# 

# RE121 RACK MOUNT DIMMER 12 X 1200 Watts



**OWNER'S MANUAL** 

Revision 2.5 02/17/2022

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## RE121 RACK MOUNT DIMMER OWNER'S MANUAL

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# DESCRIPTION

Revision 2.5

The RE121 is a 12 channel dimmer with a capacity of 1,200 watts per channel giving a total of 14,400 watts. The RE121 is controlled by a lighting console. The unit can be supplied to use either the DMX-512 control protocol or the LMX-128 control protocol. Channels 1-6 and/or channels 7-12 may be switched to operate in "relay" mode. In relay mode, channels may be switched only to either full on or full off, depending on fader position.

## **POWER REQUIREMENTS**

Each RE121 requires BOTH PHASES of a SINGLE PHASE 50/60 Hz, 120/240 VOLT AC service or TWO PHASES OF A THREE PHASE 50/60 Hz, 120/208 VOLT AC service. The neutral conductor is shared by two hots, so it is important the two hots used are of different phases. EACH PHASE must be capable of providing 60 AMPS. One or more RE121 dimmers are to be installed into a standard 19" equipment rack with provisions for connection to an appropriate electrical service in accordance with the National Electrical Code.

# LIGHTING LOAD CAPACITY

Each RE121 channel has a 1200 Watt MAXIMUM rating and is protected by a fast acting 10 Amp fuse. 10 Amps equates to 1200 Watts at 120VAC. If you operate a channel at 1200 watts then you are very close to blowing the fuse. This will occur if AC line voltages are high or you have power surges. Other conditions which may cause the fuse to blow include turning a cold lamp on quickly or rapidly by raising a fader on to full intensity. A maximum practical load of 1000 Watts per channel will allow for some overhead and help prevent blowing fuses. There is an optional modification to replace fuses with 10 Amp circuit breakers. The circuit breaker option is non UL-508 compliant.

# INSTALLATION

#### PLACEMENT

The RE121 is designed to be mounted in a standard 19" equipment rack using the four mounting holes in the face plate. If the dimming system will be used for touring shows, it is recommended that you provide additional support for the rear of the unit. The dimmer is fan cooled and requires no space between units when multiple dimmers are used together in a rack. Air enters the dimmer through www.lightronics.com slots on the side and exits through holes in the bottom of the face plate. Make certain these ventilation holes are not obstructed. Do not place the RE121 where it will be exposed to moisture or excessive heat. The RE121 is intended for indoor use only.

# POWER CONNECTIONS



#### WARNING MAKE CERTAIN POWER IS REMOVED FROM THE FEED CIRCUITS BEFORE YOU BEGIN INSTALLATION.



Power enters the RE121 through the rear of the unit via a knockout sized for 1" conduit. Inside the RE121 is a terminal block with three lugs. The "H1" and "H2" are the line connections or "hots". The center connection labeled "N" is the neutral. There is an additional ground lug labeled "G" located near the terminal block. This lug is for connecting the chassis to earth ground.

Consult your local electrical codes to determine the proper wire type and wiring methods for your installation. Connect a ground wire to the ground lug "G" first. Next connect the neutral to the center lug "N" on the terminal block, then connect one hot to the lug of the terminal block marked "H1" and the other hot to the "H2" lug of the terminal block.

#### CONTROL SIGNALS

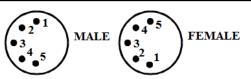
The RE121 is supplied to use one of two types of control signal. Either DMX-512 control or LMX-128 control is supplied when ordered. The front panel is marked to show which protocol can be used.

#### DMX CONTROL

The DMX-512 control signal enters the RE121 through a **5 pin male XLR** connector on the rear of the unit. A **5 pin female XLR** connector is used to continue this control signal out to other dimmers in the system. Normally the male connector is used for the incoming control signal and the female connector is used to loop out to other dimmers. These connectors are wired in parallel so either connector may be used as input or output. The table below shows the control signal connector pin assignments.

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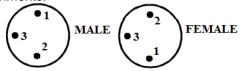
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Connector Pin #	Signal Name		
1	DMX Common		
2	DMX Data -		
3	DMX Data +		
4	Not Used		
5	Not Used		

LMX CONTROL

The LMX-128 control signal enters the RE121 through a **3 pin male XLR** connector on the rear of the unit. The **3 pin female XLR** connector is used to continue this control signal out to other dimmers in the system. Normally the male connector is used for the incoming control signal and the female connector is used to loop out to other dimmers. These connectors are wired in parallel so either connector may be used as input or output. The table below shows the control signal connector pin assignments.



Connector Pin #	Signal Name
1	LMX Common
2	Console Power (+15VDC)
3	LMX Signal

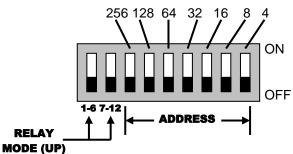
#### OUTPUT CHANNEL CONNECTIONS

The RE121 can be supplied with one of several rear panel output options. Channel output connections are according to the rear panel selected. Channel connections generally proceed from left to right (if you are facing the rear of the unit). Channel "A" will be on the left end. Connections for load Neutrals are provided. There is also a ground lug terminal to be used for your load circuit grounds. See page 6 for rear panel examples.

#### **OPERATION**

#### CHANNEL ASSIGNMENT

The starting channel of each RE121 is selected using the DIP switches on the front panel. The table below indicates the actual value of each DIP switch www.lightronics.com position. A chart at the end of this manual "CHANNEL ASSIGNMENT SWITCH SETTINGS" provides further information for setting the starting address DIP switches.



Any switch in the up position ADDS the associated value to the starting channel number. All switches down = starting channel number 1.

For example: to set the starting channel to 13, move the 2nd switch from the right (value 8) and the 1st switch from the right (value 4) to the up position. For a starting channel of 21, move the third switch from the right (value 16) and the rightmost switch (value 4) to the up position. A complete table of address assignments is provided further on in this manual.

#### OPERATION

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#### MANUAL CONTROL

Dimmer channels can be activated manually by pressing corresponding button switches located on the front panel. This will latch the associated channel to full on. Push the button again to turn the channel off. The associated LED will light when the channel is activated.

#### NORMAL OPERATION

LEDs located on the front panel of the RE121 indicate channel levels as you operate faders on your console. The "VALID SIGNAL" LED will light whenever the dimmer is receiving a control signal within the range of channels that the dimmer is assigned to. The "Phase A" and "Phase B" LEDs will indicate that power sources are applied to the dimmer. The fan will run continuously whenever power is applied to the RE121. An over-temperature sensor will shut down all channel output if the dimmer temperature rises above safe limits (≈175°F exit air temperature).

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#### RELAY MODE

The two leftmost DIP switches on the front panel control the "relay" mode. When either switch is in the up position, the channels associated with that switch operate in non-dim mode. These channels will be either full on or full off depending on the level of the faders controlling them.

#### MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

#### FRONT PANEL FUSES

The RE121 has two fuses. The left fuse is 1 Amp. The right fuse is 1/4 Amp. Both are 250V,  $1.25 \times .25$  inch, fast acting fuses. These fuses provide protection for the internal electronic control circuitry and the fan. They may be replaced ONLY by fuses of identical type and size

Each channel of the RE121 is protected by a 10 Amp, 250 Volt, fast acting fuse located on the front panel of the unit. If the total load for a channel is greater than 1200 Watts the channel fuse will blow. There is also an optional modification to 10 Amp circuit breakers in place of these channel fuses.

#### TROUBLESHOOTING

# VERIFY ALL POWER IS REMOVED BEFORE HANDLING THE UNIT.

- Verify the unit channel addresses are correctly set.
- Check the console is powered and the console channels are correctly patched or set.
- Check the control cable between the dimmer and console.
- Verify the loads and their connections.

#### OWNER MAINTENANCE

There are no user serviceable parts inside the unit.

The best way to prolong the life of your unit is to keep it cool, clean, and dry. It is important that the cooling intake and exit vent holes are clean and unobstructed.

Service by other than Lightronics authorized agents may void your warranty.

OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE ASSISTANCE

If service is required, contact the dealer from whom you purchased the equipment or return it to the Lightronics Service Department, 509 Central Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23454. TEL 757 486 3588. All items returned for service <u>must</u> include a description of the problem along with your name, address and phone number.

Lightronics recommends you record the serial number of your unit for future reference.

#### SERIAL NUMBER

# WARRANTY INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION – CLICK LINK BELOW

www.lightronics.com/warranty.html

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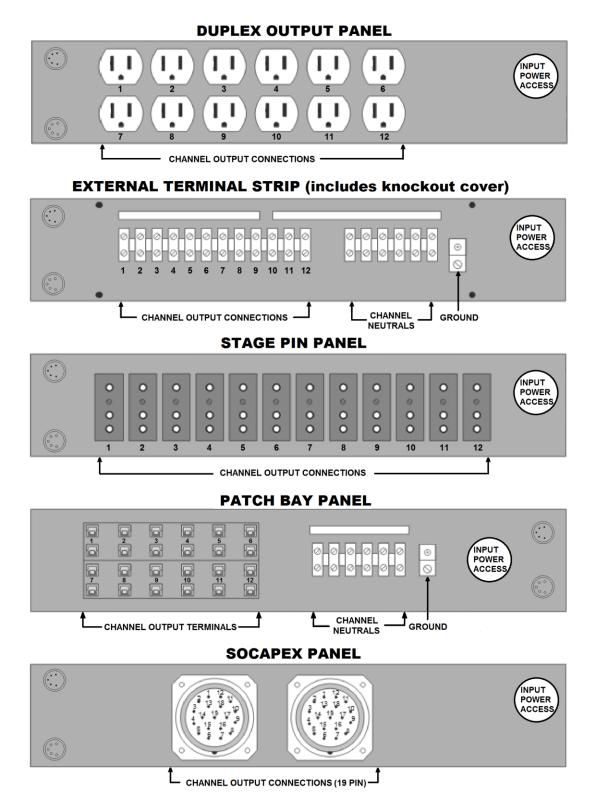


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#### **REAR PANEL EXAMPLES**

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# **CHANNEL ASSIGNMENT SWITCH SETTINGS**

The DIP Switch Setting column shows the positions of the DIP switches on the dimmer. The Start Channel column shows the resulting channel assignment for the first channel of the dimmer.

All Lightronics products using DIP switches for address assignments conform to this table. Some dimmers cannot be set to all 512 channels and will have fewer switches than are shown in the table. If this is the case then match the right end switches in the table to your dimmer switches.

NOTE: Some control consoles can be programmed or "patched" to alter their channel order. You may get unexpected results if you are not aware of the console patch condition when you assign channels at a dimmer.

EXAMPLE: If a dimmer's DIP switches are set to  $\mathcal{D} \mathcal{O} \mathcal{O} \mathcal{O} \mathcal{O} \mathcal{O} \mathcal{O}$  then the first channel of the dimmer will respond to console channel 173. The remaining dimmer channels will respond to console channels 174, 175, 176 ... etc.

DIP Switch	Start	DIP Switch	Start	DIP Switch	Start	DIP Switch	Start
Setting	Channel	Setting	Channel	Setting	Channel	Setting	Channel
①①①①①①①	1	û <b>U</b> Ûûûûû	129	<b>U</b> ÛÛÛÛÛÛ	257	00000000	385
ŶŶŶŶŶŶŶ <b>IJ</b>	5	<b>0000000</b>	133	<b>U</b> ÛÛÛÛÛÛ	261	0000000	389
<u>ûûûûû</u> û	9	<b>Û Û</b> Û Û Û Û Û Û	137	<b>U</b> ÛÛÛÛÛÛ	265	0000000	393
ŶŶŶŶŶŶ <b>Ů</b>	13	0000000	141	<b>U</b> ÛÛÛÛÛÛ	269	0000000	397
ÛÛÛÛÛÛÛ	17	0000000	145	<b>U</b> ÛÛÛÛÛÛ	273	0000000	401
<b>ûûûûûû</b>	21	0000000	149	<b>U</b> ÛÛÛÛÛÛ	277	<b>UU</b> ÛÛÛÛÛ	405
ûûûû <b>00</b> û	25	0000000	153	<b>U</b> ÛÛÛÛÛÛ	281	<b>00</b> ûû <b>00</b> û	409
$\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}$	29	0000000	157	000000	285	000000	413
<u>ûûûûûû</u>	33	<b>Û Û Û Û Û Û Û</b> Û	161	<b>U</b> ÛÛÛÛÛÛ	289	<b>UU</b> ÛUÛÛÛ	417
$\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}$	37	0000000	165	0000000	293	0000000	421
<b>ûûûûûû</b>	41	<b>Û Û Û Û Û Û Û</b>	169	<b>U</b> ÛÛÛÛÛÛ	297	0000000	425
$\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}$	45	<b>ŶŎŶŎŶŎŎ</b>	173	0000000	301	0000000	429
<b>ûûû00</b> ûû	49	0000000	177	<b>U</b> ÛÛ <b>U</b> ÛÛ	305	<b>00</b> 00000	433
<b>ûûû00û0</b>	53	Ŷ <b>U</b> Ŷ <b>U</b> ÛŶÛ	181	000000	309	0000000	437
<b>ûûû000</b> û	57	000000	185	<b>U</b> ÛÛ <b>UU</b> Û	313	000000	441
<b>ŶŶŶ0000</b>	61	<b>ÛOÛOÛO</b>	189	00000	317	000000	445
<u>ûû0ûûû</u>	65	û <b>UU</b> ÛÛÛÛ	193	0000000	321	00000000	449
0000000	69	0000000	197	0000000	325	00000000	453
$\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}$	73	0000000	201	<b>U</b> ÛUÛÛÛÛ	329	0000000	457
0000000	77	0000000	205	0000000	333	0000000	461
<b>ûû0ûûû</b> î	81	<b>ΔΟΟΦΟΦΦ</b>	209	0000000	337	<b>000</b> 00000	465
$\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}$	85	Ŷ <b>00</b> Ŷ <b>0</b> Ŷ <b>0</b>	213	0000000	341	00000000	469
$\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}\hat{U}$	89	0000000	217	0000000	345	0000000	473
0000000	93	<b>0000000</b>	221	000000	349	0000000	477
<b>ûû00</b> ûûû	97	<b>ΥΟΟΟ</b> ΥΥΥ	225	<b>U</b> Û <b>U</b> Û Û Û Û Û Û Û Û Û Û Û Û Û Û Û Û Û Û Û	353	<b>0000</b> 000	481
<b>ŶŶŬŬŶŶŨ</b>	101	0000000	229	0000000	357	00000000	485
ûû <b>00</b> ûûû	105	000000	233	<b>0</b> 000000	361	0000000	489
<b>ŶŶθθ</b> Ŷ <b>θ</b> θ	109	0000000	237	0000000	365	00000000	493
ûû <b>000</b> ûû	113	Δ <b>0000</b> ΔΩ	241	<b>U</b> Û <b>UUU</b> ÛÛ	369	00000ûû	497
000000	117	<b>₽0000₽0</b>	245	0000000	373	0000000	501
00000	121	1000001	249	<b>00000</b> 0	377	000000	505
0.00000	125	<b>000000</b>	253	000000	381	0000000	509

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