

Multi-Room Audio Technology with a Cat-5

Twist



- Patented design
- One Cat-5 for all signals
- Plug and play install
- Easy to use
- Energy saving
- Structured or conventional wiring
- Same 568a wiring for audio and intercom
- Supported worldwide

See an expanded range of audio and intercom products
from our A-BUS partners

Cambridge Audio Russound harman/kardon OPUS Integra

Honeywell Jamo SUTTLE F.A.T.N USS incognito

PHASE
TECHNOLOGY

UStec

MX
AUDIO

AMP
NETCONNECT

CHANNEL
VISION™

Home
Director

CEDIA 2007 Locator

A-BUS Multi-Room Audio can be seen throughout CEDIA. Here are locations that you don't want to miss:

- Channel Vision Booth #336
- Eaton Booth #296
- Jamo Booth #110
- Harman Kardon Booth #580/670
- Honeywell Booth #658
- Phase Technology Booth #124
- Russound Booth #900
- Suttle Booth #995

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Message From Andrew



“ In 2007 we are celebrating 30 years in the audio industry. ”

Andrew Goldfinch is the Managing Director of LeisureTech Electronics and the co-inventor of the A-BUS Technology.

Since the last A-BUS Connection, I have flown around the globe again visiting and exchanging new ideas and concepts with our partners and industry acquaintances. As you will see here and on the show floor, there are many new and relevant A-BUS products being introduced by our partners.

This year LeisureTech is celebrating its 30th anniversary with a bit of a mile stone. We started in 1977 marketing high end audio products in Australia, however, we did not start designing and manufacturing our own products until 1991. We set out to manufacture items to fill some holes in our product range. They were so well received this spurred us to further expand our range and eventually we invented the A-BUS technology in 1997. A-BUS is now licensed, OEM manufactured or distributed to leading companies throughout the world.

LeisureTech Electronics occupies an interesting position in the audio/video industry. We not only design and develop our own products we also manufacture them in our own facility in Thailand. We are well known for our ability to combine quality technology with design that results in great value. We provide a full range of R&D manufacturing and development services for products specifically made for enhancing home entertainment lifestyles - like the new Harman Kardon product we highlight in Eric Leicht's article which is made in our own factory. Russound, on the other hand with their own R&D and production chain, is a fine example of how we work with a licensee to develop their own concepts expanding the A-BUS technology into products for many types of housing installations. Read about their newest products featuring A-BUS and the new Ratio speakers that are especially matched to work best in A-BUS systems.

Much of the success of A-BUS has to do with our partnerships and the brands that support and use A-BUS in their products. Partnerships are very important. As a team we have achieved great heights with the A-BUS technology. It is now well recognized in the building industry for its simplicity and excellent sound quality.

Andrew Goldfinch

A-BUS - A Simple Audio Technology is Rapidly **EXPANDING**



by Scott Sylvester

We encourage our licensed partners to come up with new ideas to help A-BUS solve more audio distribution challenges. As you will see in this issue of the A-BUS Connection, many partners have been busy expanding this simple multi-room audio technology by introducing new, innovative products.

One new product direction is the recently released A-BUS intercom. LeisureTech Electronics offers both home audio distribution and intercom communication systems based on the A-BUS technology. What is so unique about yet another intercom you ask? The fact is that an A-BUS audio distribution and intercom system can be connected to one another so the A-BUS intercom is compatible with the audio system. The audio system mutes anytime the intercom is in use, and then automatically turns back on. Eaton and Honeywell are two brands currently marketing the A-BUS intercom system.

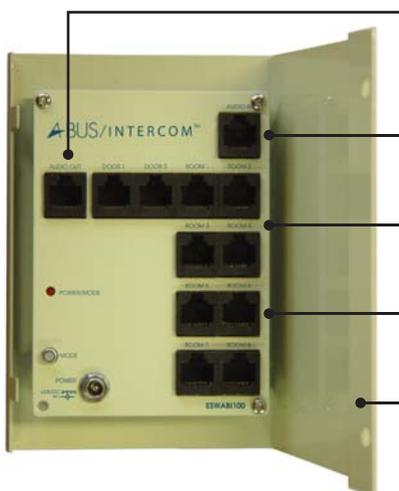
Read on to see an A-BUS audio system and A-BUS intercom system showing their basic connection configurations. It is so easy, and two things really stand out: the simplicity and cost efficiency of using just one Cat-5 wire on long cable runs. Both systems offer the standard of 568a wire termination. If you know how to wire one A-BUS product you know how to wire any A-BUS system and any brand licensed as A-BUS.

Take a look at the comparison of a typical A-BUS distributed audio system and a traditional volume control based audio system. It is easy to see the efficiency of A-BUS. No need to choose a certain power amp based solely on power, and no need to impedance match. There is not an IR block or speaker selector switch required or long runs of power robbing speaker wires at high cost. A-BUS is much more energy-efficient with its unique patented design.

I really enjoy working with this A-BUS technology and the great brands that help A-BUS grow. These new product releases from our partners advance the ease of installation and provide even more consumer enjoyment as we approach the convergence of audio and the networked home in years to come.

Enjoy the show,

Scott Sylvester



The innovative A-BUS intercom by Eaton.
Combining ease of installation and simplicity of operation with great sound,
the A-BUS intercom is like no other. Visit us on the web at www.eaton.com.

Eaton A-BUS Override

Mutes any Eaton A-BUS audio system when the intercom is activated

Outputs

8 – Room locations / 2 – Door Stations

CAT5 Wiring

Only 1 CAT5 cable is needed for connecting keypads, door stations, and A-BUS audio

Installation Is A Snap

6" form factor makes it easy to install in any Eaton enclosure without taking up a lot of room for other optional modules



Master Keypad

Easily selects direct one to one access with hands free operation for the receiver. Room menu shows status of activity (privacy or baby monitoring). Keypad can turn mute and monitoring in any room on or off and remote monitoring is one to one. Add up to 8 Master Keypads to a system or mix and match with Mini Master Keypads.

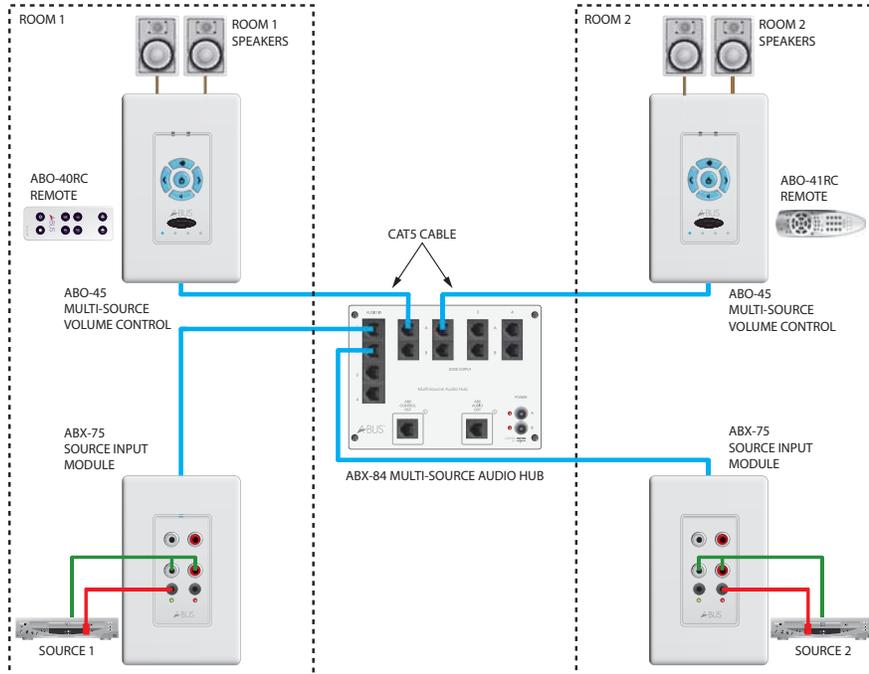


A-BUS Audio and A-BUS Intercom systems

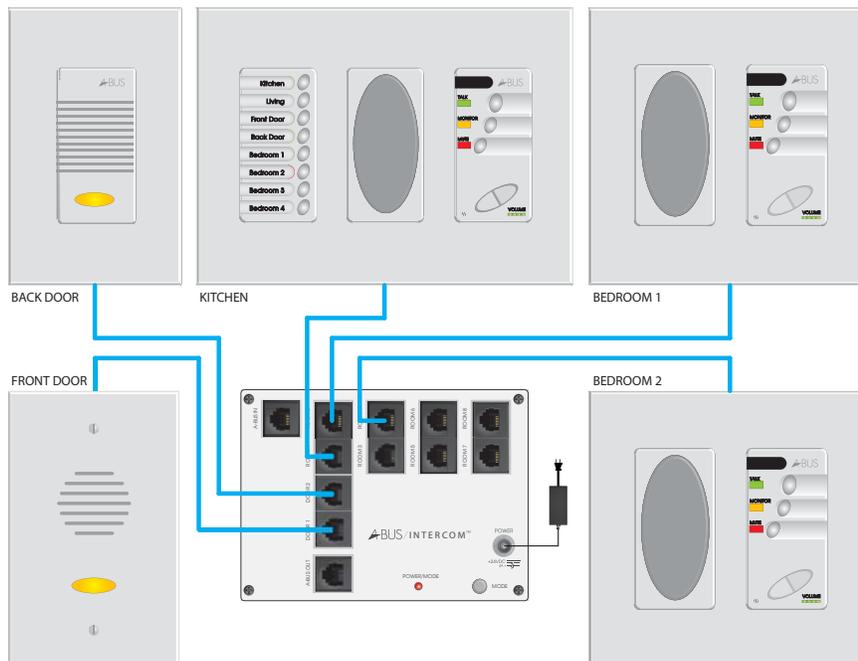
One single Cat-5, One Connection, Lots of Interaction

Structured Wiring

A-BUS audio system with a multi-source hub, local input source modules, amplified keypad and volume control modules. Your system your creation!



A-BUS Intercom delivers up to 8 room stations and 2 door stations:

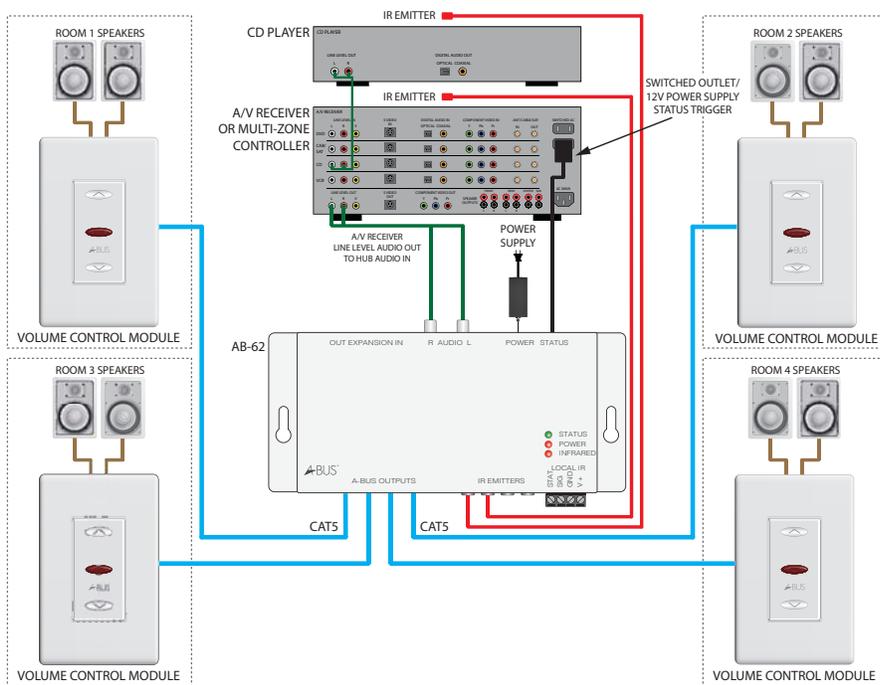


Why go conventional Multi-room Audio when you've got:



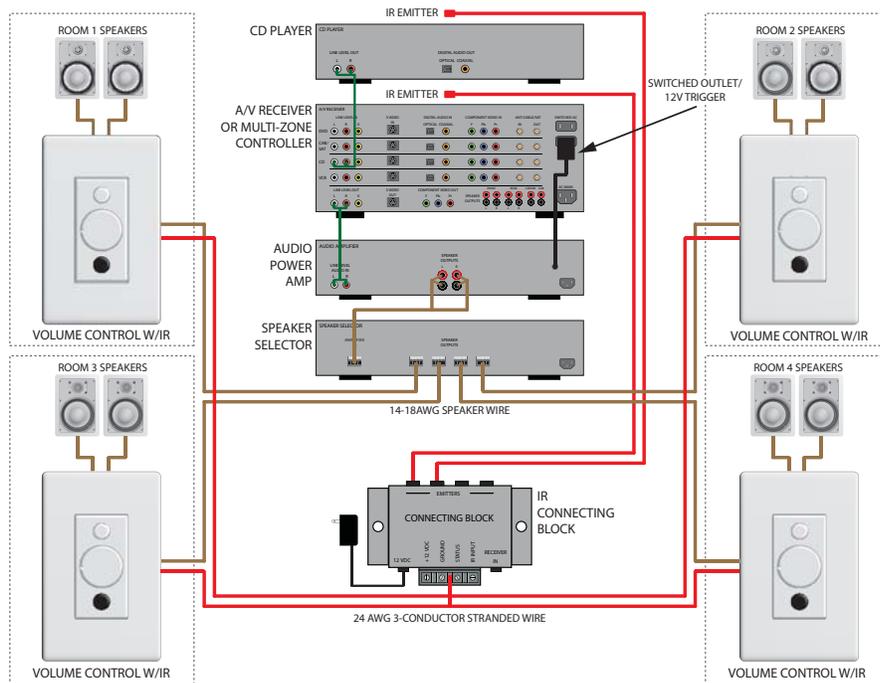
Custom

A-BUS Systems provide:



- Local amplification within the room means less signal loss, resulting in better sound
- No need for impedance matching volume controls
- Uses less energy than traditional systems
- IR control and audio signals run on a single Cat-5 cable – this is a cost advantage over separate wires
- Low voltage design means less energy dissipated as heat vs. traditional systems
- Status LED provides System On/Off indication

Conventional Systems provide:



- More complex wiring, long runs and back to base
- Bulky space requirements
- Non modular, cannot start with 1 room
- More equipment for trouble shooting

Designed for A-BUS: Russound Ratio High Efficiency Speakers

How do you improve a multiroom audio system as flexible and easy to use as A-BUS®? Give it speakers of its very own. The new Ratio® High-Efficiency speakers are the first speakers designed to provide greater sound output from amplified volume control systems like A-BUS.

Russound, the company that introduced A-BUS to North America, looked closely at ways to improve the A-BUS experience for consumers and installers alike.

For consumers, Russound engineers used lightweight, responsive tweeters and ultra-efficient woofers to create speakers that deliver full-bodied sound from modestly powered A-BUS amplified controls. Ratio speakers play as much as 5dB louder for a given power input than typical in-ceiling and in-wall speakers.



To benefit installers, Russound developed spring-clip locking retainers that reduce installation time. In-ceiling speakers are simply pressed into the cutout, enabling the clips to snap into place and secure the speaker. For the in-wall model, the spring clips hold the speaker in the wall, making it easier to square up the speaker while tightening the dogleg grips.

Maximum output at minimal cost make Ratio speakers a win-win for A-BUS installers and their clients.

Loud... and Clear



Ratio® High Efficiency Speakers

Greater sound output from amplified volume controls. Ingenious spring clips for faster installation. No wonder installers have voted Russound #1 for three years straight.



A-BUS® Amplified Volume Control Systems

Flexible and reliable, fast and hassle-free, and iPod®-friendly. No wonder Russound A-BUS systems are the best solution for affordable multiroom audio.

Booth 900



#1 Brand in
Multiroom Audio*

www.russound.com | tel 800.638.8055

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With SOHO Access™ we at Suttle offer you a quality, flexible, and competitive product that is easy to install and simple to use. We also deliver 24-hour training, product specs, and installation information all from our comprehensive website. Call or visit us on the web today and see for yourself.

1-800-852-8662
www.suttlesoho.com

We Deliver More...

Knowledge

24 hour online training and product information

Strength

High grade materials of construction that surpass the industry standard

Efficiency

Installer friendly designs allow one-person installations for all enclosure sizes

Faster Installs

Installation speed enhancing product features

Peace of Mind
25 Year Warranty on certified systems

Customer Service
More than just lip service

Bottom Line
SOHO Access™ by Suttle delivers increased value at a competitive price

Support Tools
www.suttlesoho.com, our Builder Program, and more



Boost Revenue and Drive Profit Growth Today!



SAA-KIT-SP now available at Suttle

Grow Your Business

Competitive market conditions caused by the housing slowdown have created a need to maximize the profit potential of each installation to maintain growth. One source of growth can come from the introduction of new products and systems such as multi-room audio. To meet the growing market demand for multi-room audio, Suttle partners with A-BUS to provide the industry leading audio technology platform. Packaged with our new line of SONIK™ speakers, Suttle delivers a four-zone, all in one system that integrates effortlessly with our SOHO Access™ structured wiring solution.

Increase Your Profits

Suttle's SOHO Access™ structured wiring and A-BUS multi-room audio systems are designed for ease of use and rapid installation while maintaining a competitive price to help the bottom line. These solutions allow installers to minimize costs and maximize efficiency without sacrificing quality. SOHO Access™ enclosures are designed with quick install technology such as keyed knockouts, pre-set depth tabs, and a slotted cover positioning feature. Additionally, the Suttle A-BUS system is simple and cost effective to install by utilizing a single CAT5e to each keypad location. This patented A-BUS technology platform eliminates long and expensive speaker cable runs improving audio efficiency and performance.



– Andy Swinton, Product Manager



by Eric Leicht

New harman/kardon® Multi-Source System

Originally developed, A-BUS was a single-source technology, designed as a cost-effective and energy-efficient way to distribute audio around a home when compared with traditional head-end amplifiers and heat-producing volume controls. Recently it has become a whole lot more. With new A-BUS multi-source/multi-zone models being introduced by Russound, Harman/Kardon (H/K), Honeywell and others, A-BUS now has some pretty cool technology packed in as well. And I'm not talking bells and whistles; I'm talking about stuff that makes your life simpler.

Hidden Intelligence - One Touch Music

While one-touch operation is readily available in expensive multi-room audio systems, where touchscreen keypads can cost upwards of \$1,000 per room (and don't forget that doesn't include the amplifier), it is not often seen at price-points one-fourth that. The key to making

one-touch operation work is that there must be a certain programmability built-in to the keypad. And in order for that to happen, the programmer must know something about the source components and their IR protocol. Because A-BUS uses a standard IR protocol (available to licensees), it is very easy for manufacturers to interface with that protocol, leaving the installer free of the headaches (and labor expense) of having to program an A-BUS system. This is one very key advantage of an A-BUS system. The built-in Harman/Kardon intelligence means no IR programming for the installer.



Fig. 1 Harman/Kardon AB 2 Keypad

The Magic of Collaboration

But something magical occurs when manufacturers put their collective heads together to hash out details that allow for interoperability amongst many different products and also across brands.

Take for example, some new products that Harman/Kardon is just in the process of introducing. While the new H/K AB 2



Fig. 3 Harman/Kardon AVR 645 A/V Receiver – A-BUS jack

Keypad (Fig. 1) does achieve the ability to play music with only one touch of one button, it can do so in various system configurations. The keypad can be plugged into H/K's ABH 4000 Multi-Source Hub (Fig. 2) or it can be plugged directly into the A-BUS port of any one of H/K's current lineup of AVRs (Fig. 3), and the result is the same – one button to music AND there is no installer programming to activate that feature. What's even better is that the AB 2 and ABH 4000 function as any other independent A-BUS system does; there is no reliance on H/K components. However, hook-up an H/K CD or DVD player, and voila, pressing one button on the AB 2 will get the disc started.

The New Route

Whether the installer uses the AB 2 as a single-zone keypad connected to a Harman Kardon AVR or in a multi-zone configuration connected to an ABH 4000 Hub, whether or not a receiver is used, the system "knows" what it is supposed to do. Changeable key-caps allow the installer to configure the system for popular sources, which is an old trick. Sometimes it is the combination of the old with the new that allows us to accomplish new tricks without losing sight of the important stuff.



Fig. 2 Harman/Kardon ABH 4000 Multi-Source Hub