# LFX1S - Level Crossing Sound & Light effects for DC and DCC model railways

CAUTION - ALWAYS SWITCH OFF POWER TO YOUR LAYOUT BEFORE CONNECTING THIS CONTROLLER

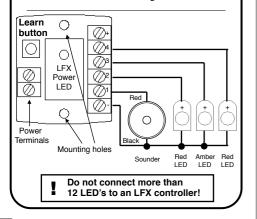
This sound and lighting effect incorporates a DCC decoder to enable it to be wired directly into the track and be operated by any controller which is able to control DCC accessories. It can also be controlled by 9-15V DC supply. Please read these instructions before fitting.

# **CONNECTING LED's & SPEAKER**

The LFX1S simulates the lights & sounds seen at modern level crossing barriers, first switching on an amber LED then flashing two red LEDs alternately, also sounding a warble warning from the supplied sounder. The effect sequence can be started and stopped using either DCC accessory commands or a regular DC switch. We suggest you try the LFX using the LEDs & speaker supplied before fitting into a model. Switch off your power supply before connecting anything!

• Connect the Sounder plus Amber and Red LEDs into the terminal block as below, carefully observing the correct polarity which, on this style of LED, is rounded at the + end.

LED's are small low power lights which **must** be connected the correct way round to light, so refer to drawing below when connecting - note you do not need resistors when connecting LEDs to Train-Tech LFX or Signal Controllers.



#### Fitting the Level Crossing Barrier LFX and LEDs Once you have tried your LFX module you need to decide how and where best to fit them. Mounting the LFX Module

We have made the LFX module as small and light as possible so that it can be easily hidden inside a building or scenery, though it can be mounted under the baseboard and held using a double sided sticky pad or small screws, but be careful not to overtighten. If using the LFX on DCC you can connect it directly to the nearest DCC rails - note it may be easier to set the address and sound options before mounting it in a building or hard to get place - see above. **Mounting the sounder** 

You can choose to mount this under the baseboard or hide in it a building etc depending on how loud you want it to be (a building can make it sound louder and richer). You can fix it by tape, pads or small screws. **Fitting the LEDs** 

You can use almost any amber and red LEDs but the small LEDs supplied are ideal for fitting into many of the commercial level crossing barrier sets on the market or into kits such as the Peco NB51(N) and LK51 (OO) which are supplied as a simple kit of parts and relatively easy to drill holes for these small LEDs. Before fitting the LEDs solder on your wires - we suggest you fit thin gauge wire such as 'Kynar' wire or enamelled copper wire (which can be bought on reels or salvaged from an old motor etc) as these can easily be hidden behind the models light post.

The lens diameter of the LEDs supplied is 1.8mm, so a clearance hole of 1.8 - 2mm needs to be drilled where the LEDs will be fitted. Unlike traditional filament lamps, LEDs do not get hot and so can quite safely be glued or taped onto card or plastic models. You can fit up to 4 sets of 3 LEDs to one LFX though note the more LEDs you fit, the slightly dimmer each LED will be as they will be sharing the same power.

The following accessories for the LFX1S are available from your Train-Tech Dealer or www.dcpexpress.com

LED1: Level Crossing Barrier LED set (3 sets of 3) Set of 6 more subminiature red and 3 subminiature amber LEDs as supplied with the LFX1S

### LC1: Solderless LED clips

Pack of 5 clips with 200mm of wire which enable LEDs to be connected away from the LFX without soldering.

# POWER AND CONTROL BY DCC

Every DCC accessory needs an 'address' assigned to it and with One-Touch™ DCC this is very quick and easy to set up. Start by connecting the LEDs and sounder as shown on the left and then connect the LFX Power terminals to your DCC track output and switch on - the LFX Power LED should light. You now choose the DCC address for the effect and also select whether to have the warning sound on all the time the lights are on, or alternatively to automatically switch off the sound after the lights have been on for around 7 seconds.

## Setting the address and sound options

Set your controller to control DCC **accessories** (ie not locomotives - refer to the instructions supplied with your controller). Then set your DCC controller to the accessory address you choose to control the LFX (eg 71)

#### Choose:

 To silence the sound after 7 seconds of lights: Press the LFX 'Learn button' ONCE - the red crossing LEDs will flash quickly.
Then send either a ◀ or ▶ 'direction' command from your controller - the LEDs will stop flashing and the crossing LEDs and sound are are now set to be controlled by that address and the sound will stop after 7 seconds.

#### Or:

 To have sound all the time the lights are on: Press the LFX 'Learn button' TWICE - the amber crossing LED will flash quickly. Then send either a ◀ or ▶ 'direction' command from your controller - the LED will stop flashing and the crossing LEDs and sound are are now set to be controlled by that address and the sound will stay on continuously with the lights.

### Troubleshooting when using a DCC system

 Check that the power light on the LFX is on - if not and locos run correctly on the track check the connection wires between the LFX, DCC controller and track.

 If you have connected the LFX to track rails test it connected directly to the DCC controller output instead.

 If the LFX power light is on but the LED's connected to your LFX do not switch on or off, check that your DCC controller is in *accessory* address control mode note that this is completely different to Locomotive address control and will be explained in your controller instructions.

 If some or all of the LED's connected to the LFX fail to light correctly, double check the wiring and if necessary reverse the connections of some LED's.

### Troubleshooting when using a DC system

 If the red power light on the LFX does not come on, check that it is receiving power from a suitable 12 Volt DC supply - the polarity of connection is not important as this is corrected inside the LFX. You can also easily test the LFX by connecting it to a 9 volt PP3 battery the LFX power light should light and connected LEDs should work normally, although as it is running on only 9 volts they will not be as bright.

 If some or all of the LED's connected to the LFX fail to light correctly, double check the wiring and if necessary reverse the connections of the LED's.

If these steps fail please contact your supplier or DCP for advice and Technical support.

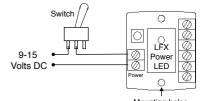
#### Notes

The LFX module may get slightly warm when used for long periods which is quite normal. The original design of this LFX module had only 4 output terminals and LEDs were connected quite differently - if using one of these versions please refer to the instructions which were supplied with it.

#### Document Ref D779721/1

# POWER AND CONTROL BY DC

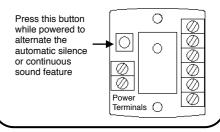
To use the LFX module with DC layouts, you need to supply it with 9-15 Volts DC. Most DC controllers have a DC accessory supply or you could use a 9 volt battery. Connect the supply to the LFX Power terminals as shown in the diagram below (polarity not important) and the LFX power LED should light. You can add a switch to power the LFX on / off. If it does not light see Troubleshooting below



Mounting holes

## Continuous sound or 7 second sound

The speaker can be set to sound continuously until the lighting effect is switched off or alternatively to sound for just 7 seconds and then be silent, leaving the lights flashing. To switch this feature on or off just press the button on the LFX while it is powered and it will alternate the automatic silence on and off.



General information on using LEDs with models LEDs are really useful lights which, unlike their conventional filament bulb predecessors, are robust, low power and if used correctly can effectively last forever. But there are important considerations to using them. Firstly LED stands for *Light Emitting Diode* and a diode is an electronic component which only works electrically in one direction, so always need to be fitted the correct way round to work correctly and last. Whilst LED's will work on AC (alternating current) for a while, continuous use on AC or reverse connection will reduce the life.

Most standard miniature LEDs which a modeller will use must only have a maximum voltage of 2 to 3 volts applied, so current flowing through the LED needs to be reduced and this is usually done by a resistor in series (in between), typically 1000 ohms for a 12 V supply. However to make wiring easier for modellers all Train-Tech LFX or Signal LED controllers already have resistors built in so that LEDs can connect directly to the module without the need for any resistors.

Train-Tech also offer packs of various LEDs for modellers and these always come with instructions and also suitable resistors for using them on a standard Model Railway 12V DC supply.

#### Connecting LEDs

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As explained previously LEDs have a polarity and must be connected the correct way round to light. The most popular LEDs come in 3mm and 5mm diameter cases and look similar to this:



The best indication of polarity on this type of LED is to find the flat side on the round base. This side usually indicates the negative (Cathode) connection and the other wire the positive (Anode) connection to power.

Another really small LED we supply for some Train-Tech products looks like this:

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There are many LEDs on the market and it is good to experiment, but check manufacturers data for specific connection information as there are no real standards.



no modifications or power supply needed.

Signals not included



Auto

DC & DCC WIRE

SEE WWW.TRAIN-TECH.COM OR CONTACT DCP FOR FREE COLOUR BROCHURE

Train-Tech Model Technology Made Easy

# LFX1 S Level Crossing Sound and Lights effects set

- Add realistic sound & lights to a level crossing
- Lights amber LED then flashes two red LEDs
- Realistic warbler warning sound with lights on
- Works on both regular DC and DCC controllers
- On DC the effect runs when switched on
- On DCC the effect runs by accessory command
- Can be synced to other DCC signals, points etc

# www.Train-Tech.com

See our website, your local model shop or contact us for a free colour brochure DCP Microdevelopments, Bryon Court, Bow Street, Great Ellingham, NR17 1JB, UK Telephone 01953 457800 • email sales@dcpmicro.com • www.dcpexpress.com