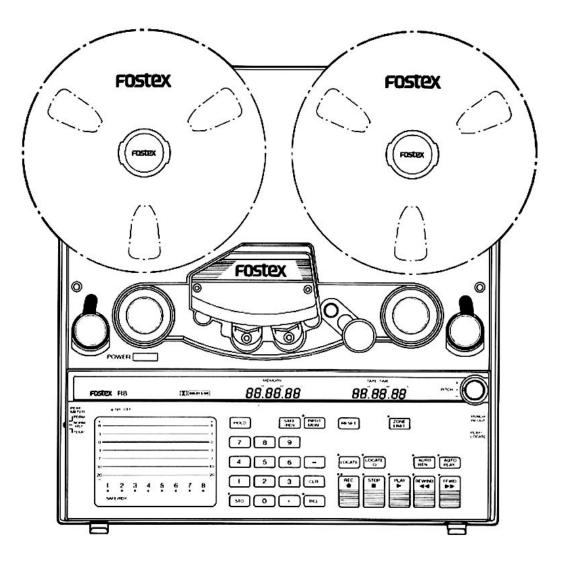
## Quick summary of Fostex R8:

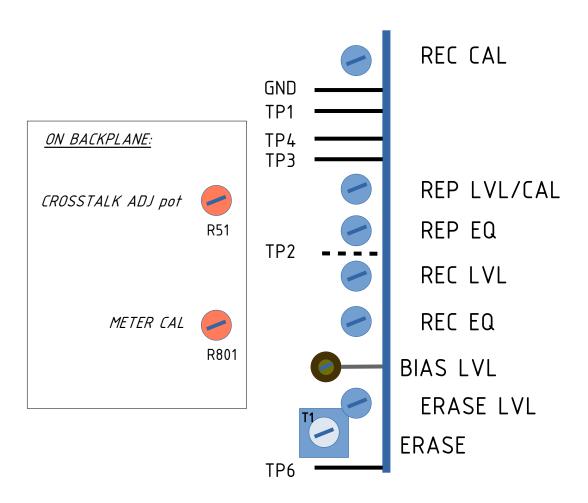
Page:

- 2 REC/REP AMP location of pots
- 3 REC/REP AMP location of el. capacitors
- 4 REC/REP AMP location of el. capacitors reverse side
- 5 Calibration instructions
- 6 System Control Board: location of adjustments





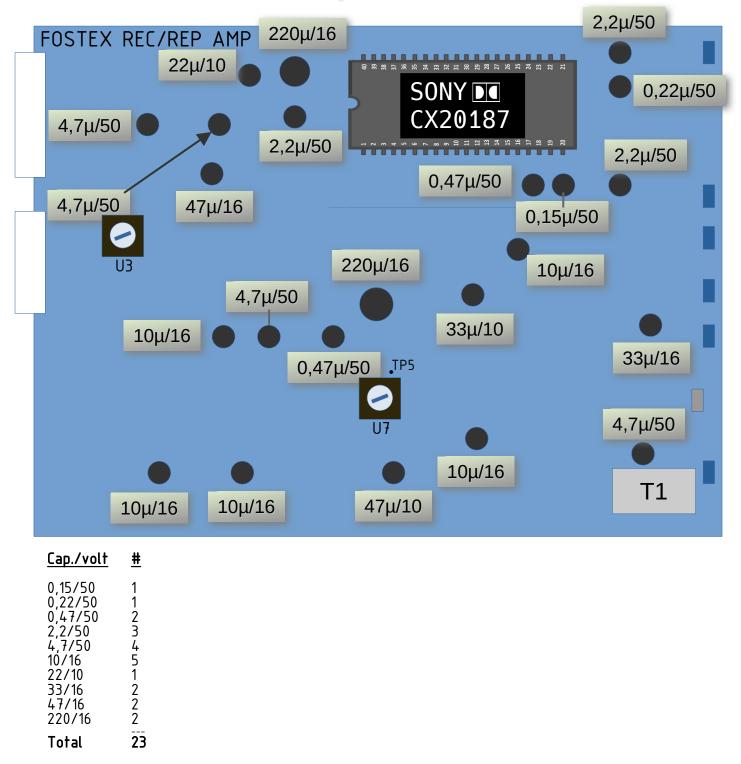
# Fostex R8 REC/REP AMP location of pots



Side view:



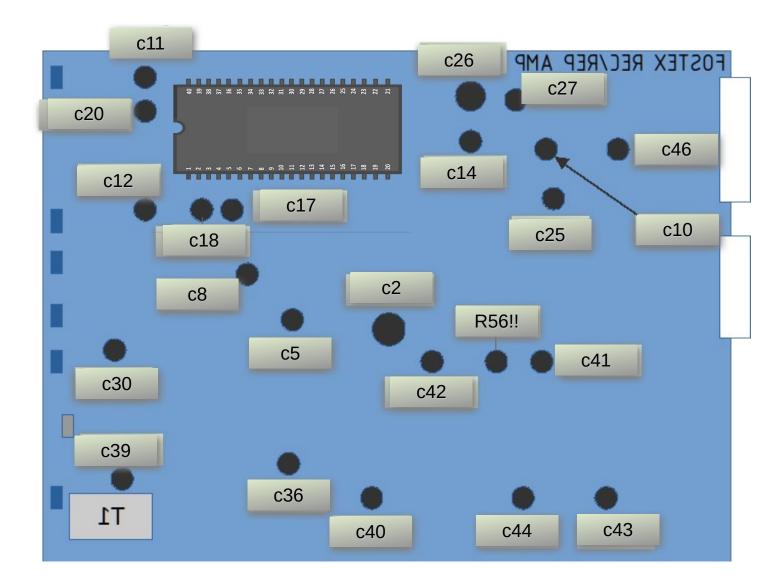
# Fostex R8 REC/REP AMP PCB location of electrolitic caps



Some voltages in this <u>list</u> are higher rated to reduce the number of capacitors needed. The above diagram shows original values rast found nt | Fostex R8 | Philip van der Matten ver 3.1 | 8 jul 2024 | page 3/6



## Fostex R8 REC/REP AMP location of electrolitic caps reverse side PCB





## Fostex R8 Calibration instructions

## Execute in given order!

# Input level and meter calibration: (4.3.2) Dolby off / Input Monitor on 1<sub>c</sub>kHz -10 dBV 316 mV on input

- I KHZ 10 dBV 316 mV on input
   adjust REC CAL so that TP4 = 245 mV (-12.2 dBV)
   check output is 316 mV (-10 dBV ±1 dB)
   set meter display to Fine
   adjust METER CAL on backplane for 0dB LED
   repeat for all tracks

- 2. Reproduce level calibration: (4.3.3)
  play calibration tape, reference level section
  adjust REP CAL so TP4 245 mV (-12,2 dBV)
  check output is 316 mV (-10 dBV ±1 dB)

- check meter reading 0 dB ±1 dB
- repeat for all tracks
- 3. Reproduce frequency response calibration: (4.3.4)
- playback frequency response part adjust **REP EQ for** frequency response **45-18 kHz** ±3 dB

- 4. Bias leakage check reproduce: (4.3.5)<sup>†</sup> connect scope to TP2
- put track 1 on <u>reproduce</u> and track 2 in <u>record</u> mode
   check bias leakage at TP2 < 280 mV p-p (-20 dBV)</li>
   if it is higher, then adjust U3\* for minimum value

- repeat for next track (track 2 repr & track 3 record)
   \* U3 is small coil located on REC/REP PCB closest to connectors see prev page

- 5. Bias leakage check record:<sup>†</sup> connect scope to TP5 (in the middle of the card) put track 1 in record mode
   check bias leakage at TP5 < 1.1 V p-p (-10 dBV)</li>
   if it is higher, then adjust U7\*\* for minimum value
   put cards in slot 8 for easy access
   \*\* U7 is small coil located on REC/REP PCB, see diagram on page 3

## Erase current adjustment: (4.3.6)

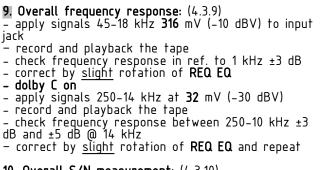
- put track in record mode, only the one track to test connect oscilloscope to **TP6**
- set core of T1 so that voltage at TP6 reaches peak level
- then adjust ERASE LEVEL so TP6=90 mV p-p (-30 dBV)
- 7. Bias current adjustment: (4.3.7)

- put all 8 tracks in record mode
   connect oscilloscope to TP1
   set BIAS LVL to ~300 mV p-p over the peak point

- 8. Record level calibration: (4.3.8) apply 1 kHz -10 dBV (316 mV) on input jack

- approvement of the approvement of the approvement of the approvement of the approximation of the appr
- after recording tone, rewind and check output level (input mon must be at INDIV)
- check output level is -10 dBV ±1 dB (316 mV)
   if not, adjust REC LVL
   repeat for all tracks

- <sup>†</sup>) difficult step



## 10. Overall S/N measurement: (4.3.10)

- dolby C **on**  apply 1 kHz 316 mV -10 dBV on input and record tape
- keep tape running, unplug input and record to tape
   playback no-signal section against the 1 kHz

GND TP1

TP4 TP3

TP2

TP6

reference level

jack

- calculate the difference and add 10 dB
   specification: 78 dB weighted, 60 dB unweighted

#### **11. THD measurement:** (4.3.11)

- dolby C on
- record 1 kHz 316 mV (-10 dBV) and playback tape
- measure output on distortion meter
   specification: THD <1%</li>
- if not, demagnetize head, check bias trap and
- record level
- if not correct still, redo procedure 4.3.7, 4.3.8 and 4.3.9

#### 12. Erasure measurement: (4.3.12)

- dolby C **off**  apply 1 kHz 0 dBV 1V and record large section on tape
- rewind and record over small section without signal applied
- apply 1 kHz bandpass filter to output and meter
- level ration between 1k Hz and no-signal section is the erase figure
- should be >70 dB
- if not, increase erase current by 10% (4.3.6)
   monitor on scope and do not let erase current
- waveform deteriorate!

- dolby C off apply 20-20 kHz 316 mV -10 dBV signal to input jack2
- press REC and PLAY and select track2 so that track2 records
- monitor output1
- should be  $\leftarrow 30$  dBV ( $\odot$  1 kHz and  $\leftarrow 10$  dBV at
- worst point
- if no't, adjust R51 CROSSTALK ADJ pot on connector PCB
- first adjust roughly for minimum @1 kHz then adjustwithin spec @ 20-20 kHz
- and so on: tr.3 to tr.2 is pot R52, tr.4 to tr.3 is pot R53, etc www.reeltoreel.nl | Fostex R8 | Philip van der Matten ver 3.1 | 8 jul 2024 | page 5/6

REP EQ

REC LVL REC EQ

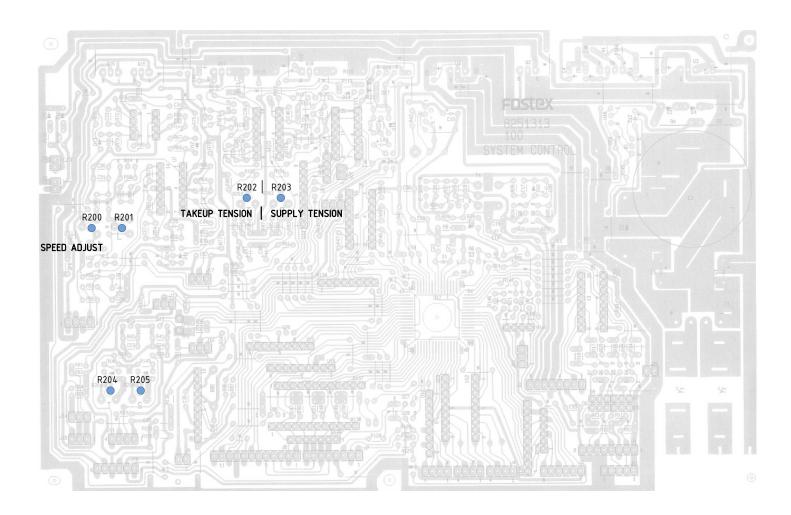
BIAS LVL

ERASE LVL ERASE

REC CAL

REP LVL/CAL

# System Control Board: location of adjustments (backside of deck)



## General Tips and Tricks and usage hacks:

- use keyboard: use current tape location:

- You can then set a loop between 2 memory points:
   enter 2 memory points with hyphen, like 1-5, and press STO
   press AUTO RTN and press AUTO PLAY (make sure both lights are on)
   press PLAY. The tape will loop between the 2 points
- Meter high senitivity setting: press button above keyboard connector [in=high sensitivity]
- Hold **REWIND** or **F FWD** button for slower winding
- To arm a track: .
- rotarin a frack:
   press SAFE/RDY. A 't' will display
   press channel number to arm, or press again to disarm
   or input '1-5' to arm tracks 1 through 5
   to reset all tracks press CLR