

How to replace AIRLAB VU Meter lamps by LEDs

Inside the Vu meters of the earlier Airlabs there are 24 volt bulbs that unfortunately do not light forever. It is a better and more permanent solution to replace them by LEDs

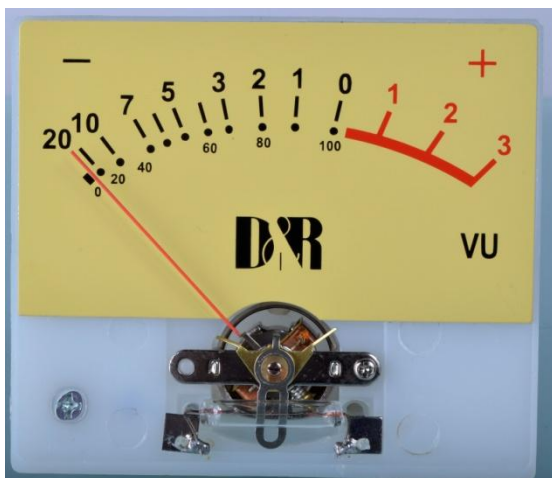
All 4 VU meter lamps are wired in series and connected to + and – 18 volts, so the internal bulbs will only get 9 volt instead of 24 volts to extend their lives.

You have to remove the VU meter from the AIRLAB meter bridge and remove the transparent caps of the meter itself. Now you can see the light bulb sitting in the lower part of the VU meter. Desolder the bulb and replace it by 2x 5mm White diffused led with high intensity Left and right from the centre section of the VU meter connections shining up to the yellow scale of the meter.

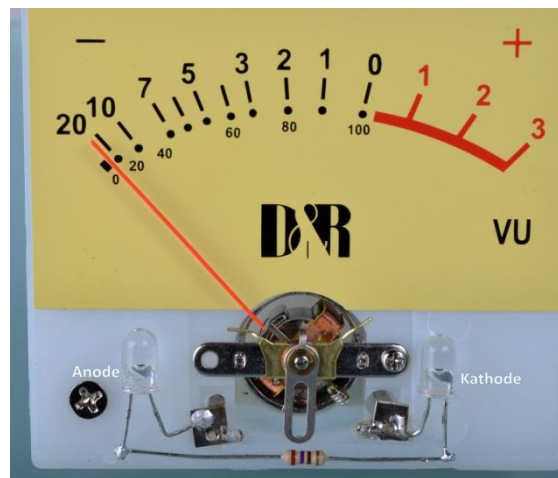
Note that the Anode of the right LED should be soldered to the most right solder tag and the Kathode of the Left LED needs to be soldered to the most left solder tag of the VU meters light powering pins.

The remaining two wires of both leds need to be soldered in series with a 270 Ohm resistor, My suggestion is to put 2 diffuse White leds in series in the VU meter together with a 270 Ohm resistor, let the leds shine upwards to the VU meter panel as indicated in the right hand picture.

See pictures below



Original VU meter with 24 volt bulb



Modified VU meter with 2x White diffuse LED's for the two Left meters.
The two Right meter should be mounted in reverse. (Anode right side and Kathode left side, so mirrored as in the above picture)

Good luck

D&R Service team