CA-1 FAQ

Q: When should I use a CA-1 vs an EA-1?
A: It's simple. EA stands for Entertainment and Automation. CA stands for Control and Automation. If you will be adding entertainment features (audio/video) to the project you will always choose an EA controller. If the project will not include audio/video and will not require On-Screen Navigator, CA-1 is a good choice.

Q: When would I add a CA-1 as a secondary controller in an EA project?
A: The CA-1 is a great addition to an EA-3 or EA-5 project that would benefit from a second ZigBee mesh or a secondary ZigBee Access Point (ZAP). The CA-1 can also be used to add a centrally located Z-Wave network.

Q: Is the CA-1 only for small projects?
A: No, the CA-1 is a compact but powerful controller, capable of controlling dozens of ZigBee, Z-Wave, and serial- or IP-controlled devices. For complex projects that include music and video and would benefit from additional I/O and On-Screen Navigator, choose EA controllers for even better performance.

Q: Can a CA-1 have secondary controllers attached?
A: No, secondary controllers cannot be added to a project with a CA-1 primary controller. If multiple controllers will be required, an EA-5 or EA-3 must be selected as the primary controller.

Q: How many CA-1 controllers can be added to a project?
A: With an EA-5 or EA-3 primary controller, there is no strict limit the the number of CA-1 controllers that can be added to the project.

Q: What kind of serial cable should I use?
A: The CA-1 has one serial port which accepts an RJ45 connector so that you can easily build your own cable. Please refer to the *CA-1 Installation Guide* (http://ctrl4.co/ca1-ig) for a pinout diagram.

Q: How long of a serial cable can I use?
A: The length limit for an RS-232 serial cable is inherent in how RS-232 works rather than being dictated by the controller. The maximum supported length of any RS-232 connections depends on many factors, including cable quality, data transfer rate, cable capacitance, and other factors. In general, lengths of 15 m (50') are possible.

Q: Can I install a Triad One with a CA-1?
A: For best results, for projects that include AV, choose an Entertainment and Automation (EA) controller. While a Triad One can be added to a CA-1 project, this configuration will not provide the best customer experience. For example, Spotify is not supported in systems where a CA-1 is the primary controller, and neither is local media scanning.

Q: How do I add Z-Wave to CA-1?
A: You can add Z-Wave Plus™ integration to a CA-1 by inserting a Control4 Z-Wave Module (sold separately) into the CA-1. Please refer to the *CA-1 Installation Guide* (http://ctrl4.co/ca1-ig) for complete details.

Q: What Z-Wave products are supported?
A: A list of supported Z-Wave devices is available on the Control4 Knowledgebase at
https://dealer.control4.com/dealer/knowledgebase/article/1743.

Q: What mounting options are available for CA-1?
A: The CA-1 provides three mounting options for maximum flexibility:
- The CA-1 comes with rubber feet suitable for placement on a flat surface (such as a bookshelf or desk).
- Removing the rubber feet exposes four keyhole slots allowing the CA-1 to be mounted on a vertical surface with two to four screws.
- A CA-1 can also be mounted to a DIN rail using the DIN rail slot provided. The CA-1 is not rated to be installed inside an electrical panel.

Please refer to the *CA-1 Installation Guide* (http://ctrl4.co/ca1-ig) for further details.

Q: Can the CA-1 be installed in a centralized lighting panel?
A: The CA-1 is not intended to be installed inside a centralized lighting panel, including C4-DIN-5PAN or C4-DIN-2PAN.

Q: Is When >> Then Programming supported on CA-1?
A: Yes, When >> Then Programming is available on all Control4 systems running OS 2.10.1 or later. An active 4Sight subscription is required.

Q: How can I use CA-1 to control a device through IR?
A: See https://dealer.control4.com/dealer/product/C4-Z2IO.

Q: Which user interfaces work with CA-1?
A: All Control4 user interfaces supported in OS 2.10.1 except the On-Screen Navigator can be used in a CA-1 project, including T3 touch screens, Android and iOS phone/tablet apps, keypads, and SR-260 remote controls.

Q: What colors are available?
A: The CA-1 is available in white.

Q: What is the purpose of the USB ports on the CA-1?
A: The USB ports are for potential future use. They may also be used for USB-attached storage.

Q: Now that I've read the FAQ, can I ignore all the other CA-1 documentation?
A: No! The Data Sheet, Installation Guide, and additional documentation is available here http://ctrl4.co/ca1 and on the Online Portal (include link to the CA-1 product page).

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