# **OWNER'S MANUAL**

Eazy6 6-Zone Preamplifier



# SpeakerCraft®

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NOTE: The SpeakerCraft EazyR Programmable Remote Control, sold separately, is required to operate the Eazy6. Purchase up to 6 EazyR units for optimum control over your multi-zone configuration.

# INTRODUCTION

The SpeakerCraft Eazy6 is a six-zone, six-input audio preamplifier featuring:

- Separate infrared control of input select and volume for each zone
- Maximum volume and balance adjustment for each zone
- Input level adjustment for each source
- Infrared routing to allow use of multiple identical source components, i.e. two CD players of the same brand
- Expansion output for additional zones or source sharing with other amplifiers or receivers
- Individual zone "Status" output
- Common "Status" output
- 12-volt DC output to power infrared devices or other accessories
- "All Off" function

Please review **Diagram 1** below to familiarize yourself with the components of the Eazy6.



**DIAGRAM 1:** Eazy6 Components

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# INSTALLATION

The Eazy6 is designed to be mounted at the rear of an equipment cabinet, behind the audio source components. Mounting brackets have been provided for ease of installation. Although the Eazy6 will remain relatively cool during normal operation, some allowance should be made for ventilation. Once mounted and set up, there should be no need to directly access the Eazy6. However, it may be necessary to access the Eazy6 for servicing or future system upgrades.

#### Audio Connections

The six Audio Inputs (left and right) are located on the top left-hand side of the unit (See Diagram 2). A stereo RCA lead should be used to connect the line output of each source component to one of these inputs.

In the center of the Eazy6 are the six Zone Outputs (See Diagram 3). Each of these should be connected to the corresponding zone amplifier. Each zone amplifier would in turn be connected to the speakers in that zone.

It is possible for a zone to contain more than one pair of speakers. In which case, it may be necessary to use a SpeakerCraft Volume Control for each pair of speakers in that zone.



DIAGRAM 2: Audio Inputs

#### Infrared Connections

Each zone will require at least one SpeakerCraft SmartPath™ IR receiver to operate the Eazy6. Depending on the model chosen, the IR receiver should be located where it is easily activated by the remote control handset. For further details, refer to the owner's manual that came with your IR receiver.

Four-conductor IR data cable should be used to connect the IR receivers to the Eazy6. Each zone of the Eazy6 has a four-way screw terminal to which the IR cable is connected (See Diagram 4).

A maximum of ten IR receivers can be used on each zone.

#### **IR Router**

The Eazy6 features a built-in IR router that allows the use of numerous source components of the same type, i.e. two CD players of the same brand. Each Audio Input has a corresponding IR emitter output socket (See Diagram 5). Whenever an audio source is selected in a zone, the Eazy6 will direct all IR control data from that zone only to that source emitter output.

To control source components, an IR emitter is placed over the front of the IR window on the component's faceplate and plugged into the corresponding IR output. The source component will now only be controlled from the zone(s) currently using the component (See Diagram 6 on Page 4).

Note that this is not a lock-out function. Every zone accessing the source component will be able to control it. The IR router function simply means that if two identical source components are used in the system, i.e. CD player 1 and CD player 2, the person listening to CD 1 in Zone 3 will not affect the operation of CD 2 being played in Zone 1.



**DIAGRAM 3:** Zone Outputs



**DIAGRAM 4:** Infrared Receiver Inputs



**DIAGRAM 5:** Infrared Outputs

#### CD PLAYE MULTI-CHANNEL AMPLIFIER . . . . . . SATELLITE VCR SpeakerCrof EAZY6 SIX-ZONE PREAMPLIFIER ------\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ ZONE 1 ZONE 2 ZONE 3 ZONE 4 ZONE 5 ZONE 6 0 0 0 0 0 0 •© 0 MASTER KIDS' FAMILY LIVING KITCHEN PATIO BEDROOM BEDROOM ROOM ROOM **DIAGRAM 6:** IR Router

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#### Zone Maximum Volume

Each zone has two trim pots used to limit the maximum volume for that zone (See Diagram 8). With a source running turn down both trim pots completely counter-clockwise. Turn the volume in the zone full up by holding the button on the remote control for about thirty seconds. The trim pots can be turned up to a suitable maximum volume. If required, one of the two trim pots can be set to a slightly different level to act as a "balance" control for the zone.



# **EXPANSION**

If more than six zones are required, then two or more Eazy6 units can be linked together to achieve the number of zones required. Each link will require six pairs of RCA audio interconnects and one Cat-5 patchcord terminated with RJ-45 connectors.

The first Eazy6 should be connected and setup as previously detailed. On the right-hand side of the Eazy6 are the six pairs of audio Expansion Outputs. These should be connected to the next Eazy6 unit using the six audio interconnect leads (See Diagram 9).

NOTE: When using multiple Eazy6 units, the source level adjustments should only be set on the first unit. Subsequent Eazy6 units should be left set to the factory default. Maximum volume should still be set for each zone separately.

All control data between the multiple units is conveyed by the Cat-5 patchcord, including IR signals for the source components. Connect the Cat-5 patchcord from either Data socket of the first Eazy6 to either Data socket of the next Eazy6, etc.

The IR emitters and the "Status" output should always be connected to the first Eazy6 only.



# **Power Management**

The "Status" output of the Eazy6 is simply connected to the "Trigger" input of the SpeakerCraft Big Bang or other amplifier. Whenever any zone in the system is active, the amplifier will turn on. When all zones are turned off, the amplifier will turn off.

If required, individual zone power amplifiers can be powered up and down with the zone by connecting the "Trigger" input to the "Status" output on the IR connector for the relevant zone.

# **SETUP**

The Eazy6 has two sets of adjustments: input level for each audio source and maximum volume for each zone. Both adjustments are made via trim pots accessible through the faceplate of the Eazy6. The Eazy6 is shipped with these adjustments set to a nominal position.

Once all the connections are made to the Eazy6, the system should be turned on and tested to ensure all audio sources are playing in each zone. The source level adjustments should be made first, followed by the maximum volume settings for each zone.

#### **Input Level Adjustments**

The input level trim pots are located under a cover on the top left-hand side of the Eazy6 (See Diagram 7). Before making any adjustments, listen to each source, taking note of their relative volumes. Try to identify the source that has the lowest volume. Once this is done, each of the other sources should be adjusted down to match the quietest source using the input level trim pots. Both the left and right input trim pots should be set to the same level.

A quick check should now show that each source is of a similar volume when selected



DIAGRAM 8: Zone Max Volume Adjustments

**DIAGRAM 9:** Expanding the Eazy6

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#### Home Theater

The Expansion Outputs of the Eazy6 can also be used to share source components with a home theater amplifier. Simply connect the expansion outputs of the last Eazy6 to the corresponding inputs of the home theater amplifier (See Diagram 10). Video and Digital outputs of the source components should be directly connected to the home theater amplifier, bypassing the Eazy6 altogether.

The SmartPath<sup>™</sup> IR connecting block CB6 has terminations for the IR receiver and a dedicated IR emitter for the home theater amplifier. Power for the IR connecting block is provided by the 12-volt accessory output of the Eazy6. A Cat-5 patchcord is used to send IR data to the common source components via either Data port of the Eazy6.

NOTE: IR data from the SmartPath<sup>™</sup> IR connecting blocks will bypass the IR router in the Eazy6. To prevent operating two units simultaneously, it is recommended that only one of any multiple sources be allocated for use in the home theater.



DIAGRAM 10: Home Theater

# EAZYR PROGRAMMABLE REMOTE CONTROL

The EazyR comes pre-programmed with the IR commands for the Eazy6 (See Diagram 11). To select an audio source, simply press the relevant Source button, followed by the "Select" button. Selecting an audio source will turn the relevant zone on. Volume up, Volume down, Off and All Off will then function as described in the "Operation" section below.

All other keys on the EazyR can be programmed with the IR commands for the audio source components. For details, please refer to the EazyR Owner's Manual.

NOTE: The Eazy6 features a non-volatile memory. This will prevent the loss of learned codes should the remote controls batteries run out.

#### Input Numbers

The following inputs on the Eazy6 relate to the following Source buttons on the EazyR remote control:

Eazy6	EazyR
Input 1	Tuner
Input 2	CD
Input 3	Sat
Input 4	VCR
Input 5	DVD
Input 6	ΤV

### **OPERATION**

Selecting any source input turns on the Eazy6, and will activate its "Status" output. Once the source has been selected, IR commands will only be sent to that source. To turn any zone off, simply select the "Off" button on the EazyR. When the last zone has been turned off, the "Status" output will be deactivated.

Volume commands will only operate when the zone is on. This will help prevent accidentally turning the volume fully up with no source playing.

The "All Off" button on the EazyR will turn every zone and the "Status" output off.





# DIAGRAM 11: EazyR Remote Control

#### **SPECIFICATIONS**

<b>Inputs</b> Type: Max Input Voltage: Input Impedance: Power Supply:	Six stereo inputs 2-volts adjustable 10 K $\Omega$ 12-volt AC, 2 amp
<b>Outputs</b> Type: Zone Output Level: Expansion Port Level: Status: Status (Max Current): 12-Volt (Max Current): Max # of IR Receivers:	Six zone outputs and six source expansion ports Equal to input line level with attenuation (0 to -78dB) Equal to input line level (unity gain) 12-volts 100 mAmps 200 mAmps Ten per zone
<b>Terminations</b> Audio: Infrared In: Infrared Out: Power In: Power Out: Data In/Out:	RCA phono connectors Four-way removable screw terminals 3.5mm mini-phono connectors Two-way removable screw terminals Three-way removable screw terminals RJ-45 (Cat 5 patchcord recommended)
Dimensions (H x W x D)	7 <sup>1</sup> ‰" x 13% <sup>°</sup> x 2 <sup>%</sup>

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SpeakerCraft offers a variety of accessories to make your installation of this and other SpeakerCraft products easy, economical, and professional. Contact your authorized SpeakerCraft Dealer for more information.

Should you have any questions regarding this, or any other SpeakerCraft product, please call our toll-free service hotline at 1-800-448-0976. We are available to assist you every weekday, except holidays, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. PST.

# LIMITED 2-YEAR WARRANTY

SpeakerCraft Inc. warrants to the original retail purchaser **only** that this SpeakerCraft product will be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of two years, provided the product was purchased from a SpeakerCraft Authorized Dealer.

Defective products must be shipped, together with proof of purchase, prepaid insured to the SpeakerCraft Authorized Dealer from whom they were purchased, or to the SpeakerCraft factory at the address listed on this installation instruction manual. Freight collect shipments will be refused. It is preferable to ship this product in the original shipping container to lessen the chance of transit damage. In any case, the risk or loss or damage in transit is to be borne by the purchaser. If, upon examination at the Factory or SpeakerCraft Authorized Dealer, it is determined that the unit was defective in materials or workmanship at any time during this warranty period, SpeakerCraft or the SpeakerCraft Authorized Dealer will, at its option, repair or replace this product an oadditional charge, except as set forth below. If this model is no longer available and cannot be repaired effectively, SpeakerCraft, at its sole option, may replace the unit with a current model of equal or greater value. In some cases where a new model is substituted, a modification to the mounting surface may be required. If mounting surface modification is required, SpeakerCraft assumes no responsibility or liability for such modification. All replaced parts and product become the property of SpeakerCraft Inc. Products replaced or repaired under this Warranty will be returned to the original retail purchaser, within a reasonable time, freight prepaid.

This Warranty does not include service or parts to repair damage caused by accident, disaster, misuse, abuse, negligence, inadequate packing or shipping procedures, commercial use, voltage inputs in excess of the rated maximum of the unit, or service, repair or modification of the product which has not been authorized or approved by SpeakerCraft. This Warranty also excludes normal cosmetic deterioration caused by environmental conditions. This Warranty will be void if the Serial Number on the product has been removed, tampered with or defaced.

This Warranty is in lieu of all other expressed warranties. If the product is defective in materials or workmanship as warranted above, the purchaser's sole remedy shall be repair or replacement as provided above. In no event will SpeakerCraft be liable for any incidental or consequential damages arising out of the use or inability to use the product, even if SpeakerCraft Inc. or a SpeakerCraft Inc. Authorized Dealer has been advised of the possibility of such damages, or for any claim by any other party. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of consequential damages, so the above limitation and exclusion may not apply.

All implied warranties on the product are limited to the duration of this expressed Warranty. Some states do not allow limitation on the length of an implied warranty. If the original retail purchaser resides in such a state, this limitation does not apply.



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