ALLEN&HEATH

**AHM-64 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q: Is it an iDR8 replacement?**

A: AHM-64 is an ideal replacement for iDR8. It does everything iDR8 did, but with a more powerful matrix, more audio expansion and control options, new processing tools, and modern-day audio networking. It can serve larger scale projects thanks to its scalable I/O, Dante, and TCP control network, and it benefits from Allen & Heath's FPGA 96kHz processing.

**Q: Does it work with the existing IP controllers and GPIO interface?**

A: Yes, AHM-64 supports the IP8, IP6, IP1 controllers and the GPIO interface.

**Q: Which audio expanders does AHM-64 support?**

A: Thanks to the SLink port, AHM-64 can benefit from the full Allen & Heath 'Everything I/O' ecosystem. The SLink port can auto-switch to different modes:

- dSNAKE, for 48kHz audio expansion using AR2412, AR84 or AB168 (max two units, see user guide for further information)
- DX, for 96kHz audio expansion using a single DX32 or up to two DX168 / DX164-W
- gigaACE, for high-channel 96kHz connection to a dLive / SQ mixer, or a DX Hub for increased DX connectivity

When equipped with a Dante card, AHM-64 also supports the DT168 and DT164-W Dante expanders.

**Q: Can I use the SLink port and the I/O Port at the same time?**

A: Yes, all of the system I/O is available at the same time. The internal processing matrix is limited to 64 inputs and 64 outputs, but any system input can be routed to any number of system outputs without utilising processing inputs or outputs.

**Q: Does it work with the DT168 and DT164-W Dante expanders?**

A: Yes, AHM is a full Dante solution when the M-SQ-DANT64 (SQ Dante V2) card is fitted.

**Q: Does it work with the Custom Control app?**

A: Yes, the Custom Control app and editor are fully compatible with AHM-64, enabling multiple user interfaces, BYOD friendly and with cross-platform compatibility.

**Q: Can I fit dLive I/O cards to AHM-64?**

A: No, AHM-64 has a smaller-size I/O Port (same size as SQ).

**Q: Can I fit SQ I/O cards to AHM-64?**

A: At launch, AHM-64 will support the new M-SQ-DANT64 (SQ Dante V2) card. We will confirm later what other cards will be supported and when.

**Q: Can it work with a dLive Surface?**

A: No, AHM-64 cannot be controlled by a dLive Surface.

**Q: Can I import iDR8 configurations in AHM-64?**

A: No, AHM-64 has a new System Manager software and file structure.

**Q: Can I use Qu / SQ / dLive show files in AHM-64?**

A: No, AHM-64 has its own System Manager software and file structure.

**Q: Can I use it for occasional live music mixing in a venue?**

A: The audio quality and processing power in AHM-64 makes it very versatile and certainly capable of handling live performances. However please note that AHM-64 does not have any built-in FX. Where live music mixing is required, you should consider interfacing AHM-64 with an Allen & Heath live mixer over SLink or Dante.

**Q: How does it compare to a dLive DM / CDM MixRack in install applications?**

A: AHM-64 and dLive share many accessories and peripherals so it is natural to ask which would suit a particular installation best.

Some of the advantages of dLive compared to AHM-64 are:

- Higher input channel count (128 vs 64)
- Higher system scalability (3 I/O Ports in a DM MixRack)
- More audio networking options e.g. fibreACE, superMADI, AES
- FX and DEEP processing for live music mixing if required

Some of the advantages of AHM-64 compared to dLive are:

- Dedicated tools for installation including ANC, priority ducking, event scheduler
- Crossover filters and peak limiters for speaker processing
- Optional AEC module
- On-board GPIO and DC power input
- SLink compatibility with 48kHz dSNAKE expanders
- System Manager software has an installation-oriented interface
- More TCP control options including Get commands

**Q: Does it support AES67?**

A: Yes, via the M-SQ-DANT64 (SQ Dante V2) card.

**Q: Does the Dante card support 48kHz?**

A: Yes, the Dante option card can be set to either 48kHz or 96kHz Dante.

**Q: How many zones can AHM-64 handle?**

A: Up to 64 (32 stereo), depending on configuration.

**Q: Is the bus architecture configurable?**

A: Yes, AHM-64 has 64 processing outputs. These can be any combination of mono or stereo Zones, or speaker processing outputs, for example: 20x mono Zones, 15x stereo Zones, 1x stereo 3-way crossover output, 2x stereo 2-way crossover outputs (64 total).

Zones are the equivalent of a mix bus in dLive / SQ / Avantis. Inputs are assigned to Zones in either 0dB crosspoint mode (like a Group in dLive / SQ) or variable send mode (like an Aux in dLive / SQ).

All Zones have full processing including dynamics, PEQ and delay, but some zones might need extra processing on multiple speaker outputs, for example for a 2 or 3-way system, or to add extra PEQ for speaker equalisation, or discrete delays for delay stacks.

Typically, Zones would be used for different areas, rooms or indeed zones of a building. Zones can be patched to outputs directly or through speaker outputs for further processing.

**Q: What does 'paging' mean?**

A: Put simply, paging is routing an audio signal (i.e. a microphone) to one or multiple Zones by means of user selection of the Zones. The selection is often temporary for the sole purpose of a single message.

**Q: What is ANC?**

A: Automatic Noise Compensation (ANC) is the constant adjustment of an output level based on the level of noise sensed by a microphone in the same area. This improves intelligibility in environments where the noise floor is likely to vary over time, for example a train station at peak hour.

**Q: How does a priority ducker work?**

A: A ducker attenuates input feeds to an output by a specified depth when a sidechain input rises above a set threshold. In a priority ducker, inputs can be given different priorities. Inputs with higher priority will override inputs with lower priority.

**Q: What is AEC and how do I enable it?**

A: Acoustic Echo Cancelling (AEC) is an algorithm that prevents unwanted echo and feedback in two-way communications such as a video conference. It is available for AHM-64 via an optional module.

**Q: Is AHM-64 EN54 compliant?**

A: No. However, it can easily be integrated in an EVAC / EN54 system thanks to its backup DC power input and GPIO for alarm override.

**Q: What are the GPIOs for?**

A: The integrated GPIO ports can be assigned to several functions including preset recall, mutes (GPI), or used to drive external indicators, LEDs or relays. Where more GPIOs are required, up to 8 GPIO interfaces can be deployed on the TCP network, each adding 8x8 contacts.

**Q: Does the DC Input provide redundancy?**

A: Yes, the IEC and DC connectors can be connected at the same time for power supply redundancy in case of a mains power loss.