

# Premier®



## HTS 800 / 400

HIGH-TENSION SNARE DRUMS



OWNERS MANUAL

# HTS 800 / 400

## High-Tension Snare Drums

Thank you for choosing the Premier HTS 800 / 400.

The bloodlines of the HTS 800 and HTS 400 can be traced back across the decades with an impeccable championship winning pedigree and a spirit that harkens back hundreds of years. To create the latest incarnation of the HTS pipe band drum Premier has taken the proven DNA of its predecessors and engineered further improvement in operation, performance and design and once again achieved new standards in sound and build quality. No other pipe band drum delivers the dynamic clarity, precise articulation, clear projection and full tone of the HTS 800 and HTS 400 that in your hands are proud additions to the family and will carry the Premier name and the names of future champions to victory for years to come.

Please take time to read the enclosed guide; whilst the ultimate setting of this musical instrument will be up to the individual player there are universal principles that will ensure it will continue to perform for years to come.

### CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Like any precision engineered instrument the HTS 800 / 400 will perform at its best when looked after, kept clean and serviced regularly.

### LUBRICATION

Keeping certain parts of the drum lubricated will ensure smooth operation and long life; Lithium Grease or similar is recommended as it has increased resistance to changes in humidity and temperature, although there are many lubricants that will suit; simple motor oil will do the trick in an emergency.

Ensure *ALL* tension bolts are kept well lubricated, along with the snare height and tension adjustment bolts on the bottom mechanism and threaded parts of the top internal mechanism. It is not necessary to apply lubricant to the sliding blocks in the internal mechanism as these are self-lubricating.

### MOISTURE

The instrument is designed for outdoor use but it is important to keep dry where possible and always dry off after use and before storage. Stainless steel, chrome and polished aluminium may oxidize and tarnish if not properly cared for. Keep a small towel to hand and make sure you always put away dry. Excessive exposure to moisture can cause heads to de-laminate.

### CLEANING

The shell and metal work may be cleaned using commonly available household cleaning products such as furniture polish.



**DO NOT USE ABRASIVE CLEANERS, CUTTING COMPOUND OR BLEACH.**

If in doubt consult the cleaning product manufacturer and test a small inconspicuous area first. The hoops, rings and shell are lacquered therefore over use of cleaning products could gradually wear away this protective layer.

### CHANGING HEADS AND WIRES

Always use Premier sized heads (there are many heads available on the market; please consult your retailer for suitability of particular heads). Snare wires are available from your retailer and should be changed periodically, depending on personal preference and amount of use. Where possible change all heads and wires in the corps together as this will make it easier to set the drums to sound similar.

### STORAGE

Always store the instrument in a protective bag or case, taking care to store where temperature and humidity are fairly consistent. Heads are particularly sensitive to changes in temperature and may burst if tension is applied when the instrument is stored in a location of changeable temperature.

### REGULAR CHECKS

When you remove the instrument from storage always check the tension and height adjustments on both snare strainers and of all tension bolts. Sympathetic vibrations will sometimes work tension bolts and snare wires loose. The small rubber 'o' rings on the tension bolts are designed to hold the bolt in place even if it works loose, so take care not to lose these.

### TENSIONING AND SETTING

The instrument is designed to arrive requiring only minor adjustments to head tension and snare setting to be ready to play. The following points should be considered a guide; every drummer is different, and the HTS 800 / 400 is versatile in the way it sounds. Take time to understand the setting of the drum and it will provide years of playing pleasure.

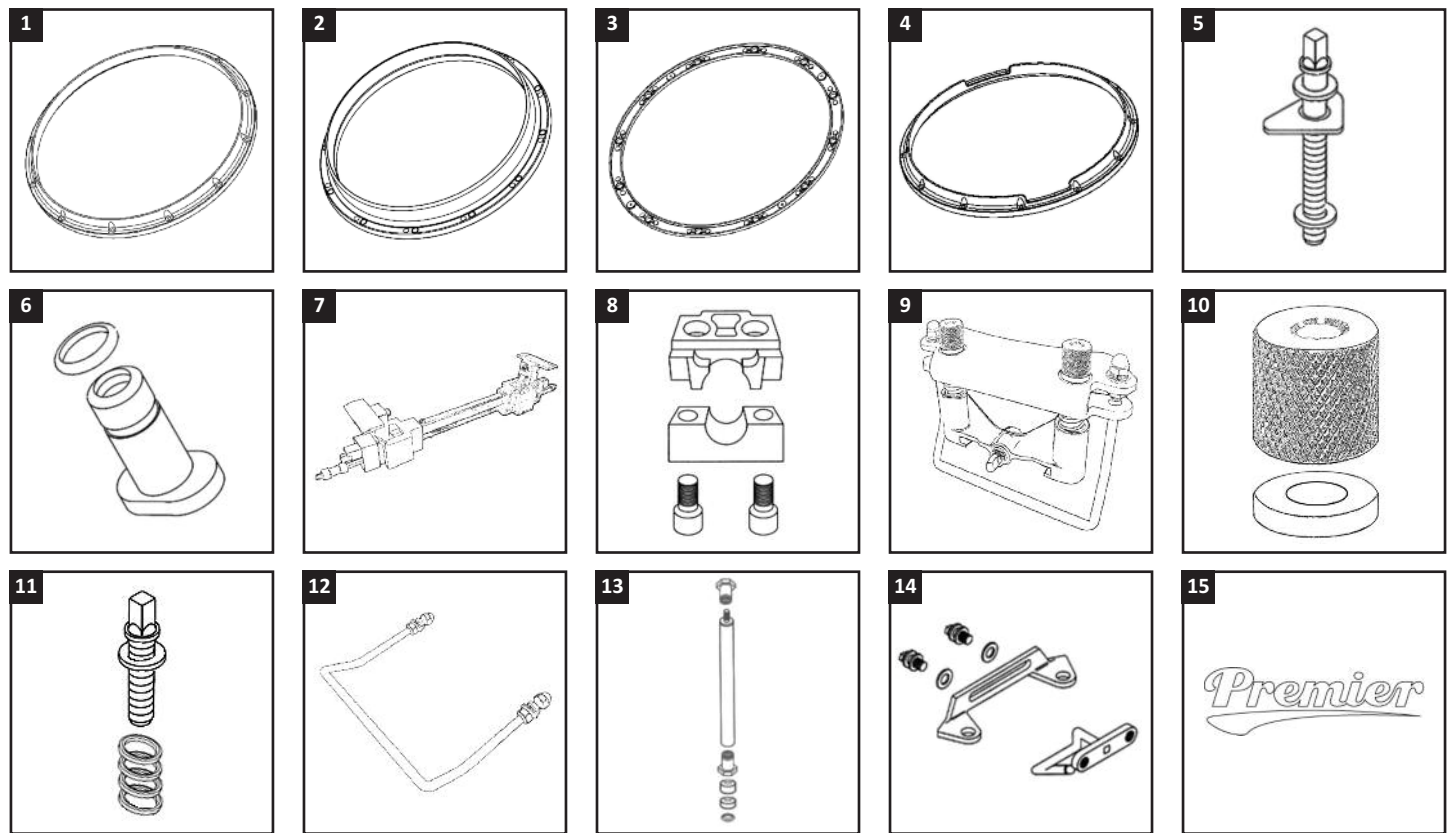
# SPARES & ACCESSORIES

Replacement spares and accessories are available from your local Premier dealer. This information serves as a guide for commonly requested parts owing to natural wear and tear.

Be sure that any replacement parts are official Premier products. The code for each of these can be found below. We do not recommend fitting third-party parts to this instrument.



Drumheads	Code	Snare Wires	Code
14" Premier Cybermax Head	<b>8337C</b>	HTS Top Snare Wire	<b>0677</b>
14" Ambassador Snare Head	<b>8E1214</b>	HTS Bottom Snare Wire	<b>0678</b>



Ref	Part No	Description	Quantity per Pack	Quantity per Drum	
				0800	0400
1	<b>800/10</b>	HTS Batter Hoop / Die-cast, Polished	1	1	1
2	<b>800/09</b>	HTS Suspension Ring / Die-cast, Polished	1	1	1
3	<b>800/18</b>	HTS Intermediate Ring / Die-cast, Polished	1	1	1
4	<b>800/11</b>	HTS Snare Hoop / Die-cast, Polished	1	1	1
5	<b>044190C</b>	HTS 50mm Tension Bolt	6	24	24
6	<b>700/21</b>	HTS Tension Bolt Insert	6	12	12
7	<b>800/02</b>	HTS Top Snare Strainer	1	1	1
8	<b>800/50</b>	HTS Top Snare Retaining Block	2	2	2
9	<b>800/04</b>	HTS Bottom Snare Strainer	2	2	2
10	<b>800/66</b>	HTS Bottom Snare Adjuster Nut	4	4	4
11	<b>800/68</b>	HTS Bottom Snare Tension Bolt	4	2	2
12	<b>800/67</b>	HTS Snare Guard	2	2	2
13	<b>700/13SBA</b>	HTS 12" Down Tube	2	12	-
	<b>350/13SBA</b>	HTS 7" Down Tube	2	-	12
14	<b>700/08</b>	HTS Carry Hook	1	1	1
15	<b>700/68</b>	Premier Logo 180mm Decal / Metallic Silver	2	1	-
	<b>350/68</b>	Premier Logo 115mm Decal / Metallic Silver	2	-	1

# REPLACING DRUMHEADS

When replacing your drumheads, always take care and attention to ensure it is fitted correctly.

## ALWAYS:

- SEAT THE DRUMHEAD AND BATTER/SNARE HOOP CORRECTLY FOR OPTIMUM PERFORMANCE.
- KEEP THE TENSION BOLTS LUBRICATED.
- APPLY CAREFUL AND EVEN TENSION TO ALL TENSION BOLTS. UNEVEN TENSION MAY CAUSE BREAKAGE.

THE TENSIONING OF DRUMHEADS MAY TAKE A FEW DAYS TO REACH MAXIMUM PERFORMANCE; DO NOT RUSH THE PROCESS OF FITTING AND APPLYING TENSION TO HEADS.

## CHANGING A DRUMHEAD

- 1 Wipe the bearing edge with a clean dry cloth.
- 2 Replace the head and *BATTER/SNARE HOOP* and apply gentle, even tension using the opposites method (**illustration 1.1**).
- 3 Tap the head lightly, approximately 1" (25mm) from each tension bolt to ensure a similar pitch at each point and make sure wrinkles gradually disappear. The head should resonate and 'speak' clearly.
- 4 Place the palm of your hand in the middle of the head and place your other hand on top (**illustration 1.2**) and press down gently with the weight of your body. You may here a 'crack' or 'pop'. This helps to seat the head within the hoop and on the bearing edge.

## BOTTOM HEAD

- 5 Apply further even tension until the bottom head sounds 'right'. You will achieve the best snare response with a relatively tight head; some experience and trial and error will help you determine what works for you.

## TOP HEAD

- 6 Slowly take the drumhead upto the required pitch by turning the tenion bolts a maximum of 1/8 of a turn as the tension increases. This will take time but produces more effective results.

- 7 To check that tension is being applied evenly, we recommend to use a tuning block, or by using the butt end of a drumstick, to gauge the gap between the *BATTER HOOP* and *SUSPENSION RING* (**illustration 1.3**). You may also look at the *SUSPENSION RING* inserts to gauge how far through the tension bolt are traveling; this will help you understand how much tension is being applied at each point. The use of a torque device is not recommended.

- 8 It will take a few days to apply the desired tension to the top head and it is crucial to not rush this process.



1.1 The opposites method for even tuning of the drumhead



1.2 Applying pressure to the middle of the drumhead



1.3 Checking even tension with the butt end of a drumstick

# SETTING THE SNARES

Setting the snare wires is as important to the overall sound as the tensioning of the heads.

## BOTTOM SNARE WIRES

- 1 Locate the bottom snare wire correctly on its retaining pins (**illustration 1.4**) and adjust the tension on both sides until you have taken up the slack. Ensure the snare wire is located centrally; this will give the most flexibility in adjustment.
- 2 For the perfect response, the bottom snare wire must achieve maximum contact with the head. Turn the *BOTTOM SNARE ADJUSTER NUTS* (**illustration 1.5**) in pairs to adjust the height of the snare wire.
- 3 Gauge the amount of contact visually and then tap the wires gently as you adjust them to make sure of full contact across the head.
- 4 Finally adjust the tension to achieve the desired sound. Too much tension on the bottom snare wire will choke the sound; too little will cause excessive buzz and rattle and may allow the wires to disengage totally.

## TOP SNARE WIRES

The *TOP SNARE STRAINER* features two external tension bolt adjustments; for height and tension. These are indicated by the stickers on the shell of the drum.

- 1 Check that the top snare is located correctly on the *TOP SNARE STRAINER* (**illustration 1.6**). Set the snare wire into a neutral position by dropping the height of the snare until it sits free. Also loosen the tension (**illustration 1.7**).
- 2 Start with the tension of the snares. Apply gentle tension until you can feel light resistance. Holding the drum key loosely will allow you to feel the wires take up tension.



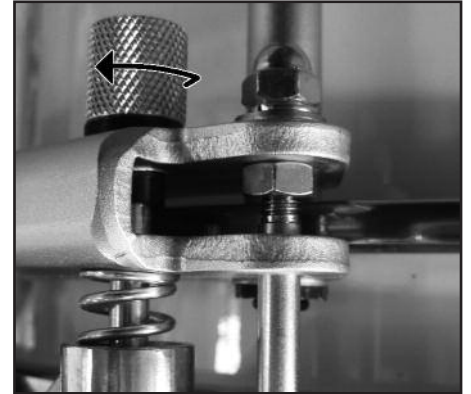
### TAKE CARE NOT TO OVER-TIGHTEN THE SNARE WIRES

- 3 Adjust the height of the snare wire until it makes good contact against the batter head. An even contact is required, too much or too little contact will affect the response.

**THE ABOVE IS A GUIDE TO THE BASIC SETTING OF THE SNARES. FURTHER FINE ADJUSTMENT MAY BE REQUIRED; TAP THE DRUMHEAD WITH THE STICK HELD LOOSELY AND ADJUST ACCORDINGLY TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED SOUND.**



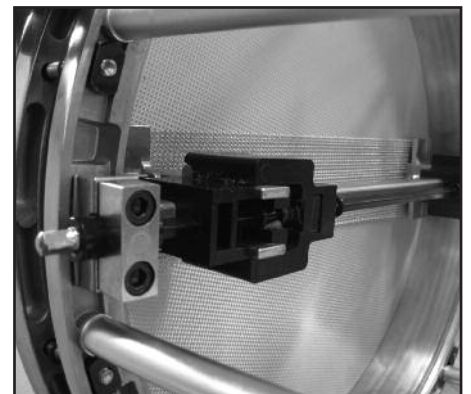
**1.4** Locate the bottom snare wire correctly on its retaining pins



**1.5** Turn the *BOTTOM SNARE ADJUSTER NUTS* to alter the height



**1.6** Locating the top snare on the *TOP SNARE STRAINER*



**1.7** *TOP SNARE STRAINER* height adjustment (shown with shell removed)



## Models covered by this manual:

HTS 800 (0800)

HTS 400 (0400)



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Premier is dedicated to creating percussion instruments of only the highest possible quality. Because we are constantly improving, updating and introducing new products, and because we also may be subject to material changes outside of our control, we reserve the right to change product specifications as necessary without prior notification.