

Strand's Genius™ Operating Software.

LBX has 96 control faders which can be re-configured in software to be two presets of 48 channels, two 36 channel presets and 24 submasters, 72 channel single preset fader with 24 submasters, or a straight 96 channel single preset console. Both GSX and LBX use Strand's Genius[™] foundation operating software which is available in channel capacities of 25 to 125, all controlling a maximum of 512 dimmers. One immediate advantage of the software philosophy is that, for example, a 50 channel GSX can be expanded to 75 channels by the addition of Genius 25 channel upgrade software. It is loading the Genius software that turns the GSX into an operational control.

GSX is a compact, lightweight ergonomic console with 24 submasters, two playbacks - manual and auto - a level & rate wheel, an auto playback. It has 'Go' and 'Stop/back' functions, 3 Effects playbacks with 'Go', 'Stop/back' and manual step, soft function keys and a Grand Master fader and Blackout. An LCD display on the console panel provides detailed information and describes the functions of the 'soft' (unassigned) keys at any time.

In addition to this, the LBX offers 96 re-configurable channel/submaster faders plus an internal auto-voltage selecting power supply.

As you would expect from a Strand memory console, the GSX and LBX running Genius have a powerful specification. Genius continues Strand's philosophy of ease of use, and even has a choice of how you enter the information (you may prefer to type in percentages rather than digits). To help with setting the lighting, the channel control can mix channels, cues and submasters, undo any change, switch off lighting fast using REMDIM (remainder dim) or solo.

Recording is made easier than ever with auto selection of the next free cue number, recording with and without submasters, renumbering, updating features and undo. For the performance, there are two playbacks, automatic and manual, plus 24 submasters. The submasters can have programmable fade times, and up to 12 can be set as inhibitive. Simple chase effects are available with 3 effects memories. A total of 10 macros provide short cuts to more complex actions of up to 32 key presses. Macros can also be used for automated control triggered through the keypad, submasters, handheld remote or by date and time.

There are two proportional patches, and show storage and retrieval on MS-DOS compatible 3.5" disks offers automatic backup copies of the show, plus the usual copying of cues, submasters, effects and setup memories.

The power of the GSX with Genius is impressive by itself, and for many users the Genius Operating Software answers all their needs and more. But what do you do if the lighting designer wants a selection of effects, up to 30 effects memories, audio control of effects and macros, scroller control? You buy a copy of Kaleidoscope, the Genius application software which adds a

wide range of effects, and direct 'intelligent' control of scrollers. Kaleidoscope gives accurate scroller control that is not possible from ordinary DMX 512 intensity control desks used for this purpose.

The options don't finish there. Genius is capable of much more through its connectivity with other systems, and this is available for the price of the second application program called Communiqué. Communiqué is for applications where the GSX or LBX is to be operated as part of a larger lighting system. Communiqué provides an additional 12 external submasters. macros triggered by external +10V signal or by configurable serial input or ASCII control and ASCII remote go, MIDI, MIDI Show Control, plus DMX-input to accept another desk's control signal.

A major benefit with separate software for the GSX and LBX is its ability to be updated when new features are required. The latest version of Genius, Kaleidoscope and Communiqué is now version 1.2a, which expands the software to include:

- Five pages of submasters now give a total of 120 memories in addition to the 200 cues already available.
- An active submaster memory remains if the page is changed, until the fader is returned to zero (or full for an inhibitive submaster) when the new selection is collected for use.
- Functions like Macro, Inhibitive and Independent are assigned to the submaster faders,

- and work across all 5 submaster memory pages. The In/Out fade times are recordable per page.
- The current submaster page is always displayed in the submaster window banner.
- The submaster page can be changed by SUB+ and SUB- keys in both Output and Preview screens.
- Each of the 24 submasters can now be set to Independent, so that the channel control cannot steal control from the submasters.
- Each of the 24 submasters can now be inhibitive.
- The submaster displays have been improved and enhanced.
- The current control mode of the LBX is displayed in the submaster window.
- Effects step recording and the LCD display of numbers entered has been improved.

The design of desk for MX, GSX and LBX uses a range of ergonomically designed fader and control panels in self-coloured grey, high impact injection moulded engineering grade plastic. The faders themselves are inset to avoid accidental damage. The key tops are configured for 'finger tip' control. Used together, or with the similarly styled LX as a remote submaster

control, in more complex arrangements the desks will harmonise both visually and where appropriate, with each other.





LBX Lighting Console.