

**pharos**  
communications limited

# pharos whitepaper

PHWP-2002.01\_Overview\_of\_Pharos\_Pilot\_in\_SD-HD\_Studios.docx

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## 1 System details

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This document outlines a typical Pharos configuration for broadcast studios who wish to have SD and HD modes of operation, with options for tweaking settings and quickly aligning the studio in either SD or HD mode.

This document outlines a configuration rather than an exhaustive list of the product features. The Pilot platform is very flexible and the features in this document are the tip of the iceberg in terms of its capabilities.

The system's main focus is:

- Router control,
- Modular products control
- Preset management
- Multiple command loading.

Other capabilities include

- Having 5.1 audio on SD
- Stereo audio on HD
- Router communications status on the Interface (loss of comms alarm)
- "Reset this {selected} card" button
- Prime button to enable the router take button.

The system has two Pharos Control Platforms running all backend software, including the device drivers. The system runs over 100BaseT to three Windows XP SP2 workstations. From an operators point of view these workstations are identical although from the systems point of view they are separate.

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### 1.1 Routing

The 1000+ router sources and destinations are arranged onto two sets of tabbed pages, one for sources and one for destinations. Between the two page sets is the take keypad. Once the destination and source selection has been made, pressing the take button makes the route.

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### 1.2 Router presets

Each destination tab has a preset component. This preset component has a list of the destinations it will record. Operators setup the destinations with the sources for a particular session or program, and then save that combination of sources as a preset for recall on the destinations later. For monitor wall destinations, this effectively results in Pharos allowing managing the monitor stack as well.

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## 1.3 Device control

The customer selected the controls of the available device they wanted to control on a day to day basis. Using the Pharos designer, a control panel was made with these controls, laid out in an operationally meaningful way. This included grouping controls into tabbed pages.

The user selects the device to control from the keypad on the top of the panel. Each button is a device, and the button goes yellow when that device is selected.

Sliders, Radio buttons and other controls can be used depending on the logic appropriate for a particular control.

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## 1.4 Device presets

Each control panel has a preset component, with each preset component having list of the control the save. In this case all the controls on the panel are in the preset template file, so all the controls will be saved or recalled.

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## 2 Usage

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### 2.1 Presets

When saving presets these are invariable because of a HD or SD requirement for a show that they want to reuse. All the presets are thus labelled 'DefaultHD' or 'DefaultSD'. The name entered actually becomes the filename of the saved settings. You can have multiple 'DefaultSD' files because they are separated into folders by device type i,e ..\routerVTR\  
..\routerMonWall\, ..\modularARC\ etc.

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### 2.2 Defaults and Line up

While the engineers use the main device control panels to fine tune the setting (then save them), the operators simply have a start page called 'Defaults'

The defaults page has four buttons:

- HD
- SD
- Stereo
- 5.1

The load preset command has two main components, the preset file to load and the machine number of the card or device on which to load it.

On the buttons above, each button contains a long list of load preset commands; for the SD and Stereo buttons these are the 'DefaultSD' and for the HD and 5.1 buttons it is 'DefaultHD'. Each load preset command loads it onto a different device. This effectively results in the DefaultSD/HD settings being deployed across hundreds of cards in a matter of seconds.