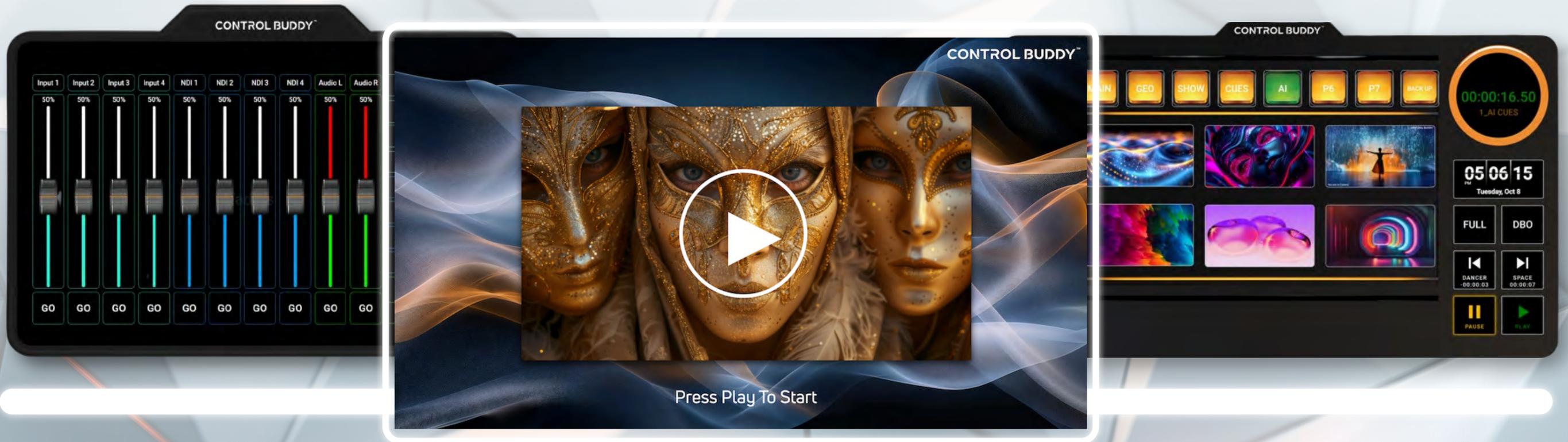# CONTROL BUDDY™

You are in Control

Press Play To Start

Control Made Simple

What is Control Buddy

Control Buddy is an innovative, pro-built control system for the A\V industry, designed to be used by everyone—from seasoned programmers to front-desk staff, or even volunteers and customers.

The fully customizable interface makes even the most complex media server operations as simple as pushing a button. Built with deep industry knowledge, it's not just easy and affordable, but purpose-built to handle the real-world demands of daily A\V operations.

Why Control Buddy

Control Buddy simplifies complex workflows into intuitive dashboards and control pages. With one click, trigger sequences, non-technical staff monitor status easily, and all devices stay in sync. It saves time, reduces errors, and scales with your production—without added complexity.

How Control Buddy Will Benefit You

Save Time. Reduce Errors. Maximize ROI.

- **Import previous build shows** other solutions need to be build from scratch
- **Faster setup** with drag-and-drop layouts and templates
- **Easy operation** for non-technical users
- **Repeatable workflows** for any size project
- **Fewer errors** with lockable interfaces and real-time feedback
- **Stronger ROI** by saving time, lowering costs, and boosting reliability

Where Control Buddy Shines

Control Buddy is built to simplify complex control across industries. Whether you're managing a single room or an entire facility, it adapts to your workflow—making advanced operations easy, repeatable, and reliable. Here are five markets where Control Buddy delivers real impact:

▶ **Immersive Rooms**

Designed for interactive and immersive environments, Control Buddy handles synchronized media playback and timeline control—ensuring smooth, reliable experiences from start to finish.

▶ **Experience Centers & Showrooms**

Control Buddy simplifies multi-room control, allowing operators to manage media playback from a single, intuitive interface—ideal for guided tours, demos, and client presentations.

▶ **Corporate & Conference Environments**

Streamline A\V operations in boardrooms, control rooms, and auditoriums. Control Buddy enables easy control of projectors, video walls, and presets, even for non-technical users.

▶ **Museums & Visitor Attractions**

Create repeatable, time-based shows across multiple exhibits. Control Buddy ensures smooth transitions, triggers media playback, and reduces the need for on-site technical staff.

▶ **Events, Live Shows & Broadcast**

Perfect for timeline playback, show control, and cue-based operations. Control Buddy supports media server integration and gives show operators reliable, oneclick access to complex sequences.

Challenges the Market Faces — and How Control Buddy Solves Them

▲ Too Complex to Operate, Too Simple to Scale

The Challenge:
Many systems are either too technical (expensive) or too basic for real control.

How Control Buddy Solves It:
- Bridges the gap between high-end control systems and entry-level solutions
- Combines power with simplicity—easy for non-tech staff, deep enough for programmers
- Customizable consoles for any environment or user level

The Handover Problem

▲ The Challenge:
Skilled programmers build the system... but can't easily hand it off to everyday users.

How Control Buddy Solves It:
- Separates programming from operation with a dual-sided ecosystem
- Operators get locked, foolproof interfaces—no risk of misclicks or edits
- Makes it easy to hand over a show, venue, or project to non-technical staff

Slow Workflows, Wasted Hours

▲ The Challenge:
Programming and setup take too long, especially for repeat shows.

How Control Buddy Solves It:
- Drag-and-drop interface and reusable templates
- Import features let you build once, use again
- Faster programming = faster handovers and quicker shows

▲ Training Costs and User Confidence

The Challenge:
New staff need extensive training to use traditional control systems.

How Control Buddy Solves It:
- Interfaces designed for real people—touchscreen ready and intuitive
- Role-based access: receptionist, tech, FOH, and show caller each get what they need
- Minimal training required = faster onboarding, fewer errors

▲ Difficult to Scale or Standardize

The Challenge:
Every installation/show feels like a one-off; there's no repeatability.

How Control Buddy Solves It:
- Templates, presets, and shared logic make standardization easy
- Works for a single room—or across an entire venue
- Grow from simple shows to full installations without starting over

Bottom Line: Control Buddy Solves What Others Overlook
- Faster setup, easier handover
- Real-time awareness and control
- One system for everyone, from expert to intern
- Scalable, repeatable, and built for the real world experience

CONTROL BUDDY™

Integration with WATCHOUT

Powerful Playback. Effortless Control.

Control Buddy offers robust, real-time control of Dataton WATCHOUT, transforming how you manage timeline-based playback, routing, and source switching—across any setup, from single-screen shows to multi-display shows.

Through direct API integration with both WATCHOUT 6 and 7, Control Buddy communicates instantly with your WATCHOUT setup and sever. Timelines, cues, tasks, and outputs are controlled from any Control Buddy module—on a touchscreen, browser, or tablet—with no need for custom scripts or complex programming.

You get complete control with total confidence:
- Trigger timelines and cues from intuitive modules designed for speed and clarity
- Monitor playback status and server feedback in real time
- Design customized layouts for FOH operators, technicians, or clients
- Multi-user access across departments, devices, and roles
- Secure operation with the separation of programming and live control

Whether you're in a permanent installation or running a high-stakes live event, Control Buddy brings reliability, speed, and flexibility to WATCHOUT—without compromise.

WATCHOUT performance. Control Buddy precision. You are in Control.

The Power Behind Control Buddy

Built on the Control Buddy Engine & Dual Ecosystem

At the Core: The Control Buddy Engine

The Control Buddy Engine is the central brain that powers all logic, connectivity, and automation.
From here, you build and deploy powerful digital modules—Select, Panther, and Thyrus—each optimized for specific workflows and control tasks.

Separation of Powers: Dual-Sided Ecosystem

What truly sets Control Buddy apart is its Powerful Dual Ecosystem—a clear and secure separation of powers between programming and operation:

Programmer Side – Advanced users design layouts, build logic, automate control, and monitor real-time data

Module Side – Operators run the show using locked, intuitive modules—no risk of accidental changes

This unique structure gives teams complete control and operators complete confidence.

Professional Security – What's built stays protected

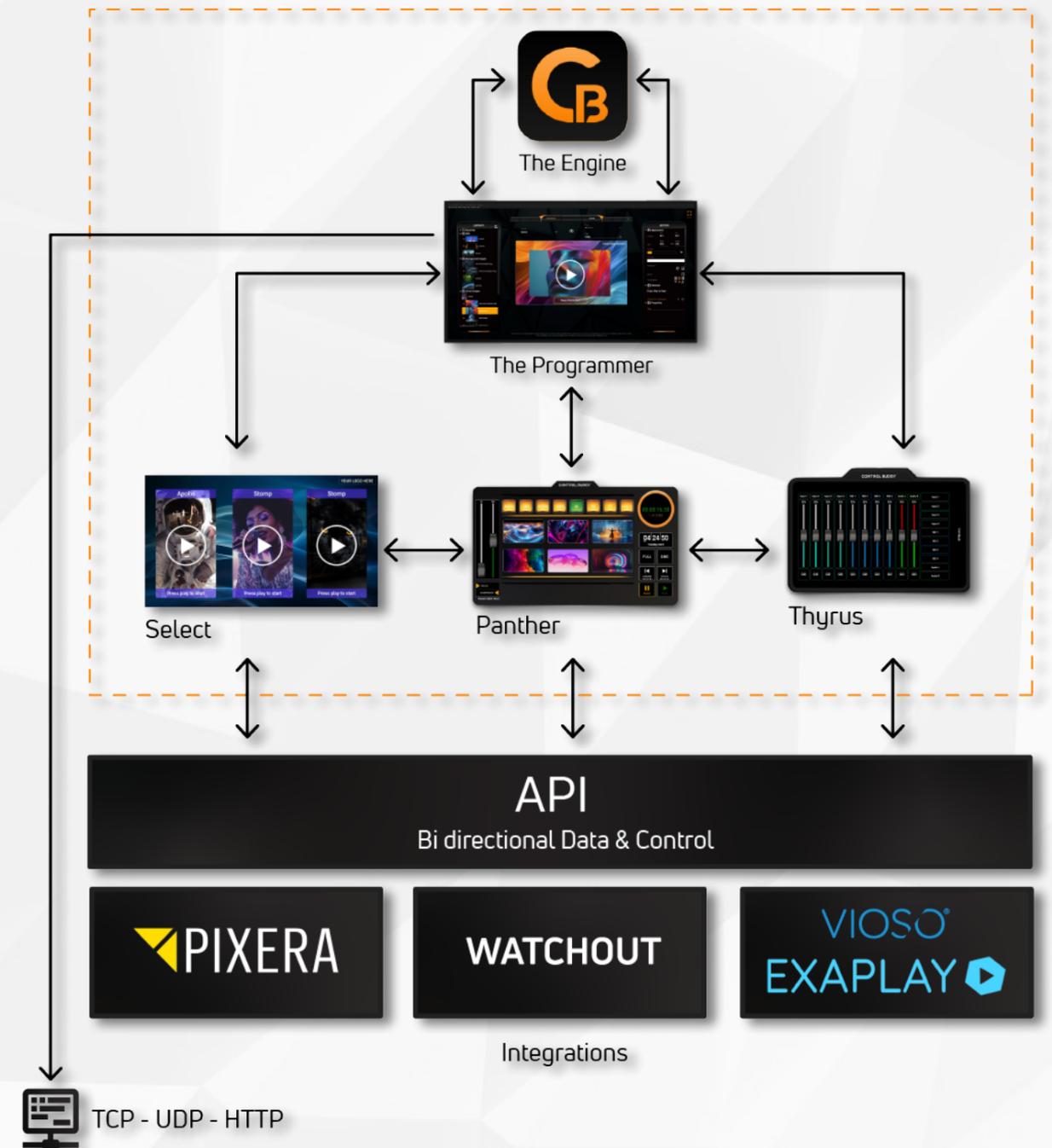**Ease of Use** – Anyone can run the system—no technical skills needed

Live Updates – Programming changes appear instantly on all modules

Multi-User Friendly – Programmers, operators, and clients each have the right tools for their role

The Result

Control Buddy is repeatable, scalable, and made for real-world demands.
From small shows to complex installations, it delivers a flexible, reliable, and professional-grade solution that gives your clients confidence—and gives you the edge in every pitch.

Control Buddy Workflow:

Different Modules. One Engine. Dual-Sided by Design.

At the heart of Control Buddy is the Control Buddy Engine—the centralized brain that powers all logic, automation, connectivity, and device communication. Everything in the system—every timeline trigger, button press, status readout, or feedback loop—is orchestrated here.

Control Buddy is built as a Powerful Dual-Sided Ecosystem, separating The Programmer Side from the Operator Side. On the Programmer Side, advanced users configure layouts, program action sequences, and set up logic. On the Operator Side, you deploy one or more modules (Select, Panther, or Thyrus), each optimized for a specific role or scenario.

This separation ensures control, safety, and confidence: operators can't accidentally delete or modify the programming, while programmers maintain full flexibility in configuration.

One Engine. Many Interfaces. Unified Control.

Whether you're deploying a single module or a complete suite, all modules operate in sync through the Control Buddy Engine. Because they share the same foundation, you can:
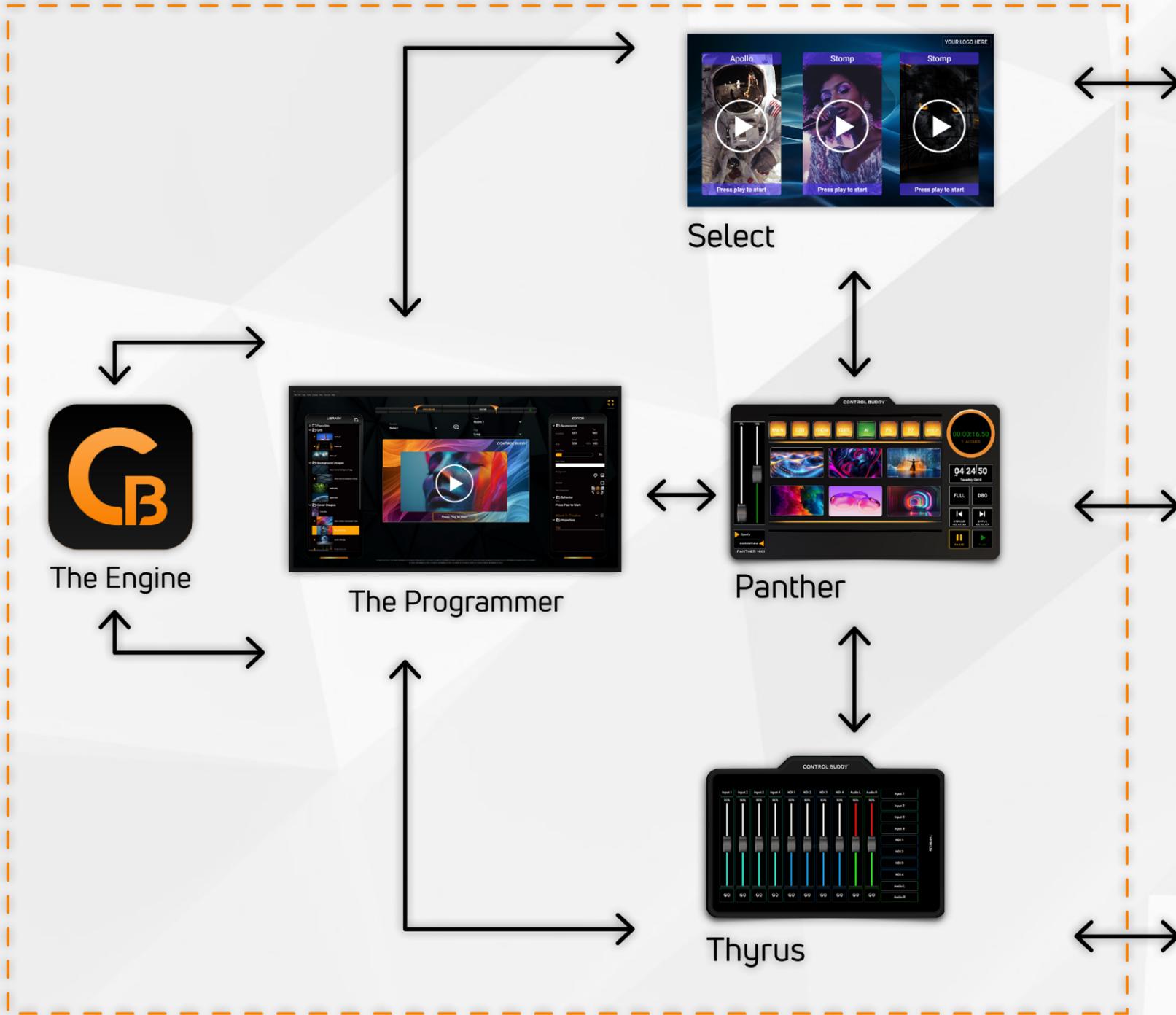
- Build once in The Programmer and deploy across multiple modules
- Copy and reuse functionality between modules to fit each operator's role
- Maintain consistency, speed up setup, and simplify future changes

This dual-sided architecture means programmers stay in control, while operators get the tools they need—fast, secure, and always up to date.

Build it your way. Run it their way. All without compromise.

Control Buddy Workflow

Select

The Engine

The Programmer

Panther

Thyrus

Select Module - Advanced. Branded. Multi-room.

Select is the most powerful operator module. It offers a fully customizable interface that can be branded and designed for high-end control environments, spanning multiple rooms or user groups.

- Deploy in showrooms, venues, museums, or control centers
- Use custom branding, images, layouts, and status indicators
- Ideal for client-facing roles and installation environments
- Clone layouts or functions from Panther or Thyrus for unified cross-role interfaces
- Operates securely without exposing programming layers

Panther Module - Speed meets precision.

Panther is purpose-built for timeline playback and live control. With large buttons, cue structures, and real-time feedback, it's designed for operators who need speed, clarity, and rock-solid response.

- Perfect for live shows, corporate events, and media server operation
- Launch cues, sequences, or timelines with precision
- Get live system status at a glance
- Copy from Select or Thyrus to quickly align operator tools across departments
- Fully isolated from programming to ensure secure handovers

Thyrus Module - Switch. Route. Control.

Thyrus is the go-to module for switching presets, selecting sources, or controlling routings. It's ideal for technical teams managing AV infrastructure or non-technical staff in daily operations.

- Designed for museums, exhibitions, or routing environments
- Simple and reliable interface that reduces error risk
- Frequently used by support staff, reception, or technical supervisors
- Supports rapid duplication of preset logic or controls from other modules
- Keeps control streamlined while the logic remains secure

Highlighted features

▶ Layout & Console Design

- Drag-and-drop layout editor
- Customizable modules: Select, Panther, Thyrus
- Scalable canvas with snapping & grid tools
- Upload custom graphics (JPEG, PNG, SVG, GIF)
- Custom Panel Resolution
- Touch screen and tablet compatibility
- Save and reuse layout templates
- Lockable elements for operator safety
- Multi-module, multi-user layout management

▶ Import, Merge & Library Management

- Import complete shows or individual layouts
- Merge programmed elements into new projects
- Maintain a growing asset library
- Reuse programmed logic across multiple environments
- Scale easily between venues and project types

▶ Advanced Visual Features

- Motorized fader support
- Jog Wheel with Time Code
- Custom color system (per element)
- Advanced transparency settings
- Visual progress bars with dynamic color
- Live cue countdowns & time-to-next

▶ Timeline Control

- Play, Pause, Stop functions
- Go to Time, Named Cue, Previous, Next
- Exclude timelines from triggers
- Real-time timeline feedback
- Visual progress bar
- Grouping of timelines

▶ Action Sequences

- Build programmable action flows
- Add delay timers and conditionals
- Assign shortcuts
- Documented overview for sequences
- Copy / Paste, and reuse logic

▶ Input & Value Control

- Set or fade over time to value
- Group inputs for batch control
- Monitor live values
- Recall presets and saved states

▶ Remote Operation & Control

- Web browser-based operation
- Tablet and mobile device access
- QR-code based pairing for fast login
- Transparent overlay interface (UI on top of media servers)
- Wake-on-LAN functionality
- PJLink device control

▶ Show Management

- Create, open, and manage shows
- Restore latest session (auto recovery)
- Access recent shows quickly
- Template (import feature)-based show creation
- Multi-room setup and separation

▶ Automation & Scheduling

- Built-in scheduler with repeat/daily/weekly options
- Time-based triggering of actions
- Timed preset and timeline automation

▶ External Protocol Support

- Output commands via TCP, UDP, HTTP
- Auto-detection of networked devices
- Third-party integration (WATCHOUT, PIXERA, VIOSO EXAPLAY)
- Send external commands directly from layouts or sequences

▶ System & User Management

- Dual-sided engine: Programmer & Modules
- Console lockout for non-technical users
- Password-protected handover
- Multi-user support with access levels
- Auto-save and show backup

▶ Graphics & Branding Tools

- Upload and manage branded images
- Design custom control panels with full visual freedom
- Use GIFs for animated status feedback
- Create visually engaging layouts for client use

9

FAQ

What is Control Buddy?

Control Buddy is a professional-grade control system designed for the A/V industry. It simplifies complex media server operations into intuitive, easy-to-use layouts, making it suitable for everyone—from seasoned programmers to daily operators.

Is Control Buddy a software or hardware solution?

Control Buddy is a software-based solution powered by the Control Buddy Engine. It can run on standard Windows 10/11 PCs, with optional support for external hardware like Elgato Stream Decks and Densitron control panels (coming soon).

What are the differences between the modules: Select, Panther, and Thyrus?

- Select: A fully customizable module for advanced, multi-room, or branded environments.
- Panther: A fast and efficient layout ideal for timeline playback and show control.
- Thyrus: Focused on preset and source control, perfect for routing and switching tasks.

Can non-technical users operate Control Buddy?

Yes. Once programmed, the consoles can be handed over to any operator. Interfaces are designed to be foolproof—users can't accidentally delete or change core programming, ensuring peace of mind for technical staff.

Will Control Buddy support more media servers and A/V devices in the future?

Yes. Control Buddy is built on a flexible engine designed for ongoing integration. We actively collaborate with media server manufacturers and AV tech providers to support new protocols, APIs, and control standards—ensuring your system stays future-ready.

How is Control Buddy licensed?

Control Buddy uses a modular licensing model, unlocking the Control Buddy Engine.
- Core License: Unlocks essential control features.
- Pro License: Includes all advanced features like tablet/browser control, scheduling, PJ-Link, and external command output.

Licenses are activated via a USB dongle, software activation is scheduled for furture release.

What systems does Control Buddy integrate with?

Control Buddy supports deep integration with PIXERA, WATCHOUT 6/7, VIOSO EXAPLAY, PJ-Link projectors, and more. We also communicate via TCP, UDP, HTTP, and web browser interfaces—allowing powerful and flexible integrations.

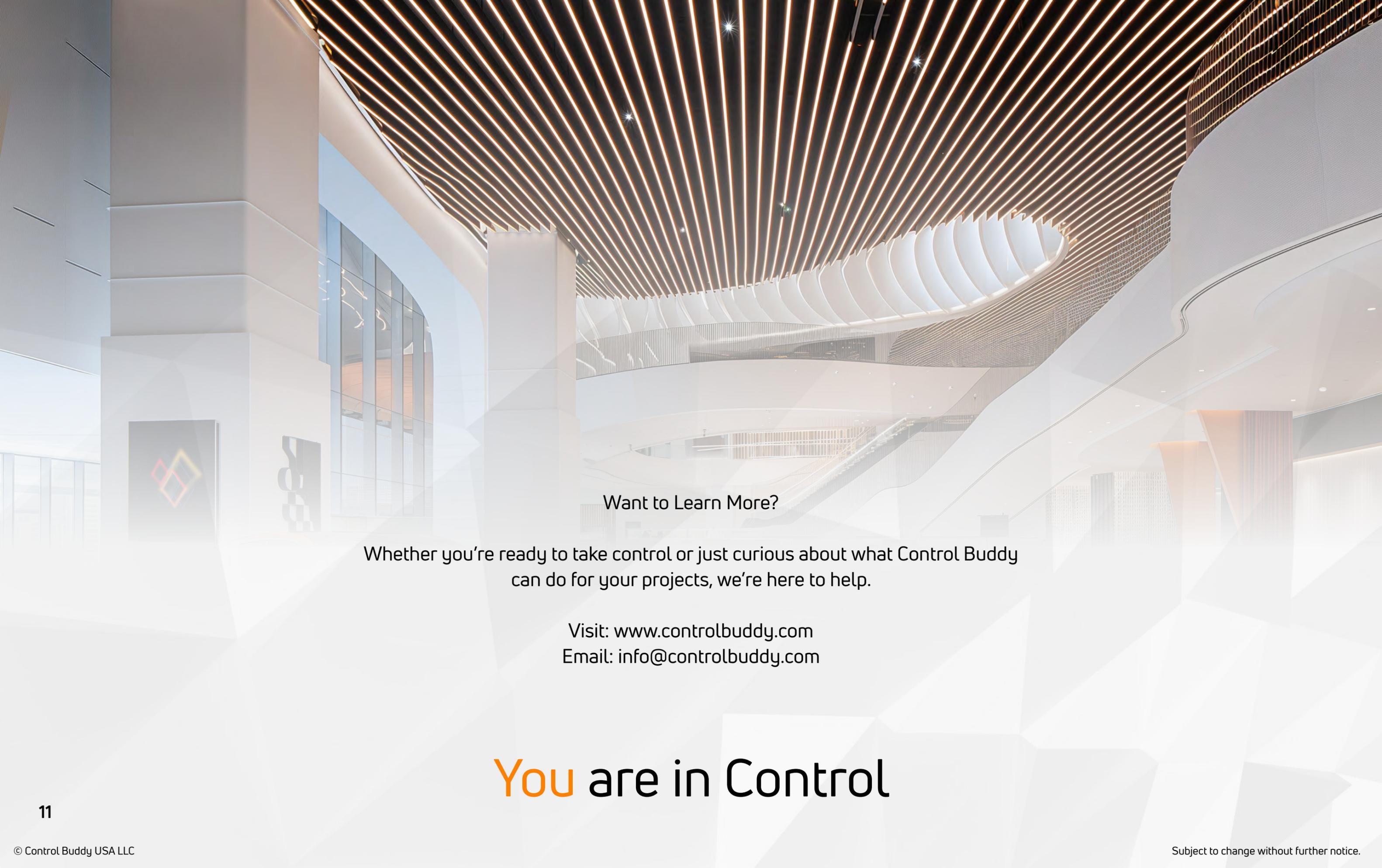### Do I need a programmer to use Control Buddy?

You'll need a programmer to initially set up the layout and logic in the Programmer window. After that, the system can be run by any operator using a module layout—no technical skills required for daily operation.

Can Control Buddy be scaled for large or multi-room projects?

Absolutely. Control Buddy was built with scalability and repeatability in mind. Whether you're controlling   a single timeline or 400+ timelines across multiple rooms, the same platform adapts to your needs.

Can I control Control Buddy from a tablet or phone?

Yes. Control Buddy supports browser-based control from tablets, phones, and iPads— no app installation needed. You can operate modules wirelessly over Wi-Fi, perfect for mobile setups or venue walk-throughs.

Want to Learn More?

Whether you're ready to take control or just curious about what Control Buddy
can do for your projects, we're here to help.

Visit: www.controlbuddy.com
Email: info@controlbuddy.com

You are in Control

Subject to change without further notice.