# MS-400A

Four-Channel Main Station

INSTRUCTION and SERVICE MANUAL



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Clear-Com 810021 8/15/88 REV. A

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**	DOCUMENTATION ADDENDUM	**
**	MS-400A MANUAL	**
**	REV. A	**
**	November 17, 1987	**
4.4		**
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## MIC TO LINE GAIN LEVEL INCREASE

In effecting a 4dB Mic to Line increase in gain level, the following changes have been made:

Change:	At:	<u>To:</u>
22K OHM	R126, 109, 100, 91	39K OHM
4.7K OHM	R45	6.8K OHM

## MS-400A Installation & Operation Manual

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## NOTICE:

While Clear-Com makes every attempt to maintain the accuracy of the information contained in its product manuals, the information is subject to change without notice.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### I. A. The Clear-Com Concept

Clear-Com is a closed-circuit intercom system that consistently provides high-clarity, two-way communications in high-noise and low-noise environments. A basic system consists of a single- or multi-channel power supply or main station connected to various single- or multi-channel remote stations.

Clear-Com manufactures a wide variety of both portable and fixed-installation units. All are compatible with each other (Clear-Com can also interface with other communication systems; see Section IID or ask your dealer for details).

Clear-Com stations are interconnected with two-conductor, shielded microphone cable, using 3-pin XLR connectors. One wire carries the DC power (28-30 volts) from a main station or power supply to all remote stations, and the other wire carries audio information. The shield acts as a common ground. Only one termination is needed throughout the intercom network, and is located in a main station or power supply.

Clear-Com is a distributed amplifier system; each main and remote station houses its own mic preamplifier (for headset or speaker) and signalling circuitry. The Automatic Headset Detection circuit shuts off when any station's mic preamp is disconnected, so background noise on the line is not increased by an unused yet on-line station. Low-impedance mic input lines (200 ohms) and specially designed circuitry make Clear-Com channels virtually immune to RFI and

dimmer noise.

Clear-Com main stations, power supplies, and certain remote station each have an auxiliary program input with its own volume control, which allows an external source to be fed to the intercom system. Visual Signal Circuitry, a standard feature on most main and remote stations, allows the user to attract the attention of operators who have removed their headsets.

Depending upon the type of main and remote stations selected, a maximum number of remote stations from 13 (all speaker stations) to 100 (all headset stations) can be distributed along a mile of wire. Remote stations bridge the intercom line at a very high impedance, and place a minimum load on the line. Audio level always remains constant, and does not fluctuate as stations leave or join the network.

The 28-30 volts DC provided by main stations and power supply units enable remote stations to operate with minimal current (10 milliamperes quiescent for headset stations, 20 mA quiescent for speaker stations) while generating extremely loud listen volumes (greater than 110 dB SPL). The higher voltage and low current keep voltage losses to an absolute minimum in long lines. the voltage drops due to the addition of great lengths of cable or many more stations, Clear-Com equipment will continue operating with less than 12 volts available.

### 1. B. MS-400A Description

The MS-400A is designed for applications in which a person needs to communicate with up to four other people or groups of people, either individually or simultaneously, while still maintaining isolation between each of the four channels.

The MS-400A is self-powered, and can also power up to 20 speaker stations or 100 headset stations. It is normally used as a main station (which provides system termination at a central location), but may be used also as a remote station that provides extra power capacity.

Access to the channels is controlled by the row of pushbutton and toggle switches along the bottom right side of the front panel. Separate controls for talk and listen for each channel enhance the station's versatility. Controls which affect the input and output at the station (mic, headsets, speaker, and program) are located in a row along the upper right of the front panel. Controls that are recessed behind the front panel are normally used only during installation and set-up.

On the rear panel, three XLR connectors for each channel allows easy connection to the rest of the system. A program (auxiliary) input on the rear panel allows an external program to be monitored at the station and/or sent onto one or more of the intercom channels. Its preamp gain is switchable for mic or line-level inputs.

Special functions ISO and IFB may be set up with internal jumpers. See Section III for a detailed discussion of all controls and jumpers.

## II. INSTALLATION

#### II-A. Maximum Number of Stations

The MS-400A has a maximum output current capacity of two amps; the total current draw on all channels cannot exceed this output. The maximum number of remote stations that one MS-400A will support depends upon three factors:

- the current requirements of each remote station
- 2) the cable length
- 3) the cable gauge

If your system includes headset stations only, the MS-400A can operate a maximum of 100 units. If your system contains speaker stations only, the MS-400A can operate up to 20 units (note: if all remote stations are RM-400A's, the maximum capacity is 13). If your system contains a combination of headset and speaker stations (typical of most applications), you must determine the maximum system capacity.

Consult the graph below. Match the number of speaker stations in your system to the number of headset stations. point reached falls within the shaded section of the graph, one MS-400A will operate the entire system with no reduction in performance. In situations where a significant current drain occurs 1000 feet or farther from the MS-400A, an additional power supply (or main station) or an extra large gauge cable may be necessary to insure sufficient voltage for full output without clipping. Any number of Clear-Com main stations and/or power supplies may be connected in parallel.

In all cases, multi-pair shielded mic cable should be used to interconnect all stations. The next Section describes cable requirements in detail.

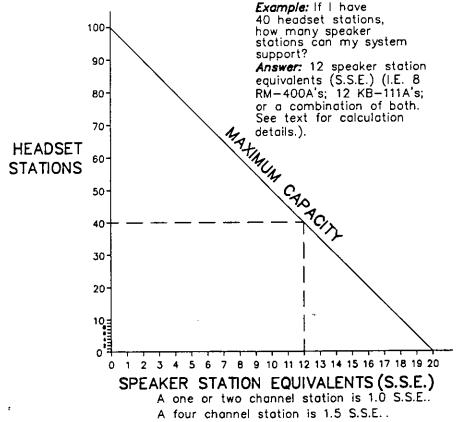


Figure 1: Maximum Number of Remote Stations

#### II-B. Cable Considerations

The MS-400A contains 12 XLR-type, 3-pin connectors: two male and one female per channel. Female connectors facilitate system wiring when more than one power supply, or main station, is connected to any of the channels. Cable runs from the rear panel to connect with all remote stations. Allow three inches behind the unit for cables to extend from the rear panel; avoid sharp bends in cabling.

Depending upon your application, you will run separate cables for each channel going to the single-channel remote stations, or two channels (any combination) together to two-channel remote stations (crosstalk considerations discussed later in this section).

When choosing interconnect cable, keep the following considerations in mind:

- DC resistance of the ground or common conductor affects crosstalk. In permanent installations, do not use wire smaller than 20 gauge, stranded (except runs shorter than 100 feet). Keep the total resistance of the ground under 2 ohms.
- 2) The capacitance of the interconnect cable affects the frequency response and sidetone stabilty. Total capacitance should not be greater than .25 microfarads (capacitance between conductor and shield; equivalent to an intercom system containing 5000 feet of cable at 50 pF per foot).
- Clear-Com Systems operate best with cable that has no more than 35 pf from conductor to conductor, and no more than 70 pF from conductor to shield.

#### PORTABLE INSTALLATION CABLE

Typical cable for portable system interconnection is rubber-jacketed, two-conductor, shielded microphone cable. We suggest you try BELDEN 8413 (24 gauge, stranded) for connections totalling 500 feet or less, and BELDEN 8412 (20 gauge, stranded) for connections running from 500 to 5000 feet. Portable remote stations such as beltpacks each have a pair of input and output connectors; when installing a system
that includes these, you can daisy-chain
many stations along one interconnect
path. Or, you can use Clear-Com's line
splitter (one input, three outputs) to
feed individual lines to station inputs
(see diagrams on the following pages for
various configurations). Daisy-chaining
and line splitting decrease the amount
of cable required and simplify installation.

#### PERMANENT INSTALLATION CABLE

We recommend you use vinyl-insulated and jacketed cable for connections to permanently-installed stations; it costs less and is easier to pull through conduit than the rubber-insulated cable.

You must use low capacitance cable. We suggest you try BELDEN 8762 (20 gauge, stranded) for applications up to 500 feet, and BELDEN 8760 (18 gauge, stranded) for up to 5000 feet.

If conduit is available when installing permanent remote stations, run interconnect cables through the conduit to each wall- or console-mounted unit. NOTE: chassis ground and signal ground (XLR connector Pin 1) are NOT the same point. DO NOT connect the chassis to Pin 1. The chassis is insulated from the signal ground with a capacitor (.01 microfarad, 1.4 kv). This eliminates the hum and potential shock hazard that can arise if stations are at a different ground potential.

In some situations, existing wire in a conduit may be used; consult the factory for guidelines.

In installations where conduit is NOT used, and equipment doesn't share a common ground, it is good engineering practice to run an additional ground wire to tie all chassis together (this decreases susceptibility to electrical noise fields).

If you don't use Belden cable, use a similar type, with wire gauges and capacitance as specified in this manual. The conductors in the cable, especially in longer runs (over 500 feet) must have low DC resistance (less than 15 ohms per 1000 feet; large diameter conductors) and low capacitance (less than or equal to 55 pF per foot of cable--capacitance between conductor and shield).

Refer to the Belden wire specs on page 6 to ensure that your substitute cable is comparable.

#### MULTI-CHANNEL CABLE CONSIDERATIONS

When installing a system that includes multi-channel stations, the channel feeds may be routed individually to each station with separate two-conductor shielded cables OR four channel feeds may be routed together with one four-pair shielded cable (such as BELDEN 8725; see multi-channel cable connection diagram on page 6). Two channel feeds may be routed with a two-pair shielded

cable (such as BELDEN 8723).

Seldom will an MS-400A be the only four-channel station in the system; therefore it is often convenient to use multi-pair shielded cable for at least some of the system wiring.

#### Crosstalk

When multiple channels are fed to remote stations, the amount of crosstalk is proportional to the amount of DC resistance in the ground return. Two ohms or less resistance is ideal; two ohms will give you 40 dB of isolation. Anything greater than two ohms will increase crosstalk. Each channel must be fed in its own separate shield.

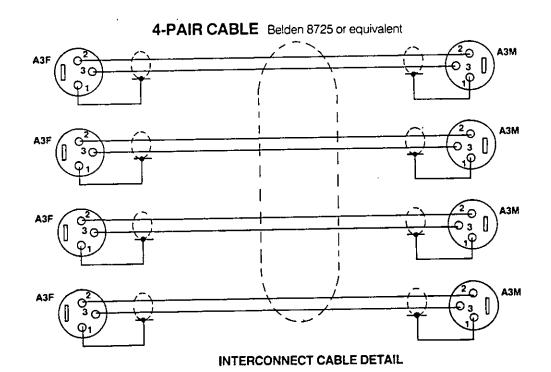
When connecting four-pair cable between multi-channel stations, all the shields and ground wires should be connected, effectively lowering ground resistance and reducing crosstalk. Refer to the diagram on pages 6 & 9. Also, tie unused wires in your interconnect cable to ground (Pin 1), thereby further reducing crosstalk.

Belden Shielded Cables

BEST OVERALL
FOR EVERYTHING

Trede	# of Cond.	AWG & (Stranding)	Insulation Thickness (inch)	Jacket Thickness -(Inch).	Nom. O.D. (Inch)	% Shield Coverage	Suggested Working Voltage	Nom. Cap.* (pt/ft.)	Nom. Cap. **: (pi/ft.)
8413	2	24 (45×40)	.019	.025	190	100	300	30	55
8412	2	20 (26×34)	.020	.043	.268	84	600	30	<b>5</b> 5
8762	2	20 (7x28)	.014	.028	.196	100	350	27	49
8760	2	18 (16×30)	.018	.028	.222	100	450	24	44
8725	8	20 (7×28)	.015	.030	.360	100	400	27	49
8723	4	22 (7×30)	.008	.019	.165	100	400	35	62

\*Capacitance between conductors
\*Capacitance between 1 conductor and other conductor connected to shield



Pin 1: Common

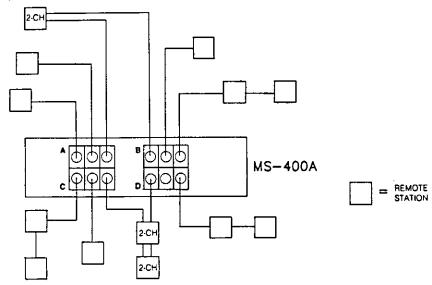
Pin 2: +VDC

Pin 3: Intercom Audio

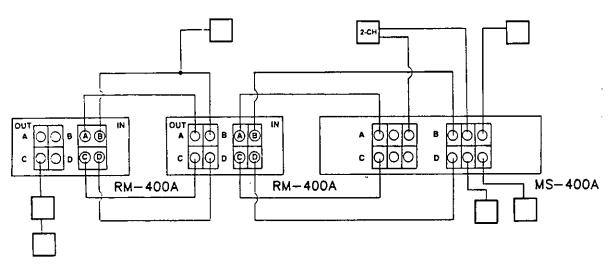
#### II-C. System Architecture

The number of ways in which you can set up a four-channel intercom system are nearly infinite. However, the "system architecture" will usually fall into one of two categories:

TYPE 1, in which an MS-400A is the only four-channel station, and it connects to a number of one- and two-channel remote stations as shown in the diagram below. This type of system is used in situations where only one location needs access to four separate remote stations or four separate groups of remote stations.



TYPE 2, in which the MS-400A is connected to RM-400A's, as shown in the diagram below. Systems of this type are used when  $\underline{\text{more}}$  than one location needs to communicate with each other and other remote stations or groups of remote stations.



On ALL rear panel intercom connectors, the pin-outs are:

PIN 1-- COMMON

PIN 2-- +VDC

PIN 3-- AUDIO

## II-D. System Wiring

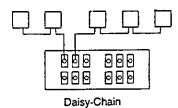
Both physical and electrical considerations are involved in determining the best system wiring configuration. The physical aspects center around ease of wiring, whereas the electrical aspects are dictated by performance requirements of the entire system and/or particular stations in the system. The two main electrical considerations for the cable are resistance in the conductors and capacitance between the conductors.

Build-up of resistance in the cable

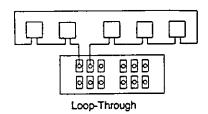
results in a loss of sidetone null at remote stations, some level loss from remote stations to the main station, reduced headset/speaker output before clipping, and, in the ground conductor, a serious increase in crosstalk.

Build-up of capacitance results in reduced sidetone null at all stations on the line(s) in question, and reduced voice clarity due to excessive high-frequency roll-off.

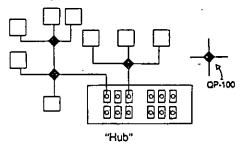
There are three main methods of configuring your system wiring (ANY combination of them can be used in one system):



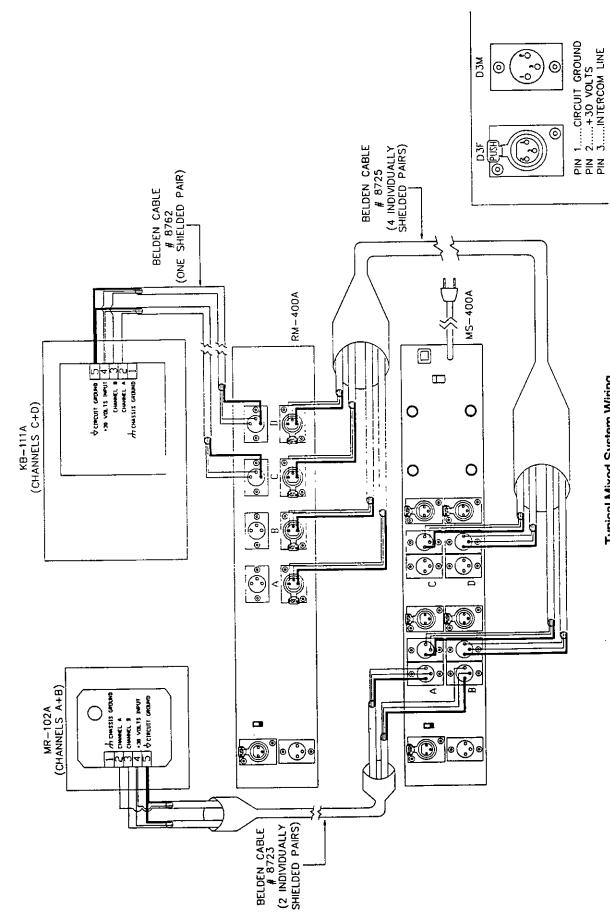
1. This daisy-chain method requires the least amount of cable, but may be impractical because of your facility's physical layout. Also, if a break occurs in cabling, all stations beyond the break are disabled (this problem is solved by the loop-through shown in Method 2):



Method 2 provides another advantage in that the DC resistance accumulated in the cable is no more than half as great as in the standard daisy-chain arrangement. However, it also results in a cumulative cable capacitance which may be twice as great as Method 1's.



3. This "hub" method is especially useful for belt-packs and situations in which running two cables to the remote stations is cumbersome. The hub method usually results in fairly low cable resistance between stations, but cumulative capacitance is often the highest of the three methods.

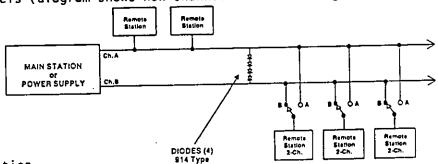


Typical Mixed System Wiring

Signalling Configurations in Multi-Channel Systems

In normal circumstances, the CALL light on a two-channel remote station lights only when someone signals on the channel that station has selected for communication. This is because the Visual Signal travels on the audio line in the form of DC voltage.

A simple modification may be made to the the system wiring so that stations which are switched to one channel will respond to a call signal on the other channel. This modification may be applied in both directions, so that all stations will indicate a call signal from either channel, white still maintaining two completely separate intercom channels (diagram shows how Channel A can send signals to Channel B):

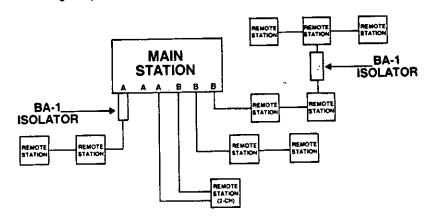


In-Line Isolation

In certain applications you may want to isolate conversations in one section of the system. Clear-Com offers Model BA-1 In-Line Isolator, which blocks intercom audio while allowing DC voltage to flow to an isolated "leg" of the system.

The BA-1 allows one channel to support several simultaneous and independent conversations. The main station cannot communicate with the isolated legs of the system. Private local conversations can go on along a common interconnect line without adding great lengths of cable or additional main stations. You may incorporate any number of BA-1 Isolator's, as long as the capacity of the main station is not exceeded by added remote stations.

There are a variety of ways to incorporate the BA-1 into a system. For instance, you can plug the BA-1 directly into a remote station's extension (output) connector, a main station's channel output connector, or between two runs of cable on any channel. This diagram illustrates two ways of isolating any section of your system:



Interfacing With Other Systems

Clear-Com's Model AC-10K Universal Interface, Model AC-10H Telephone Interface, Model IF4-4 TV Camera Interface, and Model TW-12 Two-Wire System Interface allow you to link Clear-Com with virtually any type of communications system. When your existing system is upgraded with Clear-Com equipment, you may continue to use portions of the older system. The AC-10K and AC-10H are called "Adapt-a-Com's" and guarantee compatibility with any in-house intercoms and other two-, three-, and four-wire systems. The AC-10H facilitates on-line communication via standard telephones, and helps you directly communicate with remote locations using two-wire or four-wire dedicated TELCO pairs.

"Typical" Four-Channel Intercom Systems

The diagram on the next page shows a standard Clear-Com system for a "typical" application. Since your requirements are likely to differ, both the wiring and your choice of stations may vary.

## SYMBOL KEY:

Four-channel speaker station, rack-mount (RM-400A)

Two-channel speaker station, wall-mount (KB-111A, KB-112)

Two-channel speaker station, rack-mount (RM-120A)

Two-channel headset station, wall-mount (MR-102A)

One- or two-channel belt-pack (CP-100, CP-300, RS-100A, RS-201)



Two-channel speaker station, portable (KB-111AP, KB-112P)



Two-channel wall plate (WP-2/WP-6)

Three-way line splitter (QP-100)

<u></u>

Universal interface (AC-10K or H)

In-line isolator (BA-1)

Single-muff headset (CC-35B, CC-75B)

-€.

Double-muff headset (CC-55, CC-240B)

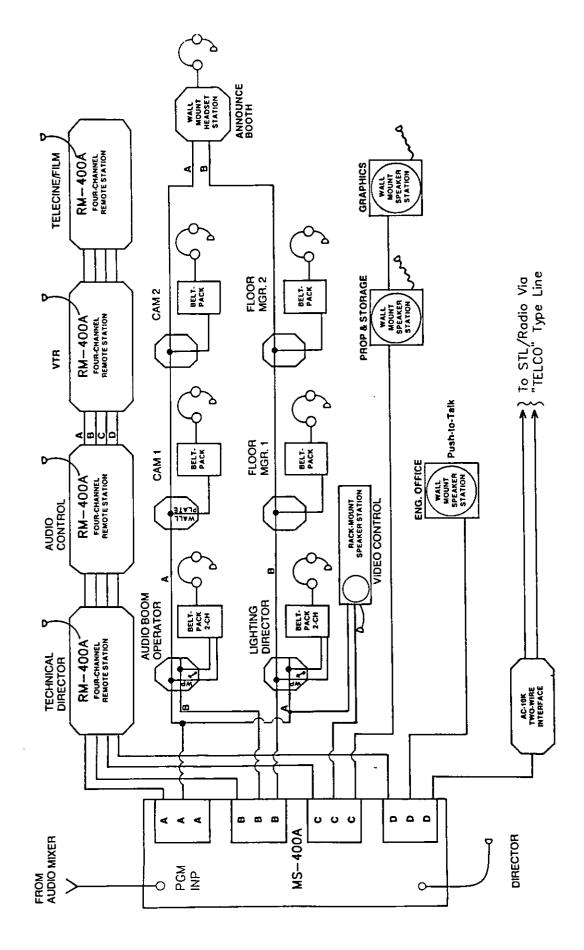
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Handheld mic, push-to-talk (PT-4)

متممط

Handset, push-to-talk (HS-6)

C



TELEPRODUCTION INTERCOM SYSTEM

### II-E. Mounting The MS-400A

The MS-400A is designed to mount in a standard 19" rack, using 3.5" vertically. It can also mount in a console or sit atop a shelf if necessary. The station extends 9" back from the front panel, but avoid sharp bends in cabling and allow an additional 3" behind the unit. If mounting the station in a console, the cut-out must be very accu-

rate, as the front panel extends only a very small amount beyond the top and bottom of the chassis. See page 15 for mounting dimensions. Before mounting the station, insure that any special features you require have been set up (ISO or IFB operation or split-feed headphones).

#### 11-F. Station Connection

Once you determine the configuration of your intercom system, decide upon a location for the main station. Then:

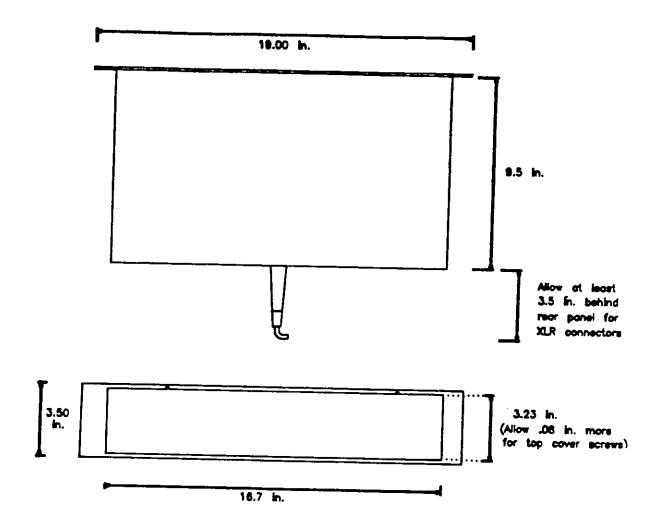
- Position the unit near a source of 115 or 230 VAC (power consumption is 80 watts maximum).
- 2) Use standard multi-pair shielded cable described in Section IIB.
- 3) Route all cables from the remote stations to the main station. Use any

- or all of the thee wiring methods described in Section 11D. Pin assignments for the rear panel intercom XLR connectors are: Pin 1, COMMON; Pin 2, +VDC: Pin 3, INTERCOM AUDIO.
- 4) Route cables away from heavy AC power sources such as lighting panels or electric motors.
- 5) In permanent installations, cables should be installed in accordance with approved local building codes.

#### II-G. Set-Up

After connecting the MS-400A to the remote stations, set the channel access (talk presets) and termination switches. IMPORTANT: Before turning on the unit, be sure that the line voltage switch is correctly set, and that the fuse is the proper rating!

Next, check that the program gain switch is set to match the level of the ingoing program (mic- or line-level). Finally, adjust operating controls for desired operation and comfortable levels.



MOUNTING DIMENSIONS

## 11-H. Headsets & Mics

All headset connectors in Clear-Com gear are the 4-pin, male XLR type. To assure proper level and performance, your headset (or handset or mic) should have the following characteristics--

Microphone type: dynamic Impedance: 150-250 ohms Output Level: -55dBv Ear Element type: dynamic

Output Impedance: 300-2000 ohms

An electret element gooseneck microphone, permanently mounted on the MS-400A, is available as a factory-installed option. When the gooseneck is installed, a built-in "dipper" circuit is enabled by adding JP-1 on the PC Board (any resistor of 100 ohms or less may be used). The "dipper" circuit will then attenuate the speaker output by approximately 6-10 dB whenever one or more of the channels are accessed using the Momentary position of the Talk toggle switch. This will help reduce the

possibility of acoustic feedback.

Clear-Com offers three standard headsets, all with boom-mounted, noisecancelling microphones. Model CC-240B is a double-muff headset, and Model CC-75B is single-muff; both have boomactivated dynamic mics with built-in ON/OFF switches. Model DT-109/6 is a double-muff headset wired for binaural applications. Model PH-7 is a doublemuff, high-fidelity headset with very wide frequency response, greater isolation from ambient noise, and extrarugged physical construction.

Clear-Com's HS-6 telephone-style handset has a dynamic mic and a push-to-talk switch, and is interchangeable with the above headsets. Our Model PT-4 is a hand-held push-to-talk mic for use with speaker stations.

All headsets and handsets have field-replaceable cords.

## II-I. Check-Out

Connect a headset to the MS-400A and be sure that you can access (talk and listen) all channels needed, and that visual signalling works both to and from the station. The brightly lit button should become dim or go out again immediately after the calling station's Call switch is released. If the light stays bright, there is a problem with the termination in that channel. As a check for proper termination, connect a beltpack to each channel and verify that the voice null occurs at approximately the 4 o'clock position on the trimpot. If the null occurs near or before the 1 o'clock position, there is probably more than one termination on that channel. units where good sidetone null is important (e.g., where a gooseneck mic and speaker are used simultaneously) this check should also be done for each of the station's sidetone null trimpots.

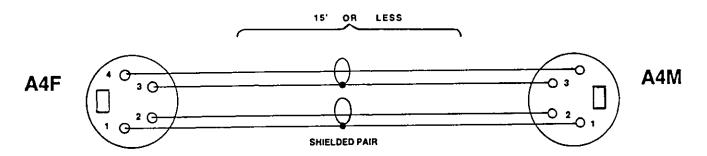
They are located directly behind the unmarked holes next to each "talk" togale switch.

The Stage Announce output should have the station operator's voice on it only while the front panel's "S/A" switch is engaged.

If any channels are fed Program from the MS-400A, the level to each channel may be adjusted using the trimpot(s) behind the access panel.

If any special functions have been set up, be sure to verify their operation. Check the "dipper" circuit in units which have a gooseneck mic by listening for a drop in listen-level from another station, only while any "talk" toggle switch is in the momentary "(ON)" position.

## **HEADSET EXTENSION CORD**



PIN 1: MIC GROUND PIN 2: MIC HOT PIN 3: HEADPHONE GROUND Pin 4: HEADPHONE HOT

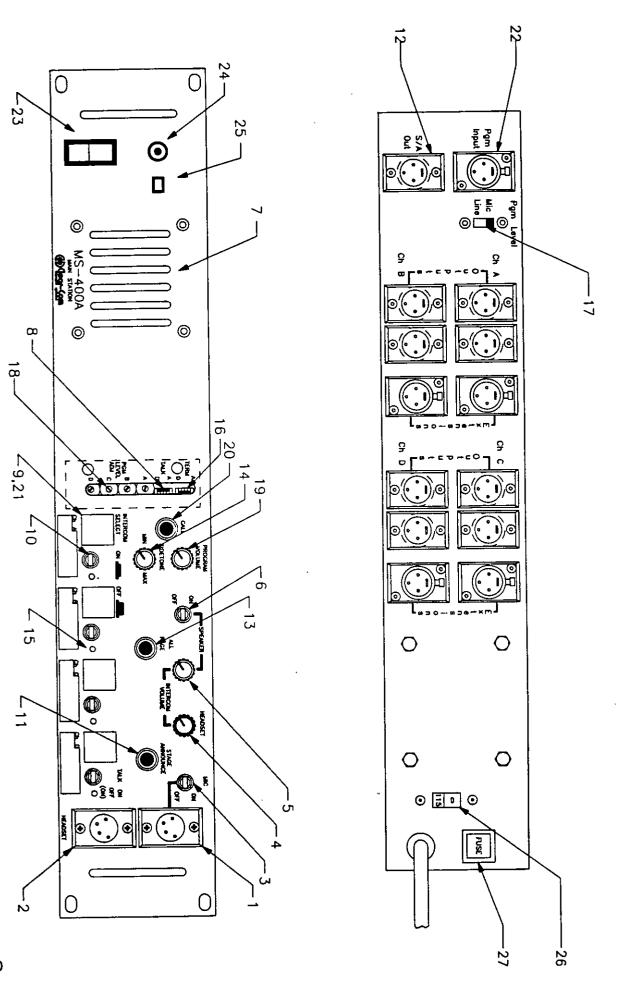
CAUTION: DO NOT CONNECT MIC GROUND & HEADPHONE GROUND TOGETHER.

## **HEADSET "Y" CABLE CONNECTIONS** A4M SHIELDED PAIR Note: Headset leads do not have to be shielded on Belden 8734. **BELDEN 8416** A4F A4M SHIELDED CAUTION: DO NOT CONNECT MIC GROUND & HEADPHONE GROUND TOGETHER AT ANY POINT PAIR PIN 1: MIC GROUND PIN 2: MIC HOT

PIN 3: HEADPHONE GROUND Pin 4: HEADPHONE HOT

# III. OPERATION III-A. Quick Operation Guide

- 1. Determine which intercom lines are to be assigned to each channel. Plug connecting cable into the appropriate XLR connectors on the rear panel. If program monitoring is also desired, connect the program source to the PROGRAM input on the rear panel and set the gain switch to match the source level. Connect a paging amp to the STAGE ANNOUNCE output, if used.
- Be sure that the rear panel MAINS SELECT switch and fuse are correct for the AC power you're using, then connect the power cord and turn on the POWER switch (the switch will light up).
- 3. Determine the access methods required for each channel and set the appropriate "talk" DIP switches. Check the settings of the termination DIP switches, and be sure that each channel of every station in the system is connected to one and only one TERMINATION.
- 4. Plug in the headset or turn on the mic and speaker, turn the SIDETONE volume up to the 10 o'clock position, then carefully adjust the HEADSET or SPEAKER volume for a comfortable level without feedback.
- Enable communication with each channel using the TALK toggle and/or INTERCOM SELECT switches, and re-adjust the headset or speaker volume if necessary.
- 6. If applicable, adjust the program level to the station's headsets and speaker using the PROGRAM volume control, and set the level to the intercom lines with the individual trimpots behind the access panel.
- Check the SIGNALLING functions on each channel. Check operation of any special features and functions needed.
- 8. See Section IIIC to set up ISO or IFB operation or SPLIT-FEED headset.



#### 111-B. MS-400A Operation

The controls on the surface of the front panel are used during normal operation of the station; the controls that are recessed behind the front panel cover plate are normally needed only during station set-up.

In the following explanation of controls, the boldface numbers in parentheses refer to the diagram of the MS-400A on page 20.

The MS-400A has two headset connectors (1,2); the mic input of the upper connector is switched by the MIC ON/OFF switch (3) located to its left. When neither headset jack is used, the mic preamp's gain automatically drops to near unity, to avoid noise pick-up from the unused input. (The gain of the switched mic input may be lowered by removing either R-15, 3 dB, or R-14, 5 dB. DO NOT remove both.) The headset connector pin-out is:

PIN 1-- MIC COMMON
PIN 2-- MIC HOT
PIN 3-- EAR ELEMENT COMMON
PIN 4-- EAR ELEMENT HOT

While using the MS-400A, do not position the headsets within two feet of an AC power transformer, or the mics may pick up hum.

If the optional gooseneck mic (1) is installed, it is controlled by the MIC ON/OFF switch.

The HEADSET VOLUME (4) and SPEAKER VOL-UME (5) controls permit independent adjustment of the intercom audio level in the station's headset and speaker outputs. The SPEAKER ON/OFF switch (6) allows the SPEAKER (7) to be muted instantly without disturbing its volume setting.

Programming Channel Access

The set of recessed DIP switches that are labelled "Talk" (8) allows each channel's INTERCOM SELECT button (9) to be programmed for Talk access, as well

as the usual Listen access that button controls. These switches are set OFF at the factory, so that Talk access is normally controlled only by TALK toggle switch (10). If the operator requires both Talk and Listen access when the Intercom Select button is engaged, set the talk pre-sets ON for the channel(s) desired.

Channel Access

The MS-400A operator accesses the desired channel(s) by using the Intercom Select and Talk toggle switches. Each channel's Intercom Select switch is a push-on/push-off, illuminated switch. It lights dimly while engaged (brightly when a Call signal is received). It always switches the Listen path of its associated channel, and depending on the setting of the Talk pre-set, will also switch the Talk path. The Talk path may always be turned on with the Talk toggle switch, which has both momentary and locking positions.

Stage Announce

The MS-400A operator presses the STAGE ANNOUNCE button (11), and audio from the MS-400A's mic(s) feeds to the rear panel S/A connector (12). Normally, the Talk signals to the intercom lines are interrupted, but you may add a jumper across the switch to prevent this.

All Page

When the ALL PAGE button (13) is pressed, the MS-400A operator's voice is sent to all four intercom channels simultaneously, whether or not any channel's Talk access is on. All Page has no effect on any of the station's other functions.

Sidetone

Sidetone (the voice of the operator heard at his/her own station) must be carefully controlled to avoid acoustic feedback and/or system instability. The MS-400A has a front panel SIDETONE control (14) to add a set amount of sidetone to the unit's headset/speaker outputs, independent of any channel(s) that

the operator is monitoring.

Each channel's SIDETONE NULL adjustment (this is located behind the unmarked hole, 15, beside each Talk toggle switch) is set at the factory for best (full) null with less than 500 feet of connected cable. Because of the controlled amount of added sidetone, the number of channels being monitored doesn't have much effect on the overall sidetone level.

When you are using a gooseneck mic while the speaker is on, it's usually necessary to turn the sidetone control all the way down (counter-clockwise) to prevent acoustic feedback. The dipper circuit, which is enabled in all speaker stations with gooseneck mics, also helps prevent feedback. It automatically attentuates the station's speaker output when any of the Talk toggle switches are in the momentary ON position.

#### Termination

The termination switches (16) are set only during installation, and must NOT be changed unless a change in system wiring requires it.

Program\_Input

The MS-400A has Clear-Com's new switchable mic-level or line-level Program (auxiliary) preamp. A switch located on the rear panel (17) sets the circuit's input sensitivity so that either a mic (-50dBv) or line (-0dBv) level signal will produce full station output. The input, accessed from a rear panel 3-pin XLR connector (22), is balanced, but may be used single-ended if you tie one of the inputs to circuit common. Program audio from the preamp feeds both the

Program buss for sending onto the intercom lines, and to the station's headset and speaker amplifiers. Program feed to each intercom line is controlled by individual trimpots (18) behind the access plate. The trimpots are set fully OFF at the factory. The program level heard in the station's headset/speaker is set by the front panel PROGRAM VOLUME control (19).

Call Signalling

Pressing the CALL button (20) causes the visual signalling voltage to be sent onto the intercom lines of only those channels whose Intercom Select buttons are engaged. This voltage is sensed by all stations on those channels (including the sending station), which cause the corresponding CALL LAMPS (21) to light brightly. A signal from another station is indicated in the same manner, whether or not the Intercom Select button is engaged.

#### Power

The power switch (23) controls the AC power to the station; an integral neon bulb indicates when the unit is on. The circuit breaker (24) protects against DC power shorts. Any current load greater than two amperes will cause it to trip, causing the short indicator (25) to light. After removing the short, pressing the breaker button instantly restores normal operation.

The AC line voltage select switch (26) and external line fuse (27) permit instant change in the field between 115 and 230 VAC operation. Be certain to use the correct slow blow fuse (115VAC = 1A; 230V = 0.5A).

## III-C. Special Features: ISO, IFB, and Split-Feed Headset Operation

Refer to the printed circuit board diagram (page 35) for jumper locations.

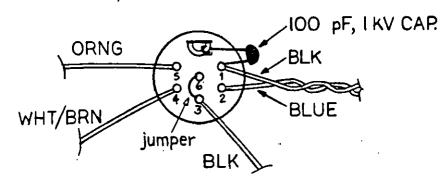
The MS-400A (similar to the RM-400A and SB-412A) provides you with the capability to convert any one or more of its channels from regular two-way operation to either ISO or IFB operation, simply by adding one or two jumpers in the selected channel's circuitry.

The channel ISO function is engaged only while the channel's Talk toggle is in the momentary "(ON)" position. Channel ISO causes the MS-400A operator's voice feed to all other channels to be interrupted (except those also in the momentary (ON) position), so the operator may talk with the selected channel isolated from the rest of the system. To set up an ISO channel, add a diode (1N4148 type) to the pin sockets for D30, D32, D34, or D36 which correspond to the channels A, B, C, and D.

IFB operation, used extensively for cueing Talent, causes muting of program audio and simultaneously switches the cueing station's Talk feed for the intercom to the IFB channel(s). In addition to jumpers in the MS-400A, IFB operation requires a PIC-4 (which supports up to four separate IFB channels). Like ISO, the IFB circuitry is active

only while the designated channel's Talk toggle is switched to the momentary (ON) position. The PIC-4 mutes the program audio in response to the signalling voltage that the IFB circuitry sends on the IFB channel. Converting a channel to IFB operation requires two jumpers: a 47k ohm resistor (1/4 or 1/8 watt) for the pin sockets of R136, R143, R150, or R157 (corresponding to channels A, B, C, and D) AND the diode listed above in the ISO conversion procedure.

The other special feature that involves an internal jumper is "split feed" for the headsets (program in one ear, intercom in the other). In most systems, the program and intercom audio are combined in both the headset and speaker outputs. By removing the 220k ohm resistor from the pin sockets for R9, you prevent program audio from being part of the Next, connect intercom headset output. output (the program headset white/brown wire coiled up near the front panel) to Pin 4 of a 6-pin XLR insert, which you substitute for the Connect the interstandard 4-pin one. com headset output to Pin 5; Pins 3 and The program will 6 are circuit common. be in the left ear, the intercom will be in the right. See diagram below for the wiring detail of the connector.



HEADSET CONNECTOR 6-PIN INSERT: WIRING SIDE

## IV. TECHNICAL INFORMATION IV-A. Circuit Description

There are two inputs to the main mic preamp, one for each headset connector. The input from the upper connector is switched, and is also used for the optional gooseneck mic. The two inputs are routed to the summing input of the mic preamp (IC2 pin 2) via J3 pins 5 & 6. A compressor circuit (Q1) reduces the gain (nominally +51 dB with a -55 dBv input) as necessary to maintain an output level near 0 dB. The talk signal branches to three sections: the talk buss, which feeds the station operator's voice to the intercom channels; the S/A (stage or set announce) circuit; and the side path, which bypasses the intercom channels to feed the operator's voice directly to the station's headset/speaker output (sidetone).

The feed from the talk buss to the intercom channels is controlled by a foursection analog switch (IC5). Each channel's talk access may be turned on by engaging that channel's Intercom Select button (if its talk pre-set is on) or by using the talk toggle associated with that channel. Following the signal path trough Channel A's line circuit, the station operator's voice is fed to the intercom line through the line driver (IC6a), while IC6b maintains a high impedance (to prevent line loading) and amplifies signals on the line to feed the listen buss. A portion of the talk signal is fed directly to the line buffer through P1 to allow the talk signal to be nulled out at the listen side. The output from the line buffer is switched to the listen buss directly by contacts on the Intercom Select switch (S2). Signals from the selected channels are combined in the summing amplifier (IC4a), which also mixes in sidetone via P6, feeding the combined output to the headset driver via P8 and the speaker amp via P7.

A signal on the program or auxiliary input is amplified by 104b, configured as a differential or balanced-input amp. (For single-ended, unbalanced use, the signal is applied to one of the input terminals and the other one is grounded.) This output branches to the program buss for feeding to the intercom lines, as set by each channels' trimpot (P101-104) on the adjustment module, and directly to the headset and speaker amps via P5. An extra headset driver (IC1b) permits program and intercom in separate sides of a binaural headset, yet program and intercom are always combined in the speaker output.

The visual signalling circuits utilize a DC voltage (momentarily) impressed on the audio channel. The PNP darlington (09 in channel A's line circuit) is operated as a current source (to prevent line loading) when its base circuit is pulled low. The resulting voltage on the intercom line is sensed by the NPN darlington, Q5 (and its corresponding element in all other line circuits connected to this channel). Collector current through the forward-biased NPN transistor causes the lamp to light.

#### IV-B. Maintance & Warranty

Clear-Com's solid-state intercoms, power supplies, and interfaces are designed with a modular "building block" approach for easy system expansion and field servicing. Our chassis design incorporates highly efficient ventilation and engineered circuitry, conservatively assuring years of trouble-free service. Our packaging is the most rugged available, constructed from 16-gauge aluminum or stainless steel, glass epoxy, plug-in PC Boards. Clear-Com is heavily shielded against hum, RFI pick-up, and solidstate dimmer (SCR) noise. All Clear-Com stations are compatible.

Before shipping, we test each unit to make sure it meets or exceeds all specifications. All units are guaranteed by Clear-Com against defects in materials and workmanship for one year following date of purchase (90 days for headsets; see warranty enclosed with each unit).

Our Engineering and Serice Departments will gladly provide you with technical advice and assistance. If you have any questions regarding operation, modifications, or applications of your intercom system, call us during business hours at (415) 861-6666, Pacific Standard Time.

## IV-C. Troubleshooting

Symptom	Cause	Remedy
System non-operable; power switch not lit	A. loss of AC power or B. internal fuse is blown; could be caused by power supply failure	A. plug unit into dependable AC source B. replace fuse; if it blows repeatedly, bridge rectifier or other component probably shorted inside power supply. Have power supply fixed.
Circuit breaker trips repeatedly; short circuit LED remains lit	A. shorted or mis- wired cabling  B. defective remote station	A. remove cables, one at a time, from main station until faulty line is located; check for shorts between Pins 1 & 2 B. check remote units
Hum or buzz in system	A. inductive pick-up caused by close proximity of main or remote station to power lines or transformers.  B. ground loop caused by improper ground of system.  C. 10 ohm chassis ground resistor (R in power supply is open*  D. inductive pick-up by headset mic; check by switching mic on and off.	B. reverse power cord, lift ground (see Section II).  C. check resistance between 14) chassis and Pin 1 of connector; it should be 10 ohms. If not, open power supply and replace resistor.  D. move mic away from "hum field" or use carbon or
Excessive background noise pick-up by mic	A. distance from mic to lips is too far B. volume too high C. too many mics on in system	A. move closer to mic  B. turn down headset or speaker volume C. turn off all unused mics

Symptom	Cause	Remedy
Feedback	acoutical	A. check sidetone levels B. check termination (should be only one per channel) C. volume too high at one station D. two or more speaker stations have mics on at once; speak one at a time (per channel) E. speaker volume up too high at station with gooseneck mic

\*Power supply's 10-ohm resistor is opened when the system ground comes in contact with something "hot," with respect to the station's earth ground. Should this occur, we recommend you carefully check the system ground and AC distribution in the area. NOTE: This is a potentially dangerous situation; if it occurs, SHOCK HAZARD may occur between the ground and the metal boom of the headset.

```
RES CF 1/4W 5% 56K DHMS
                                                                                                                                                                                 4 R103 R112 R94 R129
      410023
                                                                                                                                                                           17 R205 R203 R166 R164 R162 R168
      410024
                                   RES CF 1/4W 5% 100K DHMS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           R74 R68 R21 R189 R188 R167
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             R165 R163 R161 R86 R80
                                                                                                                                                                                 4 R131 R122 R105 R96
                                                                                 68K OHMS
                                   RES CF 1/4W 5%
      410025
                                                                                                                                                                             6 R1B R17 R7 R58 R9 R47
6 R1 RB5 R79 R73 R67 R25
      410028
                                   RES CF 1/4W 5% 220K OHMS
      410030
                            RES CF 1/4W 5% 470K DHMS
      410031
                                   RES CF 1/4W 5% 12K OHMS
                                                                                                                                                                                   1 R22
10 R204 RB R155 R148 R141 R134
      410032
                             RES CF 1/4W 5%
                                                                                 18K DHMS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          R125 R108 R99 R90
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              D31 D30 D29 D28 D27 D26
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              D25 D24 D23 D22 D21 D20
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               D19 D18 D17 D16 D15 D14
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               D13 D12 D11 D10 D9 D8
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               D7 D6 D5 D4 D3 D2
   ### 480001 DID 1N4001 RECTIFIER DIODE 1 D38 | ### 480004 | TRA MPS-AL3 TRANSISTOR | ### 480008 | TRA MPS-AL3 TRANSISTOR | ### 480002 | AAA ICS LH384 IC POMER OP AMP 14 PIN | ### 1 IC3 | 
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               D1
      510050 AAA SWT SCH#F-N-00-4U-EE-N-21-01-16-01-B-A6-3-03 4 S2 S5 S4 S3
    510057 AAA SPDT NKK#M2019EX612/319 REV.THROW 4 56 S7 58 S9
560018 TRN 600CT/600CT PAN MAGNETICS #TTC108 1 T1
710188 ASY 400 SERIES PROGRAM INTERRUPT REV.A 1
```

```
QTY REF DESIS
                    DESCRIPTION
 P/N
                                                                                    4 C103 C104 C102 C101
              CAE 10UF ELECTROLYTIC 16V R.L.
150027
              PCB REVISED 4 CH SERIES ADJUSTMENT PCB
170098
                                                                                  1 J101
              AMP 20 PIN R/A HEADER AMP#1-87563-0
210132
                                                                                     4 R203 R201 R207 R205
              RES CF 1/4W 5% 220 OHMS
RES CF 1/4W 5% 4.7K DHMS
410007
                                                                                     4 R204 R202 R20B R206
               RES CF 1/4N 5% 4.7K DHMS
410013

      REV 50K TRIM PQT V MTG. PIHER®PT-10H-50K
      4 P104 P103

      SWT MINI PIANO DIP SWITCH GRAYHILL @76PSB04
      2 S102 S101

                                                                                     4 P104 P103 P102 P101
470019
510039
 ASSEMBLY 710188 ASY 400 SERIES PROGRAM INTERRUPT REV.A
                                                                                    QTY REF DESIG
                  DESCRIPTION
 P/N
                                                                                    4 C104 C103 C102 C101
               CAE 10UF ELECTROLYTIC 16V R.L.
              CAE 10UF ELECTROLYTIC 16V R.L.

PCF 400 SERIES PROGRAM INTERRUPT BOARD

JMP JUMP JAX SEALECTRC#0264B10

TER HEADER MULTI PIN HEADER(MIN 18 PIN)

4 U104 E103 C102 C101

1 JP3 JP2 JP1 JP4

8 . . . JP4 JP3 JP2
150027
170109
210103
210112
                                                                                                                           JP1 .
              AMP 20 PIN R/A HEADER AMP#1-87563-0

RES CF 1/4W 5% 220 OHMS

RES CF 1/4W 5% 220 OHMS

RES CF 1/4W 5% 4.7K OHMS

RES CF 1/4W 5% 22K OHMS

RES CF 1/4W 5% 1 MEGADHM

RES CF 1/4W 5% 1 MEGADHM

RES CF 1/4W 5% 4.7 MEGADHMS

RES CF 1/4W 5% 4.7 MEGADHMS

REV 50K TRIM POT V MTG. PIHER#PT-10H-50K

TRA 2N5021 JFET(OBS) USE J270

SWI MINI PIANO DID SWITCH ERRYHILL #74PSR04

2 S102 C101
 210132
 410007
 410013
 410018
 410058
 410077
 470019
 480044
               SWT MINI PIAND DIP SWITCH BRAYHILL $76PSB04 2 S102 S101
 510039
   ASSEMBLY 710044 ASY 1/2 REG POWER SUPPLY MODULE REV.6
                                                                                     QTY REF DESIG
                    DESCRIPTION
  P/N
                HTS HTSNK 1/2 RES PS AAVID$56300
CAE 2200UF ELECTROLYTIC 50V A.L.
                                                                                      2
 140002
                CAE 2200UF ELECTROLYTIC 50V A.L. 2 C1 C2 CAD .01UF DISC 1.4KVDC 150VAC UL APPROVED 1 C4
 150022
 150029
                CAE 2200UF ELECTROLYTIC 35V A.L.
                                                                                    1 03
 150036
                                                                                     1 05
               CAN .47UF MONOLYTHIC SOV 1
AAA PCB 1/2 REG. POMER SUPPLY BOARD 1
TUR DIODE TURRET CAMBION#140-1578-02-01-00 8
TER P.C. BUICK-CONNECT TAB KEYSTONE#12B5 14
SOC SINGLE PIN SOCKET FOR DLC OPTION JUMPS 2
                CAN .47UF MONDLYTHIC 50V
 150043
 170037
 210079
 210080
                                                                                    2 R14 .
 210109
                KNB RUBBER FOOT .50 INCH SP. MOUSER#517-8018
RES CF 1/4M 5% 10 OHMS
  240010
                                                                                      1 R14
  410002
                 RES CF 1/4W 52 270 OHMS
  410009
                                                                                     2 R5 R10
                 RES CF 1/4N 5%
                                        1K OHMS
  410010
                 RES CF 1/4W 5% 3.9K OHMS
  410012
                RES CF 1/4W 5% 4.7K DHMS
RES CF 1/4W 5% 82 DHMS
RES CF 1/4W 5% 100 DHMS
                                                                                      1 R6
  410013
                                                                                      1 R3
  410038
                                                                                       1 R4
  410071
                                                                                      2 R1 R2
                 RES CF 2N 5% .39 OHMS
  410073
                RES CF 1/2M 5% 1.5K OHMS 1 R8

RES CF 1/2M 5% 1.3K OHMS 1 R9

RES CF 2M 5% .5 OHMS 2 R12 R13

DIO 1N4001 RECTIFIER DIDDE 1 D5

DIO 1N5401 RECTIFIER DIDDE 3A 100FIV 4 D4 D3 D2 D1

SCR TECCOR®S2010LS2 10A SENSITIVE 1 SCR1

TRA MOTO MJE 4350 TRANSISTOR TO218AC PK6 1 91
                 RES CF 1/2W 5% 1.5K OHMS
                                                                                       1 R8
  410074
  410075
  410076
  480001
  480005
  480048
   480049
                 TRA MPS-A55 TRANSISTOR
   480050
                 TRA TIP30B TRANSISTOR TO220 PKG
   480051
                 TRA MPS-A05 TRANSISTOR
  480052
                 DIO 1N5245B ZENER 15V 57.5WATTS
   480053
```

DIO 1N5257B ZENER 33V 5Z .5WATTS

FUS FUSE CLIP KEYSTONE \$3530

STR CABLE TIE TYTON#T40R

480054

520017

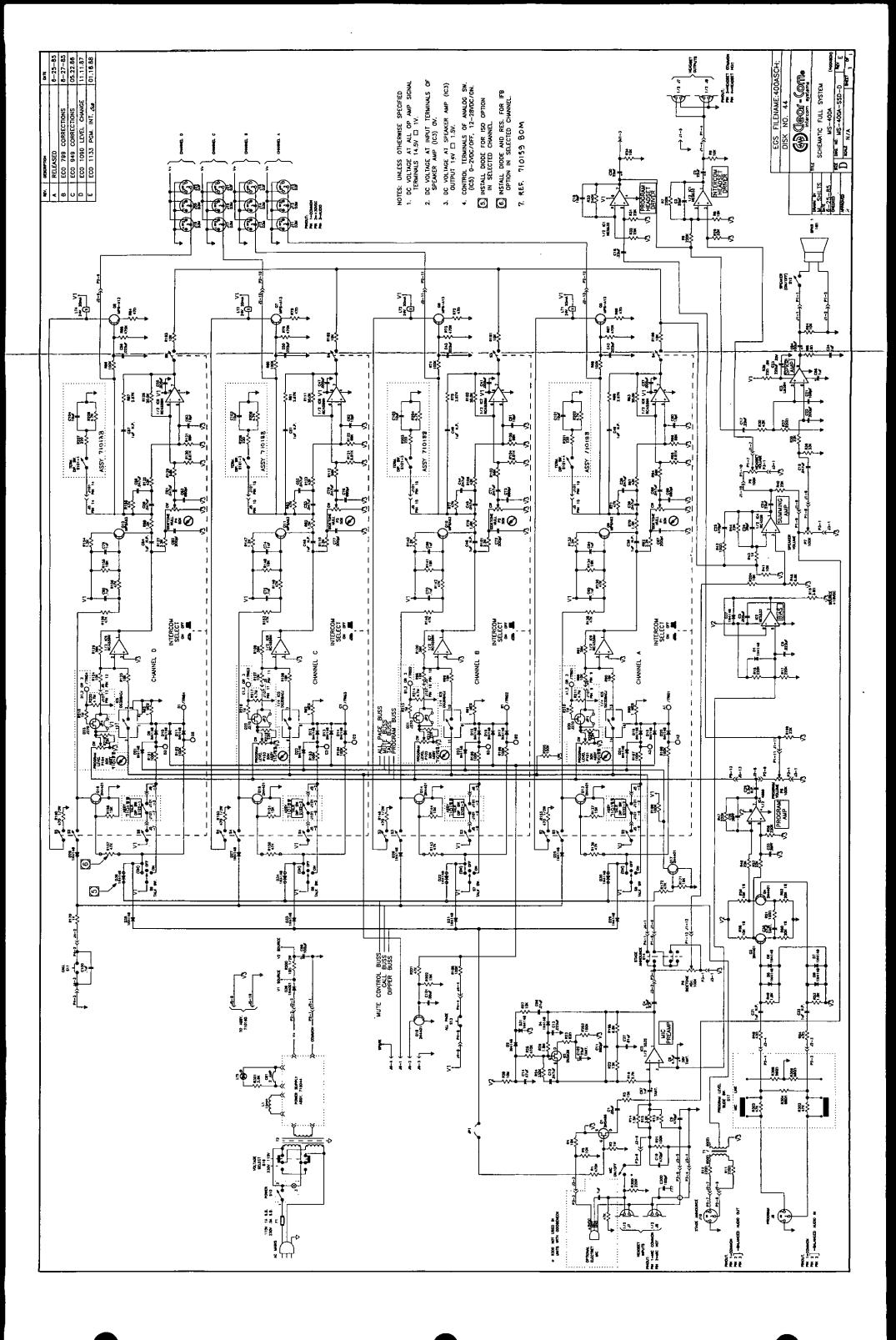
640016

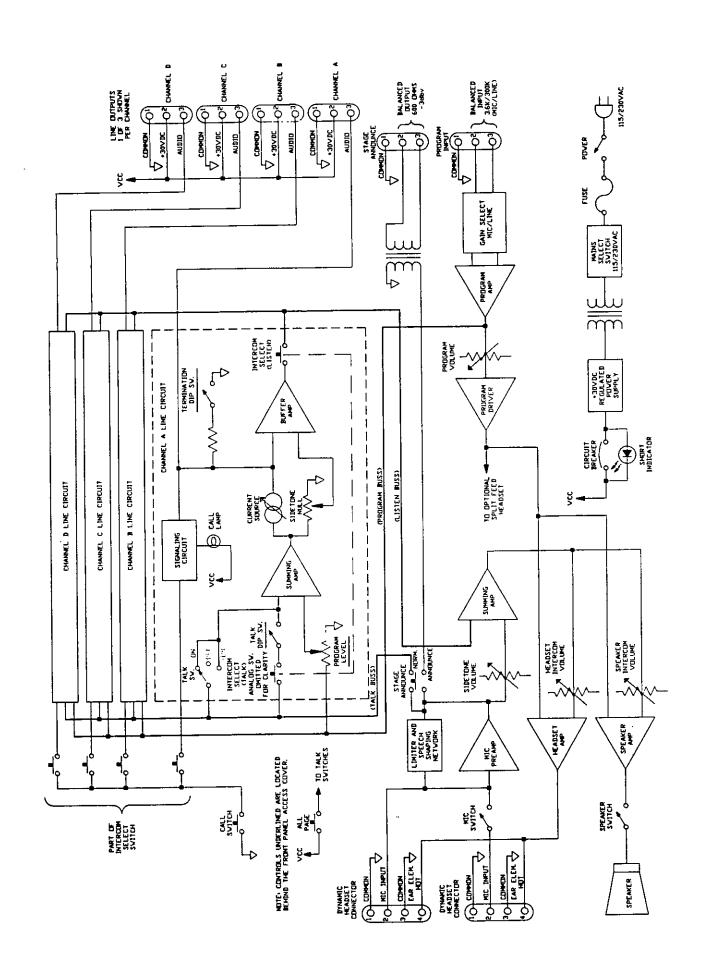
P/N	DESCRIPTION	QTY	P/N	DESCRIPTION	QTY
150048 210013 240015 240020	CAD 100PF 1KV 20% RF CAP AAA SWC D4M CONNECTOR AAA KNB ROGAN#RB-67-0-DC-ML.125 1/2 W/1/8 SHAFT KNB RED BUTTON FOR C&K SWITCH #8121	1 2 4 3	210002 210003 210067 210082	AAA SMC D3F CONNECTOR AAA SMC D3M CONNECTOR TER WIRE NUT FOR #22 GUAGE WIRE HDL#NP5115 TER CRIMP SLIP-ON .187 IN RED AMP#640946-1	5 9
250054 250247 250252 250261	AAA 3 INCH SPEAKER SCREEN MET MS-400A FRONT PANEL HDRZ. MET MS-400A/RM-400A/SB-412A ACCESS PLATE MET BRACKET 4CH ADJ SUPPORT	1 1 1	210088 210089 250254 410021	TER CRIMP SPADE LUG (%) AMP#640811-1 TER CRIMP SLIF-ON .25 IN RED AMP#640932-1 MET MS-400A REAR PANEL RES CF 1/4W 5% 47K OHMS	2 3 1 2
280053 280054 280067 390010	HDS GROMMET HARTWELL #HN3G-31-1 HDS PLUNGER HARTWELL #HN3P-31-4-1 HDS DRESS CONE NUT C&K #7025 LED PANEL NTS SQUARE RED LED GEN INST#CMP(4-88)	2 2 3 1	410044 410046 510053 510065	RES CF 1/4W 5% 680 DHMS RES CF 1/4W 5% 560 DHMS SWI DPDT SLIDE SWI SCRFT#46256LFR LINE VLT SELECT SWI SLIDE SW CHASSIS MT6 DPDT SWCRFT#56206L1	1 2 1 1
390011 410012 410026 470020	BEZ BEZEL SET FOR 390010 6.18MP65(4-BB) RES CF 1/4W 5% 3.9K 0HMS RES CF 1/4W 5% 220K 0HMS AAA REV 100K LINEAR PC MT6 CTS#FB6645	1 1 1 4	520021 520027 560011 610000 640004	FUS 3A6 1 AMP SLOW BLOW #313001 FUS SO BEZEL FUSEHOLDER MOUSER#44FH:13 AAA TRN POWER XFORMER CARSON#8832 CBL POWER CORD SET 3-COND BELDEN# 17237 STR MEYCO #SR-5P-4	1 1 1 1
500089 510002 510006 510028 510041 520028	AAA SPK 3INCH ROUND SPEAKER CTS#3A2479 SMT POWER ILLUM. ROCKER ARCOL.#1403ACBR2 AAA SMT MINI-TOG W/LONG NKK#M2012ESG13 AAA SMT SNAP-ACTION C&K#8125SHWBE SMT DPDT SNAP-ACTION C&K#8225SYAV2BE BKR 2A CKT BKR HOSIDEN #TBC6051-11-0672 (#160-A)	1 2 2 1			

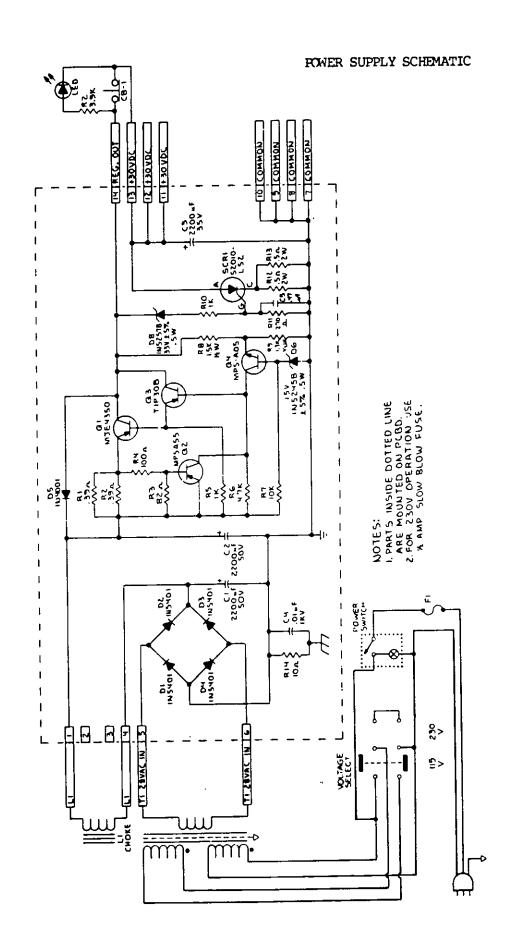
ASSEMBLY MS-400A

FGI MS-400A RACK MAIN STATION REV.C

P/N	DESCRIPTION	QTY	REF DESIE
180000	AAA TRN FILTER CHOKE 15MH CARSON#6450	1	
210048	AMP 12 PIN MTA HOUSING #1-640440-2	2	
210066	AMP 5 PIN MTA HOUSING #640440-5	i	
210082	TER CRIMP SLIP-ON .187 IN RED AMP#640946-1	6	
210117	AMP 6 PIN MTA HOUSING AMP #640440-6	1	
240016	KNB BUMPER 1/2X1/2X1/B MOUSER#517-8008	2	
250264	AAA MET 3 1/2 IN CHASSIS	1	
250265	MET 3 1/2 IN RACK COVER	1	
280030	HDS INS STANDOFF 1/4 DIA 1/4IN LONG FOR #4 SCREW	i	
280103	HDS PCB SUPPORT RICHCO#LCBSB-4-NA	2	
640030	HDS RICHCO KWIK KLIP #KKC-2 RICHCO#640030	3	
710044	ASY 1/2 REG POWER SUPPLY MODULE REV.6	1	
710159	ASY REVISED 4 CH MAIN MODULE ASSY REV.F	1	
720041	ASY MS-400A FRONT PANEL ASSY REV.D	1	
720044	ASY MS-400A REAR PANEL REV.A	1	
735006	ASY HARNESS REVISED 4CH J1/J3/J4	i	
735007	ASY HARNESS J2 MS-400A	1	
810021	MAN MS-400A INSTRUCTION MANUAL	1	







### IV-F. Component Locations

