

MANUAL

IsoAcoustics Switch Box V2



Purpose

The switch box is designed to compare two pairs of speakers (same brand and type), one pair equipped with IsoAcoustics decouplers and one pair without (or with spikes). There are no active or passive components in the signal path. The switch box uses a fast industrial grade relays to distribute the signal to the speaker's binding posts. Hence the speaker signal is not influenced in any way.

What's in the package

- automatic switch box with (variable) timers
- remote control
- this manual

Attention: Please plug in all cables first, before connecting the power plug.
Passive cooling: please do not cover the switch box when in use.

Switch box

Speaker binding posts

Connect the amplifier outputs to the back left and back right binding posts. Connect the speakers to the corresponding left and right binding posts. Use the same type and length of speaker cable for all speakers to avoid 'smart' remarks from the audience. Beware of correct polarity.

Speaker cable to the speakers with Isoacoustics decouplers must be connected to the binding posts with green background. The other pair to the binding posts with the black background.

LED output

At the back of the switch box (on the right side), there is an output for a LED indicator. It is a 3.5 mm jack. Tip is 12 Vdc positive, sleeve is ground.

Please use only LED's to minimize the power consumption. We advise max. 500 mA. Make sure your power plug is capable of delivering the requested output.

This output carries power when the pair of speakers with Isoacoustics is playing. (Assuming you connected the speakers as instructed.)

Timer

There are two timers, one for each pair of speakers. Both timers are factory preset to about 15 seconds. This has proven to be a good setting for demo purposes at shows and in shops. If you want to change these preset times, please refer to page 3.

When the green LED on the front of the switch box is on, the timer of the Isoacoustics speaker pair is running. When off, the other timer is running.

Power

The switch box comes without a power plug. Please use a power plug that is suitable for your country. A general power plug should be rated for output of 12 Vdc and 1 A (minimum). Dimensions 12 V barrel plug: 5.5/2.1 mm, positive on center pin. We advise a Mean Well GST18U12-P1J (USA plug). This is a safe and low noise powerplug with a three years warranty.

Power consumption switch box: max. 200 mA (@12 Vdc)

Warranty

Two years, carry-in support.

In case of malfunction we will repair or replace the unit free of charge.

Please do not open the switch box, it will void the warranty.

There are no fuses or replaceable parts inside.

In case of malfunction please contact Isoacoustics Inc.

Remote control



The remote control has two buttons: **A** and **B**.

Button **A** puts the switch box in Automatic mode. Press once and the switch box will automatically alternate between the two pairs of speakers for the time(s) set at the switch box. The switch box boots up in manual mode.

Button **B** ('Boss' button) is used to operate the switch box manually, bypassing the timer. On every press it will switch between the two pairs of speakers (toggle switch).

Just press button **A** to return to automatic mode. This is the preferred mode for shows, because there is no human interference when the audience listens to the demo.

In case the red light (on top) does not flash when a button is pressed, replace the batteries (2x CR2016).

(While replacing the batteries, the programmed codes of the remote are preserved.)

Changing timer presets

If you feel the need to change the timer presets, turn over the box and you'll find two hidden holes in the bottom with access to potentiometers. Use a small flat screwdriver to alter the time.

T1: timer for speakers with Isoacoustics

T2: timer for other pair of speakers

To increase the time, turn clock-wise. To decrease the time, turn counterclock-wise. Use small steps.

Time can be set between 1 – 99 sec.

Cover the holes after you've set the timers.

For temporary changes, it is easier to use the manual mode with the remote control.



Worth knowing

During shows and workshops we often get questions from the audience about the '*Dare to Compare*' demo. We'd like to share them with you.

Q – Is the setup of the system the same for both speaker pairs?

A – Yes, we use the same type of speaker cable and cable length for each pair of speakers. The only difference is the use of Isoacoustics decouplers.

Q – How does the switch box work?

A – The switch box uses a fast industrial grade relay to distribute the signal to the speaker's binding posts. Hence the signal is not influenced in any way.

Q – Does the switch box have a DSP to control the sound secretively of the speakers with Isoacoustics?

A – No, there are no electronics involved in the signal path of the speakers. The box is completely transparent for the speaker's signals.

Q – Why is the difference in sound so notable?

A – By playing the speakers in this setup, you get a fair comparison between speakers with Isoacoustics and speakers with spikes (or no feet at all). During the demo there are no distracting changes of cables etc. so you can concentrate on the quality of the sound. Switching between the speakers goes unnoticed, only the difference in sound reproduction is audible.

Q – The speakers on GAIA are higher, the tweeter is higher, so it will sound different too. The comparison is not fair!

A – Some hard-to-convince visitors ('audiophiles') come up with nagging objections, but still needs to be answered properly.

In the test we compare the 'original' loudspeaker, ie as the supplier sells it, and the same loudspeaker with Isoacoustics. That's a fair comparison. The fact that the speaker with GAIA is slightly higher than the original one, is a negligible effect in the improved result with Isoacoustics

You could also raise the original speaker slightly, but then you would no longer listen to the 'original' speaker as the manufacturer intended.

So, the demo gives a fair comparison between the original speaker and the speaker with Isoacoustics.

Q – Why do Isoacoustics products work so well?

A – Short answer: Isoacoustics products are carefully engineered to prevent vibrations from the speaker to reach the floor and vice versa. Because vibrations are a mechanical phenomena, it can only be dealt with a mechanical solution. By attacking the problem at the source, you get the best results.

Any audio component that causes vibrations or that is susceptible to vibrations, will benefit from Isoacoustics products.

If you want to know the scientific explanation, search for 'Newton's 3rd law'.