



ADVC-HDSC1

Using the ADVC-HDSC1 as a Sync Generator in Compact Installations

The ADVC®-HDSC1 is primarily used as a desktop tool to facilitate HD monitoring using analog displays. However, one of its more obscure features is its sync generator capability. The ADVC-HDSC1 can easily act as the sole master timing generator for compact facilities, instead of using a dedicated, stand-alone sync generator.

The sync generator functionality of the ADVC-HDSC1 operates off an internal reference only, and therefore does not genlock. In most new facilities, this is not an issue as, unlike 20 years ago, a significant number of the video mixing devices installed in these facilities include some capability of locking one or more async sources. It is frequently undesirable—especially in fixed facilities—to lock the entire facility to one potentially unreliable remote source risking the entire facility’s stability.

As a sync generator the ADVC-HDSC1 simultaneously outputs one traditional “color black” as well as one tri-level sync for HD reference. Additionally, the ADVC-HDSC1’s front panel and display provide easy access to configuration confirmation of settings for HD/SD standards, instead of using non-user friendly dip-switch for configuration settings.

Once set, there is full confidence in what the ADVC-HDSC1 is generating, as it may be set to display this information full time as it sits front-facing in the equipment rack or on a tabletop.

Additionally, the other features in the ADVC-HDSC1 may be exploited for several purposes:

- Analog audio monitoring of embedded HD/SD audio
- VU metering for embedded HD/SD audio
- Driving an RGB or Y, R-Y, B-Y display from HD/SD sources
- Driving a composite display from an SD-SDI source

This combination of features makes the ADVC-HDSC1 a multi-purpose tool in compact facilities, such as houses of worship, event arenas, and corporate video coverage, where an HD/SD sync generator is needed.

But what about test signals?

This device, as do most inexpensive sync generators, does not generate test signals as a rule, although color bars of limited value can be found in some models.

An example of an ADVC-HDSC1 sync generator application

The Grass Valley™ Kayak™ production switcher requires synchronization. The ADVC-HDSC1 supplies SD and HD references to a pair of Grass Valley 8901 GeckoFlex video DAs, which then distribute as needed to the Kayak’s equipment rack and any other equipment requiring synchronization signals.

Additionally, the audio demux digital-to-analog functionality of the ADVC-HDSC1 is used to help monitor the embedded audio in the RAMRecorder™ feature of the Kayak switcher. The RAMRecorder video output is sent to an auxiliary bus, which is then fed into the ADVC-HDSC1. The analog audio is then sent from the ADVC-HDSC1 to a pair of self-powered speakers.

This combination of features in a half 1 RU package has proven to be quite valuable in Kayak “fly-pack” applications.

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