PMC®

USER GUIDE

master36

DSP Amplifier

Input source 1
Analogue
PMC
PMC

IMPORTANT

Warranty

Please take a few moments to register your product by completing the warranty online at: www.pmc-speakers.com This also gives you the opportunity to make suggestions and provide feedback directly to us.

Product Support

For product support, accessories, or servicing advice please contact a PMC authorised representative. See: www.pmc-speakers.com/where-to-buy

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INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing PMC products. Please read this user guide and install your new monitor system according to the advice you'll find in the following pages.

Discerning music makers regard our monitors as the absolute reference; PMC speakers are found throughout the audio chain, from composer to recording or mixing, through post-production, mastering, and broadcast. They deliver a forensic level of detail that allows you to work faster, without fatigue and with complete confidence knowing that your finished mix will translate technically and emotionally anywhere. Our signature sound — ultra-low distortion, effortlessly extended bass, and smooth, super-wide dispersion — is a feature of every PMC monitor, from compact nearfield to our large main monitors.

This renowned flexibility and dependability result from our holistic design process in which the impact on overall performance of every part of our speakers, right down to component level, is carefully considered. We take this approach with every loudspeaker we manufacture, including our latest generation of active reference main monitors, the PMC10, PMC12, PMC15 and PMC10-4, along with their associated subwoofers and DSP amplifiers.

Designed from the ground up with more than five years R&D, and combined with invaluable input from the PMC community, these British-made monitors are intended for audio recording, mixing, mastering, and broadcast professionals working in any format from stereo to immersive sound. This new main monitor range is packed with innovations including all-new drive units, cutting-edge Class-D amplification with analogue and digital connectivity, DSP crossovers, non-invasive protection systems, and the latest generation of our proprietary ATL™ bass-loading and Laminair™ air flow technologies.

Remote configuration over a standard Network is provided via our class-leading and upgraded SoundAlign2 web-interface (PC or Mac).

All of our active monitors are also scalable through the option of combining an active subwoofer to create PMC's unique dual-cabinet XBD format with enhanced bass headroom.

Whether you're composing, recording, mixing, or mastering, and in stereo or the latest immersive formats, you can guarantee the best possible results in the shortest possible time with PMC monitoring.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read and keep these instructions.
2. Heed all warnings and follow all instructions.
3. Do not use this apparatus near water.
4. Clean only with a dry, non-abrasive cloth. Do not use solvents, abrasives, waxes, or liquids as they may be detrimental to the cabinet finish.
5. Do not inhibit airflow around the unit. A free flow of air through the amplifier is necessary to maintain sufficient cooling. A minimum of 50mm (2-inches) is required both in front and behind the unit.
6. Do not install near heat sources eg: direct sunlight, radiators, or other apparatus that produce heat.
7. This unit must be Earthed. Do not use the amplifier with an unearthed mains cable or an unearthed mains connection as this may compromise electrical safety. A suitable mains cable is supplied with the product.
    - Apparatets stikprop skal tilsluttes en stikkontakt med jord, som giver forbindelse til stikproppens jord.
    - Laite on liitettävä soujakoskettimilla varustettuun pistorasiaan
    - Apparatet må tilkoples jordet stikkontakt
    - Apparaten skall anslutas till jordat uttag
8. The amplifier is not disconnected from the mains supply unless the power cord is removed from the unit or the mains outlet.
9. The powerCON mains plug should always remain accessible as it is the mains disconnect device.
10. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched, particularly at inlets and outlets.
11. Unplug this unit during lightning storms or when unused for long periods.
12. Maintenance or replacement of the fan in this amplifier should only be carried out by a skilled person suitably qualified to handle a Class 3 Energy Source.
13. Refer all other servicing to qualified personnel.
14. Disconnect the amplifier from the mains supply before servicing the fan. Ensure that the amplifier's front trim panel is fitted and secured in place before reconnecting the amplifier to the mains supply.
15. Servicing is required when the unit has been damaged in any way, produces abnormal odours, has been exposed to liquids, rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
16. Disconnect the amplifier from the mains supply before removing an expansion card or the expansion card blanking cover. Ensure that an expansion card or the expansion card blanking cover is fitted and secured in place before reconnecting the amplifier to the mains supply.
17. Only use in non-tropical climate areas and below an altitude of 2000m.
    - 仅适用于海拔 2000m **以下地区安全使用**

/cont.

18. Warning! This is a Class-A device. This device may cause interference in residential areas; in this case, the operator may be required to take appropriate measures.
19. Packaging can pose a danger to the young and vulnerable. Ensure these items are stored or disposed of safely, and in accordance with your local legislation.
20. PMC has made every effort to provide accurate installation information and good quality fixings. However, PMC will not be held responsible or liable for injuries or property damage (direct, indirect or consequential) arising out of use or inability to use this product safely and properly.
21. The manufacturing date code of this product is marked on the rear of the product in the format WW/YYYY.
22. The RJ45 Network port on this equipment should only be used with a fully screened Ethernet cable with the screen connected at both ends. The use of an unscreened cable may result in electromagnetic interference.
23. Except for the loudspeaker output cable and the screened RJ45 network cable, only use this device with cables less than three metres in length.
24. This equipment can be mounted in a 19" rack. When doing so, ensure that the amplifier is securely mounted with 4 bolts into a stable rack, and heed all previous warnings.

UNPACKING AND CARE

Our DSP amplifiers are packed in heavy-duty protective cartons. Please retain these to ensure that the equipment can be transported safely if the need arises in the future. If you dispose of the packaging please do so in an environmentally responsible and safe way.

PMC amplifiers provide many years of trouble-free operation, but in the unlikely event that you suspect damage or failure has occurred do not attempt to repair the unit yourself. Contact your local representative for advice (see where to buy at: www.pmc-speakers.com/where-to-buy/).

What's In The Box?

1 x master36 DSP Amplifier

1 x User Guide

1 x Warranty Reminder

What's Required to Build A Working System?

1 x Full-Range Loudspeaker (PMC10, PMC12, PMC15 or PMC10-4) or SUB

1 x Speaker Connecting Cable

1 x Illuminated Logo Cable (Ethernet-style)

1 x powerCON mains cable

NB: All the above are supplied separately.

NB: One or more power20 amplifiers with additional speaker cables and Masterlink (Ethernet-style) cables are required for the PMC10-4, and some XBD systems. These are supplied separately when required.

MASTER36 DESCRIPTION

The master36 contains both the DSP brain and the power amplifiers required for PMC's range of Studio Monitors.

PMC designed and built the master36 in-house, using extensive R&D alongside comparative testing. The compact, 3U master36 ensures the transparent and faithful reproduction that critical PMC users expect, regardless of the listening level.

Two independent audio input streams offer installation flexibility, each featuring balanced line-level analogue and AES3 digital connections. An expansion card option is reserved for future formats.

A MasterLink connection allows convenient daisy-chaining of additional power20 amplifiers which is ideal for larger monitoring systems. An Ethernet connection allows remote network control for amplifier and loudspeaker configuration via our browser-based SoundAlign2 software.

The translation to and from digital audio formats is performed by very high-performance 24-bit 96kHz converters, and asynchronous sample rate converters accommodate any digital input sample rate up to 192kHz.

A powerful 32-bit DSP engine handles user control and configuration, input selection, crossover filters, and non-invasive driver protection systems. This DSP engine finesses our precision loudspeaker designs for the ultimate performance. Meticulous time and phase alignment of the crossover filters maintain PMC's signature wide dispersion and smooth off-axis performance.

The master36 unit contains six configurable, state-of-the-art Class-D power amplifiers capable of delivering a massive 3600 Watts in total. Already well-proven in other PMC products, these amplifiers are designed for maximum transparency and the highest resolution, with ultra-low distortion and high damping factors. They provide sustained high output power and excellent reliability, with jaw-dropping dynamics, and near-instantaneous control over their respective drivers.

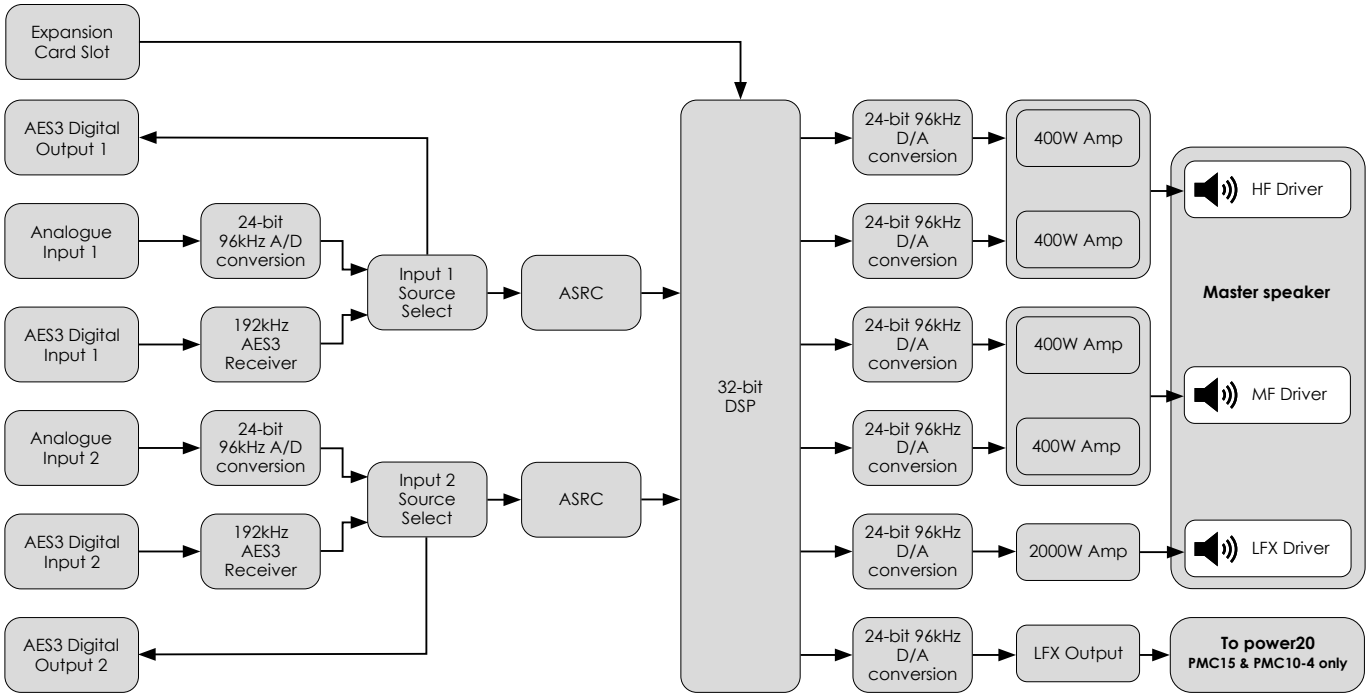
These amplifiers are power-efficient and normally run relatively cool with just passive convection cooling. However, a silent fan is mounted behind the front panel and is controlled by the DSP to supply forced-air cooling in the event that it becomes necessary.

When connected to a PMC10, PMC12, PMC15 or PMC10-4 speaker, two pairs of 400W amplifiers are configured in bridged mode to drive the tweeter and midrange units with 800W each.

In most configurations, only one of the two LF power amps contained within the master36 is employed, with its output power being determined by the impedance of the bass driver to which it is connected. The bass drivers in PMC10 and PMC12 models present an 8 Ohm load and receive 1000W, whereas the PMC15's bass driver presents a 4 Ohm load and receives 2000W.

For the PMC10-4 the master36 drives one pair of 8 Ohm bass units wired in parallel, delivering 1000W to each one. A separate Power20 unit contains an identical 2000W LF amplifer which powers the additional pair of bass drivers with a further 1000W each.

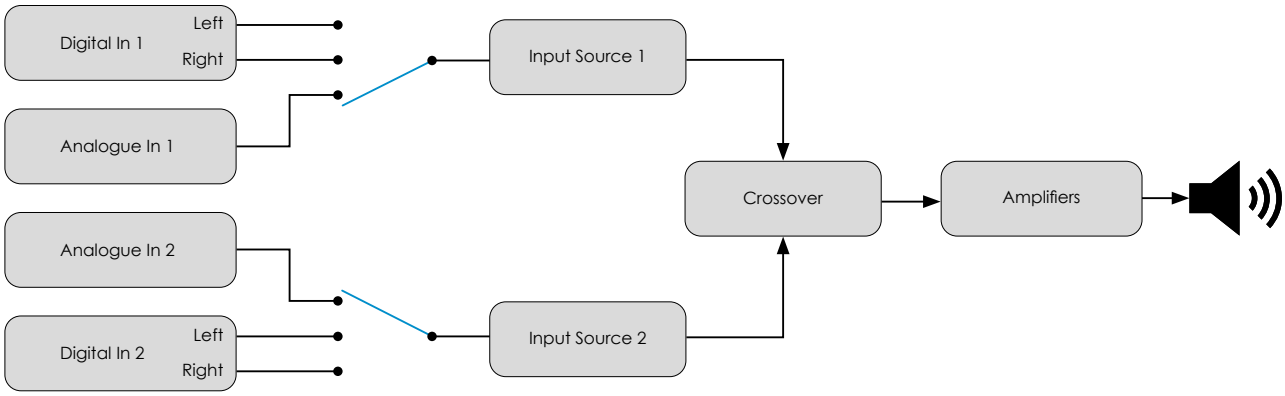
Signal flow



INPUT SELECTION

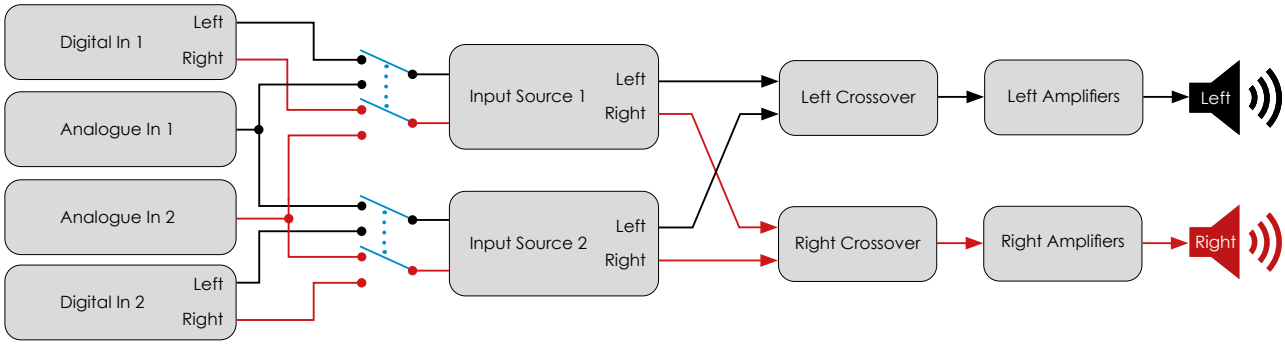
In standard (mono) configuration powering a PMC10, PMC12, PMC15 or PMC10-4 main monitor (or related SUB or XBD system), the master36 permits two input streams to be used simultaneously.

Each of those two streams can be derived from either analogue or digital inputs, as shown on the digram below. Independent selection of the AES3 left channel or right channel audio is permitted, or a mono sum can be selected.



When the master36 is configured for stereo operation with soffit-mounted PMC6-2, PMC6-2 XBD, PMC8-2 or PMC8-2 XBD systems, the input stream selection works differently, as illustrated in the digram below.

The two analogue inputs provide left and right channels and are selected together as the stereo analogue input. Alternatively, either of the two digital inputs can be selected, with their left and right channels being routed appropriately.



CONTROLS AND CONNECTIONS

1 **Power On/Off —** Master power switch.

2 **LCD Display —** The top row of the LCD indicates the PARAMETER, whilst the bottom row displays the VALUE of that parameter.

3 **Rotary Encoders —** Used to modify the speaker's settings. Rotate the top encoder to change to a different PARAMETER. Rotate the bottom encoder to modify the VALUE of said parameter. Press & hold the top encoder to show the firmware version.

Press the bottom encoder to switch between coarse & fine parameter mode. Coarse mode is indicated by a '*' symbol at the bottom right of the LCD and is used to make larger changes to the parameter VALUE. This is useful, for example, when sweeping the frequency of a PEQ between 20 and 20,000 Hz.

4 **Illuminated Logo —** This indicates the amplifier's operating status. See page 17 for further details.

5 **Analogue Inputs —** A pair of XLR3f input sockets receives balanced analogue line-level signals. The input is selected through the rotary encoders or the SoundAlign2 network interface.

6 **Digital Inputs —** A pair of XLR3f input sockets receives AES3 digital signals at any sample rate between 18kHz and 192kHz. Asynchronous sample rate converters transcode the digital inputs to 96kHz for the DSP engine.

7 **Digital Outputs —** A pair of XLR3m sockets provide the selected input signal as a digital output to feed other equipment as necessary.

8 **Aux Output —** A single XLR3m socket included for future flexibility. The audio signal on this output is mirrored on the Masterlink RJ45 output.

9 **MasterLink Out —** This RJ45 connector carries balanced analogue audio and DC trigger control data to other PMC amplifiers (eg. power20) in larger systems. A suitable colour-coded cable is provided with the power20 amplifier. This is not an Ethernet port and must not be connected to a LAN.

10 **Expansion Card Slot —** An expansion card slot provides a capability to support alternative digital input format interfaces in the future.

The expansion card slot does not support hot-plugging and only detects installed cards during boot-up. Disconnect the speaker from the mains supply before removing the expansion card blanking cover or an installed expansion card. Ensure that an expansion card or the expansion card blanking cover is fitted and secured in place before reconnecting the speaker to the mains supply.

11 **Network Connector —** RJ45 Ethernet connector to enable network control of the speaker's DSP settings through the SoundAlign2 web interface. The master36 can be connected to any normal LAN network; it does not need its own separate network or any special network hardware, and speaker control and configuration data will happily co-exist with other network data traffic. No audio is passed over the network interface. If no LAN is available, this port can be connected directly to a PC or Mac to use the SoundAlign2 interface.

12 **Speaker LED Out 1/2 —** These two RJ45 Ethernet connectors control the illuminated PMC logos on the front of loudspeaker cabinets connected to the corresponding Speaker Out sockets. A suitable colour coded cable is included with the speaker loom. This is not an Ethernet port and must not be connected to a LAN. In the standard mono master36 configuration only Speaker LED 1 is used.

13 **Trigger In —** The 3.5mm mini-jack socket is used to power-up the master36 automatically on receipt of a DC voltage of 5-12V between the tip and sleeve pins of the connector (polarity not important).

14 **Trigger Out —** The 3.5mm mini-jack socket provides 12V DC a few seconds after power20 is powered up, and can be used to control other equipment in the system. Tip = 12V trigger signal, Sleeve = 0V/Ground, 50mA max.

15 **Trigger Status LED —** This LED indicates the status of the trigger system.

LED Colour	Status
Red	Mains power applied, awaiting trigger input
Orange	Trigger input received, booting up
Green	Normal operation, trigger output active

16 **Speaker Out 1 —** This Neutrik speakON NL8 connector carries speaker-level signals to the loudspeaker cabinet for the tweeter, midrange and bass drivers(s). In standard speaker configurations this is the only speaker connector in use.

17 **Speaker Out 2 —** This secondary NL8 speakON connector is ONLY used when the master36 is configured for stereo operation with PMC6-2 or PMC8-2 passive soffit-mounted cabinets.

18 **Power Inlet —** This Neutrik powerCON mains power inlet accepts 100–240VAC 50–60Hz with auto-switching of voltage.

Factory Reset:

Press and hold both rotary encoders for ten seconds.

NB. Ensure the source signal is muted before initiating the reset, and only gradually increase it again after the reset is complete. A factory reset will delete any stored presets and reset all other parameters to their default values — including the volume parameter — which could result in a large jump in output level.

SPEAKER CONNECTIONS

The master36 contains six separate power amplifiers identified as HF1, HF2, MF1, MF2, LF1 and LF2, each with positive and negative terminals. Their outputs are presented via the two Speakon connectors, Speaker Out 1 and Speaker Out 2.

When the master36 is used with soffit-mounted PMC6-2 or PMC8-2 monitors, it operates as a conventional stereo amplifier, with the left loudspeaker connected to Speaker Out 1 to receive signals from the HF1, MF1 and LF1 amplifiers, while the right channel connects to Speaker Out 2 for the outputs of the HF2, MF2 and LF2 amplifiers.

When controlling the PMC10, PMC12, PMC15 and PMC10-4 loudspeakers, the HF1/2 and MF1/2 amplifiers are reconfigured in a bridged configuration.

Speaker Out 1: speakON NL8

HF1	pin 1+/1-
MF1	pin 2+/2-
HF1-2 Br.	pin 1+/3+
MF1-2 Br.	pin 2+/3-
LF1	pin 4+/4-

Speaker Out 2: speakON NL8 (only used in stereo mode)

HF2	pin 1+/1-
MF2	pin 2+/2-
LF2	pin 4+/4-

AMPLIFIER POWER RATINGS

Main Monitor Systems

Driver	PMC10	PMC12	PMC15	PMC10-4
HF*	800W	800W	800W	800W
MF*	800W	800W	800W	800W
LF	1000W	1000W	2000W	4000W ‡
				(1000W per LF driver)

* HF and MF amplifiers working in bridged mode.

XBD Systems

For PMC10 XBD and PMC12 XBD systems the main and extra LF (LFX) bass drivers are connected to the master36 in parallel.

The PMC15 XBD and PMC10-4 systems use additional power20 amplifier unit(s) in addition to the master36 DSP/amplifier unit to provide the amplification required for the extra LF drivers.

Driver	PMC10 XBD	PMC12 XBD	PMC15 XBD	PMC10-4 XBD
LFX	1000W	1000W	2000W	4000W ‡

PMC6-2 and PMC8-2 Soffit-Mounting

The master36 Amplifier can also be used in stereo mode with PMC6-2 and PMC8-2 systems, replacing the normal rear-panel electronics to allow soffit-mounting. The amplifier ratings in this mode are as shown below:

Driver	PMC6-2	PMC 6-2 XBD	PMC8-2	PMC8-2 XBD
HF	400W	400W	400W	400W
MF	400W	400W	400W	400W
LF	1000W	1000W	1000W	1000W
LFX		1000W		1000W

Stand-Alone Subwoofers

Driver	PMC10 SUB	PMC12 SUB	PMC15 SUB	PMC10-4 SUB
LF	1000W	1000W	2000W	4000W ‡

NB: For the PMC10 SUB and PMC12 SUB, a second SUB cabinet can be connected in parallel for a total of 1000W per LF driver.

‡ The master36 provides 2x1000W and a power20 amplifier provides the second 2x1000W

ILLUMINATED PMC LOGOS

The illuminated PMC logo on the front of the master36 and connected loudspeaker indicates the current operating status.

Colour	Status
White	Normal operation
Off (logo not lit)	Normal operation with brightness set to min., or speaker is not powered
Red	Driver protection systems active
Blue	Speaker is selected in SoundAlign
Pulsing Turquoise / White	Speaker is the current speaker in SoundAlign
Flashing Blue/White or Green/White	Speaker is carrying out firmware update
Pulsing Orange	Muted or Sub Bypass mode active

The master36 front panel features a series of LEDs to indicate the status of each amplifier channel.

Colour	Status
Off (logo not lit)	Amplifier channel not active
White	Normal operation
Red	Clipping
Yellow	Protection
Blue	Amplifier channels in Bridged Mode

INITIAL CONFIGURATION

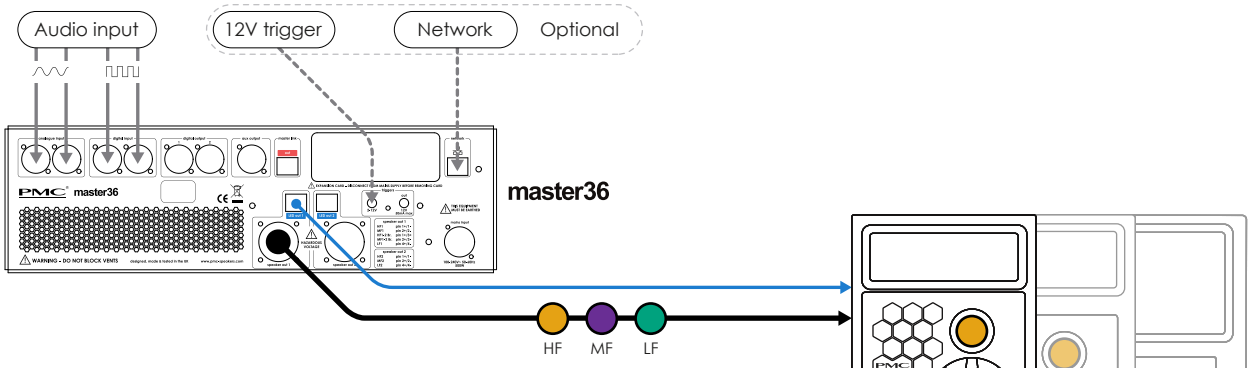
When first powered-up select the model of loudspeaker to which it is connected. This is a critically important step as it ensures that the master36 applies the correct crossover settings and internal signal routing options for the connected loudspeaker.

Rotate either rotary encoder to find the correct speaker model on the display, then press the encoder to select that option. Press the encoder again within five seconds to confirm and activate the selection.

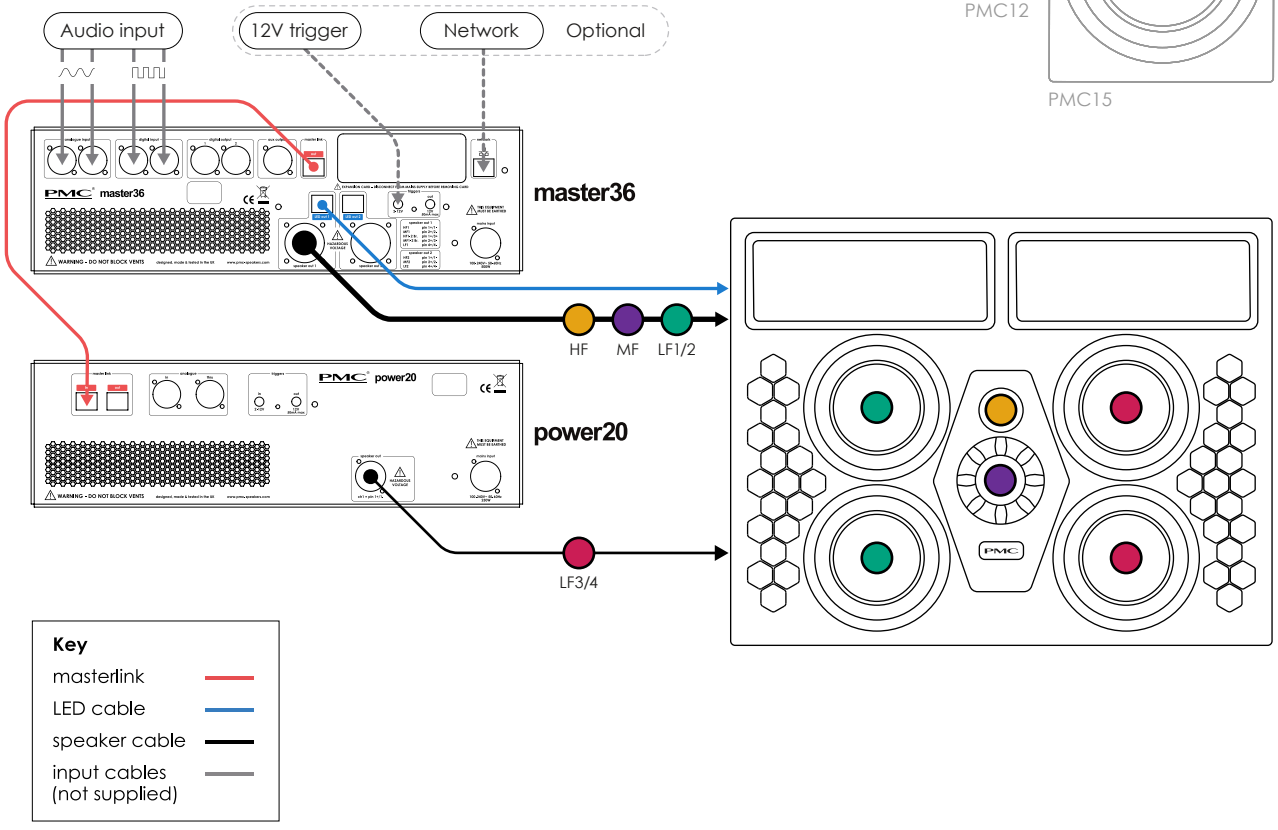
If required, the loudspeaker model selection menu can be accessed at a later date by powering-off the unit and then pressing and holding both encoders while re-applying power to the unit. Keep both encoders pressed as the display counts down from 3 to 0, at which point the speaker model selection menu will be re-activated.

STANDARD SYSTEM CONNECTION DIAGRAMS

PMC10 / PMC12 / PMC15
connections per channel



PMC10-4
connections per channel



XBD SYSTEM CONFIGURATION

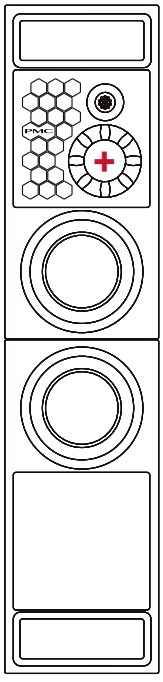
PMC10, PMC12, PMC15 and PMC10-4 main monitors can be easily reconfigured as twin-cabinet XBD monitor systems. This flexible format combines a full-range speaker with a matching SUB xbd cabinet to form a perfectly integrated system with huge benefits.

The XBD format duplicates and reinforces the bass output of the main speaker's LF driver(s), greatly increasing headroom throughout the entire low frequency range, creating a system with a sense of effortless capability.

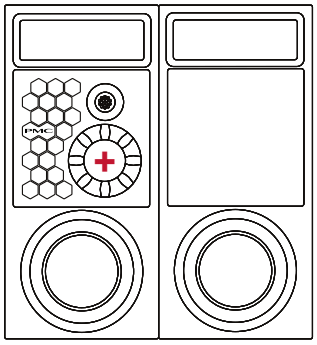
The two cabinets can be positioned as a tower, oriented one above the other horizontally, or in a side by side (tandem) configuration.

PMC10, 12, 15 XBD

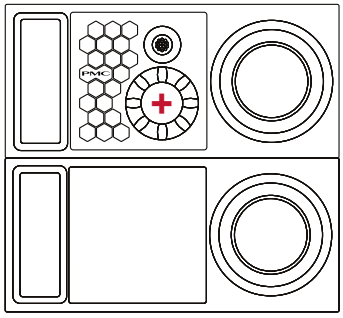
PMC10-4 XBD



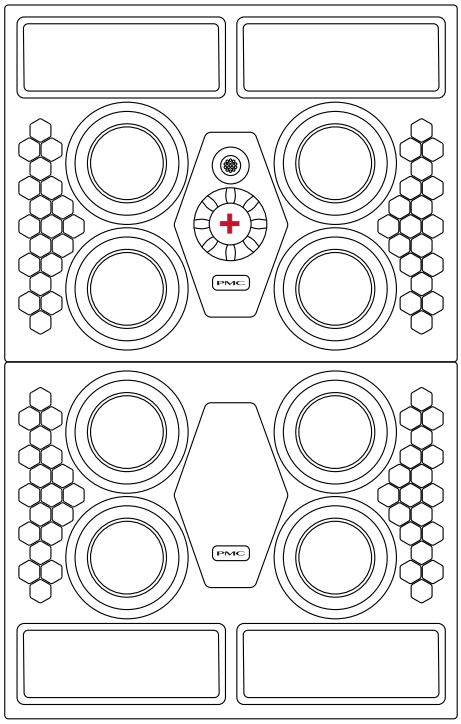
Tower



Tandem



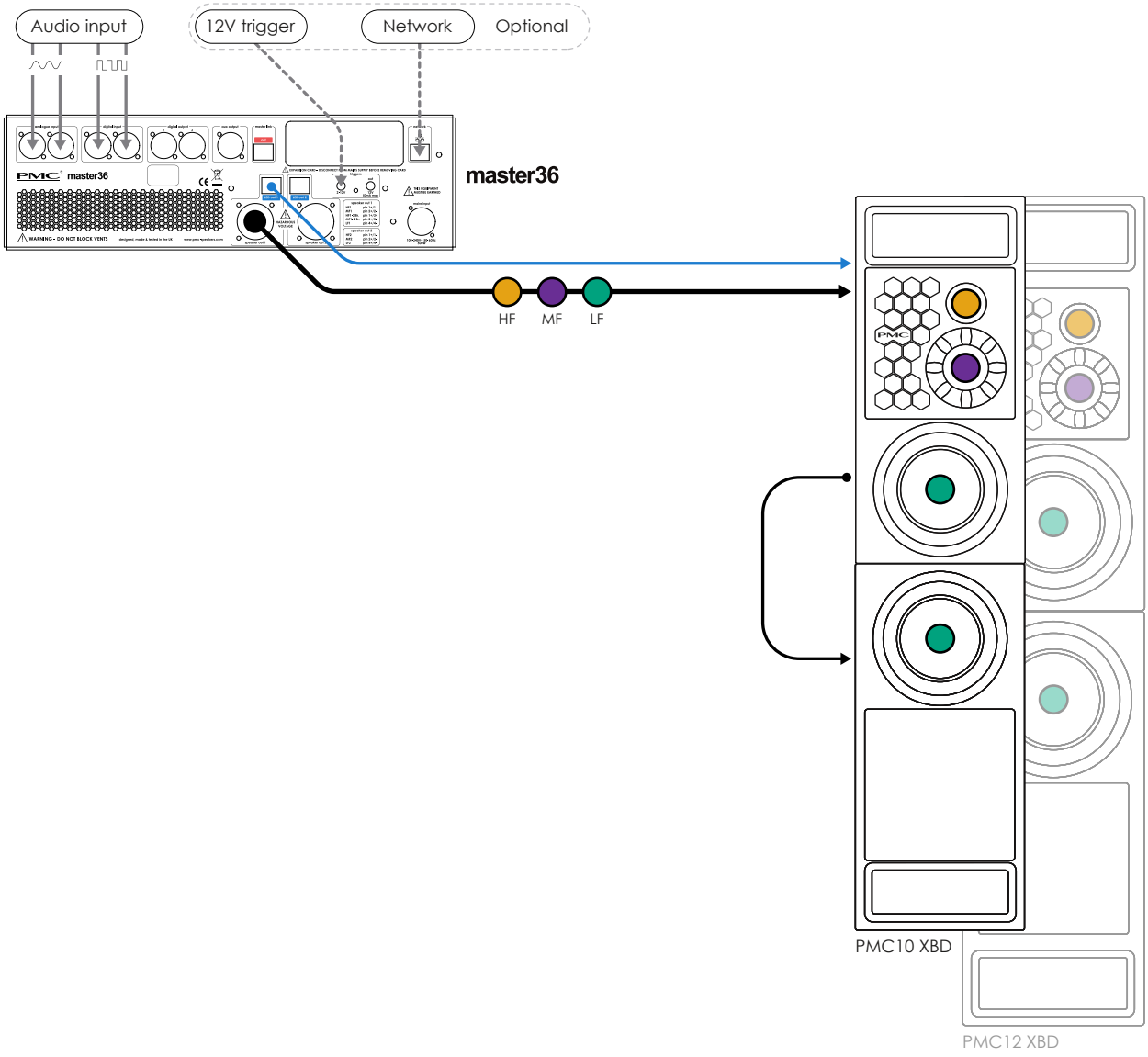
Horizontal



+ Denotes acoustic centre

PMC10 XBD / PMC12 XBD

connections per channel



Key

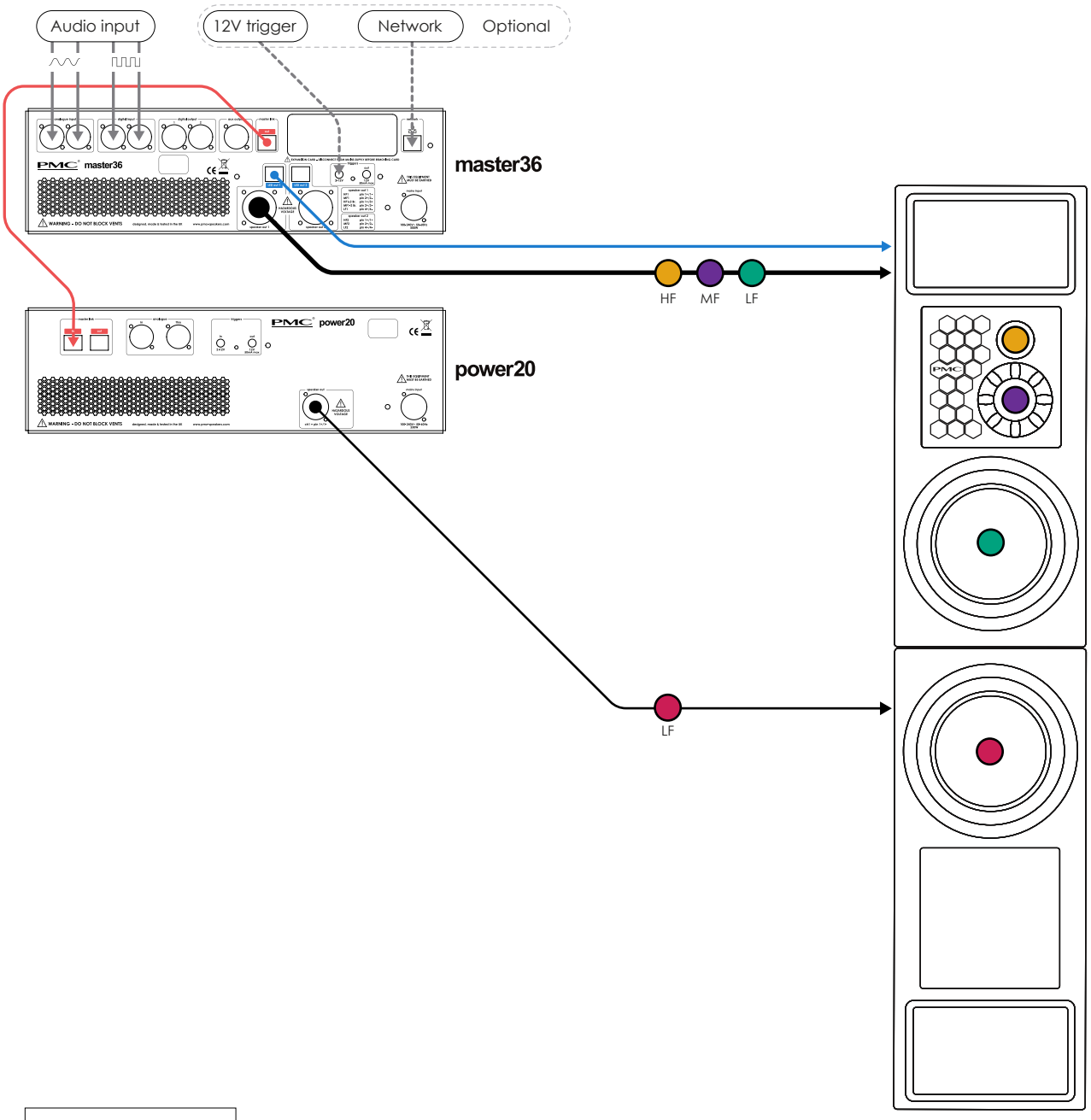
LED cable

speaker cable

input cables (not supplied)

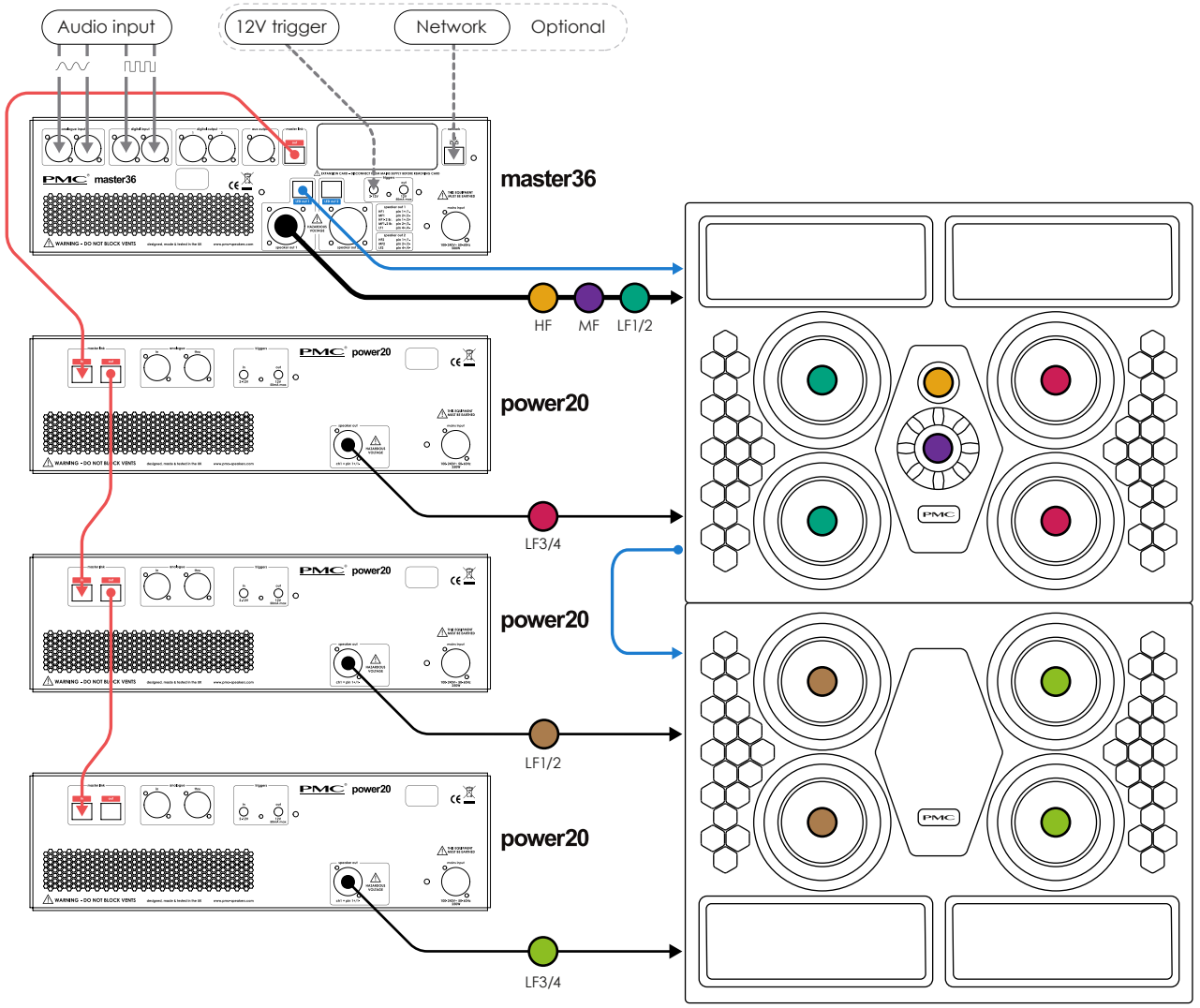
PMC15 XBD

connections per channel



PMC10-4 XBD

connections per channel

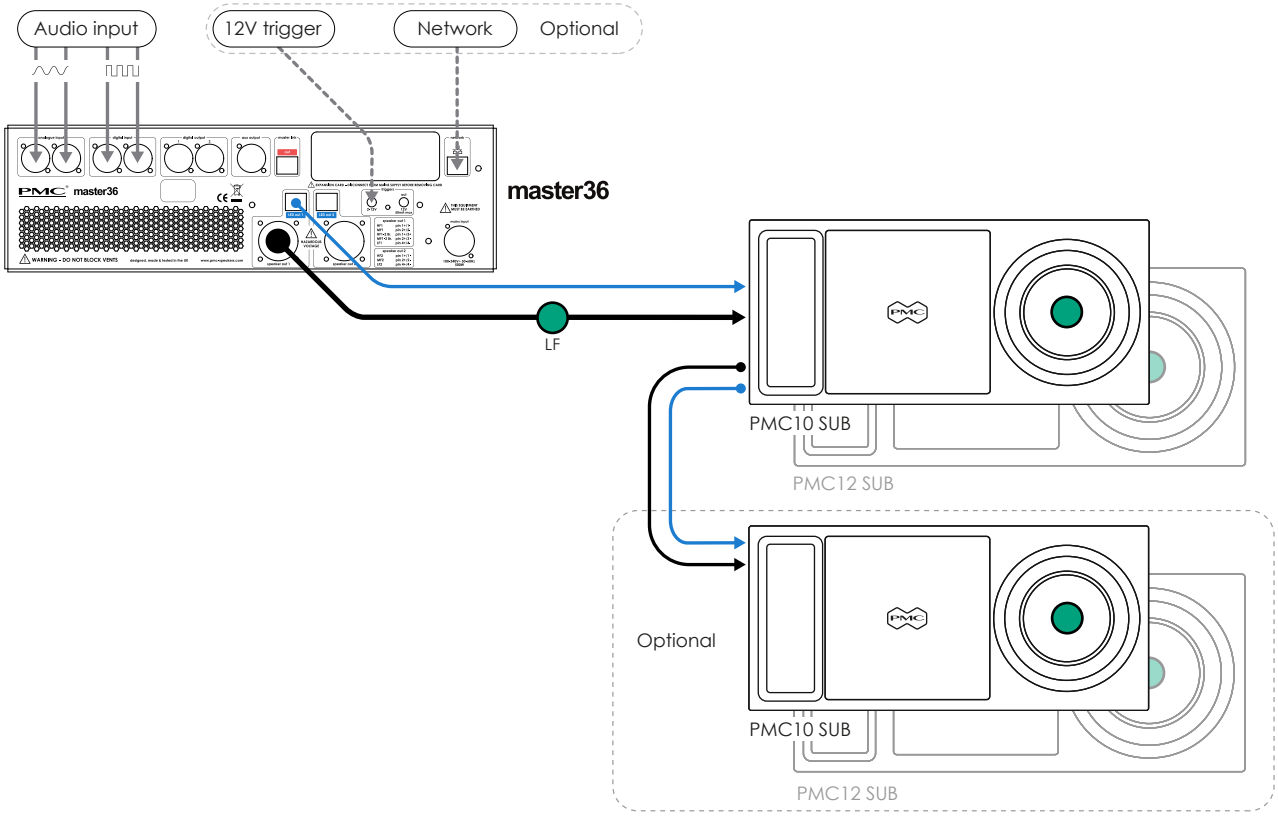


Key

- masterlink
- LED cable
- speaker cable
- input cables (not supplied)

PMC10 SUB / PMC12 SUB

connections per channel



NB: PMC SUB subwoofers are fully independent loudspeaker channels controlled and powered by their own master36 DSP amplifier.

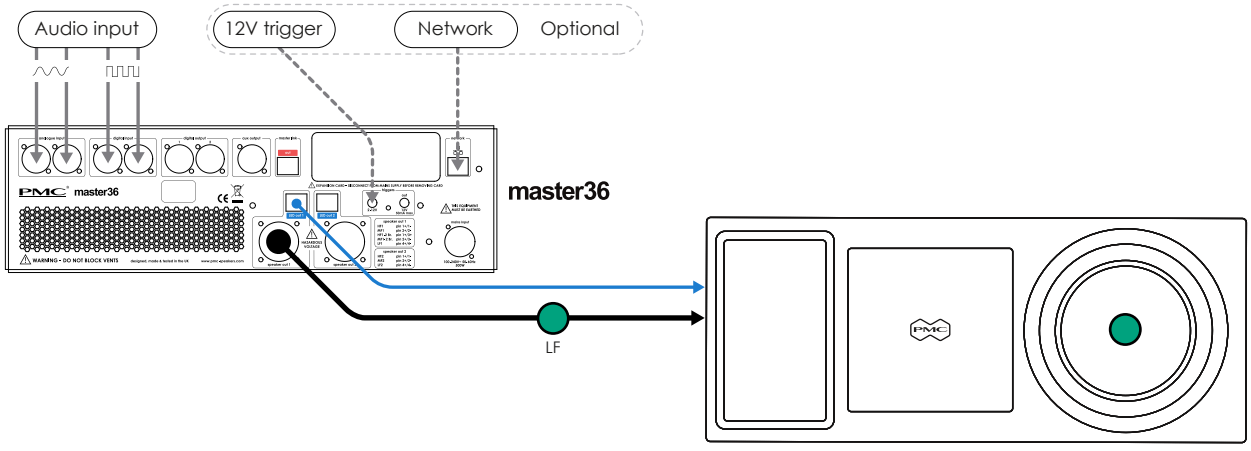
Key

LED cable

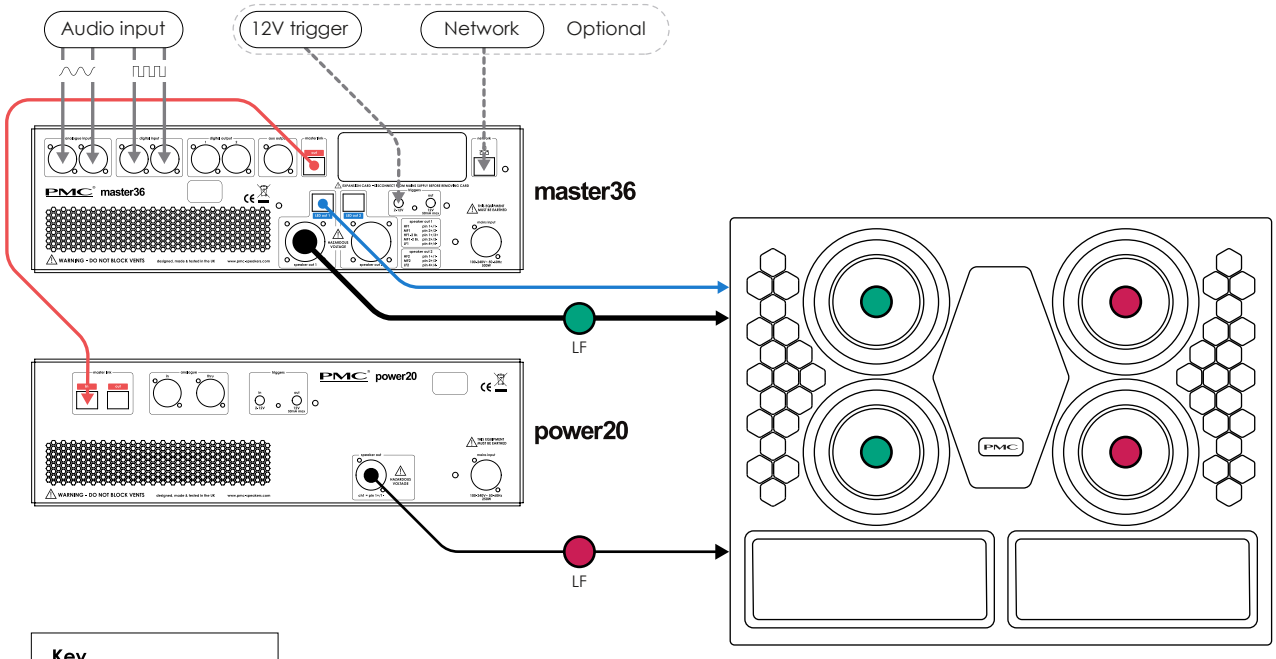
speaker cable

input cables (not supplied)

PMC15 SUB
connections per channel



PMC10-4 SUB
connections per channel



Key

masterlink

LED cable

speaker cable

input cables (not supplied)

PMC12 XBD (L,C,R)
PMC15 XBD (L,R)

HARDWARE USER CONTROLS

The following parameters can be configured using either the rotary encoders on the master36 front panel, or via the SoundAlign2 web interface.

• **Mute:** Mutes the Speaker. Illuminated logo shows pulsing orange.

• **Subwoofer Bypass:** Used to audition a speaker system with or without subwoofers. When Subwoofer bypass is active, all subwoofers will be muted, and all full-range speakers will disable their HPF and LPF filters. Illuminated logo on Subwoofers change to pulsing orange.

• **Input Source 1/2:** Analogue, AES Left, AES Right, AES L+R, Off

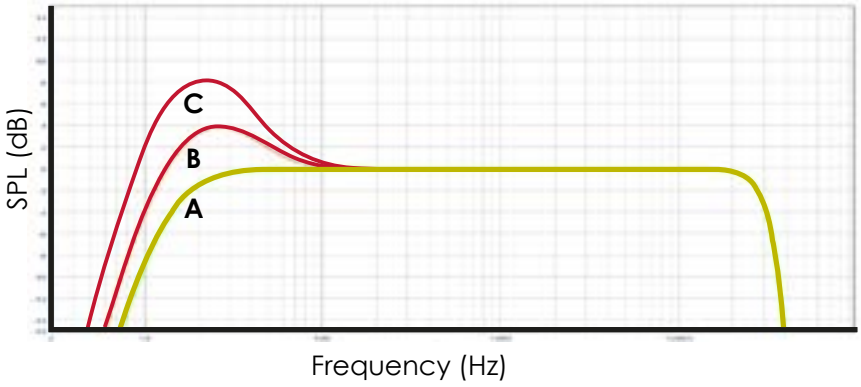
• **Expansion Card:** (option only appears if installed)

• **Level Trim:** ±10dB

• **Volume:** 0 to –100dB

• **Sensitivity:** +12dBu, +20dBu, +24dBu (maximum analogue input levels)

• **Position:** Free Space, Wall, Corner.



A: Free Space mode (more than 0.5m (20") away from all boundaries). The flat reference setting with no filters applied.

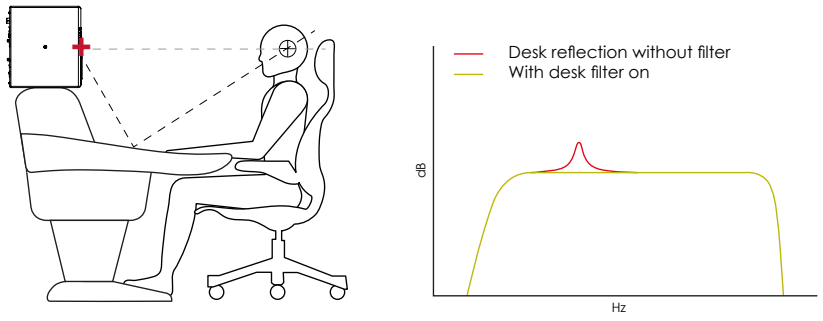
B: Wall mode (within 0.5m (20") of one boundary) applies a -4dB LF-shelf at 45Hz (Q1.41).

C: Corner mode (within 0.5m (20") of two boundaries) applies a -8dB LF-shelf at 45Hz (Q1.41).

For soffit mounted speakers the most appropriate setting will depend on the wall & soffit construction. We recommend trialling the wall and corner settings to determine the best option for the room).

NB: PMC subwoofers are pre-equalised for placement on the floor. If a sub is positioned close to one wall, select the 'Wall' mode, and if positioned close to the corner of two walls select the 'Corner' mode.

• **Desk Filter:** On/Off



The Desk Filter setting modifies the frequency response of the speaker to compensate for the narrow-band peak typically caused by unwanted reflections from the surface of a desk or mixing console.

Setting the parameter to ON introduces a -3.5dB cut at 150Hz (Q3.0).

• **Delay:** On/Off

• **Delay Time**: 0.00 to 30.00ms, in 0.05ms increments

If speakers (and subwoofers) cannot be positioned equidistant from the listening position, a delay can be applied to the closer ones to compensate for the difference in arrival time of the sound from each loudspeaker.

• **Polarity:** Normal or Inverted

This parameter inverts the polarity of the acoustic output of the speaker. It can be used to aid integration of standalone subwoofers.

• **Subwoofer HPF and LPF:** On/Off, Slope (12 or 24dB/Oct), Freq (20–20kHz)

HPF and LPF are intended for the integration of subwoofers and/or bass management, therefore they are affected by the subwoofer bypass function. HPF and LPF are not included in the EQ copy & paste function.

• **EQ Bypass:** Disables all parametric EQ bands plus the high & low shelves. Intended for quick A/B listening to check the effect of the EQ.

• **EQ Make-Up:** ±10dB range

Gain trim to counteract audible level shifts when adjusting EQ to improve A/B comparisons. This setting is affected by the EQ bypass ie. when EQ is bypassed this setting will have no effect as no gain trim is applied.

• **LF & HF Shelves:** On/Off, Gain (± 10dB), Freq (20–20kHz)

The HF and LF shelving filters have fixed 12dB/Oct slopes with a Q of 0.707.

• **Parametric EQ 1–8:** On/Off, Gain (± 10dB), Freq (20–20kHz), Q (0.05 – 10.00)

Eight independent bands of fully-parametric EQ are available to adjust the tonal balance of the speaker to the user's preference, or to tune the speaker to a particular room's acoustic characteristics.

Q-factor equates to the bandwidth of the filter. A high Q means that the filter has a very sharp peak or notch and affect a narrow range of frequencies. A low Q means that the filter has a broad peak or dip, affecting a wide range of frequencies. A Q value of 1.41 is equivalent to a bandwidth of one octave.

NB: The copy/paste function only affects the parametric EQ bands and shelving filters — NOT the HPF & LPF, or delay, desk filter, etc.

• **Logo Brightness:** Min (10%) to 100%

This parameter adjusts the brightness of the PMC logo on the front of the loudspeaker. At the minimum (10%) setting the logo will only glow when activated by the driver protection system or to indicate user interaction with the SoundAlign2 web interface.

• **Store Presets A, B, C**

The master36 can store three complete user configurations internally, identified as Presets A, B and C. When the LCD shows "Store Preset X" press the VALUE encoder to begin the preset storage process, then press again within three seconds to confirm. All settings (except XBD Mode) will be stored in the preset memory.

• **Load Presets A, B, C**

Any one of the three stored presets can be recalled from the master36's memory. When the LCD shows "Load Preset X" press the VALUE encoder to begin the preset loading process, then press again within three seconds to confirm. All settings (except XBD Mode) will be loaded from the speaker's memory.

• **Load Default settings**

This option reverts the master36 to its default settings for the selected loudspeaker, removing all EQs and other user settings. Stored presets will not be affected by this process.

When the LCD shows "Load Defaults" press the VALUE encoder to begin the process, then press again within three seconds to confirm. All settings will be returned to their default values.

For full factory reset see page 14.

digital output
sum output
master link
EXPANSION CARD – DISCONNECT FROM MAINS SUPPLY BEFORE REMOVING
Triggers
in
out
2-12V
12V
60mA max
speaker out 1
HF1
MF1
HF1-2 lk.
MF1-2 lk.
LF1
pin 1+/1-
pin 2+/2-
pin 1+/3+
pin 2+/3-
pin 4+/4-
speaker out 2
HF2
MF2
LF2
LED out 1
LED out 2
HAZARDOUS VOLTAGE
PMC master36
www.pmc-speakers.com
designed, made & tested in the UK
WARNING - DO NOT BLOCK VENTS

SOUND**ALIGN²** WEB INTERFACE

The SoundAlign2 web interface is a simple and intuitive means of controlling and configuring our active DSP monitors and subwoofers. Each master36 incorporates an internal web-server accessible over a standard wired Ethernet connection using a web browser on any PC or Mac computer.

Master36 DSP Amplifiers can be controlled individually or in defined groups of multiple speakers (up to 32), and every DSP menu function and parameter can be viewed and adjusted, with configuration settings stored and recalled instantly as presets. Facilities are provided to configure the input format and level, boundary mode correction, as well as delay and polarity. There is also an EQ section with an interactive graphical display offering eight parametric bands plus high- and low-shelf sections, with copy and paste-functions to move settings between devices.

The SoundAlign2 interface also makes it very simple to upload new firmware to all selected master36 amplifiers, and a group filter mode allows defined subsets of master36 units to be displayed and controlled entirely separately from other groups — an indispensable facility in complex multi-room installations or with multi-channel speaker arrays.

NB: All devices in a system must be running the same version of SoundAlign.

Accessing SoundAlign2

The SoundAlign2 web interface hosted within the master36 DSP/Amplifier is compatible with all standard web-browsers. Live internet access is not required, and no software needs to be installed.

To access the SoundAlign2 interface first connect each master36 to a LAN — it is not necessary to have a dedicated network just for PMC systems as the SoundAlign2 control data will happily coexist with other network traffic. Special network hardware is not required either, although we recommend a minimum network speed of 100Mbit/s.

If a suitable network is not available, it is also possible to configure an individual master36 via its internal web interface by connecting an Ethernet cable directly from the master36 to a PC or Mac.

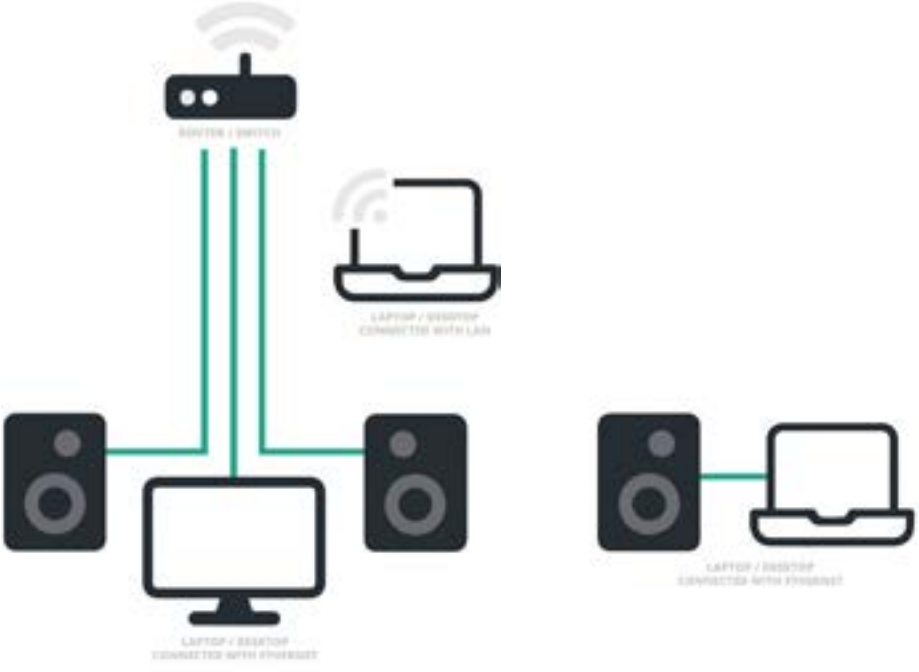
Once the master36 is connected to a network or computer, its IP address will be displayed on the front-panel LCD. The SoundAlign2 interface can then be accessed from any device on the same network by navigating to:

http://soundalign.local/

Some network hardware does not support the http://soundalign.local/ address, in this case the web interface can alternatively be accessed by navigating to the specific IP address displayed on the amplifier's LCD.

Most of the features and controls in the SoundAlign2 interface mirror the hardware user controls described in the previous section, but there are some additional features that can only be accessed from the SoundAlign2 web interface.

The illuminated PMC logo on the front of each loudspeaker and master36 will blink briefly whenever an interaction is received from the SoundAlign2 web interface.



Preset Management

The same preset management functions available on the master36's panel controls are also available in SoundAlign2 — 3 presets can be stored and loaded to and from the unit's internal memory, and factory defaults can be restored.

The SoundAlign2 interface also includes additional functionality to save presets to a file on your computer device (PC, Mac etc.), and Presets saved to a file can be for a single speaker or a complete multi-channel system.

Saved files will have .json extension and be named with the following conventions:

• Single speaker presets: MODEL-CHANNEL-DATE_TIME

For example, 6-2-RIGHT-2021-8-27_14-30.json would indicate a preset file from the right-hand PMC6-2 saved on 14:30 on the 27th August 2021.

• Multi-channel presets:

N-CHANNEL1-CHANNEL2…CHANNELN-DATE_TIME

N is the number of channels in the preset, so, 3-LEFT-CENTRE-RIGHT-2021-8-27_14-30.json would indicate a preset file with an entry for left, centre and right speakers (3 total) saved at 14:30 on the 27th August 2021

Previously saved preset files stored on your device can be uploaded to the speakers by selecting the 'Load from File' button. If a single-channel preset file is uploaded it will be applied to all selected speakers.

If a mutli-channel preset file is uploaded the settings for each channel in the preset will be applied to any speakers in the selected group with the same channel assignment. For example, if the preset file contains settings for a 5.1 system, the settings for the 'Left' speaker entry in the preset file will be applied to all selected speakers that have their Channel set to 'Left', and the settings for the 'Centre' speaker entry in the preset file will be applied to all selected speakers that have their Channel set to 'Centre', and so on.

Firmware Updates

The master36 firmware can be updated through the web interface. The latest SoundAlign2 firmware is required for use with all main monitors.

The *Get Firmware* button links to an area of the PMC website where firmware files can be downloaded to your device (PC, Mac etc.) Firmware files have a .pmc file extension.

The Update Firmware button allows you to upload a firmware file from your device to all selected master36 units. Once a firmware file is selected in the pop-up window on your device, the firmware update process will begin.

During the firmware update process the illuminated logo on the speaker connected to the master36 will flash white/blue or white/green. Once the update is complete the master36 will be re-booted and the web-interface will refresh. This process can take up to 60 seconds, and during this time the SoundAlign2 interface must not be refreshed, or the unit power cycled or disconnected from the network.

Support

A link to the SoundAlign2 FAQ and support page can be found at the top right-hand corner of the main window. For an indepth view of SoundAlign2 see: pmc-speakers.com/soundalign

PMC

master36

GENERAL

Type	19" rack-mount digital crossover & 6ch amplification
Control	Rotary Encoders with LCD display, SoundAlign2 Web Interface (RJ45)
Features	Mute, Volume, Trim (±10dB), Position (free-space, wall, corner), Desk Filter, Delay (0–30ms), Polarity, High-/low-pass Filters, High-/Low Shelving Filters, 8-Band parametric EQ, 3x User Presets, Trigger In/Out, Masterlink Out

AUDIO

Frequency response	20Hz – 20kHz
HF & MF Amplifier Power	4x 200W (8Ω) / 400 W (4Ω) or 2x 800W (8Ω bridged)
LF Amplifier Power	2x 1000W (8Ω) or 1x 2000W (4Ω)
Gain	29.5dB
THD	<0.005% typ (1kHz, 4Ω. AES17 filter)
Dynamic Range	> 110dB typ.
DSP Processing Rate	32 bit, 96kHz
Latency	2.4ms

INPUT

Connections	2x Analogue XLR, 2x AES3 Digital XLR, 1x Expansion Card Slot
Analogue Input Impedance	28kΩ differential
Max Analogue Input	+12, +20, or +24dBu
Digital Input Format	AES3, 16–24 bits, 18–192kHz
Digital Input Impedance	110Ω

OUTPUT

Connections	2x AES3 Digital XLR, 2x Neutrik NL8 speakON, 2x RJ45 LED Outputs for control of speaker Logos 1x Masterlink Out for control of power20, 1x Aux Analogue XLR
Digital Output Signal	Pass-through of selected input (analogue or digital)
Digital Output Format	AES3, 24 bit, 96kHz when analogue input selected

OTHER

Trigger In	3.5mm jack, Tip +ve, Sleeve -ve (5 –12V DC)
Trigger Out	3.5mm jack, Tip +ve, Sleeve -ve (12V DC, 50mA) With 4-second delay from power on
Ethernet RJ45	For PMC SoundAlign2 Web Interface

/Cont.

MAINS

Connector Neutrik powerCon 20A

Voltage 100 - 240VAC auto-switching

Frequency 50-60Hz

Power Consumption

Mains Voltage	100VAC	120VAC	230VAC
Idle	1.2A	1.0A	0.5A
1/8th Power 12dB Crest Factor	5.5A	4.6A	2.4A

PHYSICAL

Dimensions **H** 132mm +7mm for removable feet (5.2" + 0.3")

W 483mm (19")

D 527mm (20.8")

Rack Height /Depth 3U / Minimum 475mm (18.7")

Weight 13.2kg (29.1 lbs)

Operating Conditions 10–40°C, <2000m Altitude

Thermal Dissipation Idle: 74 Watts / 252 BTU/Hr

1/8th Power, 12dB Crest Factor: 99 Watts / 338 BTU/Hr

OUR ACTIVE STUDIO MONITORS

The PMC range of studio monitors currently spans many different models, from the enormous PMC10-4 XBD flagship system down to the diminutive result6 active speaker.

However, every PMC monitor is designed with exactly the same care and attention, using shared families of drive units, crossover designs, and amplifiers. As a direct consequence they all enjoy the same family characteristics of wide dispersion, low distortion, consistent voicing, and an even bass response regardless of listening level. This feature allows different sizes of monitors to be used in concert to create effective multichannel systems where space is at a premium.

SERVICE

We are confident that your main monitor system and amplifiers will afford many years of trouble-free listening of the highest order. However, in the unlikely event that they should require repair, all replacement parts will exactly match the performance of those originally installed because, for everything we produce, we record the precise value of each component, along with the system response as a whole.

For any issues that might arise, or for advice and service requirements, the primary point of contact should be your authorised PMC dealer/distributor. If you do not have a local representative see www.pmc-speakers.com and click on 'where to buy' to locate them.

Important Note:

Please do not return any products to PMC directly without first contacting our service department by email at service@pmc-speakers.com. Alternatively, you can fill out a service request form at www.pmc-speakers.com/support/service-request

Important Note: Please do not return any products to PMC directly without first contacting our service department.

FAN MAINTENANCE

The master36 incoprporates an ultra-quiet cooling fan. To ensure reliable operation of the amplifier, this fan and its foam dust filter should be cleaned regularly, following to the instructions below (recommended every six months).

If the fan is faulty or is generating audible noise from its bearings, it should be replaced with a fan of the same specification, following the instructions below. The fan in the master36 and power20 amplifiers is a Noctua NF-B9 redux-1600 PWM with the following specifications:

Size: 92 x 92 x 25mm

Airflow: 64.3m3/h (37.85 CFM)

Acoustic Noise: 17.6dB(A)

Voltage: 12V

Input Power: 0.91W

Input Current @ 12V: 75mA

Do not replace the fan with an alternative that draws more than 1W of power from the amplifier.

Cleaning The Fan

Tools required: T20 Torx driver

1. **IMPORTANT**: Maintenance or replacement of the fan in this amplifier should only be carried out by a skilled person suitably qualified to handle a Class 3 Energy Source.
2. **IMPORTANT**: Disconnect the amplifier from the mains supply before servicing the fan.
3. Remove the front trim panel by loosening the 6 bolts shown in red:

4. Remove the foam dust filter and clean with compressed air.
5. Check that the fan is clear of dust and other debris.
6. Re-position the clean foam dust filter.
7. Re-attach the front trim panel with the 6 bolts.
8. **IMPORTANT**: Ensure the amplifier's front trim panel is fitted and secured in place before reconnecting the amplifier to the mains supply.

Replacing The Fan:

1. **IMPORTANT**: Maintenance or replacement of the fan in this amplifier should only be carried out by a skilled person suitably qualified to handle a Class 3 Energy Source.
2. **IMPORTANT**: Disconnect the amplifier from the mains supply before servicing the fan.
3. Remove the front trim panel by loosening the 6 bolts shown in red:

4. Remove the foam dust filter and clean with compressed air.
5. Loosen the 4 bolts which hold the fan and fan grille in place:

6. Remove the fan from the amplifier, reaching into the left-hand side of the fan opening to disconnect the cable:

7. Connect the replacement fan's cable to the same connector.
8. Secure the fan and fan grille to the amplifier chassis with the 4 bolts removed in step 4.
9. Re-position the foam dust filter.
10. Re-attach the front trim panel with the 6 bolts removed in step 2.
11. **IMPORTANT**: Ensure that the amplifier's front trim panel is fitted and secured in place before reconnecting the amplifier to the mains supply.

PMC
PMC master36

METICULOUS CARE AND ATTENTION

All PMC loudspeakers are hand-built in the UK using components that are individually matched to our reference model. This includes the structural integrity of every cabinet, and the testing and recording of each individual component to guarantee adherence to our strict tolerances. In this way we can ensure your purchase sounds identical to the original design.

Each completed monitor undergoes a set of objective listening tests and measurements. For example, frequency response sweeps ensure that the unit meets our exacting performance criteria, and critical listening tests are conducted against the reference model using a wide variety of audio material, from a benchmark BBC speech recording to carefully selected classical music, pop and rock tracks.

“Computers don’t tell the full story. As well as a full frequency analysis, we listen to each speaker we make and run a benchmark BBC speech and music test on every single one.”

ONLINE WARRANTY

Register within 30 days to unlock your extended 5 year warranty

Visit pmc-speakers.com and click on:

support > product registration

PMC

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CE Conformity

PMC loudspeakers conform to CE Directive LVD 73/23/EEC and EMC 89/336/EEC. WEEE European directive - PMC is a member of a National Compliance scheme and have gained the associated certification of compliance and the following registration number from the Environment Agency WEEE/GJ0101WU

WEEE EU Directive

This symbol on the product or in/on its packaging indicates that this product must not be disposed of with other household waste. It is the responsibility of the owner to dispose of waste equipment via a designated collection point for the recycling of waste electrical and electronic equipment. The recycling of your waste equipment is an attempt to conserve natural resources and ensures that it is recycled in a manner that protects human health and the environment. For more information about where you dispose of your waste equipment for recycling, please contact your local waste/ recycling authority or the dealer from whom you purchased the product.

VIEW THE PRODUCTS ONLINE

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