

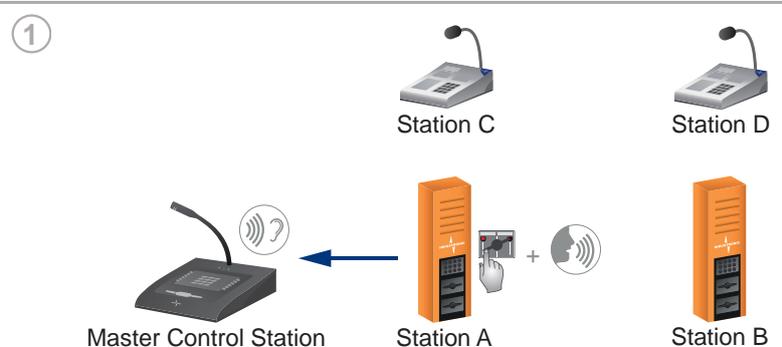
CONFERENCE SWITCHBOARD CALL

IN A NUTSHELL

Via a centralized master control station, a temporary conference channel is configured between several subscribers who cannot establish a direct voice connection among each other themselves.

Conferences are held in half-duplex mode. This means that the members can speak and listen alternately, but not simultaneously. One conference member speaks and all other members of the conference listen. Only after this member has finished his message and has released the Speak key, can another conference member answer.

ILLUSTRATION



Subscriber at Station A requests the master control station to configure a conference with Station B, C and D.

② Operator at master control station configures a conference channel as follows:

1 **Switchboard Conference**

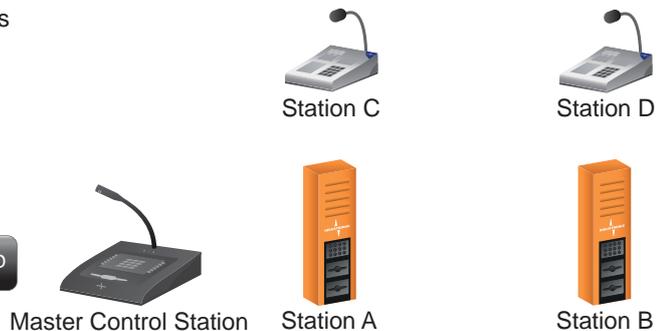
He presses the "Switchboard Conference" key.

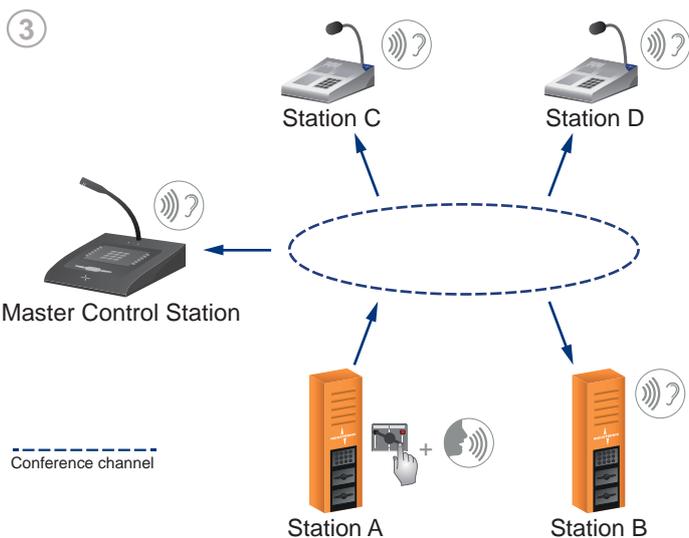
2 **Station A Station B Station C Station D**

He presses the "Station A", "Station B", "Station C" and "Station D" keys.

3 **Switchboard Conference**

Then, he presses the "Switchboard Conference" key again.





A temporary conference channel is configured. Operator at Station A presses his switchboard speak key, keeps it pressed and speaks into the microphone. As soon as he releases the key and thus terminates his message, another conference member can answer.

DESCRIPTION

The subscriber at Station A speaks to the subscriber at the master control station and requests a conference with Station B, C and D. The operator at the master control station presses the conference switchboard key first to configure a temporary connection. Then, the operator selects all stations which are supposed to participate in the conference by pressing the corresponding keys. Finally, he presses the conference switchboard key again. The temporary conference channel is now configured. The operator at the master control station logs into the conference channel by pressing a separate key and can speak into the conference via his speak key.

A short acoustic signal is played back at all stations selected and the temporary direct keys especially defined for temporary connections are activated (switchboard speak key). To speak into the conference, the operator at Station A now presses this switchboard speak key, keeps it pressed and speaks into the microphone (Push-to-Talk). All other conference members listen to the message.

As soon as the operator at Station A releases the key, another conference member can answer. To do this, he presses his switchboard speak key, keeps it pressed and speaks into the microphone. So the conference members can speak and listen alternately, but not simultaneously. One member speaks and the others listen.

The temporary conference channel is automatically deleted if the switchboard speak key is no longer pressed by any of the conference members within a specified time (e.g. 10 s). The corresponding switchboard speak key is then without function.

SIGNALING AT MASTER INTERCOM STATION

LEDs at the keys indicating the different connection states are helpful for the operator personnel. The following illustrations show the default signaling types at a master control station using the example of an IP desktop intercom station from INDUSTRONIC with display buttons.



Signaling	Description
Switchboard key is off.	Mode to configure the temporary conference channel is not active. Subscribers cannot be selected.



Switchboard key blinks at a frequency of 250:250 (250 ms on / 250 ms off).	Mode to configure the temporary conference channel is active. Subscribers can now be selected.
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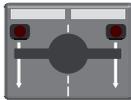
Selection key is off.	Subscriber for temporary conference is not selected.
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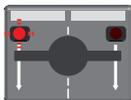
Selection key is illuminated.	Subscriber for temporary conference is selected. Pressing the key again removes the subscriber from the selection.
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SIGNALING AT PARTICIPATING INTERCOM STATIONS (SWITCHBOARD SPEAK KEY)

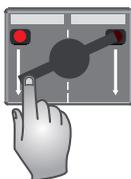
The following illustrations show the signaling at intercom stations participating in a switchboard connection using the example of momentary rocker switches which are installed in outdoor intercom stations from INDUSTRONIC.



Signaling	Description
LED is off.	No temporary connection configured. Key has no function.



LED blinks at a frequency of 100:900 (100 ms on / 900 ms off). Corresponding side of the rocker switch is not pressed.	Temporary connection configured. Key can now be used.
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LED is illuminated. Corresponding side of the rocker switch is pressed down.	Connection to target established. Operator can speak into the microphone. (Ready-to-talk signaling)
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APPLICATION EXAMPLES

The conference switchboard call is often used to configure temporary conferences for a subscriber who cannot initiate a conference himself. An intercom station in a control room is often deployed as centralized master control station which coordinates and configures the conference channel requested. The conference members can then talk to each other about operational processes or discuss the next work steps, for example.

CUSTOMER BENEFITS

- Any subscriber can hold a conference at any time
- A centralized master control station, which has a coordinating role, configures voice connections and thus authorizes subscribers to hold the requested conference
- Targeted distribution of information within a group
- Compact and easy-to-use intercom stations can be deployed as they only require one direct call key to the master control station and one speak key to communicate (switchboard speak key)

OPTIONS

Priorities

You can also assign an individual priority for a temporary conference configured by the master control station. This means that an active conference remains busy for other subscribers with the same or lower priority. The connection can only be interrupted by a voice connection or function with higher priority.

Dial Keypad

Conferences can also be configured by using a dial keypad. For each individual subscriber the operator enters the call number first and then presses the * key. Only after pressing the * key, the subscriber is selected. A dial keypad is often used when a master control station has only a few keys available or when these keys are already assigned to other functions.

Master Control Station as Conference Member

The master control station can either always participate in a conference automatically or log in / log out itself dynamically via a separate key.

Other options are available upon request.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

For a conference switchboard call at least one intercom station is required which takes on the role of the centralized master control station (e.g. an intercom station in a control room). This intercom station requires the following keys:

- 1 key to configure the conference channel and to activate the mode for selecting the subscribers (conference switchboard key)
- 1 key for each subscriber who is supposed to participate in the conference. If there are already direct call keys configured to reach the subscribers, you can use them.
- Optionally, you can also use a dial keypad to select the subscribers.

A master control station can configure several conferences at the same time as well as terminate them actively. For this purpose, an individual set of keys is required for each conference channel (1 key to configure and 1 key to terminate the connection). Furthermore, individual subscribers can be dynamically removed from or added to an active conference.

Each intercom station which is used for temporary connections requires 1 special key which is exclusively reserved for these temporary connections and which has no other function (switchboard speak key). As soon as the connection has been successfully configured, the key is temporarily used as direct call key. This means that the connection is established via keypress and the operator can speak to the target (Push-to-Talk).

If the switchboard speak key is no longer pressed by any of the conference members within a specified time (e.g. 10 s), the temporary conference channel is deleted. The corresponding switchboard speak key is then without function.

An intercom station can only control one temporary connection at a time. The master control station, however, can always override an active connection by a new one. In this case, the operator is informed about it by an acoustic tone.

RELATED FUNCTIONS

- PA switchboard call
- Two-way switchboard call
- Duplex switchboard call
- Switchboard call to external telephones