



Installation and Operation Manual



HPA-4 ***4 Channel Headphone Amplifier with Talkback/Cue***

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INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your purchase of the Broadcast Tools® **HPA-4, 4 Channel Headphone Amplifier with Talkback/Cue**, which we will refer to throughout the manual as the HPA-4. We're confident this product will give you many years of dependable service. This manual is intended to give you all the information needed to install and operate the product.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Only qualified personnel should install Broadcast Tools® products. Incorrect or inappropriate use and/or installation could result in a hazardous condition.

WHO TO CONTACT FOR HELP

If you have any questions regarding your product or you need assistance, please contact your distributor from whom you purchased this equipment.

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CAUTION!

Broadcast Tools® Products, as with any electronic device, can fail without warning. Do not use this product in applications where a life threatening condition could result due to failure.



NOTE:

This manual should be read thoroughly before installation and operation.

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PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

The HPA-4 with talkback/cue powers up to four sets of headphones. Each output is supplied with a hefty stereo amplifier and may be configured to accept talkback/cue audio on the left headphone with a simple contact closure to ground. Front and rear panel T/R/S jacks are provided with each output, along with front panel level controls. The stereo balanced input is adjustable with the front panel master level control, while the balanced monaural talkback input is equipped with a rear panel trimmer. Additional features include power, talkback/cue active and program audio activity front panel LED indicators, surge protected internal bi-polar 15-vdc-power supply affording superior headroom and high definition audio and is equipped with two power jacks allowing one wall transformer to power two units. The half rack profile, allows the unit to be set on a desktop, mounted on a wall or as part of the new RA-1, Rack-Able mounting shelf.

The optional HR-1 may be purchased to provide 1/8" and 1/4" remote headphone jacks with level control, momentary push button and on-air LED. The HR-1 may be desktop mounted, under counter or with the optional HR-1/MP mounting plate, may be turret mounted. Two rear panel 1/4" jacks are provided allowing the daisy chaining of units.

INSTALLATION

Please examine your HPA-4 carefully for any damage that may have been sustained during shipping. If any is noted, please notify the shipper immediately and retain the packaging for inspection by the shipper. The package contains the HPA-4, 16Vac @ 600ma wall transformer, daisy-chain power cable and this manual.

Installation of the HPA-4 in **high RF environments** should be performed with care. Shielded cable is suggested for all audio input connections. All shields should be tied to the "C-GND" Chassis **GROUND** terminals. The station ground should be connected to the chassis ground screw located on the far right side of the HPA-4 as viewed from the rear. It is recommended that all input cables connected to the HPA-4 be looped through ferrite cores to suppress RF.

The HPA-4 is equipped with two inputs, stereo program and monaural talkback/cue. Connections are via plug-in euroblock connectors. To install, remove the plug, strip 1/8" of insulation from the wire. Insert the wire into the desired terminal and tighten the setscrew. When finished, reinsert the plug into the appropriate connector.

Stereo Program Input:

Connect the left program source to the left input terminal labeled **L- / L+** and the right channel to the **R- / R+** terminals. Input levels should be in the range of -15 to +4dBu. Unbalanced inputs should have the **-** and **CG** terminals connected together.



NOTE:

Some features may require the removing of the chassis cover. Caution should be observed, as hazardous voltages may be present on the printed circuit board. Be sure to reinstall the cover before operating the HPA-4.

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DESCRIPTION

Monaural Talkback/Cue Input:

Connect the monaural talkback/cue program source to the talkback/cue input terminals labeled **CUE-** / **CUE+**. Input levels should be in the range of -15 to +4dBu. Unbalanced inputs should have the – and CG terminals connected together. Each headphone amp may be configured to accept talkback/cue audio in the left ear when the talkback/cue remote control is energized. **Follow the steps below to enable the talkback/cue function:**

- 1 - Remove the HPA-4 cover.
- 2 - Locate jumper JP2 (Channel 1), JP3 (Channel 2), JP4 (Channel 3) and JP5 (Channel 4).
- 3 - Factory default jumper setting: All four jumpers are in the “**NO CUE**” position
- 4 - Determine what channel(s) to be configured for talkback/cue and move that jumper to the “**CUE**” position.
- 5 - Reinstall the cover when finished.

Talkback/Cue Remote Control:

The talkback/cue function may be activated with either a (dry) contact closure to ground or a (wet) DC voltage between 5 and 24 volts. The HPA-4 is factory configured for a (dry) contact closure to ground. To activate the talkback/cue, place a contact closure across the “**DG**” (ground) and “**CAT**” (opto-isolators cathode) terminals. To configure this control input for “**DC**” (wet) operation, remove the HPA-4’s cover and locate jumper JP1. Move the jumper from the “**INT**” position to the “**EXT**” position. To activate the talkback/cue remote, simply apply a DC voltage from 5 to 24 volts between the “**CAT**” (negative, opto-isolators cathode) and “**AND**”(positive, opto-isolator anode) terminals. Observe the correct polarity. Reinstall the cover when finished.

Headphone Jacks:

The HPA-4 is equipped with four sets of 1/4” T/R/S front and rear panel jacks. Only use stereo headphones with impedances between 24 and 600 ohms. **8 ohm and/or monaural headphones should not be used with the HPA-4 or HR-1.**

OPERATION

Program level setup: Feed normal headphone program audio into the HPA-4. Set the “**INPUT**” level control until the front panel “**ACT**” LED is activated, then turn the input control another 1/4 turn clockwise. Adjust each headphone channel to a comfortable level. **NOTE:** Excessive listening levels may cause hearing damage!

Talkback/Cue level setup: Feed talkback/cue audio into the HPA-4. Plug a set of headphones into the channel that talkback/cue has been enabled. Insure that the channel’s level control has been set to the normal program listening level (the front panel “**INPUT**” control doesn’t affect the talkback/cue level). Place a contact closure across the “**DG**” & “**CAT**” terminals. The front panel “**Talkback/Cue**” LED should light. Adjust the rear panel “**CUE**” trimmer to a comfortable level.



NOTE:

Excessive listening levels may cause hearing damage!

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OPERATION

SPECIFICATIONS

Input Level	+4dBu nominal.
Input Impedance	20K ohms balanced, 10 K unbalanced.
Frequency Response	20Hz – 20 kHz, +/- .25dB.
Distortion	.004% nominal.
Noise	-82dB.
Output Level	Depends on the headphone impedance.
Output Impedance	10 ohms, unbalanced.
Talkback/Cue Control	Contact closure to ground or DC voltage between 5 & 24 volts.
Connectors	1/4" T/R/S jacks and plug-in euroblock connectors.
Power	16 Vac @ 600ma. 120 Vac 50-60 hz transformer, supplied. Two HPA-4's may be powered by one transformer. (CE 240 Vac 50-60 Hz optional).
Size	1/2 rack space, 8.50" x 6.50" x 1.55" (WDH), painted chassis with 4 – 6-32 mounting holes.
Weight:	2.0 lb.
Options:	RA-1, Rack Shelf. 1 RU (holds two HPA-4's). HR-1, Remote Enclosure. HR-1/MP, Mounting Plate.

LIMITED WARRANTY

The term “Buyer” as used in this document refers to and includes both (but only) (a) any person or entity who acquires such an item for the purpose of resale to others (i.e., a dealer or distributor of an item), and (b) the first person or entity who acquires such an item for such person’s or entity’s own use.

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APPENDIX A

Functional Diagram

