

# SPEC



**DESIGNER AUDIO**

PURE DIRECT CONTROLLER

# RPA-MGCEX

## Operation Manual

Read through this operation manual before use so you will know how to operate your model properly. After you have finished reading the manual, put it in a safe place for future reference.

# Safety Precautions



AVIS: RISQUE DE CHOC ELECTRIQUE-NE PAS OUVRIR.



THIS SYMBOL IS INTENDED TO ALERT THE USER TO THE PRESENCE OF NON-INSULATED "DANGEROUS VOLTAGE" WITHIN THE PRODUCTS ENCLOSURE THAT MAY BE OF SUFFICIENT MAGNITUDE TO CONSTITUTE A RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK TO PERSONS.



THIS SYMBOL IS INTENDED TO ALERT THE USER TO THE PRESENCE OF IMPORTANT OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE (SERVICING) INSTRUCTIONS IN THE LITERATURE ACCOMPANYING THE UNIT.

## WARNING

Exposure to extremely high noise levels may cause a permanent hearing loss. Individuals vary considerably to noise induced hearing loss but nearly everyone will lose some hearing if exposed to sufficiently intense noise for a sufficient time.

## European model only







If you want to dispose this product, do not mix it with general household waste. There is a separate collection system for used electric products in accordance with legislation that requires proper treatment, recovery and recycling.

Private households in the member states of the EU, in Switzerland and Norway may return their used electric products free of charge to designated collection facilities or to a retailer (if you purchase a similar new one).

For countries not mentioned above, please contact your local authorities for the correct method of disposal.

By doing so you will ensure that your disposed product undergoes the necessary treatment, recovery and recycling and thus prevent potential negative effects on the environment and human health.

## ⚠ Caution (Batteries)

 Prohibited	• Do not use batteries other than those specified. Fire, injury, or staining of surroundings can result from battery rupture or fluid leakage.
 Prohibited	• Do not heat or dismantle the batteries, or place them in fire or water. Fire or injury can result from battery rupture or fluid leakage.
	• Remove the batteries when not using the device for an extended period. Fire, injury, or staining of surroundings can result from battery fluid leakage. In the event of fluid leakage, install new batteries after carefully wiping away any fluid on the battery case. In the rare case that leaked fluid comes into contact with your skin, rinse it off thoroughly with water.
	• When inserting batteries into the device, note the polarity markings (positive (+) and negative (-) orientation) and insert according to the markings. Incorrect insertion can result in battery rupture or fluid leakage that can cause fire, injury, or staining of surroundings.

## Operating Environment

Operating environment temperature and humidity: +5 °C to +35 °C (+41 °F to +95 °F); less than 85 %RH (cooling vents not blocked)

Do not install this unit in a poorly ventilated area, or in locations exposed to high humidity or direct sunlight (or strong artificial light)

## WARNING

**This equipment is not waterproof. To prevent a fire or shock hazard, do not place any container filled with liquid near this equipment (such as a vase or flower pot) or expose it to dripping, splashing, rain or moisture.**

## POWER-CORD CAUTION

Handle the power cord by the plug. Do not pull out the plug by tugging the cord and never touch the power cord when your hands are wet as this could cause a short circuit or electric shock. Do not place the unit, a piece of furniture, etc., on the power cord, or pinch the cord. Never make a knot in the cord or tie it with other cords. The power cords should be routed such that they are not likely to be stepped on. A damaged power cord can cause fire or give you an electrical shock.

Check the power cord once in a while.

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### Check included items

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- Power cord × 1
- Remote control unit × 1
- Operation manual (this book)

### Installing this product

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- Be sure to install this product on a flat, stable surface.
- Do not install this product in the following locations:
  - On top of a television (the image may warp)
  - Near a cassette deck or other magnetism emitting device (the audio may be adversely affected)
  - In a location hit by direct sunlight
  - In a moist location
  - In high or low temperature locations
  - In a location with vibration
  - In a location with much dust or tobacco smoke
  - In kitchens or other locations where fumes are emitted and oil is used

### Regarding installation

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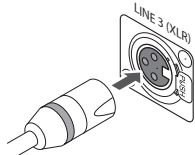
#### Caution

- 
- Never place items on top of this product, cover it with a sheet, or use it when its heat radiation is obstructed. Abnormally high temperatures may damage the product.

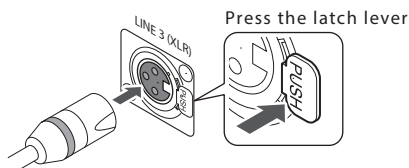
### How to connect XLR cables

Connect the balanced output terminal on the device to the XLR input terminal on the product.

Match the orientation of the XLR plug to the XLR input terminal on the product, and then push the XLR plug into the XLR input terminal until a click is heard.

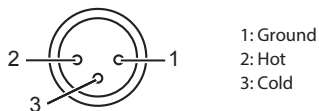


When disconnecting an XLR plug, press the latch lever (the part with "PUSH" inscribed on it) while pulling the cable. Use caution, as forceful disconnection may damage the unit.



#### Note

- The pin positioning of the XLR input terminal of this product is depicted below. Confirm that the product to be connected is compatible with the pin positioning of this product. For further details, consult the operation manual included with the product to be connected.



- The balanced output signal level of the source device (CD player, DA converter, etc.) may be significantly larger than the RCA unbalanced output, depending on the device. For this reason, the signal level of balanced input on the product is dropped approximately 3 dB lower than the RCA unbalanced input. Depending on the connected device, playback may occur at a volume lower than a device with an RCA unbalanced connection, but this is normal and not a malfunction.

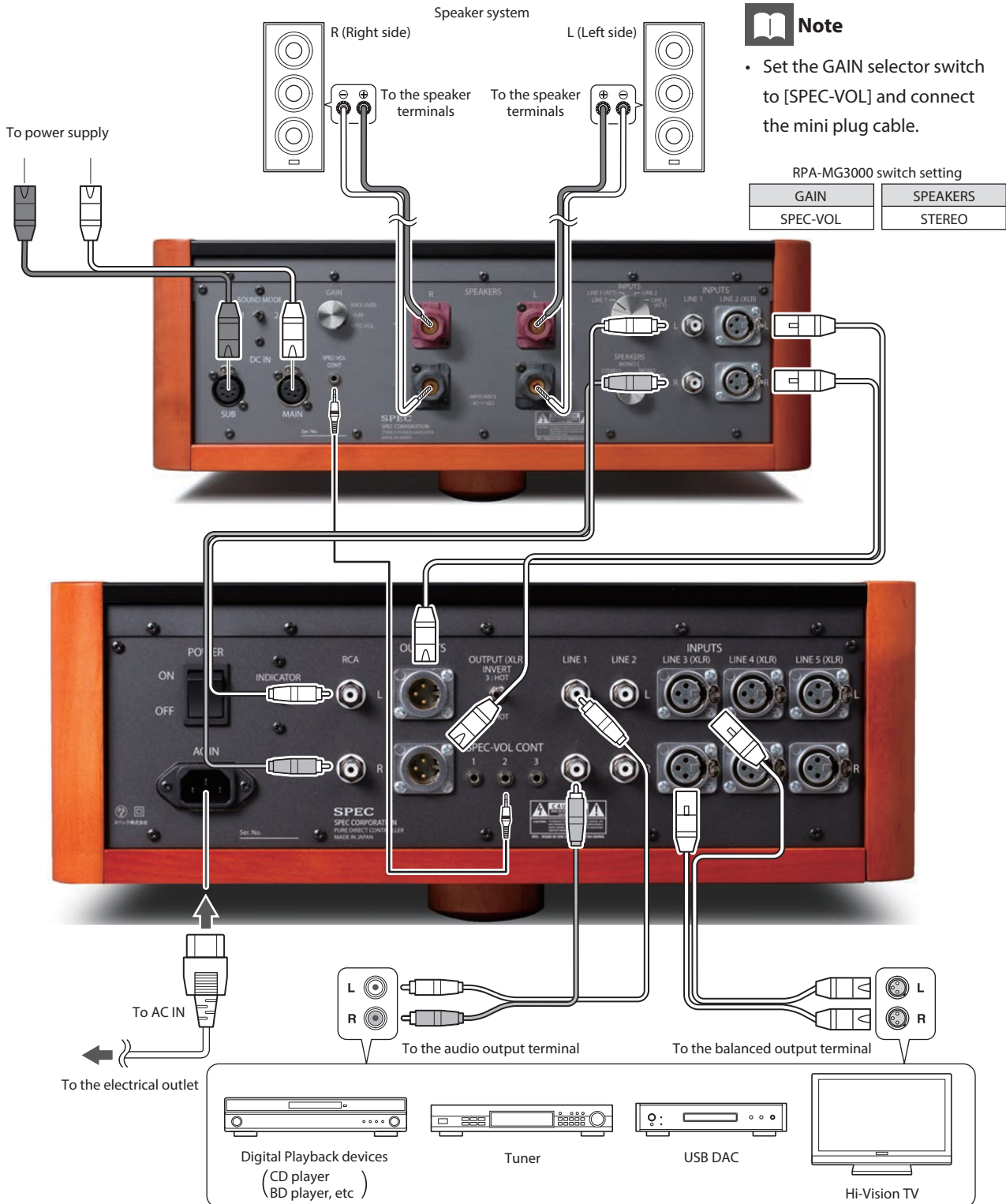
## Connections diagram

### Important

- When connecting devices or making changes, be sure to turn the POWER switch OFF and disconnect the power cord from the electrical outlet. Plug in the power cord last.
- If an extremely loud signal is input to this product, there is a danger that noise will be generated and cause damage. In such a case, lower the input signal level.

#### 1. Connecting with RPA-MG3000

a) When RPA-MG3000 (stereo) is connected.



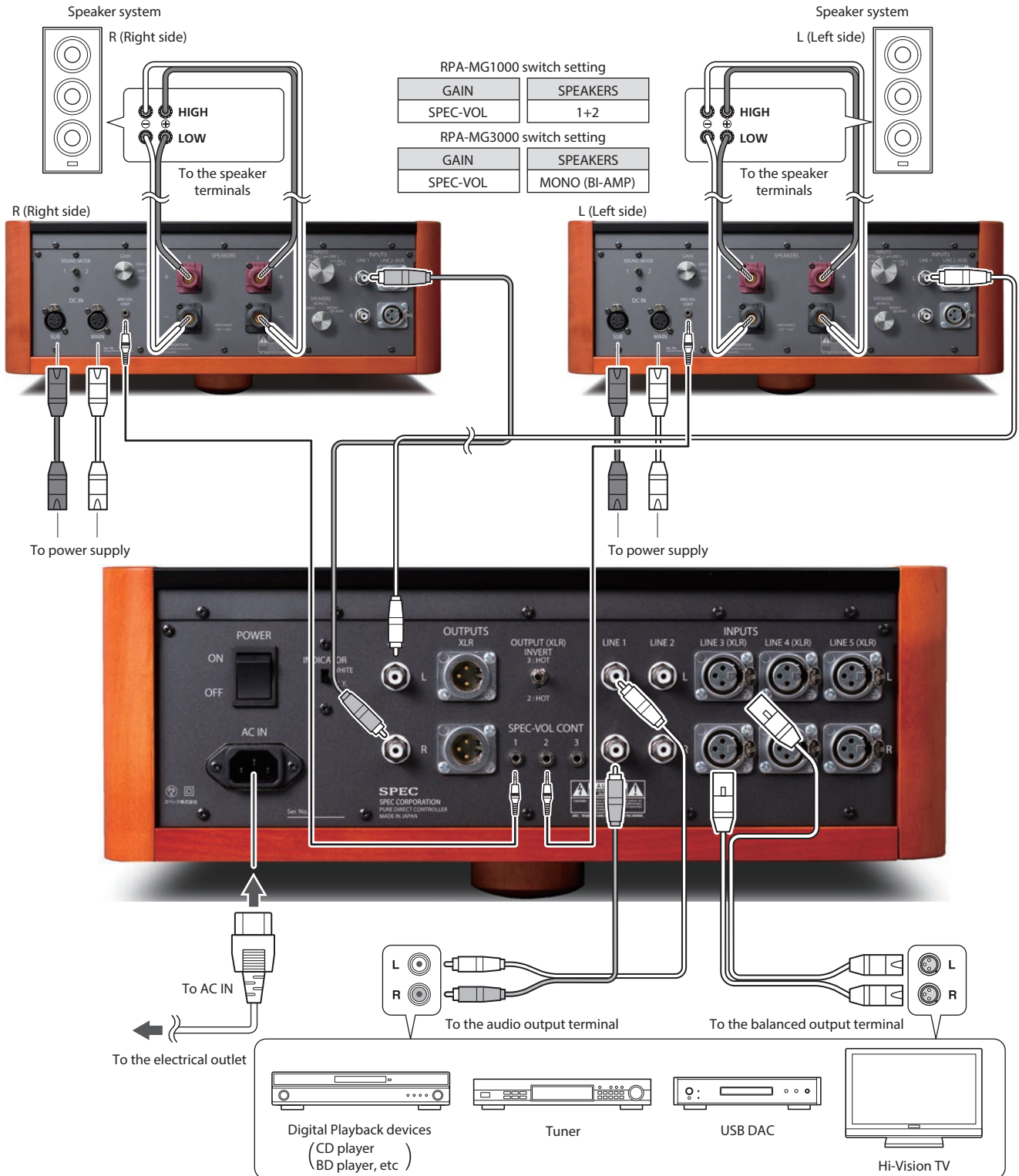
**2. Connecting with RPA-MG1000 or RPA-MG3000**

a) When two RPA-MG1000 (Bi-amplifier) or two RPA-MG3000 (Bi-amplifier) are connected.

\*Photo is RPA-MG3000.

**Note**

- Set the GAIN selector switch to [SPEC-VOL] and connect the mini plug cable.



## Chapter 2 Connections

### 3. Connecting with RPA-MG1000 or RPA-MG3000

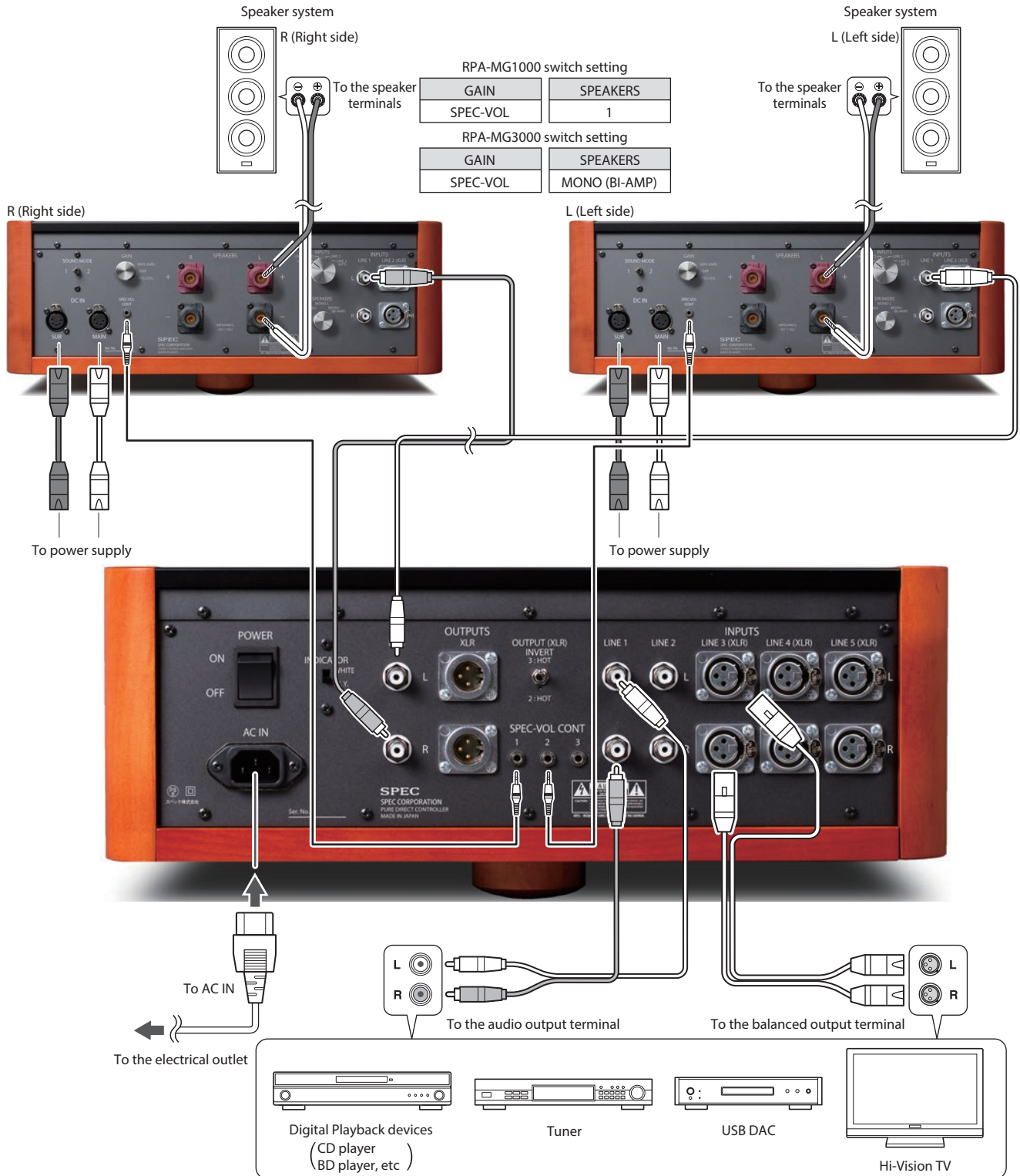
a) When two RPA-MG1000 (monaural) or two RPA-MG3000 (monaural) are connected.

\*Photo is RPA-MG3000.



#### Note

- Set the GAIN selector switch to [SPEC-VOL] and connect the mini plug cable.



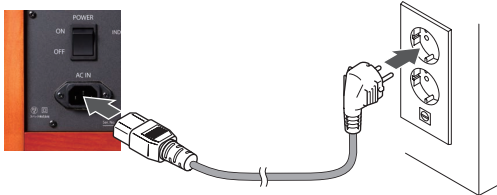


## How to connect audio cords

Connect the RCA output terminal on the device to the RCA input terminal on the product.

## How to connect the power cord

Once all connections have been made, connect the included power cord to the AC IN terminal of this product and to the residential electrical outlet. Press firmly to push the plug all the way in.



\* The plug type varies according to the region.

## **Caution**

- The power cord for this product is removable, but please refrain from using power cords other than the cord included (3P plug-in socket type with electrical current capacity: 7 A).

## **Note**

- When not using this product for extended periods, be sure to turn the POWER switch OFF or unplug the power cord from the electrical outlet.
- Turn the POWER switch OFF before unplugging the power cord.
- If the residential power supply is cut off due to a power outage, the state of this product will be as follows when power is restored.
  - If the POWER switch is ON when power is restored
    - The product returns to its state prior to power restoration.
  - If the POWER switch is OFF when power is restored
    - The product is in the normal power OFF state.

## Front panel



**1 LINE SELECTOR (input switching knob)**

Selects the playback device (LINE 1-LINE 5).

**2 ON indicator**

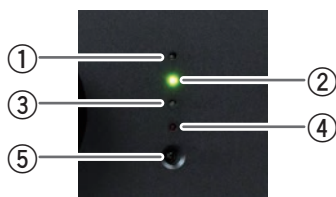
Lit when the product power is turned on.

Change the illumination type by setting the INDICATOR switch. (→ page 11)

**3 VOLUME (level adjustment knob)**

Adjusts the volume level.

**4 VOLUME CONTROL**



Indicates the volume position and state during remote control operation.

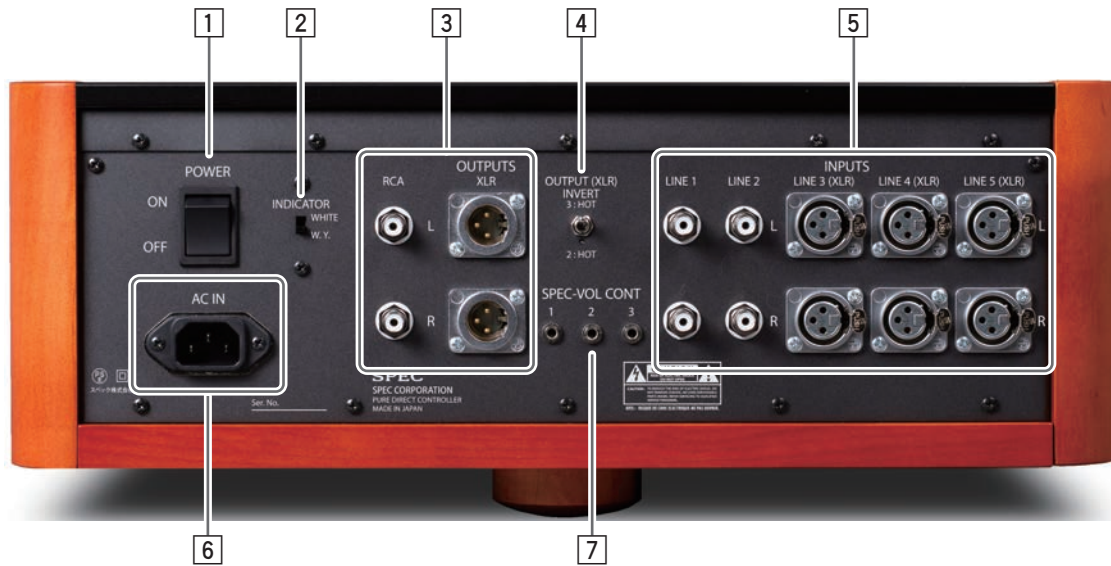
**NEUTRAL** : Lit green constantly after power-on.

**+ (-)** : Flashes blue when the + (-) button on the remote control is pressed, and lights when the position is further toward the + (-) side than the position of the volume control of the unit.

**ATT** : Lights red when the ATT button on the remote control is pressed.

When the volume matches the position of the volume control of the unit, only NEUTRAL is lit.

## Rear panel

**1 POWER switch**

Turns power ON and OFF.

**2 INDICATOR switch**

Change the illumination type of the ON indicator on the front of the product.

WHITE : Lights white.

W.Y. : Only the center of the ON indicator lights up in light warm yellow light. (Settings at the time of purchase)

**3 Audio output terminal**

LINE OUT outputs the input signal to the product unmodified.

\* The signal of the input that is selected for both RCA and XLR is output.

**4 OUTPUT INVERT switch**

Replace the 2nd and 3rd pins of the XLR output terminal.

Switch position	Input terminal		Output terminal
2:HOT	1	→	1
	2	→	2
	3	→	3
3:HOT	1	→	1
	2	→	3
	3	→	2

The default setting is 2: HOT.

**5 Audio input terminal**

LINE 1, 2 : RCA type input terminals.

LINE 3 to 5 : XLR type input terminal (female).

**6 AC IN terminal**

Connect the included power cord.

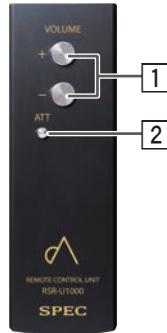
(→ page 9)

**7 SPEC-VOL CONT terminal**

Connect to the SPEC-VOL CONT terminal (or EX-VOL CONT terminal) of SPEC power amplifier.

\* Can be used by connecting to any of 1, 2, and 3.

## Remote control unit



### 1 VOLUME +/- buttons

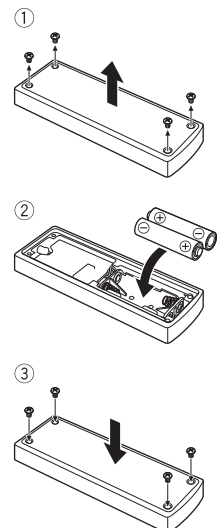
The VOLUME + button enables to increase the volume in 9 levels, the – button enables to decrease the volume in 9 levels ( $\pm 10$  dB per level).  
 \* Pressing these buttons will not turn the amplifier's volume adjustment knob.

### 2 ATT (attenuate) button

Temporarily mutes audio. Press again to cancel muting.

## ■ Changing the Remote Control Unit Batteries

Batteries are pre-installed in the remote control unit at the time of shipment, but all batteries should be replaced with new ones when you notice a decrease in the operating range. Remove the four screws on the rear face and replace the batteries with two new AAA batteries as pictured on the right.



### Caution

When the battery cover is removed, part of the circuit is exposed. Take care not to touch the circuit area when changing the batteries.

### Battery Precautions

Incorrect use of batteries may result in such hazards as leakage and bursting. Observe the following precautions.

- Insert the plus and minus sides of the batteries properly.
- Do not use new and old batteries together.
- Batteries with the same shape may have different voltages. Do not use different batteries together.
- When disposing of used batteries, comply with governmental regulations or environmental public institution's rules that apply in your country or area.

### Warning

Do not use or leave batteries in high temperature locations such as under strong direct sunlight, in a hot car heated by the sun, or near a stove. Battery leakage, overheating, bursting, or igniting may result otherwise. Battery function and life may also be decreased.

## Playback steps



**1** Turn on the power of the playback device.

**2** Check that the volume level of this product is minimum, and turn to power on.

Check that the ON indicator on the body front panel is lit.

**3** Select the input to this product.

Rotate the LINE SELECTOR to select the terminal (LINE 1 - LINE 5) to which the playback device is connected.



**4** Operate the playback device and begin playback.

**5** Rotate the VOLUME (level adjustment knob) left and right to set the audio level.

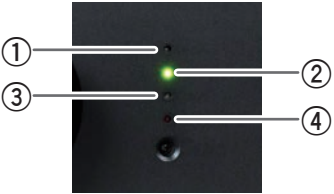


**6** When playback is finished, lower the audio volume level and turn off the power.

Be sure to lower the audio volume level.

## How to Operate

The VOLUME + button enables to increase the volume in 9 levels, the – button enables to decrease the volume in 9 levels ( $\pm 10$  dB per level), and the ATT button temporarily mutes audio.

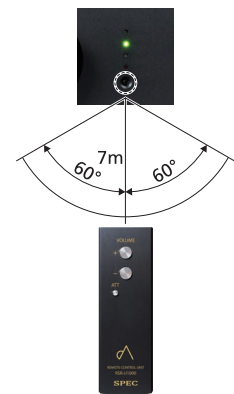
	①	Blinks blue each time the + button is pressed. Remains lit blue when the volume level is higher than the setting on the amplifier. Blinks twice if the button is pressed when the operating range upper limit is reached.
	②	When only this light is lit and the +/- lights are not lit, it signifies that the volume is at the level setting on the amplifier unit.
	③	Blinks blue each time the – button is pressed. Remains lit blue when the volume level is lower than the setting on the amplifier. Blinks twice if the button is pressed when the operating range lower limit is reached.
	④	The ATT light is lit red when the attenuate function is activated. Pressing the ATT button or +/- buttons while the ATT light is lit cancels the attenuate function and turns the light off.

- To return the volume level to the setting on the amplifier's volume adjustment knob, press the +/- buttons until only the NEUTRAL light is lit.

### ■ Remote Control Unit Operating Range

Point at the REMOTE SENSOR (signal receiving area) when operating the remote control unit.

- Obstacles between the remote control unit and REMOTE SENSOR or a bad angle with the REMOTE SENSOR can cause inability to operate.
- Powerful light such as direct sunlight or fluorescent lighting striking the REMOTE SENSOR can cause malfunction.
- Using the RPA-MGCEX near infrared producing devices or other remote controlled equipment that uses infrared can cause malfunction.



## Troubleshooting

If you think this product may be broken, check the following troubleshooting items. Some minor operational errors can make the product appear to be broken.

Potential causes other than this product should also be considered. Check the other devices being used as well as all simultaneously operated electrical devices. If the following instructions do not help even on multiple inspections, contact us. (→ page 17)

Issue	Cause/Treatment	Reference
The power does not turn on.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the power plug disconnected from the electrical outlet? → Correctly insert the power plug into the outlet.</li> </ul>	Page 9
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the power plug disconnected from the AC IN terminal? → Correctly insert the power plug.</li> </ul>	Page 9
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the power will not turn on even with correctly connecting the power plug, the fuse may be broken. → Contact us for consultation.</li> </ul>	Page 17
There is no sound.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the connecting cord disconnected from the terminal, or connected incorrectly? → Correctly connect the cord.</li> </ul>	Page 6to9
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the terminal or connecting cord pin plug dirty? → Wipe clean the terminal or plug.</li> </ul>	–
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is this product connected to the SPEC VOL CONT terminal (or EX-VOL terminal) of SPEC power amplifier with a mini plug cable (included with the power amplifier)? → Correctly connect the cable.</li> </ul>	Page 6to9
Pressing the VOLUME +/- buttons does not change the volume level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are the connection cable plugs inserted all the way? → Make sure that the connection cable between this product and the power amplifier is firmly inserted.</li> </ul>	–
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ If the light blinks blue twice when the button is pressed, the upper (or lower) limit of the operating range has been reached and the volume level cannot be increased (or decreased) further.</li> </ul>	Page 14
The sound is not completely muted even with the attenuate function ON.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Because the RPA-MGCEX's attenuate function lowers the volume between –20 dB and –30 dB, it does not completely mute the audio. Lower the volume using the amplifier's volume adjustment knob.</li> </ul>	–



### Note

The product may not function properly due to external factors, such as static electricity. In this case, the product may once again function properly if the power cord is unplugged and then plugged in again. If this does not solve the problem, please contact SPEC CORPORATION. (→ page 17)

## Care and maintenance

For daily maintenance, use a polishing cloth to lightly wipe the front panel of this product. If it is very dirty, use a soft cloth moistened with neutral detergent watered down to 1/5-1/6 concentration and wipe off the dirt, then wipe dry with a dry cloth.

If alcohol, thinner, petroleum ether or insecticide adhere to the front panel it may be damaged, so use caution. Whenever using pre-moistened wipe, be sure to completely read the warning instructions that come with the wipe.

Natural wood is used for the side panels and bottom panels of the product. Do not place it in direct sunlight or near a heater. The front panel may become discolored, and the product may be warped due to the natural wood contracting.

## Specifications

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### ■ **Controller**

Power voltage.....	AC 110, 120, 220, 230, 240 V, 50 Hz/60 Hz
Electrical consumption.....	2 W
Line input terminal .....	XLR input: 3 RCA unbalanced input: 2
Line output terminal .....	XLR output: 1 RCA unbalanced output: 1
External dimensions.....	450 mm (width) × 180 mm (height) × 456 mm (depth)
Weight.....	17.0 kg

### ■ **Remote control unit**

External dimensions.....	42 mm (width) × 130 mm (height) × 16 mm (depth)
Power Supply .....	AAA batteries×2
Weight.....	151 g (including batteries)

### ■ **Included items**

Power code.....	1
Remote control unit .....	1
Operation manual (this book) .....	1

\* Due to improvements the above specifications and external appearance may be changed without notice.



## Warranty and after sales service

### ■ About Warranty

Make sure that the name of your distributor and the date of purchase are written in the warranty. Read it carefully, and then keep it in a secure location. The warranty is valid for one year from the date of purchase.

### ■ Malfunctions

If the product malfunctions in the course of normal use (use in accordance with the manual and safety precautions) during the warranty period, then we will repair the product free of charge. When you bring your product to the distributor for servicing, be sure to bring the warranty with you. See the guarantees in your warranty for details. We will repair malfunctions occurring after the warranty period has expired for a fee, in accordance with our servicing regulations.

**Please note that we cannot provide any warranty or bear any liability for damage to any equipment that is connected to the unit resulting from incorrect use.**

#### Contact Information

##### SPEC CORPORATION

TEL: +81-3-3660-0303

FAX: +81-3-3660-0333

E-mail: [info-ex@spec-corp.co.jp](mailto:info-ex@spec-corp.co.jp)

URL : [spec-corp.co.jp](http://spec-corp.co.jp)

### ■ Terms of Warranty

1. If this product malfunctions during use in accordance with the manual, and during the warranty period, then please bring the product and this warranty to the store where you purchased it. It will be repaired free of charge.
2. If you cannot ask the store where you purchased it for repairs (e.g. if you have moved or the product was a gift), please consult with SPEC CORPORATION.
3. A fee will be charged for repairs in the following circumstances, even if it is during the warranty period.
  - (A) The product malfunctioned or was damaged due to user error or unauthorized repair or modification
  - (B) The product malfunctioned or was damaged due to dropping, etc. after purchase
  - (C) The product malfunctioned or was damaged due to fire, flooding, lightning and other weather phenomena, pollution, salt damage, or the like
  - (D) The product malfunctioned or was damaged due to other than normal use, such as long hours of continuous commercial use
  - (E) The main unit has been disassembled
  - (F) The text of the warranty has been changed or overwritten
  - (G) The malfunction was caused by another company's product
4. This warranty cannot be re-issued. Store it in a safe place, and do not lose it.

### WARRANTY

RPA-MGCEX PURE DIRECT CONTROLLER

Name	Telephone ( )
Address	
Date of Purchase	Distributor Name & Telephone
Warranty Period (Main Unit Only) <b>One Year</b> from Date of Purchase	





# SPEC

**SPEC CORPORATION**

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