

Blaze PowerZone Connect Crestron Driver

Release Notes

SimplWindows name: PowerZone Connect **Category:** Audio/Video Receiver **Current version:** 1.2.4 **Crestron hardware required:** Any ethernet-enabled 3-Series or 4-Series processor **Vendor firmware:** 1.4.0 **Vendor setup:** The amplifier should be installed, configured and tested according to Blaze documentation prior to integration with this driver.

Introduction

This driver has been designed to provide control of the Blaze PowerZone Connect device via an IP connection.

Driver Installation and Configuration

In SIMPL Windows, click **File** > **Open** and navigate to your .smw program file. The module should appear in your **Program View**.

Select **Central Control Module** in the **Program View**, then click the **Configure** button in the toolbar to select the model of your Crestron processor.

To configure the driver, navigate to the .umc files.

Enter the IP address of the PowerZone Connect device in the corresponding parameter. When running the driver, if it fails to connect, first ensure that your device and the Crestron processor are both connected to the same network. If this does not resolve the issue, consult the manual provided by Blaze.

Device Configuration

Configure your device as per the manufacturer's instructions. To find a copy of the user manual for your device, select your model from the manufacturer's website here: <https://blaze-audio.com/products/amps/powerzone/>

If using IP it is recommended that you use a static IP address for the PowerZone Connect.

In order for the Crestron driver to work when the device is in standby, please ensure that the device **Power Management** settings are set to one of the following options so that the driver can still control the device (e.g. to power it back on):

- Audio
- Trigger
- Network Only

These settings are found on the device webpage under **Settings > Power Management**.

Driver Commands

The driver allows control of the PowerZone Connect unit using a Crestron touch panel or equivalent device. Commands to set the device power, zone source, zone volume/mute, zone ducking mode and mix input gain are available.

When using zone commands please note the following:

- If a zone is configured as a stereo pair (e.g A-B, C-D) only use the commands/signals for the first in the pair (e.g. `ZONE_A_VOLUME` for zone A-B, `ZONE_C_VOLUME` for zone C-D).
- If a zone is configured as mono, use the commands/signals for the zone as you would normally (`ZONE_A_VOLUME`, `ZONE_B_VOLUME`...)

In addition, when selecting an input for a zone please note the following:

- If an input is configured as a stereo pair (e.g Analog 3L + 4R) only use the commands/signals for the first input in the pair (e.g. `ZONE_A_INPUT_1` or `ZONE_A_INPUT_3` to select Analog stereo inputs 1L + 2R or 3L + 4R).
- If a zone is configured as mono, use the commands/signals for the zone as you would normally (`ZONE_A_INPUT_1`, `ZONE_A_INPUT_2`...)

Driver Variables

This driver tracks a number of variables in order to provide feedback from the PowerZone Connect unit. These are as follows:

Status

- Connection status
- Stereo/Mono Input stereo pair status
- Stereo/Mono zone stereo pair status

Signal Status

- Signal in status

- Signal out status
- Input_x signal levels
- Input_x is clipped
- Zone_x signal levels

Power

- Device power status

Input Selection

- Current selected input for each output

Outputs

- Volume
- Mute

Mix

- Mix input gain levels

Troubleshooting

- Confirm the Ethernet switch used by the Blaze unit is correctly uplinked to the same network as the Crestron processor.
- Confirm that the correct IP address is defined in the Crestron parameters for the PowerZone Connect control interface.
- In the event that the device is in standby and the unit will not respond to driver commands to switch on, check that the power options have been configured according to the **Device Configuration** section above. If the Standby Mode is set to an Eco mode the unit will not respond to driver commands when in standby.