

Guidelines for mixing COM24 and COM24-FLX cards in a single chassis

The COM24 card has three tuners on the board and uses two of the tuners to tune HD or SD satellite content and one tuner to retrieve guide and system information in the background. The COM24 card has two RF input F connectors and can be used with either a Multi-switch plant or a SWM plant.

The COM24-FLX card has three tuners on the board and uses all three of them to tune SD satellite content. The COM24-FLX card has one RF input F connector and can only be used with SWM. The ability to use all three tuners to tune SD satellite content is achieved because the COM24-FLX is SD only and does not need to see the HD guide carousels from the satellite constellation. This means it can pull down SD guide from the same satellite it gets the content from in the background. A COM24-FLX card that detects it is in chassis slots 1, 4, 7 or 10 will use the SWM channel that is normally associated with guide acquisition only to tune satellite content.

This behavior creates some basic rules to follow when mixing COM24 cards and COM24-FLX cards in the same chassis.

1. Installations mixing COM24 and COM24-FLX are SWM only.
2. COM24-FLX cards should be kept in groups of three whenever possible.
3. Groups of three COM24-FLX cards should start in slots 1, 4, 7 or 10.
4. A group of mixed COM24 and COM24-FLX cards should start with a COM24 card in slots 1, 4, 7 or 10.

The reason for this is a COM24-FLX card in slot 1, 4, 7 or 10 will use the SWM guide frequency to tune network content and the COM24 card(s) using the same SWM tap will, per DIRECTV specification, unlock all tuners after 24 hours due to their inability to acquire guide data.

For more information about the COM1000 system and using SWM with COM1000 please check our website. www.technicolor.com/mcs