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Press Contact:

Global AME Relations Dept.

Roland Corporation

Press-JP@roland.com

<https://www.roland.com/>

BOSS Commences 50th Anniversary Celebration

“BOSS at 50” Microsite Thanks Artists and Fans for Supporting BOSS Gear Since 1973 and Celebrates the Company’s Ongoing Dedication to Musical Innovation and Creativity



Hamamatsu, Japan, November 16, 2023 — BOSS, the world’s most iconic guitar and bass effects brand, celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2023. First established in 1973 as MEG Electronics—an R&D division within its parent company Roland—the company was introduced to the public with the now-famous BOSS name and logo the following year. The special “BOSS at 50” microsite spotlights five decades of innovation with an interactive timeline of milestone products that have established industry trends and opened new creative possibilities for musicians everywhere. The microsite also showcases significant moments in music history and honors the artists who have used BOSS products to shape the sound of music over the last 50 years.

In addition, BOSS is pleased to introduce special 50th anniversary versions of the DS-1 Distortion (DS-1-B50A), SD-1 Super Overdrive (SD-1-B50A), and BD-2 Blues Driver (BD-2-B50A), three of the most popular and influential models from the legendary BOSS compact pedal lineup. These collectible versions have been produced in strictly limited numbers, with only 7,000 units available worldwide.



BOSS 50th Anniversary Pedals
DS-1-B50A , SD-1-B50A and BD-2-B50A (left to right)

Each limited-edition pedal features a bold metallic finish, a silver battery-compartment thumb screw, gold-capped knobs, and a commemorative 50th anniversary emblem. Presented in exclusive packaging and marked with unique four-digit serial numbers, these pedals deliver the same sound and circuitry that have made the standard versions so beloved by generations of players in every musical genre.

DS-1 Distortion

After the BOSS compact pedal series debuted with its first three models in 1977, the DS-1 Distortion was introduced the following year to wide acclaim. Prized for its edgy attack and smooth sustain, this multi-million seller has remained in the lineup ever since and can be heard on countless hit records.

SD-1 Super Overdrive

BOSS released the SD-1 Super Overdrive in 1981, improving on the groundbreaking OD-1 model by introducing a tone control and other subtle circuit enhancements. This workhorse gain machine has stood the test of time and continues to grace the pedalboards of beginners and pros alike.

BD-2 Blues Driver

For guitarists seeking delicate, nuanced gain tones that allow their feel and technique to shine through, it's hard to beat the BD-2 Blues Driver. Introduced in 1995, this acclaimed drive pedal is revered for its broad sound palette, touch sensitivity, and articulate tube-like response.

For more information, visit www.boss.info.

About BOSS

BOSS, a division of Roland Corporation, has achieved legendary status among guitarists, bassists, and vocalists with a diverse, world-leading product lineup of creative tools with exceptional sound, intuitive control, and rugged durability. Since 1977, BOSS's famous compact pedals have been used daily by everyone from beginners to touring professionals, with over 125 unique models introduced and over 17 million units sold to date. BOSS also leads the way with innovative gear in numerous other categories, from amplifiers, multi-effects processors, and loopers to wireless systems, vocal effects, tuners, metronomes, rhythm machines, recorders, and more. For more information, visit Boss.info.

About Roland Corporation

For more than 50 years, Roland's innovative electronic musical instruments and multimedia products have fueled inspiration in artists and creators around the world. Embraced by hobbyists and professionals alike, the company's trendsetting gear spans multiple categories, from pianos, synthesizers, guitar products, and electronic percussion to DJ controllers, audio/video solutions, livestreaming products, and more. As technology evolves, Roland continues to lead the way for gigging musicians, producers, and beatmakers, providing modern software-based solutions and seamless creative workflows between hardware products, computers, and mobile devices. For more information, visit Roland.com.

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