AUDESSENCE ALPS-3 QUICKSTART GUIDE iss 1.0

1./ Method of control: Available methods of control include front panel control and computer control via any interface: RS-232 serial, dialup modem, GPI (closing contacts), USB, or IP / Ethernet. Scheduling ('dayparting') is also available using the built-in Real Time Clock and schedule software. Front panel control is the most straightforward for getting up and running in a hurry. It gives you full control over input and output setup, access to presets, and basic control over audio processing parameters. Advanced options such as IP remote control and scheduling can't be set up from the front panel, since the front panel interface has been kept clean and easy to understand, without the numerous modes and menu levels that would be needed for setting up the more advanced options.

Computer with Graphical User Interface (GUI) software, supplied on CD with every unit, gives full control of everything and the PC can be remote from the ALPS hardware box. **N.B:** To use remote control via IP, you must connect via USB first (... to set up the IP address).

System requirements for GUI software: Windows PC running Windows 2000 with SP4, any version of XP, or Vista. RS232 serial port or USB port required. (RS232 works over longer distances than USB).

2./ Software Installation. If planning to use computer control i.e. GUI, load software directly from the CD ***before*** connecting the ALPS unit to the PC. Once the software is all installed, then connect ALPS to USB or COM port ***afterwards***. Installer programme should auto-run from CD, or if necessary run 'setup.exe' manually. Installer shell checks for required framework (Microsoft .NET ver 2) and USB drivers, and installs them from the CD if not already present.

Default connection at PC end is COM1, or go to 'Connections' menu in the GUI to re-scan for available ports and / or select USB (USB runs as virtual COM port and will often be the highest COM port number in the list).

3./ Login and Security: When using the GUI, after pressing 'Connect', note that although you will be able to see menus and controls without logging-in, it will not be possible to change anything until logged in. Login is found in Menus under \Security\Login. (NB: the right-hand of the two big buttons at the top toggles the main screen between Menus and Presets). Default pasword for log-in is AAAA. **N.B: Sessions TIME-OUT after about 10 minutes of inactivity!** If controls aren't working, try logging in again.

Similarly from Front Panel, menus will be locked until you log in – a padlock symbol will show on LCD screens that are locked. Login is found in the front panel 'Security' menu.

4./ Input – Analogue or Digital? Decide whether you are going to use Analogue inputs or AES (digital) input. Navigate to 'Input' menu and select the input you wish to use. In the GUI this is found in 'Setup\Input' menu.

If you select AES (Digital) input then **N.B:** ***sample rate selection*** is much more important than with other processors. When selecting digital (AES) input, at the same time you **must** select whether the Base Rate is 96kHz (supports professional rates of 32, 48, 96kHz ONLY at the input) or 88.2kHz (supports consumer rates of 44.1 and 88.2 kHz ONLY at the input). If base rate is not selected properly, digital audio inputs *will* be corrupted!

5./ Levels setup: You have gain trims on the inputs and Cieling (=maximum allowed level) controls for the Outputs.

ALPS's **analogue input** expects to receive a signal *peaking* at +4dBu to +8dBu. If the input is going to be significantly above or below this level, you can adjust the Analogue Input Gain trim to compensate.

ALPS's **AES/ digital input** expects to receive a signal *peaking* at –20 to –16dBFS. If the input is going to be significantly above or below this level, you can adjust the Digital Input Gain trim to compensate.

ALPS's **analogue output** will normally send out a signal peaking at up to +8dBu but never above this 'ceiling' value. If you require a higher or lower level, you can adjust the Analogue Output ceiling directly to whatever *maximum* output level in dBu you require.

ALPS's **digital output** will normally send out a signal peaking at up to 0dBFS but never above this 'ceiling' value. If you require a lower level, you can adjust the Digital Output ceiling to whatever *maximum* output level in dBFS you require.

On the AES digital output you can also select Double Rate (96/88.2kHz) or Half Rate (48 / 44.1kHz).

If in doubt leave all Output settings at their default values (+8dBu analogue level, 0dBFS digital level and 96kHz sample rate) and come back later - armed with the full manual!

6./ Saving Changes: Whichever method of control you use, changes are NOT permanent until stored to non-volatile memory.

From the front panel, go to 'System', push knob inwards once to get past 'Stereo Linking' without changing it; next turn the knob left once to access 'Save All: <YES> no' and finally, push to accept this option and make all changes permanent (i.e. your current setting will now become the Power-On default).

If using the GUI, changes are only saved to non-volatile memory when you exit the GUI programme. ***ALWAYS press the 'Disconnect' button before shutting down the GUI, disconnecting the ALPS unit, or turnming off power; then your settings will be saved safely.***

7./ Getting Started: For the vast majority of applications, just plug in and go - and you will find your levels are much better controlled than before! The next step, still easy, is to select a Factory Preset from one of the nine factory presets stored in the ALPS-3 unit. See manual page 17.

8./ Problem? Email tech@audessence.com for fast tech support.

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