

RBDS

RADIO BROADCAST DATA SERVICE (RBDS)

RDS/RBDS sends alphanumeric data to car radios. This information can include emergency alerts, radio paging, traffic alerts, station call letters, station format data, advertising and non-specific radio text such as title and artist of the current playing program.

Digilink-Xtreme utilizes the RBDS feature with the proper modulator hardware. The Xtreme supports both RS232 com port and a text file for Radio Text data. A special RBDS text line (up to 64 characters) is output to both the RS232 com port and the text file at the same time. RBDS strings are output from the play list and cart players for live or automated display of data on RBDS compatible receivers. There are two ways to setup the Xtreme to use RBDS, with an RS232 connection or using a text file.

TO SETUP AN RS232 COM PORT FOR RBDS:

An RS232 com port must be assigned for Xtreme to talk to the RBDS encoder. This is done by creating a text file that Xtreme reads for the RS232 setup.

- (1) create a text file named 'RBDS.txt'
 - (2) in the first line, place the RS232 com port number (i.e. 3)
 - (3) in the second line, place the baud rate (i.e. 38400)
 - (4) save the text file into the DigilinkSetup folder. You can find this folder by going to the C: drive, then the Arrakis folder, then the Xtreme folder
 - (5) if Xtreme is open, restart the Xtreme so that it will read the com port setup
- note: Do Not use the same com port for the RDS encoder as the Bridge

TO SETUP RBDS USING A TEXT FILE:

Xtreme will create a text file named 'RBDS Text.txt' whenever it plays an audio file. The text file will have only a single line of text. This file is located in the DigilinkLogs folder. You can find this folder by going to the C: drive, then the Arrakis folder, then the Xtreme folder. Point the RBDS program to this text file and the text will automatically update at the start of each audio file. An example of a RBDS text in this text file is: Thriller Michael Jackson
note: the line is spaced padded to 64 characters followed by a CR (#13)

HOW TO USE RBDS WITH THE XTREME:

The Radio text line that Xtreme outputs varies depending on the audio file type. If the audio file is a type 'M' music file then the RBDS output will automatically output the 'Song Title + Song Artist.' If the audio file is not a music file then the RBDS can send custom messages associated with the cart number. For example, a special message can be associated to a McDonalds ad and say "1.99 Happy Meals this Weekend only!" Or it can give an address and phone number for a new store location. This is a great tool for selling advertisements and the Digilink-Xtreme allows you to do this. If the audio file is not a type 'M' and no custom text line exists, then the RBDS output will be the station's call letters.

MUSIC FILE (any type 'M' audio file)

automatically outputs 'song title' + 'song artist'

CREATING A CUSTOM MESSAGE

this option exists for any non-type M audio file, such as Spots, Liners or Station ID's. To setup a cart for a custom message:

- (1) go to the C: drive, then the Arrakis folder, then the Xtreme folder and open the RBDS Tagged Text folder
- (2) right click inside the RBDS Tagged Text folder and select New and then Text Document
- (3) name the newly created text document with the cart number associated for the desired tagged text audio file (for example: MCD001)
- (4) open the text document and enter the desired text on the first line. All text must be on the first line and with a 64 character max (for example: NEW STORE OPENING. 1999 Calgary Street in Denver. Come Saturday!)
- (5) save the text document and exit

DEFAULT MESSAGES

if the audio file is not a Music file or has a custom message, the Xtreme will default to the Call Letters. These call letters are inputted by clicking on Menu in the Xtreme, then selecting Setup. In the Setup screen is the field for entering the Call letters. If the Call letters haven't been entered then the Xtreme will output a blank message.