

Common Questions about Laser Disc Technology

Q: *How should I best care for my LaserDiscs?*

A: Handle a disc by the edge and the center hole to avoid scratching and leaving finger prints on it. If the disc should need cleaning, use a soft, damp cloth and wipe radially, from the center hole to the outside edge. Do not move the cloth in a circle around the disc. Store discs in their jackets in an upright position, in a cool place. Do not leave discs in direct sunlight or on top of radiators. Avoid piling them on top of one another, or leaving them leaning at an angle, to prevent warping.

Q: *What cable should I use to connect my player to a computer?*

A: Order the correct Pioneer RS-232C cable from your Pioneer dealer cable to connect a Pioneer industrial LaserDisc players to various computers:

- use cable #CC-04 to connect player to the modem port on a Macintosh computer
- use #CC-12 to connect player to a 25-pin serial connector on an IBM PC or compatible
- use #CC-13 to connect player to the 9 pin serial connector on an IBM PC or compatible

Q: *What should I do if the player is not responding to computer control?*

A: First, check that the RS-232C cable is connected securely to the player and to the computer. On an IBM-PC or compatible computer, make sure the proper COM port has been selected. Then check to make sure that the BAUD Rate on the player matches the BAUD rate required by the software. The software set-up usually takes care of this automatically, or prompts you. The BAUD rate on the CLD-V2600 and CLD-V2400 players is set by using FUNCTION SWITCH 2 on the back of the player: UP is 4800 BAUD, DOWN is 1200 BAUD.

Q: *When I play some LaserDiscs, the video output is fine, until the player reaches a certain part of the disc, then the video appears to "fly" past at an incredible rate of speed, without any audio. What is the problem?*

A: You are looking at libraries of still images that are playing back at the normal rate of speed, 30 frames per second. These images are meant to be viewed one still frame at a time. Press the STILL/STEP FORWARD button on the front of the player, on the remote control unit or on the barcode reader and you will see individual still images, one at a time. If you see different individual images as you press the STEP FORWARD button repeatedly, you will know that these are still frames that were placed on the disc so they could be stepped through.

Q: Can I use my Pioneer Minichanger on a network?

A: There are various third party drivers available for networking a PIONEER minichanger. For a list just call the Pioneer LaserFacts System at 201-327-9273 from your FAX phone and request document number 11 019.

When producing CLV discs for precise CLV frame access and still image display on the LD-V8000 player*, Pioneer advises these steps be followed:

- 1) Back-up frame accurate still images (such as on-screen menus, still photos, graphics and charts, etc.) by recording them for at least three consecutive frames. If a drop out does occur in the frame data section of a particular address, software can be written to search to one of the back-up frames which contains a complete time number.
- 2) Write computer software for player control so it instructs the player to search to the middle frame of the three still frames. This approach increases the likelihood of locating critical still images because the player typically finds an adjacent frame if it cannot find the target frame.
- 3) Finalize computer control software *after* the disc is pressed so that it can be tested with the disc. Test the software and check each individual CLV frame that needs to be accessed as a still frame to make sure there is no drop out on the frame to be addressed, assuring that the CLV frame number can be searched to and located by the LD-V8000.
- 4) Scratches and finger prints may interfere with accurate CLV frame access. While they can usually be polished and cleaned off, it pays to handle discs with care.

* The LD-V4400 LaserDisc player can also perform CLV frame accurate searches. However, the LD-V4400 cannot display specific CLV frames as still images since it does not contain the digital video memory circuit of the LD-V8000.

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