

Helix Conductor — a digital remote control for DSPs and DSP amplifiers

Volume Control 4.0

► Helix already has the URC.3 with two potentiometers and buttons for remote control, as well as the high-end Director remote control unit for the display. And now a medium class solution is added with the Conductor.

Of course, the Conductor is a volume control unit for convenient level management of all possible sources or zones in the hi-fi system. But Helix wouldn't be Helix if they didn't have added more smart features for the Conductor. With an ARM processor and bus-controlled digital LEDs, the Conductor is well equipped for the task. First of all, we have a digital rotary knob with push function that controls all fea-

tures. 12 LEDs are arranged in a circle around the controller and take over the display. The volume control includes 4 areas that are freely selectable. For example, master and subwoofer volume can be controlled just like that of the digital inputs, Bluetooth streaming or the rear zone. The configuration, as usual, is managed via the DSP PC Tool. Control range and control steps can be set, e.g. 60 dB control range for digital sources or 12 dB for subwoofers with 1 or 0.5dB increment. In addition to volume control, the Conductor can also choose between sources and switch between DSP setups. Brightness and color of the 10 dedicated LEDs indicate which of the 10 setups is currently active, which is occupied and which is empty. The third "additional function" is the control mode for Bluetooth music streaming, where pairing, play/pause and skip title can be controlled.

Look and Feel

Helix placed great emphasis on the perfect usability in the Conductor. This, of course, also me-

ans smooth and handy operation in the car and while driving. The Conductor can be operated intuitively and almost without looking. There is also a kind of shortcut for the skip title function in Bluetooth playback. Double-click for forward skip, triple-click for reverse skip, even while the Conductor is in volume control menu. So you don't have to return to the playback control menu. For volume control, the 12 LEDs work as an LED chain, but also status information can be summarized in a comprehensive way. Thanks to the modern LEDs and processor, the Conductor settings can be freely adjusted by the user. One of the 16 million colors is sure to match the vehicle lighting, and the four volumes can be freely assigned their own colors, so you can classify them neatly. And after all, the Conductor fits smoothly into the vehicle, e.g. in the central console. This requires a depth of 17 mm and an mounting hole of 40 mm. If you are not eager to drill a 40mm hole, you are going to need some patience. Help is on the way: the successor Conductor with an installation housing is already in progress.

Conclusion

Did the world need another remote level control unit? Hell yes, if it is as innovative and smart as the Conductor!

Elmar Michels

► Helix Conductor

Price	130 Euro
Distributor	Audiotec Fischer, Schmallingberg
Hotline	02972 9788 0
Internet	www.audiotec-fischer.com

► Specifications

Remote control for Helix and Match DSP products

Outputs	Control-Port
Dimensions	
• Outer diameter	46 mm
• Mounting diameter	40 mm
• Mounting depth	17 mm
Features	
• Compatible with all Helix and Match DSP products with ACO platform (2018 onwards)	
• 12 LEDs for status display with adjustable color and brightness	
• 4 adjustable volume levels (e.g. master, sub, AUX, rear, Bluetooth, etc.)	
• Configurable control scope and increment settings	
• Controllable DSP setups, source selection and Bluetooth playback	
• Quick playback control with double and triple click	

CAR & HiFi

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"Innovative remote control, a perfect tool to operate in the car."



The LEDs change their color depending on the function, the colors can be perfectly adjusted to the vehicle lighting