DR SERIES WHAT IS IT?



The iDR is a 16 x 16 matrix mixer with an extensive array of audio management tools designed to reduce the need for additional devices to be specified for an installation, or carried in the hire inventory. Pedigree ALLEN&HEATH preamps, 24bit converters and fixed DSP architecture ensure that concert-quality low-latency sound is delivered efficiently to where it is needed.

Anyone with a basic knowledge of traditional console and outboard equipment will be able to design a distributed audio system on their PC using the 'mixer' based **iDR** System Manager software - download it free from www.idrseries.com.

iDR comes loaded with flexible DSP tools, essential in sound system configuration and installation. Input & output delays, 4- and 8-band parametric EQ, automatic microphone mixing, frequency conscious dynamics, look-ahead limiter, ambient noise compensator, crossfader and much more are available at your fingertips without having to worry about running out of DSP. Its system of presets allow for full recall of the whole system or individual parameters at the touch of a button.

After programming, the **iDR** unit operates as a stand-alone system controller, with a host of remote control devices available for day-to-day operation. The **PL** Series complements the powerful features of **iDR** and comprises wall plates, infra-red hand-held or desk mount controllers connecting to the main unit using CAT5 cable over the RS485-based proprietary **PL-Anet** bus, while all the major third party devices may also be used to control **iDR**.

For complex systems, the **iDR** system can be driven in real time by a PC via an Ethernet port, allowing the **iDR** to be used in hire/live audio situations such as matrix distribution in theatres, or clean feed system for an outside broadcast. Why not connect a WiFi card to your laptop, connect to the internet, set up your system and save your settings on the move? Stay in control from anywhere in the world!

IDR SERIES WHY IS IT SO USEFUL?

Network control



The main **iDR** units can be easily controlled and programmed with an Ethernet connection to a PC [or MAC running OSX & PC

simulator]. All **iDR** units on a network can be 'seen', by more than one computer, with optional password protection so that operators can be observed by a technician running **iDR** System Manager software - or PL Client software - anywhere on the network or World Wide Web. **iDR** can even output a log of its activities to an email address!

Proprietary TCP/IP devices such as 'WiFi', can be used for cost effective and practical uses; for example, a 'wireless laptop', can be used to commission or update the sound system from exactly where the technician needs to monitor it.

Preset System



iDR provides a system of up to 250 presets for total recall of system settings. A preset can contain the settings for all system

devices, e.g. a default preset to set the entire system on power-up, or individual devices can be selected for exclusive change in a preset, e.g. a single EQ or fader gain level. A recall crossfader is provided to fade between different preset levels. Sheduled preset recalls are available, timed from the iDR internal clock. Preset recalls can be triggered from ALLEN&HEATH equipment (PL controllers other iDR's or iDR-Switch) or via the serial, MIDI and Telnet ports using third party equipment.

PL-Anet



The **PL** Series is the perfect interface

iDR and the operators on site, providing simple, non-technical switch, indicator display, fader, IR and encoder control options. Furthermore, as the requirements grow at an installation, the control system can too

PL remotes can simply daisy chain or use the 'PL-Anet' hub for star wiring applications, and all cabling is CAT5. You as the designer can customize these 'plug-n-play' remotes to do exactly what the customer needs. Each PL has its own simulator in iDR System Manager software, so you can design and demo the system offline as it will appear when the hardware is in place.

Automatic Level Management



iDR is equipped with several powerful modules to manage a distributed sound system, so an operator or technician doesn't always

need to be present. For instance:

- Microphones in a conference situation can be controlled by any one of the four on-board AMM's, so that as more open microphones join in, the gain of the sum is reduced to prevent feedback occurring.
- ★ A comprehensive **Ducking** system is provided with adjustable priorities.
- Ambient Noise Compensator (ANC) enables the output level in a zone to be automatically managed in relation to the signal level of the changing background noise level
- Level Sensing provides a logic or soft LED output when a pre-set signal threshold is reached, which triggers indicators and other hardware to respond; this allows operations such as camera following.
- 2 independent paging systems are provided, with paging to selectable outputs. Paging switches and indicators can be triggered via A&H controllers; alternatively, custom paging panels can be created and interfaced with the system.

Expandability



As the system requirements grow, additional **iDR** units or expanders can be added to suit the budget and application. **iDR-8** and **iDR-8**

4 have 8-buss digital expansion ports (RJ45) to allow units to be daisy-chained together, or to add an iDR-In or iDR-Out 8-channel expander.

The CAT5 cables allow the units to be placed at distances up to 250m apart, allowing, for example, the iDR-In to provide 8 XLR mic/line inputs in a function room on a different floor to the control room containing the main iDR unit, or, similarly, the iDR-Out could be configured as a four-way-stereo XLR output to an amp rack located at the side of a theatre stage.

Furthermore, the 8-buss link can be used to distribute signals around a complex network where iDR units communicate via TCP/IP - here, interbox paging and routing is possible.

Audio Quality



Low latency [2.23ms from input to output] and a fixed DSP architecture ensures that the **iDR** system will distribute coherent audio

no matter how many modules of DSP are used in the system.

Mic preamp gain is controlled in analogue under software control so levels can be optimised in real time if needed. **iDR-8** has a hardware limiter before the A-D converter so that the contractor can have confidence in the signal integrity, even if input levels exceed what was expected.

Signal Processing



The iDR-4 & iDR-8 signal processing architectures provide 16 channels of input processing and 16 channels of output

processing, centred around the 16x16 mix matrix. Using the DSP patchbays, the user can configure these channels to either analogue inputs/outputs or to channels on the digital audio expansion port.

Because of the fixed architecture, you do not need to assign DSP into the signal path, or worry about having enough DSP available to do the job. In iDR, we have given you the tools you need such as noise gates, compressors, delays, parametric EQ and look-ahead limiters, to start working with live audio straight away.

Adjustments are made in real time as there is no compiling to do, and our unique monitor buss allows you to listen to any point in the signal path. Copy and paste any DSP settings to quickly build up a design, save it as a configuration file, and use it as a template for other systems.

MIDI



iDR-8 is equipped with MIDI in/out/thru and custom MIDI commands can be output as presets and recalled on the iDR. This allows other

audio devices such as samplers and processors to be controlled from the main unit.

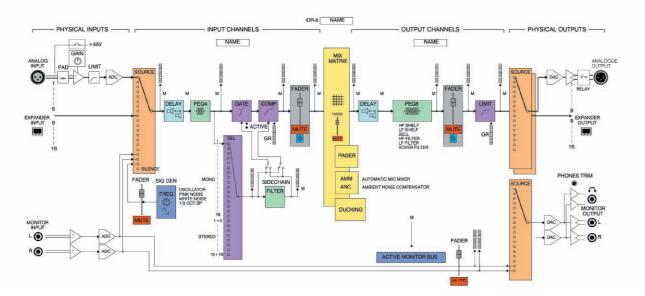
For example, dynamic MIDI control from faders, rotary controls and keys in the **iDR** system could interface with a DMX controller, so that basic lighting control can be programmed into **iDR** and run from the **PL** series remote controllers.



IDR -4





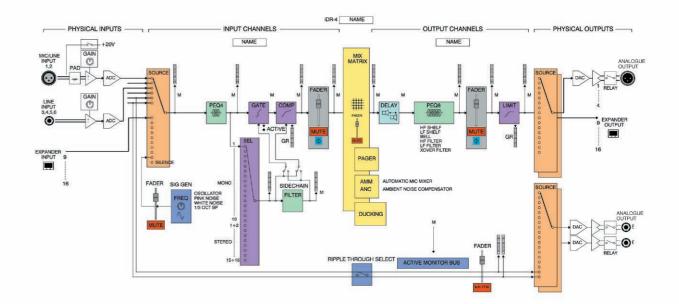




Features of **DR**-8

- ★ iDR DSP system 16 processing channels (inputs and outputs)
- * 8 analogue mic/line inputs on XLR3 with 48V phantom power
- ★ 8 analogue line outputs on XLR3
- ★ 2 line inputs on TRS jack
- ★ 2 line outputs on TRS jack
- ★ Digital audio expansion ports(8 channels in, 8 channels out)
- ★ Hot Plug'n'Play PL Series Remote controllers
- High Quality Audio Signal Path and DSP processing
- ★ Headphone monitor with mouse and ripple-through capability
- ★ MIDI In/Out/Thru connections







Features of **DR**-4

- iDR DSP system 16 processing channels (inputs and outputs)
- 2 analogue mic/line inputs on XLR with 20V phantom power
- ★ 4 analogue line inputs on TRS jack
- ★ 4 line outputs on XLR
- ★ 2 line outputs on TRS jack
- Digital audio expansion port
 (8 channels in, 8 channels out)
- ★ Hot Plug'n'Play PL Series Remote controllers
- High quality audio signal path and DSP processing
- Monitor with mouse and ripplethrough capability

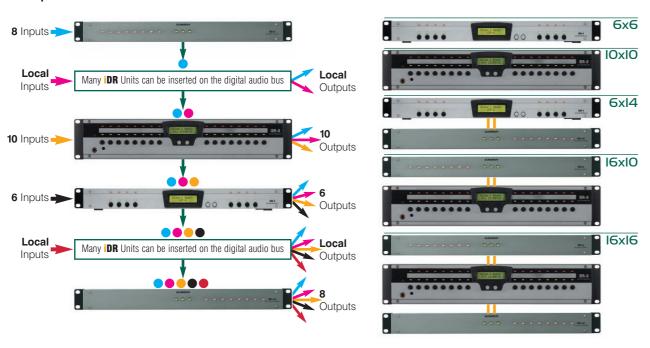
IDR -In & -Out EXPANDERS



iDR-8 and iDR-4 can happily manage many complete systems with their existing input/output architecture standing alone. However, for larger systems, iDR-In and iDR-Out audio expander units are available, providing an additional 8 mic/line inputs on XLR and 8 line outputs (also on XLR) respectively. One or both expanders may be connected to a single iDR main unit.

These audio expanders convert the analogue audio to an 8 channel wide digital bus which feeds the main <code>iDR</code> unit, which can be up to 250 metres away, via CAT5 STP cable. <code>iDR-In</code> features high grade mic/line preamps with PC configured gain, pad and phantom power switching via <code>DR-Link</code>, and a built-in soft clip, while <code>iDR-Out</code> provides electronically balanced differential outputs. Both units have 8 front panel LEDs in addition to the 3 status indicators; these are 3-colour soft LEDs which can be assigned as audio meters, mute indicators or presets related indicators and are programmed in the usual way using the <code>iDR</code> System Manager software.

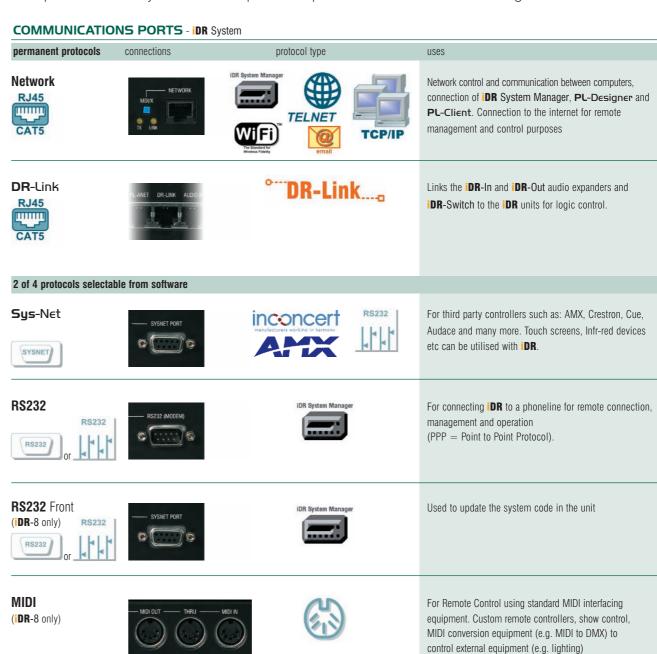
Example Combinations:





PL-Anet

A glance at the iDR back panel reveals the scope of iDR's control capabilities. iDR can communicate with many forms of equipment utilising industry standard communication protocols. For example, iDR-switch units, iDR-in and iDR-out expanders, third party controllers, PL Series 'intelligent' wall plates, MIDI show controllers, PCs, networks and modems. Up to 4 communications ports can be used at once - network and DR-link ports are always available, with two more selected from RS232, Sys-Net, MIDI and PL-Anet. Rear panel LEDs clearly indicate active ports for rapid communication status checking.



PL-Anet

PL-Anet is an RS485-based protocol incorporating 20V

phantom powering for the **ALLEN&HEATH** self detecting and self powered **PL** Range of remote controllers.

DR System Technical Specifications for ide-8 & ide-4

Audio Specifications

20Hz to 20kHz +0/- 0.5dB <-80dB @ 1kHz, 0dB gair <0.01% @ 1kHz, 0dBu <87dBu @ 0dB (22Hz to 22kHz) Input to Output noise

XLR Mic/Line Inputs

8 (expandable to 16) Female XLR 3 Pin

Sensitivity (pad out) -50 to -5dBu -30 to +15dBi

Pre-ADC opto - 6dBFS, switchable +20V switched (iDR-4)

TRS Jack Line Inputs

TRS Jack (balanced/stereo Jack) Type Max Input

XLR Line Outputs

4 (expandable to 12) Electronically balanced, pin2+

Impedance <75 ohm +18dRu

TRS Jack Line Outputs

Quantity Connections

TRS Jack (balanced/stereo Jack)

Headphone Output (IDR-8 only)

TRS Jack, Tip I Ring R

DSP

16 x 16 channel processing Audio matrix (48kHz) Latency XLR in to

A/D Converters

109dB A-weighted, 106dB unweighted Dynamic Range

D/A Converters

115dB A-weighted, 112dB unweighted Dynamic range

adding remote inputs (iDR-in) and linking iDR units on 8 channel digital bus

Propietary 8 Channel Digital Audio Protocol CAT5 STP upto 250m (825 feet)

adding remote Outputs (iDR-out) and linking iDR units on 8 channel digital bus Propietary 8 Channel Digital Audio

Technical Specifications

Front Panel (face plate fitted

2 x 16 Character Backlit LCD Display Type Day/Time, unit name, user defined text, Menu/operating control data Kevs iDR-8: 16 user programmable, 2 scroll iDR-4: 8 user programmable, 2 scroll LEDs iDR-8: 32 user programmable, tri-colour

Front Panel (face plate removed

Preset Recall, Monitor Select, date/time. Status I FDs IDR-8 only: Slave, Ext. Sync Lock, 96kHz iDR-8 only: 9 pin D Connector

Behind widow user label/markup strip

Label Strip

Universal Input Switched Mode IEC 3pin Country Dependent Power Lead Supplied Power Switch Rear panel mains on/of iDR-8: T1.6A 20mm

	iDR-8	iDR-4
Desktop		
Width	440mm (17")	440mm (17")
Height	92mm (3.5")	48mm (2")
Depth	350mm (14")	350mm (14")
Rackmount	(2U)	(1U)
Width	486mm (19")	486mm (19")
Height	88mm (3.5") = 2U	44mm (2") = 1U
Depth	350mm (14")	350mm (14")

iDR-4: T1A 20mm

Max depth with co

430mm (17")

Control & Communications

Control Ports

PORT A PORT R MIDI (iDR-8 only) PL-Anet Custom Serial Sys-Net PL-Anet MIDI (iDR-8 only) Custom Serial MIDI (iDR-8 only) PL-Anet

RS232

Front panel switch to select either front 9pin D Female (Modem) 9 Pin D male Cable Length <3 Metres (10feet

Network (TCP/IP)

iDR System Manager, PL Designer/ Client. Telnet RJ45 Fthernet MDI/X Switch DHCP, IP address, Net mask, Gateway Settings Host IP, client IP, user name, password CAT5 UTP up to 100metres (330 feet) Cable

MIDI (iDR-8 only)

Onto isolated MIDLIN, OUT. THRU 5 pin DIN NRPN, Custom Strings

Sys-Net

Remote Parameter Control, ALLEN&HEATH Sys-Net Protocol Custom Serial Strings Baud Rate Custom settings available

PL-Anet

iDR-Switch and iDR audio expander logic control Connection R.145 Proprietary ALLEN&HEATH

Network for ALLEN&HEATH PL Series Applications Connection Proprietary ALLEN&HEATH - RS485 CAT5 STP (Refer to REN table lengths)

CAT5 STP up to 250 metres (825 feet)

IDR -Switch



iDR-switch extends the capability of the iDR-8 and iDR-4 by enabling custom wall plate and remote equipment control. It provides 24 switch closure inputs and 16 logic control outputs which can be custom wired by the installer to suit the application. Up to 3 units can be networked, so providing an **iDR** unit with 72 switch and 48 logic outputs. The controls are easily programmed using the System Manager software.

Control Functions

When a switch contact closure status is ACTION ON (Pressed) or ACTION OFF (released) various parameters can be controlled within the iDR system:

- ★ Levels [Up/Down] (Input, Output, Crosspoint, Monitor)
- ★ Group Levels [Up/Down] (Input, Output, Crosspoint)
- Mutes [Toggle/On/Off] (Input, Output, Crosspoint, Monitor) Preset Recall
- [offers all associated functions]
- Monitor Select [Inputs/Outputs]
- ★ MIDI Strings iDR-8 only (a custom MIDI string is sent from the **IDR** Unit)

Operating Modes

- ★ Latched Action
- ★ Press Action

OUTPUTS

★ Release Action

Software

iDR System Manager has a simulation of iDR-Switch units connected to the iDR unit (maximum of 3 per unit). The Switch can be setup online or offline and has the ability to show Logic outputs as green LEDs. Setting up the contact closures and logic outputs is done in the Soft Keys and Soft LEDs setup windows. Many external devices can be integrated into a system using the iDR-Switch units and custom paging panels and remote triggering can be realised.

A range of different modes of operation for each switch closure and logic output can be achieved. Many systems can be integrated with the iDR-Switch, e.g. -

- ★ Fire Alarm Interface
- ★ Theme Park Triggering
- Room Dividing

INPUTS

+10V DC INTERNAL POWER SUPPLY

LED INDICATORS

200mA max

Custom Paging Panels

LOW VOLTAGE BULBS

+V (+24V DC max)

EXTERNAL POWER SUPPLY

- Custom Switches for Level control
- External Equipment interfacing (e.g. Start/Stop for a motor unit utilising a suitable relay interface)

Technical Specifications

Switch Inputs x 24

3x 10pin Phoenix, 8 switches per connector Mating screw terminal plugs supplied Opto-isolated via 2k2 ohm from +10V Switch closure to connect pin to

Logic Outputs x I6

4x 10pin Phoenix, 4 outputs

Logic Outputs x 16 (continued

+10V, 500mA total max. External DC source. Up to +24V 200mA sink per

Mating screw terminal plugs supplied

DR-Link Logic control from iDR-4/8 RJ45 x2 (in, out to next unit) Proprietary Allen & Heath

Universal input switched mode IEC 3pin 100-240V AC 50/60H

440mm 48mm (17.3") (1.9") 148mm (5.8")

PL-2



The PL-2 is a purposebuilt custom interface for iDR-Switch available from A&H for those who do not wish to make their own custom

The wallplate has 4 user-programmable switches and 4 tricolour programmable LEDs providing many local control options such as multiple source selection for output zones.

PL -Series

The PL series is the perfect interface between the iDR and the operators on site who don't need to understand the sound system - just control it. As the requirements grow at an installation, the control system can too! Start off with just the controls and display on the iDR unit then add wall mounted plates and handheld remotes wherever they are needed using our CAT5 PL-Anet cabling system. PL remotes can simply daisy chain or use the PL-Anet hub for star wiring applications. LEDs in the system can be tri-colour status indicators [to indicate selected sources, or mutes] or they can become meters for any point in the signal flow. The LCD windows can easily be programmed to relay text information about the state of the system. You, as the designer, can customise these plug and play remotes to do exactly what the customer has been looking for. Each PL has its own simulator in iDR system manager software so you can design and demo the system offline as it will appear when the hardware is in place.

PL-3 & PL-4

PL-3 and PL-4 wall plates have 4 or 2 programmable switches and 4 programmable tri-colour LEDs and are ideal for local operator control of the iDR-based audio system. They may be used, for example, for source selection for an output zone, or local volume control. The PL-4 has, in addition, a rotary control with LED ladder and a built-in infra-red receiver - it can be operated at a distance using the PL-5 handheld remote controller, allowing the operator to quickly and conveniently adjust the system from anywhere in the room. The control options can be different to those set on the PL-4.

The PL-6 is ideal as a remote mix controller - e.g. as a simple

as a personal musician's on-stage mix controller with in-ear

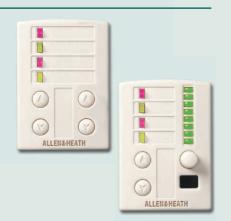
which are all programmable via iDR System Manager. Other

examples for use include as a basic lighting controller via

operator-controlled fader panel in an installed sound system, or

monitors. It has 8 faders, 24 tri-colour LEDs and 16 soft switches

MIDI/DMX, and the unit can be wall-mounted or flange-mounted





Examples of use: multiple source selection for an output zone. Local volume level, home cinema & AV system control (projector / lighting / amplifier control), and tamper-proof control.

PL-7

PL-7 is a stand-alone or surface mounted LCD panel, which enables remote display of status information and text messages which can be stored in the recallable memory settings. The PL-7 can be embedded with PL-3 or PL-4 wall plates, allowing programmable control from a single unit. It can also be used for remote alarm/supervisor display.



PL-8 is a 4 input, 4 output logic control panel mounted on a wall plate which can be connected to PL-Anet. It is designed to interface external systems such as alarm systems, juke boxes, room dividers, fader starts and lights at a convenient location.



PL-9 is a 1U rack or desk mount hub which provides up to 7 individual connections to chains of PL devices, offering 'star wiring', simplifying wiring and eliminating the need for complex daisy-chaining. This also provides the benefit of longer cable runs and allows easier 'plug and play of devices such as the PL-6 and PL-10, and allows a larger number of PL controllers to be connected to a single iDR unit.

As the PL-9 is the 'end of chain' on a PL-Anet branch, it offers greater flexibility by allowing PL wallplates to be plugged in and out easily for example, a PL-6 could just be plugged into a PL-9 onstage, allowing local performer control, then removed after the event.

PL-IO



The PL-IO is similar to the PL-6 - i.e. is a compact mixer interface, but has 8 rotary encoders, with LED ladder displays instead of faders. making it possible to mix live events within the **iDR** system. It's ideal for creating and controlling an output mix of cross-point groups. The PL-IO can be assigned to read and adjust different mixes, as the LED bars indicate the levels managed by the iDR unit. The unit can be hand-held, or flange-mounted into a table or wall. As the PL-IO has encoders rather than faders, it can respond to changes in levels made from other controllers.

PL-Calculator

PL-Calculator is an Excel-based program which enables the installer to verify that a planned system with specified PL devices and interconnect distances over

PL-Anet conforms to the system specification. The program is bundled together with the **DR** System Manager software.



PL-Anet Specification

Application

Connection

Protocol Cable

Network for ALLEN&HEATH intelligent remote controllers RJ45, RS485 with +20V DC phantom power - terminator supplied Proprietary ALLEN&HEATH CAT5 STP (Length table available from ALLEN&HEATH)

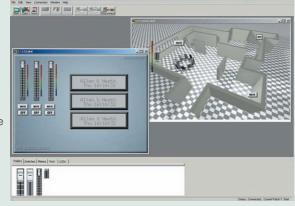
PL-6

PL SOFTWARE

PL Designer and Client for Windows™

As well as being controlled by iDR System Manager, iDR systems can be controlled via a PC using 'PL Client', an interface which can be designed in 'PL Designer'.

PL Designer is used to create a custom interface which is opened using PL Client. The system architect can create a custom wall plate in PL Designer, providing system control taliored to the user's requirements. PL Designer lets the architect create a control layout from a selection of control types, such as switches, faders, mutes and meters, and positioned over a bitmap background. The architect can map functions from the iDR units into the Designer interface. The resulting PL Client panel, designed and customised according to the client's preference, can be installed on the client's PC. The result is the creation of customised, virtual wall plates. The PC can then be directly or network connected to the iDR for system control.



For example, the system architect could specify in PL Designer that: a venue manager could control source selects (e.g. CD, SAT-TV, DVD, etc)

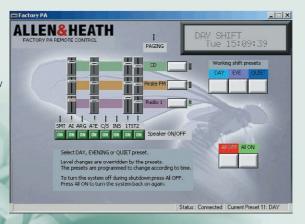
and levels of different zones on multiple floors using many iDR systems through one PL Client interface from the client's passwordprotected computer system. Further levels of access may also be added: for example, assistant managers of the venue may be provided with restricted access offering the ability for level control of their designated area only.

PL Client

PL Client, created with PL Designer, a tool within iDR System Manager, is the end user software, containing only the control elements in a .drd file with the design devices removed for tamperproof operation.

The PL Client software is demo-ware and time limited to 10 days. After that a key is required to run the software which is available from www.idrseries.com/pl client.asp

For more information on setting up and configuring PL Designer/Client view the online documentation and help file contained in the iDR system manager software.



DR SYSTEM MANAGER SPECIFICATIONS

Operating System

iDR Unit Software, Internal

System Configuration

PC compatible running online or offline session. Includes all **iDR** and PL unit simulators for



Virtual Controllers

PL-Designer PL-Client for installer configured GUI



Delay

Output (x16)

Global Adjust Coefficient for

PEQ

Range

4 band fully parametric HF shelf, LF shelf, Bell, HPF, +/-15dB cut/boost, +/-12dB makeup gain

Width, Q variable

(notch width 10Hz to 100Hz)



LPF, notch, crossover filters +/-15dB cut/boost, Range

Linkwitz-Riley, first order (notch width 10Hz to 100Hz)

Gat€ (x16

-72 to +18dRu 50ms to 5s 50ms to 1s Gate in/out, sidechain in/out



and/or gate 1 Band, type and parameter



Variable 1:1 to 1:infinite Hard, Soft 300_s to 300ms, auto mode 100ms to 2s, auto mode Response curve, gain reduction



Level Control

Off to +5dB in 51 steps Level Mute nolarity reverse

Fader Grouping

Number of Output Fader Groups

up to 8 characters



Stereo Linking

Adjacent channels can be linked for stereo operation Presents single channel strip

Metering

post-EQ, post-dynamics. matrix, pre-fade, post-fade,

Metering Points Outputs Assignable LEDs

(4dB below clipping) Extensive on-screen display for all signal points in the signal path Select 1 of 4 meter bar display types

Gate, Compressor, Fader Delay, EQ, Fader, Limiter

-38 to OdB (-inf shutoff)

Matrix Groups 16 freely assignable groups

Output Limiter (x16)

-20 to +18dBu Release Display



AMM (x4)

Mic open threshold

average of all selected mics 4 to 20dB above ambient level 1 to 6dB

in step with changes in background

I/P Source/Post-EQ/Post-Fade, O/P Post-Matrix/Pre-Fade/Post-Limiter,



ANC (x4)

I/P Source/Post-EQ/Post-Fade, O/P Post-Matrix/Pre-Fade/Post-Limiter.

selects fader for control, I/P, O/P, I/P Group, O/P Group, Routing Gain, Controlled Gain Operating Range min -59 to 5dB, max Controlled Gain Response Time rate dB per Second from 0.1

Channels 1-16 -62dB to -20dB

Os to 5s

Program Gap Threshold Program Gap Time Display

Controls



Pager (X2)

Type Paging iDR-Switch, networked iDR Activated from Front Panel,

iDR-Switch, networked iDR Front Panel, PL-Anet, MIDI,

Sys-Net, iDR-Switch networked **iDR** 0 to -40dB **Ducker Depth**

Audio Monitor

Ripple through stereo audio monitor Source Select I/P



0/P 1-16 Delay, EQ, 1-16 (routed via output patchbay) Follows Mouse / Active Window

Range (sine/band)

20Hz to 20 kHz