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Subject: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!

Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Sat, 08 Jul 2006 20:57:27 GMT

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I need to build balanced I/O cables for the analog outputs of my Roland R880. The pinout calls for pin 1-ground, pin 2-cold, pin 3-hot. That's not the normal state of affairs around here. Everything I'm using is pin 2-hot and is routed to 1/4" TRS patchbays.

These cables need to be XLR to TRS in order to interface with said balanced patchbay. From there they would be patched to other gear (with trs-trs patch cables) that is pin 2-hot. I'm guessing I'm going to have to make up a couple of special trs-trs patch cables to get this all strack. It's making my head hurt. Could someone give me a clue as to what I need to do to patch a pin 3-hot device through a balanced PB in order to interface properly with the rest of my (pin 2 hot) studio?

Thanks,

Deej (the obscure)

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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!

Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Sat, 08 Jul 2006 21:29:29 GMT

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Hmmmm.....OK.....now that I'm thought about this, I think I should just be able to do this by tying Pin 2 to the ring, Pin 3 to the tip and Pin 1 to the sleeve. This should reverse the polarity so that Roland Pin 3 (hot) of the R880 connects to Patchbay Pin 2 (hot), Roland Pin 2 (cold) connects to Patchbay Pin 3 (cold) and Roland Pin 1 (ground) is connected to Patchbay Pin 1 (ground).

Am I on track here?

Thanks,

Deej (the wiring dork)

Deej

"DJ" <[animix\\_spam-this-ahole\\_@animas.net](mailto:animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net)> wrote in message [news:44b01cba@linux...](mailto:news:44b01cba@linux...)

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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!  
Posted by [gene lennon](#) on Sat, 08 Jul 2006 22:55:20 GMT  
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"DJ" <[animix\\_spam-this-ahole\\_@animas.net](mailto:animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net)> wrote:  
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In this case you can reverse either end. I keep some colored shrink tubing  
around to mark non-normal cables. Personally I reverse at the XLR, because

Gene

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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!

Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Sat, 08 Jul 2006 23:36:48 GMT

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It is a 20' cable run from the rack that is housing the R880 mainframe to the standard balanced patch bay. Seems a shame to use 80' of mic cable to make 4 x 20' patch cables when I've got a 20' 4 x pair standard polarity Mogami XLR-TRS snake sitting here doing nothing.....sooooo..... I could modify the standard mogami cable by taking the lead from the ring (currently tied to XLR pin 3 and swapping it to XLR pin 2, then take the lead from the tip (currently tied to XLR pin 2) and swap it to XLR pin 3.. That oughta' get me there, right?

Thanks for your help.

Deej

"gene lennon" <glennon@NOSPmyrealbox.com> wrote in message news:44b037d8\$1@linux...

>

> "DJ" <animix\_spam-this-ahole\_@animas.net> wrote:

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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!  
Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Sat, 08 Jul 2006 23:44:31 GMT  
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.....or, I could keep the Mogami snake \*as is\* and just make two TRS Patch cables (for patching this particular dievice) wired tip to ring and ring to tip. That might be a better solution for my particular situation actually. I may not end up using the analog I/O of the R880 all that much and it's very possible that I might want to run this long snake to a certain device that I've got my eye on. It's got a fan in the chassis so I will need to keep it in the machine room. I think it's wired with standard US polarity.

;o)

"DJ" <animix\_spam-this-ahole\_@animas.net> wrote in message news:44b04210\$1@linux...

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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!  
Posted by [gene lennon](#) on Sun, 09 Jul 2006 00:22:30 GMT  
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"DJ" <[animix\\_spam-this-ahole\\_@animas.net](mailto:animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net)> wrote:  
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>to keep it in the machine room. I think it's wired with standard US

>polarity.

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>;o)

You can do the flip any place in the chain. I have a few one-foot mic cables that do this reverse. They also work as Mic phase-reverse when placed in-line.

Gene

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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!

Posted by [gene lennon](#) on Sun, 09 Jul 2006 00:25:17 GMT

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>You can do the flip any place in the chain. I have a few one-foot mic cables

>that do this reverse. They also work as Mic phase-reverse when placed in-line.

>Gene

>

Hosa GXX195 will do this. Switchcraft has one as well.

Gene

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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!

Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Mon, 10 Jul 2006 02:43:51 GMT

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Make sure to flip both the analog in and out. Obviously digital I/O flip will be incorrect. Also, I'd more recommend adaptors that change polarity (I used to have to do this as Peavey and Crest I think it was were both on the + pin 3 thing and I got to use both in varying live rigs back when I was doing that gig) rather than splicing up your cables. Mark them as such, I used something like POL RVRS iirc.... whatever works for you. I still have a few XLR types around I use to mic the bottom of drums.

AA

"DJ" <[animix\\_spam-this-ahole\\_@animas.net](mailto:animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net)> wrote in message news:44b01cba@linux...

>I need to build balanced I/O cables for the analog outputs of my Roland  
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I choose Polesoft Lockspam to fight spam, and you?  
<http://www.polesoft.com/refer.html>

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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!  
Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Mon, 10 Jul 2006 04:06:31 GMT  
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Hi Aaron.....Thanks. I ordered the Hosa adapters yesterday. Seemed like a much better way to go about this. The thought of jacking around with a bunch of modified patch cables didn't really appeal to me. I found them for \$8.99 each so it wasn't too painful. Now I've gotta go desolder the reversed cable ends on 4 x patch cables and resolder them to standard.. (sigh)

;o)

"Aaron Allen" <nospam@not\_here.dude> wrote in message news:44b1bdd2@linux...

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> will be incorrect. Also, I'd more recommend adaptors that change polarity  
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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!

Posted by [AA](#) on Mon, 10 Jul 2006 14:21:25 GMT

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Side note dude.... if you're using blackface adats they suffer from similar problems. The digital I/O is phase correct, HOWEVER, alesis saw fit to put the signal to tape out of phase and then re-invert on the return trip. Makes things real interesting if you have a different adat type and start additional dubs or punch ins to an unfinished product from another studio on the same tape :P

AA

"DJ" <animix\_spam-this-ahole\_@animas.net> wrote:



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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!  
Posted by ["Kris"](#) on Mon, 10 Jul 2006 15:04:23 GMT  
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I'm surprised your 880 has a fan in it....mine does not.

Analog I/O on this thing sounds very good IMO...better than you might expect considering the age of it.

Another solution is to make (6) (R880 has 2 ins and 4 outs IIRC) 1 foot lengths of XLR-XLR cables with the polarity swapped. Connect these to your 880, and then, connect your snake to them. This would make your 880 appear to be pin 2 hot to your patch bay.

Cheers

Kris

"DJ" <[animix\\_spam-this-ahole\\_@animas.net](mailto:animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net)> wrote:

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Posted by ["Kris"](#) . on Mon, 10 Jul 2006 15:07:23 GMT  
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Oh, and BTW, you only need to worry about polarity if you're going to interface to unbalanced gear. Otherwise, its no problem...

Cheers,

Kris

"Kris" . wrote:

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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!

Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Mon, 10 Jul 2006 15:12:18 GMT

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TheR880 doesn't have a fan, but I've had my eye on a 480L and it has a fan.

DJ

<Kris .> wrote in message news:44b26c77\$1@linux...

>

> I'm surprised your 880 has a fan in it....mine does not.

>

> Analog I/O on this thing sounds very good IMO...better than you might

expect  
> considering the age of it.  
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> >.....or, I could keep the Mogami snake \*as is\* and just make two TRS  
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> >news:44b04210\$1@linux...  
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> >> "gene lennon" <glennon@NOSPmyrealbox.com> wrote in message  
> >> news:44b037d8\$1@linux...  
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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!  
Posted by [audioguy\\_editout\\_](#) on Mon, 10 Jul 2006 17:38:27 GMT  
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---

Our '880 also does not have a fan... but the whine from the controller display drives me crazy!! ;-)

David.

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>>to keep it in the machine room. I think it's wired with standard US  
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>>"DJ" <[animix\\_spam-this-ahole\\_@animas.net](mailto:animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net)> wrote in message

>>news:44b04210\$1@linux...

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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!  
Posted by ["Kris"](#) . on Mon, 10 Jul 2006 17:46:00 GMT  
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---

Yeah...that's the inverter that drives the backlight. A competent tech should be able to install a switch on it, so you can turn the back light (and whine) off when the controller is not in use.

Cheers,

Kris

"Dave(EK Sound)" <audioguy\_editout\_@shaw.ca> wrote:

>Our '880 also does not have a fan... but the whine from the  
>controller display drives me crazy!! ;-)

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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!  
Posted by [Deej \[1\]](#) on Mon, 10 Jul 2006 18:30:55 GMT  
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---

I may do this. I've got a LEXI MRC that is doing the same thing. I haven't been able to test it yet because the 110>220 step up converter hasn't arrived. I found another GC8 on EBay and bought it cheap as a backup. Maybe one of them won't whine....or maybe both of them will.

<Kris .> wrote in message news:44b29258\$1@linux...

>  
> Yeah...that's the inverter that drives the backlight. A competent tech should  
> be able to install a switch on it, so you can turn the back light (and whine)  
> off when the controller is not in use.  
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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Tue, 11 Jul 2006 02:25:37 GMT

"DJ" <animix\_spam-this-ahole\_@animas.net> wrote:

>Maybe one of them won't whine....or maybe both of them will.

If that's the case, then just make sure that you flip polarity on the 2nd whine & aim it directly at the first... that way they cancel each other out & you'll have a whine-free studio...

....until the next time you try to "upgrade" something; then we expect the whining to resume! lol

:D :D

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Subject: Re: I'm having a very senior moment-help please!!

Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Tue, 11 Jul 2006 14:53:43 GMT

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---

You may be able to, depending on physical attributes, encase the inverter in epoxy or some kind of non conductive resin to stop the high speed oscillating. Consider heat and dimension before doing so, of course.

AA

<Kris .> wrote in message news:44b29258\$1@linux...

>

> Yeah...that's the inverter that drives the backlight. A competent tech

> should

> be able to install a switch on it, so you can turn the back light (and

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I choose Polesoft Lockspam to fight spam, and you?  
<http://www.polesoft.com/refer.html>