

Ready2Talk

PA 64 / Jensen PA500 Replacement

For years, the Cutaway (Mini) Bus industry has been selling and installing the Jensen PA 500 systems with hand mics. Although being a work horse, they perform fairly well for the age of their design. However, there are some inherent issues and limitations, mainly the internal background noise and poor noise filtering from the vehicle, the limited power and sound quality and most importantly... their use of only a hand mic. Basically, the needs of the world has left the PA 500 behind.

Fear not! If you want to upgrade to a headset or wireless microphone, offer innovative tours like Karaoke or just enjoy better sound, Ready2Talk gives you another option. It really isn't all that difficult to make the change and when you're finished, you'll be surprised at how much better your existing bus speakers will sound with the PA 64! AND it functions the same way as your old PA 500.

Installation or changeover is really easy! Since there is a mobile audio wiring standard, it is pretty much a wire for wire unit swap.

It all starts with physically removing the PA 500 and replacing the PA 64 in the same spot, they are kind of the same size so it should fit. Notice that there is 2 mic inputs, #1 on the front panel and #2 on the rear of the PA 64. Now you can use two microphones simultaneously with no loss of performance and you can mix hand mics with headsets, wired with wireless!

One little trick with the PA 64 is... if you notice the printing is designed for the PA 64 to be mounted on top of a panel, but if you want to mount it underneath the printing would be upside down. Included in the box is a reversed printed label, just remove the two knobs on the front of the PA 64 and apply the new decal, then re-install the knobs and Voila! You're Ready2Talk.

Wiring

- 1. Speaker Output Wires:** Since both units follow the same universal wiring code, you can disconnect and reconnect the speaker output wires one for one, e.g. white for white, white/black for white/black... gray, green, purple and so on. If you get lost, refer to the PA 64 manual for the color codes.
- 2. Power Wires:** The PA 500 has only a RED switched 12V power wire, the PA 64 has the same and like the speaker wires can be swapped. There is an additional YELLOW 12V power wire that needs to be connected to a constant 12V power source like the battery or a heavy load circuit like the Cigar Lighter? Although the PA 64 has internal fuses for both power wires, it's always best to fuse the source of the constant 12V wire as well, especially if you are running it to the battery. It protects the wire run. Don't forget the BLACK ground wire.

- 3. Audio input / Connection to the Stereo:** You have a choice... you can either do a wire for wire swap just like with the speaker connections OR if you have an aftermarket stereo with RCA audio output you can connect to the PA 64 using a RCA cable which is simpler.

If you are using the stereo speaker output wires, Use the RCA to speaker wire pig tails that come in the box and put the High / Low impedance switch located just below the RCA input plugs on the PA 64 to **“High”**. If you are connecting the stereo to the PA 64 using RCA cables, put the High / Low impedance switch to **“Low”**

Testing

1. Connect your microphone to the “Mic 1” on the front of the PA 64 and / or “Mic 2” on the back.
2. Turn on the vehicle, then the PA 64 power switch (the power light will come on), turn on the microphone and talk in to the mic. Adjust the mic volume with the “Volume” control on the front of the PA 64 to your desired volume.
3. Turn off the mic and turn on the stereo, adjust the radio volume as normal.
4. Turn the “Audio Mute” control on the front of the PA 64 to half way / 50%. (nothing will happen yet)
5. Turn back on the mic and the radio volume will mute to 50% of what you just set. You can adjust the amount of muting by turning the “Audio Mute” control on the front of the PA 64. Full left = no muting, full right = 100% muting. Turn the mic off and the radio will come back up to full volume automatically.
6. You’re done! Now go have a coffee and feel like a pro.

Wrapping up

These instructions might sound difficult, but it’s really quite simple to do the upgrade. We certainly don’t mind answering ANY questions your mechanics might have before, during or after the installation... If any do come up, please give us a call. 1 888 724-5351.

Upgrade and standardize your fleet to Ready2Talk, even your mini busses and vans as it’s always easier for staff training and less stress for management, if all your vehicles work the same way.

Now can use Ready2Talk Condenser mics, which offer better performance, better value and a variety of Wired or Wireless, Hand Mics or Headsets!