Overview

The Extron® SSP 7.1 is a 7.1 channel surround sound processor with four digital inputs and one analog input. The unit accepts a range of source formats and uses various listening mode options for use in 5.1 to 7.1 surround sound system configurations.

The listening mode determines which audio signals will be passed to the speakers. Each combination of source format and speaker configuration has a default listening mode. The default listening mode can be overridden by the front panel controls and the SSP 7.1 Setup and Control Software to select a mode that matches the requirements of the room and the personal preferences of the listener.

This guide provides basic instructions for an experienced installer to install and perform the initial configuration of the SSP 7.1. For further details, see the SSP 7.1 User Manual on the Extron Web site (www.extron.com).

SSP 7.1 Installation

Attach the four rubber feet provided with the SSP 7.1, and place the unit on any convenient flat surface. The SSP 7.1 can also be mounted in a rack with the optional rack-mounting kit (RSU 126, part number 60-190-10), or under furniture with the optional under-furniture mounting kit (MBU 125, part number 70-077-01). For complete instructions on mounting the unit, consult the SSP 7.1 User Manual, on the Extron Web site (www.extron.com).

SSP 7.1 Front and Rear Panel Features

1. Configuration port
2. Input source format indicator
3. Mode Override selector
4. Input selections
5. Volume adjustment knob and LED bar / analog input gain level control and LED bar
6. AC power input
7. Audio inputs
8. Audio outputs
9. RS-232 port

NOTE: Neither the configuration port nor the RS-232 port take precedence over the other. Instructions from either are processed in the order they are received.

SSP 7.1 Cable Connections

The SSP 7.1 uses an IEC power cable to connect to a 100 - 240 VAC, 50-60 Hz, power source. The SSP 7.1 accepts four digital inputs and one analog input:

- Inputs 1 and 2 accept digital signals through S/PDIF optical cables.
- Inputs 3 and 4 accept digital signals through S/PDIF coaxial cables.
- Input 5 accepts a balanced or unbalanced, stereo or mono analog input through a 5-pin captive screw connector.

The SSP 7.1 outputs are balanced/unbalanced, line level, analog signals that feed into multi-channel amplifiers for configurations up to 7.1 surround sound. See the wiring card (included) to ensure correct connections to the SSP 7.1.

Connect the front panel Config port or rear panel RS-232 port to a PC that has the SSP 7.1 Setup and Control Software installed (see “SSP 7.1 Setup and Control Software Installation” on the next page).
SSP 7.1 Setup Guide (Continued)

SSP 7.1 Setup and Control Software Installation

Install the SSP 7.1 Setup and Control Software on a PC running Microsoft® Windows® 2000 or later. For full details about computer requirements, see the SSP 7.1 User Manual on the Extron Web site (www.extron.com).

Insert the provided disk into the computer’s CD/DVD drive. The disk should open automatically. If it does not, open it from “My Computer.” Select the Software tab, locate the program, click Install, and follow the on-screen instructions.

The program can also be downloaded from the Extron Web site (www.extron.com) by clicking on the Download tab, selecting Software from the list at the left of the screen, and locating the program. Click on Install and follow the on-screen instructions.

By default, the program is installed in the folder C:\Program Files\Extron\SSP7.1 and an icon may be placed on the computer’s desktop.

SSP 7.1 Setup and Control Software Configuration

The SSP 7.1 is "plug and play" for a 5.1 speaker setup. When the unit is connected to power, an audio source, and speakers, it produces an audio output that corresponds to the default listening mode for the current combination of source format and speaker configuration. If a different listening mode or speaker configuration is required, change it through the SSP 7.1 Setup and Control Software.

1. Ensure the control computer is connected to the Config port or RS-232 port of the SSP 7.1.
2. Start the software. The program opens with the "Connect to device?" dialog box (shown in the figure at right).
3. Decide whether to connect directly to the device (Live mode) or to work in Emulate mode (check the Emulate/Work offline box). For more information about Live and Emulate modes, see the SSP 7.1 User Manual.
4. If working live, you may need to change the computer port and baud rate. The default baud rate is 38400.
5. For Live mode, click Connect. For Emulate mode, click Work Offline.
6. The program opens with the Main tab selected (shown in the figure at right). There are a total of three tabs (Main, Speaker Setup, and Listening Mode Setup). Four further tabs are available under the Speaker Setup tab (Speaker Configuration, Speaker Delay, Testing & Output Trim, and Speaker Equalization). Three tabs are available under Listening Mode Setup (Preferences, Override Preferences, and Dolby, DTS, and Mono Settings).

NOTE: The order of the tabs provides a logical sequence for configuring the SSP 7.1. Extron recommends that each tab is configured in the order it appears at the top of the screen, from left to right.

The Main tab recreates all the features found on the front panel of the SSP 7.1. The remaining panels allow the speakers and listening mode to be configured. Full details about using the SSP 7.1 Setup and Control Software can be found in the SSP 7.1 User Manual on the Extron Web site (www.extron.com) or in the help file for the program.