

SUPPORT GUIDE

Nº 5206

Precision Preamplifier

The heart of your high-end audio system



Overview

Mark Levinson № 5206 preamplifier with PurePath fully discrete, direct-coupled, dual monaural line-level class A preamp circuitry.

Evolution

Derived from the same Pure Path design philosophy as the distinguished Mark Levinson № 500 series products, the № 5206 preamplifier was created to deliver all the performance and quality expected from Mark Levinson with new affordability and exceptional value.

Architecture

The foundation of the № 5206 is its fully discrete, direct-coupled, dual-monaural line-level preamp circuitry, for which the Shelton design team has been awarded one patent with another patent pending. A unique single gain stage mated to a digitally controlled resistor network for volume adjustment maintains maximum signal integrity and widest possible bandwidth. Each of its four stereo line-level inputs – two balanced XLR and two single-ended, using custom Mark Levinson RCA connectors – has its own individual high-reliability signal switching relays. Like the № 500 series components, the MainDrive headphones output employs a preamp output stage specifically designed with the current and power capacity to drive headphones directly, without a separate headphone amp.

A newly designed phono stage features a hybrid gain topology, mating key discrete components from the acclaimed № 500 series Pure Phono stage with low-noise pre circuits for high performance at a lower cost. Also, like the № 500 series, a hybrid active/passive RIAA equalizer employs precision resistors and polypropylene capacitors for exceptional accuracy and sonic clarity. The user can select MM/MC gain and optional infrasonic filter from the setup menu, while capacitive and resistive loading settings are easily accessed from the rear panel. Variable line-level RCA outputs allow system expansion and flexibility.

Digital Audio

The № 5206 delivers outstanding digital audio capability through the Mark Levinson Precision-Link II™ DAC. The class-leading ESS Sabre Pro series 32-bit D/A converter with jitter elimination circuitry and a fully balanced, discrete current-to-voltage converter form the heart of the digital audio processing stage. Six digital audio inputs are provided: One AES, two coaxial and two optical S/PDIF, and one asynchronous USB for playback of high-resolution PCM (up to 32 bit/384kHz) and DSD (up to 11.2MHz) files. The № 5206 includes MQA (Master Quality Authenticated) technology, which enables playback of MQA audio files and streams. A Bluetooth receiver equipped with aptX-HD enables the high-quality Bluetooth playback.



Control

System integration and communication ports include Ethernet, USB, RS-232, IR input, and 12V trigger input and output. A newly designed, solid aluminum IR remote is included with the N° 5206. Finally, an internal webpage allows setup, import and export of configurations, and software updates using a PC and standard web browser.

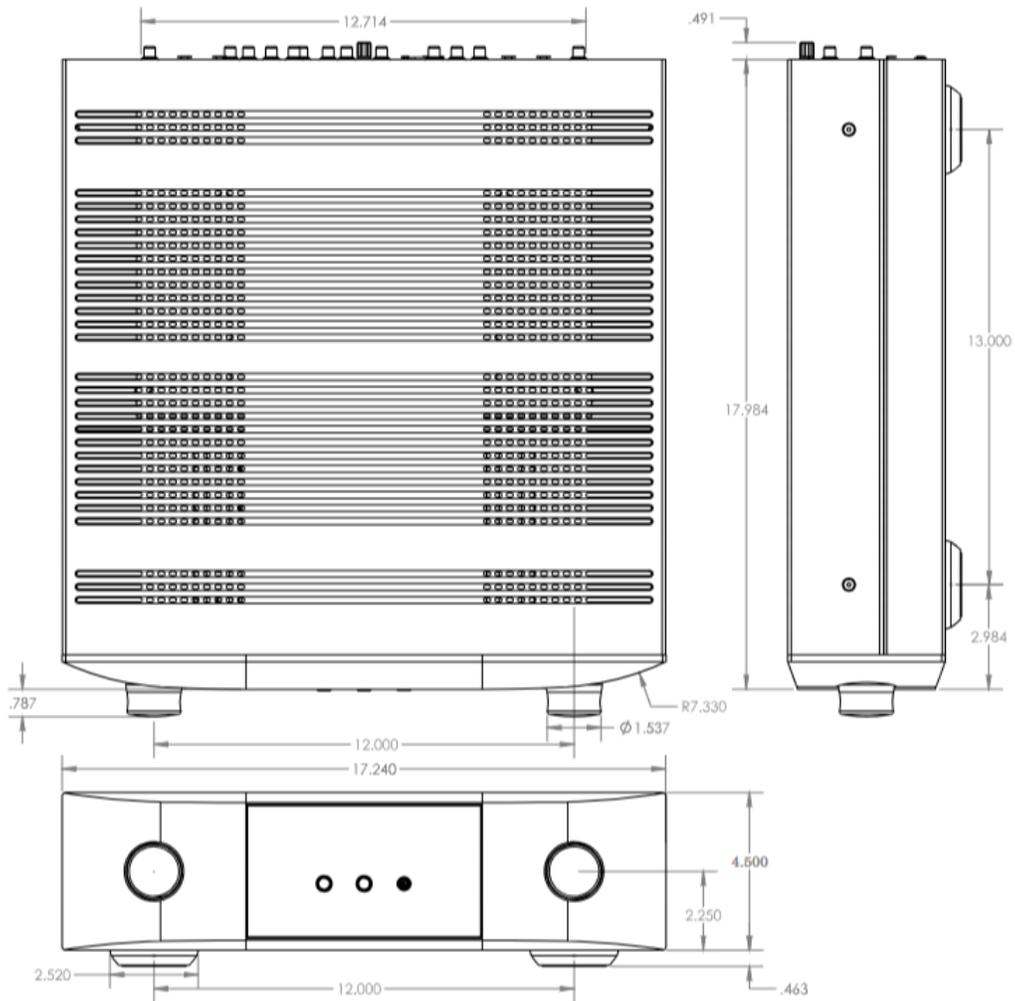
Industrial Design

Robust materials, lavish finishes, and bold geometry are hallmark attributes of Mark Levinson designs. The one-inch-thick, bead-blasted, black-anodized, solid aluminum front panels are machined and contoured to flow seamlessly into the sleek glass display, which itself is recessed into a bead-blasted, clear-anodized aluminum bezel.

The iconic hourglass knobs redefined with a gently curved profile softly transitioning into a rounded front. With meticulous details, including, debossed top cover vents, screen-printed logo and legends behind the glass panel, and custom machined aluminum Standby and Menu buttons, and matching feet, the N° 5206 exudes elegance and style.

The N° 5206 is proudly designed, engineered, and precision-crafted in the USA.

Overall Dimensions and Specifications



Support Overview

General Information

Brand: Mark Levinson
Product Category: Amplifier
Product Type: Dual-Monaural Preamplifier
Model: № 5206
SAP SKU: MLN05206

Dates and Notes

Introduction Year: 2020
EOL: Current
Service End: EOL+7
Warranty Period: 5 years
Note: N/A

Support Instructions

Support Type: Service first. If parts needed to service and not available, then pair with L3 for replacement options.

Key Points

Included in box:
1 x IEC power cord (terminated according to the region to which the unit is shipped)
1 x Remote control plus 2 x AAA batteries
1 x Owner's Manual
1 x Safety Information Sheet
1 x Hex tool for remote

Notes:

On the back of the units, there are two sets of numbers. One is the Serial Number of the units and the other is the Date Code. These numbers are completely different and only Serial Number should be used to identify these units for support.



Warranty Documentation

LIMITED WARRANTY

Effective January 1, 2022

This limited warranty protects only the original end-user, and is not transferable. Any attempt to transfer this Limited Warranty shall immediately make this Limited Warranty void.

Harman International Industries, Incorporated ("Harman") warrants to you that your **Mark Levinson** product (the "Product") will be free from defects in workmanship and materials for the corresponding period set forth in the table below (the "Warranty Period").

A-stock (purchased from authorized resellers)		B-stock (denoted with "-Z" at the end of the part number)	
Product Category	Warranty Period	Product Category	Warranty Period
Amplifiers	5 years	Amplifiers	5 years
Processors	5 years	Processors	5 years
Preamps	5 years	Preamps	5 years
Source Devices	3 years	Source Devices	3 years
Headphones	2 years	Headphones	2 years

This Limited Warranty does not cover defects which are a result of: (1) damage caused by accident, disaster, misuse, abuse or other unreasonable use or neglect (including the lack of reasonable and necessary maintenance); (2) damage occurring during shipment (claims must be presented to the carrier); (3) damage caused by improper installation or adjustment; (4) damage to, or deterioration of, any accessory or decorative surface; (5) damage resulting from failure to follow instructions contained in your owner's manual; or (6) damage resulting from the performance of repairs by someone other than an authorized **Mark Levinson** service center.

Furthermore, this Limited Warranty covers only actual defects within the Product itself, and does not cover the cost of installation or removal from a fixed installation, setup or adjustments, claims based on misrepresentation by the seller, performance variations resulting from installation-related circumstances such as program source quality or AC power or Product modifications, any Product on which the serial number has been effaced, modified or removed, or any Product sold on an "as-is" or final sale basis. This Limited Warranty is valid only for Products purchased from an authorized **Mark Levinson** dealer.

THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IS EXCLUSIVE AND IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED. EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT EXPRESSLY PROHIBITED BY APPLICABLE LAW, HARMAN EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL SUCH OTHER WARRANTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND NON-INFRINGEMENT, WITH RESPECT TO THE PRODUCT. TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, HARMAN SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT EXPRESSLY PROVIDED (OR PROHIBITED) BY APPLICABLE LAW, EVEN IF HARMAN HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES.

Notwithstanding the above, if you qualify as a "consumer" under the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, or applicable state laws, then you may be entitled to any implied warranties allowed by law for the Warranty Period. Further, some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or allow the exclusion or limitation of consequential damages, so such limitations may not apply to you. This Limited Warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

This Limited Warranty is applicable worldwide, please contact an authorized **Mark Levinson** dealer for further warranty and service information.

When the Product needs service contact an authorized **Mark Levinson** dealer, or contact **Mark Levinson** customer support to request information about where the Product should be taken or sent. To validate your right to this Limited Warranty, you must provide the original dated sales receipt or other proof of ownership and date of purchase. Do not return your Product for repair without prior authorization from an authorized service center. Warranty repair of the Product must be carried out by an authorized service center. Unauthorized warranty repair will void this Limited Warranty and is performed at your sole risk.

During the Warranty Period, Harman will at its sole option and expense, repair or replace any product found to be defective. In the event that the Product is no longer available and cannot be repaired effectively, Harman, at its sole option, may replace it with a reasonable equivalent, or refund the original purchase price paid. Harman will cover reasonable return shipping charges within the United States and its territories, only if the Product is found to be defective under this Limited Warranty.

You will be charged for the cost of examining any Product that is not in need of repair (including resulting shipping costs), or for necessary repairs not covered by this Limited Warranty.

We sincerely thank you for your expression of confidence in **Mark Levinson**. We wish you many years of listening pleasure.



HARMAN Luxury Audio Group
8500 Balboa Blvd, Northridge, CA 91329 USA
(Toll-Free) 1-888-691-4171

© 2019 Harman International Industries, Incorporated. All rights reserved.

Rev 2022 US



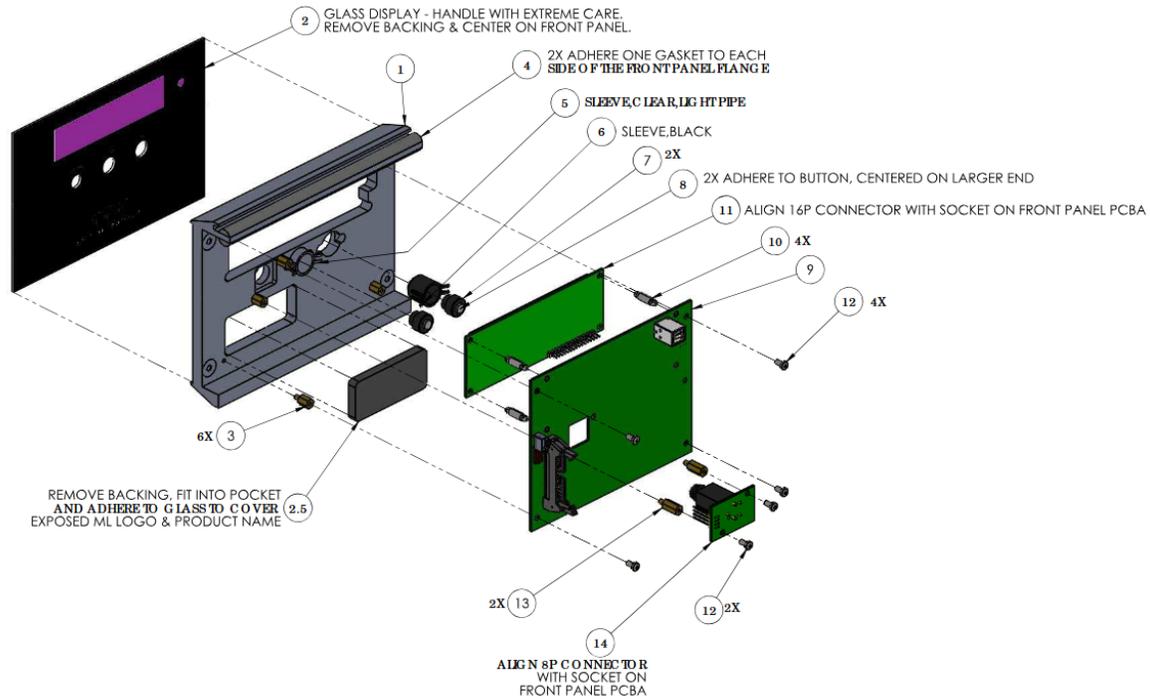
Bill of Materials

Part No.	Description
022-00008	ASSY,MECH,CHASSIS,No5206
022-00018	ASSY,MECH,SHIP KIT,No520x
075-00005	S/W,No5206
440-02350	FUSE,5X20MM,SLO,2A,250V
530-460017	TIE,CABLE,NYL,.093"X4"
680-310011	CORD,PWR,IEC/NEMA,SJT,3C,15A,3M,SHLD,14AWG
530-460638	TIE,CABLE,.25X5.9L,POLYETH
740-00032	LABEL,PROD ID,No5206
740-00034	LABEL,UPC,MLNO5206AM
740-22216	TAG,CAUTION,2X4,No52,AC CORD GROUND
740-00009	LABEL,REAR PANEL,No5206
022-00005	ASSY,TOP COVER,5000 SERIES
022-00010	ASSY,MECH,FRONT PANEL,No5206
023-00010	PCBA,ANALOG,No520X
023-00011	PCBA,BACKPLANE,No520X
023-00012	PCBA,DIGITAL EXPANSION,No5206
023-00014	PCBA,VOLT SELECT,No520X
023-01087	PCBA,CONTROL,No580X
023-01088	PCBA,DIGITAL AUDIO,No580X
080-00023	ASSY DWG,CHASSIS,No520X
470-00004	XFMR,PWR,SCRW,TOROID,82VA,100/115/230V
525-330516	CONN,BIND POST,BR/GLD,GND
541-430396	PAD,FOOT,1.825X.063,UR/PSA,BLK
541-50146	FOOT,2.52DX0.43",ALUM,BDBLST#6,CLR
600-50141	FUSE HOLDER,2X,5X20mm,SNAP-IN,10A
630-00002	PAD,NEOPRENE,3.5ODX.125TK
635-00007	SPCR,SCRW,M4,6mmHEX,21mmL,STEEL ZINC,M/F
635-50171	SPCR,KIT,HEX,M/F,#4-40X.188"L,ST,ZN
640-00003	SCR,M4X10MM,SH,HX,BO,NYLOK
640-10467	SCR,M3X6MM,FH,PH,BZ
640-00023	SCR,M5X45MM,PNH,PH,ZN
640-20939	SCR,M4X10MM,PNH,PH,SS,CW
640-20455	SCR,M3X8MM,BH,HX,SS
640-20725	SCR,M4X12MM,FH,HX,SSBO
640-21042	SCR,M3X6MM,PNH,PH,SS
640-420770	SCR,10-32X.625,FH,HX,SS
641-00004	SCR,TAP,PT,M3,8MM,PNH,PH,SS

Part No.	Description
641-420266	SCR,TT,M2.5X8MM,FH,PH,SS
643-10491	NUT,M3,KEP,ZN
643-10492	NUT,M4,KEP,ZN
644-00005	WSHR,FL,3.2MMIDX9MMODX1.5MMTK,PVC
644-420458	WSHR,LK,#10CL,ZN
680-01064	CABLE,RIBBON,28AWG,50X1.27MM,8.5"L
700-00011	CHASSIS,No520X
701-00009	BRKT,UPPER LEVEL,No520X
701-00010	SHIELD,POWER SUPPLY,No520X
720-49801	GASKET,EMI,NICU,2.7x10x419mm,PSA
740-09175	LABEL,.65X.20,DATE CODE
740-50294	LABEL,S/N,.75x.25",PSA
701-00016	SHIELD PLATE,Si-Fe,No520X
720-00001	GASKET,EMI,NICU,3x6x419mm,PSA
720-49803	GASKET,EMI,NICU,1x6x387mm,PSA
530-460017	TIE,CABLE,NYL,.093"X4"
635-00006	SPCR,SCRW,M4,8mmHEX,.125"L,M/M,ZN
720-430403	GASKET,FOAM,.375WX.063THK,25'L,PSA
740-00008	LABEL,INTERIOR LAYOUT,No520X

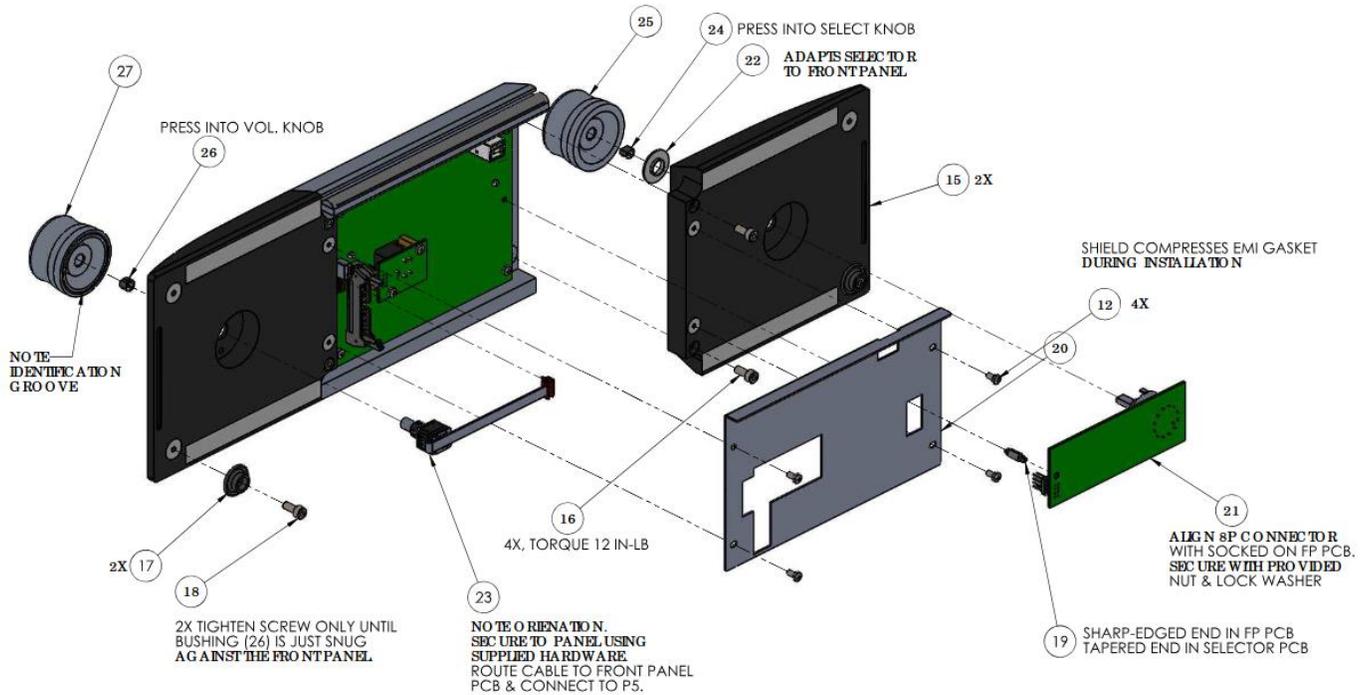
Exploded View With BOM Reference numbers

FRONT PANEL ASSEMBLY DRAWING page 1 of 2



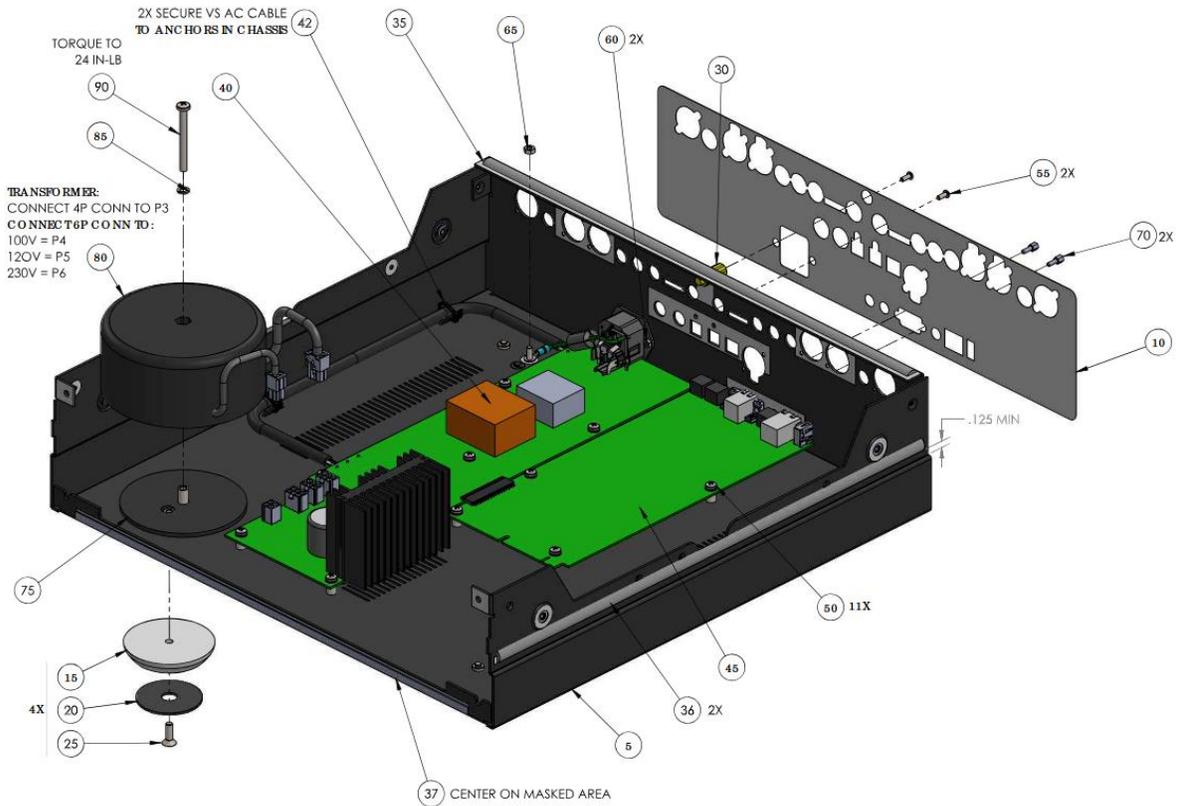
ITEM	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
1	700-00012	PANEL, FRONT, CENTER, No520X	1
2	703-00004	DISPLAY, GLASS, No5206	1
2.5	720-00008	PAD, 2.25X0.70X.25", FOAM, BLACK, PSA	1
3	635-20727	SPCR, M3X8MM, 6MM HEX, M/F	6
4	720-49802	GASKET, EMI, NICU, 3.8x10x172mm, PSA	2
5	625-50155	SLEEVE, BTN, .375D, LIGHT PIPE, CLR	1
6	625-50156	SLEEVE, BTN, .375D, BLK	1
7	550-50175	BUTTON, .375DX.440H, ALUM, BDBLST#6, BLK	2
8	143329-1	PAD, 0.25"X0.06" SIL FOAM	2
9	023-00013	PCBA, FRONT PANEL, No5206	1
10	635-50168	SPCR, SNAP/SNAP, 10mmL, NY	4
11	430-90935	DISPLAY, OLED, 16X2 CHAR, 5X8DOT, RED	1
12	640-21042	SCR, M3X6MM, PNH, PH, SS	6
13	635-50163	STDOFF, SCRW, M3, 12MM, STEEL, ZINC, M/F	2
14	023-01085	PCBA, HEADPHONE, No580X	1

FRONT PANEL ASSEMBLY DRAWING page 2 of 2



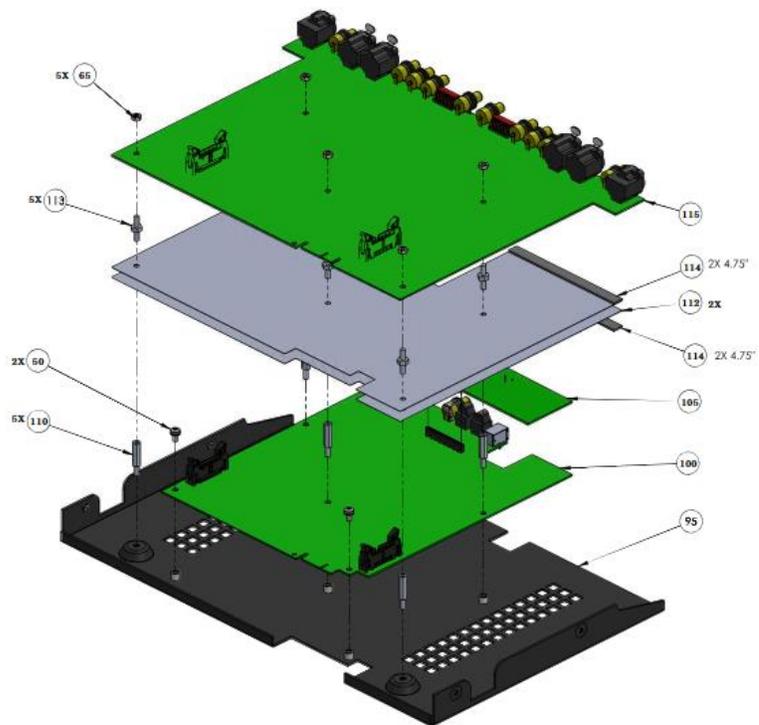
ITEM	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
12	640-21042	SCR,M3X6MM,PNH,PH,SS	4
15	700-00013	PANEL,FRONT,SIDE,No520X	2
16	640-22279	SCR,M4,14MM,SH,HX,SS,BO	4
19	635-50169	SPCR,SNAP/SNAP,.313"L,NY	1
20	701-00013	SHIELD,FRONT PANEL,No520X	1
21	023-01078	PCBA,SELECTOR,No580X	1
22	644-00003	WASHER,SHOULDER,9X10X20MM,NYL	1
23	200-20550	POT,CHMT,RTY,ENC,OPTO,32PPR,HDR,SW,CBL	1
24	625-13686	SPRING,D,6MM,4.5MM/FL,5.2MM L	1
25	550-50176	KNOB,1.772DIA X 1.368,ALUM,BDBLST#6,CLR	1
26	625-50163	SPRING,D,.25"DIA,.218"FL,.205"L	1
27	550-50184	KNOB,VOL,1.772DIA X 1.368,.25"SHAFT,ALUM,BDBLST#6,CLR	1

CHASSIS ASSEMBLY DRAWING page 1 of 4



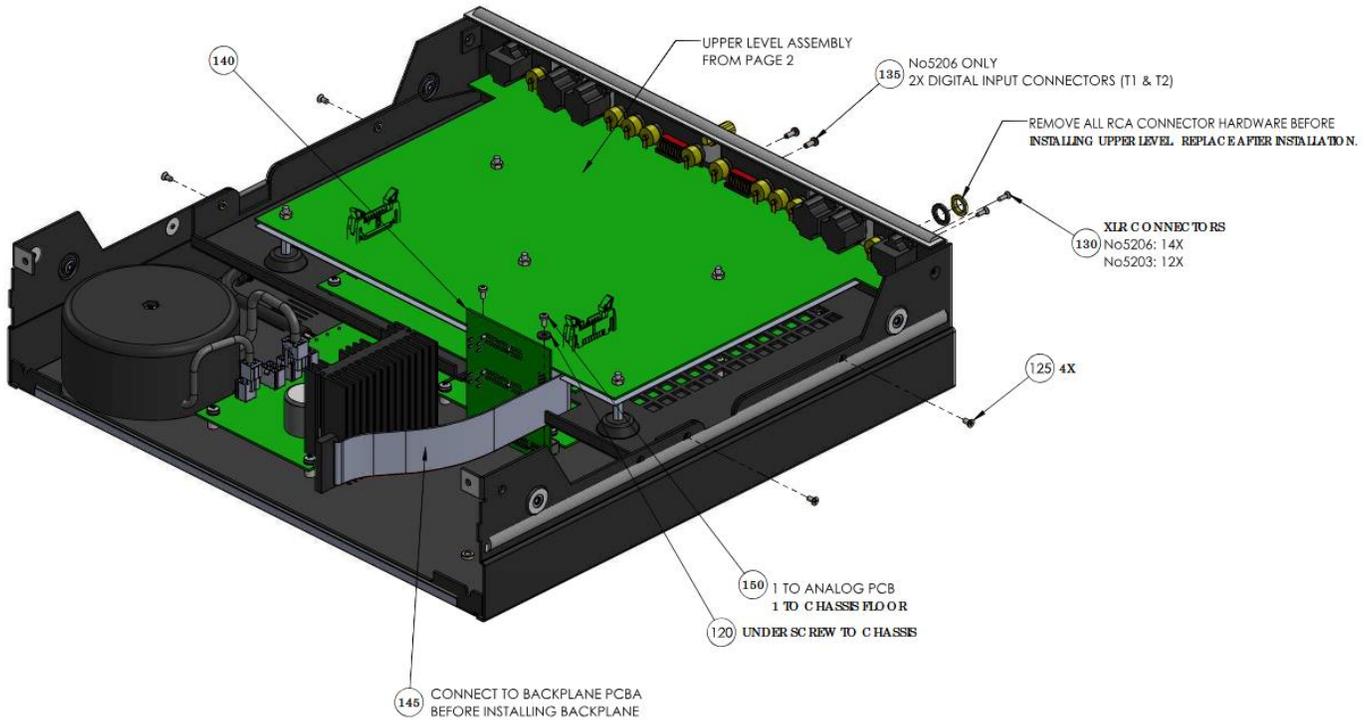
ITEM	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
5	700-00011	CHASSIS, No520X	1
10	SEE BOM	LABEL, REAR, No5206	1
15	541-50146	FOOT, 2.52DX0.43", ALUM, BDBLST#6, CLR	4
20	541-430396	PAD, FOOT, 1.825X.063, UR/PSA, BLK	4
25	640-420770	SCR, 10-32X.625, FH, HX, SS	4
30	525-330516	CONN, BIND POST, BR/GLD, GND	1
35	720-49801	GASKET, EMI, NICU, 2.7x10x419mm, PSA	1
36	720-00001	GASKET, EMI, NICU, 3x6x419mm, PSA	2
37	720-49803	GASKET, EMI, NICU, 1x6x387mm, PSA	1
40	023-00014	PCBA, VOLT SELECT, No520X	1
42	530-460017	TIE, CABLE, NYL, .093"X4"	2
45	023-01087	PCBA, CONTROL, No580X	1
50	640-20939	SCR, M4X10MM, PNH, PH, SS, CW	11
55	640-20455	SCR, M3X8MM, BH, HX, SS	2
60	643-10491	NUT, M3, KEP, ZN	2
65	643-10492	NUT, M4, KEP, ZN	1
70	635-50171	SPCR, KIT, HEX, M/F, #4-40X.188"L, ST, ZN	1
75	630-00002	PAD, NEOPRENE, 3.50DX.125TK	1
80	470-00004	XFMR, PWR, SCRW, TOROID, 82VA, 100/115/230V	1
85	644-420458	WSHR, LK, #10CL, ZN	1
90	640-00023	SCR, M5X45MM, PNH, PH, ZN	1

CHASSIS ASSEMBLY DRAWING page 2of 4



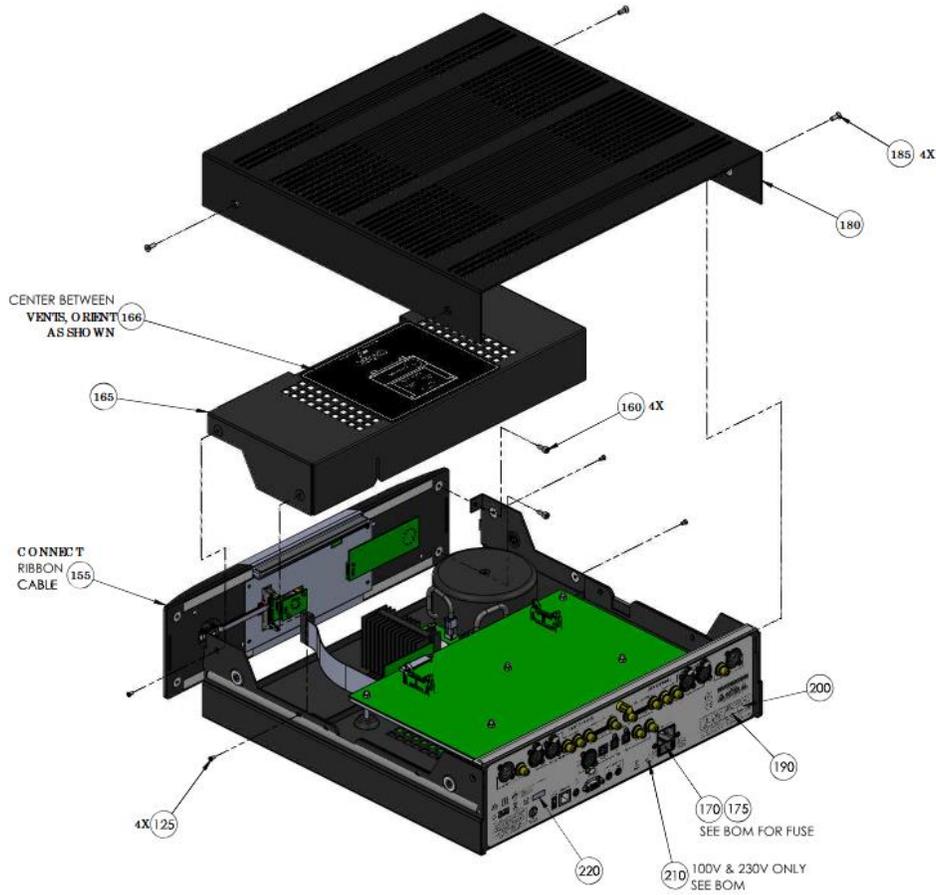
ITEM	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
50	640-20939	SCR,M4X10MM,PNH,PH,SS,CW	2
65	643-10492	NUT,M4,KEP,ZN	5
95	701-00009	BRKT,UPPER LEVEL,No520X	1
100	023-01088	PCBA,DIGITAL AUDIO,No580X	1
105	023-00012	PCBA,DIGITAL EXPANSION,No5206	1
110	635-00007	SPCR,SCRW,M4,6mmHEX,21mmL,STEEL ZINC,M/F	5
112	701-00016	SHIELD PLATE,Si-Fe,No520X	2
113	635-00006	SPCR,SCRW,M4,8mmHEX,.125"L,M/M,ZN	5
114	720-430403	GASKET,FOAM,.375WX.063THK,25'L,PSA	19"
115	023-00010	PCBA,ANALOG,No520X	1

CHASSIS ASSEMBLY DRAWING page 3 of 4



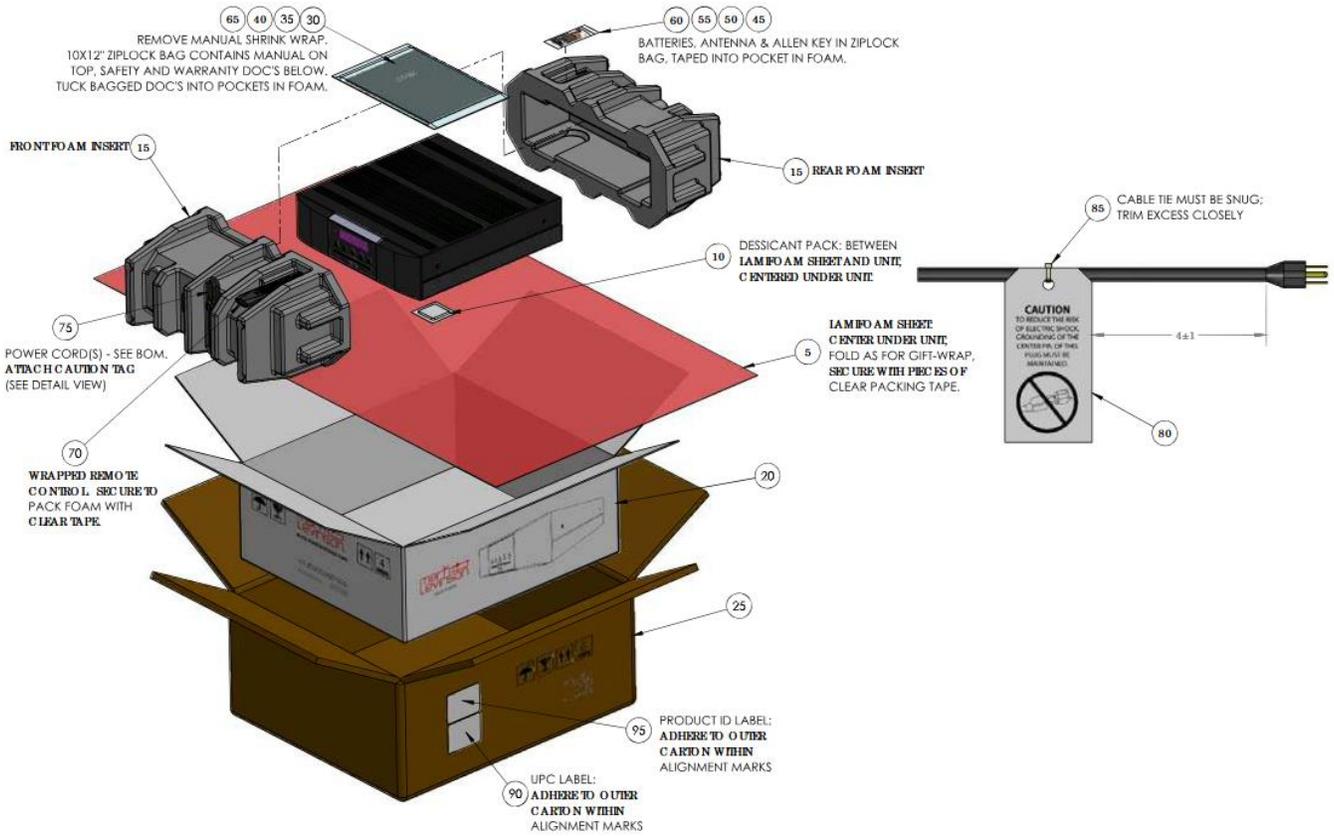
ITEM	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
120	644-00005	WSHR,FL,3.2MMIDX9MMODX1.5MMTK,PVC	1
125	640-10467	SCR,M3X6MM,FH,PH,BZ	4
130	641-420266	SCR,TT,M2.5X8MM,FH,PH,SS	14
135	641-00004	SCR,TAP,PT,M3,8MM,PNH,PH,SS	2
140	023-00011	PCBA,BACKPLANE,No520X	1
145	680-01064	CABLE,RIBBON,28AWG,50X1.27MM,8.5"L	1
150	640-21042	SCR,M3X6MM,PNH,PH,SS	2

CHASSIS ASSEMBLY DRAWING page 4 of 4



ITEM	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
125	640-10467	SCR,M3X6MM,FH,PH,BZ	4
155	022-00010	ASSY,MECH,FRONT PANEL,No5206	1
160	640-00003	SCR,M4X10MM,SH,HX,BO,NYLOK	4
165	701-00010	SHIELD,POWER SUPPLY,No520X	1
166	740-00008	LABEL,INTERIOR LAYOUT,No520X	1
170	600-50141	FUSE HOLDER,2X,5X20mm,SNAP-IN,10A	1
175	SEE BOM	FUSE	1
180	022-00005	ASSY,TOP COVER,5000 SERIES	1
185	640-20725	SCR,M4X12MM,FH,HX,SSBO	4
190	740-50294	LABEL,S/N,.75x.25",PSA	1
200	740-09175	LABEL,.65X.20,DATE CODE	1
210	SEE BOM	VOLTAGE LABEL	1
220	740-00038	LABEL,JAPAN CERT,No5206 (JN SKU ONLY)	1

Packaging



ITEM	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QTY.
5	730-90029	SHEET,LAMIFOAM,ANTI-STAT,32X56"X.03-.06"THK	1
10	730-90053	DESICCANT PACK,1 UNIT,TYVEK	2
15	730-00001	INSERT,FOAM,SET,No510X	1
20	730-00007	BOX,INNER,WHITE,ML,No520x	1
25	730-00008	BOX,OUTER,BROWN,ML5K,3-WALL	1
30	070-00004	GUIDE,OWNERS MANUAL,No520X	1
35	070-630704	CARD,WARRANTY/REGIS,ML PROD	1
40	070-11291	NOTICE,SAFETY,MULTI-LANG,ML	1
50	460-270003	BAT,ALK,AAA,1.5V	2
55	780-00001	KEY,1.5MM HEX,L,44X13MM	1
60	730-600276	BAG,CLR,3X3X0.004,ZIP	1
65	730-600011	BAG,CLEAR,10X12X0.002,ZIP	1
70	750-90056	REMOTE CONTROL,No580X	1
75	SEE BOM	POWER CORD	1
75	680-20344	POWER CORD,UK (EU ONLY)	1
80	530-460017	TIE,CABLE,NYL,.093"X4"	SEE BOM
85	740-22216	TAG,CAUTION,2X4,No52,AC CORD GROUND	SEE BOM
90	SEE BOM	LABEL,UPC,No5206	1
95	740-00032	LABEL,PROD ID,No5206	1

Common Issues & Resolutions

Issue: Red vertical lines, dots or artifacts can display on the front panel screen when it is on. This will remain on the screen in the same place no matter what else is being displayed on the screen and will not move/disappear.

Resolution: This is caused by a bad display and the display must be replaced with a new one. This must be sent off to service for this to be done.

Relevant Part Number:

DISPLAY, OLED, 16X2 CHAR, 5X8DOT, RED: 430-90935

Issue: Intermittent audio stutters or dropouts with digital inputs.

Resolution: Go into the Input menu and then to the input in question in that menu. Set the PLL Lock to Wide, which will help if experiencing noise or signal dropouts. These dropouts are usually caused by high jitter sources such as cable TV set-top boxes or some game consoles.

Relevant Part Numbers:

N/A

Issue: The unit will not turn on and there is either no light on the front panel or the standby light is blinking, but the unit will still not come out of standby.

Resolution: There are a few things that could be happening here. These things are outlined below in the order they should be checked in:

1. The unit is stuck and needs to be hard reset. Since there is no rocker switch for power, the power cord must be removed from the back of the unit. Then, it should remain unplugged for about 30 seconds to 1 minute. After that time has passed, plug the unit back in to see if the problem is fixed.
2. The fuse may need to be changed. Check the mains fuse accessible on the rear panel mains inlet.
3. There may be an issue with the electrical outlet supplying power to the unit.
4. The secondary standby power supply may have gone bad. If the above steps do not work, then this may be the case. If this is the case, the unit would need to be sent to service to have the issue fixed.

Relevant Part Numbers:

FUSE,5X20MM,SLO,2A,250V:

MYRRA POWER MODULE 47210 5VDC ML5805: 380-90024