218, 251, December 2020

Date of release: 17th December 2020

Firmware release versions:

218	v1.1, build 240
251	v1.1, build 240

Overview

This release enables integration between a Sonos Home Sound System and these Meridian products. The Sonos app can be used to stream audio seamlessly to the Meridian product, while bidirectional communication between the Sonos and Meridian products allows for intuitive and flexible control options.

This means that any system based on 251 or 218 can have the sound from the loudspeakers controlled from anywhere around the home using the Sonos interface. In addition to controlling the volume level and mute commands, the Sonos app can wake the Meridian system and automatically select the Sonos source. The Meridian system can be grouped with other Sonos devices on the network or used independently.

The two-way nature of the integration means transport commands (play, stop, skip, etc.) can be sent to the Sonos player from the Meridian system. This could be done from within Roon, from the Meridian IP Control app or, in Meridian systems with IR remote control or products with front-panel keys, these too can be used to control the playback of Sonos.

How to carry out the updates

The firmware on these products is updated using the program, “Meridian Device Manager”. Versions of this program are available for Windows PC and Apple Mac. When Meridian Device Manager is run, it will find all relevant Meridian products connected to the network and offer the option to update the products for which updates are available. While a product is being updated, playback may be interrupted and functionality will be disabled, so ensure that this will not cause problems before running the program.

Meridian Device Manager for Windows can be downloaded here.

Meridian Device Manager for Mac can be downloaded here.

Note: In systems featuring multiple products to be updated, the time taken for the updates to deploy can vary according to the capabilities of the network. For this reason, we advise that updates should not be carried out when time-pressures are high, such as just before the system is required to be used!