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Subject: Lead III cutting off

Posted by [veldarc](#) on Tue, 09 May 2017 03:13:13 GMT

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My lead III will run for about 3 minutes then turn off. I'm not sure what's wrong, but wanted to try to repair it myself. Does anyone have any suggestions or a schematic.

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Subject: Re: Lead III cutting off

Posted by [stevem](#) on Tue, 09 May 2017 10:00:45 GMT

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These amps like many other model Kustoms are built with thermal circuit breakers that on the schematics are called thermostats.

These are designed to open up the AC wall voltage going to your amp if the running temperature of the output stage exceeds 182 degrees F.

This is the likely cause of your amp shutting down after only 3 minutes of being played, or even just being on in some cases.

Can you read a schematic, post back a reply and I will explain to you how to proceed.

This is a easy fix, so don't sweat it!

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Subject: Re: Lead III cutting off

Posted by [veldarc](#) on Wed, 10 May 2017 02:12:18 GMT

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Yes I can follow a schematic, but it's been a while since I did. Let's give it a try. Thank you for your help. John

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Subject: Re: Lead III cutting off

Posted by [stevem](#) on Wed, 10 May 2017 10:00:52 GMT

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The thermal breaker is a bolted down black button with two white with a black stripe wires on it. It's mount in the middle of the heat sink that the output Transistors are on.

If you turn the amp on and blow on it with a hair dryer I bet the amp will shut right down!

If that's the case you can just jump it out for now and use the amp , just first check that the amp is indeed not running hot which would indicate a bias problem.

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Subject: Re: Lead III cutting off

Posted by [veldarc](#) on Thu, 11 May 2017 01:28:48 GMT

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didn't have a hair dryer so just bypassed it and amp ran fine, when i went to turn it off it was too

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hot to touch though. Scared it might be a bias problem. Dang that seemed to work.

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Subject: Re: Lead III cutting off  
Posted by [pleat](#) on Thu, 11 May 2017 01:51:30 GMT  
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I had a K150-7 combo amp and it did the same thing, run for a few minutes and shut down. Turned out in my amp the diode had slipped out of the clip on the heat sink. Snapped it back in place and never had any problems after that.  
pleat

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Subject: Re: Lead III cutting off  
Posted by [steven](#) on Thu, 11 May 2017 12:14:06 GMT  
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Good point Pleat!

Yes, if that two lead diode in that clip next to the thermal breaker in out of its clip , or not held tight in its clip then the amp can run hot and shut down.

Be careful when moving that diode, as it's leads are fragile, and also make sure that it's leads are not touching the clip.

If your thermal breaker is ok and the bias diode is held in the clip well then the amp should be able to sit on and just idle for hours with the rear of the chassis only feeling warm to the touch, not hot!

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Subject: Re: Lead III cutting off  
Posted by [steven](#) on Fri, 12 May 2017 12:19:53 GMT  
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A replacement T stat can be had from Comstat, model TK-24A-85 for 17 bucks. This one has solder terminals, no slip on as on the original.

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Subject: Re: Lead III cutting off  
Posted by [veldarc](#) on Fri, 12 May 2017 19:38:32 GMT  
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I adjusted the diode and the amp is running cool. Thank you all for your help. This is the first forum I have ever joined and needed help. It was more than I could have hoped for. A working amp with just 20 minutes of my time. Wow! Thank you again, John

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Subject: Re: Lead III cutting off

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Posted by [steven](#) on Sun, 14 May 2017 09:50:20 GMT

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Your welcome, enjoy the amp!

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