Set up via the Web Page

Using a browser, type in the IP address of the unit to navigate to the web page on any device. The web page is responsive - meaning it will auto size to your screen. If you have a small phone, the layout adjusts to that size, and is touch sensitive. If you are using a computer, the web page is sized according to your browser size.

Through this interface, you will configure all the parameters of The Director.

The initial view of the web page shown below illustrates the current state of the unit.

To change global settings, click on the "gear" icon in the top right of the page.

To change zone settings, click on the caret (the ">" icon) to expand the selections.

Simply clicking on an option will expand the adjustable parameters. These configuration options allow you to customize The Director's performance to match your system design.

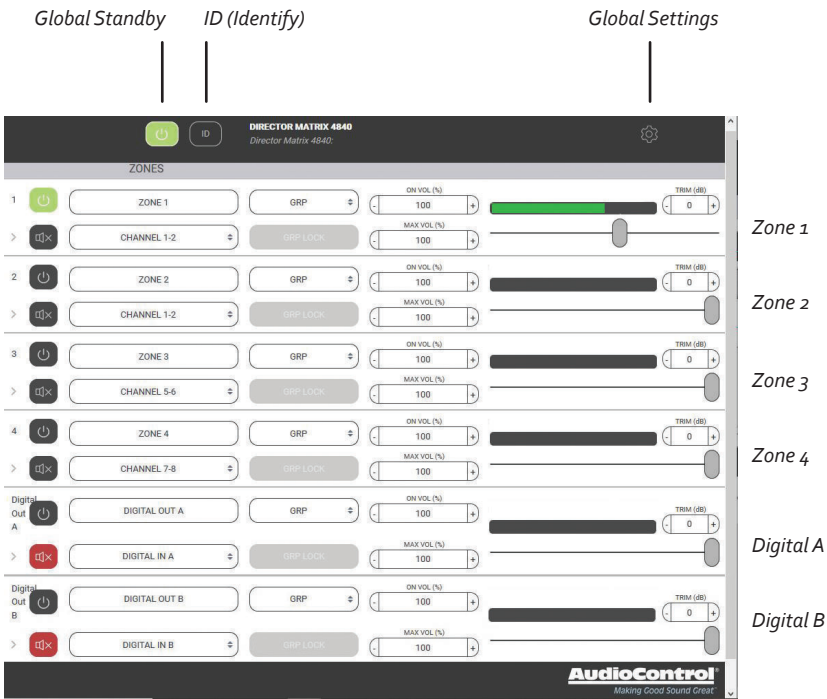*Clicking the caret expands the menu options for each Zone or Digital Input*

The gear icon opens and closes the global settings menu.

Global Standby   ID (Identify)   Global Settings

Zone 1

*Zone 2*

Zone 3

Zone 4

Digital A

Digital B
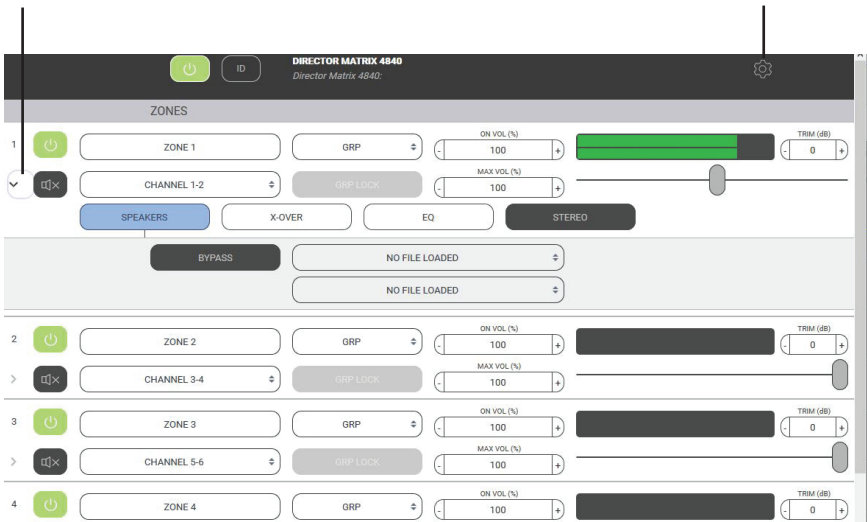
Global Standby: This is basically a main power-off where the amp, power supply and DSP are shut down. Power up from this state is about 10 seconds.

ID: Pressing this button will cause the two Ethernet lights to flash in tandem on the front and back of the physical unit. This is useful if there are multiple units in operation, and you want to make sure you are adjusting the right one.

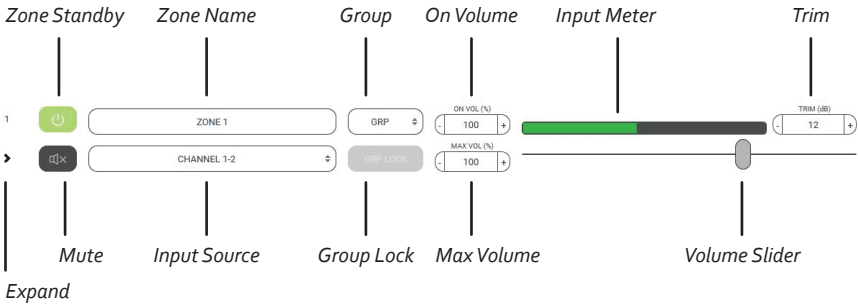**Global Settings:** See page 32 for more details.

Zones 1 to 4: The settings in each section defines the rear panel speaker-level output of each of these 4 zones.

Digital A and B: The settings in each digital section defines the output from the rear panel coaxial digital outputs A and B.


Digi A   *Digi B*   *Zone 1*   *Zone 2*   *Zone 3*   *Zone 4*

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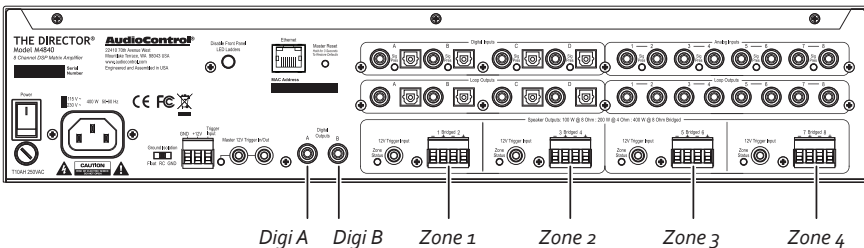
Zone Settings

Zone Standby: This turns only this zone's amplifier on and off, which allows for a

Zone Standby   *Zone Name*   *Group*   *On Volume*   *Input Meter*   *Trim*

Mute   *Input Source*   *Group Lock*   *Max Volume*   *Volume Slider*

Expand

quick time to power output - meaning set this to on and in less than 500ms or so, you'll have sound. No boot-up time to worry about. It's important to note that if you are relying on signal sense, you should have both global on and zone channel on to respond to the signal input.

Zone Name: The zone name can be changed by typing in this box. As you do this, a small tick mark appears at the right. Remember to click on it to save your changes, or they will be lost. Up to 30 characters and spaces are available to express yourself.
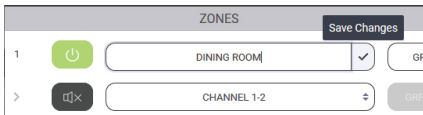
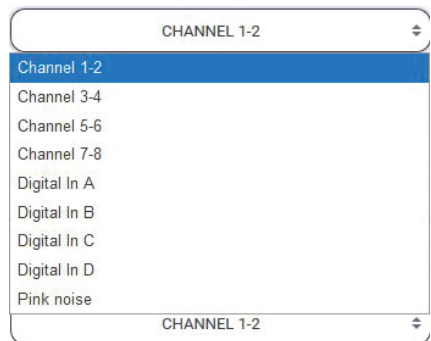**Expand:** Click here to bring up more options for this zone.

Mute: Click here to quickly mute or unmute the output from this zone during accordion/harmonica/yodelling smooth jazz solos.

Input Source: Click here to select the input source to play in this zone. We have thoughtfully included Pink Noise

which we hope you find useful when setting volumes and calibrations of each zone.

The name of each input source can be changed using the Global Settings/Input Sources menu, and the changes (when saved) will appear here.

Zones which are assigned to the same group will share the same input source, as described on the next exciting page of our story.
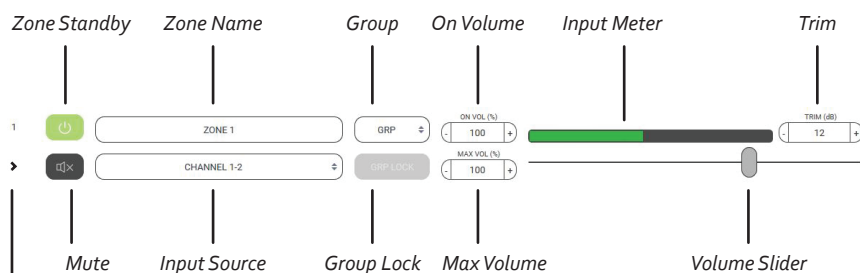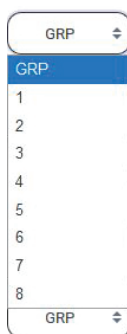

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Zone Standby   Zone Name   Group   On Volume   Input Meter   Trim

Mute   Input Source   Group Lock   Max Volume   Volume Slider

Expand

Group: Each zone can be assigned to a group using this drop-down menu that appears as if by magic. Choose a group for your zone to belong to, from 1 to 8, or just leave it on GRP if you are not using this feature.

Group Lock: If the zone is assigned to a group, click here to make this feature work.

A warning message will appear: "*Proceeding will set the volume of all the zones in the group (that also have group lock engaged) to the minimum of them.*" You are then given the opportunity to continue, or go home and rethink your life.

For example, if zones 1, 2 , and 3 are assinged to group 1, select Group Lock for each of these three zones. Each group lock button will turn orange when engaged. The volume will change to the current lowest volume.

Any future changes to the volume of 1, 2, or 3 will change the volume of all in that group.

The input source will also change to be the same for each zone in this group.

On Volume: Sets the zone volume to a specific value at startup, if the volume was at a higher level than what is defined here. If lower, then the lower value is used at startup.

Max Volume: Sets the maximum volume level of the zone.

Input Meter: This was designed to hypnotize little kittens and the effect is quite adorable as the music goes up and down.

Volume: The volume slider is used to set the volume in the zone.

Trim: This trims the levels of the zone output. The range of adjustment is suitable for balancing SPL in grouped zones, for example, 3 sets of speakers grouped for a living room. It will also serve as a way to limit volume in a particular zone if, for some reason, you don't want to use the maximum volume setting. Input levels can be set using the Global Settings\Input Sources menu.

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Zone Options

Expand   *Speakers* *X-Over*   *EQ* *Stereo/Mono*
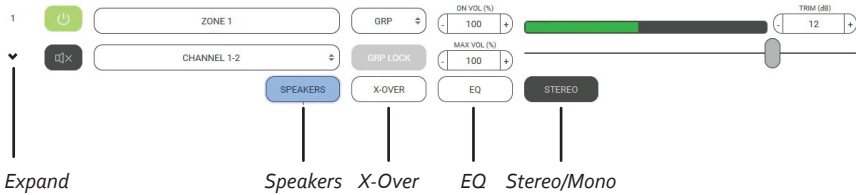
Speakers: Here you can set your speaker profile. The speaker profile is an optimized settings file that the speaker manufacturer has designed to maximize the speakers performance with The Director.

X-Over: Here you can set the Low Pass, Band Pass, and High Pass crossover filters to control the frequencies being sent to your speakers.
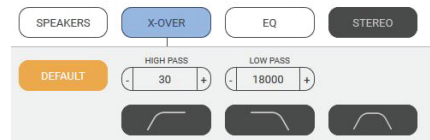
EQ: In this section, you can control both the graphic and parametric EQ filters to dial in your speaker's performance.

Stereo/Mono: with this button, you can set the output to mono or stereo.

Speakers

Speaker Calibration Profile: Each Speaker Profile contains equalization and high pass / lowpass that have been carefully chosen by certain speaker manufacturers as the best curve for that particular speaker model when used with The Director. The speaker profile is applied in the background, and you will not see the EQ sliders move. With the speaker profile applied, you can still adjust the graphic EQ to fine tune the response to the room, and / or client preferences. Each output zone can be assigned a different speaker profile to
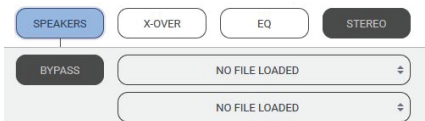
accommodate different models. Note the speaker profiles don't come loaded standard, but will be downloadable from our website.

To start with, the speaker partners are: Origin Acoustics, James Loudspeaker, Triad Speakers, and Stealth Acoustics. We will be expanding our speaker partners in the future, please watch our website for the latest information.

X-Over

Along the bottom are 3 different filter buttons that allow you to quickly choose a design for your system, either to set up protection from low and high frequencies, set up a 2-way crossover with a subwoofer and mids/highs, or set up a bandpass filter. The filters should be chosen slowly, with considerable forethought and care, possibly while mulling things over in your favorite comfy chair, with a cup of tea and a plate of delicious buttered crumpets. As each filter type is chosen by pressing one of the three types, the current high pass and low pass frequencies are shown in the adjustable boxes just above.

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To prevent over-stress of speakers by sending frequencies lower than they are physically able to handle, try and roll off the low frequencies. For most inwall speakers, we recommend a setting of 40 Hz or higher. Contrary to popular thought, higher often sounds better for this low frequency filter. Similarly, to save the tweeters, be conservative with the setting of the higher frequencies. It could save you a service call.

As there is a plethora of power available (do not be fooled by The Director's lightweight appearance) you can set up a 2-way crossover with a subwoofer playing the lows, and a pair of speakers paying the mids and highs. Enable the Low Pass Mode filter and bridge-mono the output from one zone for your subwoofer. It will just receive the low frequencies (in mono) and receive the combined power from both channels. Then use another zone's channel pair in stereo with the High Pass mode selected for that zone, to power the speakers playing the mids and highs. Select the same input channel for both zones. See the system diagrams for a picture of this, or see the video on our website of our technical support engineers performing an interpretive dance in our audio rumpus room.

EQ Ramblin's

Equalization of each zone's sonic goodness affects both channels within each zone. Please see a later section for a discussion of the methods and benefits of equalization. Equalization can be very powerful, however it takes some work to adjust properly, and like cosmetic makeup, it can easily be over-done. It is much easier and more accurate, if you have some instrumentation/audio analysis gear. Please see our website for details of our fine audio analyzer products that will take the guesswork out of successfully setting the EQ in each zone.

Graphic EQ
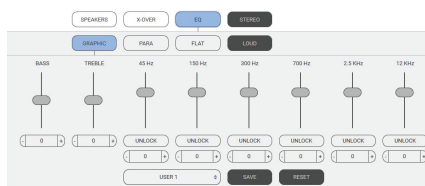
Adjustment of the graphic EQ of the selected zone is done by dragging the EQ sliders to the desired position, or by clicking where you want the position/ value to be, or by clicking the +/- buttons. Note that the sliders can be moved down as well as up, and this is not a sign of weakness. Click "Unlock" to adjust the stero channels separately.

There are some presets available using the large button at the bottom of this menu. Once you have the EQ settings just the way you like them, you must save the settings as user presets (using SAVE) or reset things to zero (RESET).
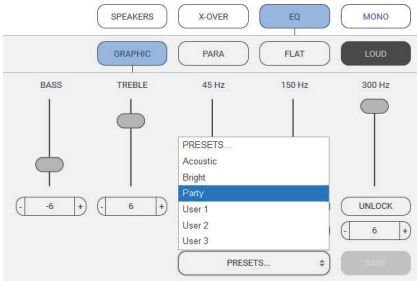
You can save different settings to different user memories and see which one the clients like. Their taste may be different than yours.

Bass and Treble: Just when you would be forgiven for thinking "wow, that's a lot of EQ flexibility," wait.. there's more. At no extra charge, two of the sliders offer bass and treble EQ adjustment of the shelving kind. Shelving EQ, used in combination with the graphic EQ and parametric EQ, gives you the fine opportunity to upset things royally, or to be the better person, with kindness and EQ moderation for all. Start with the graphic EQ flat, apply a bit of shelving bass or treble EQ, and see how that sounds. Maybe that will do.

Parametric EQ
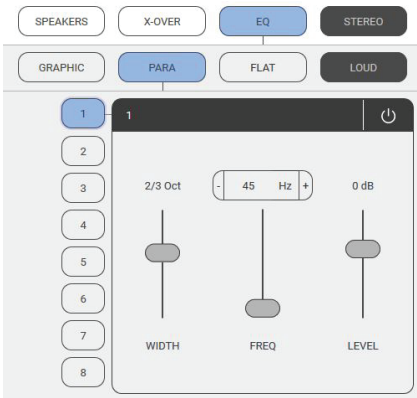
In addition (or subtraction) to the graphic EQ sliders, there are 8 separate parametric equalizers per zone, for the ultimate in room-acoustics problem solving (or problem creating). Each parametric EQ has adjustments for the frequency, octave width, and the level boost or cut. For an example of their use, if a certain frequency sets all the kitchen teacups rattling, a narrow-width filter can be tried at the teacup-rattling-onset-frequency, with a cut in the level.

Once you have the EQ settings just the way you like them, you must save the settings, or you will lose them. Go back to the Graphic EQ area and use the SAVE button.

Stereo/ Mono

Click this button to combine both channels in this zone into mono. This is useful if you want to connect a single speaker, such as a subwoofer, in bridged mono, thus combining the power of the two amplifiers into one. Make sure your speaker's impedance is 8 Ohms or higher. Alternatively, you could leave the two speakers connected as normal and they will both play the same. This can be ideal where stereo sound is not really needed.

Loud

Select this for each zone to give a pleasing low-frequency boost at lower listening levels.
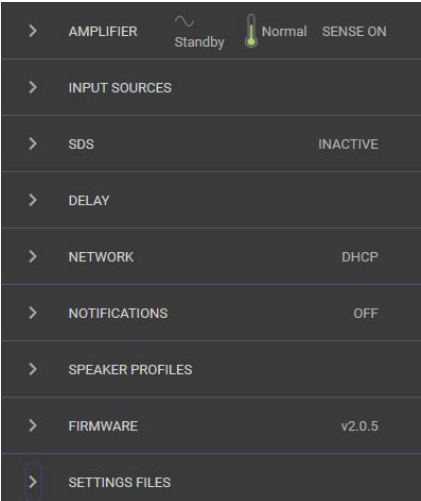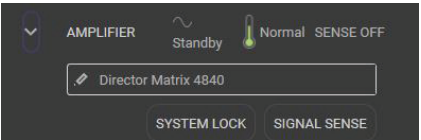
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Global Settings

By clicking on the Gear icon, you access your global configuration options.


Amplifier:

Here you can rename The Director, set Signal Sense to on or off and lock the system.

Keep an eye on the AC status, and the system temperature. Make sure there is plenty of clean, dry, and healthy airflow around the unit.

Rename the unit by typing in the box.

Setting signal sense is done by simply toggling the button. System Locking is also a toggle but requires you to enter in a system password. Once system is locked, control over parameters can only be done with the password you entered here, so make sure to write it down, or you will be snookered.

Input Sources:
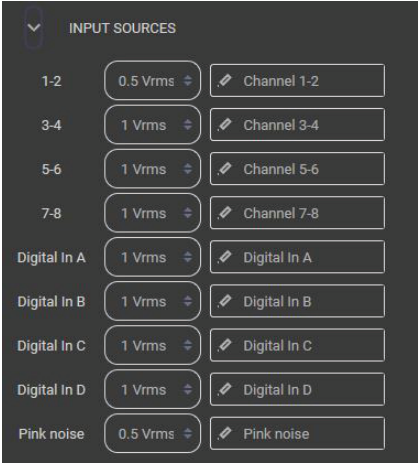
This option allows you to rename the input sources to something witty and charming. Click on the small check mark that appears at the right in each box, to save your changes. (Do this before re-naming the next input, or your changes will not be saved.) The new names will then appear in each Zone's list of inputs.
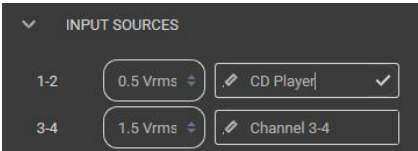
You also have the option to change the input voltage sensitivity. Common AVR outputs are in the 1V to 2V range - best bet is to simply use 1.5Vrms.

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SDS Signal Detection Switch:

SDS	ACTIVE

SDS INPUT

CHANNEL 1-2

ZONE OUTPUT	VOLUME
1 (ZONE 1)	- 0 +
2 (ZONE 2)	- 0 +
3 (ZONE 3)	- 0 +
4 (ZONE 4)	- 0 +
DIGITAL OUT A (DIGITAL O...	- 0 +
DIGITAL OUT B (DIGITAL O...	- 0 +

SDS allows for dynamic automated source switching for event-based audio signals such doorbells, voice enabled products, paging systems etc.. You can define which zones are part of the output group that will switch to the SDS input. The SDS input can be any input to The Director, and is perfectly configurable to suit your needs. Volumes are relative to the current zone volumes where they can be offset - louder or quieter than the zone's current volume setting.

For an example, imagine an installation where SDS is enabled in Zones 1, 2, and 3, and these volumes are set at 68, 70 and 56. If you want the SDS input to play slightly louder than the active content, then adding a +5 offset will cause the announcement volume to be 5% louder than that entertainment content. It is a super-flexible, fully automatic signal sensing switch with a switch time of less than 200 ms!

Delay:

DELAY		
Zone 1	-	0	+
Zone 2	-	0	+
Zone 3	-	0	+
Zone 4	-	0	+
Digital Out A	-	0	+
Digital Out B	-	0	+

This is where you can adjust the time delay in milliseconds between the zones, or send The Director back in time to yourself, and amaze all the friends you used to hang out with.

Network:

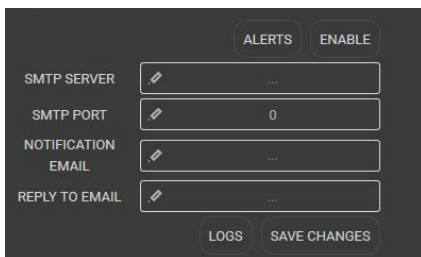|	DHCP
IP ADDRESS	192.168.0.249
SUBNET MASK	255.255.255.0
GATEWAY	192.168.0.1
DNS	8.8.8.8
AUTOMATION PORT	23
	SAVE CHANGES

This is where you enter in all your network configuration settings if you are setting up manually. If automatic, there's not much to do here other than ensure the DHCP button is selected. If you are having trouble connecting, the default IP address of the unit 192.168.0.249. You can connect manually peer to peer to troubleshoot.

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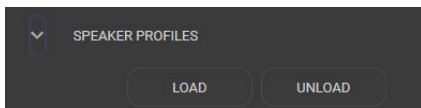
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Installation Manual

Notifications:

In this menu, you can set up The Director to alert you to any parameter you want to flag. Entering in the SMTP info here will allow the unit to send you updates about it's health.

**extra space here to remind you to wash your hands and use your mask

Speaker Profiles:

We often add new models to the Speaker Partners Program database. These can be downloaded from audiocontrol.com and uploaded to The Director using the LOAD option.
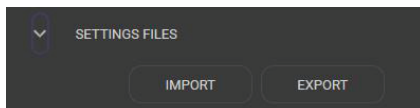
Firmware:

Update your firmware here. But make sure you make a back up of your setting file below, just in case.

Settings Files:

Here you can back up the setting of The Director; all parameters are stored to a single external file.

It is important to save each zone configuration settings to a user memory. If you do not need to have multiple EQ memories for recall, it is still necessary for the zone configurations to be saved should the power go out. The Save function in the graphics EQ section of each zone, saves the EQ signal processing settings for that zone as user presets.

This Global EXPORT button allows you to save the settings for all zones, as an overal snapshot of The Director settings. All the graphic and parametric equalizer settings as well as any crossover setting will be retained in the exported file. You can import or export these settings for back up purposes or for making a template that can be repeatedly used and shared between jobs.