WHITE PAPER

Aircaster Design Philosophy

The engineering principles and design decisions behind Aircaster

Digital sophistication, analogue simplicity

Aircaster is built around an analogue core with both analogue and digital connectivity. This is a deliberate engineering decision based on decades of experience equipping broadcast studios.

Why analogue?

- The vast majority of content originates from microphones
- The most popular transmission medium is FM
- We listen via loudspeakers, using our ears
- All analogue devices and processes

The result

- Easier to understand
- Easier to install
- Easier to operate
- Easier to maintain
- Free from software issues
- More cost-effective

Key benefits

- Suitable for both live broadcast and production
- Flexible operation — self-op and tech-op modes
- Easy integration with other studio equipment
- Modular construction

- Easily expandable
- Simple installation — works out of the box
- No reliance on software
- Familiar control layout
- Easy low-tech maintenance
- Superior sonic performance
- Feature rich — innovative features to simplify workflow

Key features

- Choice of dual-input modules
- Stereo modules incorporate USB soundcards
- Phone modules accept direct mobile phone connections
- Separate Program and Record buses
- Separate monitor selectors
- Incoming and outgoing talkback
- Auto-cue facility
- Streaming output
- High-resolution metering
- Second PSU connection
- Built-in diagnostics indication
- Remote interfaces to Guest Cough Panels
- Outputs to drive external MIC LIVE indicators

Options and accessories

- Redundant power supplies
- Connector kits
- Guest Cough panels
- Mic arms with MIC LIVE indication
- Wall-mounting MIC LIVE indicators
- Complete studio and station packages

How does Aircaster compare?

When evaluating alternative products, consider the following checklist:

Does the alternative offer:

- Mix-and-match input modules
- Stereo inputs with built-in USB soundcards
- Mic modules with equalisation
- Support for Guest Remote Panels
- Phone modules that directly accept mobile phones
- EQ on phone modules with two simultaneous callers
- Cleanfeed selection and off-air talkback to callers
- Balanced inputs with gain controls
- Separate Program and Record mix buses
- Built-in talkback microphone
- Dedicated monitor selectors for control room and studio
- Auto-cue input and streaming output
- Redundant power supply option

Does the alternative:

- Support both self-op and tech-op modes
- Use readily available, low-cost components
- Work out of the box without pre-configuration
- Allow hot-swap of input modules
- Recover instantly from power outages
- Operate free from software updates

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