dCS 955 DAC

DSD – 24/384, 24/192, 24/96

The dCS 955 is a 2-channel 24 bit D/A converter, for conventional digital audio interfaces. It covers all standard PCM sample rates from 32kS/s to 384kS/s and also DSD at 2.822MS/s.

It uses the patented dCS Ring DAC architecture which offers exceptional linearity, without the need for gain ranging, and which gives the sound quality a naturalness and transparency previously only associated with the very best analogue electronics.

The user interface on the dCS 955 makes it very easy to set up and use. A large vacuum fluorescent display enables all the key unit parameters to be confirmed at a glance, and also facilitates both bar and numerical level meter displays. A simple menu system gives access to a wide range of extra functions such as anti-imaging filter selection, self test, sync source selection and a digital signal generator.

Extensive use is made of programmable logic, allowing performance enhancements and new features to be added by CD download, or by PC download via the rear panel RS 232 port, or by a ROM chip change. This extends the product's useful service life and reduces the overall ownership cost.

PCM Mode

Input Sample Rates (kS/s):
32, 44.1, 48, 88.2, 96, 176.4,192, 352.8, 384

Digital Inputs:
4 AES/EBU inputs
1 SDIF-2/SDIF-3 input group (includes Word Clock in)

AES/EBU Input Formats:
Single AES: 32, 44.1, 48, 88.2 and 96 kS/s
Dual AES : 88.2, 96, 176.4 and 192 kS/s
Quad AES: 176.4, 192, 352.8 and 384 kS/s

Digital to Digital Function: Enables the unit to convert a Quad AES input to a single AES output at half the input sample rate, or a Dual AES input to a single AES output at the same sample rate.

User Selectable Anti-Imaging Filters: 4 digital filters are provided for each sample rate

Synchronisation: In PCM mode the unit may be sync'd to a Word Clock or AES Reference, as well as the input being used.

DSD Mode

Input Format: Raw DSD at 2.822MS/s

Digital Inputs: SDIF-2, SDIF-3, DSD-4 and P3D.

DSD-4: Packs 2 channels of DSD into 4 AES3 data streams, enabling recording onto any digital recorder offering 8 channels of 16 bit 44.1kS/s storage.

P3D: Packs 2 channels of DSD into 3 AES3 data streams. P3D enables 8 channels of DSD to be recorded onto any digital recorder offering 24 tracks of 24 bit 44.1kS/s storage.

Digital to Digital Function: The dCS 955 can reformat DSD4 packed data back to SDIF-2 format, enabling it to be loaded into a DSD editor or other DSD data storage device. D/A conversion is performed simultaneously.

Digital Filters: 4 user selectable filters allow the output signal bandwidth to be adjusted to suit the capability of the monitoring chain.

Synchronisation: In DSD mode the unit may be sync'd to a Word Clock.

Easy to read bar graph level meters with user selectable peak reading or VU type ballistics. A numerical display mode is also available to allow easy accurate alignment.

Rapid lock-up and excellent jitter rejection is provided by a dual band PLL with a very low turn over frequency.

Precision 20 turn output level trimmers make it easy to accurately set the unit's output levels.

Versatile synchronisation capability allows the unit to take its sync from the selected digital source, from a house Word Clock or AES Reference source. The external sync capability allows rapid switching between synchronous PCM sources and is useful when making critical comparisons.

A multiple language menu system allows the menus to be displayed in Dutch, English, or German. Other languages may be added on request.

A high quality signal generator further simplifies unit line-up. It covers the range 0dB0 to -120dB0 in 0.1dB steps and offers 1Hz resolution in the range 1Hz to 60kHz. The unit can use internal clocking for this purpose, allowing its use as a stand alone test generator.

A digital output level control with a 20dB range provides an additional degree of output level adjustment. This may be operated from the front panel, or via the Windows remote control.

A *dCS* Universal Remote allows any combination of up to six dCS converters to be controlled from a single COM port. It provides access to all of the dCS 955's functions. The software runs under Windows 95, 98, 2000, NT and XP operating systems and provides a highly intuitive and easy to operate user interface, with additional functions to those supported by the front panel.

Analogue outputs	Balanced, AES14-1992 (XLR male x 2) Unbalanced, single ended (RCA, phono x 2)
Level for full scale	Balanced: +14dBu ± 6dBu (600Ω load) Unbalanced: +8dBu (600Ω load)
PCM input sample rates	32, 44.1, 48, 88.2, 96, 176.4, 192, 352.8 and 384kS/s
DSD input data rate	2.822MS/s
Digital input interfaces	AES/EBU x 4 useable as Single AES, Dual AES & Quad AES inputs SDIF x 1 set (SDIF-2 or SDIF-3)
Digital sync input	AES Reference & Word Clock
Digital sync outputs	AES Reference & Word Clock
Power consumption	28 Watts nominal
Dimensions	430mm W x 52mm H x 390mm D 16.9" W x 2" H x 15.6" D The unit fits 1U in a standard 19 inch rack
Weight	6.8kg (15lbs)

For details of this and other dCS products, please see the dCS web site at www.dcsltd.co.uk., or contact:

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