SP-1 Spectrum

by **Stratgear** » 09 Nov 2015, 01:03

Does anyone know about the chips used on the SP-1 Spectrum pedal?
The earlier ones seem to have the NEC uPC4741C. I have one with a JRC2037 on it, but I can't find much more information about this. Help?

Thank you!

Stratgear

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **Pepe** » 09 Nov 2015, 08:24

Welcome to the forum, Stratgear! I didn't know that there are different versions of the SP-1. Maybe some of our die-hard BOSS collectors have more information.

Pepe

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **Pieces Of The Night** » 09 Nov 2015, 16:55

I didn't know that the sp-1 was around long enough to have varying chips sets. It could be the original died and it was repaired with a newer chip

Pieces Of The Night

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **verivorax** » 09 Nov 2015, 19:48

I believe the SP-1 underwent the same change as the rest of the original line:

Raytheon 3403 for initial production These have easy date codes so you can usually tell how likely it is to be original.

NEC uPC4741 from around the time of the switch change (from clear to black ~batch 8700 which is ~Oct 1979).

I believe the SP-1 had the 14-pin until the end of the run in Nov 81 (per the Boss book data, not always reliable), not sure if it ever got the 8-pin treatment..?! The 2nd edition service manual from Dec. 1980 still specifies RC3403 as the IC, though the NECs were fully in use by then.

Anyone have a late SP-1 and can we see the guts??

verivorax

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **Stratgear** » 09 Nov 2015, 21:10

Thanks for the replies, so far.
I can't track serial numbers anymore, since BA was down. Is there another decoder site?

I own a silver screw SP-1 with serial 9400 that originally had a NEC uPC4741, replaced with a JRC8042.
The other one I have has the serial 9800 and came with a JRC2037 that I believe isn't the original IC.
Both have black switches.

So, yes, we are in need of guts imaging!

Stratgear

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **verivorax** » 10 Nov 2015, 00:46

Serials in that era are pretty simple, I have a few benchmarks I've memorized to help me..

6400 - Nov 77, first month of production
8700 - Oct 79, almost all pedals have black switch by this point, chips become NEC.

9400 - May 80 (my birthmonth!)
0500 - April 81, last month of 4-digit ink-stamp serials

Paper labels starting with 05XXXX also decode to April 81. There is no verified dates for the 5-digit ink-stamps.

Another easy scheme, though not helpful with the oldest stuff, is to remember is that 240000 is Nov 82; it's simple enough to find the Novembers until 87 by adding 120000.

Does the solder side of your 9800 SP-1 show evidence of having the chip changed?

verivorax

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **Stratgear** » 10 Nov 2015, 01:13

> *Verivorax wrote:*
> *Does the solder side of your 9800 SP-1 show evidence of having the chip changed?*

I think the evidence is there, yes. I will take a picture asap, for your to help me judge.

Stratgear

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **Stratgear** » 25 Nov 2015, 00:26

Here you go

Crap picture, btw

Stratgear

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **Laurie** » 25 Nov 2015, 01:51

Hard to tell definitively because the clarity isn't high, but if I had to make a judgement, yes it has been changed.

Laurie

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **zombiwoof** » 25 Nov 2015, 17:12

New Mirror site for Bossarea:
http://gitaargast.nl/bossarea.php#
code search at top of page.
Al

> *Stratgear wrote:*
> *Thanks for the replies, so far.*
> *I can't track serial numbers anymore, since BA was down. Is there another decoder site?*
>
> *I own a silver screw SP-1 with serial 9400 that originally had a NEC uPC4741, replaced with a JRC8042.*
> *The other one I have has the serial 9800 and came with a JRC2037 that I believe isn't the original IC.*
> *Both have black switches.*
>
> *So, yes, we are in need of guts imaging!*

zombiwoof

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **skugga** » 26 Nov 2015, 11:58

> *Stratgear wrote:*
> *I can't track serial numbers anymore, since BA was down. Is there another decoder site?*

The decoder is back and working properly up the top of the page.

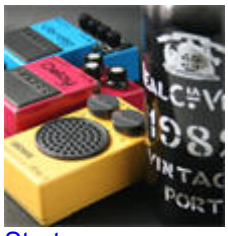
Or here http://www.stompboxzone.com/decoder/

skugga

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **Stratgear** » 04 Dec 2015, 00:37

I still hope to know more about the original IC's used on the Spectrum?



Stratgear

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **Stratgear** » 11 Dec 2015, 00:36

I made some more cyber-research and everything I found so far confirms what *verivorax* said before.
Raytheon RC3403ADB until 1979
NEC uPC4741C from 1979 to 19?? (I found one from batch 8600)
RC3403AD from 19?? to 1981 (not sure about the IC manufacturer)
Yes, apparently there was a "come back" to the RC3403 in the latest production period.
Would be cool to figure dates, just for the record...I also remember to read somewhere that those NEC IC's weren't exactly the more reliable chips around, could this be reason for the 3403/4741/3403 sandwich?

Stratgear

Re: SP-1 Spectrum

by **Pieraga** » 13 Feb 2016, 04:34

I got one with the RC3403,

Pieraga