How to:
Connect the Kato Sound Box to a non-Kato Power system and track system

KATO
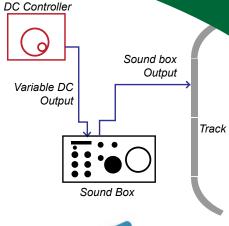PRECISION RAILROAD MODELS

The basics

Whether using Kato products or not, the Sound Box operates based on the core principle that it sits between the track at the output of your DC controller. Any output that would normally go into the track, whether directly or by going into a bus line, should instead go into the Soundbox. Then the output from the Soundbox can be connected to your track or bus line. This allows the Soundbox to control the DC output going to the track and read back the motor load of your trains.

DC Controller

Variable DC Output

Sound box Output

Track

Sound Box

Powering the soundbox

The Soundbox has support for external AC Transformer (not included), or can be powered via the DC snap terminals on the side of the box. These would normally connect directly to a Kato Power Pack, but if another manufacturer's power pack is being used, modelers can use the Kato 24-842 DC Converter (pictured) which can connect to the AC Accessory output on the Power pack.

■ *AC Transformer requirements: Output DC 12V ~ 18V Max 3A*

■ *#24-842 DC Converter*

AC Transformers for plugging in the Soundbox can be purchased according to the above specifications at your nearest electronics store or online at retailers like Amazon.com

Connecting to your track

Kato UNITRACK uses mini-tamiya style plugs for all of its track connections, and similarly the Soundbox is designed to use these cables. If, however, you are not using UNITRACK, the easiest way to connect the soundbox to your feeders is by using a Kato 24-825 DC Extension Cord, which will have both male and female plugs on either end, which can be cut and stripped, allowing you to splice the wires coming off your track with a cable that can plug into the Soundbox system.

■ *#24-825 DC Extension*

This cable can be cut to connect the Soundbox to non-Kato track

Connecting to your power pack

Similar to the track, if you are not using a #22-014 Kato Power Pack, the cable included with the Soundbox will not be able to plug directly into the variable DC output on your power pack without modification. While one option is to simply cut the included Jump cable, a non-permanent modification is to use the Kato 24-843 terminal adapter cord - connecting the plug end of this cable to the black jump cable will provide a pair of spade clips which can connect to the screw terminals of your non-Kato power pack - no cutting or soldering necessary!

■ *#24-843 Terminal Adapter Cord*

This cable acts as an adapter between the Soundbox and your non-Kato power system

You can enjoy the Sound Box with both N and HO scales, whether you use Kato Unitrack or not!

Hear the Soundbox on the Kato youtube channel: www.youtube.com/KatoUSAInc