USER TURN ON / OFF THRESHOLD ADJUSTMENT

Very occasionally, a gig-fx pedal might not want to turn on or off at the correct treadle position. In this document, two possible remedies are discussed.

BATTERY

Please test your battery; it is the most likely cause. If the battery runs down, the effect will not turn off because there is insufficient power for the unit to work correctly. When using a power supply, please check that the voltage is at least 8V and that it has enough power to supply all of your effects.

IF NOT THE BATTERY

In rare cases, the characteristics of the optical switch that turns the effect on and off might change. Fortunately, there is a simple screw adjustment that can fix this. It is not rocket science, but you need to follow the procedures carefully to ensure success.

IDENTIFY YOUR MODEL TYPE

Later models of the Megawah (with black treadle), and all Kilowah and Subwah, have holes in the base plate for adjustment of the optical switch. There are two holes through which you should be able to insert a small slotted screwdriver (similar to a screwdriver you would use to adjust spectacles) and turn an adjustment pot. One pot adjusts the optical switch turn-on point, the other adjusts the turn-off delay (the delay before the effect is bypassed when you return to the heel down position). This delay is to prevent you from turning the effect on and off when sweeping the pedal.

If the unit is not turning off, put the treadle in the heel down position, insert a jack plug into the (left channel if stereo) input of the unit, make sure a fresh battery or 9V power supply is connected, and turn the unit upside down. Use a mirror or reflective surface so you can see the blue LED is on. Turn the optical switch adjustment pot clockwise until the unit turns off. Once it has turned off, press the pedal down a little. The unit should turn on again within 2-3mm (eighth of an inch) of pedal movement. Adjust the pot again if necessary, either clockwise or anticlockwise until the unit turns off and on at the correct position.

See Fig 1 on the next page.
IF YOU HAVE AN EARLIER VERSION MEGAWAH (GREY TREADLE)

You will need:

- One Phillips screw driver
- One small flat head screwdriver, similar to what opticians use. Potentiometer adjustment tools are also commonly available.
- One small piece (2" x 2" or 5mm x 5mm) of soft, black opaque material such as velvet or dark foam for light blocking
- One jack plug
- A mirror, CD or any white reflecting surface
- A one eighth inch / 2.5 mm shim spacer

PROCEDURE

1. Make sure the battery is good or plug in a power supply and turn it on.
2. Insert a jack plug into the input jack of the pedal. The unit should turn on when the treadle is pressed down. You know it is on when the LED is on.
3. Place the pedal on its back so that the treadle is on a level work surface and the base of the pedal is facing you.
4. Position the reflecting surface so that you can see when the LED is on.
5. Remove the larger base cover that is held in place with four screws. This will not void the warranty because if you have this document, it means you have already contacted us. There is no need to remove the battery cover.
6. Identify two things – the optical mechanism and the rotary pot.
7. If at any time you feel this is not what you want to do, just stop, send the unit to gig-fx and we will be happy to do this for you.

Please see Fig 2 below:
8. The optical mechanism consists of a LED /detector pair. The red LED should be on when a jack plug is inserted into the input. CHECK THAT THE LED AND DETECTOR ARE POINTING STRAIGHT AT EACH OTHER as in ‘Optical mechanism’ above. If in doubt, do not move them. If obviously misaligned, with a pair of tweezers, carefully realign them to point directly at each other.

9. Start with the base and treadle in the ‘off’ position - that is, the pedal pressed all the way back.

10. Place the small piece of black material over the optical mechanism to block out ambient light. **Please be careful not to change the position of the optical components or get any debris into the slot. Do not touch the transparency.** Also, since ambient light can skew the adjustment, please perform this procedure in a dimly lit area. The blue LED should now be ‘OFF’

11. If the blue LED is still on, then turn the rotary pot screw clockwise until the blue LED goes off.

12. Insert a 2.5mm / one eighth inch shim between the treadle and the base at the back of the pedal as shown in fig 3 below. If you do not have such a shim, move the pedal so that the transparency is half-way across the face of the LED / detector pair in the optical mechanism (Fig. 1 above). We will call this the ‘shim position’ even if you do not have a shim.

13. In this position, the blue LED should be ‘ON’
14. If the blue LED is off in the shim position, turn the adjustment screw on the rotary pot counter-clockwise until it just turns on. Turn it back clockwise a quarter of a turn. It should still be on. If not, turn counter-clockwise until it just turns on again.
15. Now test the treadle in both fully back and in the shim position. It should be off when back and turn on at the shim position. Tweak the adjustment screw until it turns on and off at the shim position.
16. VOILA – you fixed it. Replace the base and test it again in a normal way.

If this adjustment procedure does not work, please call gig-fx at 1-978-263-6432 or contact info@gig-fx.com and ask for support. Most likely the unit will need to be returned. We promise to give the best service possible to help you enjoy our products.