

Multi-Zone Personal Mixing System on the Tonight Show



The view from the horn section for the Tonight Show

TESTIMONIAL

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Dave Winslow
Monitor Engineer

INSTALLATION DETAILS

Max Weinberg and the Tonight Show Band use a multi-zone Pro16® personal mixing system on the *Tonight Show with Conan O’Brien*. Each band member uses an A-16CS Control Surface to customize his monitor mix, and monitor engineer Dave Winslow can also make adjustments on the A-16R Personal Mixers that are rack-mounted next to the monitor console.

Prior to working with Weinberg’s band, Winslow worked on another weekly late night show where the house band was using Aviom’s personal mixing system. Band leader Weinberg and the band’s musical director and guitarist Jimmy Vivino came over and saw the system in action and agreed with Winslow that it would be a good addition to their setup.

“We’ve been using the Aviom system for the *Tonight Show with Conan O’Brien* band since the debut,” explains Winslow. “Having the musicians mix themselves has allowed me to focus more on the production elements and cues. From a monitor engineer’s perspective, it’s the Holy Grail.”

APPLICATION

Monitor Mixing

MARKET SEGMENTS

Broadcast
Live

LOCATION

Burbank , CA

PRODUCT LINE

Pro16®

PRODUCTS

2 AN-16/i Input Modules
8 A-16R Rack-mount Mixers
8 A-16CS Control Surfaces

FEATURES AND BENEFITS

Dual monitor zones for rhythm section and horns/vocalists

Simplifies mix duties for the monitor engineer

Having the A-16R at the mix position allows the engineer to monitor performer’s levels

Because the 40-plus inputs of the band couldn’t be represented in only 16 stems, Winslow has configured a two-zone Aviom system. On the zone used for the rhythm section, Winslow provides stereo submixes of horns and vocals, while the zone for the horn players and vocalists has individual channels for each horn and vocalist. This gives Winslow the flexibility to give the musicians the stems they need to control most.

The setup for the *Tonight Show* includes two AN-16/i Input Modules to interface the two Aviom zones to the Yamaha PM1D console. Near the console, eight A-16R Rack-mount Personal Mixers are daisy chained. A custom loom of Cat-6 cable fans out to the monitor positions on the bandstand.

Each band member has an Aviom A-16CS Control Surface that serves as a remote controller for his A-16R, allowing him to customize his mix. A Rolls PM50 Personal Monitor Amp is mounted at each monitor position to power the IEMs. Weinberg and Vivino each wear a lavalier mic, which they operate with a foot switch, to communicate with Winslow and the band.

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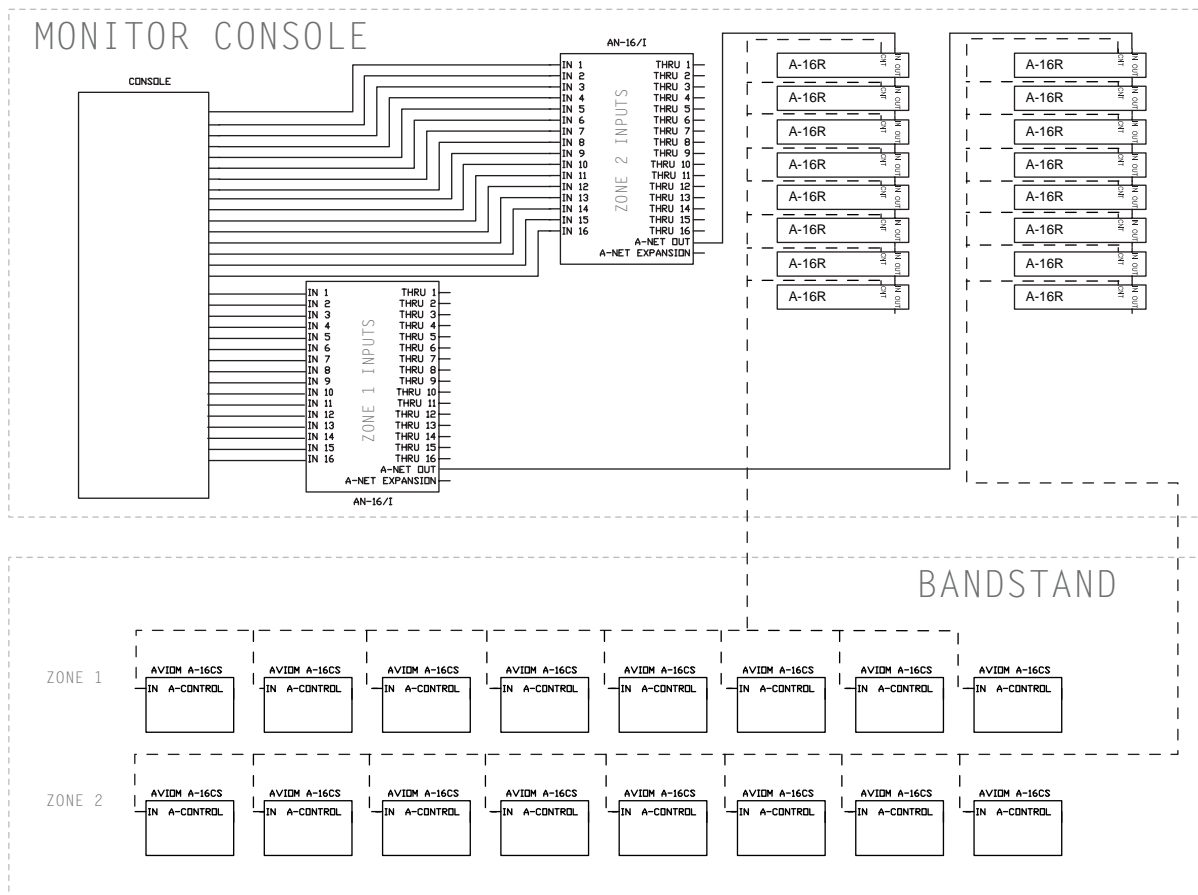
Case Study

In addition to the feeds customized for each zone, various music sources are sent to the remaining channels of the two zones. Winslow has also created a stereo submix of production elements and talkback that connect to the stereo aux mix inputs on the rear panels of all eight Aviom A-16R mixers.

In addition to providing the musicians the ability to personalize their mix, Aviom's personal mixing system also provides Winslow with the ability to ensure that each band member is receiving a good mix. "One thing to keep in mind is that

musicians often have no concept of proper gain structure, so I chose the A-16R/A-16CS combination, instead of the simpler A-16IIs, in anticipation of that," Winslow explains.

"Having the A-16R rack mounts next to me in monitor world allows me to not only see each performer's mix and levels, but also allows me to take over momentarily to fix any gain structure problems. Having Aviom has made communications on the set, at least with the monitor engineer, less necessary."



The dual-zone personal mixing system consists of eight A-16R Personal Mixers and 8 A-16CS Control Surfaces per zone.