dedicated receptacle. Wire supplying power to this receptacle should be no smaller than 12AWG. **CAUTION** - Do not remove the ground prong from the line cord as you are defeating a safety feature. Removing the ground prong could cause a harmful shock.
- f) Use of an extension cord is not recommended. Tester performance may be degraded and it may also cause serious internal heating in the machine.
- g) Do not use outdoors, near flammable materials, or with extension cords. Use good judgement whenever operating any electrical appliance.
- h) Replace frayed or worn power cords and operate only in dry areas.
- i) Keep away from children.
- j) It is of the utmost importance that this test equipment be used only by a qualified, trained operator.

### INTRODUCTION

Your test bench is designed and manufactured to provide you with a state of the art, quality, accurate, sturdy piece of equipment, and is intended to quickly and easily determine the condition of Starters and both internal and external regulated Alternators.

The test bench is completely self contained and does not require the use of external automotive type batteries. This feature alone results in customer convenience, safety, and overall reduced operating cost. The only requirement is that the test bench be plugged into a dedicated 120 VAC, 60 Hz. receptacle. It is suggested that the wire to the receptacle be no smaller than #12 AWG.

Some older buildings may require new wiring to be installed for your tester; consult a licensed electrician if you are unsure of your wiring. It is also suggested that the tester be protected with a 20 amp. breaker or fuse. If your service is fused, it should be of the slow blow type.

To prevent the possible ignition of fuel fumes found in some shops, and to aid in operator convenience and safety, the tester must be operated at a minimum of 18 inches above the shop floor. The test bench can be conveniently operated on a counter to demonstrate to the customer the conditions of his electrical device.

## SPECIFICATIONS

### Cabinet Dimensions:

Height: 17 inches Width: 14 inches Depth: 28 inches  
Shipping Weight . . . . . 108 Lbs..  
Line Under voltage Alarm Point . . . . . 90 VAC  
Starter Current Available . . . . . 350 Amps.  
Alternator Load . . . . . 8 Amps  
Motor HP . . . . . ½ HP (1 HP Optional) Continuous Duty  
Motor Protection . . . . . Automatic Reset Circuit Breaker  
Power Requirements . . . . . 120 VAC, 60 Hz., 20 Amps

### Additional Features:

- a) A sturdy, oversized “V” block with an easily adjustable cast aluminum vise holds both Alternators and Starters firmly and safely in place during testing.
- b) Slim-line design, heavy gauge steel cabinet and base. Only 14 inches wide to maximize usable bench top work space. Modular construction.
- c) Constant voltage, current regulated solid-state power supply with overload protection. A solid-state voltage regulator correctly simulates actual vehicle voltage conditions. No contacts to burn or to wear out.
- d) A ½ HP (1 HP Optional) continuous duty industrial motor - clockwise or counter clockwise rotation, automatic reset circuit breaker protected.

## Control Function Descriptions

**Starter Test Switch** - Used to energize Starters.

**Power - On/Off Switch** - Main power switch. Used to turn on the unit; allows all tests to be performed.

**Drive Motor Switch** - Activates drive motor - Press switch up for clockwise (CW) rotation units, down for counter-clockwise (CCW) rotation units. Note: Most Alternators will operate correctly in either direction.

**Volt-Amp. Meter** - In VOLTS mode indicates the charging voltage (under load) of the Alternator or the Generator (if so equipped with optional Generator Test Lead Module). The VOLTS mode indicates alternator DC output voltage; the AMPS mode shows starter free running amperage draw. Unit automatically selects the mode needed (VOLTS/AMPS).

**Stator-Relay LED** - Indicates proper operation of stator or relay output terminal (if Alternator is so equipped). LED brilliance may vary from alternator to alternator.

**Alternator LED** - Functions the same as the Alternator lamp in the vehicle.

**Trio LED** - This LED is used primarily with the Delco 1-2 plug and other Alternators with internal regulators - disregard it on all other types of Alternators.

**Diode LED** - When the LED is on, reject the Alternator. Illumination is caused by excess ripple (AC).

**Safety Interlock Switch** - This safety switch is controlled by the belt guard position. When the belt guard is up, the Drive Motor Switch is inoperative.

**DO NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, ATTEMPT TO BYPASS THE OPERATION OF THIS INTERLOCK !!**

**Fuse** - This fuse is for the DC Alternator current supply. Replace only with a 15 Amp. fuse (AGC-15). Failure to replace it with the correct fuse may cause damage to the tester and will void factory warranty.

**Voltage Switch** - Switch up for Alternators being tested at 12 volts. Switch down for Alternators being tested at 24 volts. (This switch applies to Alternator/Generator voltages only.)

Generator testing is done in the same manner if equipped with an optional Generator Test Lead Module. 6 Volt Generators are tested in the 12 Volt mode by dividing the voltage reading in half to give the operator a correct reading.

**Short/Low Voltage LED** - If the LED turns on and an audible alarm sounds the Alternator is either shorted or the hook up is incorrect, thus causing a short circuit in the battery or the field circuit. If the LED turns on and an audible alarm sounds when testing Starters, the starter is either shorted or the power line voltage to the test bench is too low to perform a valid test

**Ignition LED** - Indicates proper operation of the auto ignition system while starting. (Applicable on solenoids having this terminal connection.)

**A-B Switch** - Switch up for “A” circuit - Switch down for “B” circuit. Consult the operating instructions for proper position.

**Lead Socket** - Socket for the Universal Lead Set of Alternator test wires (For the Generator Test Lead Module as well, if so equipped.)

## ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

**CAUTION: THE WEIGHT OF THE INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS AND/OR THE ASSEMBLED UNIT MAY EXCEED THE SAFE LIMIT THAT MAY BE LIFTED BY ONE INDIVIDUAL. EXTREME CARE SHOULD BE EXERCISED WHEN HANDLING THIS MACHINE !**

- a) Attach the plastic handle to the outside of the upper belt guard with the self tapping screw.
- b) Thread the vise handle onto the vise.
- c) The upper guard interlock trip rod may need to be adjusted. Loosen the two (2) jam nuts on the interlock trip rod and adjust the rod so that it trips the interlock switch just prior to the guard being in the DOWN position. Once the adjustment is made, tighten the jam nuts to secure the trip rod in place. To test the operation of the interlock, listen carefully as the guard is lowered. A faint "click" should be heard just before the guard is in the DOWN position, indicating that the trip rod has tripped the switch.
- d) Plug the Universal Test Lead Set into the front panel. Read this manual completely before attempting to operate this machine. This will insure years of trouble free operation and insure operator safety.
- e) In the event of hidden shipping damage, contact the carrier immediately. Do not discard the packaging materials - save them for the carrier's inspection.

## INSTALLATION

- a) Once you have the tester assembled, it is very important to install your machine in the following manner:
- b) The tester must be placed on a sturdy work bench or counter that is larger than the base of the tester.
- c) The tester must be plugged into a dedicated 120 VAC, 60 Hz., GROUNDED wall receptacle. It is suggested that the supply wire to the outlet be no smaller than #12 AWG and be as close to the circuit breaker panel or fuse box as possible. It is also suggested that if fuses are used, that the fuse be of a 20 Amp. slow blow type.

Use of an extension cord may degrade the performance of the tester and is not recommended. It may also cause serious internal heating in the machine.

- d) For safety reasons and ease of operation, the tester should be placed on a sturdy work bench or counter top.

**WARNING: This equipment, or the equipment that it is testing, may produce arcing or emit sparks. Locate this device a minimum of 18 inches above the floor.**

**Do not use outdoors or near flammable material.**

**This device employs rotating machinery. Do not operate it while wearing loose clothing or apparel that may become entangled, such as neckties.**

## OPERATION

**WARNING: Attempting to test a generator without using the optional generator test module may cause damage to the internal electronics of this tester.**

**NOTE: The A/B switch must be properly positioned for alternators and generators. Normally alternators should be tested with the switch in the "B" circuit.**

### **Operating Procedures - Alternators:**

- a) Mount the Alternator in the vise using the bar to secure the lower end to the vise. Secure the top portion of the alternator with the hold down arm attached to the vise handle.
- b) Line up the motor and the Alternator pulleys by moving the vise to the left or to the right. Tighten the vise to the base with the hold-down screws.
- c) Push the vise handle forward; attach the V-Belt and release the vise slowly.
- d) For Negative ground units, connect the large Black clamp (Ground) to the ground (GRD) terminal, or to the frame of the Alternator being tested.
- e) For Negative ground units connect the small Red lead wire (Batt) to the terminal of the Alternator marked "BATT" or "Output".

**NOTE: On Positive ground units, the small Red lead and the large Black clamp are reversed.**

- f) Connect the small Green lead (FIELD) to the terminal marked "F", "FLD", or "FIELD" on alternators so equipped.
- g) Connect the small Yellow lead wire (Stator-Relay) to the terminal marked "STA" or "R" on Alternators so equipped.
- h) Set the program switches for 12 volt or 24 volt depending upon the output voltage of the device under test.
- i) Grasp the vice handle with one hand to steady the alternator and apply additional tension to the drive belt.

### **ALTERNATOR TEST SEQUENCE:**

#### **Test #1-**

If the SHORT/LOW VOLTAGE LED turns on and an audible alarm sounds, the alternator is either shorted or the hook-up is incorrect, thus causing a short circuit in the battery or the field circuit.

Check the hook-up. If it is correct, reject the alternator.

#### **Test #2-**

Turn on the motor switch for the desired rotation direction. At this point, the unit is rotating with a load applied. It should start up quickly, If the motor stalls or a bearing noise is noticed, do not proceed. The Alternator under test has mechanical problems and should be rejected.

#### **Test #3-**

Observe the Volt-Meter.

- 12 Volt Alternators will indicate an operating voltage between 13.8 to 15.5 volts.

- 24 volt Alternators will indicate an operating voltage between 26.5 to 30.0 volts.

#### **Test #4-**

Observe the Diode LED. This LED should not be lit. If the LED is on, the Alternator is defective.

#### **Test #5-**

Observe the Stator/Relay LED - the LED should be on with Alternators having this feature and the Stator-Relay lead connected.

### **Delcotrons and other internally regulated alternators using the 1-2 plug:**

- The Diode Trio LED should be on when the alternator is electrically connected to the 1-2 plug, but is not rotating. Once the unit is under test and rotating, should the LED remain on, reject the alternator.

- On all other Alternators this LED will be off.

### **Chrysler Isolated Field Alternator:**

- This type of Alternator has 2 insulated field terminals. To test this type of Alternator, ground one of the field terminals and connect the small Green (FLD) field lead ("FLD") to the other terminal. Then proceed to test as a regular Alternator.

### **GENERATORS:**

**WARNING: Attempting to test a generator without using the optional Generator Test Module may cause damage to the internal electronics of this tester !**

### **OPERATING PROCEDURES - STARTERS:**

- a) Mount the Starter in the vise and secure it with the hold down clamp.
- b) Connect the large Black Negative (-Neg) battery clamp to a good ground connection on the Starter.
- c) Connect the large Red Positive (+Pos) battery clamp to the battery post of the solenoid or starter under test.
- d) On Solenoid equipped Starters, connect the short lead from the large Red battery clamp to the Solenoid Switch Terminal (SW). If this lead is not used, be sure it is not contacting ground.
- e) On ignition terminal (R) equipped solenoids, connect the ignition clip (small Blue wire) to the terminal. The Ignition LED should come on when this type of starter is being tested.

- f) Hold the Starter Test Switch; the Starter should engage and spin up. Observe the meter reading. Check the no-load current draw against the published starter specifications. Do not over rev the Starter. **Limit the test to 2 seconds** to allow time for the meter to stabilize and indicate the condition of the Starter. The meter should initially read low and then ramp up to the current indicated in the specifications.
- g) If the LOW VOLTAGE LED turns on and an audible alarm is detected, the starter is either shorted or the power line voltage to the test bench is too low to perform a valid test. Should you suspect low supply voltage, have it checked by a qualified electrician. Use of an extension cord may also cause the supply voltage to the test bench to be too low.

**TYPICAL TEST SPECIFICATIONS:**

**ALTERNATORS:**

Output Voltage:

12 Volt Alternators 13.8 to 15.5 Volts  
 24 Volt Alternators 26.5 to 30.0 Volts

Tester LEDs: DIODE Off  
 TRIO Off  
 ALT. OFF or on low  
 STATOR\* May Be ON

\*Only if Yellow Clip or DN Plug Connected

Note: For some alternators, the TRIO or the ALT. LED may light when the alternator is connected, but not rotating.

**OTHER ALTERNATOR SPECIFICATIONS:**

For other Alternator specifications, refer to the OEM or rebuilder's published specifications.

**STARTERS:**

**Delco Passenger with Solenoid:**

5 MT 70 to 100 Amps.  
 10 MT 100 to 125 Amps.

**Delco Passenger w/o Solenoid:** 7 to 100 Amps.

**Ford With Solenoid:** 100 to 125 Amps.

**Ford Without Solenoid:** 60 to 90 Amps.

**Chrysler Gear Reduction:** 70 to 125 Amps.

**Solenoids With Ignition Terminal (R):** Ignition LED should be on.

**Other Starter Specifications:** For other starter specifications, refer to the OEM or rebuilder's published specifications.

**MAINTENANCE**

**CAUTION: DO NOT ATTEMPT ANY MAINTENANCE BEFORE UNPLUGGING THE LINE PLUG FROM THE POWER RECEPTACLE!**

- a) Extreme care should be taken not break any components or wire leads when doing any maintenance to the unit.
- b) Test leads can be cleaned and kept in a like new condition by cleaning them with petroleum jelly.
- c) The Test Bench has been designed for a long life of trouble free service and requires only the minimum amount of maintenance to assure many years of dependable service. Good housekeeping techniques will insure dependability. The meter lens can be cleaned with a damp, clean rag utilizing a mild dish washing detergent/water solution. The case can be cleaned with a furniture grade spray wax.
- d) The motor should be lubricated once a year with a few drops of light oil. Some testers may be supplied with sealed "Oilite" bushings and in this case, no lubrication is required.

**TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE**

BEFORE YOU CALL FOR SERVICE, PROCEED WITH THE FOLLOWING TESTS. This tester is designed so that many functional tests may be made without the need for additional test equipment. If a portion of the tester appears to malfunction, proceed according to the following chart. For purposes of this guide, the Bench Tester may be divided into two sections:

**POWER PANEL SECTION** - The left hand portion above the belt guard containing the On/Off Switches, etc.

**METER PANEL SECTION** - The larger right hand portion containing the meter, A/B switch, etc.

**WARNING: UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD THE UNIT BE DISASSEMBLED WITH THE UNIT PLUG TO THE WALL RECEPTACLE.**

PROBLEM	TEST	POSSIBLE CAUSE
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Power Lamp is inoperative No meter reading Motor won't run	Motor switch is ON. Belt guard is down.	1. Unit is un-plugged or circuit is not energized. Check the power source circuit breaker or fuse. 2. Outlet is defective. 3. Power cord is defective. 4. On/Off switch is defective.
Power light on. Motor won't run or Motor starts and stops.	Audible click from Safety Interlock Switch as Belt Guard closes.	1. Thermal switch may be open due to motor overload. Wait several minutes for the switch to reset. 2. Check Safety Interlock Switch for correct operation. Switch may be defective.
No meter reading. Motor switch ON. Motor runs with guard closed.	No short LED when the small RED and GROUND clamp are touched together.  Short LED turns on when the small RED and GROUND clamp are touched together.	1. Defective PC board. 2. Power semi-conductor assembly. 3. Power fuse may need replacement.  1. Defective PC board.
Voltage remains on starter clamps.	None	1. Defective solenoid.
No TRIO LED.	TRIO LED should turn on if the #1 terminal of the 1-2 plug is touching the GROUND clamp.	1. Defect in test lead assembly. 2. Defective PC board.
Delco alternator will not test.	The SHORT LED should turn on if the #2 terminal of the 1-2 plug is touching the GROUND clamp. The TRIO LED should turn on if the #1 terminal of the 1-2 plug is touching the GROUND clamp.	1. Defect in test lead assembly. 2. Defective PC board.
No ALT. LED.	The ALT. LED should turn on if the WHITE clip is touching the GROUND clamp.	1. Defect in test lead assembly. 2. Defective PC board.
No STATOR LED.	The STATOR LED should turn on if the RED and YELLOW clips are touching.	1. Defect in test lead assembly. 2. Defective PC board.
Externally regulated alternators will not function. The implication is that the external field circuit is not functioning.	"A" Circuit - Place the "A/B" switch in the "A" position. Touch the GREEN clip to the small RED clip. The SHORT LED should illuminate. "B" Circuit - Place the "A/B" switch in the "B" position. Touch the GREEN clip to the GROUND clamp. The SHORT LED should illuminate.	1. 10 Amp fuse open in test lead set. 2. Defective test lead set. 3. Defective PC board.
Motor will not run. POWER switch is in the ON position. POWER lamp is illuminated.	Motor rotates in one direction only.  If motor does not rotate in either direction, check to make sure that belt guard safety switch is being depressed by its actuator.	Defective motor switch.  Defective motor switch. Defective belt guard safety switch. Defective motor disconnect plug.

**NOTE:** The above tests are presented as a aid in operator diagnosis. The tester contains complex electronic circuits and requires a trained service technician or the aid of factory Technical Service personnel prior to proceeding any further. Before calling the factory for technical assistance, please review the above tests. This will be very helpful in assisting you in repairs.

**DO NOT** return any portion of the tester to the factory without return authorization! Return authorization will result in quicker repair and allow the factory to keep track of your equipment.

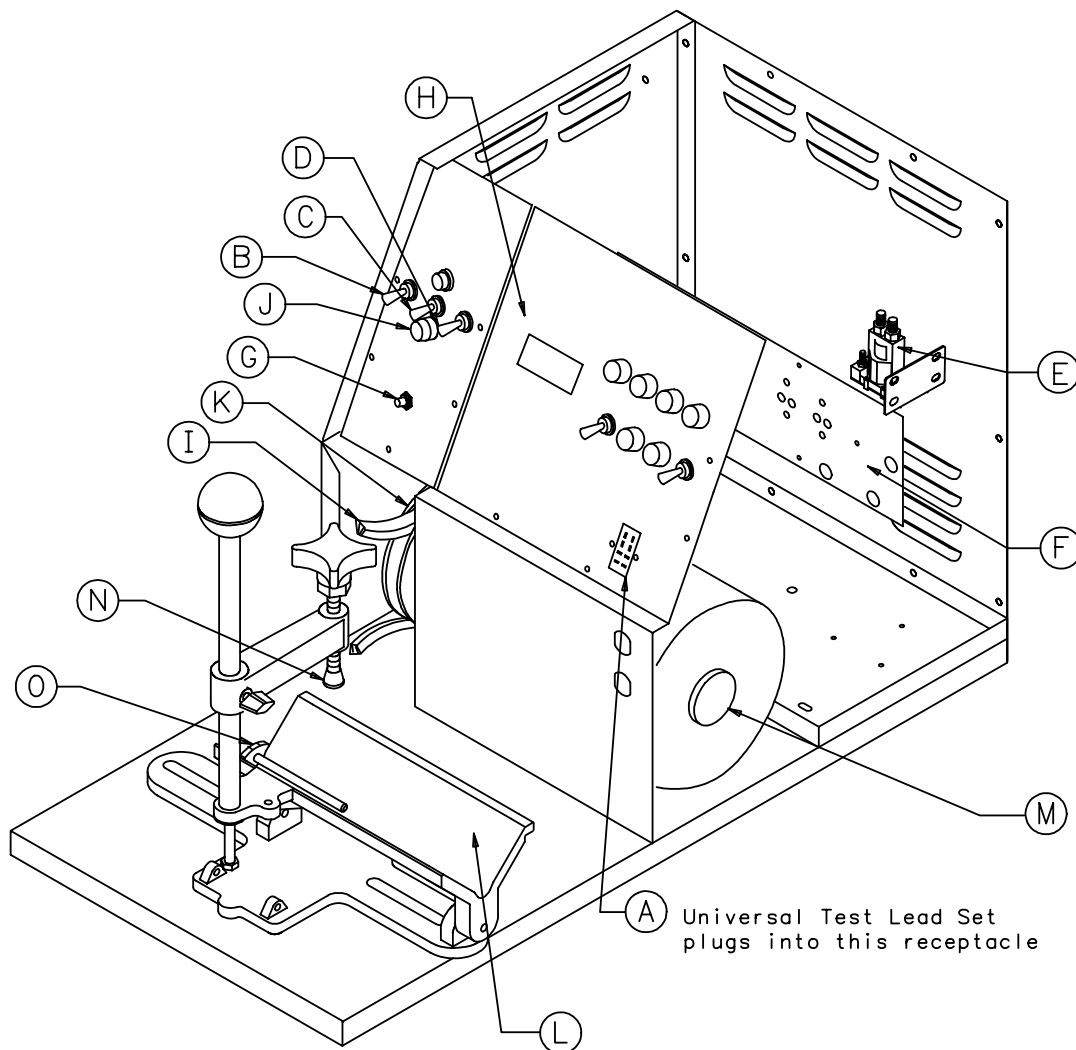
For a qualified electronics technician, additional technical information is available from the factory. See the Limited Warranty section of this manual for the phone number of the factory Technical Service Department.

## REPLACEMENT PARTS

Key	Description	Part#	C	Power Off/On Switch . . . . .	610423
A	Univ. Test Lead Set . . . . .	610421	D	Motor Switch . . . . .	610424
B	Starter Test Switch . . . . .	610422	E	Solenoid . . . . .	610440

F	Power Semiconductor Assy..	610442
G	Safety Interlock Switch	610427
H	Front Panel Assy.	610786
I	"V" Belt - 30" 1/2HP	610455
I	"V" Belt - 34" 1HP	610429
J	Fuse Holder	610430

<b>Key</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Part#</b>
K	"V" Pulley - 2.5" 1/2 HP	610454
K	"V" Pulley - 5" 1 HP	610438
L	Vise Assembly	610436
M	Motor, 1/2 HP	610435
M	Motor, 1 HP	610453
N	Swivel Pad w/ Rod	610441
O	Alternator Bracket	610439
*	A. C. Cord	605205
*	Power Light	610600
*	Front Panel Harness	610778
*	Output Cables	610791
*	Transformer Assy.	610941



# LIMITED WARRANTY

Associated Equipment Corporation, 5043 Farlin, St. Louis, Missouri 63115, makes this limited warranty to the original and user purchaser of all Associated products.

The Company hereby warrants the Purchaser that if the Product, or any parts thereof, shall prove to be defective due to improper workmanship or materials at any time up to and including NINETY (90) DAYS from the date of the Product's purchase at retail, then the Company shall repair or replace the Product, or any part thereof, as the case may be, at the Company's option, without charge to the Purchaser for parts and labor, provided that the Purchaser follows the procedures set forth herein.

This warranty does not and shall not apply: (1) to any Product parts subject to normal wear and tear, including but not limited to, clamps, test lead sets, belts and cables, (2) if the Product, or any part thereof, is subject to accident, misuse, abuse, or operated contrary to the company's instructions pertaining to the Product, or (3) to the Product, or any part thereof, damaged by alteration, or by improper repair or service not rendered by the Company.

## TO OBTAIN WARRANTY REPAIR SERVICE:

1. Contact the Technical Service Department at the factory by either of the phone numbers listed below, or send in a request for service via FAX.
2. **DO NOT SHIP THE UNIT, OR ANY OF ITS COMPONENT PARTS BACK WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORIZATION !!**
3. Be prepared to answer specific questions concerning what is or is not operating. Please have your instruction manual in front of you; please also have the serial number and date of manufacture available (found on the rear of the cabinet).
4. A determination will then be made concerning repair.

### If the Unit is in Warranty:

The part(s) will be invoiced and sent the next business day by ground service.

The defective part(s) must be returned within thirty (30) days along with proof of warranty so that a credit will be issued offsetting the invoice for part and shipping charges.

### If the Unit is NOT in Warranty:

The part(s) will be sent the next business day via a carrier of your choice.

Parts and shipping charges will be billed net thirty (30) days to qualified wholesalers.

THIS IS THE ONLY EXPRESS LIMITED WARRANTY ASSOCIATED WITH THE PRODUCT AND THE COMPANY NEITHER ASSUMES NOR AUTHORIZES ANYONE TO ASSUME OR MAKE ANY OTHER EXPRESS WARRANTY WITH RESPECT TO THE PRODUCT OTHER THAN THIS EXPRESS LIMITED WARRANTY. ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OF THIS PRODUCT IS LIMITED TO A PERIOD OF NINETY (90) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE PRODUCT'S PURCHASE AT RETAIL BY THE PURCHASER. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON HOW LONG AN IMPLIED WARRANTY LASTS, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATION MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU.

The Company is not and shall not be responsible or otherwise liable for any loss, claim, injury or damage to any person or property, or lost profits or other similar loss damage, which may arise, directly or indirectly, result or be claimed to have resulted from a defect in the workmanship or material of the Product or any part thereof. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation may not apply to you.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

Associated Equipment does not recognize, nor will it reimburse the user for any third party labor or material charges required to repair this piece of equipment unless the user obtains written permission prior to having the work performed.

Should the user elect to return this device for repair without first contacting the factory and obtaining permission, the factory reserves the right to refuse delivery.

If you feel that you can service this unit yourself, you may elect to:

1. Remove the cover from the unit. Inspect for obvious damage, i.e., broken wires, burned or loose connections, etc.
2. Have the unit near you when you call.
3. Call 1-800-654-0853. In Missouri call 1-314-385-6541. A qualified service technician will ask you several questions and have you perform several tests to determine the problem. FAX number 1-314-385-3254.

## WARRANTY REGISTRATION:

- 1.. Check the Model/Serial Number printed on the back of this unit.
2. Record the information below and keep this document for your permanent record.

MODEL/SERIAL # \_\_\_\_\_ PURCHASE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

JOBBER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_