

IntelliGain™

User Manual

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EVERTZ MICROSYSTEMS LTD.

5288 John Lucas Drive,
Burlington, Ontario,
Canada L7L 5Z9

Phone: 905-335-3700
Sales: sales@evertz.com Fax: 905-335-3573
Tech Support: service@evertz.com Fax: 905-335-7571
Web Page: <http://www.evertz.com>

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REVISION HISTORY

<u>REVISION</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
1.0	First Release	Nov 2007
1.1	Updated VistaLINK® screenshots to reflect new controls (Hold Time, Audio Source Select).	July 2009
1.2	Added "Noise Floor Threshold" parameter	Oct 2009
1.2.1	Updated features	Oct 2010
1.3	Changed dBFS references to LKFS, added recommended defaults	Dec 2010
1.3.1	Updated product features	Jan 2011
1.4	Updated VLPRO sections	Dec 2012
1.5	Updated "Relationship between Audio Programs and Audio Channels" table	Feb 2013
1.6	Updates throughout	June 2013

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1. OVERVIEW

IntelliGain™ is a technology developed by Evertz to control the loudness of audio programs on the fly. More specifically, it calculates the perceived loudness of the input audio and modifies the audio to ensure that the long-term average loudness level is at the target level. IntelliGain™ works with mono, stereo and multi-channel audio per program and can handle up to 16 programs simultaneously. The objective loudness calculation is based on ITU Recommendation (ITU-R BS.1770), "Algorithms to measure audio program loudness and true-peak audio level". This recommendation provides equations for calculating loudness over mono, stereo and multi-channel audio programs. IntelliGain™ constantly calculates audio program loudness. When the loudness is over the target level, it reduces the gain; and when the loudness is below the target level, it increases the gain. The gain adjustment smoothness is user-controllable by setting attack and release times.

Features:

- Normalize loudness of audio programs to a target level
- Supports up to 16 programs and 16 channels
- Relatively constant gain within a program interval to preserve audio dynamic range
- Simultaneously process multiple multi-channel programs
- User adjustable attack and release times
- Applied loudness algorithm ITU-R BS. 1770
- Peak limiting
- LKFS calculations
- Momentary, short term and integrated loudness measurements

2. TOP LEVEL INTELLIGAIN™ CONFIGURATION

The IntelliGain™ Configuration tab displays the top-level IntelliGain™ control interface. There are a number of parameters that control both the Intelligent leveler and the on-board dynamic processor (compressor, expander, limiter).

Recommended default settings are underlined.

Table 2-1 provides a brief overview of the top level of the IntelliGain™ Configuration menu tree. The details of each of the menu items are described in sections 2.1 to 2.8.

Program Configuration Source	Defines how the audio channels are grouped together.
Leveler Attack Mode	Defines the maximum integration time that is applied when loudness increases during a program period.
Leveler Release Mode	Defines the maximum integration time that is applied when loudness decreases during a program period.
Comander Attack Time	Defines how quickly the compander reacts to an increase in the input loudness.
Comander Release Time	Defines how quickly the compander reacts to a decrease in the input loudness.
Audio Source Select	Defines the audio channels that will be fed into the program audio channels.

Table 2-1: IntelliGain™ Configuration Options

Figure 2-1 shows the IntelliGain™ Configuration view from the VistaLINK® NMS.

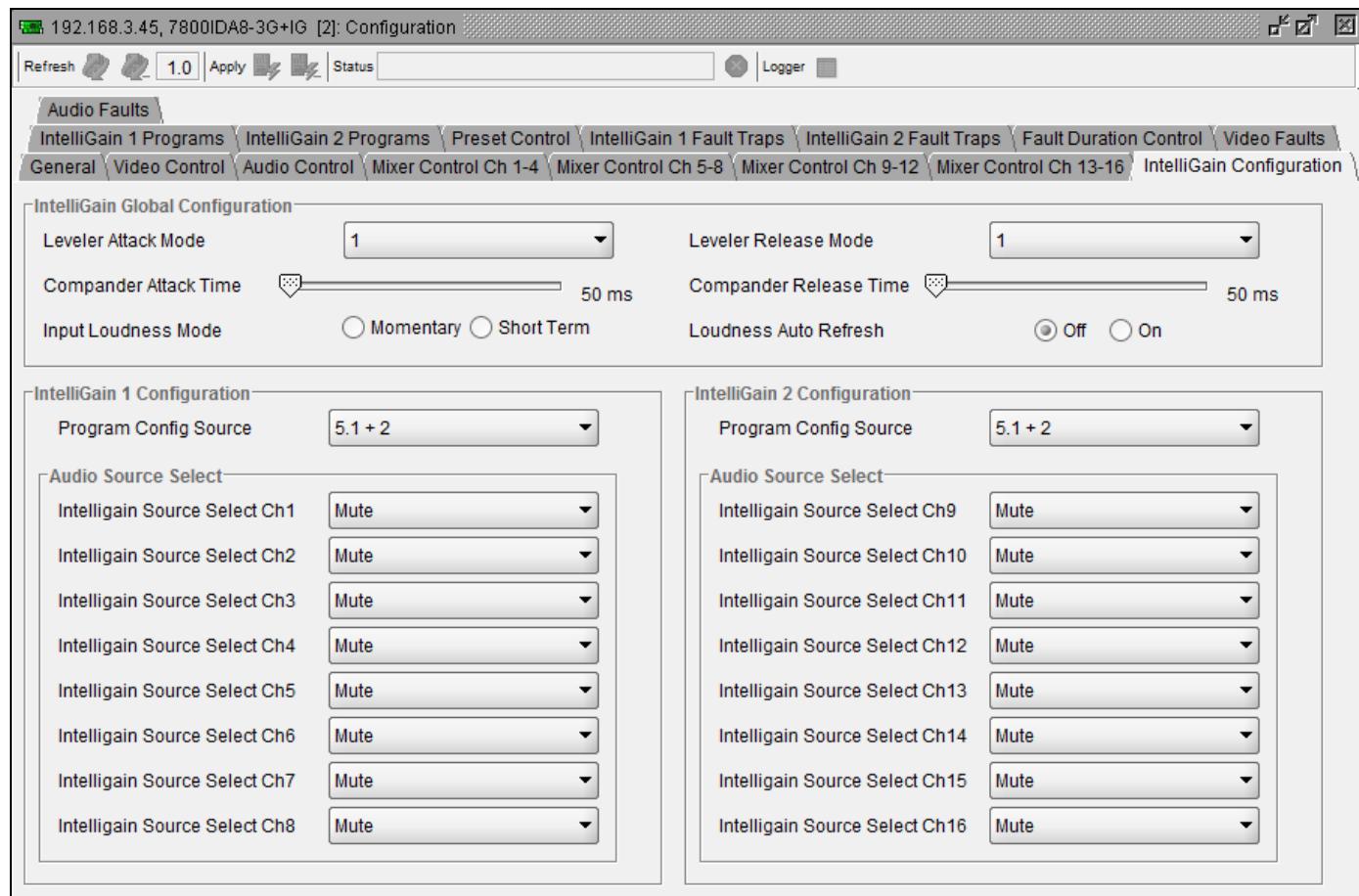


Figure 2-1: IntelliGain™ Configuration Screen (7800IDA8-3G+IG Shown)

Sections 2.1 to 2.8 provide detailed explanations for each control available in the IntelliGain™ Configuration Source tab.



Please Note: Some older implementations will have slightly different controls.

2.1. SETTING THE PROGRAM CONFIGURATION SOURCE

IntelliGain 1 Configuration	
Program Configuration Source	
5.1+2	
5.1 + 1 + 1	
4 + 4	
4 + 2 + 2	
4 + 2 + 1 + 1	
4 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	
2 + 2 + 2 + 2	
2 + 2 + 2 + 1 + 1	
2 + 2 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	
2 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	
1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	
5.1	
4 + 2	
4 + 1 + 1	
2 + 2 + 2	
2 + 2 + 1 + 1	
2 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	
1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	
4	
2 + 2	
2 + 1 + 1	
1 + 1 + 1 + 1	
7.1	
7.1 Screen	
2 + 5.1	
1 + 1 + 5.1	
2 + 2 + 2 + 2 (p1, p2, p3, p4)	
2 + 2 + 2 + 1 + 1 (p1, p2, p3, p4, p5)	
2 + 2 + 2 (p1, p2, p3)	

This parameter defines how the audio channels are grouped together. Up to eight channels can be grouped together in individual programs, where each program contains its own metadata. IntelliGain™ uses this parameter to configure multiple internal settings.

This control must be set to define the audio program provided as the input to IntelliGain™.

For simplicity only IntelliGain 1 Configuration is shown.

Note: It is important to follow the program to channel mapping guidelines, which are provided in Table 2-3. For example, Program Configuration Source 2 + 2 + 2 + 2 defines audio program 1 mapped to AES 1, audio program 2 mapped to AES 4, audio program 3 mapped to AES 2 and audio program 4 mapped to AES 3. Program Configuration Source 2 + 2 + 2 + 2 (p1, p2, p3, p4) has the audio program mapped sequentially.

Table 2-3 provides a list of programs to channel mapping guidelines. For example, configuration 5.1+2, program 1 (P1) is mapped to channel CH1 to CH6 and program 2 (P2) is mapped to channel CH7 to CH8. Table 2-2 provides a list of abbreviations used:

Abbreviations	Description
P	Program
CH	Channel
L	Left or left front
R	Right or right front
C	Center or mono
LFE	Low frequency effect
Ls	Left surround
Rs	Right surround
Bsl	Back surround left
Bsr	Back surround right

Table 2-2: Abbreviations

3. INTELLIGAIN™ CONFIGURATION BY AUDIO PROGRAM

IntelliGain™ can individually process up to eight audio programs independently. An audio program defines how the audio is grouped together.

For example, a 5.1+2 program configuration mode is defined to have 2 audio programs. The first audio program is 5.1 and the second is 2.

Table 3-1 outlines the relationship between the program configuration mode and the number of audio programs.

Program Configuration	Number of Programs
5.1 + 2	2
5.1 + 1 + 1	3
4 + 4	2
4 + 2 + 2	3
4 + 2 + 1 + 1	4
4 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	5
2 + 2 + 2 + 2	4
2 + 2 + 2 + 1 + 1	5
2 + 2 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	6
2 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	6
1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	8
4	1
2 + 2	2
2 + 1 + 1	3
1 + 1 + 1 + 1	4
7.1	1
7.1 Screen	1
2 + 5.1	2
1 + 1 + 5.1	3
2 + 2 + 2 + 2 (p1, p2, p3, p4)	4
2 + 2 + 2 + 1 + 1 (p1, p2, p3, p4, p5)	5
2 + 2 + 2 (p1, p2, p3)	3

Table 3-1: Relationship between Program Configuration Mode and Audio Programs

The internal IntelliGain™ engine will analyze the value of the selected Program Config Source. This value will determine how many Program VistaLINK® tabs are to be accessible.

For example, if a program configuration source of 5.1 + 2 is selected, then 2 program configuration tabs will be user accessible. However, if a program configuration source of 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 is selected then 4 program configuration tabs will be accessible.

Figure 3-1 identifies up to eight program configuration tabs that are accessible via the VistaLINK® NMS.

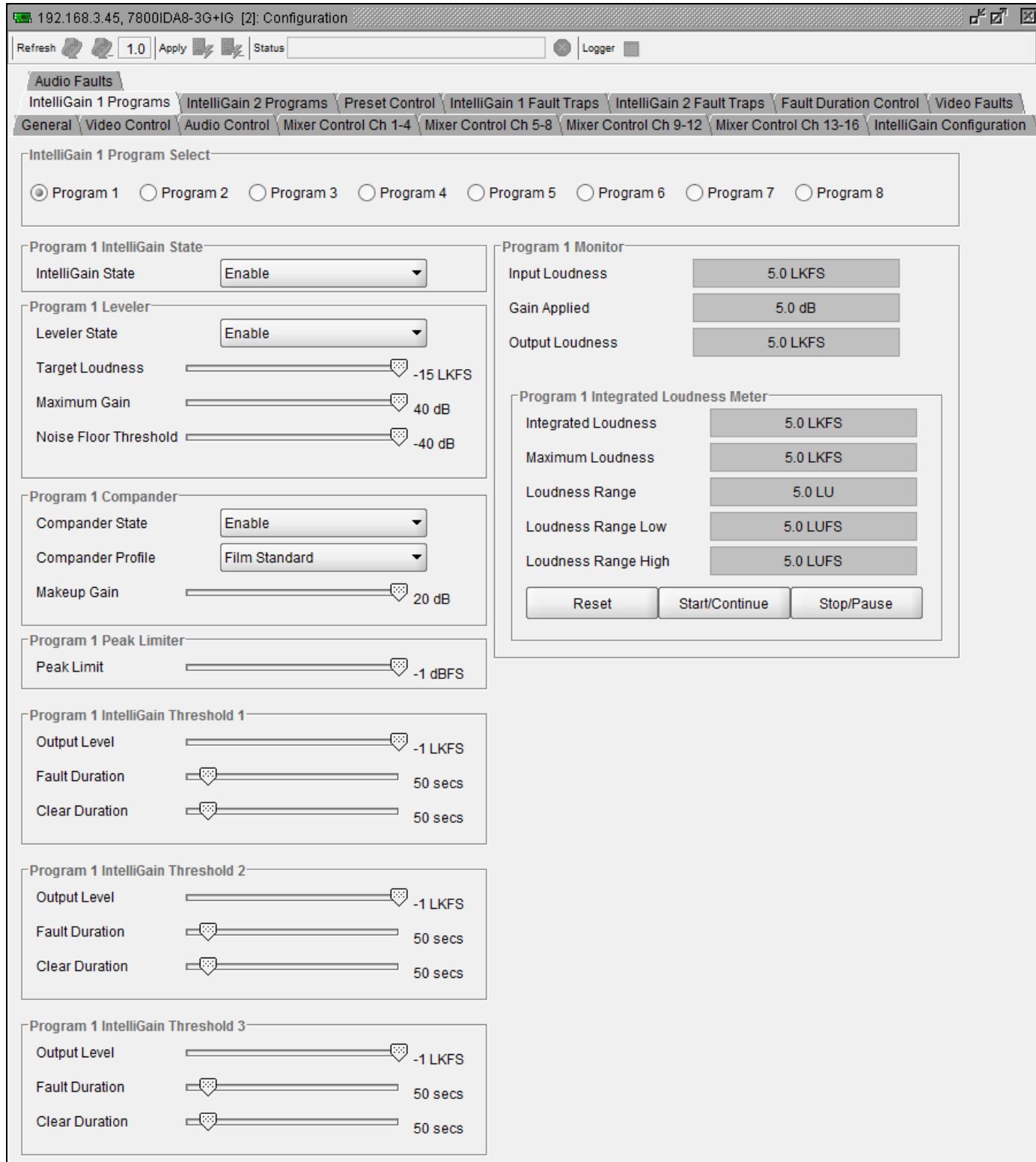


Figure 3-1: Program 1 Configuration View

3.1. PROGRAM CONFIGURATION CONTROL

Once IntelliGain™ is configured for the desired audio programs, the VistaLINK® program configuration tabs will become activated. The user interface and program configuration tabs are identical.

Sections 3.1.1 to 3.1.10 provide detailed explanations for each control available in the Program Configuration tab. Since each program configuration interface is identical, only Program 1 will be described.

3.1.1. Setting the IntelliGain™ State

Program 1
IntelliGain State
<u>Enable</u>
<u>Disable</u>

The *IntelliGain State* control is the master switch for the IntelliGain™ processor, which is used for the given audio program. Set this control to *Enable* to initiate IntelliGain™ processing.

3.1.2. Setting the Leveler State

Program 1
Leveler State
<u>Enable</u>
<u>Disable</u>

The *Leveler State* control is used to activate the IntelliGain™ audio leveler. The leveler is used to level each individual audio channel to the target loudness level. Set this control to *Enable* to activate the IntelliGain™ audio leveler.

3.1.3. Setting the Target Loudness

Program 1
Target Loudness
<u>-35 LKFS to -15LKFS</u>
<u>-24 LKFS (ATSC)</u>
<u>-23 LKFS (EBU)</u>

The *Target Loudness* control is used to set the target loudness level for the given audio program. The IntelliGain™ processor will level the audio to this value. Note that if the compander is enabled, it is desirable to set the target loudness parameter to the range (-31 LKFS to -26 LKFS) and use *Makeup Gain* control to reach the final desired target loudness level.

3.1.4. Setting the Maximum Gain

Program 1
Maximum Gain
<u>0 to 40 LKFS</u>
<u>15</u>

The *Maximum Gain* control is the total amount of gain that the IntelliGain™ engine will apply. For example, setting this control to 10 LKFS indicates that IntelliGain™ is not to add anymore than 10 LKFS of gain to the audio program, even if the audio program requires more gain to reach the target loudness level.

3.1.5. Setting the Noise Floor Threshold (If Available)

Program 1
Noise Floor Threshold
<u>-70 LKFS to -40 LKFS</u>
<u>-60</u>

The *Noise Floor Threshold* control is used to set the threshold level for IntelliGain™ processing. Levels below this value will not have IntelliGain™ processing applied.

3.1.6. Setting the Hold Time (If Available)

Program 1

Hold Time

Immediate

1 second – 14 seconds

Adaptive

The *Hold Time* control is used to set the hold time for the given audio program. The IntelliGain™ processor will wait this period of time to add gain once the level goes below the target loudness. The adaptive setting will vary the hold time depending on the content for optimal sound quality.



Please Note: Hold Time has been removed and will always be set to Adaptive.

3.1.7. Setting the Comander State (If Available)

Program 1

Comander State

Enable

Disable

The *Comander State* control is used to activate the on-board compressor/expander, otherwise known as the compander. The use of the compander allows audio signals with a large dynamic range to be transmitted over facilities that have a smaller dynamic range capability. The compander works by compressing or expanding the dynamic range of the audio signal.

3.2.2. Monitoring the Gain Applied

Program 1
Gain Applied
Read Only Monitor

The *Gain Applied* control will provide a real time value indicating the amount of gain being applied by the IntelliGain™ system. Values can be either negative, indicating a gain reduction, or positive, indicating gain is being applied.

3.2.3. Monitoring the Output Loudness

Program 1
Output Loudness
Read Only Monitor

The *Output Loudness* control will provide a real time value of the calculated output loudness value. This control is used for monitoring purposes only. It is used to provide confidence monitoring.

3.2.4. Monitoring the Integrated Loudness

Program 1
Integrated Loudness
Read Only Monitor

The *Integrated Loudness* control will provide a real time value of the calculated integrated loudness value. This control is used for monitoring purposes only.

The period of the integrated loudness measurement is defined by the *Start/Continue* and *Stop/Pause* buttons defined in sections 3.2.10 and 3.2.11. Once the *Stop/Pause* button is activated, the loudness of the segment(s) defined by all active periods is calculated.

The integrated loudness measurement is performed using the gating function specified in ITU-R BS.1770-2 summarized as follows:

- an absolute gating threshold at -70 LKFS is used to compute the absolute-gated loudness level
- a relative gating threshold that is 10 LU below the absolute-gated loudness level is applied
- the measurement input to which the gating threshold is applied is the loudness of 400 ms blocks with a constant overlap between consecutive gating blocks of 75%

3.2.5. Monitoring the Maximum Loudness

Program 1
Maximum Loudness
Read Only Monitor

The *Maximum Loudness* control will provide a real time value of the calculated maximum loudness value within the duration of the *Integrated Loudness* calculation. This control is used for monitoring purposes only.

3.3. SETTING THE OUTPUT LEVEL THRESHOLD (1, 2, 3)

Program 1
Output Level Threshold (1,2,3)
-65 LKFS to -1 LKFS

The *Output Level Threshold* control is used for real time monitoring and SNMP trap alarming. By defining the output level, the IntelliGain™ system will send an SNMP alarm to VistaLINK® if the output loudness level exceeds the defined output level. For example, by setting this control to –18 LKFS, if the calculated output loudness level exceeds –18 LKFS (for the specified fault duration) then an alarm will be sent to VistaLINK® for immediate operator notification. There are 3 levels of alarm thresholds. These can be setup as minor, major and critical alarming thresholds.

3.4. SETTING THE FAULT DURATION

Program 1
Fault Duration
0.5 to 240 seconds

The *Fault Duration* control defines the amount of time that the IntelliGain™ system detects the output level has been exceeded. For example, if this control is set to 25 seconds; this means that the output level has to be exceeded for a minimum of 25 seconds before an SNMP trap alarm is sent to VistaLINK®.

3.5. SETTING THE CLEAR DURATION

Program 1
Clear Duration
0.5 to 240 seconds

The *Clear Duration* defines the amount of time that the IntelliGain™ system must be corrected to before a correction SNMP trap is sent to VistaLINK®. For example, if this control is set to 10 seconds; this means that the IntelliGain™ output level fault must be corrected for a minimum of 10 seconds before a correction alarm is sent to VistaLINK®. This control is primarily used to smooth out alarming for audio with a very wide dynamic range.

4. INTELLIGAIN™ FAULT TRAPS

The IntelliGain™ system can provide real time analysis and confidence monitoring with SNMP trap alarm notification. These alarms can be enabled and disabled on an individual audio program basis using the IntelliGain™ Fault Traps configuration tab.

To enable or disable an SNMP alarm notification, either check or un-check the defined control.

The system also provides real time trap status information. If a trap is sent by the IntelliGain™ system, the trap status box will change state indicating the real time value for that trap. For example, if the trap status box is the colour green, then the trap has not been sent. However, if the status box is the colour red, then the fault is in a current state of alarm. Once corrected, the status box will turn back to the colour green.

Table 4-1 identifies the VistaLINK® configuration view for the IntelliGain™ Fault Traps.

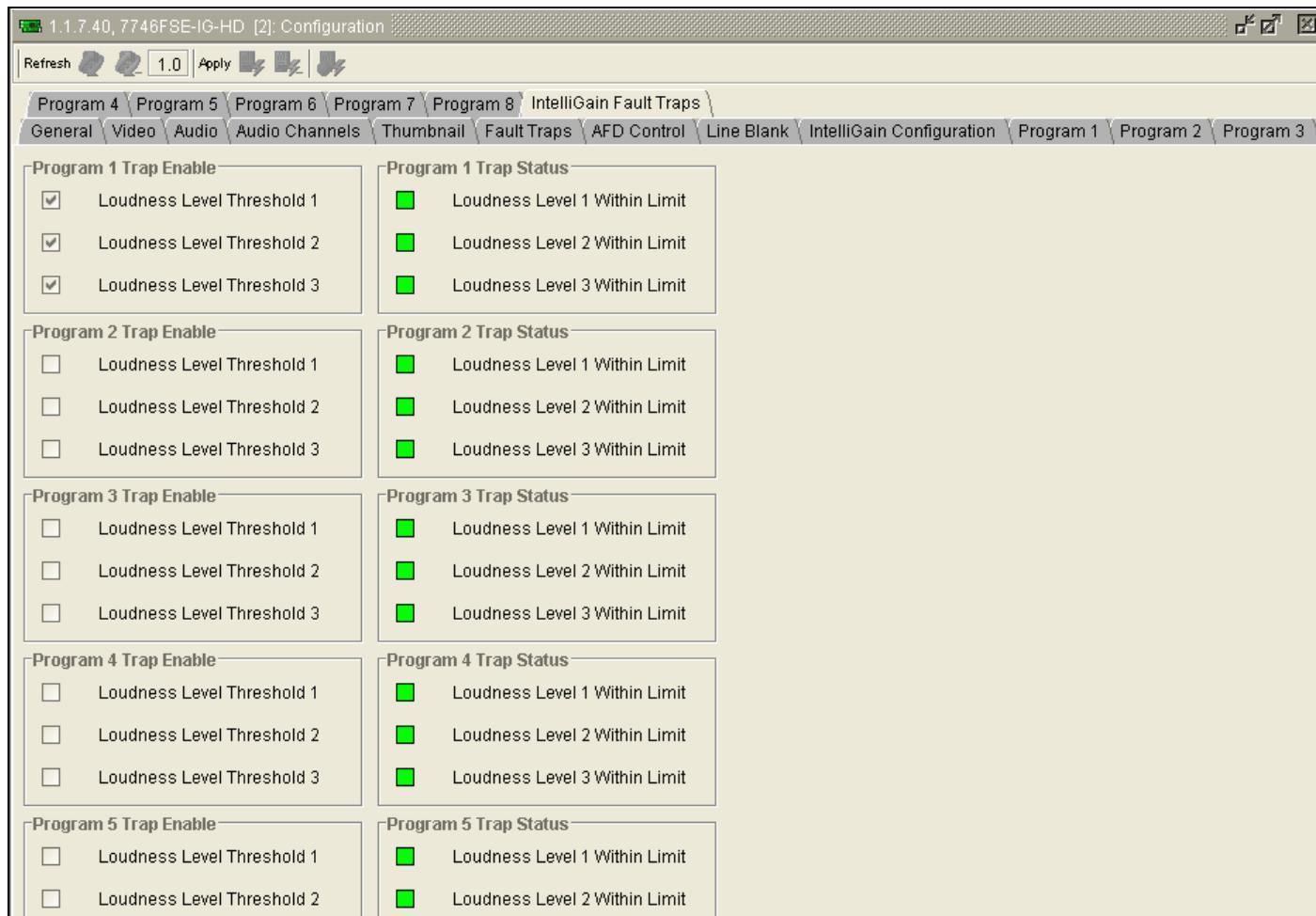


Table 4-1: IntelliGain™ Fault Traps