3

Using the API

The Application Programming Interface (API) is a set of commands for advanced users who want to automate a Polycom HDX system. You can use the API by connecting a control system or computer RS-232 serial port to the Polycom HDX system. Or, you can use Telnet over the LAN to use the API.

Using the API with an RS-232 Interface

If you use an RS-232 interface to send API commands, you must connect and configure the control system or computer and the Polycom HDX system for serial communication.

Configuring the RS-232 Interface

If you use the API with a serial connection, make sure that the RS-232 interfaces of the Polycom HDX system and your computer are configured appropriately.

To access the RS-232 settings on your system, select **System > Admin Settings > General Settings > Serial Port**.

Configure the Baud Rate and RS-232 Mode options as follows:

Option	Configure this way on your computer	Configure this way on the Polycom HDX system
Baud Rate	Must be the same rate for both devices. Available rates are: • 9600 • 14400 • 19200 • 38400 • 57600 • 115200	
RS-232 Mode	—	Control

The RS-232 port on the Polycom HDX system supports the following modes:

- Camera PTZ
- Closed Caption
- Control
- Pass-Thru
- Vortex Mixer

In Control Mode, a device (for example, a computer) connected to the RS-232 port can control the system using the API.

In Pass-Thru Mode, the operational modes of both devices' RS-232 ports depend on the port configuration of each device.

Starting an API Session via an RS-232 Interface

After you have verified that the Polycom HDX system and your computer or control system are both configured appropriately, set up both devices as follows:

1. Power off the computer or control system and the Polycom HDX system.
2. Use an RS-232 cable to connect the computer or control system RS-232 port to an RS-232 port on the Polycom HDX system as shown in the following illustration. This connection may require the Null Modem Adapter on page 2-56.

   To connect a computer to a Polycom HDX 9006 system:

   To connect a computer to a Polycom HDX 9001, Polycom HDX 9002 or Polycom HDX 9004 systems:

3. Power on the computer or control system and the Polycom HDX system.
4. From the computer or control system, start a serial session using HyperTerminal or another appropriate utility.