Restaurant/Bar

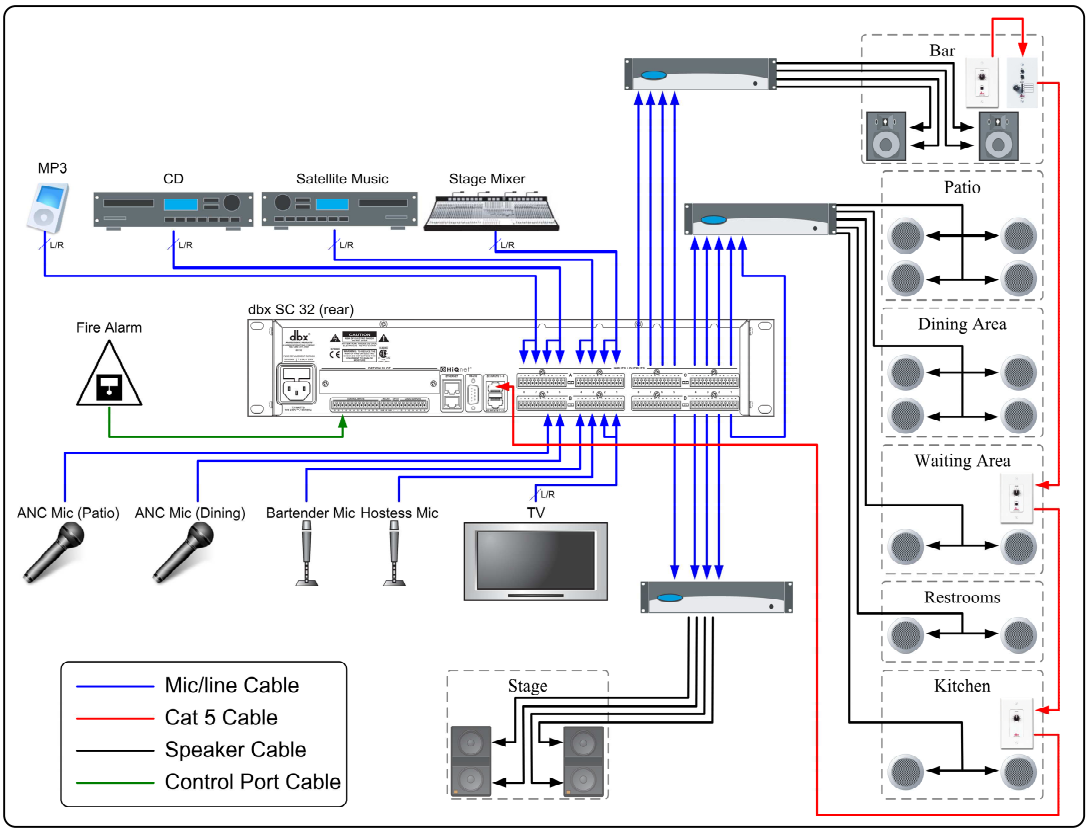
The audio system for a restaurant/bar has a number of unique requirements, including:

- The ability to distribute multiple audio sources to several zones as either mono or stereo signals
- The ability to recall different “scenes” that accommodate different circumstances
- Hostess and bartender paging announcements that override the background music in selected zones
- A two-way P.A. for live performances

Using a single SC 32 device with a 16 x 16 input/output configuration, these requirements are easily met. Multiple audio sources often have a significant difference in the level of their outputs. This variance is corrected through the use of Automatic Gain Control (AGC) added as an Input Insert to all non-mic channels. For the hostess and bartender mic channels, Advanced Feedback Suppression (AFS™) and Compression are added as Input Inserts, ensuring intelligible announcements that are free of irritating feedback.

Using a single ZC-8 installed behind the bar, employees can switch between four different “scenes” (Device Presets) to establish different atmospheres for the building’s various uses—all at the turn of a single dial. At all times, the volume up/down controls located on the ZC-8 act as a master volume control for audio throughout the building.

Device Preset “A” sets the mood for a typical restaurant. Background music from a satellite music receiver is mono-summed using a mono mixer and then distributed to the restrooms, waiting area, dining area, patio, and bar (a stereo, bi-amped signal is sent to the speakers at the bar).

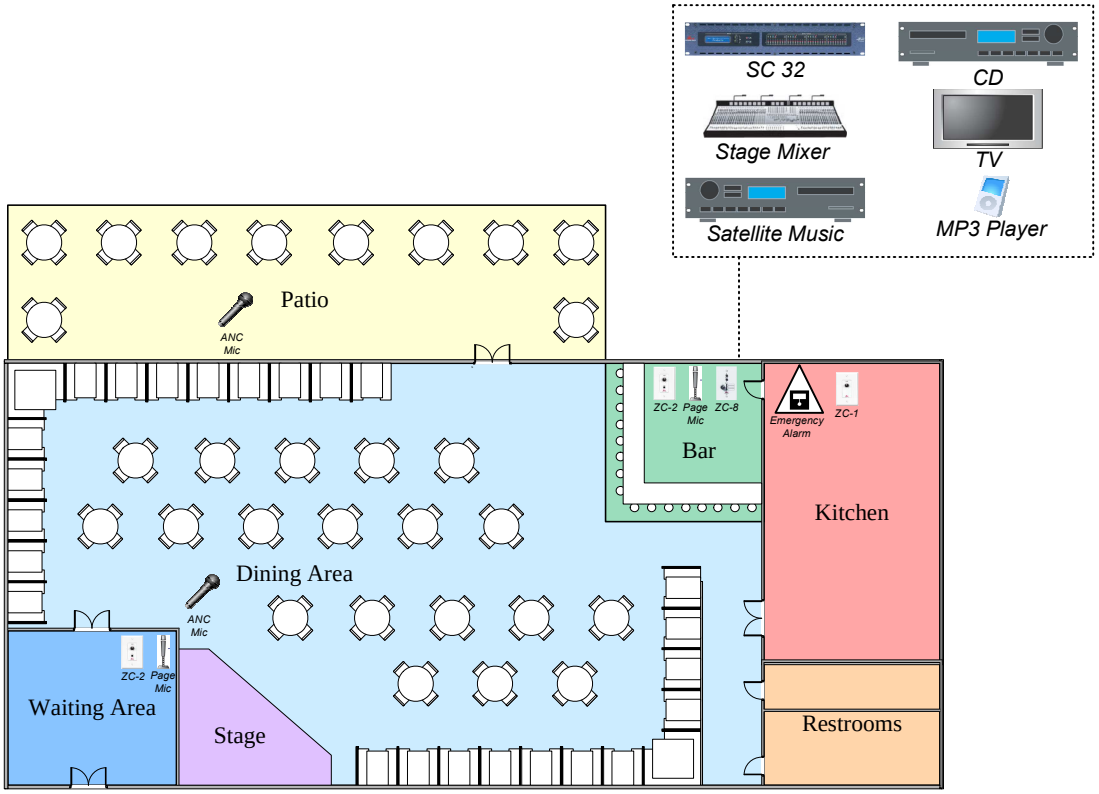


Ambient Noise Compensation (ANC) mics detect the ambient noise level in the dining area and patio. As either zone's noise level increases or decreases, the SC 32 adjusts the program material's volume accordingly in the corresponding zone. This ensures that background music is consistently audible while never being too loud, which creates a pleasant dining atmosphere for customers.

A ZC-2 installed in the waiting area allows the hostess to make announcements into the hostess mic, toggling the mute button to mute and unmute its signal. Through the use of Priority Mix Controls in HiQnet System Architect™, the music at the bar and waiting area is automatically ducked by announcements as they are made. This conveniently notifies waiting customers when their table is ready—even those having a drink at the bar.

Device Preset "B" is used during televised sporting events that are of high interest to customers. Television audio is distributed to all zones of the building (except the kitchen), effectively transforming the building into an exciting sports bar.

Device Preset "C" sets the mood for a live band's performance. The band's stereo signal passes through a house mixer, to a crossover and limiter within the SC 32, to a power amp, and finally to a large pair of stereo 2-way speakers located on the stage. These speakers become the primary sound source in the building, suitable for a variety of acts ranging from soft jazz trios to loud rock bands. The sound of the live band is also mono-summed and distributed to the patio and restrooms.



As the night goes on, Device Preset "D" transforms the building into a typical night club. All zones (except the kitchen) output music from the CD player at high volume. A ZC-2 installed behind the bar allows the bartender to mute and unmute the mic in the same manner as the hostess in Device Preset "A". Announcements made into the bartender mic (such as "last call") fully override the music in all zones. Full override is achieved by setting the bartender mic as Priority 1 across all applicable mixers and then setting the Priority 1 "Depth" parameter to -70dB in the Priority Mix Controls window.

Located in the kitchen is the building's emergency alarm system, which is connected to the SC 32 through a Control Input Port. When the alarm is activated (i.e. its contact closure enters an open state), the SC 32 mutes audio in all zones. Also installed in the kitchen is a ZC-1, which enables employees to adjust the output volume of the MP3 player. This MP3 player delivers employee-chosen music throughout the kitchen in all presets, promoting a happier and more productive work environment.