

MASS NOTIFICATION

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Audio communications is an important component of any Mass Notification system and the best form of broadcasted audio is speech. Whether live or a pre-recorded message, speech provides specific information pertaining to both the situation and the remedy. It eliminates the need for the intended audience to remember or guess what the particular alarm tone or sound means and what to do when it is heard. GAI-Tronics' Audio Messenger Interface ([AMI](#)) provides up to seven (7) pre-recorded messages comprised of alarm tones, pre-recorded speech, or both. It also allows live broadcasts to occur via a microphone input.

Systems using speaker cluster towers installed 30 ft. above the ground are typically used for broadcasting an alarm tone at an extremely high output decibel level (150+ dB SPL). Assuming it is desired to hear this alarm tone at great distances (with no regard to sound ordinances), this may be an acceptable solution as an "attention getter" to let the intended audience know that a situation exists. Now that you have their attention, how are they provided instructions/directions that need to be followed? Speech audio broadcasted at an extremely high decibel level can be very distorted. Additionally, wind/breezes and buildings/obstructions could prevent the alarm tone from reaching everyone. It is better to bring the broadcast back to earth in the form of speech. A distributed speaker system, broadcasting at a lower Sound Pressure Level (SPL) is intended to cover the areas where the people are typically located. Gathering points and high foot-traffic areas can easily be covered by discrete speakers or smaller speaker clusters. They can be located in courtyards, parking lots, or other areas that may be isolated from a centralized broadcast point.

GAI-Tronics has cost effective solutions for any public address application. Our Model [234SBA](#) Stanchion Broadcast Assembly combines two-way communications ([telephone](#), [VoIP](#), [RF](#), or Cellular) with one-way broadcasting. Equipped with one to four speakers, the 234SBA will provide 360° coverage at 110 db SPL at one meter on axis. If your facility already utilizes GAI-Tronics' Model 234 stanchion, it can be upgraded to include broadcast capability at approximately half the cost of a new stanchion. The Model [234SBM](#) Stanchion Broadcast Module is designed to mount to the top of an existing Model 234 stanchion. It too can be equipped with one to four speakers, providing the same coverage as the 234SBA. Both stanchion products include a battery back up (30 minutes at full output). Since telephone stanchions are not typically installed with speaker coverage in mind, it may be necessary to supplement a speaker layout with discrete speaker coverage. GAI-Tronics Addressable Amplified Speakers ([AAS](#)) are self-contained speakers that include a powerful 8 Watt amplifier and are capable of delivering a 116 dB SPL output at one meter on axis. They are designed to be mounted 10-20 feet above the ground on a building surface, pole, or even a tree. There is also a battery back up kit that will provide full output for two (2) hours. Unlike the 234SBA and 234SBM, which require 120 Vac power, the AAS products can be powered from a 120 Vac source or connected for solar power. All three products can be accessed from a 600 Ohm audio line (with dry contact closure activation) or an RF (VHF or UHF) signal. They can be programmed to be addressable via a DTMF or 2-Tone access code and are capable of individual, zoned, or all call access. VoIP access is also available.

Please view our [Campus Public Address](#) report for additional system information.