



November 1, 2017

ATTENTION!!

I have noticed a significantly higher failure rate of 990C op-amps when used by customers in kits and other experimental circuits, compared to when used in M-1, M-2 and Jensen Twin Servo mic preamps here at the John Hardy Company. While anything is possible, and I can screw up as easily as the next person, there would seem to be at least a slight possibility that some of you *don't know what you are doing!*

I urge you to take great care in checking the power supply voltages and connections *before* installing the 990C, and to be careful that nothing is accidentally short-circuited or otherwise improperly used or applied. All it takes is one slip of a test probe or screwdriver to destroy an op-amp.

I built dozens of kits when I was in high school. This was the era of Heathkits, Knight Kits and Eico Kits. I made my fair share of cold solder joints, incorrect connections and blunders in those early days, so I know what can go wrong in the early stages of learning (or any time).

The 990C op-amps are very reliable when properly applied. They receive extensive inspection, testing, trimming and burn-in to help guarantee their reliability. Manufacturing techniques have been developed and refined over the course of decades, all to make the best and most reliable op-amps possible. Production of the original 990 began in 1978, the 990C in 1988 and the 990C+ in 2013.

If *you* don't screw up, the *990C* won't screw up. So please *pay attention!!* Op-amps that are damaged due to negligence or improper use will void the warranty and will not be replaced.

Thank you.

John Hardy