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Short form

Hushbutton Solves Age-Old Conference Table Problem

Users now control their own microphones

User control of individual table microphones is now possible with Harry Joseph and Associates' new Hushbutton, a translucent plastic ring containing LEDs and microswitches that fits around table mics made by Audio-Technica, beyerdynamic, Clock Audio, Crown and others.

Depending on control system programming, each Hushbutton can be used to mute just its own mic, all mics or any desired combination. 'With the proper system support it'll order sushi!' according to Harry Joseph, President of HJA, who loves sushi.

Users can easily understand (for instance) that one click mutes their own mic and two clicks mute all mics. To escape the muted state, one click can unmute just that mic and two clicks unmute all the mics.

And since each mic displays its status with unambiguous color, each user is fully aware of his/her mic's status, with confusion and damaging slips of the tongue far less likely.

Typical color meanings: white (unlit) for OFF, green for ON and red for MUTED.

Hushbutton is not an audio device, though it wraps around a microphone. It simply displays (via LEDs) and controls (via microswitch contact closures), but that's a lot. 'It's a lighted switch with a mission,' Joseph says.

An eight-Hushbutton interface board mounted under the conference table connects to them with standard RJ-12 cables. An interface card from the control system vendor of choice (AMX or Crestron, for instance) mounts on the interface board and connects to the system controller.

Hushbutton requires the installation skills of an AV integrator and the software know-how of a skilled programmer. As such, it is sold only to integrators or contractors, who set pricing, not to end-users. Inquiries from end-users are referred to the customer's existing vendor or nearby integrators.

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For more information and color photos visit our website, www.hja.com. Or contact Harry Joseph, 212-244-5900, harry@hja.com.

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EDITORS:

Both versions of this release (this is the short one) are available on our website, at www.hja.com/words, along with high-resolution (about 300k each file) uncropped 4:3 aspect-ratio JPEG versions of the red, green and white photos on the postcard. Just drag each image onto your desktop.

If you wish to take your own photos we can deliver a demonstration unit for that purpose.