Sound Control Technologies

RC-SDA+™ Camera Bridge
Frequently Asked Questions
Tech Support: 203-854-5701

Q: What does the RC-SDA+™ do?

A: This module converts video and analog audio to USB for soft-codec applications. It also converts computer PTZ camera commands to RS232 signals recognized by Poly and VISCA cameras. Dual video output paths from the video source are provided, as well as 2 independent RS232 control inputs to the attached camera. The system is optimized for use with Poly camera output and camera input requirements.

Q: Does the RC-SDA+™ actually translate between protocols?

A: It does! The RC-SDA+™ can translate VISCA PTZ commands from serial joystick controllers into Poly PTZ camera protocol. It also allows the translation of 3rd party control systems (e.g., Extron, Crestron, AMX) that have been coded with VISCA protocol to control Poly PTZ cameras.

Q: What VISCA commands can the RC-SDA+™ translate to Poly?

A: The following table identifies which commands are translated:

Command Set	Command	VISCA Packet	Comments
Pan/Tilt	Left	81 01 06 01 vv ww 01 03 FF	vv: Pan Speed 01 (Slow) to 18 (Fast) ww: Tilt Speed 01 (Slow) to 14 (Fast)
	Right	81 01 06 01 vv ww 02 03 FF	
	Up	81 01 06 01 vv ww 03 01 FF	
	Down	81 01 06 01 vv ww 03 02 FF	
	Stop	81 01 06 01 vv ww 03 03 FF	
Zoom	Tele	81 01 04 07 2p FF	p: Zoom Speed. 0=Low, 7=High
	Wide	81 01 04 07 3p FF	
	Stop	81 01 04 07 00 FF	

Q: What is the 3-pin RS232 terminal block used for?

A: This port is intended to connect to a VISCA camera controller or 3rd party control system to control the attached camera directly (camera control-code provided by others). When using a 3rd party control system make sure that the 3-pin terminal block mode is set to the same mode as the 3rd party protocol (Poly or VISCA). Additionally, there are commands specific to the RC-SDA+™ that can be found in the RS232 protocol document at www.soundcontrol.net.

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: The RC-SDA+™ has an intrinsic "keep awake" mode (called Director-II mode) for the EED2. It allows for 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: Can I use the EED2 in tracking mode? What if I don't want to?

A: First log into the EED2 web interface and make sure Tracking Mode is set to Frame Group or Frame Speaker. It cannot be set to Off. Then, in the RC-SDA+™ when D2 mode is on it will enable auto tracking on the EED2 by default. If you prefer to disable tracking you can change the tracking parameter in the configuration file settings. Refer to the "RC-SDA+ Config File Formatting Guide" in the Support section at www.soundcontrol.net for details.

Q: I'm using an EED2 in D2 mode with a non-Poly codec, and an occasional BYOD soft codec. Why does the EED2 go to sleep when the BYOD computer is disconnected?

A: By default, the USB port has control of putting the EED2 to sleep when the BYOD computer is disconnected. Turning the cameras around ("parking") provides more security for users when cameras are not in use. However in your situation, parking the cameras prevent them from being used on the non-Poly codec. In this case you'll need to change the sleep mode from "Park" to "Mute" in the configuration file. Refer to the "RC-SDA+ Config File Formatting Guide" in the Support section at www.soundcontrol.net for details.

Q: Can my control system be programmed to power cycle the attached camera?

A: Yes, if the camera is powered through the Multi-Function Connector (MFC) and is directly connected to the RC-SDA+™. For example, when connecting an EagleEye IV directly to the RC-SDA+™ with no extension kit. In this case the control system can be programmed to enable or disable power through the MFC connector. Refer to the "RC-SDA+ RS232 Protocol Spec" in the Support section at www.soundcontrol.net for details.

Q: What is the microSD slot for?

A: The microSD slot on the RC-SDA+™ allows for advanced configuration settings, field upgradable firmware, and diagnostics.

Q: What do the DIP switches do?

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

Switch	Function	OFF	ON
1	Audio OUT	USB Audio Port	USB Unified Port
2	3-Pin (RS232) Mode*	9600, 8/N/1 (VISCA Protocol)	9600, 8/E/1 (POLY Protocol)
3	3-Pin (RS232) 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 Protocol)	9600, 8/E/1 (POLY Protocol)
5	Multi-Function Connector (MFC) (RS232) Mode*	9600, 8/N/1 (VISCA Protocol)	9600, 8/E/1 (POLY Protocol)
6	Poly Director-II Mode	Disabled	"Keep Alive" Enabled
7	Audio In	Multi-Function Connector (MFC)	3-Pin Terminal Block
8	Setting Mode	DIP Switches 1-7	Configuration File

* Select setting that matches the native protocol of the device attached to each port.

Q: What exactly is "Setting Mode" (DIP switch 8)?

A: When DIP switch 8 is OFF (DOWN), the RC-SDA+™ settings are determined by DIP switches 1-7. When DIP switch 8 is ON (UP), the RC-SDA+™ settings are determined by a configuration file loaded by the installer. DIP switches 1-7 are ignored in this mode. The configuration file allows for more advanced settings. Refer to the "RC-SDA+ Config File Formatting Guide" in the Support section at www.soundcontrol.net for details.

Q: What does the Camera button do?

A: A momentary press of the Camera button will send an auto-tracking on command to the attached camera when in D2 mode. If the Camera button is held more than 5 seconds, power is disconnected from the 60-pin Multi-Function Connector (MFC) as long as the button continues to be held. This allows the user to remotely restart an HDCI powered camera, such as the Poly EagleEye IV. Note that this only applies if the camera is directly connected to the RC-SDA+™ , not if an extension kit is used.

Q: How do I configure my soft client (Zoom, WebEx, Teams) for use with the RC-SDA+™?

A: Attached both USB ports (Unified and Audio) from the RC-SDA+™ to the host PC. Then follow the chart below for setting up the soft client:

USB Port	Function	USB Descriptor as shown on Host PC
Unified	Video In	SCT USB Video Device with Control
	Audio In	Microphone (SCT USB Audio Device)
	Audio Out	n/a
Audio	Video In	n/a
	Audio In	Line (USB AUDIO CODEC)
	Audio Out	Speakers (USB AUDIO CODEC)

Q: What does the Program button do?

A: The Program button is used to load configuration files, initiate firmware upgrades and write log files to the microSD card. Refer to the "RC-SDA+ microSD Function Guide" at www.soundcontrol.net for details.

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 www.soundcontrol.net there is a special version of Secure firmware that will completely and permanently disable the microSD slot. Note: This is not reversible.