

# **XA Series**

# **Loudspeaker Management System**

# **User Manual**



XILICA Audio Design





CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER (OR BACK). NO USER - SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL The lightning flashwith arrowhead symbol, within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated "dangerous voltage" within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk to persons.



The exclamation point, within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.



## **Important Safety Instructions**

#### 1. READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS

All the safety and operating instructions should be read before the product is operated.

#### 2. KEEP THESE INSTRUCTIONS

The safety and operating instructions should be retained for future reference.

#### 3. HEED ALL WARNINGS

All warnings on the product and in the operating instructions should be adhered to.

#### 4. FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS

All operating and use of instructions should be followed.

#### 5. DO NOT USE THIS APPARATUS NEAR WATER

Do not use the product near water. For example, near a bathtub, washbowl, kitchen sink, or laundry tub, in a wet basement, or near a swimming pool, and the like.

#### 6. CLEAN ONLY WITH DRY CLOTH

Unplug the unit from the wall outlet before cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners. Use a damp cloth for cleaning.

#### 7. DO NOT BLOCK ANY VENTILATION OPENINGS

Slots and openings in the cabinet back or bottom are provided for ventilation, to ensure reliable operation of the limit and to protect it from overheating. These openings must not be blocked or covered. The openings should never be blocked by placing the product on a bed, sofa, rug, or similar surface. This product should never be placed near or over a radiator or heat source. This product should not be placed in a built-in installation such as a bookcase or rack unless proper ventilation is provided or the manufacture's instructions have been adhered to.

#### 8. DO NOT INSTALL NEAR ANY HEAT SOURCES

This Product should be situated away from heat sources such as radiators, stoves, or other products (including amplifiers) that produces heat.

# 9. DO NOT DEFEAT THE SAFETY PURPOSE OF THE POLARIZED OR GROUNDING-TYPE PLUG

A Polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding-type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prongs are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.

- 10. PROTECT THE POWER CORD FROM BEING WALKED ON OR PINCHED PARTICULARLY AT PLUGS, CONVENIENCE RECEPTACLES, AND THE POINT WHERE THEY EXIT FROM THE APPARATUS.
- 11. ONLY USE ATTACHMENTS/ACCESSORIES SPECIFIED BY THE MANUFACTURER.
- 12. USE ONLY WITH CART, STAND, TRIPOD, BRACKET, OR TABLE SPECIFIED BY THE MANUFACTURER, OR SOLD WITH THE APPARATUS. WHEN A CART IS USED, USE CAUTION WHEN MOVING THE CART/APPARATUS TO AVOID INJURY FROM TIP-OVER. Do not place this unit on an unstable cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table. The unit may fall, causing serious injury to someone, and serious damage to the appliance. A unit and cart combination should be moved with care. Quick stops, excessive force, and uneven surfaces may cause the product and cart combination to overturn.
- 13. UNPLUG THIS APPARATUS DURING LIGHTNING STORMS OR WHEN UNUSED FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME.

For added protection for this unit during a lightning storm, or when it is left unattended and unused for long periods of time, unplug it from the wall outlet and disconnect the antenna or cable system. This will prevent damage to the unit due to lightning and power line surges.

- 14. REFER ALL SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL. SERVICING IS REQUIRED WHEN THE APPARATUS HAS BEEN DAMAGED IN ANYWAY, SUCH AS WHEN THE POWER SUPPLY CORD OR PLUG IS DAMAGED, LIQUID HAS BEEN SPILLED OR OBJECTS HAVE FALLEN INTO THE APPARATUS, THE APPARATUS HAS BEEN EXPOSED TO RAIN OR MOISTURE, DOES NOT OPERATE NORMALLY, OR HAS BEEN FROPPED.
- 15. WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPARATUS TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.
- 16. APPARATUS SHALL NOT BE EXPOSED TO DRIPPING OR SPLASHING AND NO OBJECTS FILLED WITH LIQUIDS, SUCH AS VASES, SHALL BE PLACED ON THE APPARATUS.

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## 1.0 Introduction

The XA series is a digital loudspeaker management system designed for the touring or fixed sound installation markets. The absolute latest in available technology is utilized with 40-bit floating point processors and high performance 24-bit Analog Converters. The high-bit DSP prevents noise and distortion induced by truncation errors of the commonly used 24-bit fixed-point devices. A complete set of parameters include I/O levels, delay, polarity, 8 bands of EQ per channel, multiple crossover selections and full function limiters. Precise frequency control is achieved with its 1 Hz resolution. Inputs and outputs can be routed in multiple configurations to meet any requirement. The XA series can be controlled or configured in real time on the front panel or with the intuitive PC XConsole GUI accessed via the RS-232 or USB interface. Software upgrade for CPU and DSP via PC keeps the device current with newly developed algorithms and functions once available. Multiple setup storage and system security complete this professional package.

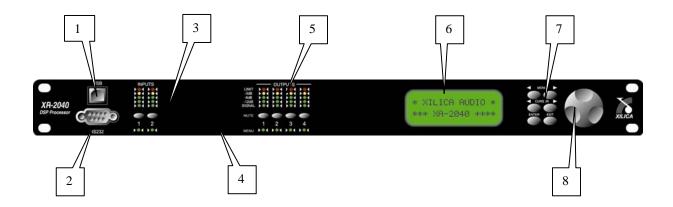
## **Shipped contents:**

- XA Unit
- User Manual
- XConsole Software
- Power Cord

## 2.0 Features

- > 2 Inputs and 4 Outputs with flexible routing
- > 40-bit floating point DSP
- > 96kHz Sampling Rate
- > High Performance 24-bit A/D Converters
- > 1 Hz Frequency Resolution
- > 8 Equalizers (Magnitude or Phase) for each Input and Output
- > Multiple Crossover types with Full Function Limiters
- > Precise Level, Polarity and Delay
- > CPU and DSP upgrade via PC
- > Individual Channel Buttons with Linking capability
- > 2-Line x 16 Character Backlit LCD Display
- > Full 5-segment LED's on every Input and Output
- > Storage of up to 30 Preset Setups
- > Security Lock
- > USB and RS232 Interface for PC Control and Configuration

## 3.0 Front Panel Functions



- 1. **USB** a standard Type B USB connector. Device driver from the provided software CD must be installed prior to usage.
- 2. **RS232** a standard female DB9 socket. A straight through cable is required for PC connection.
- 3. **Mute (Channel Menu) Buttons** Mute or un-mute input and output channels. When an input channel is muted, a red LED will come on for indication.

When the <<**Menu** or **Menu>>** key is held down, the **Mute Buttons** selects the corresponding channel for the LCD menu display and is acknowledged by a green LED below the button. The last modified menu will be displayed on the LCD. Multiple channels can be linked or unlinked by pushing the desired channels. This eases programming for same parameters across multiple channels. Multiple Inputs can be linked together and multiple outputs can be linked together. Inputs and Outputs are linked separately.

- 4. **Channel Menu LED** Indicates the activated channels for data modification.
- 5. **Peak Level LED** Indicates the current peak level of the Signal:

Signal, -12dB, -6dB, -3dB, Over/Limit. The Input **Limit** LED references to the device's maximum headroom. The Output **Limit** LED references to the threshold of the output limiter.

6. LCD - Shows all the necessary information to control the unit.

7. **Menu Buttons** — There are 6 menu keys: **<<Menu** (Menu Down), **Menu>>** (Menu Up), **<<Cursor** (Cursor Down), **Cursor>>** (Cursor Up), **Enter/Sys**, **Exit**. The functions of each key is explained below:

<< Menu: Go to previous menu screen. Holding this button

down while pressing **Mute** key will go to the specify

channel menu.

**Menu>>:** Go to next menu screen. Holding this button down

while pressing Mute key will go to the specify

channel menu.

**<<Cursor:** Go to previous cursor in the menu screen.

**Cursor>>:** Go to next cursor in the menu screen.

Enter/Sys: Enter is used only in the System Menu to proceed

with selected actions.

**Sys** enters the **System Menu** from the main menu.

**Exit:** Exit to the **Main Menu**.

8. Rotary Thumb Wheel – Changes parameter data values. The wheel has travel velocity sensing which ease large incremental data modifications. For modifying delay and frequency (1 Hz resolution), pressing the Enter/Sys key simultaneously will increment/decrement the data value by 100X.

## 4.0 Rear Panel Functions



- 1. **Main Power** Connects via a standard IEC socket. A compatible power cord is supplied with the unit. The voltage input is 90-240VAC, 50-60Hz.
- 2. **Main Fuse** T2.5A-250V. Slow blow type.
- 3. **Power switch** Controls power On/Off.
- 4. **Analog Inputs and Outputs** Separate 3-pin connectors are provided for each audio input and output. The device's output stage employs the balanced impedance topology. All I/O connectors have pin 1 as ground (shield), pin 2 as + and pin 3 as -.

# 5.0 Powering Up the Device

 After powering up the unit, the following initialization screen is displayed on the LCD:

- The initialization process takes several seconds and during that period the unit boots and displays the device model and firmware version.
- After the initialization process is finished the XA displays its main screen:

- The screen shows the current program number and program name assigned to the unit. If the program number ends with \*, it means that no program is assigned, the last data before previous power down is recalled instead.
- Now the XA is ready to operate.

## 6.0 Operating the Channel Menus

Channel Linking – While holding down the <<Menu or Menu>>, more than 1 channel from the same group (Input or Output group) can be selected to link the channels together. The green LEDs below the Mute buttons are lit for the linked channels. Any modification of the data for the selected channel will be applied to the linked channels as well. To cancel the linking, simply deselect the desired channel while the <<Menu or Menu>> key is still pressed, or just press the Exit key to deselect all channels.

## 6.1 Input/Output Signal

## LEVEL:

The level (or gain) ranges from -40.00dB to +15.00dB in 0.25dB steps.

#### POL:

The polarity (or phase) can be normal (+) or inverted (-).

#### DELAY:

The maximum delay permitted is 90ms, in steps of approximately 10ms. It can be displayed in ms, ft or m. The time unit of the delay is set in the **System Menu**. Please refer to page 21 for more details.

## 6.2 Input/Output Equalizer

#### EQ#:

Each input channel has 8 bands of equalization. This control selects one of the 8 available bands.

## **BYPASS**:

This control will un-bypass (Off) or bypass (On) the currently selected band.

#### TYPE:

The 5 types of EQ that can be used are: parametric (PEQ), low shelf (LO-SHF), high shelf (HI-SHF), 1<sup>st</sup> degree all-pass (AP-1), and 2<sup>nd</sup> degree all-pass (AP-2).

## FREQ:

The EQ center frequency ranges from 20Hz to 30kHz in either 1Hz steps or 1/36 octave steps. The frequency steps can be selected in the **System Menu**. Please refer to page 21 for more details.

## BW:

The EQ bandwidth ranges from 0.02 to 3.61 octaves in steps of 0.01 octave. The equivalent Q value is automatically shown besides the octave value. For 1<sup>st</sup> degree all-pass (AP-1) filter, the bandwidth will sets the phase shift at the centre frequency. This phase shift is gradually changed from 180 degrees above the centre frequency to the specified value.

## LEVEL:

The EQ level (or gain) ranges from -30.00dB to +15.00dB in 0.25dB steps.

I1:\_\_\_\_\_EQ1 LEVEL:0.00dB

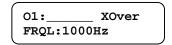
## 6.3 Input/Output Crossover

#### TYPL:

The 3 available filter types for the low frequency crossover point (high pass) are: Butterworth, Linkwitz Riley or Bessel.

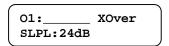
## FRQL:

The filter cut-off frequency for the low frequency crossover point (high pass) ranges from 20 to 30kHz in either 1Hz steps or 1/36 octave steps. The frequency steps can be selected in the **System Menu**. Please refer to page 21 for more details.



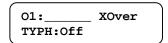
## SLPL:

The filter slope for low frequency crossover point (high pass) ranges from 6 to 48dB/octave. The available slopes are 12, 24, 36 or 48 dB/octave.



#### TYPH:

The 3 available filter types for the high frequency crossover point (low pass) are: Butterworth, Linkwitz Riley or Bessel.



#### FRQH:

The filter cut-off frequency for the high frequency crossover point (low pass) ranges from 20 to 30kHz in either 1Hz steps or 1/36 octave steps. The frequency steps can be selected in the **System Menu**. Please refer to page 21 for more details.

O1:\_\_\_\_XOver FRQH:1000Hz

## SLPH:

The filter slope for high frequency crossover point (low pass) ranges from 6 to 48dB/octave. If the selected filter type is Linkwitz Riley, the available slopes are 12, 24, 36 or 48 dB/octave.

O1:\_\_\_\_ XOver SLPH:24dB

Filter configuration	Low crossover point	High crossover point	
None	FTRL Off	FTRH Off	
Highpass	FTRL not Off	FTRH Off	FRQL
Lowpass	FTRL Off	FTRH not Off	FRQH
Bandpass	FTRL not Off	FTRH not Off	FRQL FRQH

## 6.4 Input/Output Channel Name

### NAME:

A 6 characters name can be assigned to each channel.



# 6.5 Output Limiter

## THRESH:

The limiter threshold ranges from -20 to +20dBu in 0.5dB steps.

# ATTACK:

The limiter attack time ranges from 0.3 to 1ms in 0.1ms steps, then ranges from 1 to 100ms in 1ms steps.

## **RELEASE:**

The limiter release time can be set at 2X, 4X, 8X, 16X or 32X the attack time.

# 6.6 Output Source

## IN1-2:

This sets the input channel source for the current output channel. It can be used to mix the input source (in dB) or disable it (Off). If more than one input sources are enabled, they will be added together as the source for the current output channel.

O1:\_\_\_\_\_ Source IN1:Off

01:\_\_\_\_\_ Source IN2:-14.00

## 7.0 Operating the System Menus

The **System Menus** allow the user to control and change parameters that are related to the system behavior and general operation. It can be accessed by pressing the **Sys** key in the main menu (when no Input/Output or System Menu is activated). All System Menus require pressing the **Enter** key to confirm and save the settings.

#### 7.1 Preset Recall

The XA has a built in non-volatile memory that can store up to 30 different preset setups.

#### P:

This control selects which program to recall from the non-volatile memory. The program name is displayed to the right of the program no.

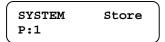


#### 7.2 Preset Store

The XA has a built in non-volatile memory that can store up to 30 different preset setups. A program can be stored using this menu. The old program with the same program number will be replaced. Once the program is stored in the flash memory, it can be recalled at a later time, even after power down.

#### P:

This control selects which preset location in the non-volatile memory to be saved.



### NAM:

A descriptive name of up to 12 characters can be assigned to each program.

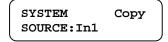


## 7.3 Copy Channels

Copy Channels from the source to the target. When the Source and Targets are both Inputs and Outputs, all audio parameters will be copied. When one of the Source or the Target is an input while the other is an output, only the Level, Polarity, Delay, EQ, Crossover, and Channel Name are copied.

### SOURCE:

This is the channel to be copied from.



#### TARGET:

This is the channel to be copied to.



## 7.4 General Settings

#### FREQ MODE:

This changes the frequency control mode for EQ and crossover filters. It can be 36 steps/octave or All Frequencies (1 Hz resolution).

SYSTEM Generl FREQ MODE:All

#### **DELAY UNIT:**

This sets the time unit for input and output delay to ms, ft, or m.

SYSTEM Generl DELAY UNIT:ms

## 7.5 Communication Settings

NOTE: User must power cycle the unit for this settings to take effect.

## **DEVICE ID:**

This control assigns a device ID from 1 to 16 to the unit. This ID is only useful when a network of more than 1 device is used. In normal operation the device ID is 1.

SYSTEM Comm
DEVICE ID:1

#### **BAUD RATE:**

The sets the baud rate of the serial communication. XConsole uses a baud rate of 115200, it should be left unchanged for most users.

SYSTEM Comm
BAUD RATE:115200

## 7.6 Security lock and unlock

#### PASSWORD:

The password is 4 characters in length. The factory default of a new unit does not require a password.

The device can be protected for unauthorized parameter and /or system abuse. The security settings can be controlled and stored in the device with the XConsole GUI only.

When the correct password is entered in the device all the locks are disabled. After reientering the password or powercycling the device, the locks are automatically enabled again.

SYSTEM Secure
PASSWORD:\_\_\_\_

## 7.7 Factory Settings

#### **CURRENT:**

This resets all the current parameters back to factory default settings only, while stored presets and system settings stay untouched.

SYSTEM Reset CURRENT:Yes

# 7.8 ISO Settings

SYSTEM ISO THRESHOLD:102

This Internal System Optimizer reduces ground floor noise if no signal is present.

If unwanted Noise Gate effects are audible on low sound levels it can be switched to bypass mode.

SYSTEM ISO BYPASS:On

## 7.9 INFO

This menu contains 3 info screens: The first screen displays the device name

SYSTEM Info

The second screen displays the Firmware version

SYSTEM Info FIRMWARE:v9.00

And the third and last screen displays the security code. When no password is set the factory default code is 11110000.

SYSTEM Info CODE:11110000

When another combination of characters is displayed a password is set in the device and certain functions are disabled for the user to modify.

# 8.0 Quick Reference

Parameters	Min	Max	Steps	Units	
Level	-40	+15	0.25	dB	
Polarity	+/-				
Delay	0	8,640	1	21us steps	
EQ Number	1	8	1		
EQ Bypass	Off / On				
EQ Type	PEQ / Lo-Shf / Hi-Shf / AP-1 / AP-2				
EQ Level	-30	+15	0.25	dB	
EQ Frequency	20	30,000	1	Hz	
EQ Bandwidth	0.02	3.61	0.01	Octave	
Crossover Low	Off / Butterworth / Linkwitz-Riley / Bessel				
Crossover Low	20	30,000	1	Hz	
Crossover Low	6	48	6	dB/octave	
Crossover High	Off / Butterworth / Linkwitz-Riley / Bessel				
Crossover High	20	30,000	1	Hz	
Crossover High	6	48	6	dB/octave	
Limiter Threshold	-20	+20	0.5	dBu	
Limiter Attack	0.3	100	0.1/1	ms	
Time					
Limiter Release	2 / 4 / 8 / 16 / 32X Attack time				
Time					
Source	Off	+15	0.25	dB	
Channel Name	6 characters				

## 9.0 PC Control Software

The XA series is shipped with a special PC Graphic User Interface (GUI) application - XConsole. XConsole gives the user an option to control the unit from a remote PC. The GUI application makes it much easier to control and monitor the device, allowing the user to get the whole picture on one screen. Programs can be recalled and stored from/to PC's hard drive, thus expanding the storage to become virtually limitless.

XConsole can be connected to the XA series via RS232 or USB. USB requires the installation of additional driver. The user is given an option to install it during the installation of XConsole, and if the user did not install it at that time, they may choose to do so by running the USB driver installer from the provided software.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The latest version of XConsole and USB driver are available at www.xilica.com.

# 10.0 Specifications

Inputs and Outputs

Input Impedance: >10k Ohms
Output Impedance: 50 Ohms
Maximum Level: +20dBu

Type: Electronically balanced

Audio Performance

Frequency Response: +/- 0.1dB (20 to 30kHz)

Dynamic Range: 115dB typ (unweighted)

CMMR: > 60dB (50 to 10kHz)

Crosstalk: < -100dB

Distortion: 0.002% (1kHz @+4dBu)

Digital Audio Performance

Processor: 40-bit Sampling Rate: 96kHz

Analog Converters: High Performance 24-bit

Propagation Delay: 1.5ms

Front Panel Controls

Display: 2 x 16 Character Backlit LCD

Level Meters: 5 segment LED
Buttons: Mute/Edit Controls
Menu Controls

Embedded Thumb Wheel

Connectors

Dial Encoder:

Analog Inputs: 3-pin Female XLR
Analog Outputs: 3-pin Male XLR
RS-232: Female DB-9

USB: Type B

Power: Standard IEC Socket

General

Power: 90-240 VAC (50-60Hz)

Dimensions: 19"x1.75"x9" (483x44x229 mm)

Weight: 10 lbs / 4.5 kg

## **Audio Control Parameters**

Gain: -40 to +15dB in 0.25dB steps

Polarity: +/-

Delay: Up to 90ms per I/O

Equalizers (8 per I/O)

Type: Parametric, Lo-shelf, Hi-shelf, Phase 1, Phase 2

Gain: -30 to +15dB in 0.25dB steps

Bandwidth: 0.02 to 3.61 octaves (Q=0.3 to 72)

Crossover Filters (2 per Output)

Filter Types: Butterworth, Bessel, Linkwitz Riley

Slopes: 6 to 48dB/oct

Limiters (1 per Output)

Threshold: -20 to +20dBu Attack: 0.3 to 100ms

Release: 2 to 32X the attack time

System Parameters

No. of Presets: 30

Program Names: 12 character length

Delay Units: ms, ft, m

Frequency Modes: 36 steps/oct, 1Hz resolution

Note: Specifications subject to change without notice

## 11.0 Warranty

The XA Series is warranted covering materials and workmanship for a period of five (5) years, as determined by the date of retail purchase (according to the sales receipt from an authorized dealer) or the date of manufacture if the sales receipt is not available (according to the serial number). This warranty applies to the product; therefore, the remainder of the warranty period will be automatically transferred to any subsequent owner. This warranty applies only to failure of a Xilica product caused by defects in materials and workmanship during the stated warranty period. It does not apply to a unit that has been subjected to abuse, accident, modification, improper handling/installation, or repairs made without factory authorization or by anyone other than authorized Xilica Field Service Stations. This warranty is void if the serial number has been defaced, altered or removed. Products covered by this warranty will be repaired or replaced at the option of Xilica, without charge for materials or labor, provided all the terms of this warranty have been met.

For factory service, please call or email for a Return Authorization (R/A) number before shipping. If the product is shipped, the following information must be included in the package:

- 1. Owner's complete name, daytime phone number, return street address and return authorization number.
- 2. The serial number of the product being returned and a copy of the retail sales receipt, if possible.
- 3. A complete description of the problem(s) experienced, including a brief description of how the equipment is being used and other equipments involved.

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