

# Quick Start Guide

## Formatting a Tape

Formatting is a required process which prepares a tape for recording digital audio and for synchronization functions. Formatting erases audio on all eight tracks. So, always be sure to check that the tape is blank or contains unwanted material before formatting. We recommend that you format your tapes completely from beginning to end. If you are planning to synchronize the RD-8, we recommend striping the tape with timecode while you are formatting to save time.

**1 Insert the tape you wish to format.**

*Be sure the tape is completely rewound. If this is an unformatted tape, the [FORMAT] LED will flash and the LED display will read  $\square\square F\square$ .*

**2 Select the sample rate you will be using when recording on this tape (see next section).**

**3 If desired, enable timecode recording on the TC track (see below).**

**4 If desired, place any tracks you wish to record on while formatting into record-ready by pressing their [TRACK ENABLE] button(s).**

**5 Press the [FORMAT] button.**

*The [FORMAT] LED will stop flashing and remain lit.*

**6 Hold [RECORD] and press [PLAY].**

## Selecting the Sample Rate

**1 Simultaneously press [HOME] and [NEXT].**

**2 Press [F1].**

**3 Press either [F1] to select 44.1 kHz or [F3] to select 48 kHz.**

## Striping Timecode onto Tape

**1 If the [CHASE] LED is turned on, turn it off by pressing the [CHASE] button.**

**2 Press [DATA EDIT], followed by [GEN SETUP].**

**3 Press [HOME] to select the first page of the Generator.**

**4a Press [F1] to select "Internal" if you are striping fresh code from within the RD-8.**

**4b Press [F3] if you plan to stripe timecode coming from an "External" source.**

*Be sure to connect the external timecode source to the RD-8's [TIMECODE IN] connector.*

- Continue following these remaining steps if you selected "Internal" in step 4.
- Jump to step 13 if you selected "External" in step 4.

**5 Press [NEXT] to advance to the next page.**

**6 Press [F3] to set the Generator Mode to "Rec-run"**

*This means timecode will only be generated once the RD-8 goes into record.*

**7 Press [NEXT] to advance to the next page.**

- 8a Press [F2] to set the Address to “ABS” to stripe timecode that is synchronous to the tape’s Absolute Time.**  
*This references the timecode to the ABS timecode that was (or will be) written onto the tape when formatted.*
- 8b Press [F3] to set the Address to “New” to stripe fresh timecode.**  
*This timecode will not be linked to ABS time.*
- 9 Press [NEXT] to advance to the next page.**
- 10a If “ABS” was selected in step 8, set the Offset of the timecode to be striped by pressing [F1] to advance the cursor through each pair of digits and using the [▲] and [▼] buttons to adjust them.**  
*Example: If you want timecode to be offset by 1 hour, set the offset to 01:00:00:00.*
- 10b If “NEW” was selected in step 8, set the Address Start of the timecode to be striped by pressing [F1] to advance the cursor through each pair of digits and using the [▲] and [▼] buttons to adjust them.**
- 11 Press [NEXT] to advance to the next page.**
- 12 Use the [▲] and [▼] buttons to select the desired frame rate.**
- 13 Press [DATA EDIT] to exit Edit Mode.**
- 14 Press [GEN SETUP] to place the TC track into record-ready**
- 15 Rewind or fast forward the tape to the desired position.**
- 16 Hold [RECORD] and press [PLAY].**



