

Rhodes[®]

MK8 Firmware Release Notes



v.1.1.0

Overview

About Firmware Version 1.1.0

Firmware v1.1.0 is the first major update for the Rhodes Mark 8 addressing several under-the-hood issues, improves sonic performance of control-voltage generation, and adds a new VariPan "RANGE" function.

The Firmware Update process is implemented using a Web-browser based updater that will be detailed below.

If you are having issues with your update process, please contact Rhodes customer support at support@rhodesmusic.com

New Features

VariPan Range Feature

There are now three VariPan ranges to allow musicians to choose the frequency ranges to suit the particular playing situation.

The VariPan rate has a full range going from ultra-slow 0.1Hz (10 seconds) all the way up to 2.6KHz (E7). This allows the user to sweep from extremely slow low frequencies (swells) through mid range speeds (tremelo) all the way through audio-rate amplitude modulation giving ring-tone like tonalities.

To help with this large range of operation, a new feature has been added to allow the user to select three frequency ranges:

- **FULL**: 0.1Hz to 2.6KHz PAN ON/OFF illuminates **AMBER**
- **LOW**: 0.1Hz to 20Hz PAN ON/OFF illuminates **GREEN**
- **HIGH**: 20Hz to 2.6KHz PAN ON/OFF illuminates **AMBER-GREEN**

LOW RANGE is useful for LFO ranges typically long swells, sweeps, tremelo just getting up into the beginning of audio range. Using Low Range is it much easier to fine-tune critical tremelo frequencies and also has been tuned for better sounding modulation.

HIGH RANGE is useful for audio modulation ranges where more precise tuning of modulating frequencies is useful to match the tonalities that you are playing on the piano.

Changing Modes: To change the modes, press and hold the WAVE button for 2 seconds. The color of the PAN ON/OFF button will change as documented up above.

Note: the frequency of the VariPan will not change until the rate is physically change (either through the front panel knob or the expression pedal) to make for a musical experience.

Improvements

Product Improvements and Bug Fixes

- Improved performance to make panel more responsive and smooth on scanned knobs
- Corrected LED timing issues and TAP TEMPO synchronization
- Fixed rare issue where compressor would power-up enabled on Pre-Amp only models
- Added VariPan Range function which also improves sonic clarity of modulation at LFO rates (LOW mode)
- Improved resolution on control-voltage generation to reduce perceived "zipper noise" on selected channels
- Fixed occasional "pops" and "clicks" selected customers were experiencing
- Added Channel Balancing calibration to fine-tune Left-Right balance of the pre-amps output
- Fixed rare issue where Delay Feedback would be active and unresponsive during power-up
- Improved performance of modulation envelopes for Chorus and Delay modes to match audio
- Improved calibration of potentiometer endpoints to guarantee end-of-travel calibration