

# HT-400US Preliminary Information



## Ease of Use

The Hymnal Plus has a well-deserved reputation for ease of use. The HT-400 user interface refines this even further with simple tabs down the left edge of the screen for each job you might want to do (play a tune, change the sound, create a playlist, display a slide etc). The new 7" colour touch screen adds even further to the ease of use, with colour highlights used to guide the user.

The *Tiresias* font is used for all text throughout the user interface. Developed for the UK Royal National Institute for the Blind, the *Tiresias* font is used widely for TV subtitling and provides impressive legibility. It is also used for the labelling of the connectors on the back of the unit and all labelling on the supplied infrared remote handset.

The jack sockets on the back (for connecting external amplification etc) are all colour-coded to make them easier to identify in dim lighting.



## Repertoire

With a vast standard repertoire of 2751 tunes, indexed to a range of widely-used hymn books, the Hymnal Plus provides most of the music most churches need straight out of the box. A range of optional repertoire upgrades is available at any time, and you can add your own mp3 and midi file selections. As part of our ongoing product development program we are constantly recording new material and compiling indexes to other popular hymn books.

## Sounds

The new Hymnal Plus has improved instrument sounds across the board, from pipe organs to piano, orchestra and worship band stylings. With over 200 preset instrument styles to choose from, finding just the right sound is easy and you can switch to another style at any time.

The huge variety of styles can also be a tremendous aid in introducing newer songs to a congregation, or modernising a traditional tune for younger ears.

## Music Playback To Suit Your Congregation

The Hymnal Plus gives you the ability to very simply personalise the music to suit your congregation. Alter the speed, the number of verses – even the length of pause between verses. Easily add an introduction, slow down at the end of the last verse, add an Amen. No technical or musical knowledge is required, just familiarity with the congregation. The Hymnal Plus is designed from the ground up for the dedicated purpose of providing musical accompaniment for congregational singing, and that's rather more specialised than just playing a CD!

## Prepare Music in Advance

Using the Playlist feature, you can plan and store all the music for services in advance. There's no limit to the number of playlists you can store, so you can create a different playlist for every service and give each one a familiar name for identification later. What's more, there's no limit to the number of items you can store in a playlist. An item can be any of the thousands of built-in tunes, one of your own mp3 or midi files, or just a visual item (e.g. a text slide or image).

It's easy to add and delete items in a playlist, and you can quickly re-arrange the play order with simple Move Up and Move Down buttons.

## Video Output

The HT-400 comes with both digital and analog\* video output as standard, for displaying your own texts, lyrics and images in PDF format. The main purpose of the Hymnal Plus will always be to accompany the singing of congregational music, but there are many resources available these days for subtly enhancing a service with visual elements, aside from displaying song lyrics.

If you do display song lyrics during a service, save them as a PDF file (using a PC) and copy them onto the Hymnal Plus SD memory card. You can link a text file to any tune in the repertoire and (with some very basic text formatting) the Hymnal Plus will display your song lyrics automatically as it plays the music, showing a verse (or chorus) at a time. The vector font engine and 24-bit RGB colour output provide a high-quality display of song lyrics and other texts.

\*Requires simple connector adaptor

## Browse/Search

The new Hymnal Plus comes with an A-Z Master Index book, listing all the songs available in the standard repertoire. You can also browse through the master index (or any of the installed hymn book indexes) on-screen at the swipe of a finger, or search for tunes using the clear on-screen keyboard. (You can connect a USB qwerty typing keyboard if you prefer.)

## OurBook

The new *OurBook* feature lets you create your own sub-list of songs from the vast repertoire of the Hymnal Plus. Whether you want to make up a numbered index to another hymn book or your church has its own unique collection of songs compiled over time, you can easily pull them into your own numbered list for future use.

## Humanise

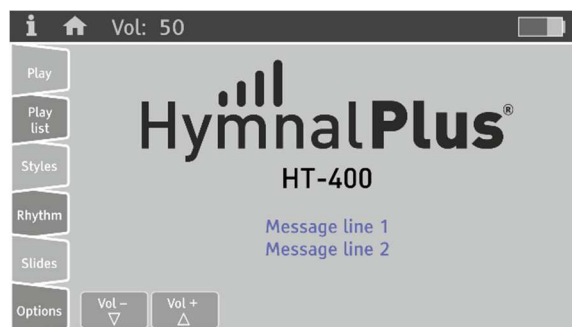
The Hymnal Plus doesn't play wrong notes and has incredible timing accuracy. In fact, it is far more accurate than any human could ever be. If you prefer a little more character, the new *Humanise* feature enables you to add subtle amounts of performance inaccuracy to the playback, to mimic a real musician more accurately. Don't worry, you can't ruin it – and it still won't play wrong notes!

## Keep It Simple

As technology has evolved, many churches have accumulated a pile of gadgets to provide support during a worship service: CD player, mp3 player, laptop PC etc. Managing all this can be a nightmare for churches that don't have a resident AV (audio-visual) expert, so the HT-400 pulls it all together into one easy-to-use package. Set up playlists for services in advance and let the Hymnal Plus do all the work on the day, enabling you to focus on the service.

## Home Screen Message

The Home screen (the default view every time the HT-400 is powered up) can display an optional personalised message (max two lines) that you enter yourself. This could be "Property of ...", "In memory of ..." or any other appropriate message.



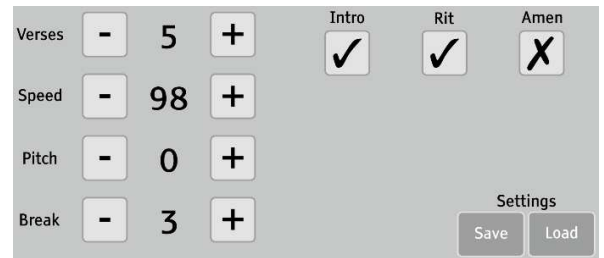
Home Screen

## Play It Your Way

Although not eye-catching, these few buttons are the very core of what makes the Hymnal Plus work so well. Select any tune from the huge repertoire and you can then very simply adjust the number of verses, speed, pitch and length of pause between verses (Break) to suit your congregation. Add an introduction, slow down at the end of the last verse (Rit), even add an Amen if desired.

Once the settings are just as you want them, press the Save

button to take a snapshot. Next time you select that tune, simply press the Load button to recall all your settings.



*The important buttons!*

## Status Bar

The status bar is a handy strip across the top of the screen, with a permanent button to open the onboard text version of the user manual and a shortcut button to return to the Home screen. It also displays the current volume level and (when relevant) confirmation of the connection of headphones, microphone, cables to an external sound system (including whether it is connected in mono or stereo) and display of the remaining rechargeable battery\* level.

optional

\* Battery pack

## VESA mount

The HT-400 has built-in folding legs for desktop use, but on the back of the unit we have included a 75mm VESA mount. VESA is the standard mounting system used for flat-screen TVs, so a huge variety of mounts is readily available - everything from floor stands to wall-mounted fixed or swing-arm brackets and quick-release adaptors.

## Internal Speaker System

The HT-400 features a built-in stereo amplifier and speakers (10 watts per channel), useful for personal monitoring (e.g. when preparing playlists) or use in outreach.

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