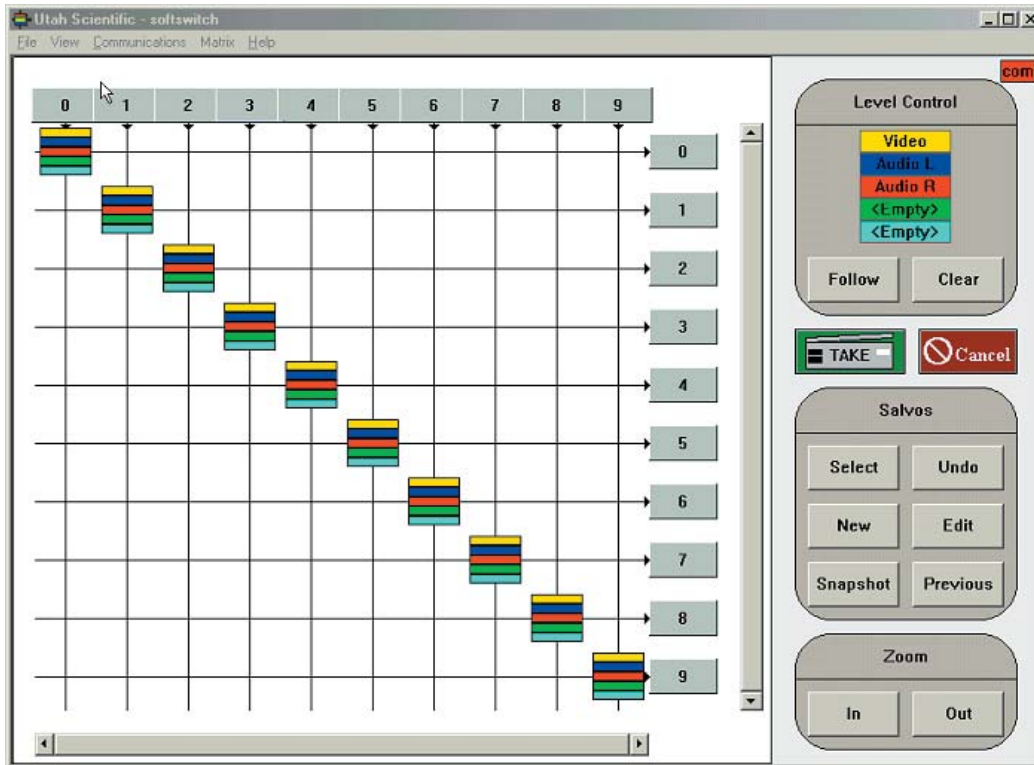


# SoftPanel-1

## SOFTWARE CONTROL PANEL



SoftPanel-1 is a Windows application that provides a Graphical User Interface for the control of a Utah Scientific routing switcher system.

Matrix status information from the system controller is displayed by the SoftPanel-1 as an X-Y array, with router sources listed across the top of the display and destinations listed down the right hand side of the display. If a source and destination pair is connected on any of the router's levels, a connection box appears at the intersection of the two devices on the grid. Within this connection box, colored bars indicate the signal levels connected between two devices.

With this layout, a large grid of devices can be monitored at a glance and updates can easily be understood. In many instances, SoftPanel-1 is used primarily as a status monitor display, providing a simple means of displaying the active connections on the matrix

Quick, accurate changes can easily be made by simply clicking on the intersection of two devices on the grid and then clicking on the Take button.

## The SoftPanel-1 Display

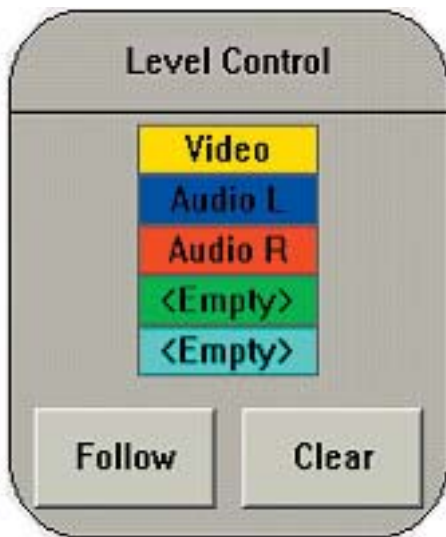
The SoftPanel screen is divided into two major sections; the grid area and the control panel area.

The grid area is where the current switcher status from the system controller is displayed. It is also where new switch settings can be entered.

When SoftPanel-1 connects initially with the system controller, the controller provides information about the number active inputs and outputs in the system. Inputs (video and audio sources) are listed across the top of the display and outputs (destination devices) are listed down the right hand side of the grid. The labels for the sources and destinations can be edited on the display to simplify operation.

If two devices are connected on any level, a switch box will be displayed at their intersection on the grid. Each level is indicated by a color bar within the switch box. The levels are identified in the Level Control box.

At the very top right hand corner of the display is a communications connection indicator. This small box acts as a tally light, turning green when a connection is established with the system controller and turning red when there is no connection.



### Level Control Box

The Level Control box is used to identify the signal levels that exist for a particular switcher.

When SoftPanel-1 connects initially with the system controller, the system controller provides information about the number of levels being used in the system. SoftPanel-1 will build the level control box with the number of levels indicated by the system controller. The user can easily change both the name of the level and the color of the indicator by right clicking on the indicator.

The level control is used to indicate active selection levels. When the user left-clicks anywhere on the grid, a connection is established between the devices that intersect at that spot. All levels that are active in the level control box are preset for connection in the resulting connection box. Left clicking on any indicator causes its state to toggle from active to inactive and the color of the indicator will

alternate in unison between solid color (active state) and hollow fill color (inactive state). The Follow button activates all levels (they follow each other) and Clear inactivates all levels.

### Take and Cancel Buttons

The Take and Cancel buttons operate on pending connection boxes on the grid display. Pressing the Take button will send all pending connections on the grid to the system controller as connection requests. If the connections are made successfully in the physical matrix by the system controller, it sends a status update back to SoftPanel-1 and the pending switches on the grid are made active.



Pending switches are indicated by hollow level indicators on the grid while active switches are indicated with solid filled level indicators. The Cancel button clears all pending switch boxes on the grid.



## The Salvos Control Box

A salvo is a group of pre-defined device connections that can be applied as a group -- all at one time.

The Undo button will restore the grid to the way it was before the most recent Take. That is, all connections made by the last take will be placed back the way they were but in a pending state. So after any Take, pressing the Undo button followed by another Take will restore the grid to the way it was before the original Take.

Similarly, the Snapshot and Previous buttons are used to store a particular state of the matrix. Pressing the Snapshot button stores a complete list of all switch settings in the grid. This saved state is retained in memory until it is replaced by another snapshot. The most recent snapshot can be

placed back on the grid in a pending state at any time by pressing the Previous button.

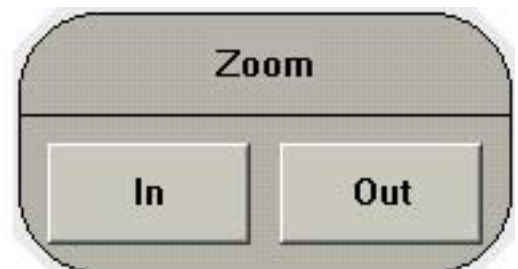
The Select button is used to select a predefined salvo file. The files are created by entering the salvo editor by either pressing the New button to edit a new salvo, or the Edit button to edit an existing file. When the switch settings are placed on the grid they are pending or preset switch settings and are either made active or cleared using the Take and Cancel buttons.

When the salvo editing process is completed, the salvo is saved to a file by using either the Save or the Quit button. The Save button produces a dialog allowing the user to specify a file name to save the salvo data to. The Quit button asks the user if the file should be saved, and if it needs to be saved, the save file dialog is produced and the user can save the salvo to a file. The default path for salvo files is the SoftPanel-1 installation directory.

While in the editor, connection box selections are made exactly the same way as they are made in the normal SoftPanel-1 screen. The level control box is in its normal place and works in exactly the same way. Two additional buttons are added to the salvos control box in salvos editing mode. The Clear All button clears all connection boxes from the screen and the Insert All button places all active selections from the current normal screen onto the salvos editor screen.

## Zoom Control Box

The Zoom Control box has two buttons which narrow or widen the view of the grid, providing a simple way of adjusting the viewable portion of the matrix. Pressing the In button zooms in on the display, (displays a smaller number of devices), pressing the Out button does the opposite.



## Group Editor

SoftPanel-1 is equipped with a group editor, accessed from the View menu, that allows the user to specify any number of source or destination devices, a “display group”, for display as a subset of the current matrix. Editing a group is very simple. Left-clicking on any label toggles its active state. If the label is gray colored, it is inactive. The label will turn a light blue if it is active.

There are also two buttons provided in the Group Edit Control box that allow the user to clear all selections or set all devices in the group.

When the selection process is complete, the Save button can be used to commit the selections to a group description file (gdf) that can easily be selected later as the active group. These files are read into the application as the current group and whenever the View Current Group item is set in the View menu item, the display contains the selection status of only those items in the group.

## System Connections

The SoftPanel-1 software runs on a standard Windows PC and communicates with the system controller's Ethernet port using normal TCP/IP connections. If the PC that is running the SoftPanel-1 software is also running the Utah Scientific Router Management Software (RMS) or Utah Configuration System (U-Con) for system configuration, both communication links are carried over the same network connection.

## Ordering Information

SoftPanel-1 is available as a single-user license package and in packages of ten licenses for installations where multiple copies of the software are to be used.

A free evaluation copy of the SoftPanel-1 software package is available for downloading from [www.utahscientific.com](http://www.utahscientific.com) or on disk from your Utah Scientific representative.



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