



# STAGECLIX JACK £434

Rechargeable and easy to use. Is this the wireless we've been waiting for?

**T**G can remember the precise moment we were put off wireless systems. It happened while watching the scene in *This Is Spinal Tap* in which, mid-gig and at the end of a disastrous tour, Nigel Tufnell's receiver picks up a military base's radio signals – and transmits them through his wall of Marshall amps.

Technical issues aside, for most guitar players there's something incontrovertibly wanky about strapping on and rocking out. Unless you're Slash – a big star with even bigger stages to romp around – wireless systems should be considered with extreme caution. Then forgotten about completely.

Or so we thought. StageClix Jack might be about to change all that. This Dutch-designed wireless seems to have addressed all our technical concerns with such systems. For a start, it transmits your guitar signal to its receiver on a frequency that's not currently used by similar radio equipment, so the chances of a Tap-style gaffe are highly unlikely. Because

it's digital, it also eliminates the sound quality issues that old, analogue units suffered from. It does so by operating without a component known as a compander, which basically squashed the signal before transmitting it through the air to the receiver. The result, according to StageClix, is CD-quality audio and we'd be hard-pressed to disagree with them.

We played several gigs with the Jack, one of which was in a large theatre. During soundcheck at this particular gig we tested the StageClix's range by walking all the way to the back of the venue while playing through our amp. Not a single note was lost. Determined to confirm our prejudices about wireless, we stormed off-stage mid set and up a spiral staircase to the balcony overlooking the hall. Even then there was no drop-out.

It's also an absolute dawdle to use. Plug the receiver into the mains and connect it via a quarter-inch jack cable to your amp's input. The tiny transmitter plugs into the front of the receiver to charge then

you plug it into your guitar's jack socket, press the on button and it connects automatically to the receiver. And you're ready to go!

**Conclusion:** OK, it is expensive and unless you play mid to large-sized venues on a regular basis, it's hardly going to top your shopping list. However, the Jack is so well designed, so well executed and delivers with such quality and reliability that we believe it justifies its price tag. An essential buy? Hardly. A good one? Undoubtedly.

Stephen Lawson

## SUMMARY

**For:** Simple to use, rechargeable, range

**Against:** It's an expensive luxury

★★★★★

**TG says...** Pricey but still good value for money

## At a glance

### StageClix Jack

**TYPE:** Wireless system  
**RANGE:** 60m  
**FREQUENCY RESPONSE:** 20Hz-20kHz ±1dB  
**CHANNELS:** 12  
**CONTROLS:** On/Off  
**SOCKETS:** Input (charge), line out  
**CONTACT:** MTR Ltd  
 01923 234050  
**WEB:** www.mtraudio.com

**"THIS DUTCH-DESIGNED SYSTEM SEEMS TO HAVE ADDRESSED ALL OUR TECHNICAL CONCERNS WITH WIRELESS DEVICES"**



The Jack's reliability and ease of use come at a price