

## What's Multi-Room Audio All About?

The concept behind multi-room, multi-source music is the ability to listen to different music in different areas at different volumes. The number of areas will vary dramatically depending upon the size of each installation. A system that requires different music sources to be sent to different zones will need a matrix switcher, which co-ordinates what source is routed to each zone. A zone however, may consist of more than one amplifier, like in a bedroom and ensuite where the same music would be played into the two areas but individual volume control is required. This would be configured as a single zone but with two amplifiers, with each of the amplifiers having individual control. Each matrix switcher can support up to eight zones, with the ability to cascade up to three matrix switchers offering as many as 24 zones.



## Flexible Wiring Topology

A flexible wiring topology offers the installer the ability to place amplifiers in either a central location (next to the main entertainment equipment) or in a remote location (in the field near the speakers) or even a combination of both. Each amplifier only requires the digital feed cable from the matrix switcher to provide power for the amplifier as well as the audio signal and the reticulated infrared signal. Amplifiers also require a C-Bus

connection for control. The digital cable can run up to 45 metres from the matrix switcher to an amplifier and can be cascaded to additional amplifiers if there is more than one per zone. The ability to connect local power supplies to amplifiers is also possible if a higher volume output is required.

