



# System Terminology

## Applications Notes

### Power Supply:

**Production Intercom** stations are basically a series of paralleled line bridging amplifiers which draw the current for their operation from a source at the beginning of each communications circuit. This source must provide DC current with the lowest possible AC component to provide hum-free communications, particularly when DC current is sent down the communications conductor to trigger signal lamps. The power supply must also provide the necessary circuitry to terminate the communications circuit, stabilizing sidetone and maintaining constant levels as stations are added or removed.

The **Production Intercom** PS-2 offers an additional feature. Front panel switches are provided to link or de-link the communications conductor (Pin 3) of the three XLR's on the rear panel. This permits the three outlets to be used to begin three spurs of a single communications circuit (linked), or as the beginning of three independent communications circuits (de-linked). When the power supply is being used simply to power a master station, the PS-1 provides the same power, but provides savings by omitting the unneeded switching functions.

### Belt Pack:

Belt packs are the basic communications station in almost every system. They are portable headset stations, with a clip for hanging on a belt. They consist of a line bridging amplifier, an audio amplifier, and a microphone amplifier. When equipped with a headset they are capable of communicating with each other and all the other types of stations described below.

### Main Station/Master Station/Stage Manager Station:

#### 1) Main Stations:

A **Production Intercom** main or master station module consists of two headset stations, input facilities for an auxiliary audio signal at either microphone or line level, and the capacity to send a balanced output from the microphone amplifier to a remote paging amplifier. These functions are packaged in a 1U (1.75") cabinet which may be either free-standing or rack mounted. The two integral headset stations are wired to communicate with two separate groups of stations simultaneously without combining the two.

**Production Intercom** stage manager stations do not contain a power supply. They are intended to be mated with a PS-1 power supply which are also only 1U high. These two products may be rack mounted separately or combined with 2U side panels into a single rack mount or free-standing package.

### Station or Outstation:

General term to include all types of headset and loudspeaker stations, other than main or master stations.

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**Fixed Headset Station:**

The same facilities as a 'belt pack', but mounted on a flat plate for flush mounting.

**Talkback Loudspeaker Station:**

A station equipped with a loudspeaker and appropriate audio amplifier, which is capable of sending and receiving communications with or without the use of a headset or handset.

**Paging Loudspeaker Station:**

A receive-only loudspeaker station with integral amplifier.

**Daisy-Chain:**

Portable headset stations have a pair of parallel connectors on the back which permit looping-through to the next station on the circuit. Fixed stations may also be daisy-chained via their terminal strip connections. Since most communications circuits consist of a group of stations paralleled across the line, daisy-chaining is the most common method of hook-up.

**Signal Lamp:**

All stations except paging loudspeaker stations include a signal lamp which is lit whenever any signal lamp button on the same circuit is pressed.

**Sidetone:**

The sound of your own voice as picked up by your headset or handset microphone and reproduced in your own earpiece. For a more complete discussion, see Section 5.

**Override:**

In Production Intercom systems, the ability to disable the front panel controls of a loudspeaker station in favor of a set of predetermined settings. For a more complete discussion, see Section 6.

**Circuit:**

A group of stations in common-talk communication with one another and possibly with a master station.

**Run or Home Run:**

The cable providing a 'circuit' with interconnection and connection back to the power supply or master station.

**Spur:**

A sub-Run to connect stations to a circuit without daisy-chaining. Usually provided by an SB-1 Splitter/Isolator or a Y-cable.

**Isolate:**

In Production Intercom systems to isolate a group of stations from another group, while sharing the same source of operating current. See the data sheets on SB-1 and LI906 for detail.