

The LPG Strip Card for 208

Hi

Thank you very much and congrats on your purchase of the LPG Strip Card.
This card expands the Music Easel or 208 with a Lo Pass Gate, a preamp and an output mixer.

Preamp

- Signal in tinijax : signal input to the LPG
- Gain switch : switch to adapt the preamp gain according to the incoming signal amplitude

Level

- Black banana or minijack : CV input
- Env / puls switch : selects if the 208's envelope or pulser controls the LPG level, central position is off
- Left pot : sets the CV input amplitude
- Right pot : sets the LPG opening manually
- 'CV response' trimmer : sets the LPG response to CV, adjust it according to your own 208 and preference

Mode select

- Black banana or minijack : mode CV input - with attenuator trimmer next to the switch
- Switch : selects LPF combination or VCA mode

Output section

- Signal in : input to the mixer to patch one of the 208's signal outputs in order to have a single mixed signal of the 3 LPGs at the mixer output, if nothing's patched to this input, the card's LPG output only is present at the signal output which can be patched on its own directly to a mixer or effect or other module, the trimmer accessible on the top attenuates the signal level
- Signal out : LPG and mixer output
- Channel C pot : sets the LPG output amplitude to the output mixer
- LED : monitors the LPG opening

Tips and tricks

Turn off the 208 before inserting or removing the card into the program card slot. Do not insert it backwards.

When the card is used, the 208's 'control' switch should be set to its central 'both' position.

The card's purpose is to leave the 208's LPG 2 to the MO, so its output shouldn't be patched to the 208's preamp (it's safe to patch it but doesn't make much sense).

To have all the 3 LPGs signal mixed together to a single output, run a 'signal output' tinijax of the 208 (both carry the same signal) to the card's output section 'signal in' and it will be present at the card's 'signal out' mixed with the card's LPG signal. So the card's 'signal out' becomes the Easel's main output.

The card's LPG signal level is set by the 'channel c' pot.

The 208's LPG signals are set by the 208's 'channel a and b' and 'master level' pots and reverb can be applied to these.

Alternatively you can choose not to patch the 208's output to the card in order to have only the card's LPG present at its 'signal output' and to rather patch it directly to a track of the mixer and the 208's out to another one.

The LPG is based on the original 70s circuit of the 208. It may sound and behave pretty differently from a 208c's or 208e's LPG. The level in VCA mode when not all the way up is lower. This is normal behaviour of this LPG.

To reduce action and pressure on the 208's edge connector, hold the card with a hand when you patch or unpatch a cable.

Internal wiring of the card's signal output to the 208's output section

As an option, the LPG output can also be connected directly to 208's output section via the edge connector with a small easy modification of the 208, thanks to the N/C contacts of the card connector (contacts 5 and 6 of each front and rear row, unless are used for another modification)

This doesn't apply to the 208c / Easel Command and likely Buchla USA Easel as my understanding is that unlike other revisions, all the contacts of the card connector are already used on these.

On the Stoned Marten Card, solder a short cable or piece of component lead between the 'output' pad (located above contacts 6 of the card's rear connector) and a N/C contact of your choice. The lugs of contacts 5 and 6 are snipped to ease access for soldering without opening the card.

On a 208p or 208r, unplug card 12 to access the R70 and R71 resistors pads on the motherboard.

Solder a cable between either the top pad of R70 or the bottom pad of R71 (dots on the pic) and the corresponding contact 5 or 6 of the card edge connector.

The modification should be similar on the BEMI Easel, the resistors are 33k and in series with the channel A and B pot wipers (central terminal), easy to spot them with a continuity test.

The mini slide switch located near the LPG's 'channel C' pot enables or disables the connection to the 208's output section.

Disclaimer

I assume no liability for personal injury or damage to equipment or loss of use caused directly or indirectly by the use of the LPG Strip Card.

Feel free to contact me for questions, feedback and support.

Thank you and have fun !

Cheers and beers from Belgium,
Constantin

