



Crown DCi Plugin for Q-SYS User Guide

v 1.4.1



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Introduction

The Crown DCi Q-SYS plugin brings the Crown DCi Network and Crown DCi Dante amplifiers to the Q-SYS control ecosystem. The plugin was designed to bring the supervision of the Crown DCi platform to Q-SYS. Metering, fault monitoring, output load monitoring, preset recall, and other high-level functions are available for integration into larger integrated systems.

The plugin will always read its state from the amplifier. It cannot be configured offline and have the settings sent to the amplifier.

Compatibility

The Crown DCi Q-SYS Plugin supports the following Network and Dante models.

- DCi 2x300N
- DCi 2x600N
- DCi 2x1250N
- DCi 2x2400N
- DCi 4x300N
- DCi 4x600N
- DCi 4x1250N
- DCi 4x2400N
- DCi 8x300N
- DCi 8x600N
- DCi 4x300DA
- DCi 4x600DA
- DCi 4x1250DA
- DCi 8x300DA
- DCi 8x600DA

Additional information on the DCi series amplifiers can be found on the Crown website.

(www.crownaudio.com/en/product_families/drivecore-install-network-series & www.crownaudio.com/en/product_families/drivecore-install-da-series)

Relationship with Audio Architect

Audio Architect should be used for the configuration and setup of all DCi Devices.

Where possible, plugin controls exactly match those in Audio Architect. Toggling a mute in the plugin will be reflected in Audio Architect and vice versa.

Audio Architect is a Harman software platform that supports the connection, configuration, and control of Harman devices. It is optimized for the professional installed sound market and offers automatic grouping and workflows that make configuring and managing large groups of equipment simple and easy.

Download Audio Architect from the Harman Audio Architect website

(https://audioarchitect.harmanpro.com/en-US/audio-architect-HiQnet_software)



Warning: The Plugin is designed to work with the latest crown amplifier firmware and Dante firmware (on the Dante models), before using the plugin please download the latest version

of Audio Architect and connect to the DCi amplifiers to check if the amplifiers are running the latest firmware.

NetSetter is a standalone networking utility that aids in discovering and managing networking-related parameters of Harman devices. It can allow re-addressing, and network configuration of Harman HiQnet devices, regardless of the subnet configuration.

NetSetter is included in the installation of Audio Architect.

HiQnet and Q-SYS Networking

The Crown Q-SYS Plugin integrates the monitoring of the Harman HiQnet protocol (Harman proprietary communications protocol) and extends it into the Q-SYS system and allows Crown devices to connect to the Q-SYS platform. HiQnet operates over standard TCP/IP network and is compatible with Q-Lan traffic. To communicate with the Core, the Core and the DCi devices need to be the same network, designed to support TCP traffic between them.

Networking advice and recommendations

- It is recommended that users stay away from large daisy-chain network topologies with HiQnet devices.
- It is recommended for DCi to be configured with static IP addresses for network and communication stability.
- It is recommended that HiQnet traffic does share the same network as Dante traffic, where HiQnet and Dante are on the same network they should be separated by VLANs.
- It is easy to accidentally duplicate IP addresses within multiple instances of the plugin. Use caution when globally copy and pasting settings as the IP address will get copied and pasted along with other parameters.
- If specific ports need to be allowed in your IT infrastructure, HiQnet uses port 3804 to communicate between the Harman devices and the Q-SYS Core.



Warning: DCi Amplifiers are designed to only support a limited number of TCP connections. Use only one plugin instance for each amplifier. Running Q-SYS and Audio Architect simultaneously will lead to issues if the polling rate is set too high.

Q-SYS System Notes

The provided plugin documentation assumes you have a working knowledge of the Q-SYS system and Q-SYS Designer.

The plugin is designed to work with Q-SYS Designer v9.4.8 and above. The latest version of Q-SYS Designer can be downloaded from QSC.

(www.qsc.com/resources/software-and-firmware/q-sys-designer-software/)

The plugin is designed to take advantage of the capabilities enabled with the Scripting Engine functionality of the cores. You may need to purchase this license for your cores for an additional cost from QSC.

Most of the parameters and functions in the plugin can work in emulation mode without a Q-SYS Core attached.

Installation

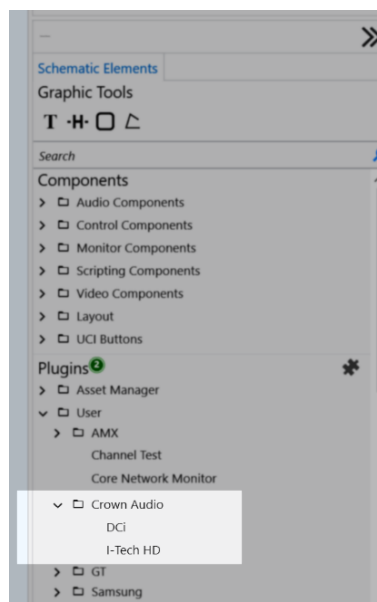
Double-click the Crown DCi.qplugx file from the downloaded .zip directory and click Yes in the confirmation dialog to install the plugin.



Crown
DCi.qplugx

If you prefer, you can also move the file directly to the Q-SYS directory in your \Documents\QSC\Q-SYS Designer\Plugins folder.

On the next launch of Q-SYS designer, you will see the plugin in the Schematic Elements pane under Plugins, User, Crown Audio.



Updating the Plugin

When you are updating the version of the plugin, follow the same steps as above. If an error appears, you may need to manually delete the old plugin and place the new one in the \Documents\QSC\Q-SYS Designer\Plugins folder.

Using the Plugin

Adding the DCi Plugin to your schematic

Add a plugin to your design file by dragging it from the Schematic Elements menu onto your workspace. You can add as many copies of the plugin as you need. If you prefer, you can copy and paste plugins between files and within your design. Be aware, if you have populated the IP address and HiQnet address, this will also get copied, and it may cause problems associated with redundant TCP connections.

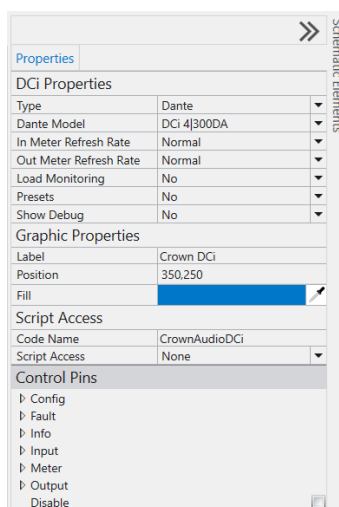
Running the Plugin

After configuring the plugin, connect it to the amplifier by entering emulate mode or saving it to the core and running.

To connect the plugin to the amplifier, you must first enter the IP address **AND** the HiQnet address (unless HiQnet ID Auto has been enabled, in which case you just need to enter the IP address). Once the correct IP and HiQnet address are entered, the plugin will search the network, connect, and begin to display the device state.

Plugin Features:

Properties



The screenshot shows the 'Properties' panel for the DCi plugin. It is divided into several sections: 'DCi Properties', 'Graphic Properties', 'Script Access', and 'Control Pins'. The 'DCi Properties' section includes fields for Type (Dante), Dante Model (DCi 4|300DA), In Meter Refresh Rate (Normal), Out Meter Refresh Rate (Normal), Load Monitoring (No), Presets (No), and Show Debug (No). The 'Graphic Properties' section includes Label (Crown DCi), Position (350,250), and Fill (a blue color swatch). The 'Script Access' section includes Code Name (CrownAudioDCi) and Script Access (None). The 'Control Pins' section is expanded, showing a list of pins: Config, Fault, Info, Input, Meter, Output, and Disable.

| DCi Properties | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Type | Dante |
| Dante Model | DCi 4 300DA |
| In Meter Refresh Rate | Normal |
| Out Meter Refresh Rate | Normal |
| Load Monitoring | No |
| Presets | No |
| Show Debug | No |

| Graphic Properties | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Label | Crown DCi |
| Position | 350,250 |
| Fill | [Blue Swatch] |

| Script Access | |
|---------------|---------------|
| Code Name | CrownAudioDCi |
| Script Access | None |

| Control Pins | |
|--------------|--|
| Config | |
| Fault | |
| Info | |
| Input | |
| Meter | |
| Output | |
| Disable | |

Model

You must set the plugin to control the correct model of amplifier in the Q-SYS Properties panel. First choose the type (Dante or Blu Link) then the exact models.

- Type - Dante
 - DCi 4|300DA
 - DCi 4|600DA
 - DCi 4|1250DA
 - DCi 8|300DA
 - DCi 8|600DA
- Type – Blu Link
 - DCi 2|300N
 - DCi 2|600N
 - DCi 2|1250N
 - DCi 2|2400N
 - DCi 4|300N
 - DCi 4|600N
 - DCi 4|1250N
 - DCi 4|2400N
 - DCi 8|300N
 - DCi 8|600N

Meter Refresh Rate - Normal or Fast

Separate controls are provided for both the Input (In) and Output (Out) Meters. Normal by default, selecting Fast will substantially increase the amplifier traffic across your network, if a higher refresh rate on meters is not necessary for your use case then do not set to Fast.

Load Monitoring – Yes or No


This control enables or disabled the “Loads, Signal Generator” tab. If disabled the plugin no longer requests the parameters associated with either Load Monitoring or the Signal Generator.

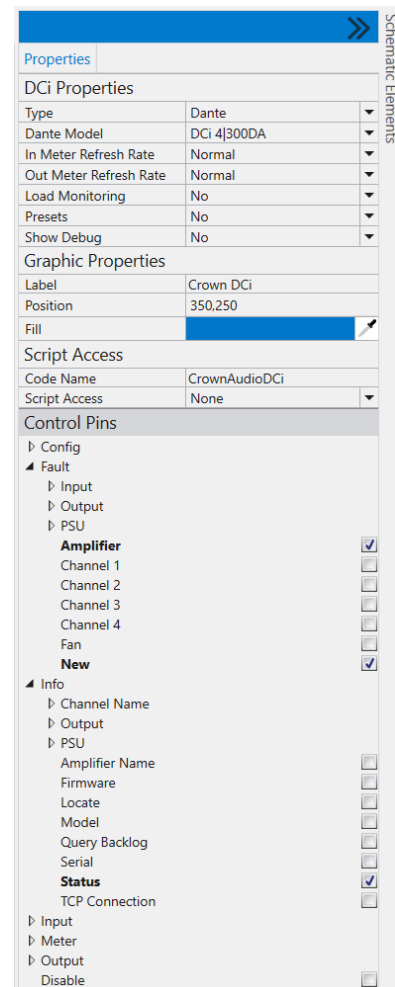
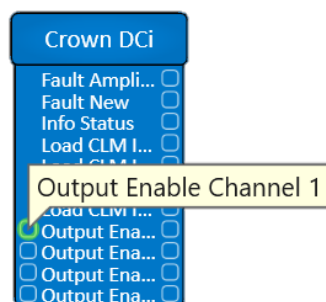
Presets – Yes or No

This control enables or disabled the amplifier Presets. If disabled the plugin no longer requests the parameters associated with the Presets and they no longer appear in the “Info, Logging, Presets” tab.

Control Pins

Control Pins will provide the information I/O required to drive logic outside of the plugin. They are arranged by category and correspond to controls and logic in the plugin. Check the box next to the controls that you want to appear below the plugin object.

 **Note:** There are more variables available as exposed pins than are shown in the plugin’s user interface. Some include raw input detection, direct preset triggers, or “new fault” indicators.



Available Control Pins:

▼ Config

- ▼ Delays
 - Feet
 - Meters
 - Read only
 - Seconds
- ▼ Fault
 - ▼ Input
 - ▼ BLU Link**
 - In Absent Is Fault**
 - Out Absent Is Fault**
 - Sync Absent Is Fault**
 - ▼ Clip is Fault
 - Channel X
 - ▼ Dante*
 - ▶ Rx Absent Is Fault*
 - Primary Absent Is Fault*
 - Secondary Absent Is Fault*
 - ▶ High Priority Absent Is Fault
 - ▶ High Priority Active Is Fault
 - ▶ Low Priority Absent Is Fault
 - ▶ Low Priority Active Is Fault
 - ▶ Medium Priority Absent Is Fault
 - ▶ Medium Priority Active Is Fault
 - ▼ Load
 - ▶ CLM Abnormal Is Fault
 - ▶ PTLM Abnormal Is Fault
 - ▼ Output
 - ▶ Clip Is Fault
 - ▶ Limit Peak Is Fault
 - ▶ Limit RMS Is Fault
 - ▶ Limit Thermal Is Fault
 - ▶ Not Ready Is Fault
 - ▶ Standby Is Fault
 - ▼ Log
 - ▶ Configuration Changes
 - ▶ Connection Faults
 - ▶ Control Changes
 - ▶ Hardware Faults
 - ▶ Input Faults
 - ▶ Input Priority Changes
 - ▶ Load Faults
 - ▶ Output Faults
 - ▶ Preset Changes
 - ▶ Status Changes
- HiQnet ID
- HiQnet ID Auto
- IP Address
- Query Interval (ms)

▼ Fault

- ▼ Input
 - ▼ BLU Link**
 - In Fault**
 - Out Fault**
 - Sync Fault**
 - ▼ Clip
 - Channel X
 - ▼ Dante*
 - ▼ Rx Absent*
 - Channel X*
 - Primary Absent*
 - Secondary Absent*
 - ▶ High Priority Absent
 - ▶ High Priority Active
 - ▶ Low Priority Absent
 - ▶ Low Priority Active
 - ▶ Medium Priority Absent
 - ▶ Medium Priority Active
- ▼ Load
 - ▶ CLM Abnormal
 - ▶ PTLM Abnormal
- Channel X
- ▼ Output
 - ▶ Clip
 - ▶ DC Protect
 - ▶ General Fault
 - ▶ HF Detect
 - ▶ Limit
 - ▶ Limit Peak
 - ▶ Limit RMS
 - ▶ Limit Thermal
 - ▶ Not Ready
 - ▶ Short Circuit
 - ▶ Standby
 - ▶ Temperature High
 - ▶ Thermal Fault
 - Channel X
 - Fan A
 - Fan B
 - ▶ PSU
 - Line Voltage
 - Neg 15V
 - Neg Rail
 - Pos 15V
 - Pos Rail
 - Temperature
- ▼ Amplifier
 - Channel X

Fan
New

▼ **Info**

- ▼ Channel Name
 - Channel X
- ▶ Output
 - ▶ Temperature C
 - Channel X
- ▶ PSU
 - Line Voltage
 - Line Voltage Maximum
 - Line Voltage Minimum
 - Temperature C
- Amplifier Name
- Firmware
- Line Voltage
- Locate
- Model
- Query Backlog
- Serial
- Status
- TCP Connection

▼ **Input**

- ▼ Active Source
 - Channel X
- ▶ Analog Detect
- ▼ BLU Link**
 - In Link**
 - In Valid**
 - Out Link**
 - Out Valid**
 - Sync Status**
- ▶ Clip
- ▼ Dante*
 - ▼ Rx Status*
 - Channel X*
 - Primary Status*
 - Secondary Status*
- ▼ Delay
 - Down X
 - Enable X
 - Feet X
 - Metres X
 - Seconds X
 - Text X
 - Up X
- ▶ High Priority Active
- ▶ High Priority Detect
- ▶ High Priority Source

- ▶ Low Priority Active
- ▶ Low Priority Detect
- ▶ Low Priority Source
- ▶ Medium Priority Active
- ▶ Medium Priority Detect
- ▶ Medium Priority Source
- ▶ Network Detect

▼ **Load**

- ▼ CLM
 - ▼ Enable
 - Channel X
 - ▶ Impedance
 - ▶ Impedance Minimum
 - ▶ Impedance Maximum
 - ▶ Impedance Status
- ▼ PTLM
 - ▶ Burst
 - ▶ Duration
 - ▶ Enable
 - ▶ Gen On
 - ▶ Timeout
 - ▶ Crossover Bypass
 - ▶ Current
 - ▶ Current Maximum
 - ▶ Current Minimum
 - ▶ Detector Gain
 - ▶ Enable
 - ▶ Status

▼ **Meter**

- ▼ Input
 - Channel X
- ▶ Network Input
- ▶ Output

▼ **Output**

- ▼ Auto Standby
 - Channel X
- ▶ Bridged
- ▶ Clip
- ▶ Enable
- ▶ Gain
- ▶ Limit
- ▶ Mute
- ▶ Not Ready
- ▶ Standby

▼ **Preset**

- Active
- Select

Go
Recall 1
...
Recall 20

Frequency
Gain
Mode
Mute

▼ **Signal Generator**

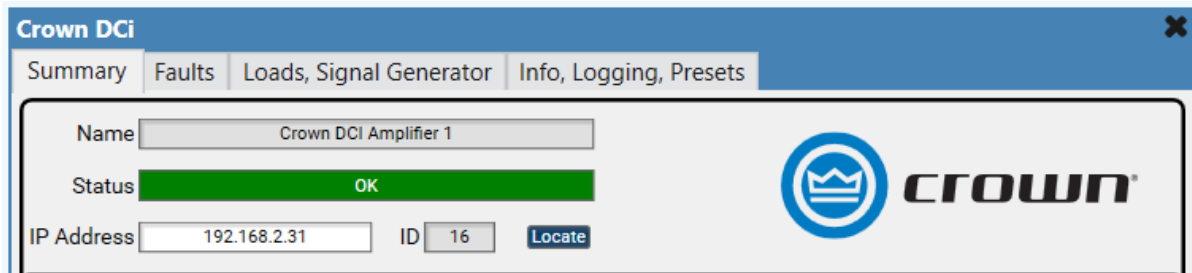
Gain
Enable

Disable

* These pins are available on the Dante models

** These pins are available on the BLU Link models

Main Plugin Window



The main plugin window contains tabbed pages located across the top.

Common Header:

Name: This is the amplifier's name, set in Audio Architect.

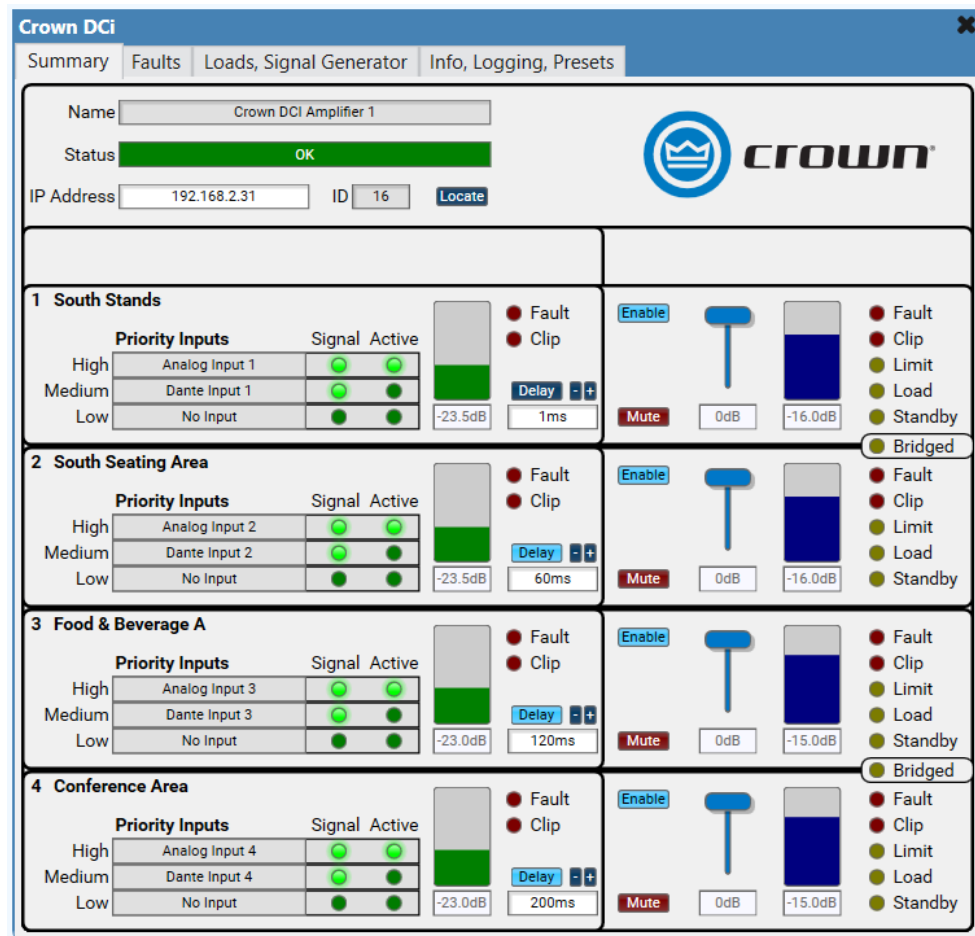
Status: The current status of this amplifier is aggregated from all available information. It uses standard Q-SYS status colours and values.

IP Address: The IP address of the amplifier. This field is required for communication.

ID: The HiQnet address of the amplifier. This field is required for communication and may be entered in decimal format (like 12345) or hex (like 0xABC). Use HiQnet NetSetter to find and set the amplifier's address. This may be set automatically if the "HiQnet ID Auto" option is set. In this mode, the ID field is greyed-out

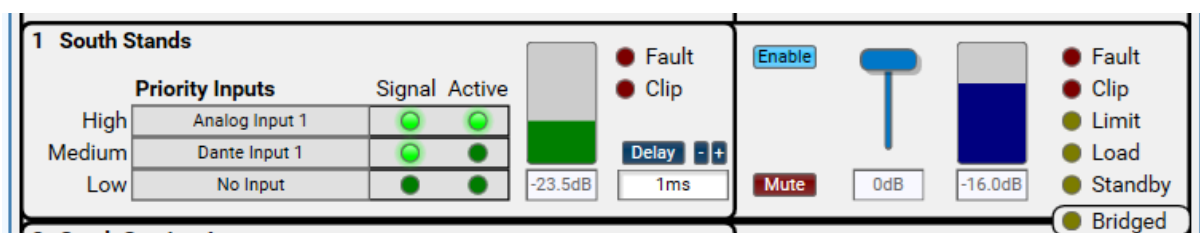
Locate: Press to flash the amplifier's front panel lights. Press again to stop.

Summary Tab



The Summary Tab provides a high-level overview of the critical input and output information. This tab offers most of the vital information sought after from a Q-SYS plugin.

For each channel:



Channel Name: This is the channel's name stored in the amplifier, configured using Audio Architect. It starts with a default and overwrites when the plugin connects to the amplifier for the first time.

Priority Inputs: These are the hardware inputs mapped to each priority for each channel. They are defined in Audio Architect, along with their levels and detection thresholds. The highest detected priority input is automatically set as active and routed to the output.

Signal: These indicators light up green if a priority input is detected.

Active: One of these indicators lights up green to show which priority input is routed through it. If no input is detected, nothing is routed, and none of the three lights up.

Input Meter: Shows the routed signal level.

Usually updated once per complete query cycle but can be made faster by changing the In Meter Refresh Rate (Q-SYS Properties panel) to Fast.

Input Fault: Lights if there is any problem with this channel's input.

Faults are configured on the next page and can include missing input signals, active input signals, or clipping.

Input Clip: Lights if the routed input is clipping.

Delay Enable: Enables the input delay.

Delay +/- Increment/Decrement the delay value. The delay can be set as read only in the "Info, Logging" tab.

Delay Text: Displays the input delay in either Seconds, Feet or Meters, values can also be typed in.

Output Enable: Enables this channel of the amplifier.

If not enabled, the output stage is effectively switched off.

Mute: For this channel's output.

Fader: For this amplifier channel's DSP output.

Output Meter: Shows the output signal level.

Usually updated once per complete query cycle but can be made faster by changing the Out Meter Refresh Rate (Q-SYS Properties panel) to Fast.

Output Fault: Lights if there is any problem with this output channel.

Faults are configured on the next page and can include many different indicators.

Output Clip: Lights if the output is clipping.

Output Limit: Lights if the output is being limited.

Output Load: Lights if there is a problem with this channel's load, as configured on the Loads page.



Note: This will only display if Load Monitoring is enabled in the Q-SYS Properties panel

Output Standby: Lights if this output channel is in standby.

Bridged: Lights if a pair of channels are bridged.

Faults Tab:

Crown DCI

Summary

Faults

Loads, Signal Generator

Info, Logging, Presets

Name

Crown DCI Amplifier 1

Status

Fault - Channel 1 Using High Priority Input

IP Address

192.168.2.31

ID

16

Locate

Optional faults can be enabled individually using checkboxes

PSU Rail Fault

PSU 15V Fault

Fan Fault

AC Volts

Temp C

Dante

Pri

Sec

Rx1

Rx2

Rx3

Rx4

Rx5

Rx6

Rx7

Rx8

1 South Stands

Priority Inputs

Absent

Active

High

Medium

Low

Input Clip

Output Clip

Standby

Not Ready

CLM Fault

Limit Peak

Limit RMS

Limit Therm

Temp C

PTLM Fault

Short Circuit

DC Protect

HF Detect

Thermal Fault

General Fault

2 South Seating Area

Priority Inputs

Absent

Active

High

Medium

Low

Input Clip

Output Clip

Standby

Not Ready

CLM Fault

Limit Peak

Limit RMS

Limit Therm

Temp C

PTLM Fault

Short Circuit

DC Protect

HF Detect

Thermal Fault

General Fault

3 Food & Beverage A

Priority Inputs

Absent

Active

High

Medium

Low

Input Clip

Output Clip

Standby

Not Ready

CLM Fault

Limit Peak

Limit RMS

Limit Therm

Temp C

PTLM Fault

Short Circuit

DC Protect

HF Detect

Thermal Fault

General Fault

4 Conference Area

Priority Inputs

Absent

Active

High

Medium

Low

Input Clip

Output Clip

Standby

Not Ready

CLM Fault

Limit Peak

Limit RMS

Limit Therm

Temp C

PTLM Fault

Short Circuit

DC Protect

HF Detect

Thermal Fault

General Fault

The plugin monitors a range of possible faults and aggregates the selected faults to the master fault for a given input, output, or fault type. All parameters on this tab are monitored constantly. Disabling a fault check box doesn't stop it from being monitored and displayed on other pages. It prevents the state from being considered as a fault. For example, output limiting is constantly monitored and displayed on the summary page, but it is only shown as a fault and passed to the header's status field if enabled here.

The LEDs next to the fault type's checkbox will illuminate if the box is checked AND the error occurs.

For Each Channel:

1 South Stands

Priority Inputs

Absent

Active

High

Medium

Low

Input Clip

Output Clip

Standby

Not Ready

CLM Fault

Limit Peak

Limit RMS

Limit Therm

Temp C

PTLM Fault

Short Circuit

DC Protect

HF Detect

Thermal Fault

General Fault

High, Medium, and Low Input Absent: Toggles on when the Input Source Selector has an input assigned and the signal drops below the threshold specified in Audio Architect.
This is useful, especially coupled with additional logic, for monitoring an input pilot tone or knowing if a source drops out.

High, Medium, and Low Input Active: Toggles on when the Input Source Selector activates the respective input.
This is useful for getting a notification if an amplifier has fallen back to a lower-priority input.

Input Clip: Toggles on when the active input is clipping.

Output Clip: Toggles on when the output signal is clipping.

Standby: Toggles on when the amp is on standby.

Not Ready: Toggles on when the amplifier channel is either in standby or is disabled.

CLM Fault: Toggles on when Continuous Load Monitoring is enabled on the Load tab AND the detected load is either above the set high threshold or below the set low threshold.

 **Note:** This will only display if Load Monitoring is enabled in the Q-SYS Properties panel

Limit Peak: Toggles on when the peak limiter is active in LevelMAX. This activates at any level of limiting.

Limit RMS: Toggles on when the RMS limiter is active in LevelMAX. This activates at any level of limiting.

Limit Therm: Toggles on when the thermal limiter is active in LevelMAX. This activates at any level of limiting.

Temp C: Displays the amplifier output channel temperature in degrees Celsius.

Temp C LED: Toggles on when the amplifier channel temperature is >80°C.

PTLM Fault: Toggles on when Pilot Tone Load Monitoring is enabled on the Load tab AND the detected load is either above the set high threshold or below the set low threshold.

 **Note:** This will only display if Load Monitoring is enabled in the Q-SYS Properties panel

Short Circuit: Toggles on when the amplifier senses a short on the selected channel.

DC Protect: Toggles on when the amplifier channel falls into a DC protect state.

HF Detect: Toggles on when HF is detected on the amplifier output channel.

Thermal Fault: Toggles on when the amplifier channel temperature is >98°C and the amplifier reports a thermal fault state.

General Fault: Toggles on when the amplifier goes into a fault state for other reasons than listed above.

Loads, Signal Generator Tab:

Crown DCI

SummaryFaultsLoads, Signal GeneratorInfo, Logging, Presets

NameCrown DCI Amplifier 1

StatusFault - Channel 3 High Load Impedance

IP Address192.168.2.31ID16Locate

Signal Generator

Enable

ModeSine

Level-30.0dB

Freq Hz20000

Mute

Gain0

1 Output 1 Label

CLMEnableOhm20.1Min2.00Max50.0StatusNormal

PTLM

Enable

XoverBypass

BurstEnable

BurstGen On

BurstDuration3

BurstTimeout120

DetectorGain0mA228.4Min50.0Max250StatusNormal

2 Output 2 Label

CLMEnableOhm7.1Min2.00Max50.0StatusNormal

PTLM

Enable

XoverBypass

BurstEnable

BurstGen On

BurstDuration3

BurstTimeout120

DetectorGain0mA657.6Min50.0Max75.0StatusHigh

3 Output 3 Label

CLMEnableOhm53.5Min2.00Max50.0StatusHigh

PTLM

Enable

XoverBypass

BurstEnable

BurstGen On

BurstDuration3

BurstTimeout120

DetectorGain0mA97.6Min50.0Max75.0StatusHigh

4 Output 4 Label

CLMEnableOhm8.0Min2.00Max50.0StatusOff

PTLM

Enable

XoverBypass

BurstEnable

BurstGen On

BurstDuration3

BurstTimeout120

DetectorGain0mA0.0Min50.0Max75.0StatusOff

The Loads tab offers controls for monitoring the output loads attached to the amplifier.

Note: This tab will only display if Load Monitoring is enabled in the Q-SYS Properties panel

Common Controls:

Signal Generator

There is one signal generator per amplifier. It injects its signal on the input side of the DSP chain and passes through the DSP.

Enable

ModeSine

Level-30.0dB

Freq Hz20000

Enable: Switches the signal generator on and off.

Caution should be used when using this feature as a constant tone can damage speakers and cause unnecessary heat, wear and tear. As an alternative to leaving the generator on constantly, the generator enable can be exposed as a control pin. A system-level, logic-based timer can enable the generator for a period and duration that delivers the required results without leaving the generator constantly.

In some life safety applications, it is required to monitor the integrity of the emergency signal path from the source to the speaker line. Pilot tone detection allows Crown amplifiers to monitor the speaker line for open and closed circuits using an end of line termination, as shown in figure 1 below.

The idea behind 20 kHz pilot tone load monitoring (PTLM) is to generate an inaudible 20kHz sinewave and pass it through the entire signal path. The 20 kHz pilot tone current is then monitored at the output of the amplifier. When the current falls outside of manually defined thresholds, an open or short circuit condition is reported via the network.

If the correct pilot tone current is present, one can be confident that the signal path to and from the amplifier is physically connected and not opened or shorted. This feature was implemented as a solution that would meet international life safety standards such as EN 50849:2017 or BS 5839 Part 8.

Example EOL Box Installation Schematic



Requirements

20kHz Pilot Tone - This should be generated externally and mixed with other audio in the signal path or generated using the internal generator. Audio, before being mixed, must be low pass filtered at 18 kHz using a 3rd order -18 dB/oct (or greater) Butterworth filter. This corner frequency can be set higher if a higher-order filter is used. The filter frequency should not be higher than 19 kHz. The resulting 20 kHz current can be measured by the amplifier and should remain relatively constant. If audio is allowed into the 20 kHz band, it will cause the 20 kHz Pilot tone current measurements to jump around, generating nuisance fault conditions.

Most JBL presets include a 16 kHz low pass filter. In most cases, the X-Over Bypass control will need to be enabled to allow the DSP to pass 20 kHz to the output. The LPF included in the factory presets is meant to improve efficiency and save energy inside the amplifier by reducing the amount of inaudible energy that the amplifier could produce, it also serves to protect drivers from unnecessary heat, wear, and tear. The HF content must be monitored and managed. Implementing a HF cut in the input EQ can help to ensure program material does not damage the driver or interfere with the stability of the measurement.

End Of Line (EOL) Box - The EOL box is used as an “End of Line” termination in audio systems using pilot tone detection. The end of line box is required to be installed at the end of each speaker line to tune the speaker line to react to the 20 kHz pilot tone appropriately. The termination should be placed at the furthest end of the loudspeaker line. Multiple EOL boxes can be used in the case of branched speaker lines. It is recommended, however, to keep the number of EOL boxes to a minimum.

Transducer Load – Some Transducers can produce a reliable result without an EOL box. Tolerances may need to be accounted for to allow for temperature effects.

Setup

If using an external 20 kHz generator, apply a 20 kHz tone into the input of the amplifier in the range of -40 dBu to -36 dBu.

The Enable button next to each channel must be turned on.

If using the LPF in the amplifier's built-in crossover, the Crossover Bypass button should be turned On, so the crossover does not interfere with the 20 kHz signal.

If using the amplifier's built-in tone generator, enable the Signal Generator, configure it for a 20 kHz sinewave, raise the master level to 0 dB, then raise the individual channel levels to an acceptable level. With an EOL box, it is recommended that the pilot tone current be in the range of 50 mA to 150 mA. The detector gain is used to adjust this.



Note: Great care should be taken when adjusting the 20 kHz tone. Crown amplifiers are capable of producing a lot of power at 20 kHz. More than a few hundred mA of 20 kHz current can damage the EOL box and produce large amounts of heat and additional stress to the amplifier and drivers.

The Upper and Lower limit thresholds should be set where the open and short conditions can be detected, generally within about 5mA from the stable state. Based on physical system testing, these limits should be adjusted per channel as no two circuits are exactly the same. If simply checking for shorts and opens, increase the threshold range to +/- 20mA from the stable state.

Pilot Tone Load Monitoring Controls:

PTLM Enable: Enables the Pilot Tone Load Monitoring feature and logic

PTLM Crossover Bypass: Turning this on allows the crossover and speaker output EQ to pass 20 kHz into the detector. This feature will be enabled in most cases as 20 kHz should be allowed to pass either from the input or the internal generator to the detector without being filtered out.

PTLM Burst Enable, Burst Gen On, Burst Duration, Burst Timeout: Control the burst mode options for pilot tone monitoring.

PTLM Detector Gain: Use to adjust the sensitivity of the pilot tone detector.

PTLM mA: The reported current measured by the PTLM circuit.

PTLM Min: The definable minimum current expected for the load, below which a fault is shown.

PTLM Max: The definable maximum current expected for this load, above which a fault is shown.

PTLM Status: The status of PTLM for this channel. Off, Normal, Low, or High.

Continuous Load Monitoring (CLM) calculates the average output load impedance from the voltage the amplifier provides at its output and the current the load is drawing. CLM can work whenever there is a sufficient signal to provide meaningful values. As the impedance is calculated based on the signal provided to the load, and the impedance of the load is frequency-dependent, the content of the signal will influence the result.

CLM Enable: Enables Continuous Load Monitoring.



Note: CLM will only operate if there is a sufficient output level.

CLM Ohm: The current measured impedance of the load, or the last value if no current reading is available.

CLM Min: The definable minimum permitted impedance for this channel, below which a fault will be shown.

CLM Max: The definable maximum permitted impedance for this channel, above which a fault will be shown.

CLM Status: The reported status of CLM on this channel. Off, Normal, Low, or High.

Info, Logging, and Presets Tab:

Crown DCi

Summary | Faults | Loads, Signal Generator | **Info, Logging, Presets**

Name: Crown DCi Amplifier 1

Status: **OK**

IP Address: 192.168.2.31 ID: 16 [Locate](#)

v1.4.1

| Information | Event Logging | Presets |
|---|---|--|
| Model: DCIDA4300 | Status Changes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Active: 02: Preset2 |
| Serial: 15500051016 | Hardware Faults <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Recall: 02: Preset2 Go |
| Firmware: 1.0.3.1 | Load Faults <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| AC Volts: 241.0 Fault: ● | Output Faults <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Temp C: 37.8 Fault: ● | Input Faults <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Query ms: 150 Queue: 1 | Priority Switches <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| | Connection Faults <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| | Configuration Changes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| | Preset Changes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| | Control Changes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |

Settings

Delays in s ☒ ft ☐ m ☐

Delays read-only ☐

HiQnet ID Auto ☒

This tab shows all amplifier information, Event logging to Q-SYS, and Preset information.

Common Controls:

Information:

Version: The plugin version number is shown just under the Crown logo.

Information

Model: DCIDA4300

Serial: 15500051016

Firmware: 1.0.3.1

AC Volts: 241.0 Fault: ●

Temp C: 37.8 Fault: ●

Query ms: 150 Queue: 1

Model: Reported amplifier Model.

Serial: Reported amplifier serial number.

Firmware: Firmware version reported by the amplifier.

AC Volts: Reported mains voltage in volts.

AC Volts Fault: Lights when mains power state is reported faulty, i.e., outside allowed limits.

Temperature: The current power supply temperature in degrees Celsius.

Temperature Fault: Light when amplifier temperature exceeds the allowed threshold.

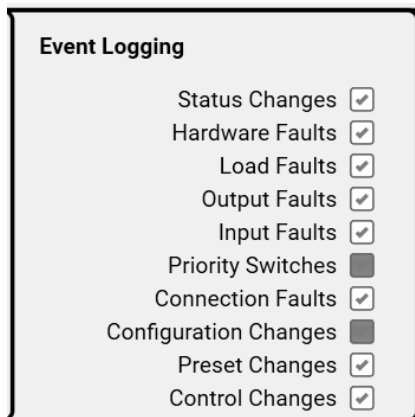
Query ms: The plugin polls (queries) the amplifier over a TCP connection. Parameters vary by amplifier model, channels and if Load Monitoring or Presets are enabled, e.g., a DCi Dante 8-channel plugin with Load Monitoring and Presets enabled polls over 450 parameters. After each set of queries, the plugin display is updated. The “Query ms” control defines the time allowed for each query to be processed by Q-SYS and the amplifier. If it’s too large, it takes a long time for changes to show on in Q-SYS. If it’s too small, there won’t be enough time for all queries to be processed, and

you will miss changes, or the amplifier may go offline occasionally. Be aware that enabling a Fast meter refresh rate increases this effect.

Note: The query cycle is a rolling snapshot taken of the amplifier, and therefore, it is not a live indication. Brief events like an occasionally clipping channel will only have a few of those clipping events captured by the cycle.

Queue: Reports the number of queries currently being processed by the amplifier. If this is off the scale, then there's something wrong. Most likely, the amplifier is offline, or it is being polled too quickly.

Event Logging:



Event Logging

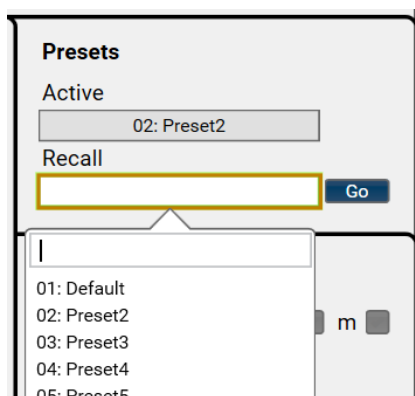
- Status Changes ☒
- Hardware Faults ☒
- Load Faults ☒
- Output Faults ☒
- Input Faults ☒
- Priority Switches ☐
- Connection Faults ☒
- Configuration Changes ☐
- Preset Changes ☒
- Control Changes ☒

The middle section lets you decide what goes into the Q-SYS Event Log.

Enable any, all, or none of these to write valuable messages to the Q-SYS Event Log. Disabling an item won't stop it from being monitored; it just won't appear in the event log.

Note: Preset Changes will only display if Presets is enabled in the Q-SYS Properties panel

Presets:



Presets

Active
02: Preset2

Recall
 Go

- 01: Default
- 02: Preset2
- 03: Preset3
- 04: Preset4
- 05: Preset5

This section enables preset recall

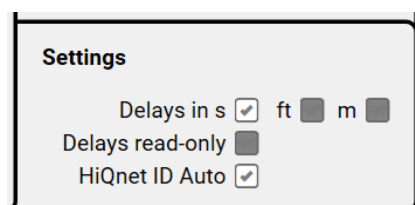
Note: This will only display if Presets is enabled in the Q-SYS Properties panel

Active Preset: The current preset, as reported by the amplifier.

Recall Preset: The drop-down list shows all 20 presets. Select a preset, then click "Go" to trigger the recall of the selected preset.

All 20 presets have individual pins available.
Use Audio Architect to manage and configure presets.

Settings:



Settings

Delays in s ☒ ft ☐ m ☐

Delays read-only ☐

HiQnet ID Auto ☒

Delays in: Delays (Input) can either be selected in s (seconds), ft (feet) or m (meters)

Delays read-only: Enabled by default, make the delay value read only by the plugin.

HiQnet ID Auto: If selected, the HiQnet value will be auto-populated when the correct IP address of the amplifier is entered.

Fault Priorities

If there are multiple faults, the Status control will display only one fault. Listed below is the order of faults, from highest priority to lowest.

Optional faults are only included if they are selected as faults on the Faults tab. For example, an input clip will not show as a fault unless the relevant “Input Clip” checkbox is selected.

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Highest Priority | Amplifier Missing (Offline) |
| | Model Mismatch |
| | Amplifier Missing (No Replies) |
| | PSU Pos Rail Fault |
| | PSU Neg Rail Fault |
| | PSU Pos 15V Fault |
| | PSU Neg 15V Fault |
| | Output Short Circuit |
| | Output DC Protect |
| | Output HF Detect |
| | Output Thermal Fault |
| | Output General Fault |
| | Output Not Ready |
| | Output In Standby |
| | Input Clip |
| | Output Clip |
| | Output Limit |
| | Low Load Impedance |
| | High Load Impedance |
| | High PTLM Current |
| | Low PTLM Current |
| | High Priority Input Active |
| | Medium Priority Input Active |
| | Low Priority Input Active |
| | Low Priority Input Missing |
| | Medium Priority Input Missing |
| | High Priority Input Missing |
| | Dante Primary Fault |
| | Dante Secondary Fault |
| | Dante Rx Channel Missing |
| | Blu Link Sync Fault |
| | Blu Link In Fault |
| | Blu Link Out Fault |
| | AC Voltage Fault |
| | PSU Temperature High |
| | Channel Temperature High |
| | Fan Error |
| Lowest Priority | Model Mismatch (minor) |
| | HiQnet ID Mismatch |

For the same fault on multiple channels, the lowest-numbered channel is shown.

Reported Fault Aggregation

Individual faults are aggregated into summary faults using logic in the plugin. Most logic faults appear in the GUI, and all logic faults are found on the plugin's output pins.

Optional faults are only included if they are selected as faults on the Faults tab. For example, an input clip will not show as a fault unless the relevant "Input Clip" checkbox is selected.

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Any Fault | Missing (Offline) | Timeout | | | |
| | | TCP Disconnected | | | |
| | AC Voltage Fault | | | | |
| | PSU Temperature Fault | | | | |
| | HiQnet ID Mismatch | | | | |
| | Model Mismatch | | | | |
| | Hardware Fault | | PSU Pos Rail Fault | | |
| | | PSU Neg Rail Fault | | | |
| | | PSU Pos 15V Fault | | | |
| | | PSU Neg 15V Fault | | | |
| | | Fan Fault | | | |
| | Dante Fault | Dante Primary Fault | | | |
| | | Dante Secondary Fault | | | |
| | | Dante Rx Fault | | | |
| | Blu Link Fault | Blu Link Sync Fault | | | |
| | | Blu Link In Fault | | | |
| | | Blu Link Out Fault | | | |
| | Channel Fault | Input Fault | Input Clip | | |
| | | | Low Priority Input Absent | | |
| | | | Medium Priority Input Absent | | |
| | | | High Priority Input Absent | | |
| | | | Low Priority Input Active | | |
| | | | Medium Priority Input Active | | |
| | | | High Priority Input Active | | |
| | | Output Fault | Output Clip | | |
| | | | Output Limit | Limit RMS | |
| | | | | Limit Peak | |
| | | | | Limit Thermal | |
| | | | Output Short Circuit | | |
| | | | Output DC Protect | | |
| | | | Output HF Detect | | |
| | | | Output Not Ready | | |
| | | | Output Standby | | |
| | | Load Fault | CLM Fault | Load Impedance High | |
| | | | | Load Impedance Low | |
| | | | PTLM Fault | Pilot Tone Current High | |
| | | | | Pilot Tone Current Low | |
| | | Temperature High | | | |