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Coleman Audio MS6A

Coleman Audio MS6A Input Switcher and Monitor Controller

User Manual

1. Introduction and Overview

The Coleman Audio MS6A is a versatile input switcher and monitor controller designed to seamlessly integrate into professional audio environments. It provides six stereo inputs and one stereo output, allowing for the expansion of existing audio systems, facilitating A/B comparisons between different sound sources, or serving as additional stereo returns for mixing consoles. Its robust design, featuring balanced XLR connectors, ensures reliable performance and straightforward installation in a standard 1U rack space.

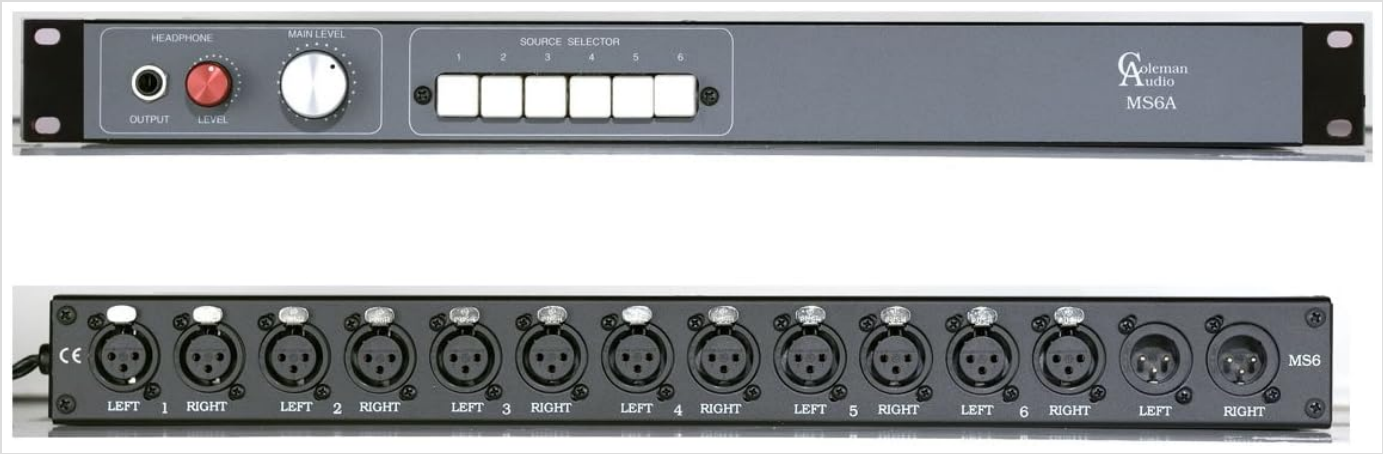
2. Key Features

- **6 Stereo Inputs:** Accommodates up to six stereo audio sources.
- **1 Stereo Output:** Provides a single stereo output for monitoring or routing.
- **Balanced XLR Connectors:** Ensures professional-grade, low-noise audio connections (pin 2 hot).
- **1U Standard Rack Mount Enclosure:** Designed for easy integration into studio racks.
- **Optional Output Volume Control:** Allows for adjustment of the main output level.

3. Applications

- Adding additional stereo inputs to a monitor system.
- A/B source comparison for critical listening.
- Use in quality control departments for audio evaluation.
- Integration into audio and video duplication systems.

4. Setup



The top image shows the front panel of the MS6A, featuring a headphone output, headphone level control, main level control, and six source selector buttons. The bottom image displays the rear panel, which includes six pairs of balanced XLR stereo inputs (Left and Right for each of the six sources) and one pair of balanced XLR stereo outputs.

4.1. Rack Mounting

The MS6A is designed for standard 1U rack mounting. Secure the unit into an available 19-inch rack space using appropriate rack screws. Ensure adequate ventilation around the unit.

4.2. Audio Connections

1. **Input Connections:** Connect your stereo audio sources (e.g., CD players, DACs, tape machines, other mixers) to the balanced XLR input pairs on the rear panel. Each input pair is labeled 'LEFT' and 'RIGHT' for sources 1 through 6. Ensure correct left/right channel orientation.
2. **Output Connection:** Connect the balanced XLR stereo output (labeled 'LEFT' and 'RIGHT' on the rear panel) to your monitoring system, main mixer input, or desired destination.
3. **Headphone Output:** If desired, connect stereo headphones to the 1/4-inch headphone jack on the front panel.

5. Operating Instructions

5.1. Powering On

The MS6A is a passive unit and does not require external power. It operates by routing audio signals directly.

5.2. Source Selection

On the front panel, use the six white push-button switches labeled '1' through '6' under 'SOURCE SELECTOR' to choose the desired stereo input source. Only one source can be active at a time. Pressing a button will engage that input, and disengage any previously selected input.

5.3. Main Level Control

The large silver knob labeled 'MAIN LEVEL' controls the overall output volume of the selected source to the main stereo output. Rotate clockwise to increase volume and counter-clockwise to decrease volume.

5.4. Headphone Level Control

The red knob labeled 'LEVEL' next to the 'HEADPHONE OUTPUT' jack controls the volume for the connected headphones. Adjust this independently of the main level for comfortable listening.

6. Maintenance

The MS6A is designed for durability and requires minimal maintenance. Keep the unit clean and free of dust. Use a soft, dry cloth for cleaning the exterior. Avoid using liquid cleaners or solvents, as these may damage the finish or internal components. Ensure all cable connections are secure and free from strain.

7. Troubleshooting

- **No Audio Output:**
  - Verify that the correct input source is selected on the front panel.
  - Check all XLR cable connections for proper seating and integrity.
  - Ensure the 'MAIN LEVEL' knob is turned up sufficiently.
  - Confirm that the audio source connected to the MS6A is active and producing sound.
  - Check the input and output levels of connected devices.
- **Distorted or Noisy Audio:**
  - Ensure all connections are balanced XLR cables.
  - Check for ground loops or interference from other equipment.
  - Verify that input levels from your sources are not too high, causing clipping in the source device or subsequent equipment.
  - Inspect cables for damage.
- **Headphone Output Issues:**
  - Ensure headphones are fully plugged into the 'HEADPHONE OUTPUT' jack.
  - Adjust the 'HEADPHONE LEVEL' knob.
  - Test with a different pair of headphones to rule out headphone malfunction.

8. Specifications

Feature	Description
Model	MS6A
Input Channels	6 Stereo
Output Channels	1 Stereo
Input/Output Type	Balanced XLR (pin 2 hot)
Form Factor	1U Rack Mount
ASIN	B008YOGNFA
UPC	141338555388
Manufacturer	Coleman Audio
Date First Available	November 6, 2012

9. Warranty and Support

Warranty information for the Coleman Audio MS6A is typically provided with the product at the time of purchase. Please refer to the documentation included in your product packaging for specific warranty terms and conditions. For technical support, service, or further inquiries, please visit the official Coleman Audio website or contact their customer service department directly. Contact

information can usually be found on the manufacturer's website or in the product's original documentation.

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