

# Anatek's Pocket Sync-

## The reliable way to combine live audio with your MIDI tracks.

### HOW POCKET SYNC WORKS

Pocket Sync allows you to combine "live" audio (vocals, guitars etc.) with your MIDI tracks. It generates and then reads a special timing (sync) tone that, upon playback of the tape, is translated into MIDI Start/Stop and timing information for the sequencer to follow. Embedded in the timing tone is "Song Position Pointer", a MIDI signal that allows you to start synchronized playback from any point within your song.

### RECORDING THE SYNC TONE

1. First, program the tempo and length of your song into your sequencer if you haven't already. Pocket Sync will track tempo changes, if any, and you are free to use them. The tempo may not be altered later so be sure it is correct. Add extra bars at the beginning and end in case you wish to extend the song later on.
2. Make the connections shown in Diagram A.
3. When the MIDI output from your sequencer is connected to Pocket Sync, it will generate a test tone (called the "carrier" tone). Set the input level on your tape deck to -10 dB. This is a suggestion only - you may use a lower level to reduce crosstalk if your machine is in good condition or of good quality.
4. Press Record on your tape machine and record a few seconds of carrier tone. Press Play on your sequencer. This will start Pocket Sync generating the actual sync tone (called FSK). If you are listening to the tone, the sound should change from the pure carrier tone to the modulated tone and the red LED should start blinking at the proper tempo. Continue recording until the sequencer stops playing at the end of the song.

### SYNCING TO TAPE

1. Reconnect your cables as shown in Diag. B.
2. Set your sequencer to respond to an

external clock source.

If your sequencer needs you to be more specific be sure to set it to MIDI Clock and Song Position Pointer *not* MIDI Time Code. (MIDI Time Code is a form of SMPTE encoded in MIDI form and is not supported by Pocket Sync.)

3. Rewind the tape to the beginning of the song and press Play. The green LED on Pocket Sync will light solid at first and then blink at the tempo of the song. You may stop and start tape playback from any point within the song and Pocket Sync will cue and start the sequencer at the appropriate point automatically.
4. Continue recording new tracks on tape or on the sequencer.

### INPUT MERGING

The MIDI input on Pocket Sync is "looped through" to the MIDI output. If you are connected as in diagram B, this feature allows you to add new parts with your keyboard or controller and have the signals loop through to the sequencer while it is synced to tape.

When Pocket Sync is powered up but the tape is not playing, it will pass any signals it receives back to the MIDI output unchanged. When the tape is playing, however, the input signals will be "merged" (mixed) with the MIDI timing signals generated by Pocket Sync.

### DROPOUT PROTECTION

Tape dropouts can cause loss of sync for a moment. They normally result from any combination of low quality tape, extreme repetition of playback, or operating any tape machine in poor condition. Pocket Sync has a

Diagram A: Recording Sync Tone

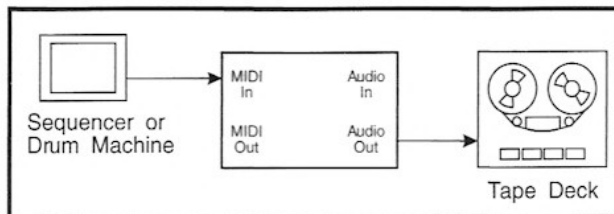
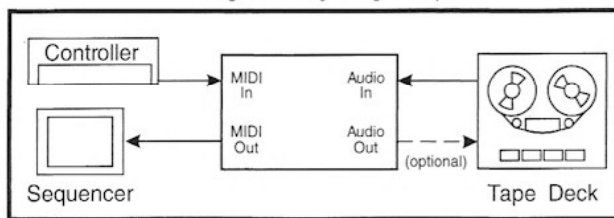


Diagram B: Syncing to Tape



feature that will automatically "jump over" these empty spots, within limits. The length of time that it will "jump" can be set to approximately 1/4 second or 1 second, depending on the Audio In cabling condition when it is powered up. Set according to the following:

**Short dropouts** (~1/4 second). Connect tape deck audio return jack to the Audio In on Pocket Sync *before* powering up. Power up occurs when the device connected to Pocket Sync's MIDI In is turned on.

**Long dropouts** (~1 second) Connect tape deck audio return jack to the Audio In on Pocket Sync *after* powering up. This will also cause sequencer playback to continue for 1 second every time you press Stop on the tape machine.

### LED DISPLAY MODES

**Red LED** (MIDI in/out status) •Solid when power on but no MIDI received •Blinks off with MIDI data •Blinks tempo receiving clock from sequencer.

**Green LED** (Green Status) •Off when no carrier or FSK present •Solid when carrier only present •Blinks tempo when reading FSK from tape

# ANATEK

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