WHAT IS MULTI-ZONING ?

Multi-zoning is where, for a given group of equipment that is controlled through the remote control distribution network, limitations are required on what items of equipment is to be controlled from specific rooms or areas. In general, a hub is required for each stipulated limited control area or 'zone'.

How does CATLINK support Multi-zoning ?

Each CATLINK distribution hub has four sockets designated in pairs as 'PortA' & 'PortB'.

The CATLINK distribution hub supports multi-zoning using it's built-in diode isolation between the PORTA & PORT B emitter output circuits (pair 1). This means that the emitter control signals from multiple hubs can be mixed by parallel connection on a port by port basis.

Using a separate hub for each distinctive subset of equipment to be controlled and by carefully planning the interconnections between associated distribution hubs groups of control can be arranged.

For a given installation, the number of separate different control zones is defined.

- A distribution hub for each control zone is allocated & installed.
- The receiver heads are patched through to the respective hubs – i.e receiver heads in zone 1 are patched through to the zone 1 distribution hub & receiver heads in zone 2 are patched to the zone 2 distribution head.
- The respective emitter circuits from each distribution hub are mixed to produce the zoning control result required.

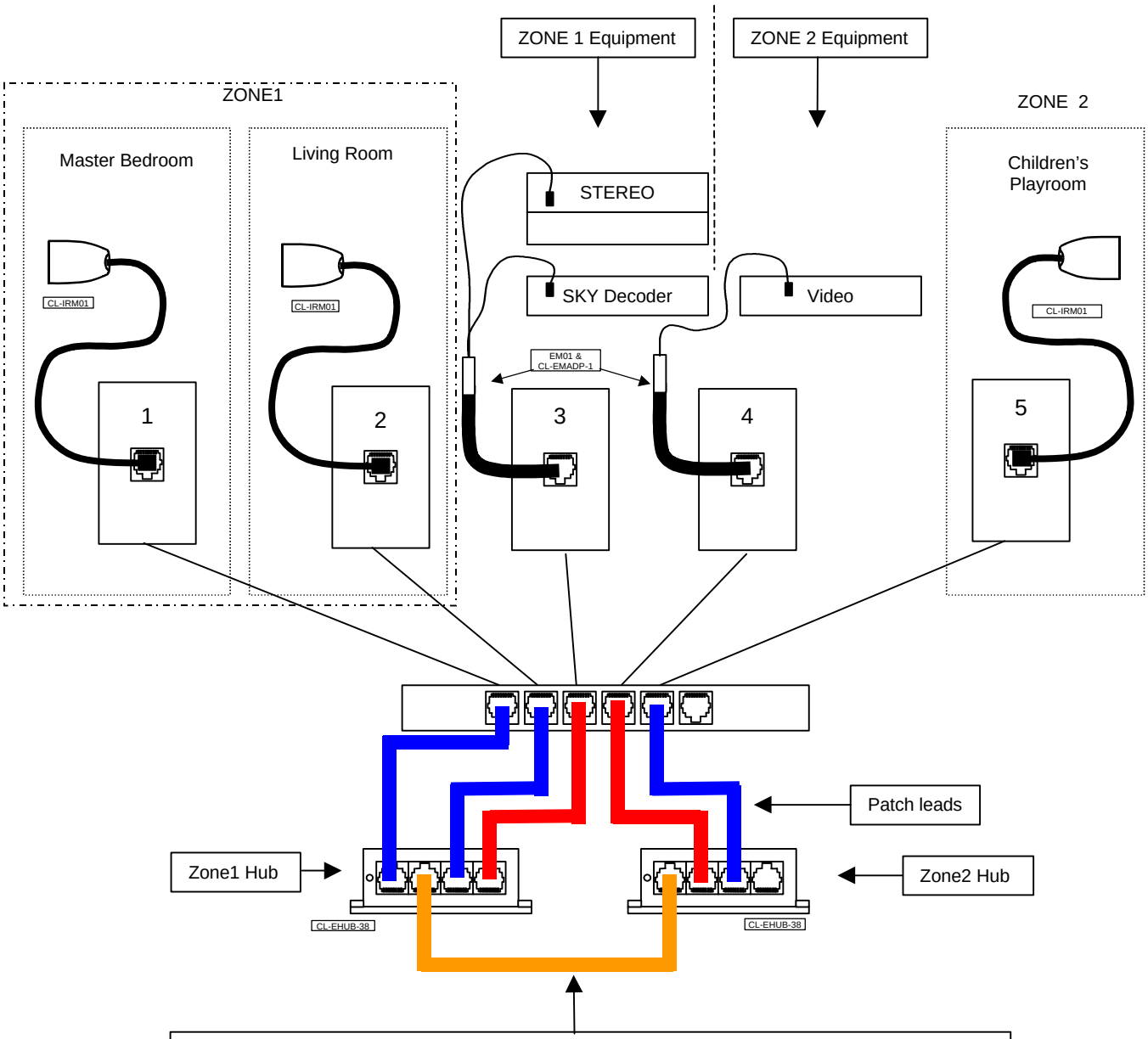
See overleaf for example ..

Multi-Zoning - Example

In this example, the distribution network controls the stereo, video & sky decoder.

The requirement is that the master bedroom and the living room are to control all equipment and children's playroom is to control only the video player.

There are two defined control zones:- (Bedroom,Living room) & (playroom) so therefore two distribution hubs are required with the arrangement below:-



Emitter circuit mix patch lead. - Mixes emitter control signals from one hub to the other.

Control signals received by the Zone#1 hub (i.e from locations 1 & 2) mix with signals received by the Zone#2 hub (from location 5) to control equipment on outlet #4.

Emitter control signals from the zone#2 hub (i.e received from 5) cannot mix with signals from zone# 1 hub because outlet 3 is connected to different hub port.

Without this connection, ZONE 2 equipment (i.e the video) could only be controlled from 5 (i.e the playroom) and in effect two separate distribution systems would exist.