

Episode Amplifiers Blown Channel Issues

It has come to our attention that customers using some Episode amplifiers have encountered issues with blown channels.

The input sensitivity of these amplifiers are 1 Volt RMS, which means the output power of the amp will reach the maximum level when input signal is 1 Volt or more. The gain level adjustment dials located on the rear panel of the amplifier are not designed for output volume control, but for input gain level adjustment.

Typical sources such as Sonos or major brands of DVD/Blue-ray players, all have a 2V RMS output signal. If you are using an audio matrix switcher, this signal will be pre-boostered to an even higher level, sometimes to 4V RMS. There is no need to set the rear gain level adjustment dial on the amplifier all the way to the max, which causes the amplified channel to be over driven and eventually to damage the channel.

Recommended Installation Practices:

1. Do not turn the rear gain level adjustment to the Maximum setting during your installation. Keep it low, and increase level when needed;
2. Always set the rear gain level adjustment below 75% as recommended. You won't lose any power from most sources you are using, especially for sources with higher input signals such as Sonos or DVD/Blue-ray players; instead, you will have less clipping when you set the level to the correct position, and you will receive better sound quality and longer product life.
3. Please limit the input signal level of the source to 3V RMS or less.

Known Products affected:

- EA-AMP-2D-150A
- EA-AMP-8D-70A
- EA-AMP-12D-70A
- EA-AMP-12D-45A