

RC-SDA[™] Distribution Amplifier (2021)

Frequently Asked Questions

Tech Support: 203-854-5701

Q: What does the RC-SDA[™] do?

A: This module provides dual output paths from the digital video source, plus provides 2 independent RS232 control inputs to the attached camera. The system is optimized for use with Poly camera output and camera input requirements.

Q: Why does the RC-SDA[™] have 2 HDMI outputs?

A: The RC-SDA[™] makes 2 "copies" of the digital video signal input and sends those copies to the HDMI outputs. The Poly codec should always be connected to Output 1 to ensure compatibility. Output 2 can be connected to an external monitor or HDMI to USB video converter for soft codec applications.

Q: Why are there two serial inputs and only one output?

A: The RC-SDA[™] provides an RS232 port to connect to an RC4-HE[™] (Head-End Receiver) or RC7-HE[™] (Head-End Receiver) allowing serial control of an attached camera or camera system. There is a "pass-through" RS232 input intended to come from a host codec camera control path.

There is also a "direct" RS232 input intended to come from a serial control system (e.g., Extron, Crestron, AMX) to control the attached camera directly (camera control-code provided by others).

Q: Can the RC-SDA[™] translate between RS232 protocols?

A: Yes (requires firmware v5.0 or higher). The RC-SDA[™] can translate from VISCA to Poly or Poly to VISCA. If you have a Poly codec and want to use a Sony camera, for example, set DIP switch 4 On and switch 5 Off per the chart below.

Q: Does the RC-SDA[™] support far-end camera-control (FECC)?

A: Yes, when used with a Poly codec as the primary host, the FECC is supported as a "pass-through" RS232 control channel to the camera. In this way, a control-system (specifically, Extron, Crestron, and AMX) may be used to directly control the camera, yet the control path from the codec to camera is not compromised.

Q: I'm not using a Poly codec and my EagleEye Director 2 (EED2) goes to sleep after 3 minutes. What can I do?

A: RC-SDA[™] has an intrinsic "keep awake" mode (called Director-II mode) for the EED2. It allows for a dual-use application of the camera system, such as transitioning to a soft-codec environment or using the EED2 with a video switcher front-end to a video processor. Switch 5 should be in the ON (UP) position and switch 6 in the ON (UP) position to enable this mode.

Q: I have changed the DIP switch settings, but nothing changes in the RC-SDA[™]. What's wrong?

A: The RC-SDA[™] "reads" the DIP switch setting during the power-up initialization and at no other time. To change the RC-SDA[™] mode of operation, one should remove power, change the switch setting, and then re-apply power.

Q: My control system doesn't act upon the attached Poly camera. What's wrong?

A: The control system communicating with the Poly camera must use the appropriate control codes for that camera. Poly uses a special communication language that is embedded in locked modules provided by AMX, Crestron, and Extron respectively. Also, make sure the control system's RS232 port is set to 9600 8/E/1, or there will be no communications to the Poly camera.

Q: What is the microSD slot for?

A: The microSD slot on the RC-SDA[™] allows for field upgradable firmware and diagnostics.

Q: What do the DIP switches do?

Switch	Function	OFF	ON
1	Reserved for future use		
2	3-Pin (RS232) Mode	9600, 8/N/1 (VISCA)	9600, 8/E/1 (POLY)
3	3-Pin Listen Mode	RS232 responses from the camera are Disabled	RS232 responses from the camera are Enabled
4	Codec DB9 (RS232) Mode	9600, 8/N/1 (VISCA)	9600, 8/E/1 (POLY)
5	Camera DB9 (RS232) Mode	9600, 8/N/1 (VISCA)	9600, 8/E/1 (POLY)
6	Poly Director-II Mode	Disabled	"Keep Alive" Enabled
7	Reserved for future use - Keep in the OFF position		
8	Reserved for future use – Keep in the OFF position		

A: The following chart shows the functions of the 8 position DIP switch:

Q: What do the S1 and S2 buttons do?

A: S1 and S2 are momentary pushbuttons on the front of the RC-SDA[™].

S1 triggers a camera reset and re-initializes the tracking mode of the EED2 when the RC-SDA™ is in Director-II mode.

S1 is also used to initiate firmware upgrades and write log files to the microSD card. Refer to the "RC-SDA (2021) Firmware/Log Guide" at <u>www.soundcontrol.net</u> for details.

S2 is reserved for future use.

Q: I'm sharing the EED2 with a Poly codec and a soft codec PC application. Why does my EED2 camera keep shutting off and turning around backwards?

A: Your Poly codec may have a sleep timer set which causes the EED2 to sleep as well. You should turn off the sleep time in the codec web interface.

Q: I'm installing in a secure environment. Are there any options to be in compliance?

A: Some secure environments don't allow memory card slots on devices. In the Tech Support Downloads section of <u>www.soundcontrol.net</u> there is a special version of Secure firmware that will completely and permanently disable the microSD slot. Note: This is not reversible.