Manual for

Q-lite

by ODA

Purpose:
To remotely electrically fire 24 to 288 cues, singly or multi-cue.

Introduction:

We like to call Q-lite a 'virtual switchbox'. A combination of manual electrical switching with today's digital technology. A simple graphic page emulating 48 switches combined with the 'point 'n click' found on many of today's software.

Simplicity was stressed in the design of Q-lite. Upon startup, its single page of graphics details the Slaves present and the continuity of each cue. Compatability with our Sequencer+ / Q-fire Slaves allows for future growth into our PRO software - Q-fire, allowing the user to choreograph, script and fire pyromusicals.

Advantages:

1. One thin cable from laptop to Slave. Or go wireless with our Radio/Modem.
2. Easily expandable - 24 cues to 288 cues.
3. Either 'point 'n click' to fire or select cues and fire.
4. Slave and cue testing done immediately upon startup.
5. Compatability - Slaves may be used with our Sequencer+ or with our Q-fire Firing System.
6. Hardware Arming plus Software Arming.
7. Re-settable elapsed time indicator.

Requirements:

1. Laptop with serial port - running Windows 98 or above. Laptop need not be the fastest or greatest, almost all will run Q-lite.
2. RS-232 to RS-485 converter. Available from ODA for $100.00.
3. Uses up to twelve Sequencer+ / Q-fire Slaves.
4. Required amount of 12 position Slats and associated cables.

Operation:

Clicking on the Q-lite icon on the desktop will bring up the logon screen, this is where the serial port must be assigned. That's it.
The following screen is the 'virtual switchbox':

The above screen shows that there are only two Slaves present (Slave 1 and Slave 2) - left window. To the right are two windows depicting the cues on those two Slaves. Green indicates there is continuity on that cue - if they were gray, it would indicate nothing connected. Red cues indicate they have been selected and when the 'Fire' button is clicked on, all three would fire.
Black indicates those cues have been fired.

To the right of each cue is a small text area, for the user to add a description. This may then be saved (pressing the 'Save button') for future use. No firing will occur unless the Slaves and the software are armed. Network and continuity testing should be done with both the Slaves and software in the disarmed mode.

Note: The above screen will only be seen if there are slaves attached.

Firing single cues is as simple as pointing to it (it will highlight) and pressing the left mouse button - LMB. Multi fire is accomplished by pointing to the cue and pressing the right mouse button - RMB - this selects the cue (pointing to the same cue and pressing the RMB again will deselect it), many cues may be selected this way. And then pressing the 'Fire' button, all would fire.

Another feature found on Q-lite is to highlight the cue with the RMB, and press the 'spacebar' on the keyboard. This will fire that cue. But more importantly is if you press the 'spacebar' again it will fire the next sequential cue, etc. This is convenient for firing without having to point 'n click.

The left most window will show up to 12 Slaves if they are present. Clicking on any of them will swap it with the last active Slave. (The top small area indicating Slave # will be blue if active). When all of the cues on a Slave have been fired, that Slave (left hand window) will turn dark gray.

As soon as the 'ARM' button is pressed, an elapsed time clock will appear. It will continue to time the event. Point 'n click on the time and it will reset to zero - and restart.

The best way to learn Q-lite is to use Q-lite. Hook up a couple of Slaves and use small light bulbs as cues. Christmas tree bulbs work well with 12 volts and are inexpensive. Within minutes you will have mastered Q-lite.

We believe this system to be user friendly - very easy to use, however, feel free to contact us with any questions. Please call @ 6:00 PM EST. 863-386-4243 or email octavioag@comcast.net

Also please visit our web site to view all of our products: www.electricalfiringsystems.com

Sequencer+ Slave

The Slave is housed in a 8.7"X7.45"X3.9" polypro enclosure and also contains a microcontroller. It uses external power for both control as well as firing current. On the topside are two DB15 connectors. One of these connectors is labeled 1 thru 12 and the other 13 thru 24, to connect by cables to respective 12 position slats. Also there are 4 green LED's. Also on the topside located left to right: First is the On/Off switch which supplies the power for control. Next is the keyed 'ARM' switch with respective LED. NOTE: the Slave will not fire any device until it is 'ARMED'. There are also two XLR style connectors, one labeled 'INPUT' and the other labeled 'OUTPUT'. The Slave(s) must be addressed by means of an internal DIP switch. Refer to page 9 for DIP switch settings.

Slave #	Dip Switch	Slave #	Dip Switch
1	10000000	33	10000100
2	01000000	34	01000100
3	11000000	35	11000100
4	00100000	36	00100100
5	10100000	37	10100100
6	01100000	38	01100100
7	11100000	39	11100100
8	00010000	40	00010100
9	10010000	41	10010100
10	01010000	42	01010100
11	11010000	43	11010100
12	00110000	44	00110100
13	10110000	45	10110100
14	01110000	46	01110100
15	11110000	47	11110100
16	00001000	48	00001100
17	10001000	49	10001100
18	01001000	50	01001100
19	11001000	51	11001100
20	00101000	52	00101100
21	10101000	53	10101100
22	01101000	54	01101100
23	11101000	55	11101100
24	00011000	56	00011100
25	10011000	57	10011100
26	01011000	58	01011100
27	11011000	59	11011100

28	00111000	60	00111100
29	10111000	61	10111100
30	01111000	62	01111100
31	11111000	63	11111100
32	00000100		

We recommend learning and testing the system using light bulbs as cues. The least expensive bulbs we have found are the Christmas Tree variety, you can get 100 bulbs for a couple of dollars. However, use only 12 volts for the firing or they won't last long.

On page 11 you will find the wiring diagram for the cables.

Thank you for your purchase of the Sequencer+ firing system.