

IRIS-Net Project Generator User Guide

Introduction

IRIS-Net is a very powerful software platform for designing, controlling and monitoring audio systems using Electro-Voice and Dynacord amplifiers and digital signal processing devices. However many projects, particularly for concert sound applications, have the same basic configuration requirements. Essentially a bunch amplifiers will require suitable loudspeaker presets to be loaded and some basic user interface control surfaces will be necessary for an operator to take control of the complete system. IRIS-Net provides a vast array of very flexible tools giving the designer complete freedom to configure their audio system to their exact requirements, but this level of flexibility also takes some time to design in when building a new project.

The IRIS-Net Project Generator is a tool which can be used to configure many of the basic requirements of even the most complex audio systems within just a few minutes, rather than some two or three hours to complete the same task manually.

In this release all current Electro-Voice and Dynacord remote controlled amplifiers are supported along with the complete range of current speaker settings libraries. Take a few minutes now to get accustomed with the Project Generator and potentially save hours of work on your next IRIS-Net remote amps projects.

Currently the ElectroVoice N8000 and Dynacord P64 are not supported in the Project Generator but we are always looking for ways to make our software easier to use so these devices may well be added in a future release!

Software Installation

Installation is quick and simple but does require just a few basic requirements to get started.

1. IRIS-Net must be installed on the PC you are going to install the Project Generator on. The latest version can be downloaded for free at <http://irisnet.electrovoice.com/>
2. The Project Generator requires the Microsoft .Net 2.0 framework to be installed on the PC. The installer will check for this automatically and provided you have an Internet connection will download the correct version from the Microsoft

web site. Many other software applications now require the .Net framework to run so it is quite possible that it will already be installed on your computer. If you prefer to do this manually install the .Net framework 2.0 from the Microsoft web site at;

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=0856EACB-4362-4B0D-8EDD-AAB15C5E04F5&displaylang=en>

before you begin installation of the Project Generator software.

3. The recommended operating system is Windows™ XP SP2 or greater. The Project Generator will function on Windows Vista™
4. IRIS-Net and the Project Generator are not Mac™ compatible – sorry!
5. A minimum screen resolution of 1024 x 768 is recommended. A higher resolution or widescreen display will allow you to see more information at a glance without scrolling but this is by no means essential. It is recommended that ‘Small Fonts’ is selected in display properties for your screen.
6. Apart from this all the usual stuff applies, you’ll need a keyboard and mouse and if you want to connect to the amplifiers check the IRIS-Net help file for the minimum requirements here.

Installing the software

Run ‘setup.exe’ and follow the onscreen instructions. The Project Generator will be installed and should launch automatically. A shortcut will be added to the IRIS-Net application folder in the Start menu.

Removing the software

To remove the Project Generator software.

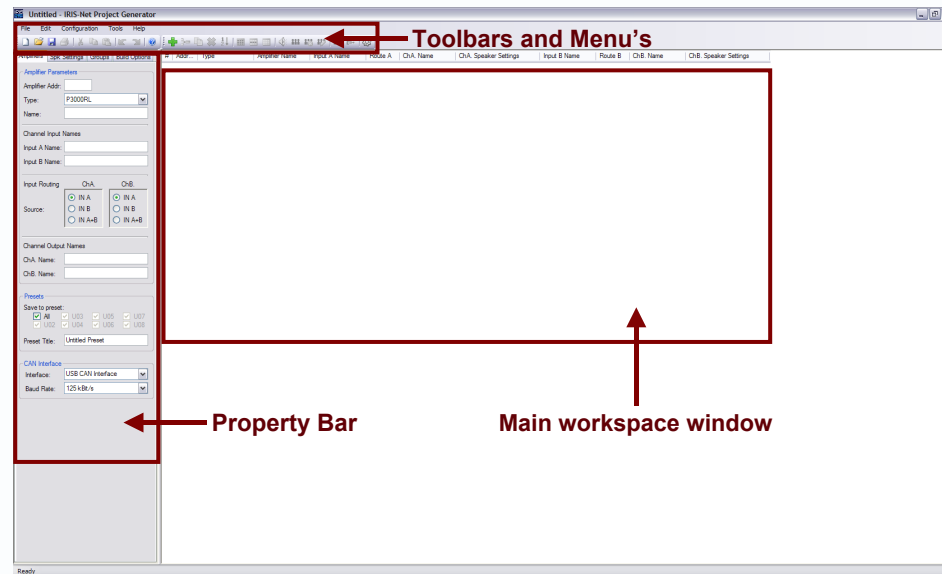
1. Click on ‘Start’ then ‘Control Panel’ and when the control panel dialog displays select the ‘Add or Remove Programs’ option.
2. A list of programs installed on the PC will be shown.
3. Scroll down the list to find the ‘IRIS-Net Project Generator’.
4. Click on ‘IRIS-Net Project Generator’ then click on the ‘Change/Remove’ button that will appear.
5. The IRIS-Net Project Generator application will be removed from the PC but any projects created with it will **not** be removed automatically. These can be deleted manually if required.

The User Interface

The Main Window

The Project Generator should launch once installation is complete. A shortcut should also have been added to the Start menu under 'Start / All Programs / IRIS-Net' to rerun the application at any time.

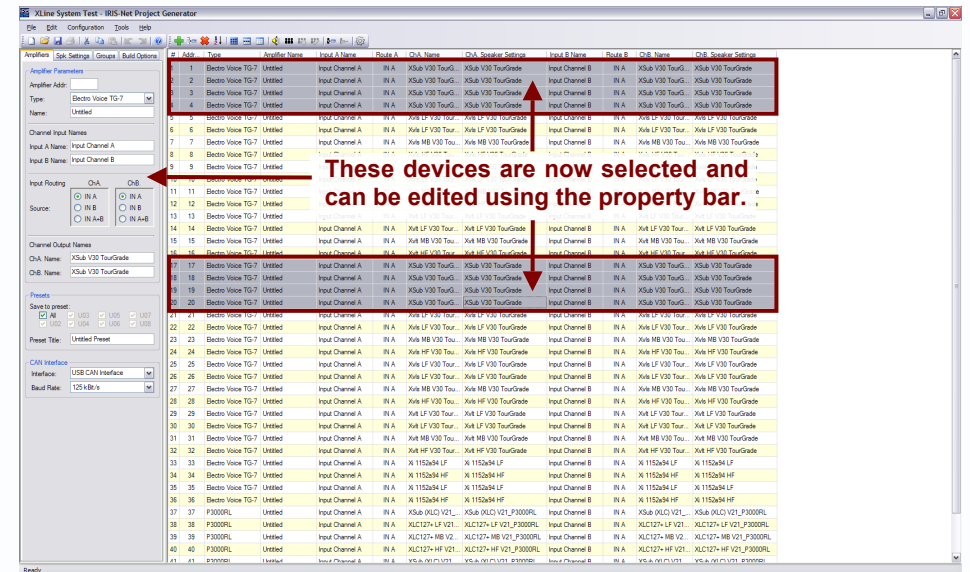
When the Project Generator is launched the screen will look something like this although different screen resolutions might mean less detail is displayed, in which case scroll bars will be shown on the screen right and bottom if necessary.



The Project Generator main screen

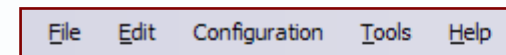
Apart from the familiar positions for menu options and icons along the top area of the screen there are two key work areas within the Project Generator. The main workspace shows a list of amplifiers currently added to the project while the property bar allows you to change the settings of one or more amplifiers currently selected in the main workspace window. The next screenshot shows an example project with a large number of amplifiers. When one or more amplifiers are

selected they appear with a dark background and any changes made to their settings will be applied to all of the selected amplifiers simultaneously. See the quick start guide on page 11 for the various selection methods available.



Devices selected for editing

The Menu Bar



The menu bar is the 'classic' way to select commands and actions when using Windows. Most applications, including the Project Generator, offer several ways to access the same commands. The menu bar is just one way but as many of the options such as opening and saving files are all structured in a familiar location and format the menu bar is still useful in helping you to find frequently used commands easily.

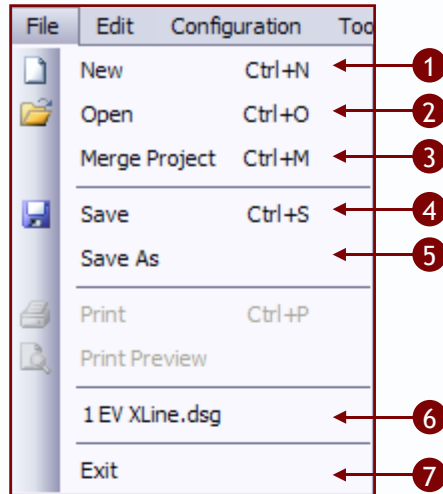
Keyboard shortcuts are provided for the most frequently used commands too, this is often quicker than opening the menu and selecting the command from a list.

The Project Generator also makes extensive use of toolbar icons and right mouse click 'pop-up' menu's as these provide the most direct way to access the main commands when building a project. All these options will be discussed in the following section ...

File Menu

Displays commands for opening and saving projects.

Keyboard Shortcut: ALT+F



- 1 New:** Creates a new blank project. If another project is already open and contains unsaved data you will be prompted to save this project before continuing. **Keyboard shortcut: Ctrl+N**
- 2 Open:** Displays a standard windows dialog which allows you to open an existing project. If another project is already open and contains unsaved data you will be prompted to save this project before continuing. **Keyboard shortcut: Ctrl+O**
- 3 Merge Project:** Displays a standard windows dialog which allows you to open an existing project. The project will be merged into the current project configuration. **Keyboard shortcut: Ctrl+M**
- 4 Save:** Saves the current project using its current name. If the project has not been saved before (“Untitled”), the Save As dialog automatically appears. **Keyboard shortcut: Ctrl+S**

- 5 Save As:** Displays a standard windows dialog which allows you to enter a name for the project and select a folder where it will be saved.

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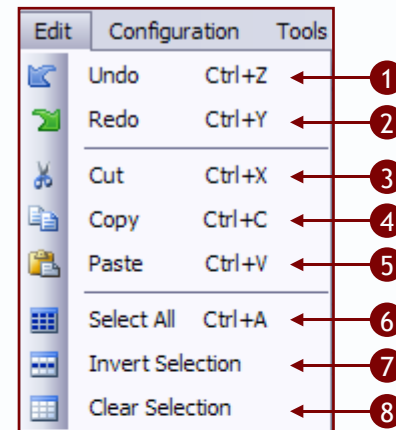
Print Preview: *Currently not implemented.*

- 6 Recently Used List:** Lists the most recently opened projects for quick access. Clicking on a project file will open it in the project generator. The number of projects displayed in the list can be changed using the Tools\Options menu item.
- 7 Exit:** Closes the Project Generator application. If a project is already open and contains unsaved data you will be prompted to save this project before continuing.

Edit Menu

Displays commands for the clipboard and device selection.

Keyboard Shortcut: ALT+E



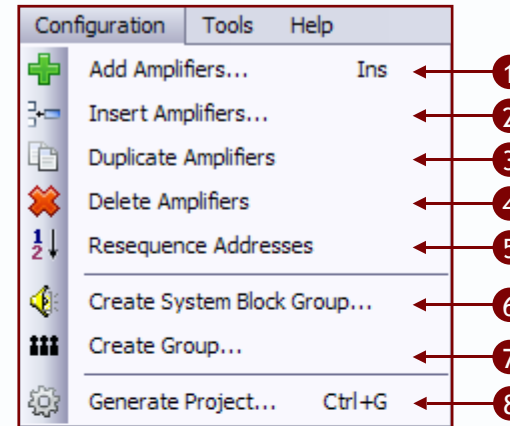
- 1 **Undo:** Undoes the most recent change(s) to the project. Selecting this action multiple times will continue to undo recent changes in the reverse order to which they were created. **Keyboard Shortcut: Ctrl+Z**
- 2 **Redo:** Will reverse the action of the last undo step. **Keyboard Shortcut: Ctrl+Y**
- 3 **Cut:** Deletes the selected device(s) and places a copy on the Windows Clipboard. **Keyboard Shortcut: Ctrl+X**
- 4 **Copy:** Copies the selected device(s) to the Windows Clipboard. **Keyboard Shortcut: Ctrl+C**
- 5 **Paste:** Inserts device(s) previously placed on the Windows Clipboard into the project. If a device is currently selected in the main workspace window the device(s) on the Clipboard will be inserted before the first selected device. If no devices are currently selected in the main workspace the device(s) on the Clipboard will be inserted at the end of the device list in the workspace. **Keyboard Shortcut: Ctrl+V**

Tip: All device data is placed on the clipboard with the exception of the device address. Within IRIS-Net each device must have a unique address therefore the address must be set manually after using the Paste action.

- 6 **Select All:** Selects all devices in the main workspace window. **Keyboard Shortcut: Ctrl+A**
- 7 **Invert Selection:** Reverses the current selection of devices in the main workspace window. For example if several devices are currently selected, using this action will deselect these devices and select the devices that are currently not selected.
- 8 **Clear Selection:** Unselects all currently selected devices.

Configuration Menu

Displays commands for building an IRIS-Net project.
Keyboard Shortcut: ALT+C



- 1 **Add Amplifiers...** Opens a dialog box to add amplifiers to the project. When using this action amplifiers are always inserted at the end of the device list in the main worksheet window. **Keyboard Shortcut: INS (Insert key)**
- 2 **Insert Amplifiers...** Opens a dialog box to insert amplifiers in to the project. This action is only available when a device(s) is selected in the main worksheet window. Amplifiers are then added *before* the first selected device.
- 3 **Duplicate Amplifiers:** Duplicates the currently selected device(s). This action is only available when a device(s) is selected in the main worksheet window. Amplifiers are then inserted immediately *after* the selected device(s).
- 4 **Delete Amplifiers:** Will delete all devices currently selected in the main worksheet window. This action is only available when a device(s) is selected. A confirmation dialog is displayed enabling you to confirm the action before the devices are deleted. **Keyboard Shortcut: DEL (Delete key)**

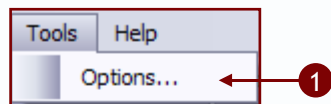
- 5 **Resequence Addresses:** This action will renumber the addresses of all the devices in the current project starting at address #1 for the first device. A quick way to readdress all the devices after pasting from the clipboard.
- 6 **Create System Block Group...** Displays a dialog to create a new system block which will include the device(s) currently selected in the main worksheet window. This action is only available when a device(s) is selected in the main worksheet window and is further explained in the quick start guide.
- 7 **Create Group...** Displays a dialog to create a new system group which will include the device(s) currently selected in the main worksheet window. This action is only available when a device(s) is selected in the main worksheet window and is further explained in the quick start guide.
- 8 **Generate Project...** Displays a standard Windows dialog which allows you to enter a name for the IRIS-Net application file and select a folder where it will be saved. The project generator will then convert all the applied device settings into an IRIS-Net application file and build the default control panels. When the build is complete a dialog will be displayed asked if you want to open the project in IRIS-Net. **Keyboard Shortcut: Ctrl+G**

Tip: Only one instance of IRIS-Net can be open at any one time. If you wish to open the built project directly from the Project Generator please ensure IRIS-Net is not currently running.

Tools Menu

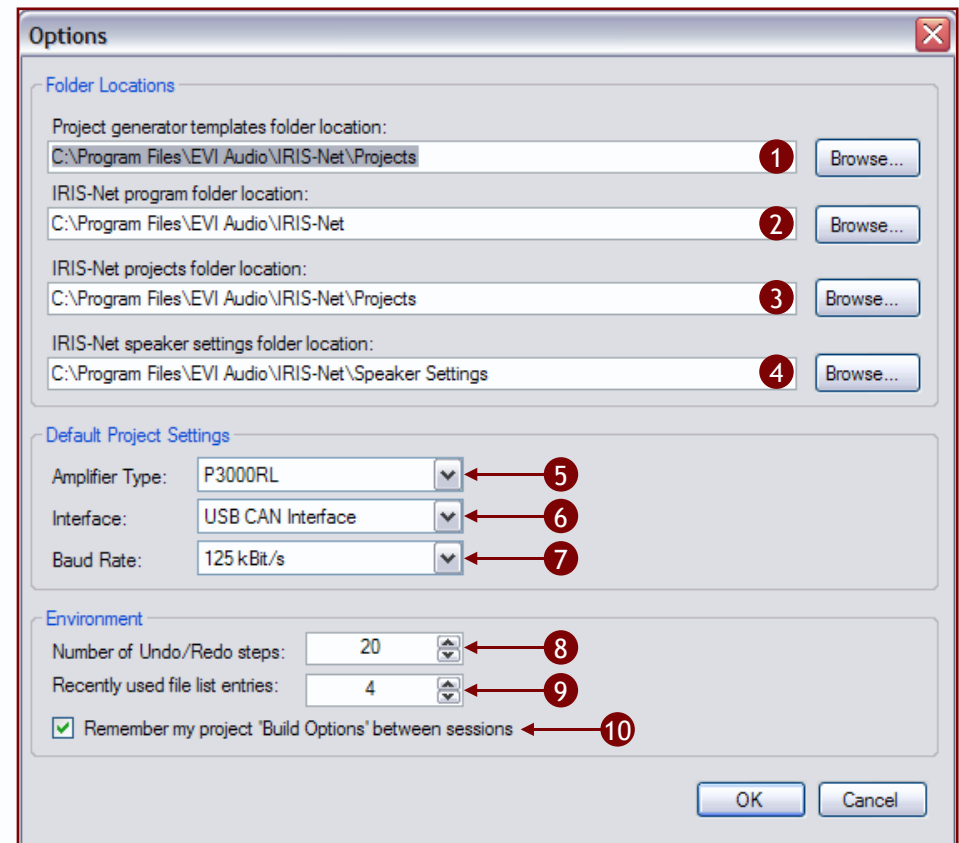
Displays commands for application settings.

Keyboard Shortcut: ALT+T



- 1 **Options...** Displays a dialog box to set the default application settings and file paths.

The Options Dialog



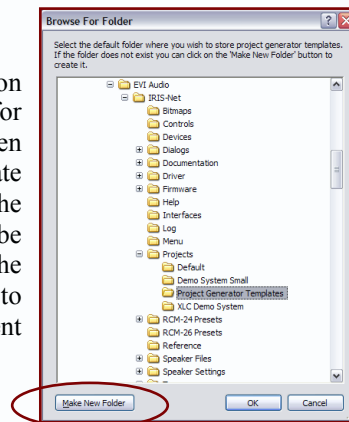
The application Options dialog

- 1 **Project generator template folder location:** Specifies the default path where template files will be saved. To change the location either enter it directly into the text box or click on the 'Browse' button to display the standard Windows dialog 'Browse for Folder'. The folder can then be selected from a list.
- 2 **IRIS-Net program folder location:** Specifies the location of your IRIS-Net application. If you have several versions of IRIS-Net it is acceptable to change to the root folder of the version you wish to use here. To change the location

either enter it directly into the text box or click on the 'Browse' button to display the standard Windows dialog 'Browse for Folder'. The folder can then be selected from a list.

- 3 **IRIS-Net projects folder location:** Specifies the default path where generated IRIS-Net project files will be saved. To change the location either enter it directly into the text box or click on the 'Browse' button to display the standard Windows dialog 'Browse for Folder'. The folder can then be selected from a list.
- 4 **IRIS-Net speaker settings folder location:** Specifies the default path where speaker settings files can be found. If you have several versions of IRIS-Net it is acceptable to change to the 'Speaker Settings' folder of the version you wish to use here. To change the location either enter it directly into the text box or click on the 'Browse' button to display the standard Windows dialog 'Browse for Folder'. The folder can then be selected from a list.

Tip: When you click on the browse button the standard Windows 'Browse for Folders' dialog will be displayed. When browsing for 'Project generator template folders' and 'IRIS-Net project folders' the button 'Make New Folder' will also be displayed in the bottom left corner of the dialog. Click this button if you want to create a new sub-folder at the current selection.

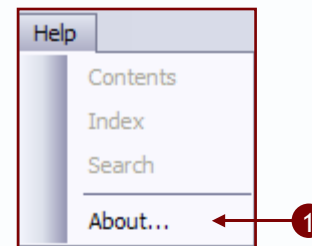


- 5 **Amplifier Type:** This drop down box sets the default amplifier type when amps are added or inserted into a project. Change this to the amp type you use most often.
- 6 **Interface:** This drop down box sets the default PC interface type when you create a new project. It can be changed at any time in the 'Amplifiers' tab of the property bar.

- 7 **Baud Rate:** This drop down box sets the default baud rate setting for the PC interface. It can be changed at any time in the 'Amplifiers' tab of the property bar.
- 8 **Number of Undo/Redo steps:** Sets the number of Undo/Redo steps available. Enter a number between 1 and 100.
- 9 **Recently used file list entries:** Sets the number of recently used files to display in the File menu enabling quick one-click access. Enter a number between 0 and 10. Entering 0 will disable the list and no files will be displayed.
- 10 **Remember my project 'Build Options' between sessions:** When the check box is ticked any changes made in the Build Options tab of the property bar will be retained when the application is closed down. If the check box is not ticked the build option settings will be reset to their defaults each time the application is launched.

Help Menu

Displays commands to get help using the application.
Keyboard Shortcut: ALT+H



Contents: *Not currently implemented.*

Index: *Not currently implemented.*

Search: *Not currently implemented.*











- 1 **About...** Displays a dialog box showing version and copyright information.

Toolbar Icons

The toolbar icons provide convenient one click access to many of the most frequently used commands. The listing below gives a brief description of each icon, for a more detailed explanation refer to the menu item equivalent above and the quick start guide.
















Standard Toolbar Icons



-  **New:** Creates a new blank project.
-  **Open:** Opens an existing project.
-  **Save:** Saves the current project.
-  **Print:** *Not currently implemented.*
-  **Cut:** Deletes the selected device(s) and copies it to the Windows Clipboard.
-  **Copy:** Copies the selected device(s) to the Windows Clipboard.
-  **Paste:** Inserts the contents of the Clipboard into the project.
-  **Undo:** Undoes the last action(s).
-  **Redo:** Redoes the last action(s).
-  **About:** Displays a dialog showing version and copyright information.

Configuration Toolbar Icons



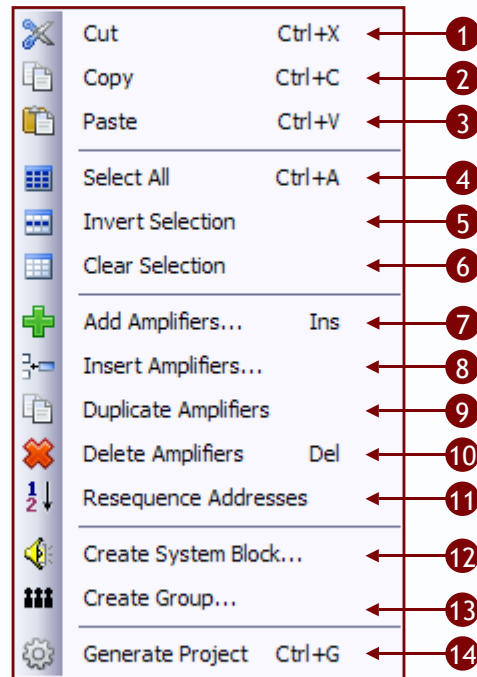
-  **Add Amplifiers:** Adds new devices to the end of the project.
-  **Insert Amplifiers:** Inserts devices *before* the current selection.
-  **Duplicate Amplifiers:** Duplicates the currently selected device(s) and inserts them immediately *after* the current selection.
-  **Delete Amplifiers:** Deletes the currently selected device(s).
-  **Resequence Addresses:** Resets all amplifier addresses from 1.
-  **Select All:** Selects all devices in the project
-  **Invert Selection:** Inverts the current device selection.
-  **Clear Selection:** Unselects any selected devices.
-  **Create System Block Group:** Creates a new System Block Group from the selected device(s).
-  **Create Group:** Creates a new Group from the selected device(s).
-  **Delete Group:** Deletes the selected System Block or Group.
-  **Rename Group:** Renames the selected System Block or Group.
-  **Add Selected Devices to Group:** Adds selected device(s) to an existing System Block or Group (see quick start guide for more details).
-  **Remove Selected Devices from Group:** Removes the selected device(s) from a System Block or Group (see quick start guide for more details).
-  **Generate Project:** Generates the IRIS-Net application file.

Context Menu's

Many of the most frequently used commands are available as pop-up context menu's. Right click in the main workspace window or in the list area of the 'Groups' tab on the property bar to display these menu's.

Main Workspace Context Menu

Displayed when you right click in the main workspace window.



- 1 Cut:** Deletes the selected device(s) and places a copy on the Windows Clipboard. **Shortcut key: Ctrl+X**
- 2 Copy:** Copies the selected device(s) to the Windows Clipboard. **Shortcut key: Ctrl+C**

- 3 Paste:** Inserts device(s) previously placed on the Windows Clipboard into the project. If a device is currently selected in the main workspace window the device(s) on the Clipboard will be inserted before the first selected device. If no devices are currently selected in the main workspace the device(s) on the Clipboard will be inserted at the end of the device list in the workspace. **Keyboard Shortcut: Ctrl+V**

- 4 Select All:** Selects all devices in the main workspace window. **Keyboard Shortcut: Ctrl+A**

- 5 Invert Selection:** Reverses the current selection of devices in the main workspace window. For example if several devices are currently selected using this action will deselect these devices and select the devices that are currently not selected.

- 6 Clear Selection:** Unselects all currently selected devices.

- 7 Add Amplifiers...** Opens a dialog box to add amplifiers to the project. When using this action amplifiers are always inserted at the end of the device list in the main worksheet window. **Keyboard Shortcut: INS (Insert key)**

- 8 Insert Amplifiers...** Opens a dialog box to insert amplifiers in to the project. This action is only available when a device(s) is selected in the main worksheet window. Amplifiers are then added *before* the first selected device.

- 9 Duplicate Amplifiers:** Duplicates the currently selected device(s). This action is only available when a device(s) is selected in the main worksheet window. Amplifiers are then inserted immediately *after* the selected device(s).

- 10 Delete Amplifiers:** Will delete all devices currently selected in the main worksheet window. This action is only available when a device(s) is selected in the main worksheet window. A confirmation dialog is displayed enabling you to confirm the action before the devices are deleted. **Keyboard Shortcut: DEL (Delete key)**

- 11 Resequence Addresses:** This action will renumber the addresses of all the devices in the current project starting at address #1 for the first device. A quick way to readdress all the devices after pasting from the clipboard.

- 12 Create System Block Group...** Displays a dialog to create a new System Block which will include all devices currently selected in the main worksheet

window. This action is only available when a device(s) is selected in the main worksheet window and is further explained in the quick start guide.

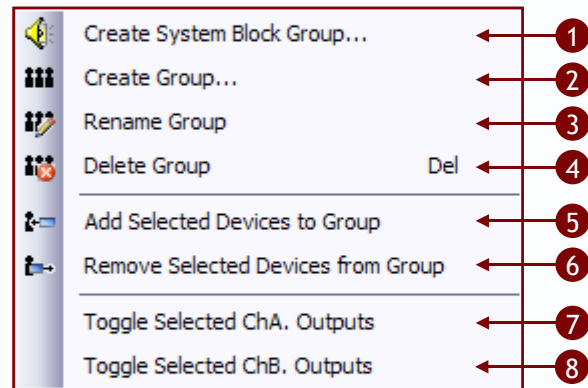
13 Create Group... Displays a dialog to create a new system group which will include all devices currently selected in the main worksheet window. This action is only available when a device(s) is selected in the main worksheet window and is further explained in the quick start guide.

13 Generate Project... Displays a standard Windows dialog which allows you to enter a name for the IRIS-Net application file and select a folder where it will be saved. The project generator will then convert all the applied device settings into an IRIS-Net application file and build the default control panels. When the build is complete a dialog will be displayed asked if you want to open the project in IRIS-Net. **Keyboard Shortcut: Ctrl+G**

Tip: Only one instance of IRIS-Net can be open at any one time. If you wish to open the built project directly from the Project Generator please ensure IRIS-Net is not currently running.

Groups Tab Context Menu

Displayed when you right click in the list box of the Groups tab in the property bar.



1 Create System Block Group... Displays a dialog to create a new system block which will include all devices currently selected in the main worksheet window. This action is only available when a device(s) is selected in the main worksheet window and is further explained in the quick start guide.

2 Create Group... Displays a dialog to create a new system group which will include all devices currently selected in the main worksheet window. This action is only available when a device(s) is selected in the main worksheet window and is further explained in the quick start guide.

3 Rename Group: Renames the selected System Block or Group in the 'Groups' tab of the property bar.

4 Delete Group: Deletes the selected System Block or Group.

5 Add Selected Devices to Group: Adds selected device(s) to an existing System Block or Group (see quick start guide for more details).

6 Remove Selected Devices from Group: Removes the selected device(s) from a System Block or Group (see quick start guide for more details).

7 Toggle Selected ChA. Outputs: When a Group is selected in the property bar, devices that make up that group can then also be selected in the property bar. Right clicking on one of the selected devices will display the context menu with Toggle Selected menu items enabled. Clicking either option will toggle the status of the appropriate checkboxes.

8 Toggle Selected ChB. Outputs: See above.

The Property Bar

The property bar is the main area for assigning values and other configuration options to the devices in the main workspace window. Many of the settings are greyed out and unavailable unless one or more devices have been selected first.

The Amplifiers Tab

- 1 **Amplifier Addr:** Allows you to set the amplifier address manually. This text box can only be edited when a maximum of one amplifier is selected.
- 2 **Type:** The drop down box allows you to change the amplifier type of the selected device(s).
- 3 **Name:** Sets the amplifier name of the selected device(s)
- 4 **Channel Input Names:** Sets the channel names for the selected device(s).
- 5 **Input Routing:** Sets the input routing for each channel of the selected device(s).
- 6 **Channel Output Names:** Sets the output names for the selected device(s). Channel names take the name of any speaker settings used by default.
- 7 **Presets:** If the check boxes are checked the speaker settings will be loaded into the amplifier preset memories when the project is built.

Preset Title: Sets a default name for the configuration.

- 8 **Interface:** The drop down box sets the PC interface used for the project.
- 9 **Baud Rate:** The drop down box sets the interface baud rate used for the project.

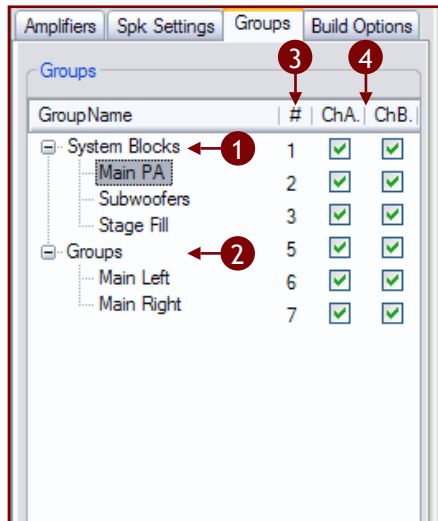
The Spk Settings Tab

- 1 **Use speaker settings for output names:** If the checkbox is checked amplifier channel output names are set using the name of the speaker settings used.
- 2 **Assign to ChA.:** If the checkbox is checked the speaker settings will be applied to Channel A of the selected device(s).

Assign to ChB.: If the checkbox is checked the speaker settings will be applied to Channel B of the selected device(s).

Toggle: Inverts the checkbox status of both 'Assign to ChA.' and 'Assign to ChB.' checkboxes.
- 3 **Speaker Settings List:** The treeview list allows selection of the speaker settings library file which will be applied to the selected device(s). To expand or contract a folder click on the small '+' or '-' symbol to the left of the folder name.

The Groups Tab



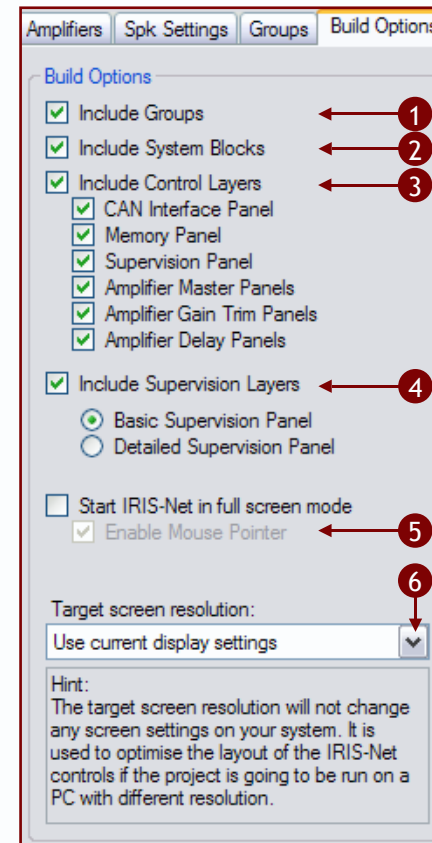
1 System Blocks: Displays a list of System Block Groups added to the project. Clicking on a System Block name will display the devices assigned in the device number column - see (3).

2 Groups: Displays a list of Groups added to the project. Clicking on a Group name will display the devices assigned in the device number column.

3 Device Number Column: Displays a list of the devices currently assigned to the selected System Block or Group.

4 Channel Assignment Columns: Displays which amplifier channels are assigned to the selected System Block or Group. If the checkbox is checked the channel is assigned to the Group.

The Build Options Tab



1 Include Groups: If checked Groups will be built into the generated project.

2 Include System Blocks: If checked System Blocks will be built into the generated project.

3 Include Control Layers: If checked the Controls Layer and checked controls will be built into the project.

4 Include Supervision Layer: If checked the Supervision Layer will be built into the project. The radio buttons select between a basic or more detailed supervision control panel.

5 Start IRIS-Net in full screen mode: If checked the IRIS-Net will open the project in full screen mode hiding the menu bars and object list. It will still display the icon bar to enable going online & offline with the amplifiers. If the 'Enable Mouse Pointer' box is not checked the mouse pointer will not be displayed in IRIS-Net. This mode is only useful if a touch panel is being used.

6 Target screen resolution: This drop down selection box allows the project generator to optimise the generated project layout to fit various standard screen sizes such as '1024 x 768'. This can be useful if the project will be used on a PC with a different screen resolution. Selecting the option 'Use current display settings' will use the display size of the current PC.

Tip: This option does *not* change the screen resolution settings of the PC.

Quick Start Guide - Building a Project

This short example project will show you how to use most of the features of the Project Generator. We will create a design and build the IRIS-Net application file for a small ElectroVoice XLC line array system.

The system will consist of 8 x TG-7 amplifiers to drive 12 x XLC127+ and 4 x XSub loudspeakers and 2 x P3000RL amplifiers for 4 x Xi-1152 loudspeakers assigned to front fill duties. The amplifier arrangement will be configured as;

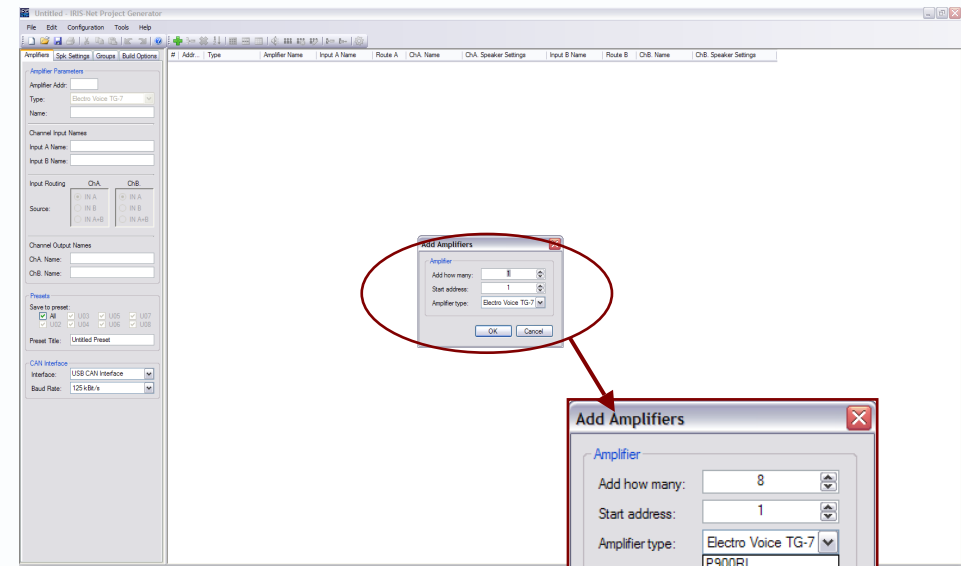
| Address | Type | Function |
|---------|---------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | TG-7 | HF components of XLC127+ Left |
| 2 | TG-7 | MB components of XLC127+ Left |
| 3 | TG-7 | LF components of XLC127+ Left |
| 4 | TG-7 | X-Subs Left |
| 5 | TG-7 | HF components of XLC127+ Right |
| 6 | TG-7 | MB components of XLC127+ Right |
| 7 | TG-7 | LF components of XLC127+ Right |
| 8 | TG-7 | X-Subs Right |
| 9 | P3000RL | Xi-1152 front fill 1&2 - ChA for LF, ChB for HF |
| 10 | P3000RL | Xi-1152 front fill 3&4 - ChA for LF, ChB for HF |



The example configuration

Configuring the Amplifiers

1. Open the project generator application or create a new project.
2. To add amplifiers to the project either select 'Add Amplifiers...' from the Configuration menu, click on the Add Amplifiers icon or press the Insert Key. The 'Add Amplifiers' dialog will be displayed. Change 'Add how many:' to 8 - this is the number of amplifiers that will be added to the project. In this case the 'Start address' can be left as 1 but click on the 'Amplifier type:' drop down box and select 'ElectroVoice TG-7' from the list. When ready click on the 'OK' button to add the amplifiers to the main workspace window.



Adding Amplifiers

3. Repeat step 2 to add 2 more amplifiers, only this time change the amplifier type to P3000RL. You will notice that the Start address has automatically incremented to 9 so there is no need to change this option.

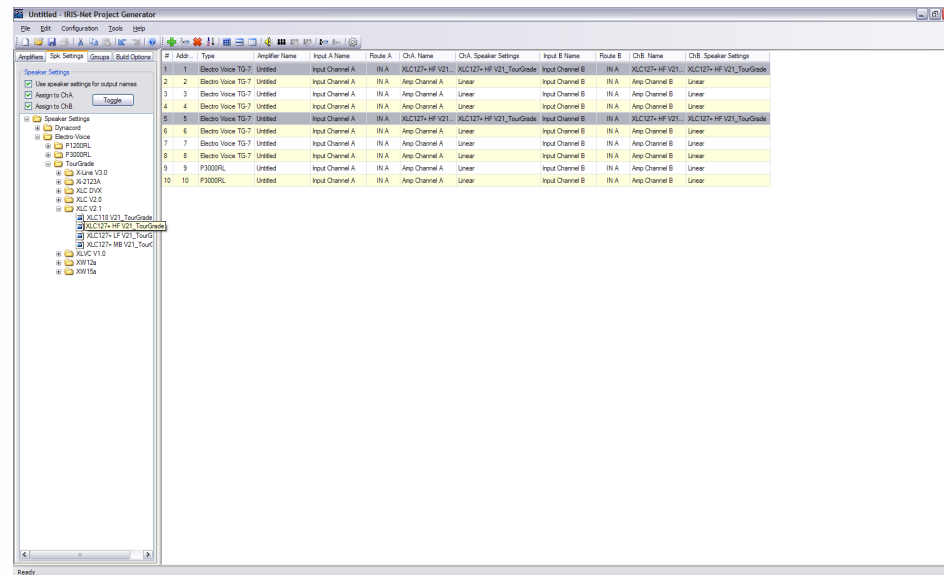
Tip: When creating real world projects it is most important that the amplifier types and their addresses match the hardware you are using.

- The main workspace window should now list all 10 amplifiers we have added to the project. The next step is to configure the amplifier names and assign loudspeaker settings. Select amplifiers 1 and 5 in the main workspace. Standard Windows selection methods can be used.

Tip: If you have made a mistake you can use ‘Undo’ to remove steps in the reverse order. The number of undo steps can be set in the ‘Options’ dialog from the ‘Tools’ menu.

Tip: Holding the ‘Ctrl’ key while you click will allow you to select multiple devices by clicking on each required line one at a time. In the same manor clicking on a selected device will unselect it. To select a consecutive range of devices click on the first device you require, hold down the ‘Shift’ key then click on the last device you require. All devices between the first and last will now be selected. You can also click and drag down the list instead of using the ‘Shift’ key.

- To assign the Speaker Settings to the selected amplifiers click on the ‘Spk Settings’ tab of the property bar and navigate to the required speaker settings file. In this case our XLC HF settings can be found under “Electro-Voice\TourGrade\XLC



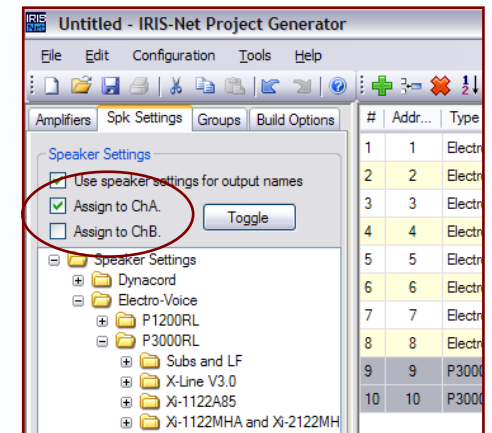
Amplifiers selected ready to edit

V21\XLC127+ HF V21_TourGrade”. Click on this entry to assign the speaker setting to the selected amplifiers. Note: Entries in the Spk Settings treeview list can be expanded by clicking on the small ‘+’ symbol to the left of the entry.

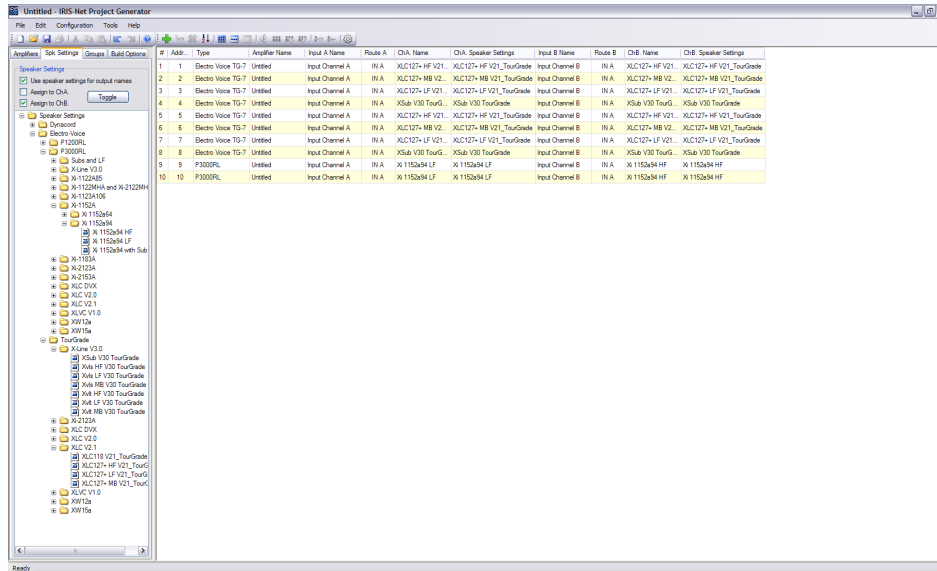
When the speaker settings have been assigned correctly the speaker setting name will be displayed for these amplifiers under the columns ‘ChA. Speaker Settings’ and ‘ChB. Speaker Settings’ in the main workspace window.

Tip: Depending on the version of IRIS-Net you are using the Speaker Settings treeview structure might be different to that shown here. This example uses IRIS-Net version 1.3.

- Repeat step five but this time select amplifiers 2 and 6 and assign the XLC MB speaker settings to these amplifiers.
- Again repeat step five but selecting amplifiers 3 and 7 and assigning the XLC LF speaker settings.
- Again repeat step five and select amplifiers 4 and 8. This time navigate to the X-Line V3.0 speaker settings in the property bar and select the “X-Sub V30 TourGrade” entry.
- Finally to assign the speaker settings to the P3000RL amplifiers driving the Xi-1152 loudspeakers select amplifiers 9 and 10 and navigate to the P3000RL settings for Xi-1152a94. Click the ‘Assign to ChB.’ checkbox in the property bar to deselect it and assign the Xi-1152a94 LF speaker setting to the amplifiers. Note how only the Channel A of each amplifier has been assigned. Click the ‘Toggle’ button to reverse the checkbox selection so now ‘Assign to ChA.’ is unchecked and ‘Assign to ChB.’ is checked. Assign the Xi-1152a94 HF speaker setting. This time it will only be applied to Channel B of the amplifiers.




The speaker settings have now been applied to all the amplifiers in our project and your screen should look similar to the illustration on the next page. Now we can assign the amplifier names and routing options using the ‘Amplifiers’ tab.



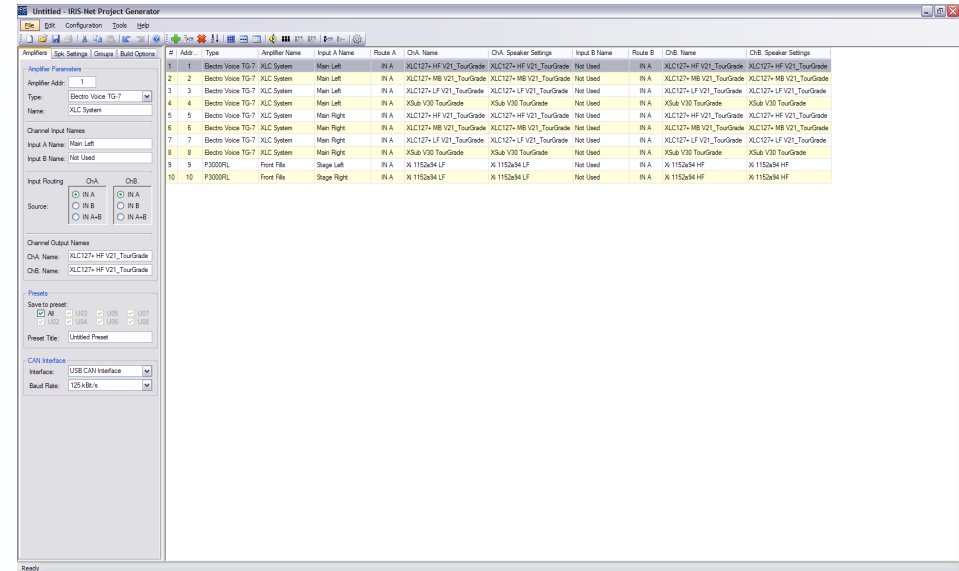
Speaker settings have all been applied

- To assign names to the amplifiers click on the 'Amplifiers' tab of the property bar and select all the amplifiers in the main workspace window.

Tip: You can select all amplifiers easily by clicking on the  icon.

Change the text in the 'Input B Name:' text box on the property bar to read 'Not Used' and press the Enter key to assign the name to the amplifiers.

- Select amplifiers 1 to 8 and set the 'Amplifier Name' text box to 'XLC System'.
- Select amplifiers 1 to 4 and set the 'Input A Name' text box to 'Main Left'.
- Select amplifiers 5 to 8 and set the 'Input A Name' text box to 'Main Right'.
- Select amplifiers 9 to 10 and set the 'Amplifier Name' to 'Front Fills'.
- Select amplifier 9 and set the 'Input A Name' to 'Stage Left'.
- Select amplifier 10 and set the 'Input A Name' to 'Stage Right'.
- The basic configuration is now completed and the project could be built at this point, however in our example we will now look at how System Blocks and Groups can be used to give you extra control.



The completed amplifier configuration

Tip: The names used here are just an example to illustrate the principles involved, you can of course use your own naming convention if this is more meaningful to you.

Tip: For this example we have assumed the routing on the amplifiers will be from the Channel A input only. The routing for each channel can be assigned using the radio buttons in the 'Input Routing' of the property bar. Simply select the amplifiers you wish to modify and set the routing as necessary for your project.

Tip: The output channel names have been assigned automatically using the speaker settings names. These can also be changed manually if you prefer to use your own names.

Using System Block Groups

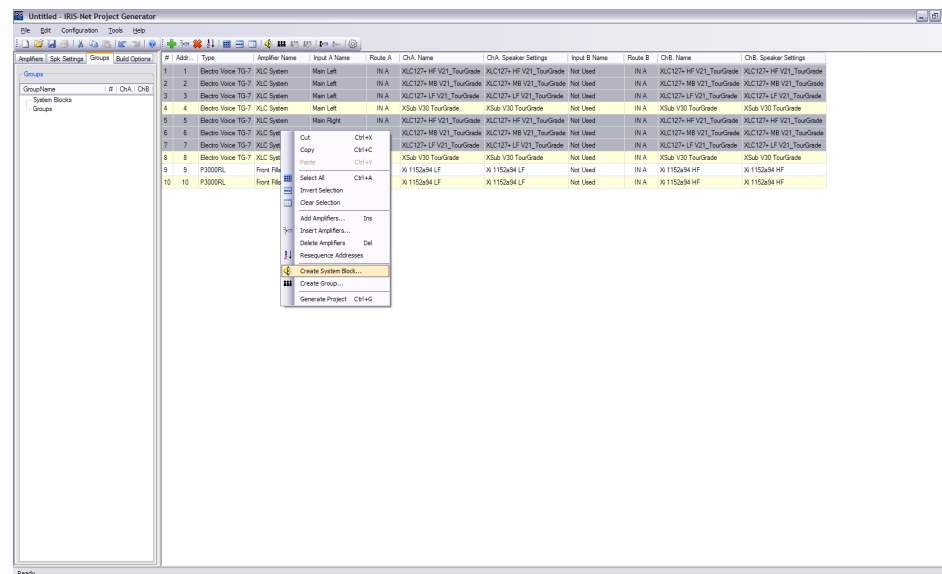
When building larger projects it is quite common to want to have separate control panels for different parts of the system. For example, you may have main PA hangs either side of the stage, ground stacked subwoofers which need to be time aligned to the main PA, side fills for the bleacher seating and delay towers for the people at the back. Each of these subsystems may well need different EQ settings, overall level control and delay to time align everything back to the main stage.

System Block Groups allow you to divide your project up into these key parts and the Project Generator will build separate control panels for each System Block you define when it configures the application file for IRIS-Net.

In our example we will create three System Blocks, the first for the XLC127+'s will be our main PA hangs, the second will be for the ground stacked XSubs and the third will be for the Xi-1152 stage front fills.

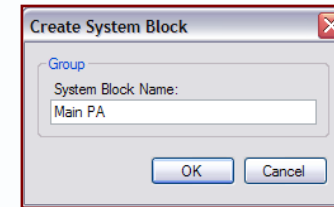
So, to carry on configuring the project:

- Click on the 'Groups' tab of the property bar, then select amplifiers 1 to 3 and 5 to 7 (i.e. all the XLC127+ amplifiers). Right click on any of the selected amplifiers to display the pop-up context menu and select 'Create System Block Group...' or, click on the 'Create System Block Group' icon on the toolbar.



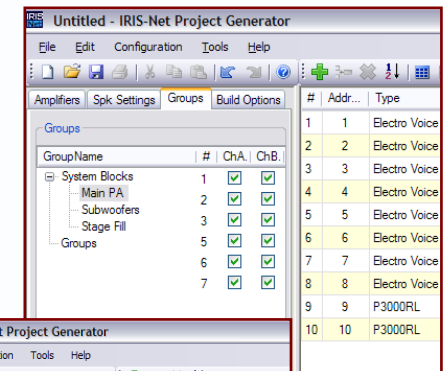
Building the System Blocks

- A dialog will be displayed for you to give the System Block a name. Insert 'Main PA' into the text box and click on OK.

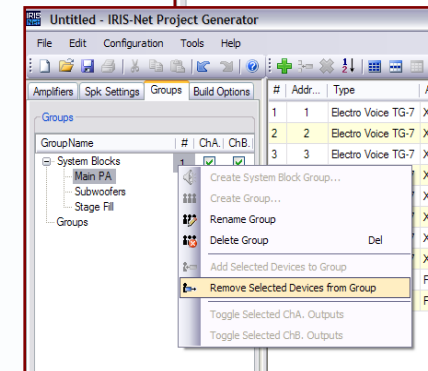


- Repeat steps 18 and 19 but this time select amplifiers 4 and 8. Name the System Block as "Subwoofers".
- Repeat these steps once more and select amplifiers 9 and 10. Name the System Block as "Stage Fill".

- The 'Groups' tab should now display the three System Blocks we have just created. The right hand side of the list shows the devices that make up the System Block. If you find you have added a device to a System Block by mistake, right click on the device number in the 'Groups' tab to display the context menu, then click on 'Remove Selected Devices from Group' - or use the toolbar icon if you prefer.



- You can also add additional devices to a System Block by selecting the devices in the main workspace window and right clicking on the System Block you want to add them to. From the context menu select 'Add Selected Devices to Group' - or use the toolbar icon.



- Note: If there are no devices selected in the main workspace, this option will be greyed out and unavailable on both the context menu and the toolbar icon.

Tip: As System Blocks are used to build control panels within IRIS-Net each device can only be a member of one System Block. If you try to add a device which is already included in a System Block to a different one a check is made and a warning message will be displayed.

Both channels of a device have to be included in a System Block, so although the ChA. and ChB. check boxes are displayed in the property bar they are read-only and cannot be changed.

Tip: The Project Generator will support a total of 35 System Blocks.

Tip: If you use System Blocks for some but not all devices, the Project Generator will automatically group all remaining devices into one Block and build an 'Untitled' control panel in IRIS-Net for these devices.

Using Groups

The Project Generator automatically creates IRIS-Net Group controls for all the different amplifier types and speaker settings you add to your project. From this information it will also build the appropriate control panels in IRIS-Net. Sometimes however, you may want to add more IRIS-Net Group controls into your project so you can further customise the project directly within IRIS-Net.

The Groups feature of the Project Generator allows you to create additional Group controls for your IRIS-Net project. It will build the Group control and assign the device connections to it ready for you to use in IRIS-Net but please be aware that no control panels are automatically created using this option. For automatically generated control panels use 'System Blocks' instead.

Groups are created in a very similar way to System Blocks. For our example we will create two additional groups which will be added to the IRIS-Net file so you can use them for other things directly within IRIS-Net.

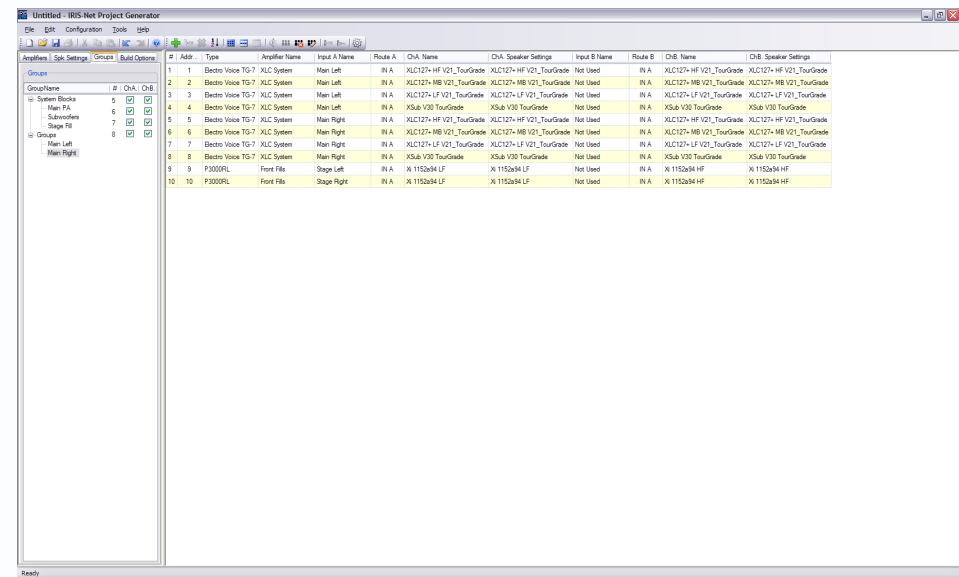
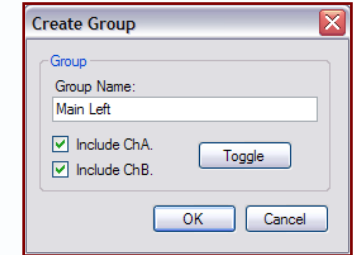
23. Select amplifiers 1 to 4 in the main workspace window and either click on the 'Create Group' toolbar icon or right click on any of the selected devices to display the context menu. Select 'Create Group...' from the menu.
24. The 'Create Group' dialog will be displayed. Insert 'Main Left' into the text box. Notice, just like when you create Group controls within IRIS-Net you can make the

connection to either ChA. or ChB. of the device. This group will include both channels so simply leave both checkboxes ticked and click on OK.

25. Repeat steps 23 and 24 but this time select amplifiers 5 to 8 and name the group 'Main Right'.
26. You can add and remove devices from a group in exactly the same way as described earlier for System Blocks.

Tip: As the Groups feature does not automatically build control panels it is allowed for a device to be a member of as many Groups as you want. You can also edit the channel assignments using the ChA. and ChB. check boxes in the property bar.

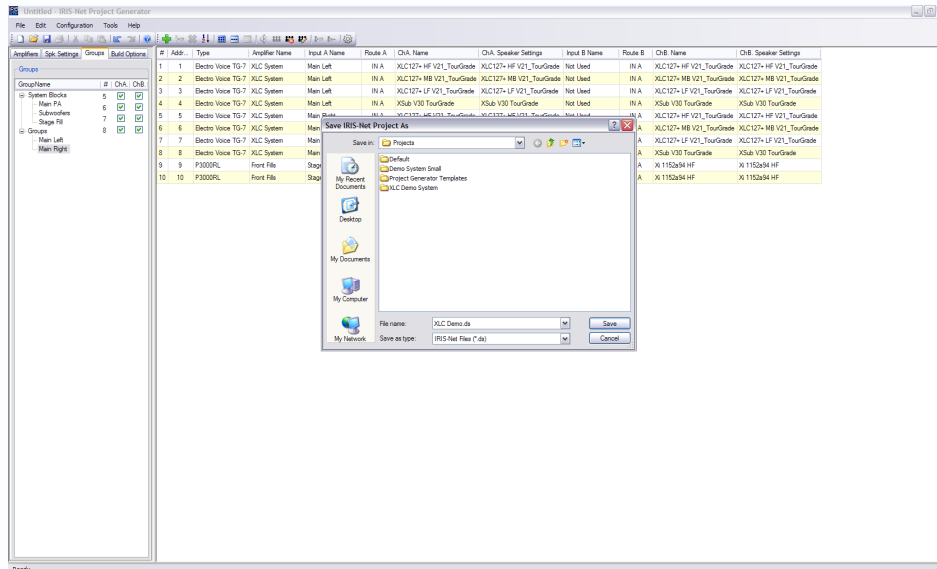
27. The project is now completed and ready to be built. You can save it as a template if you wish to create a library of different configurations. It is often much faster to change a few entries in the Project Generator and rebuild a project than it is to edit the project in IRIS-Net directly. If you wish to save the template select 'Save As...' from the 'File' menu, or click on the 'Save' icon on the toolbar.



The completed project

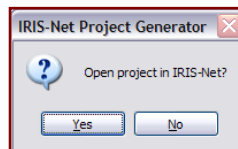
The standard Windows dialog box will be displayed to save the project.

28. To generate the project, either click on the 'Generate Project' icon on the toolbar, or right click in the main workspace window and select 'Generate Project...' from the context menu (or you could use the Ctrl+G keyboard shortcut if you prefer).
29. The standard Windows 'Save As' dialog will be displayed. This will save the project as an IRIS-Net application file so insert 'XLC_Demo' in the 'File name:' text box and click the 'Save' button.



Generating the project

30. A dialog will be displayed asking if you want to open the project in IRIS-Net. Click on the Yes button to complete the build and display the project in IRIS-Net. If you click on No the project will be saved and can be opened in IRIS-Net manually just like any other projects you create.



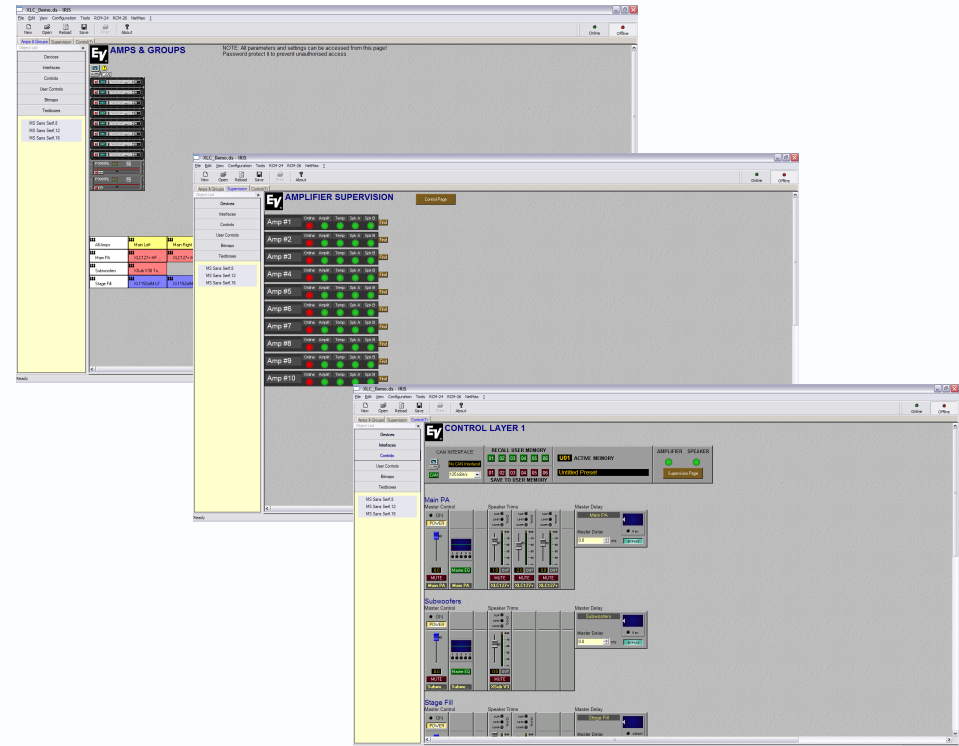
Tip: Only one instance of IRIS-Net can be open at a time. If you wish to open the built project directly from the Project Generator make sure IRIS-Net is not currently running.

31. The project generator will create three layers in the IRIS-Net application.

Amps & Groups: Displays all the amps, speaker groups and any additional groups you defined in the Project Generator. Notice also that the speaker settings you selected have been assigned to the appropriate amplifiers.

Supervision: A general amplifier supervision control is provided for each amplifier in your project. This layer will give you a quick snapshot of the current status of all your amps.

Control: A set of trim controls is provided for each frequency band within a System Block, as well as master EQ, level and delay for the block.



The complete project in IRIS-Net

32. For most projects this is probably all you need to start operating your system, although you can of course make any additional changes you want to the project using IRIS-Net in the normal way!

One Step Further

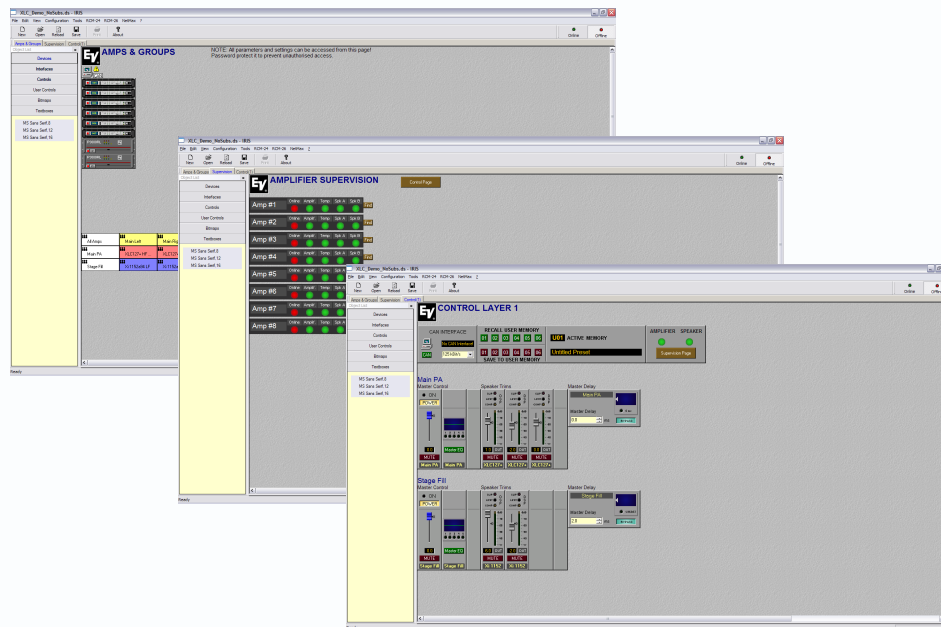
The Project Generator makes it very fast and straightforward to modify your basic design if, for example, the requirements change slightly from venue to venue. If you save the Project Generator template as a file you can quickly make those changes while setting up at the venue, rather than having to spend hours in the office or on the tour bus before hand.

Tip: Project Generator template files are not the same as the IRIS-Net application files it builds when you click on 'Generate Project'. Make sure you save the template file using 'File' menu 'Save As...' or clicking on the 'Save' icon on the toolbar if you want to save the template as well.

Using our example project, lets say we get to a venue where the requirements have changed ... the system will now only be used for an acoustic set with some speech. The subs won't be necessary!

33. If IRIS-Net is still running, close it down and return to the Project Generator. Select amplifiers 4 and 8 (the XSub amps) and click the 'Delete Amplifiers' icon on the toolbar.

34. Generate the project again and save it as 'XLC_Demo_NoSubs'.



35. Open the project in IRIS-Net. With just a few seconds work it will completely reconfigure the project without the Xsubs amplifiers and controls. You can use this method to really quickly add or remove amplifiers to suit the requirements of each venue.

Thanks for working through this short tutorial, the Project Generator has been designed to help you build IRIS-Net applications in a much faster, smarter way. You may still want to customise your projects using IRIS-Net in the usual way but by starting off with the Project Generator to give you the basics you now have at your disposal a great time saving tool. What may have taken hours before can now be accomplished in just a few minutes.

We hope you enjoy using it!