



# 2-PORT CONSOLE SHARING SWITCH



## CS221 User Manual



[www.newstar.nl](http://www.newstar.nl)



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Please read this manual thoroughly and follow the **Installation** procedures to prevent any damage to the Switch or any connecting device.

## ----- *Introduction*

### **Overview**

The NewStar Console Sharing CS221 is a computer-sharing device that allows two users to share one computer. Based on the first-come-first-served principle, the CS221 automatically switches to a console when either user starts to operate his keyboard or mouse. This multi-user-single-tasking device is a perfect solution for small office environment where files can be shared by two users without the trouble of network.

## Features

- Supports PS/2 keyboard and mouse of different models at each port
- First-come-first-served basis
- Automatic or manual selection
- Operating system independent
- High VGA resolution: up to 1920 x 1440
- Power-free operation
- No software is required

## -----Installation

### Console Connection

Turn your computer off. Connect two PS/2 keyboards to the mini-DIN-6 ports: K-1 and K-2. And, connect two PS/2 mice to the mini-DIN-6 ports: M-1 and M-2. Then connect two VGA monitors directly to the HDB-15 ports as shown in figure 1.

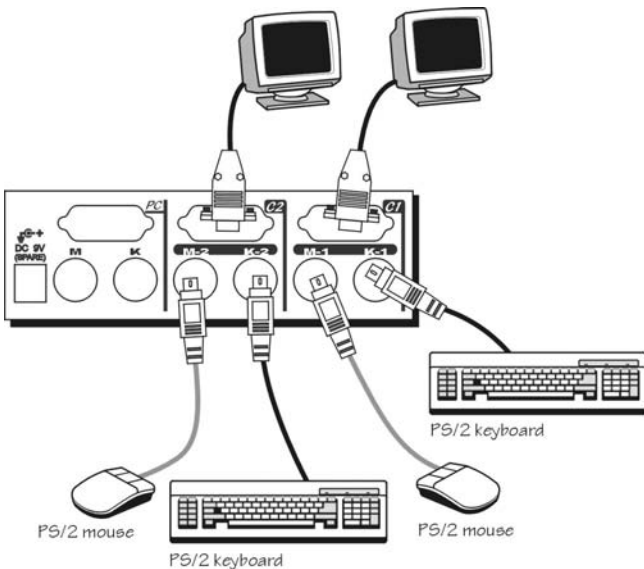


Figure 1: Console Connection

## Computers Connection

Keyboard (**K**), mouse (**M**) and monitor ports of the computer must be connected to the CS221 as shown in figure 2.

*Note: If your computer uses an AT style keyboard, you will need an "AT to PS/2 keyboard adapter" at the computer keyboard port.*

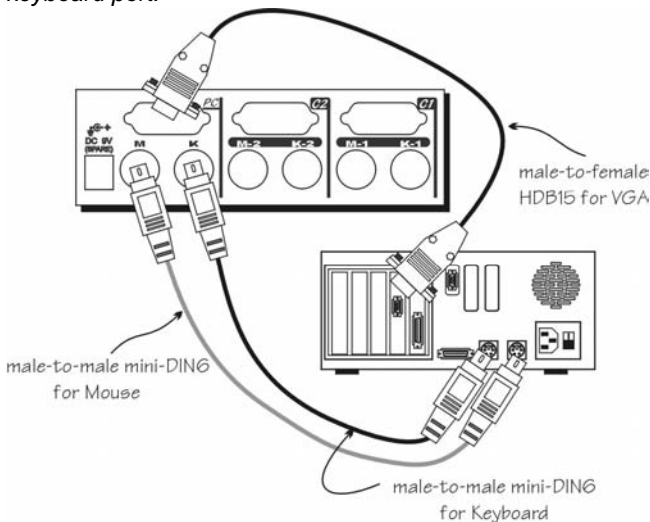


Figure 2: Computer Connection



## Initial Power-up

Make sure the computer and the NewStar Console Sharing KVM switch are powered down before installation. After connection completes, power up the computer. The NewStar Console Sharing can be powered from the computer. This procedure ensures the NewStar Console Sharing receive computer settings correctly when computer boots.



## ----- *Operations*

### **Auto Mode**

On power up, the CS221 is in idle mode broadcasting VGA signal to both monitors and detecting for keyboard and mouse activity. Both User LEDs lit indicating the NewStar Console Sharing is not in use. When either keyboard or mouse activity is detected at one console, the NewStar Console Sharing immediately disables the other Console from accessing the computer. Only one User LED remains lit indicating the NewStar Console Sharing is under user operation. In the mean time, keyboard LEDs (Num/Caps/Scroll Lock) of the other console start to flash as its access is denied while CS221 broadcasting video signals to both monitors. After the user has finished his operation for a period of time (i.e. User Timeout), the multi-access NewStar Console Sharing returns to idle state.

At any time, pressing the front pushbutton forces the CS221 cycle through port selection (see Manual Mode). The operating user can press the <Scroll Lock> key twice to terminate the timeout and return the CS221 to idle mode immediately.

## Manual Mode

By pressing the front panel pushbutton, the CS221 cycles its access right from User A -> User B -> Auto -> User A... At any time during operation, pressing the pushbutton forces the NewStar Console Sharing to cycle its access right. Manual mode is useful when a user intends to access the computer for a long period of time. A user may terminate his access by pressing the font pushbutton to select a different port.

## *Hot-key Commands*

Hot-key command is a short keystroke sequence to set User Timeout.

left-**Ctrl** left-**Ctrl** **F4**

## *User Timeout*

After a user has finished his operation for a period of time (i.e., User Timeout), the CS221 returns to idle mode. User Timeout has three options, 5 sec, 30 sec and 60 sec. For user in operation, pressing **Scroll Lock** twice forces the CS221 return to idle mode immediately regardless of the User Timeout setting.



## ----- Appendices

### Specifications

<b>CS221</b>	
No. of computer supported	1
Console port number	2
Front panel button control	1
Hot plug-and-play	Yes
Hot-key control	Yes
User timeout interval	5 sec, 30 sec and 60 sec
Cable length	30M max at computer and console
VGA	1920 x 1440, DDC2B
Computer connector	
Keyboard	PS/2 x 1
Mouse	PS/2 x 1
Monitor	HDB-15 x 1
Console connector	
Keyboard	PS/2 x 2
Mouse	PS/2 x 2
Monitor	HDB-15 x 2
H x W x D (mm)	40 x 124 x 70
Enclosure	Metal
Weight	420g

## Troubleshooting

Ensure that all cables are well seated. Check that keyboard and mouse cables are not swapped. Label and bundle the cables for computer and consoles to avoid confusion when connected to the NewStar Console Sharing.

<i>Symptom</i>	<i>Causes</i>	<i>Solutions</i>
Keyboard or mouse does not work	Loose keyboard/mouse cable connection  Improper power-up sequence	Make sure the keyboard and mouse connectors are well mated.  Unplug-then-plug the keyboard and mouse cables
One set of console does not work; the other console works well.	The other console is taking control of the switch.	Wait till the other console stops using the switch, or press the front panel button to release its selection.
One of the monitor is dark or does not have VGA signal.	The other console is taking control of the switch that it mouse is moved by accident.	Some mice are sensitive to motion. Please the mouse upside down to avoid unnecessary mouse activity
One set of console works but the other does not.	Both keyboards and mice are not of the same type and require different drivers.	Use keyboards and mice of the same type to avoid device drivers from getting confused.

<p>Keyboard and mouse do not work at all or from time to time</p>	<p>Both keyboards and mice use too much power, the computer does not provide enough power.</p>	<p>Establish power by applying a power adapter to the switch.</p>
<p>VGA image is fuzzy or not very clear.</p>	<p>Poor quality VGA cables</p>	<p>Most VGA problem comes from poor-quality VGA cables. Please use a high-quality UL-2919 rated VGA cable to connect from the computer to the switch.</p>

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