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Niles Outdoor Applications Guide

Make the Sweet Spot Even Sweeter

When entertaining outdoors, what you really want is smooth, even sound throughout the entire listening area. To achieve this goal, Niles makes two basic types of weatherproof outdoor loudspeakers: conventional stereo and stereo input (SI). They are available in OS and Environmental lines.

Conventional stereo is the two-speaker, left and right setup that we all know and love. Not as well known is stereo input. These loudspeakers provide blended stereo sound from a

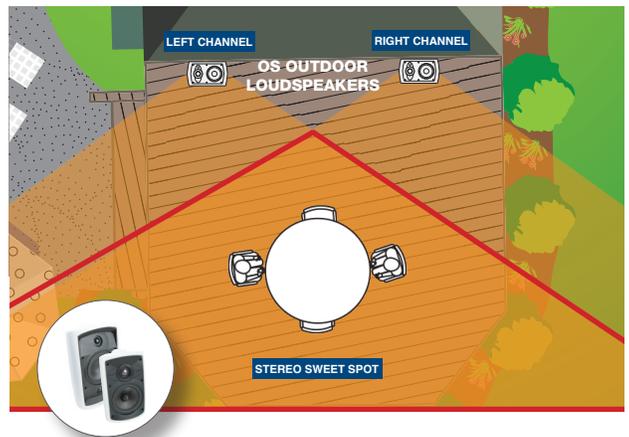
single enclosure. When designing outdoor systems, it really helps to understand the advantages of each, and what all the options are. Why settle for mediocrity when you can have a system that really sings?

Niles rock, Niles OS and environmental loudspeakers are available in both stereo and stereo input (SI) versions. For added flexibility, Niles SI loudspeakers can also be wired as conventional left/right stereo loudspeakers.

APPLICATION #1

Stereo Sound for a Patio with a Fixed Listening Area

In this application, we're working with a typical patio with a relatively fixed listening area: a table and chairs where people gather to dine when the weather is nice. Since most of the listening will be in this one area, the best solution is a pair of Niles OS Indoor/Outdoor Loudspeakers mounted on the wall, wired to play stereo sound. Since the listeners are in the "sweet spot," they are positioned to enjoy the best possible stereo imaging. The sound will be spacious with a realistic soundstage of music filling the area.

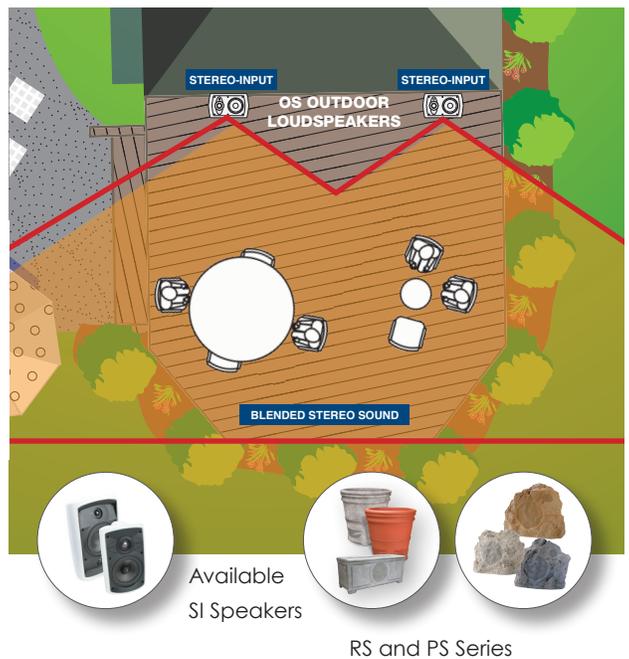


APPLICATION #2

Blended Stereo for a Patio with Multiple Listening Areas

What happens when you step out of the "sweet spot"? In this application, we have multiple listening areas: people enjoying a weekend barbecue sitting at two tables and chairs. Sometimes, these listening areas are not located in the stereo "sweet spot" described in Application #1, so the listener's ability to hear the stereo image is diminished because of their proximity to one speaker. One speaker becomes dominant, masking the sound of the other.

The solution is a pair of Niles stereo input (SI) loudspeakers. SI loudspeakers produce blended stereo sound from a single cabinet by utilizing two properly positioned tweeters and a dual voice coil woofer. The stereo imaging and spaciousness may not be as good as the "sweet spot" using conventional stereo loudspeakers, but in turn, you get even coverage of stereo-like sound. There are SI versions of all Niles outdoor loudspeakers – OS, Rocks, and Planters – so you have plenty of designs to choose from.



APPLICATION #3

Background Music for a Patio with Multiple Listening Areas

In applications where the music is mainly played in the background or where people are constantly moving, consider wiring the loudspeakers for monophonic sound. In this scenario, each loudspeaker plays a combination of both stereo channels, eliminating the sweet spot limitations of stereo. Of course you'll lose the stereo effects in the music, but for background listening, it's a reasonable compromise.

To wire for mono sound, the zone preamp outputs of the multizone receiver are connected to a separate power amplifier using two "Y" adapters. This effectively combines the left and right channels into one. Or you can use a Niles 12-Channel Systems Integration Amplifier™. It provides a simple way to configure channels for stereo or mono (L + R).

