



Desono GXA8 DSD Output Card Installation Guide

Unpacking

After unpacking the DSD Output Card, save all the packing materials in case you ever need to ship the unit. Thoroughly inspect the card for signs of damage. Report any shipment damage to the carrier at once.

Description

The GXA8-DSD card provides eight channels of raw DSD digital audio output on eight BNC 75Ω connectors. The GXA8 must be upgraded for DSD. This is factory-fitted.

It also down-samples each channel to 44.1kHz PCM to drive the PPMs on the GXA8; this PCM data is available at the digital outputs of the GXA8 and any other card (e.g., AES expansion card, ADAT card) fitted into the other slot on the GXA8. The resolution of the down-sampled PCM can be set to 16, 20 or 24-bits.

Installing the GXA8-DSD Card

1. To install the DSD card make sure the power is off. You may keep the GXA8 plugged in to a switch off power outlet to maintain a ground connection. Keep the GXA8-DSD card in its packaging until you are ready to fit it.
2. Using a Phillips screwdriver, remove the plate covering the vacant expansion slot at the back of the GXA8. Make sure you do not lose the screws.
3. Firstly touch the GXA8 to remove any static charge you may have built up, then remove the GXA8-DSD card from its packaging and slide gently into an empty slot in the back of the GXA8. Push it home firmly until the back plate is right against the back panel of the converter. Note that it does not matter which slot is used. You should note which slot you do use to relate to the front panel SLOT1 and SLOT2 indicators.
4. Finally fix the card in place with the screws you removed in step 2 above.

Your card is now ready to use.

Using the GXA8 in DSD Mode

1. The DSD target (e.g., recorder) and the GXA8 must be sample locked to each other. This must be done via 75Ω terminated 44.1kHz word clock. The GXA8 should ideally be clock master to maximise recorded audio quality.
2. Using INPUT SOURCE, select ANALOGUE / DSD as the source.
3. Use BIT DEPTH to change the bit resolution of the down-sampled PCM available at the AES outputs.
4. Use ENCODE to change the AES outputs to a bit-split DSD bitstream. This allows a stereo (channels 1 and 2) DSD recording to be made on a legacy 16-bit, 8-track PCM recorder (although not tape-based). Playback is possible via the GXA8 although this will not recreate the raw DSD data, just convert to analogue.

Technical Support

Technical Support is available on-line through the Desono web site at:-

- <http://www.desono.net> or by emailing: support@desono.net