

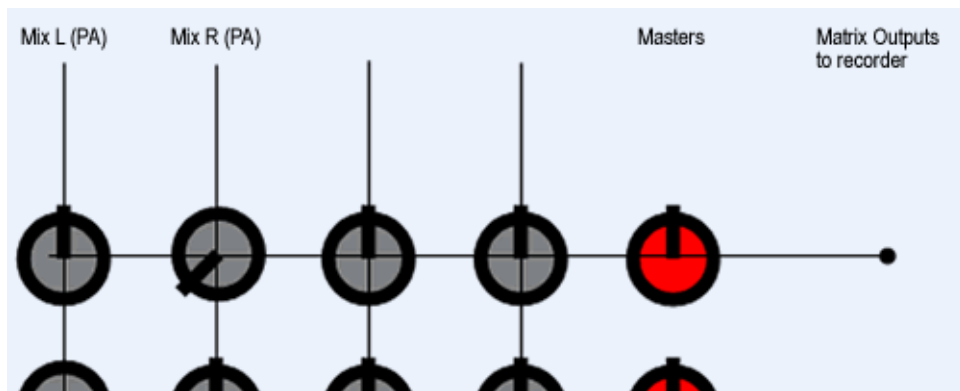
Learning Zone : Console Matrix

Audio Consoles – using a Matrix section



Why Groups and Stereo mix feeds to its inputs?

• Recording





In applications using an additional mono send for clusters, you can use the matrix to create a stereo mix for recording including that mono element, which you cannot do from the normal stereo mix output.

• Making a mono sum of the stereo mix

If your console does not have an independent mono version of the stereo mix output available, you can easily create one for use with, say, induction loop systems, by feeding the L and R feeds to a single matrix bus and output.

How? Mix the Stereo L and R sends to one matrix bus and output.



• Creating a mono cluster mix output

Centre-clusters are typically mono, and consist only on the main vocal channels. If the mixer has no easy way to route to a mono or centre bus, group the mics together, and mix other signals as desired to a single matrix output.

• In-ear monitoring feeds

The nature of in-ear monitoring mostly requires that the performer hears a stereo mix, which would use up 2 normal mono aux buses. The matrix allows you to create a personal mix, comprising some of the full stereo mix, a large proportion of the performers own signal, and maybe even a group feed which is a mix of 'ambience' mics in the auditorium to give the performer feedback from the audience which he or she would not otherwise hear.

• Delay feeds

It can be useful to aid intelligibility to place loudspeakers at strategic places in an auditorium to locally reinforce the audio when listeners are distant from the main PA. The matrix can be used to create a mix feed for these loudspeakers, which because of their distance from the PA will need the signal delaying so that the sound arrives from them at the same time as that from the main PA.

As each matrix output is separate, you can always turn them down or off if no-one is in a particular zone.

• Press/Video/Broadcast feeds

To provide video recording, broadcasters or even press reporters with an audio feed, use the matrix to give them exactly the mix they need to independent outputs. One idea may be to feed a reporters digital recorder at a press event, or to send a feed to a broadcast OB van.

Another broadcast example may be the whole mix without the commentator so that a different commentator can add his own voice to the event.

Summary

These are just a few uses of the matrix. You'll find more through your own experimentation.

Soundcraft consoles that include a matrix section include the GB2, GB4, GB8, MH2, MH3, MH4 and Series FIVE.

This article is also as a pdf file, [click here to download](#).
