MIDI Switcher allows you to control electrical devices such as solenoids, motors, relays, LEDs and filament light bulbs using MIDI messages. While it is ideal for creating electromechanical musical instruments, it has numerous potential uses. However, there are a couple of important limitations

* The switching is “low side” power switching. This means that each of the output connects can connect a load to a common ground and complete a circuit. This means that won’t be suitable for directly switching loads that cannot be directly connected to ground (for example a channel select footswitch output on some guitar amplifiers)
* Only DC currents can be switched, not AC power or signals such as audio. **You should NEVER connect mains electricity to the switcher**

The above limitations can be worked around using an external relay, such that the MIDI switcher turns the relay on and the relay makes the actual connection to the signal or current being switched. This will be explained later.

The MIDI Switcher has eight switching outputs using switching transistors (MJD-122) that are each rated for up to 8A or 100V (Power rating 24W). When switching large currents or voltages there are some special precautions to observe which will be explained later.