Quick Start Guide
A guide for people using M7CL Version 3 in the real world.

Part 1
An introductory guide to the M7CL group of consoles including features included in Version 3 Firmware and the M7CL-48ES hardware.

These guides are for people about to use the M7CL for the first time, or for experienced users requiring some tips and tricks for better understanding of M7CL and its PC based software partner the M7CL editor.
**M7CL Quick Start Guides.**

The M7CL Quick Start Guide is in multiple parts. It is available as a download from www.yamahaproaudio.com in the “Self Training” area. Also available is the revised M7CL Short-cuts and Tips List.

**Part 1** is an introduction to the M7CL and its variations and goes on to describe the basic operations of the console to the level of a similar featured analogue console.

**Part 2** introduces the extra features provided only by digital consoles; the internal effects rack package and the basic use of scenes to store and recall parameters.

**Part 3** looks at scene memory use in more detail and the connection of the PC based software for remote control and setup; Studio Manager and M7CL Editor.

M7CL-48ES users may also wish to look at Yamaha’s EtherSound Setup Guide. This explains the basic principals of designing an EtherSound network.

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**Table of Contents**

A quick guide to the M7CL hardware versions ...........................................3  
M7CL related hardware .................................................................................4  
Preparing the console before you start ......................................................5  
Scene 000 or Initialization? .........................................................................5  
Getting sound from M7CL-48/32 in 10 easy steps .....................................6  
Getting sound from M7CL-48ES and SB168-ES in 2 easy stages ..................7  

The Basics; ....................................................................................................8  
Accessing the channel ..............................................................................8  
Changing the channel parameters. HA popup; +48V. .................................9  
Channel parameter pop-ups. From Overview .......10  
Channel parameter pop-ups. From Single Channel View .........................11  
Sends on fader; an easy way of mixing Mix Groups/auxiliaries. (Monitor, Effect or Matrix Sends) .........................12  

Channel parameter pop-ups. The ATT/HPF/EQ pop-up in detail ...............13  
Naming Channels ......................................................................................14  
Patching, routing channels. How to change a patch ..................................15  
Patching, routing channels. The default Patch, Scene 000 .........................16  
Mix outputs; selecting aux/sub group, pre/post fade, send point etc ..........17  
Matrix outputs; routing, features .............................................................18  
Trouble shooting ideas ............................................................................19
A quick guide to the M7CL hardware versions.

There are three different hardware versions. They look and work the same way in operation, but offer different numbers of channels and locations for the mic inputs.

**M7CL-48**

M7CL-48 has 48 mono channels with mic preamps on the rear panel. There are also four stereo channels with identical mic pre-amps on the rear. There are 16 Omni output XLRs on the rear. (An Omni output is one that can be patched to different output channels by the user.)

**M7CL-32**

M7CL-32 has 32 mono channels with mic preamps on the rear panel. There are also four stereo channels with identical mic pre-amps on the rear. There are 16 Omni output XLRs on the rear. (An Omni output is one that can be patched to different output channels by the user.)

**M7CL-48ES**

M7CL-48ES has the same 48 mono channels and four stereo channels as M7CL-48 but only 8 mic pre-amps and 8 Omni output XLRs on the rear. To connect more microphones, remote mic input stage boxes such as SB168-ES should be added. These are daisy chain connected via Cat5e cable. The connection system uses EtherSound protocol and M7CL-48ES has EtherSound ports on the rear panel. The EtherSound ports are not found as standard on the other, non-ES, models. M7CL-48ES uses an innovative Auto Configure mode for easy setup in the standard configuration.

**Note:** You can find background information to EtherSound connectivity as a download from Yamaha’s www.yamahaproaudio.com Self Training area. Look for Networked Audio>> EtherSound Setup Guide.
M7CL related hardware

M7CL-48 and M7CL-32 are “all in one box” digital mixers that require no setup and no additional units before use. They differ only in the number of available inputs. M7CL-48ES requires connection to external HA (Head Amps) before use and we recommend SB168-ES, but other EtherSound compatible HA are also possible like Yamaha AD8HR connected to NAI48-ES EtherSound interface. The basic setup of M7CL-48ES with SB168-ES is extremely straightforward and is dealt with on page 5. When setup, M7CL-48ES behaves just like an M7CL-48, with only few differences. This guide will use M7CL-48 as its example and only refer to the other versions where the differences are relevant. And don’t forget the PC software; Studio Manager and M7CL Editor.

SB168-ES

SB168-ES is a dedicated EtherSound remote mic preamp and AD convertor ideal for use with M7CL48-ES consoles. The preamp design and sound is very similar to the M7CL internal preamps.

It can be connected directly to M7CL-48ES with Cat5e. If the front panel dipswitches are set correctly the combination of M7CL-48ES and multiple SB168-ES will auto configure themselves to provide extra remote mic preamps patched to and controlled by the 48 channels in the console. There is no need for AVS ES Monitor, the PC based patching program.

PW800W

PW800W is an optional external redundant power supply.

MBM7CL

MBM7CL is the meterbridge part. Although an optional extra, most consoles are supplied with this.

LA1L

LA1L is Yamaha’s LED gooseneck lamp. LED lamps have a long reliable bulb life and white light.

USB memory

USB memory devices are used to transfer or “back-up” data on the M7CL. Yamaha do not manufacture these, but they are widely available from many manufacturers and computer stores.

Tip: When choosing a storage device remember that; M7CL is USB1.1 compliant, so both USB1.1 and USB2.0 will work. Storage capacity must not exceed 16 GB. The drive can be formatted to FAT12 FAT16 or FAT32 but must not be partitioned. You can format a new drive in M7CL, but remember formatting a drive erases all its memories. Most USB memory devices work, but Yamaha have a list of tested ones on www.yamahapropaudio.com (Downloads>Technical Documents & Data> Utilities and Data> Mixers)

MY (Mini-YGDAI) cards

M7CL is compatible with most MY16/8/4 series cards. MY cards offer alternative format input and extra alternative outputs. Add MY cards if you want more than 16 outputs or for multi-track recording.

Check www.yamahapropaudio.com for the full range of MY cards.
Preparing the console before you start.

Check your console firmware version.

This guide relates to M7CL Version 3 console firmware. If you have older firmware we recommend an upgrade to version 3. The firmware can be freely downloaded from www.yamahaproaudio.com>>Downloads.

Scene 000 or Initialization?

Before working on an analogue console it is customary to check that the console has been “set to zero”. This normally means setting the gain to minimum, the EQ to flat, auxes to flat, group routing de-selected, insert points switched off, etc. Look at and check upwards of 1000 knobs! Because M7CL can memorise its settings, Yamaha have provided a handy memorised scene (Scene000) where the console is set to zero ready to start at the touch of a button.

Scene 000

To recall Scene 000 press the up/down keys until SCENE 000 flashes in the [Scene Panel]. Then press [RECALL]

However certain features of M7CL are not under scene control. For example word clock settings, Outport settings and User Defined Keys are not recalled by scene control. Also, as we will explore in later parts of the User Guide various things normally controlled by scenes can be actively removed from scene control. This can mean that recalling Scene 000 does not “set to zero” as expected. Returning the whole console to factory default setting is called “Initialization” and this is recommended when starting a completely new project.

Note: Initialization removes all user settings from the console and so should only be done if any valuable user data on the console is backed up. (To a USB memory key or Studio Manager/M7CL Editor file on a PC).

Tip: Users, particularly in fixed installs, may wish to create their own “Session Starting Point” saved to a USB key rather than using the factory default. This “Session Starting Point” could include correct port delays and output patching.

Not included in Scene recall. (So not reset by Scene 000)

but still remembered for all scenes.

| User defined keys | Sends on fader selected |
| Preferences | Metering point selection |
| Brightness controls | External HA to Slot assignment and HPF. |
| OUTPORT delay and level settings | User Access Level |
| MIDI setup | Network settings |
| Wordclock | Clock!! |
| Master +48V | Slots and MY Card settings |
| CUE Pop-up; PFL trim ins, DCA trim, PFL trim Outs | User Libraries |
| Monitor Pop-up; (levels, source on/off, mono, link) | EQ/HPF, (User and ROM) |
| Oscillator (all parameters) | Dynamics (not key-in), (User and ROM) |
| Safe assignments (mute, recall) | GEQ, (User only) |
| Passwords/Admin/guest settings | Effects (User and ROM) |
| Screen page or pop-up | |

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| Passwords/Admin/guest settings | Effects (User and ROM) |
| Screen page or pop-up | |
**Initialization**

To initialize the console power up whilst holding down the Scene [STORE] button. Keep holding the [STORE] button until the screen shows a pop-up with an invitation to Initialize all memories. After confirming the initialization exit to the normal boot up sequence.

**Getting sound from M7CL-32/48 in 10 easy steps.**

1. Connect a mic or other source (CD etc) to a chosen input (eg 1)
2. Connect your main L&R to the Outputs 15(L) and 16(R). (7 and 8 for M7CL-48ES).
3. Press the blue [SEL] button to select the channel and assign the encoders.
4. Turn the HA or Headamp gain encoder to set the gain using the channel meter.
5. Keep the signal below the red “OVER” at all times.
6. Check the channel is ON and push up the fader.
7. Check the Stereo master (pink) channel is turned ON and push up the fader.
8. You should have sound at your outputs. If not, check the troubleshooting ideas on page 19!
**Stage 1. Setup the system.** M7CL-48ES needs to be combined with extra EtherSound compatible HA inputs. We recommend SB168-ES; they contain similar HA units and are designed to integrate with M7CL-48ES.

With the dipswitches set as shown below the combination of M7CL-48ES and SB168-ES will AUTO CONFIGURE the EtherSound network in daisy chain mode. NO PC is required. In AUTO CONFIGURE mode the EtherSound patching is locked, if you wish to make changes or incorporate other EtherSound devices, use AVS-ES Monitor from AuviTran.

1. Before powering up the M7CL-ES and SB168s, connect the EtherSound OUT of the M7CL-48ES to the EtherSound IN port of the first SB168-ES and then daisy chain two more SB168-ES using Cat5e.

**Note:** If a ring setup is preferred connect the last stage box back to the IN port of the console, but be sure RING is selected on the RACK EXT-ES HA page.

2. Set the 1, 2, 3 dip switches on the SB168-ES front panels according to the chart below. Dip 1 for Ch 1-16, Dip 2 for Ch 17-32 and Dip 3 for 33-48. This gives the boxes their identity; ID# 1 is 1-16 ID# 2 is 17-32 ID# 3 is 33-48.

3. Set the 7, 8 dip switches according to the chart; Dip 7 for the ID#1 and ID#2 box, but dip 8 for ID#3. Even if you daisy chain the boxes in a different order; still dip 8 for ID#3. This tells the boxes which is the highest number in the setup.

**Note:** If a ring setup is preferred use dipswitch 5 for ID#1 and #2 and dip 6 for ID#3. Set the AUTO CONFIGURE button to RING on the EXT-ES HA page in the RACK.)

4. Power up the units (any order) and the Auto Configure will use EtherSound to patch the stage boxes to the console.

**Stage 2. Get the sound out!** The setup Stage 1 is complete. Stage 2 is to follow the Getting sound from M7CL-48/32 in 10 easy steps! (Page 6)
**The Basics:**

Accessing the channel.

M7CL is an all digital mixer designed to be as easy to use as an analogue mixer. Obviously the way mix parameters are changed is different to an analogue mixer but it needn’t be any more difficult.

A channel strip, with a fader, meter and buttons is present on the surface for all input channels all the time. There is not enough space to have a knob for every function present for all channels so just one channel of control encoders is used. Press the blue [SEL] button to assign the channel encoders to the channel you want.

To gain a broader channel view and operate other channel settings the channel must be selected to the Centralogic™ section. Either select eight channel or single channel view.

### Eight Channel View

Pressing one of the navigation keys will bring the eight channel overview to the screen. From here you can see channel settings and levels.

### Single Channel View

Press [SEL] to select a channel. Now the rotary encoders will operate the selected channel.

To view the value of the encoders, “push click” any of them. This will bring up the single channel view.
The Basics;
Changing the channel parameters. HA popup; +48V.

Once you have assigned channels either to an eight or single channel view you can begin to modify their parameters. There is no need to enter menu systems for most basic parameters found on analogue consoles.

From the **eight channel overview** screen parameters can be adjusted using the eight encoders below the screen. Just touch the row of screen knobs (HA or Mix send) and turn the corresponding encoder.

From the **single channel view** you can see the effect of changing any of the encoders to the left of the screen.

To get more detail of a particular parameter just touch the screen again. From either main screen press the feature you require (for example HA control) and a pop-up will appear.

From the HA/PATCH pop-up you can still adjust HA gain but now you can also add +48V phantom and change polarity Ø.

You can go to the NAME/PATCH pop-up or using the tabs below see overviews of eight or all channel HA details.

**Tip:** There is a +48V master switch on the SETUP page. If condenser mics don’t work check the master switch!

To close pop-ups press the [X].

**Tip:** Or press anywhere outside the pop-up in the grey area.

Touch the screen in the same way to access pop-ups for; Insert and Direct send, EQ and Attenuator, Dynamics 1 and 2, Mix Send, Pan/LCR routing, DCA and Mute group, Name/Icon/Patch, Recall Safe, etc.
The Basics;

Channel parameter pop-ups. From Overview.
From the eight channel view you can access all the channel parameter pop-ups and use the encoders below to make parameter changes. Just press the relevant area of the screen.

Use the encoders below the screen to operate the highlighted knobs on the screen.

Tip: Try turning the knob whilst pushing to get ‘fine resolution’.
The Basics;

Channel parameter pop-ups. From Single Channel View.
From the single channel view you can access all the channel parameter pop-ups and use the encoders below to make parameter changes. Just press the relevant area of the screen.

Use the encoders below the screen to operate the highlighted knobs on the screen. Where there are more than one row of knobs touch the screen; the white rings show which row will be controlled.

Tip: Try turning the knob whilst pushing to get ‘finer resolution’.

Note: Most Popups can be accessed from several different places.
**The Basics;**

Sends on fader; an easy way of mixing Mix Groups/auxiliaries. (Monitor, FX or Matrix Sends)

Auxiliaries can be adjusted by the encoders to the side or below the screen but for efficient monitor mixing a third option is provided; SENDS ON FADER. (Like fader flip on other Yamaha digital mixers, but the master is not assigned to an encoder).

**Tip:** Press User Defined Key 1 to enter MIX ON FADER or key 2 to enter MATRIX ON FADER.

**Tip:** Press the assign button a second time to CUE the mix. The button goes yellow.

Now input faders are assigned to be aux mix faders and each aux mix can be mixed in this way in turn. This way of working is really popular with monitor engineers.

**Note:** When in SENDS ON FADER mode all the [SEL] key lights are on, except the SEL channel; it flashes.

**Tip:** You can press the mix encoder buttons, rather than the screen, to select the different mixes if you prefer.

M7CL Quick Start Guide Part 1

M7CL has 16 Mix Groups and these are ideal for mixing monitors with SENDS ON FADER. M7CL also has 8 Matrix Groups. In addition to the usual Matrix function of mixing the masters and mix groups, the Matrixes can have inputs directly from input channels and behave just like the Mix Groups for large monitor mixing projects. So SENDS ON FADER has two pages; MIX ON FADER and MATRIX ON FADER. Toggle between them with the screen MIX/MTRX button or use User Defined key 1 and 2.
Channel parameter pop-ups. The ATT/HPF/EQ pop-up in detail.

The EQ encoders on the selected channel panel will always operate the EQ of the selected channel. However, the ATT/HPF/EQ pop-up gives visual feedback about the changes being made and is also required to make some other changes like shelf/bell or LPF.

Pressing [COPY] stores the displayed EQ curve into a temporary “copy buffer”. If another EQ is selected to the screen, then pressing [PASTE] will change that EQ to match the copied source. Use care because you cannot undo a paste!

Tip: If you copy an EQ curve to the “copy buffer”, you can change the curve and then press [COMPARE] to alternate between the two curves.

[FLAT] will zero the EQ gains. [DEFAULT] will zero gains and return frequencies and Q controls to their default values.

Change the high and low EQ bands to be bell shape or shelving using these buttons. The high band can also be LPF.

Tip: We suggest trying [TYPE II] for a more analog feel, but use [TYPE I] when using large EQ cuts.

[TYPE I] and [TYPE II] EQ are different ways of calculating the complex mathematics of the EQ section. Each type has a slightly different audio character.

Tip: We suggest trying [TYPE II] for a more analog feel, but use [TYPE I] when using large EQ cuts.

The [ATT] knob is a digital attenuator. Use this to boost or reduce digital input signals or to compensate for EQ boosts or cuts changing the level through the channel.

Use the [8ch] and [ALL] tabs to see multiple EQ views. This is especially useful when copy and pasting or using the ATT.

[ON] will bypass the EQ but keep the EQ curve displayed in grey.
Naming Channels.

Input channel faders are named using tape and pen in the “analog” way. All channels have an electronic name and icon that will appear on the screen when the channel is assigned to the Centralogic™ screen.

**Tip:** You may consider the electronic names unnecessary if you use tape and pen, but they are useful as they are remembered in the session file and will be transferred to other consoles when you load. Then write new tape and pen labels from the electronic source.

**Tip:** Press the [ICON] or the [ICON] tab to change to the ICON page. Choose an ICON and then choose a SAMPLE NAME. These names can then be edited by pressing the name or the [NAME] tab to return to the keyboard on the NAME page.

Use the on-screen keyboard to name the channel.

Use the on-screen keyboard to name the channel.
**Patching, routing channels. How to change a patch.**

If, for example you have connected a CD player to inputs 47 and 48 on your console (M7CL-48/32) or SB168-ES stage box (M7CL-48ES), the audio will appear in channels 47 and 48. However you may prefer to have this appear in Channel 1 and 2. To achieve this, the internal console patch can be used.

**Note:** The approach is to select the channel required and then choose an input source to feed that channel.

Select the channel to receive the audio. Open the PATCH/NAME popup and choose the source for the channel; in this case it’s IN 47. Then select Channel 2 and patch IN 48. You can add an Icon and Name too.

**Note:** In this procedure IN47 is patched to CH 1. However, note that IN47 is still patched to CH47. The signal is Y-split to two channels.

**Note:** The Y-split comes after the HA. If you adjust the HA control then both CH1 and CH47 will be affected.

The M7CL-48ES has a very slightly different naming structure. Input ports are labelled ES 1, ES 2, ES 3 etc. If you don’t make changes in the EtherSound patch then these correspond to the XLR inputs on your stage box units in order. Omni inputs are the eight local inputs on the back panel.

**Note:** Patching Inserts. If you want to have an external device inserted on a channel (valve comp, GEQ etc) you can patch this in the same way. On M7CL-32/48 this must be patched to slot ports, but on M7CL-48ES you can patch to Omni io ports also. **Note** if you load an M7CL-48ES file into an M7CL-32/48, Omni patched inserts will not work!
Patching, routing channels. The default Patch, Scene 000.

It is important to understand that unlike an analog console the sockets (Inputs with preamp) on the back are not permanently wired to the channels on the surface. There is an assignable “soft patch” between the sockets and the channels. This permits great flexibility but must be used with great care to avoid confusion.

In M7CL-48/32 the default Scene 000 has all the mono inputs routed one to one.

**Note:** the STEREO channels have input sockets and preamps, but these are not patched to the channels; the STEREO channels are patched from the effects returns.

In M7CL-48ES, when the auto configure mode is used (no custom EtherSound patching using the AVS-ES Monitor PC application) the default Scene 000 has all the mono inputs similarly routed one to one.

**Note:** the rear panel mic input XLRs are not routed to desk channels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Output</th>
<th>M/CL-48/32#Patching</th>
<th>M/CL-48ES Patching</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mix 1</td>
<td>Omni 1 Slot 1-1 Slot 1-9 SPM#1-1 Slot 1-1 Slot 1-9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mix 2</td>
<td>Omni 2 Slot 1-2 Slot 1-10 SPM#1-2 Slot 1-2 Slot 1-10</td>
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<td>Mix 3</td>
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<td>Mix 5</td>
<td>Omni 5 Slot 1-5 Slot 1-13 SPM#1-5 Slot 1-5 Slot 1-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Left</td>
<td>UMMI 13 ASB/EBU SPM#1,2,3,8 ASB/EBU UMMI</td>
<td>Right</td>
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<td>Mono</td>
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<td>Not patched</td>
<td>Monitor L</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monitor R</td>
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<td>Monitor R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitor C</td>
<td>Not patched</td>
<td>Monitor C</td>
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</table>

Default output patches for Scene 000.

**Tip:** In Scene 000 the stereo master L&R always come from the last two sockets in a unit; Omni 15&16 in M7CL48/32 or Omni 7&8 in M7CL-48ES and SB168-ES.
Mix outputs; selecting aux/sub group, pre/post fade, send point etc.

There are 16 mix bus outputs available in addition to the matrix, master and monitor outputs. The mix buses can be configured as variable auxes or fixed sub-groups. In M7CL-32/48 all outputs share the 16 XLR Omni outs, AES/EBU out and MY card slot outs. In M7CL-48ES the outputs share the 8 XLR Omni outs, the AES/EBU out, the MY card slot outs and the 24 EtherSound outputs which will appear on the SB168-ES ID#1,2,3 if they are connected.

By default, the 16 mix buses are all variable (auxiliaries). The first 12 are pre fade sends (monitor) and the last 4 are post fade (effects), but these can all be changed individually.

To change mixes pre/post, press on a knob image to get the MIX SEND popup

To change a mix group from variable (aux) to fixed (sub-group), or to change the variable send point from prefader to pre-EQ/dynamics, access the BUS SETUP pop-up from the SETUP page. Configure mixes as stereo here too.
Matrix outputs; routing, features.

M7CL has 8 matrix outputs. These are fed by all channels, inputs and outputs. So it is a 75 x 8 ways matrix in M7CL-48/ES and 59 x 8 ways in M7CL-32. The matrix masters are assigned to the Centralogic™ area by pressing the grey [MATRIX] navigation key.

Matrix master screen.

The matrix master screen gives information about the eight matrix outputs, EQ and Dynamics activity, routing and name information, etc.

Matrix single channel view

The matrix single channel view gives detail of the parameter settings and feedback from encoder adjustments. It differs from the input channel view; there is no HA or digital ATT to control, there is only one dynamic unit, and there is no DCA assignment.

Note: In these views the coloured knobs show sends from the Mix buses, not to them.

You can check the output routing of the matrixes on the table on page 16 of this guide. Tip; or go to SETUP>OUTPORT SETUP on the console.

To change these or route another matrix, press either the name on the overview or the grey patch button on the single channel view (where HA is on inputs) to go to the PATCH/NAME pop-up. From this pop-up you can change matrix patches.

Note: From a single input channel view, you can get to the MATRIX sends by pressing the tab at the top of the MIX send panel.
Tip: Or use MTRX Sends on Faders
Troubleshooting.

“Ten Easy Steps” troubleshooting ideas.

Did you choose a STEREO (or Omni) channel for the input?
Unfortunately this is not routed in Scene 000. Choose a MONO (or SB168-ES) channel or go to page 15 for how to patch.

Are you using a mic or DI that needs +48V?
Go to page 9 for information about how to turn on the phantom or try a dynamic mic/passive box.

Read page 9 and still can’t get phantom?
Try the global +48V master on the SETUP page (this is not scene recallable and will not reset with scene change. See page 5).

Are there any recall safes set?
This means that certain parameters of Scene 000 may not have been recalled because they are safe from recall changes. For example, the channel you have chosen may have a DCA over it or there might be a patch change. Check in CH JOB > RECALL SAFE. Clear all of these and recall Scene 000 again.

Is SENDS ON FADER active?
This means you are pushing up an aux send and not the channel master. You can tell easily when you are in sends on fader mode because all the green [SEL] indicators are on except the selected channel. In normal mode, the [SEL] indicators are off and the selected channel is lit.

My M7CL-48ES and SB168-ES combination doesn’t work.
Have you set the dip switches correctly and before you powered up the units?
Have you connected the cables correctly? OUT>IN>OUT>IN?
Is AUTO CONFIGURE enabled? (Check in the RACK and choose the EXT-ES HA tab at the top.)

Troubleshooting.

I can’t get +48V to work.
+48V is switched on/off in the HA pop-up, but remember there is also a master switch on the SETUP page. This is not covered by scene recall.

The aux sends are in big steps when I turn the encoder;
I need a finer control on my output delays;
Try pushing and turning at the same time. This gives a fine resolution mode.

When I press the navigation keys, the screen changes but the faders don’t copy to the chosen bank.
This is a feature often used to keep access to the DCA masters even when other banks are chosen. Press and hold the navigation key until it flashes. Now that fader bank is locked even though the screen information changes. To undo, just press and hold again.

I’ve recalled Scene 000 but some faders and other things have not reset to zero.
Are there any recall safes set? This means that aspects of Scene 000 may not have been recalled because they are safe from recall changes. Check in CH JOB > RECALL SAFE. Clear all of these and recall Scene 000 again. See page 5 for details of things not reset by scene 000.

The fader has stopped working!
Is SENDS ON FADER active; this means you are pushing up an aux send and not the channel master. You can tell easily when you are in sends on fader mode because all the green [SEL] indicators are on except the selected channel. In normal mode, the [SEL] indicators are off and the selected channel is lit.
Have you ‘moved’ a channel or changed the patch or both? Check the patch and the channel name/number to confirm they are what you expect.

Where are the output delays?
They are output delays, found in the OUTPUT PORT pop-up via the SETUP page.

Where can I find out more information?
You can download the M7CL and Editor manuals from;