

# STRAND CONTROL

## GENERAL SPECIFICATION OF STAGE SWITCHBOARDS

**Panels.**—Ebony Grade Sindanyo or similar material.

**Fuses.**—Porcelain Home Office or locking pattern. On D.C. boards, double-pole fuses are fitted but on A.C. Boards, single-pole with neutral links at the back of the Board are used.

**Circuit Switches.**—Either 15-amp. Back of Board knife pattern or 15-amp. Tumbler one-way or two-way-and-off pattern, as required, with bakelite covers.

**Master Switches.**—Back of Board knife pattern, single-, double- or triple-pole according to electric supply. Where contactors are used, 15-amp. one-way or two-way-and-off tumbler switches are used.

**Labels.**—All switches are clearly labelled to denote the circuits they control. All dimmer handles are labelled to denote both the circuit and wattage thereof. Where fuses or neutral links are mounted on the rear of switchboards they are also fully labelled. All labels are suitably coloured.

**Dimmer Operating Handles.**—On the simpler Switchboards the screw down bracket type is used, but on more elaborate boards, the self release pattern is fitted. The advantage of the latter is that the handle automatically releases itself from the shaft at the top or bottom of travel but relocks itself when the direction of rotation of the shaft is reversed.

**Dimmer Shafts.**—On large switchboards these are carried on self-aligning ball bearings, but on smaller boards ordinary cast iron bearings are fitted. Operation of shafts is effected either by capstan wheel or worm drive (as required). In the case of self-release Grand Master boards, direct operation of shafts is obtained by 10-inch diameter handwheels on each shaft.

**Dimmers.**—See page H.11 for Slider and page H.16 for Sunset dimmer specifications.

**Chain Interlocks or Couplings.**—These consist of chains between shafts enabling all shafts to be revolved by the operation of one wheel. Chain interlocks can be locked or unlocked at will. Chain couplings are permanently connected and one wheel only is supplied to operate all shafts together. *Alternatively* :—

**Grand Master Control.**—Consists of a bevel on each shaft, permanently in mesh with two further bevels which normally idle on the master control shaft and to which they may be selectively locked by means of fine splines, so providing a reverse action in order to be able to rotate any shaft in a like or opposite direction to any other, whilst rotating the master control handwheel in one direction only. The master control is worm operated to give a fine and steady operation. On very large switchboards the above arrangement is replaced by an electro-magnetic operation, actuated by tumbler switch.

**Scale Lighting.**—This consists of a trough running the full length of the shafts with a 15-watt B.C. Pygmy Sign type Lamp above each Dimmer scale. This refinement can only be fitted to Boards with self release handles and is generally confined to the larger type of Grand Master Boards.

**Wiring Troughs.**—Provided at the top of all boards to which all incoming conduits can be bonded, bushed holes being provided for external cables.

**Wiring.**—Carried out in fire resisting cable. Busbars are coloured to indicate phasing or polarity.

**Board Lights.**—Fitted on the front of wiring troughs either shell type reflectors on small boards or stencilled two-light type on large boards (one white lamp and one blue for use in blackouts).

**Signals.**—On larger boards "Warning" and "Go" signals with Red and Green glass apertures can be fitted to Master panels.

**General.**—All switchboards are totally enclosed by sheet metal or perforated sheet metal panels. With SUNSET Dimmer Boards, the dimmers are made to take out from the back and it is therefore necessary to allow a minimum space of 18 inches between the back of the board and the wall. Boards fitted with Slider dimmers can be fitted flat against a wall. All boards are constructed on substantial angle iron framework.

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