

Webinar: Choosing the Right Cinema Amplifier

1) How difficult is it to program the DSP functions on the DPA 4.2?

Software called Amplifier Navigator can be downloaded here:

<https://www.qsc.com/index.php?id=633> Each DPA amp connects via USB to your laptop. It is certainly easier than configuring the XC-3 crossover modules for the ISA amps by installing resistor packs and setting DIP switches.

The DPAQ amps are easily configured over the Q-LAN network and that is easier and more convenient. It is also easier to use the DPM (Digital Processor/Monitor/Crossover) and DCM (Digital Cinema Monitor) to handle all speaker configuration for DataPort equipped DCA amps with a single USB connection.

2) Can we use DPM 100 with network amplifiers?

The DPM Digital Processor/Monitor is designed to work with DataPort equipped amplifiers so, the DCA Series is the best choice. With DataPort control and monitoring and the DPM Director app, the system can be controlled over a Wi-Fi network. Download the free DPM Manager here: <https://www.qsc.com/index.php?id=632> and get the DPM Director app free from the App Store.

3) Are the DPA-Q amplifiers ever going to be able to handle 1.6-ohms like the DCA-1222?

DPAQ amplifiers cannot handle 1.6 ohm loads on a single channel. You could parallel two channels for improved low impedance performance but the better option might be to leave the amps in single channel mode and just use two channels for splitting 5 surrounds with 2 on one channel and 3 on another. The DPAQ 8-channel amplifiers are very cost effective and using a pair of them for 7.1 systems provides “extra” channels for surround speakers. Check out this blog post for a great way to power large 7.1 systems with many surround speakers.

<https://blogs.qsc.com/cinema/2020/04/23/an-inside-look-at-dpa-q/>

4) Can a DCIO be used without a Core?

The DCIO and DCIO-H cannot be used without a Q-SYS Core. They are Q-SYS I/O peripherals and are not designed to be used in a stand-alone mode. The DCIO may be used with a single Core for separate systems in each room or multiple DCIO's can be used for many screens on a single or redundant pair of Cores.

5) Are there plans for a Core with the I/O of the DCIO-H so we could have 1 box to run the whole room?

There are no current plans to include a Core processor and DCIO into the same chassis. The Q-SYS Core processor is based on Intel technology. As Intel innovates at a very fast rate, we want to be able to take advantage of performance and cost improvements without being tied to a complete re-design of the more stable input and output requirements of the DCIO. We can quickly take advantage of Intel advances by keeping Core processor technology separate from the DCIO and we can offer more flexible configuration options. High power Intel processors can be used for many DCIO's or smaller processors can be used with one per auditorium. Keeping the DCIO as a Q-SYS peripheral keeps the systems flexible and reduces obsolescence.