APPLICATION PROGRAM INTERFACE GUIDE

VWS-2001, VWS-2002

VWS-2001
VWS-2002
API GUIDE

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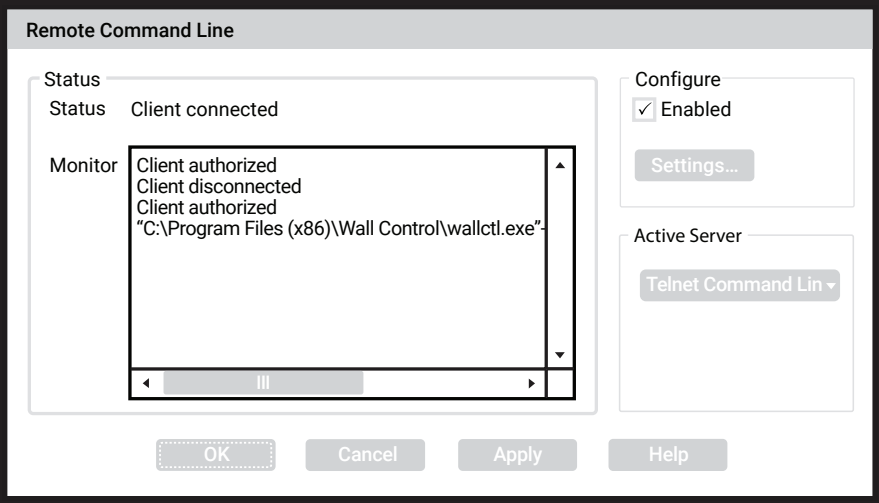

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 API PROGRAMS

The following Application Program Interface (API) programs are covered in this manual.

TABLE 1-1. API PROGRAMS

CATEGORY	API APPLICATION
Layouts	WALLCTL.EXE
IP Video	IPCAMCMD.EXE
Video Inputs	RGBXCMD.EXE
Applications	APPCMD.EXE
On-Screen Display	OSD
Audio	RGBXCMD.EXE

1.2 NOMENCLATURE

The following nomenclature is used in this manual:

Italic - Information that you must supply.

Bold - Elements that you must type exactly as shown.

Ellipsis (...) - Parameter that can be repeated several times in a command line.

Between brackets ([]) - Optional items.

Between braces ({}) - Set of choices (separated by I) from which you must choose only one.

`Courier font` - Code or program output.

CHAPTER 2: LAYOUTS

The Layouts (wallctl.exe) application program interface (API) allows you to open layout files.

The application program interface (API) can be accessed in a number of ways:

- From a shortcut specifying **wallctl.exe** as the target followed by the command line options separated by spaces.
- From a command prompt by specifying the full path of wallctl.exe or by having the folder where wallctl.exe was installed on the path.
- From a batch file. The same rules as command prompt apply.
- From the COM Port Command Line Interpreter. The same rules as command prompt apply.

2.1 EXAMPLE USAGE

- Open the Layout file "c:\layouts\layout.lay" and exit without showing the Layouts (wallctl.exe) application window.

  "C:\Program Files (x86)\Wall Control\wallctl.exe" -Layout="c:\layouts\layout.lay" -exit

- Connect to a computer named VideoWall and close all existing windows.

  "C:\Program Files (x86)\Wall Control\wallctl.exe" -Machine=VideoWall -CloseWindows=Yes

- Connect to a computer named VideoWall without showing the Layouts application window and save the configuration to a layout file named "c:\layouts\snapshot.lay".

  "C:\Program Files (x86)\Wall Control\wallctl.exe" -Machine=VideoWall -Save="c:\layouts\snapshot.lay" -exit

2.2 COMMANDS

-Layout=*layout file*

- This application program argument specifies the layout file to be loaded.
- If the layout file name or path contains spaces. then enclose the path in quotes, for example:

-layout="C:\Documents and Settings\user\Desktop\file.lay"

- layout is not compatible with -machine.

-Exit

- When used with the -layout option, -Exit will cause the Layouts (wallctl.exe) application to load the layout file without the application window being displayed and to terminate once the layout file has been loaded.
- Use this option to open a layout file without displaying the Layouts application.
- When -Exit is specified on the command line, an exit code is returned.

-Quiet

- Used in conjunction with -Exit to suppress user interface dialog boxes.

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-CloseWindows={**Yes**|**No**}

- Use `-CloseWindows=Yes` to close existing windows.
- Use `-CloseWindows=No` to keep existing windows open.
- When the -layout command line option is specified, the default value for -CloseWindows is Yes.
- When the -machine command line option is specified, the default value for -CloseWindows is No.

-ShowState={**Minimised**|**Restored**|**Maximised**}

- Controls the appearance of the Layouts (wallctl.exe) application window.

-Window=[*top*],[*left*],[*width*],[*height*]

- This option enables the Layouts (wallctl.exe) application window to be positioned.
- If a number is left out of the list, then the value saved when the application was last terminated is used.
- To change the position of the window without changing the size:

  `-window=100,200`
- To change the size of the window without changing the position:

  `-window=,,800,600`

-AlwaysOnTop={**True**|**False**}

- This sets the Always on Top state of the Layouts (wallctl.exe) application window.
- To enable the window to behave normally, the value should be set to false.
- To force the window to be displayed on top of all other normal windows, the value should be set to true.
- 1 or on can be substituted for true.
- 0 (zero) or off can be substituted for false.

-Save= *Layout file*

- Allows the saving of a layout file from the command line. It's not compatible with the –layout or –closewindows options but can be used with –exit

2.3 NETWORKING OPTIONS

To control a window on a machine other than the one you are working on, you will need some of the following options:

-Machine={*machine name*|*IP address*}

Use this option to specify the machine to connect to.

- If the machine name contains spaces, then enclose the namein quotes, for example:

  -machine="My Computer"
- You can also specify an IP address, for example:

  -machine=10.0.0.21
- -machine is not compatible with -layout.

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If the server requires a User Name and Password the following options should be used:

-UserName=*user name*

-Password=*password*

If the machine is not participating in a domain, the account must be on the machine you are connecting to.

If the machine is participating in a domain, you have a choice:

- The account can be on the machine you are connecting to.
- It can be an account on the domain.

If the account is on the domain, the domain name must be specified with the following option:

-Domain=*domain name*

-Port=*port number*

You need to specify the port if you are attempting to connect to another machine and wallctl.exe has been configured to listen on a port other than the default port.

A port number is any integer between 1 and 65535.

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The application program interface (API) allows you to create, modify or close Video Input windows.

The application program interface (API) can be accessed in a number of ways:

- From a shortcut specifying RGBXCMD.EXE as the target followed by the command line options separated by spaces.
- From a command prompt by specifying the full path of RGBXCMD.COM or by having the folder where the Video Input (RGBXCMD.EXE) software was installed on the path.
- From a batch file. The same rules as command prompt apply.

-ID=*number*

- When a window is created, it can be allocated an ID. To modify or close a window, specify its ID so the correct window is modified or closed.
- An ID is any integer between 1 and 65535. The ID is specific to Video Input windows.

-Close

- If this command line option is specified with an ID, the window with that ID is closed.

-ShowState={**Minimised**|**Restored**|**Maximised**|**Show**|**Hide**}

- Sets the show state of the window.
- To activate a window use **Restored**.

-AlwaysOnTop={**On**|**Off**}

-AspectRatio=[{**On**|**Off**|**Source**}],[*width*],[*height*]

- Switch the maintain aspect ratio feature on or off and specify the ratio of the width and height of the window.
- If Source is specified, the width and height of the source are used as the aspect ratio.
- All the values are optional but the commas must be used.

-Caption=

- Set the caption of the window. To include spaces, enclose the string in double quotes (").

-ShowFrameRate={**On**|**Off**}

- Display or remove the current frame rate in the title bar.

-ShowMenuBar={**On**|**Off**}

- Use to specify if the menu bar is to be displayed.

-Window=[*top*],[*left*],[*width*],[*height*]

- Change the position and size of the window.
- All the values are optional, but the commas must be used.

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-WindowStyle={**BorderAndTitleBar**|**BorderOnly**|**NoBorderOrTitleBar**}

-ExcludeBorders={**On**|**Off**}

-DisplayMessageAfter=*time in milliseconds*

-CaptureFormat={**Automatic**|**5-5-5**|**5-6-5**|**8-8-8**}

-TransferData={**ViaSystemMemory**|**DirectToGraphicsCard**}

-Scaling={**Fast**|**Slow**}

-ActiveCaptureRate=*percentage*

- Select one of the following percentages: 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 33, 50 or 100. If you use a number that is not in the list, it will be rounded down to the closest number lower in the list.

-InactiveCaptureRate=*percentage*

- Select one of the following percentages: 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 33, 50, 100. If you use a number that is not in the list, it will be rounded down to the closest number lower in the list.

-DifferentCaptureRate={**On**|**Off**}

-Input=*input number*

-Reset

- Discards the capture settings for the mode the Video Input source is currently generating.

-ShareCaptureSettings={**On**|**Off**}

- With ShareCaptureSettings switched on, the changes made to the capture settings controls are shared with other Video Input windows. The capture settings are saved automatically so that the next time a Video Input window is created, the capture settings can be used.
- With ShareCaptureSettings switched off, the changes made to the capture settings controls are applied to this Video Input window only.
- When switching ShareCaptureSettings on, the capture settings for the Video Input window will be discarded.
- By default, ShareCaptureSettings is switched on.

-Cropping=[{**On**|**Off**}],[*top*],[*left*],[*width*],[*height*]

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-Deinterlace={Weave|Bob|Field0|Field1}

- Select Weave for sources with little or no motion.
- Select Bob for sources displaying motion.
- Select Field for a single field to be displayed.

The following command line options allow changes to the appearance of the Video Input source. The numbers correspond to the values displayed on the Input Settings sheet.

-CaptureWidth=*number*

-CaptureHeight=*number*

-HorizontalPosition=*number*

-HorizontalSize=*number*

-Phase=*number*

-VerticalPosition=*number*

-BlackLevel=*number*

-Brightness=*number*

-Contrast=*number*

-Saturation=*number*

-Hue=*number*

-Rotation={0|90|180|270}

- Sets the orientation for the current input signal.

-Information

- Creates a text file called information.ini in the current directory. The file contains details of the minimum and maximum values and supported features that can be used with the command line.

The information.ini file is over written every time the –information is used.

-CursorStyle=*Show*

- Always shows the cursor within the client area of the window

-CursorStyle=*Hide*

- Always hide the cursor within the client area of the window

-CursorStyle=*HideWhenActive*

- Only hide the cursor within the client area of the window when the window is the active window on the desktop.

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NETWORKING OPTIONS

To control a window on a machine other than the one you are working on, you will need some of the following options:

-Machine={*machine name*|*IP address*}

Use this option to specify the machine to connect to.

-Port=*port number*

You need specify the port if you are attempting to control a window on another machine and the Video Input server has been configured to listen on a port other than the default port 1049.

A port number is any integer between 1 and 65535.

If the server requires a User Name and Password, the following options should be used:

-UserName=*user name*

-Password=*password*

If the machine is not participating in a domain, the account must be on the machine you are connecting to.

If the machine is participating in a domain, you have a choice:

- The account can be on the machine you are connecting to.
- It can be an account on the domain.

If the account is on the domain, the domain name must be specified with the following option:

-Domain=*domain name*

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The application program interface (API) allows you to create, modify or close Video windows.

The application program interface (API) can be accessed in a number of ways:

- From a shortcut specifying IPCAMCMD.EXE as the target followed by the command line options separated by spaces.
- From a command prompt by specifying the full path of IPCAMCMD.COM or by having the folder where the Video software was installed on the path.
- From a batch file. The same rules as command prompt apply.

-ID=*number*

- When a window is created it can be allocated an ID. To modify or close a window, specify its ID so the correct window is modified or closed.
- An ID is any integer between 1 and 65535. The ID is specific to Video windows.

-Input=*camera name*

- Specifies the name of a camera. This camera must already have been configured.

-Close

- If this command line option is specified with an ID, the window with that ID is closed.

-ShowState={**Minimised**|**Restored**|**Maximised**|**Show**|**Hide**}

- Sets the show state of the window.
- To activate a window use **Restored**.

-AlwaysOnTop={**On**|**Off**}

-AspectRatio=[{**On**|**Off**|],[*width*],[*height*]

- Switch the maintain aspect ratio feature on or off and specify the ratio of the width and height of the window.
- All the values are optional, but the commas must be used.

-Caption=

- Set the caption of the window. To include spaces, enclose the string in double quotes (").

-ShowFrameRate={**On**|**Off**}

- Display or remove the current frame rate in the title bar.

-ShowMenuBar={**On**|**Off**}

- Use to specify if the menu bar is to be displayed.

-Window=[*top*],[*left*],[*width*],[*height*]

- Change the position and size of the window.
- All the values are optional but the commas must be used.

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-WindowStyle={**BorderAndTitleBar**|**BorderOnly**|**NoBorderOrTitleBar**}

The following command line options allow changes to the appearance of the Video source. The numbers correspond to the values displayed on the Input Settings sheet.

NETWORKING OPTIONS

To control a window on a machine other than the one you are working on, you will need some of the following options:

-Machine={*machine name*|*IP address*}

Use this option to specify the machine to connect to.

-Port=*port number*

You need to specify the port if you are attempting to control a window on another machine and the server has been configured to listen on a port other than the default port 1049.

A port number is any integer between 1 and 65535.

If the server requires a User Name and Password, the following options should be used:

-UserName=*user name*

-Password=*password*

If the machine is not participating in a domain, the account must be on the machine you are connecting to.

If the machine is participating in a domain you have a choice:

- The account can be on the machine you are connecting to.
- It can be an account on the domain.

If the account is on the domain, the domain name must be specified with the following option:

-Domain=*domain name*

CHAPTER 5: APPLICATIONS

The application progam interface (API) allows you to create, modify or close Application windows, it can be accessed in a number of ways:

- From a shortcut specifying APPCMD.EXE as the target followed by the application program interface (API) options separated by spaces.
- From a command prompt by specifying the full path of APPCMD.COM or by having the folder where the VWS-2001 or VWS-2002 software was installed on the path.
- From a batch file. The same rules as command prompt apply.

5.1 NON-CONFIGURED APPLICATIONS

The application program interface (API) can be used to control windows for third-party applications that have not been specifically configured in VWS-2001 or VWS-2002. See Starting Non-Configured Applications in Section 5.3.

5.2 CONFIGURED APPLICATIONS

An abbreviated version of the application program interface (API) is available for starting applications that are already configured in VWS-2001 or VWS-2002 . See Starting Configured Applications below. This includes pre-supported applications automatically configured during VWS-2001 or VWS-2002 installation and also custom applications added by the user after installation. See Configuring Applications in VWS-2001 or VWS-2002.

Example Usage – Configured Applications

- Open the Internet Explorer application 'iexplore.exe with the configured input ID 1.

  "C:\Program Files (x86)\Wall Control\appcmd.exe" -AppName="Internet Explorer" -Input="Search" -ID=1

- Dynamically switch input for an Internet Explorer window with the ID of 1.

  "C:\Program Files (x86)\Wall Control\appcmd.exe" -ID=1 -Input="News"

Example Usage – Non-Configured Applications

- Open the application 'notepad.exe' to display the file "c:\info.txt".

  "C:\Program Files (x86)\Wall Control\appcmd.exe" -AppName="notepad.exe" -CmdArgs="c:\info.txt"

- Open the Internet Explorer application 'iexplore.exe'with the URL "http://www.google.com" and assign the ID 1.

  "C:\Program Files (x86)\Wall Control\appcmd.exe" -AppName="C:\Program Files\Internet Explorer\iexplore.exe" -CmdArgs="-nomerge http://www.google.com" -ID=1

- Dynamically switch inputs for an Internet Explorer window with the ID of 1.

  "C:\program files (x86)\Wall Control\appcmd.exe" -ID =1 -CmdArgs="http://www.google.com/news"

- Move the application window with the ID 1 to the origin of the desktop without changing its size.

  "C:\Program Files (x86)\Wall Control\appcmd.exe" -ID=1 –Window=0,0,,

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- Close the application with the ID 1.

  "C:\Program Files (x86)\Wall Control\appcmd.exe" -ID=1 -Close

-ID=*number*

- When a window is created, it can be allocated an ID. To modify or close a window, specify its ID so the correct window is modified or closed.
- An ID is any integer between 1 and 65535. The ID is specific to windows.

-Close

- If this command line option is specified with an ID, the window with that ID is closed.

-ShowState={**Minimised**|**Restored**|**Maximised**|**Show**|**Hide**}

- Sets the show state of the window.
- To activate a window use Restored.

-AlwaysOnTop={**On**|**Off**}

-ShowMenuBar={**On**|**Off**}

- Use to specify if the menu bar is to be displayed.

-Window=[*top*],[*left*],[*width*],[*height*]

- Change the position and size of the window.
- All the values are optional but the commas must be used.

-WindowStyle={**BorderAndTitleBar**|**BorderOnly**|**NoBorderOrTitleBar**}

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5.3 STARTING NON-CONFIGURED APPLICATIONS

A non-configured application involves any application that has not been added to VWS-2001 or VWS-2002's list of configured applications: See Configured Applications.

-AppName=*"application name"*

- The full path of the application must be specified (eg. "C:\Program Files\Internet Explorer\iexplore.exe")

-CmdArgs=*"Command line arguments"*

- Specifies optional parameters for the application. Many applications accept the name of a file to be opened. For details of command line arguments, refer to your application documentation.
- **-CmdArgs** can only be used in conjunction with **-AppName** for non-configured applications. If **-AppName** contains the name of a pre-configured or custom application then **-Input** should be used instead.

-StartDir=*"Start in folder"*

- The Start in folder is the folder in which the application is run. If a Start in folder is not specified, the application will run in the folder in which it resides.
- **-StartDir** can only be used with **-AppName**.
- **-StartDir** can only be used for non-configured applications.

When specifying strings that contain the quote " character (eg. around path names that contain spaces), character delimitation must be used to mark the inner quotation characters. An example of this usage would involve specifying the pathname "C:\My Pictures\picture.jpg" in an application specific argument passed in the '**-CmdArgs**' command argument as shown below. Please note the additional \ character preceding the quotation character "

-CmdArgs="-File=\"C:\My Pictures\picture.jpg\""

5.4 STARTING CONFIGURED APPLICATIONS

Configured applications include pre-supported applications automatically added during VWS-2001 or VWS-2002 installation and custom applications added by the user after installation: See Configure Applications.

-AppName=*"application name"*

- The name of a pre-configured or custom configured application in VWS-2001 or VWS-2002 must be specified (eg. "DGCPlay").

-Input=*"input name"*

- The input name must specify the name of an input that has been configured for the application (eg. "FilmClip1).

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5.5 NETWORKING OPTIONS

To control a window on a machine other than the one you are working on, you will need some of the following options:

-Machine={*machine name*|*IP address*}

- Use this option to specify the machine to connect to.

-Port=*"port number"*

- You need specify the port if you are attempting to control a window on another machine and the Application server has been configured to listen on a port other than the default port 1049.
- A port number is any integer between 1 and 65535.

If the server requires a User Name and Password, the following options should be used:

-UserName=*"user name"*

-Password=*"password"*

If the machine is not participating in a domain, the account must be on the machine you are connecting to.

If the machine is participating in a domain, you have a choice:

- The account can be on the machine you are connecting to.
- It can be an account on the domain.

If the account is on the domain, the domain name must be specified with the following option:

-Domain=*"domain name"*

5.6 DYNAMICALLY SWITCHING INPUTS FOR CONFIGURED APPLICATIONS

The **-Input** command can be used to change the input displayed in a window for a configured application without closing and re-opening either the window or the application. This is an application specific feature that requires the window to be in a visible state and not obstructed by other windows on the desktop.

-Input=*"input name"*

- The input name must specify the name of an input that has been configured for the application that owns the window.
- The **-Input** switch must be used with the **-ID** switch to specify the target window.

Example of dynamically switching the input for an Internet Explorer window with the ID of 1:

"C:\Program Files (x86)\Wall Control\appcmd.exe" -ID=1 -Input="News"

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5.7 DYNAMICALLY SWITCHING INPUTS FOR NON-CONFIGURED APPLICATIONS

-CmdArgs can be used to change the open file/URL displayed in a window for a non configured application without closing and re-opening either the window or the application. This is an application specific feature that requires the window to be in a visible state and not obstructed by other windows on the desktop.

-CmdArgs=*"File pathname or URL"*

- The value in **-CmdArgs** must specify the full pathname or URL.
- **-CmdArgs** must be used with the **-ID** command to specify the target window.
- The value in **-CmdArgs** should only include the pathname/URL and should not include any application specific commands that were used to start the application.

Example of dynamically switching inputs for an Internet Explorer window with the ID of 1:

"C:\program files (x86)\Wall Control\appcmd.exe" -ID =1 -CmdArgs="http://www.google.com/news"

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COMMANDS

-OSDType={*Disabled*|*SimpleText*}

- Switches the OSD on or off

-OSDText=

- Specifies the on screen display text.
- If the text includes spaces, the text must be enclosed in double quotes.
- Line breaks are indicated by the characters \n. If you wish to include a \ in the text, it must be preceded by a \.

For example -OSDText="The quick\nbrown fox\njumps over\nthe lazy dog." Gives the on screen display:

The quick

brown fox

jumps over

the lazy dog

-OSDScaling={*FixedSize*|*ScaleWithWindow*}

- Allows you to specify how the OSD is scaled. When FixedSize is specified, the OSD is displayed at the same size regardless of the size of the window. When ScaleWithWindow is specified, the OSD is scaled up or down according to the size of the window.

-OSDFontName=*font name*

- Specifies the name of the font to be used for OSD text. If the font name includes spaces, the name must be enclosed in double quotes.

-OSDFontSize=*number*

- Specifies the point size of the font to be used for OSD text.

-OSDFontStyle={**Regular**|**Bold**}

-OSDFontItalic={**On**|**Off**}

-OSDFontStrikeout={**On**|**Off**}

-OSDFontUnderline={**On**|**Off**}

-OSDFontColour=*red*,*green*,*blue*

- Specifies the color of the text in red, green and blue components. Each of the components is a number from 0 to 255.

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-OSDBackground={**Transparent**|**Opaque**}

- When Transparent is specified, the Vision capture in the area behind the text is visible.
- When Opaque is specified, the area behind the text is displayed in the color specified using the OSDBackgroundColour option.

-OSDBackgroundColour=*red*,*green*,*blue*

- When OSDBackground is set to Opaque, this option specifies the color displayed behind the text in red, green and blue components. Each of the components is a number from 0 to 255.

-OSDMargins=[*top*],[*left*],[*right*],[*bottom*]

- The margins define the area in which OSD is displayed.
- If ScaleWithWindow is specified, the margins are measured in pixels of the Vision source. If FixedSize is specified, the margins are measured in pixels of the interior of the Vision window.
- Any part of the OSD that falls outside the margins is not displayed.

-OSDTextWrap={*On*|*Off*}

- When text wrapping is switched on, if the text does not fit between the left and right margins, spaces between words are replaced with line breaks to produce shorter lines.
- When text wrapping is switched off, the text is displayed with the same spaces and line breaks as it has been entered.

-OSDHorizontalAlignment={*Left*|*Center*|*Right*}

- If you specify Left, the left edge of the OSD will be positioned against the left margin and each of the individual lines will be left aligned.
- If you specify Center, the center of the OSD will be positioned half way between the left and right margins and each of the individual lines will be centred.
- If you specify Right, the right edge of the OSD will be positioned against the right margin and each of the individual lines will be right aligned.

-OSDVerticalAlignment={*Top*|*Center*|*Bottom*}

- If you specify Top, the top edge of the OSD will be displayed against the top margin.
- If you specify Center, the center of the OSD will be positioned half way between the top and bottom margins.
- If you specify Bottom, the bottom edge of the OSD will be displayed against the bottom margin.

CHAPTER 7: AUDIO

The Command Line Interface controls analog, digital and line out audio streams.

The command line interface can be accessed in a number of ways:

- From a shortcut specifying RGBXCMD.EXE as the target followed by the command line options separated by spaces.
- From a command prompt by specifying the full path of RGBXCMD.COM or by having the folder where the Vision software was installed on the path.
- From a batch file. The same rules as command prompt apply.

COMMANDS

-AudioEnable={On|Off}

- Enable or disable for the specified window.

-AudioFocusMute={On|Off}

- Use to mute audio for the specified window unless it has focus.

-AudioLineOutMute={On|Off}

- Mute line out in hardware.

-AudioLineOutGain=gain

- Specify the numeric gain value to be applied to the line out.

-AudioLineOutSource={Digital|Analog}

- Set line out source to as digital or analog line out source .

-AudioDigitalMute={On|Off}

- Mute digital input in hardware.

-AudioDigitalPair={0|1|2|3}

- Select the stereo channel pair sampling for a digital input.

  0: 0-1

  1: 2-3

  2: 4-5

  3: 6-7

-AudioUnbalancedMute={On|Off}

- Mute unbalanced input in hardware.

-AudioUnbalancedGain= gain

- Specify the numeric gain to be applied to the unbalanced input.

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- AudioBalancedMute ={On|Off}

- Mute balanced input in hardware.

-AudioBalancedBoost={On|Off}

- Add a 20 dB boost to the balanced input.

-AudioBalancedGain= gain

- Specify the numeric gain to be applied to the balanced input.

-AudioADCMute={On|Off}

- Mute the output mixer in hardware.

- AudioADCGain= gain

- Specify the numeric gain to be applied to the output mixer.

CHAPTER 8: DISCLAIMER/TRADEMARKS

8.1 DISCLAIMER

Black Box Corporation shall not be liable for damages of any kind, including, but not limited to, punitive, consequential or cost of cover damages, resulting from any errors in the product information or specifications set forth in this document and Black Box Corporation may revise this document at any time without notice.

8.2 TRADEMARKS USED IN THIS MANUAL

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NOTES

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