

Digital Audio Switcher *MCX3*

Description

The MCX3 high density audio switcher is a 1U rackmount, 32x16 AES/EBU digital audio router with a simple user interface. A cost effective solution for the control of multiple digital audio feeds in applications such as source selection, transmission and monitoring systems, it can be extensively customised and offers a wide range of remote and PC control options, including TCP/IP.

Features:

Inputs & Outputs - As standard, the MCX3 has 32 inputs and 16 outputs, all transformer isolated via rear panel D-type connectors. However, a wide range of other matrix sizes can also be specified. All inputs are sample rate converted to allow silent channel switching. Either an external reference or an internal clock may be used as a synchronising signal.

Front panel controls - A rotary encoder is used to choose an output from the list shown on the "destination" display and, as each one is selected, the "source" display shows the name of the input currently assigned to that output. To assign a new input, simply select an input name from the "preselect" display and press the "take" button.

Remote control modules - Each output of the MCX3 can be assigned a separate rotary encoder controller module (similar to the preselect encoder and display in the front panel control system) which is then used to select from the switcher inputs. These modules can be integrated into existing equipment, connecting to the MCX3's RS485 port and working in parallel with the existing control system.

TCP/IP Control - A rear panel RJ45 connector provides LAN/WAN and Internet access. TCP/IP option provides an embedded server that can be accessed from any standard web browser. The server enables the remote user to control and configure the MCX3

RS232 PC control - The MCX3 can be controlled from a PC via the RS232 link. Dedicated control software is available, as is the protocol for writing custom control software. The MCX3 can also be factory programmed to recognise the control protocol of third party software. If required, the MCX3 can be supplied with a blank front panel for remote control operation.

Reprogramming - The source and destination names shown on the MCX3's displays can be reprogrammed at any time by connecting a PC to the unit's RS232 port, using dedicated control software available from Audionics. Reprogramming is also possible using the front panel controls and via a standard web browser if the TCP/IP embedded server is fitted.

Applications

The flexibility of the MCX3 makes it ideal for a vast range of digital audio switching applications. Examples include managing a radio station's outside sources or transmission switching and increasing the power of a digital mixing console by adding assignability to several of its channels. The factory customisation options add many more possible applications, such as the simultaneous control of outside sources and associated reverse cue lines. The TCP/IP control allows very easy integration of this powerful unit into any digital audio system.

Key Features

Compact 1U design

32 x 16 to 16x32

Front panel control with alphanumeric displays

Remote control modules available

PC Control Software

TCP/IP control



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Customisation Options

Matrix sizes - The MCX3's 48 digital audio connections can be factory configured as either inputs or outputs by installing the appropriate number of four way input and output cards. This gives the wide range of possible matrix sizes shown in the tables below.

		Inputs							
		4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32
Outputs	4	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
	8	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
	12	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
	16	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
	20	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	
	24	~	~	~	~	~	~		
	28	~	~	~	~	~			
	32	~	~	~	~				

Custom Control Systems: In addition to the MCX3's front panel control system and the optional additional rotary encoder control modules, Audionics can supply a full range of custom designed and built control systems to cater for your exact needs. Call with your requirements for more details.

Multiple Matrices: The MCX3 can be factory configured to operate as more than one matrix in the same case. Using this feature, the MCX3 can be used to manage outside sources and to switch the associated reverse cue feeds. In this configuration the system can be controlled either from a PC by using a browser, or by using a purpose-designed Audionics control system.

Reverse Cue Control: Control modules can be installed at any desired number of switcher output destinations, for example in blanks in studio desks. These modules feature a rotary encoder, alphanumeric display and "take" button. When an outside source is selected, the take button can be used to send the associated reverse cue. The source name display then doubles as a status display, confirming the selection or warning if no reverse line is available. If the line is already in use by another studio, this studio is identified and the user has the option of overriding the existing selection by holding the "take" button for a further three seconds.

Technical Specifications	MCX3
Input Impedance	110 Ω transformer isolated
Input sample rate	28-56kHz
Input connectors	37D
Output Impedance	110 Ω transformer isolated
Output sample rate	48kHz or External Reference
Output connectors	37D
Output word length	24 bits
Dimensions	1U(44mm) high, 245mm deep.
Power	230V 20W
Weight	5kg