



 **Perfect performance is a never-ending quest for us all..**

Initially, we added a small Stay-Alive to every decoder sold - not to move the loco, but to prevent the loss of adequate drive voltage for the decoder microprocessor, which causes stalls. It worked better than most realised, but wasn't really enough for those with less than well-maintained track.

We later released the exceptionally successful DCCconcepts "[Super Stay-Alive](#)". Over two metres run-on for a large loco, but physically large too. Still a modellers go-to product as it performs really well and fits many locos... but only the larger ones, so there was more to do.

In 2018 we added a sophisticated "Brown-out protection" to ALL of our decoders, and, having realised how hard it was for many modellers to do such fine soldering work, we also added a special 3-wire harness to all decoders, ready for the NEXT step in Stay-Alive evolution.

Which brings us to here, now... and the release of something we have really looked forward to:

The DCCconcepts plug-and-play Stay-Alive.

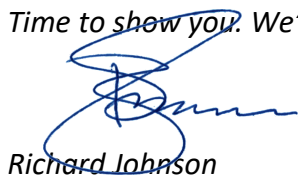
You may have noticed that we have a particular focus with all of our products.

Of course, they have to be reliable, clever and do things others cannot, but most of all, our focus is on usability and ease of connection - and we DO pay attention to this in every design, making sure that while performance satisfies everyone... the average modeller can also install, operate and use anything we create... with a smile!

How to do this with what's essentially a boring wee oblong-shaped item like a Stay-Alive?

- **Make it reliable and able to cope with a wider range of track voltages.** Use only the best parts available. Test in depth, analyse long term life potential properly. (We test to 20+ volts by the way)
(Really look at the specs of Stay-Alives. Most actually top out at 16v, but claim higher. Many claim great performance and even deliver it day one... but the very average lower cost super capacitors some brands use to save cost are gradually damaged by heavy loads and rapid discharge, so as time passes, they stop being so effective, as their ability to charge and discharge weakens). You may not be able to see the quality difference between brands just by looking... but it's there!
- **Make it slimmer.** Use a deep network of contacts in the parts marketplace to find the smallest capacitors available that are also tough, reliable and full of real energy.
- **Make it slimmer still by separating power management from the Capacitor group.** because with added things inside a loco... Super-slim really matters (There's lots of area there, but the body won't go on if it's too thick, as we have all discovered)
- **Make it affordable.** There are two other brands out there making "managed power" stay alives, but boy are they expensive. Our New Stay Alives are more installable, better performance AND by far!
- **Make it so easy to install that every modeller can do it...** You can with our new range - in a minute - with no soldering or extra tools. (Its going to take longer to get the loco body off, we guarantee it!).

Time to show you. We'll let some pictures do the talking.



Richard Johnson



Time to let the pictures do the talking...

DCCconcepts ZEN 3-wire Stay-Alive range is dead easy to install.

This simple image clearly shows you the process. Read the instructions. Take it out of the packaging.

- Plug your Zen Black or Blue+ decoder into the Control board.
- Plug the Capacitor group into the Control board.
- Tidy the wiring, replace the loco body. Run the train!

Oh... And while most will be happy with the maximum setting which is the default position, if you want to adjust the run-on time, you can do that too. ALL Zen decoders with 3-wire Stay Alive harnesses use CV65 to adjust Stay-Alive run on time. We kept that simple too. You can set it in 5 steps as follows: 0 = default, which allows it to run on for the maximum time available. Then 1 = 0.5, 2 = 1.0. 3 = 1.5 4 = 2.0 seconds.

This is the 3-wire Stay Alive System



Using our 3-wire Stay-Alives with ZEN decoders is simplicity itself. **To download the ZEN Decoder manual, Click on this box**

Using ZEN 3-Wire Stay-Alives with ESU and Lenz... or any other brand that may be capable of accepting 3-wire stay alives...

This range is a win-win for every sound user.

I have no hesitation in saying that when you adopt our Zen 3-wire Stay Alives... you will immediately see several things if you have previously used ESU or Lenz stay alives. (Apart from continuing the process of saying "goodbye" to sound re-sets and stalling locomotives forever)

- That Zen Stay Alives perform, shall we say, at least as well as they do, size-for-size.
- That you will be able to fit things in the loco more easily when you adopt Zen 3-wire Stay Alives.
- That your wallet will remain considerably heavier when you adopt Zen 3-wire Stay Alives.

I DO have to add a caution here: You will need to take care with adding ANY stay alive to an ESU or Lenz decoder, because they want you to solder the wires to their circuit board. Use a clean workbench, a good strong work light, a clean soldering Iron tip. For guaranteed success, please also use our DCCconcepts DCS-S179 solder and our DCS-SFNC No-clean flux. You will need only a TINY amount of solder on each joint.



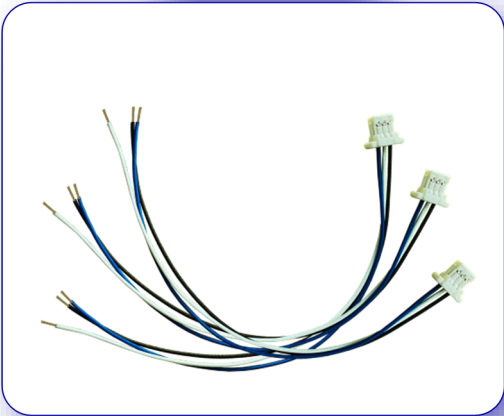
Staying Alive... The DCCconcepts way

➤ The DCCconcepts 3-Wire Stay-Alive range: Options for everyone...

Each pack contains both Stay Alive and control board. There are four sizes of stay alive, each available singly or as a 3-pack - PLUS a very useful "Assortment pack" that lets you try all four of them all at a very attractive price. Of course, there is also a harness pack for those using sound or other decoder brands capable of using a 3-wire stay alive. All are available now.

Lets take a look.

DCD-WH3



DCD-SAA-3W



**4 Stay-Alives, one of each
Plus...
4 power management boards**

DCD-SA3-SM.1



6mm x 6mm x 14mm

4.5mm x 11mm x 23mm

DCD-SA3-SM.3



The Super-capacitor group is 6mm x 6mm x 14mm

The Power management board is 4.5mm x 11mm x 23mm

**ALL MODELS are IN STOCK NOW...
AND READY FOR YOUR WORKBENCH**



DCC thinking outside the square
concepts



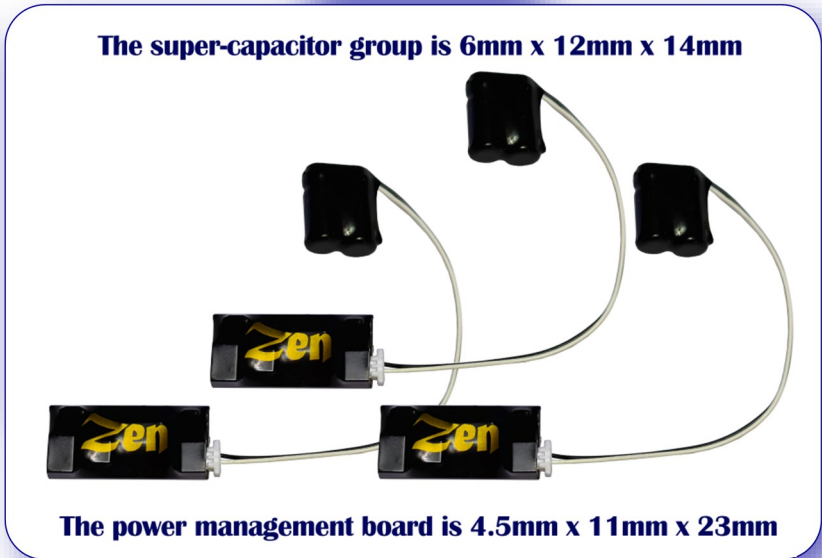
Staying Alive... The DCCconcepts way

DCD-SA3-MD.1



**ALL MODELS are IN STOCK NOW...
 AND READY FOR YOUR WORKBENCH**

DCD-SA3-MD.3

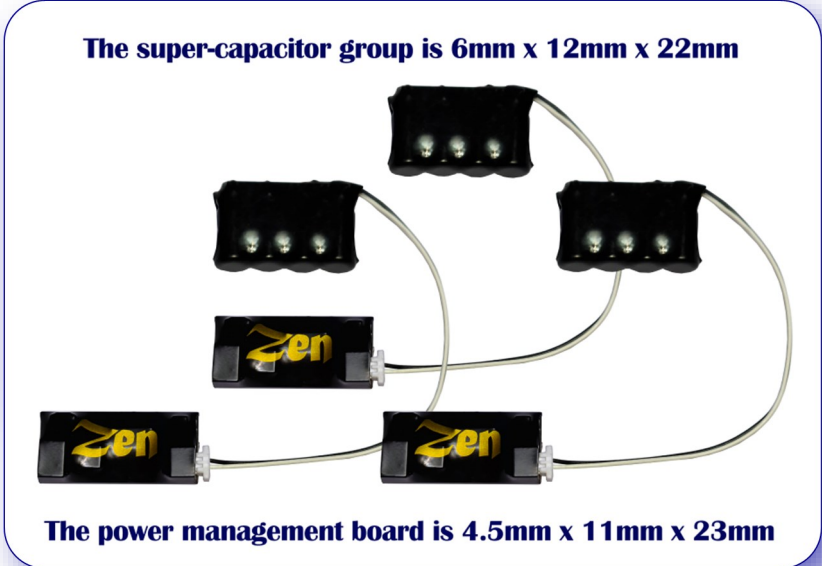


DCD-SA3-LG.1



**ALL MODELS are IN STOCK NOW...
 AND READY FOR YOUR WORKBENCH**

DCD-SA3-LG.3





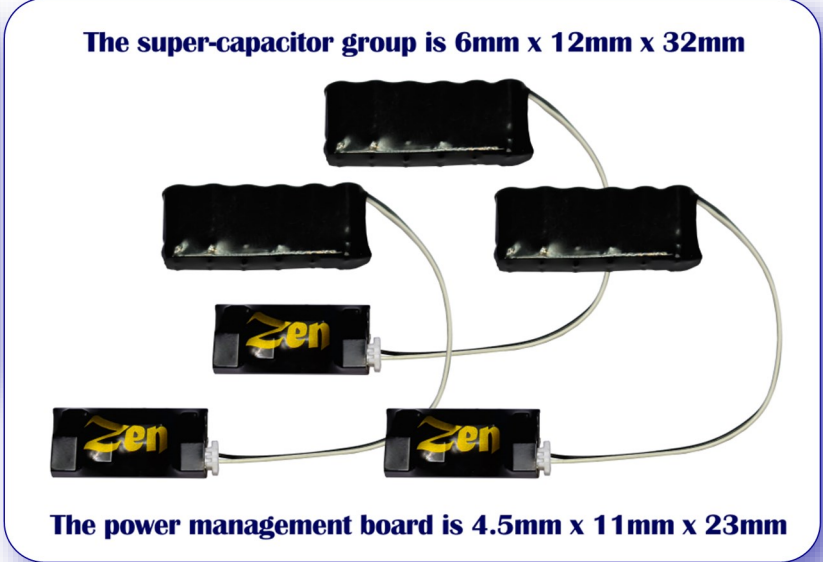
Staying Alive... The DCCconcepts way

DCD-SA3-SS.1



**ALL MODELS are IN STOCK NOW...
AND READY FOR YOUR WORKBENCH**

DCD-SA3-SS.3

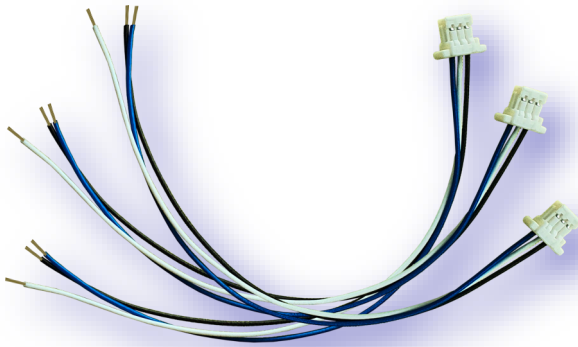


➡ Easy interfacing of our Stay-Alives with ESU and Lenz decoders...

Firstly, you will need a pack of connection harnesses as these brands do not have wires for Stay Alives. We thought of you and created an accessory plug and play harnesses so you can do this easily too.

The contents will look like this:

(The part number for this pack is [DCD-WH3](#))





Staying Alive... The DCCconcepts way

Wire positioning for ZEN 3-Wire Stay-Alives with ESU V4 decoders...

These drawings are indicative only. Please compare them carefully with your decoder and make sure you are referring to the correct model of decoder before you pick up your soldering Iron, because errors may damage either the Decoder or the Stay-Alive, and neither will be covered by warranty if it is a user error.

THESE ARE FOR ESU V4 - If your specific decoder isn't listed, look for an ESU manual before you start!

LokPilot HO DCC (V4)

LokPilot Micro (V4)

LokPilot NEXT-18 (V4)

ESU V4 Decoder Series

LokSound V4 (Rev 40)

LokSound V4 (Rev 41)

LokSound V4 Micro

Using our 3-wire Stay-Alives with ESU decoders is very simple
To download an ESU Loksound 4 manual, Click on this box



Staying Alive... The DCCconcepts way

➔ Wire positioning for ZEN 3-Wire Stay-Alives with ESU V5 decoders...

These drawings are indicative only. Please compare them carefully with your decoder and make sure you are referring to the correct model of decoder before you pick up your soldering Iron, because errors may damage either the Decoder or the Stay-Alive, and neither will be covered by warranty if it is a user error.

THESE ARE FOR ESU V5- If your specific decoder isn't listed, look for an ESU manual before you start!

LokPilot HO DCC (V5)

U+ - RED in ESU

Ground - BK in ESU

LokPilot Micro (V5)

U+ - RED in ESU

LokPilot NEXT-18 (V5)

U+ - RED in ESU

Ground - BK in ESU

ESU V5 Decoder Series

LokSound Version 5

U+ - RED in ESU

Ground - BK in ESU

LokSound Version 5 MICRO

U+ - RED in ESU

Ground - BK in ESU

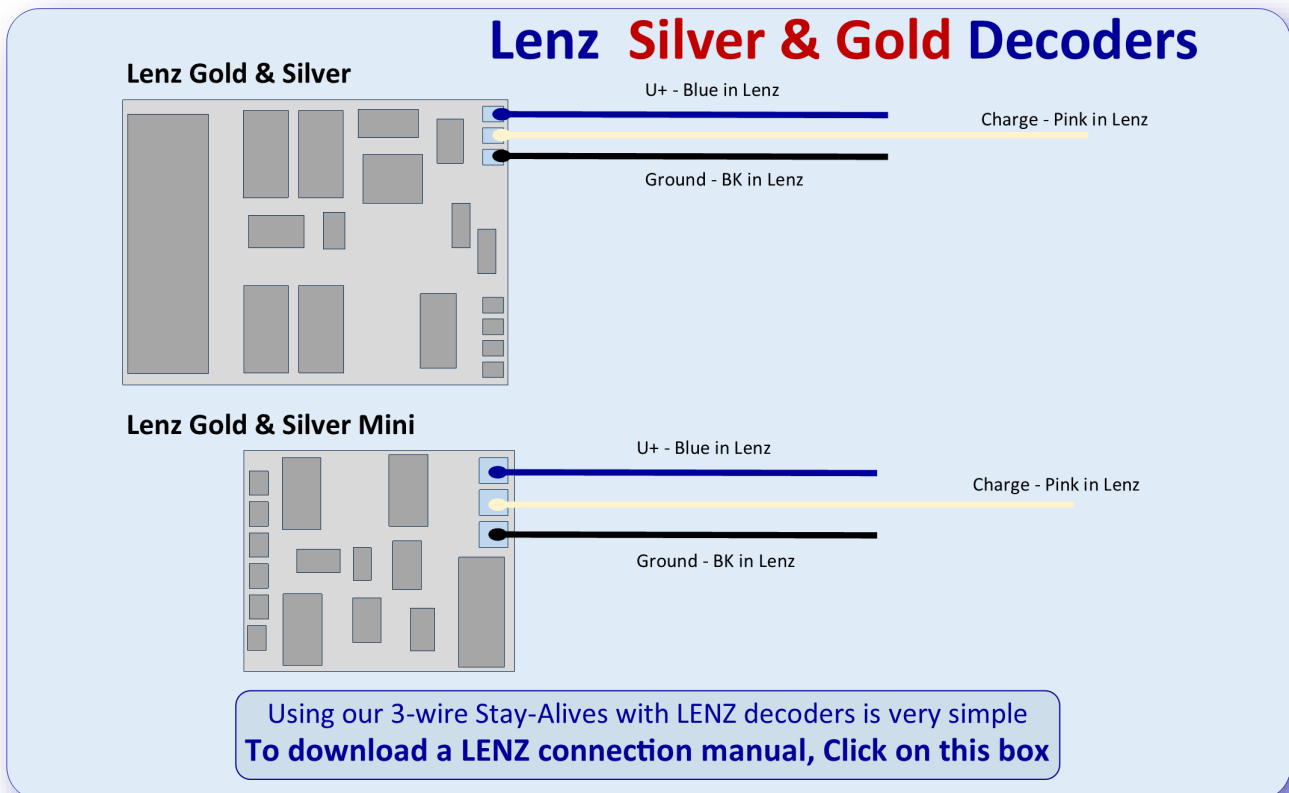
Using our 3-wire Stay-Alives with ESU decoders is very simple
To download an ESU Loksound 5 manual, Click on this box



Wire positioning for ZEN 3-Wire Stay-Alives with LENZ decoders...

These drawings are indicative only. Please compare them carefully with your decoder and make sure you are referring to the correct model of decoder before you pick up your soldering Iron, because errors may damage either the Decoder or the Stay-Alive, and neither will be covered by warranty if it is a user error.

THESE ARE FOR LENZ - If your specific decoder isn't listed, look for a LENZ manual before you start!



A last bit of info for the those who have to know...

Of course the results will vary depending on the size, weight and efficiency of the loco, or of course the weight of a train.

The important thing is:

No matter what size the loco or how dirty your track is, your trains are going to keep running. We are certain that they will!

ZEN Stay Alive	Height	Width	Length	Run on length Expected (Min)	Notes
DCD_SA3-SM Small 3-wire Plug'n'Play Stay Alive	6mm	14mm	6mm	Appx 150mm (OO/HO, iron core motor)	Adjustable with ZEN CV 65 ESU CV113 Lenz CV112
DCD_SA3-MD Medium 3-wire Plug'n'Play Stay Alive	6mm	14mm	12mm	Appx 300mm (OO/HO, iron core motor)	Adjustable with ZEN CV 65 ESU CV113 Lenz CV112
DCD_SA3-LG Large 3-wire Plug'n'Play Stay Alive	6mm	14mm	22mm	Appx 550mm (OO/HO, iron core motor)	Adjustable with ZEN CV 65 ESU CV113 Lenz CV112
DCD_SA3-SS Super 3-wire Plug'n'Play Stay Alive	6mm	14mm	32mm	Appx 750mm (OO/HO, iron core motor)	Adjustable with ZEN CV 65 ESU CV113 Lenz CV112



 *That's all for now...*

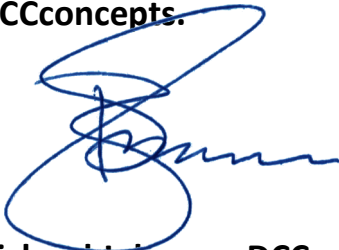
But that's not all for 2020... Keep an eye on your inbox, because there will be even more interesting new releases next week!

In addition to these new releases, despite the shortage of airfreight space... Several plane-loads of DCCconcepts [Cobalt-S Levers](#), [Cobalt point motors](#), [Rolling Roads](#) and [ADS](#) decoders are also on the way, along with various accessory items.

We are also expecting yet more pre-production samples of some NEW and very exciting DCCconcepts products too, so we'll be as busy as Santa as we approach Christmas.

It will be a very exciting end to 2020 and an even busier 2021 is approaching fast.

Best wishes, kind regards and a very Merry Christmas to everyone from all of us here at DCCconcepts.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard Johnson', is written over the end of the previous paragraph.

Richard Johnson, DCCconcepts CME