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ELECTRONIC SECURITY · TASMANIA

CUSTOMER GUIDE

Public address: **analogue and IP**

Paging, bells, announcements and network audio for schools, workplaces and commercial sites.

4	2	8
STEPS	APPROACHES	COMPONENTS

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OVERVIEW

Public address: **analogue and IP**

A public address system carries announcements, bells and background music to the places that need them. This guide explains the two main approaches, 100V line and IP network audio, and how to choose.

Paging

Clear live announcements from a paging station or microphone, to one zone or the whole site.

Zones

Messages and music go only where they are needed, instead of everywhere at once.

Priority

Important messages and tones override background music automatically.

Scheduled

Bells, tones and recorded messages play by zone and by day.

Music

Background music with the right source and volume in each area.

Linked

Messages can be triggered by alarm, lockdown or other systems through integration.

How a PA system works

01

Source

Paging microphones, music and recorded messages are the inputs.

02

Control

Mixers, amplifiers or audio software manage priority, zones, levels and schedules.

03

Speakers

Ceiling, wall, horn or network speakers, arranged so every area is clear and intelligible.

STEP 1

100V line **or IP audio**

Both work well. Many sites use a mix, keeping good existing speakers and adding network audio where it helps.

	100V LINE (E.G. AUSTRALIAN MONITOR)	IP NETWORK AUDIO (E.G. AXIS)
How it works	Amplifiers in a rack drive speakers over dedicated speaker cable.	Each speaker connects to the network and is powered by PoE.
Zones	Set by the wiring and amplifier channels.	Set in software and changed at any time.
Long runs	Well suited to large buildings and long cable runs.	Uses the data network, so remote areas only need a network point.
Health	Faults found on test or when someone notices.	Device status monitored remotely, so faults show early.
Best for	Schools, factories and large sites with existing PA cabling.	New builds, multi-site estates and sites linking audio to security events.

PA is not an emergency warning system. Emergency warning and intercommunication systems (EWIS) are designed, installed and certified to AS 1670.4. A general PA system is not a substitute unless it has been designed and certified as one.

STEP 2

Questions **for your site**

These answers decide the zones, speakers, controls and how it fits with other systems.

01

Which areas need to hear what?

List the areas and what each needs: paging, bells, music or all three. Each becomes a zone.

02

How noisy is each area?

Workshops, gyms and canteens need more speaker coverage or horns than offices and classrooms.

03

Who makes announcements, and from where?

Reception, a front office or several points. Paging stations and access to zones follow.

04

What needs to happen automatically?

Bells, reminders, closing messages or lockdown announcements by zone and time.

05

Is there an existing system?

Good speakers and cabling can often be kept, with amplifiers or controls upgraded.

A ZONE LIST IN ONE LINE EACH

"Canteen: paging and music, noisy at lunch, music muted by any page, bell at 12:30."

One line per area is enough to design the zones, speakers and priorities.

STEP 3

What goes into **a system**

Typical building blocks. Your quote lists the exact equipment for your site.

INPUTS

Paging microphones

Desk or wall paging stations, selected for the number of users and zones.

australianmonitor.com.au ↗

POWER

100V amplifiers

Sized for the speaker load, headroom and future expansion.

australianmonitor.com.au ↗

NETWORK

Axis network speakers

Amplifier, processing and network in each speaker, on one PoE cable.

axis.com ↗

TELEPHONY

SIP paging

Announcements from compatible phones or consoles on the network.

axis.com ↗

CONTROL

Mixers and mixer amplifiers

Manage sources, levels, priority, tones and local control.

australianmonitor.com.au ↗

SPEAKERS

Ceiling, wall and horn

Arranged into zones for clear coverage across the site.

australianmonitor.com.au ↗

SOFTWARE

Axis audio management

Zones, schedules, priorities and content managed in software.

axis.com ↗

INTEGRATION

Security response

Live or recorded audio triggered by video, access or alarm events.

securatech.com.au ↗

READ MORE ON THE OFFICIAL SITES

Australian Monitor	www.australianmonitor.com.au
Our PA service	www.securatech.com.au/services/public-address
Axis network audio	www.axis.com/products/network-speakers
Integration	www.securatech.com.au/services/technology-integration

STEP 4

Common problems **and fixes**

What we hear most often on existing PA systems.

PROBLEM

Announcements are hard to understand

WHAT FIXES IT

Speaker selection, placement, zoning and levels set for each room and its noise.

PROBLEM

Every message goes everywhere

WHAT FIXES IT

Zones so routine announcements reach only the areas concerned.

PROBLEM

Music drowns out pages

WHAT FIXES IT

Priority control that mutes music whenever a page or tone plays.

PROBLEM

Old amplifiers keep failing

WHAT FIXES IT

A staged upgrade that keeps sound cabling and speakers where practical.

Ask your installer

- 100V, IP or a mix, and why for this site?
- How many zones, and can they change later?
- How does priority work when music is playing?
- Can bells and messages be scheduled by zone?
- Is any part required to be an emergency warning system?

At handover you should receive

- A zone list with the speakers in each zone
- Levels set and tested in every area
- Schedules and priorities configured and demonstrated
- Training for the people who make announcements
- A service schedule, or a maintenance plan

TALK TO SECURATECH

Planning a new PA or an upgrade?

We design, install and maintain Australian Monitor and Axis audio systems across Tasmania, including systems installed by others.

0400 106 833
info@securatech.com.au
securatech.com.au/enquiry

Features vary by product range and configuration. Emergency warning systems to AS 1670.4 are designed and certified separately. This guide is general information; your quote sets out the agreed scope. Brand names are trademarks of their owners.