TC-Helicon VoicePrism

TC-Helicon Vocal Technologies is a new joint venture between Denmark's TC Electronic and IVL Technologies – a Canadian company specialising in human voice modeling and processing systems. The VoicePrism is the first product release from the new partnership and is intended as a full-solution vocal processor for both stage and studio. Unlike simple harmony processors, the VoicePrism has a full range of both lead and backing-voice processing under preset control. Both stage and studio performers can easily add a four-piece backing-vocal harmony section (including gender control) or lead-voice doubling.

VoicePrism includes a front-panel mic input and high performance 48v mic preamp with 24-bit digital converters. In addition to the vocal harmony and doubling tools, a selection of digital dynamics and effects can also be applied – including compression, parametric EQ, delay, reverb, chorus, flanging and more. Vocal setups can then be stored as presets for instant recall. The VoicePrism should retail for $2,495.
Amber Technology: (02) 9975 1211

Competition **winners**

AudioTechnology likes to look after our reader, oh yes. That's why we insist on lavishing gifts on them. First up is James Cadsky, the winner of the Apogee Electronics PSX-100 A/D D/A converter [see our review in AudioTechnology Issue 7]. Here he is to be seen receiving the unit from Sound Devices' Michael Horn. Thanks to Sound Devices for the prize.

Next up is Tim Jewell, owner and operator of Jewell Recording Studios out of Perth. Tim's taken delivery of a Sony DPS-V55M [see our review in AudioTechnology Issue 3]. You can see Tim here basking in the glory of the moment. Thanks to Sony Australia for that prize.

Stay tuned for more feel-good stories of people's lives being changed for the better!

iZ **Radar24**

Many will be wondering who iZ are and what happened to Otari? iZ Technologies are the Canadian-based brains behind the Radar, really since its inception. They've gone out on their own and have brought their machine right up to date with the release of the Radar24. Yes, it's a 24-bit recorder but offers quite a bit besides. The 4U processor ships with two hard drives – a Quantum Fireball and a removable Seagate Cheetah – and a DVD-Ram drive for backing up data. The Radar24 comes with a bunch of individually configurable I/O as well as all the sync facilities you should require. The Radar has always been designed as a rock solid, great sounding multitracker – and many a studio will testify to that – and our initial tests suggest they've made a good unit even better. Price: $12,985 (See the full review in our next issue.)
Factory Sound: (03) 9690 8344

Sony CDR-W33

Sony has released a new CD recorder featuring pre-mastering DSP capabilities, 24-bit A/D and D/A conversion and the company's proprietary Super Bit Mapping (SBM) noise-shaping circuitry.

The CDR-W33 is the 'world's first CD recorder' to incorporate powerful on-board DSP pre-mastering capabilities, enabling the pre-EQ'ing, levelling and limiting of program material mastered to CDR, as it might be in a CD mastering suite. These DSP functions are accessed from either the front panel or the supplied wired and infra-red remote controls. This unit also supports CD-Text, allowing both discs and tracks to be titled. Both coaxial and optical S/PDIF digital I/O are provided in addition to the analogue connectors. Price: $1,400.
Sony: (02) 9887 6674

Sony Pro MDs

Sony has released two new rack-mountable MiniDisc recorders, the MDS-E10 and the MDS-E12, which both feature a full range of digital and analogue I/O, a track Multi Access function and vari-speed playback.

The higher spec'ed MDS-E12 features an MDLP mode, which provides recording times of up to 320 minutes on a single disc and, if even this is not sufficient, Relay Rec/Play connectors enable several units to be combined for continuous recording and playback in conference, broadcast, and other applications. The MDS-E12 also includes RS-232C control, parallel contact-closure control and balanced XLR analogue inputs/outputs.

Sony Australia: (02) 9887 6674

'World's Fastest' CD Recorder

Yamaha has introduced 'the world's fastest internal and external rewritable CD recorders', the Yamaha CRW2100 series. The multi-platform 'LightSpeed' CRW2100 Series models are capable of recording on CD-R discs at a top speed of 16x (writing a 74 minute CD in around five minutes); rewriting CD-RW discs at a top speed of 10x; and reading CDs at a sustained maximum rate of 40x. In addition, the CRW2100 Series allows users to rip audio CDs at a maximum speed of 40x – 'up to five times faster than conventional CD-RW recorders currently in the marketplace' – allowing digital audio extraction of a 74-minute audio disc in less than three minutes. Price: $699.

Yamaha Music Australia: 1800 805413

SADiE's Edit Slate
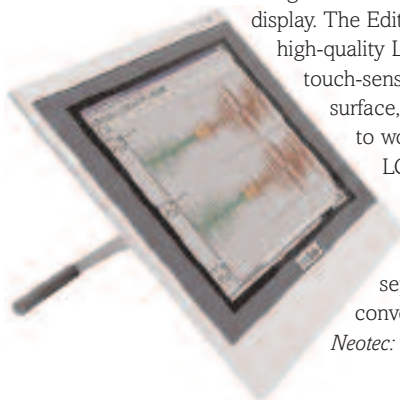
SADiE has introduced the Edit Slate Integrated LCD work surface display. The Edit Slate combines a high-quality LCD display and a touch-sensitive graphics surface, allowing the user to work directly on the LCD screen with a pen controller, eliminating the need to use a separate mouse and conventional display.

Neotec: (02) 9873 3994

Fatso Classic Knee

The Empirical Labs EL-7 Fatso is a digitally controlled analogue device that offers many of the 'musical non-linearity's' exhibited by the older tube, class A discrete, and magnetic tape mediums. This two-channel audio processor will musically integrate frequencies and transients and increase the apparent volume without actual increase in peak levels. Sounds almost too good to be true, but anyone who's used the Distressor knows EL will probably have got it right. Price: $5,700.

Mixmasters Production: (08) 8278 8506

Tascam 788

The 788 Digital Portastudio aims to bring Tascam's 'Portastudio' concept bang up to date. The 788 features uncompressed recording, loads of non-linear editing facilities, and built-in effects. There's a good complement of I/O including mic/line, hi-Z (for guitar inputs), Midi I/O, and S/PDIF. The idea is to just hook up a CD burner to the SCSI port, and your album is ready to go. Price: $2,699.

Tascam: (03) 9644 2442

Best Klotz Yet

Klotz has released seven new double-shielded cables including a 'no-holds-barred' bid for the world's finest professional microphone cable. The new premium microphone cable, MY250DD (priced at $3.95/metre), compresses the sum of Klotz's cable knowledge into a 7mm PVC casing. Designed for audiophile quality in high-end studios the mechanical construction of the new MY250DD is fully compliant with 'even the toughest live sound reinforcement and OB applications'.

Technical Audio Group: (02) 9810 5300

Radikal Surface

The new SAC-2K from Radikal Technology is an ergonomically designed user surface designed to interface with software-based DAWs, like ProTools, Steinberg's Nuendo, or Creamware's Pulsar.

The SAC-2K features nine touch-sensitive faders, 12 LED indicator encoders, three displays and a bunch of push button controls – an easier proposition to work with than a keyboard and mouse m'thinks. You can arm track, jog and shuttle, work with plug-ins, and generally navigate around your chosen software. Price: $3,395
Sound & Music Promotions: 0500 576863

U2A USB interface

EGO.SYS has turned its gaze to USB interfacing, introducing the U2A. The 24-bit U2A offers three stereo input options (coaxial, optical and analogue) – select one of your choice at a time. While the output signal is available on all three output formats simultaneously (also turning the U2A into a handy signal converter). Price: $635.
The Midi People: (02) 9542 4105

Triton Rack

The Triton Rack provides the sound and sampling functionality of its keyboard-based forbear, but adds a few features of its own. Fully loaded, the Triton Rack will offer access to 2,057 programs, and 1,664 combinations. The on-board sampler can be beefed up to 96MB of internal RAM, while new sampling features include the ability to export samples as .WAV and AIFF files for further editing on computer systems. Triton Rack will also accommodate the EXB-MOSS DSP synth board, which adds an entirely new six-voice tone generator, providing an impressive 13 forms of synthesis. Price:
*Music Link: (03) 9765 6565*

Soundscape iBox

Soundscape Digital Technology is now shipping the iBox two-mic stereo mic/headphone/line 24-bit A/D D/A converter. This unit is the latest addition to the range of Soundscape iBox AD/DA and digital interfaces, all of which feature TDIF connections for full compatibility with any equipment packing a TDIF-1 compatible eight-channel digital port.

The idea here is to allow a flexible 'building block' approach to interfacing, allowing a combination of different types of Soundscape iBoxes to provide the exact I/O configuration required.
Soundscape Digital Technology: (08) 9473 1222
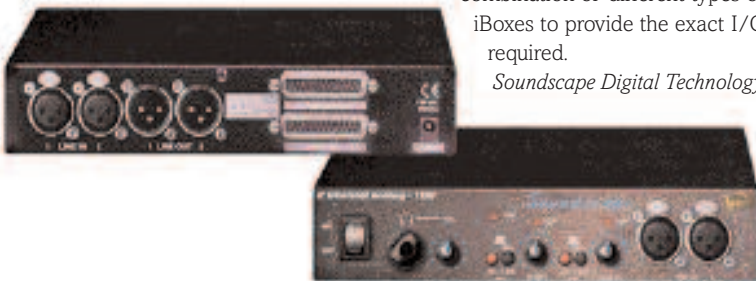
Midex 8

Steinberg's Midex 8 features eight independent Midi I/Os in a slick 1U case. The aim here is rock solid Midi timing and Steinberg are using its new LTB protocol to achieve this. LTB defines to sub-millisecond accuracy exactly when a Midi event should leave the Midex 8. The responsibility of the Midex 8 unit is to send the events at the right moment, free from any further intervention of the computer's operating system.
Price: $1,199.
Music Link: (03) 9765 6538

Impressor & Psy-fi for **Pulsar/Scope**

Orbitone presents the Impressor, a flexible dynamic effects processor; and Psy-fi, a trio of phasers and flangers. Both are built for the Creamware Pulsar/Scope platform.

Impressor includes both side-chain input and a built-in band separator, allowing it to be used as a compressor, limiter, expander, gate, de-esser, and bass maximiser/minimiser.

Psy-fi is a bundle containing: Faza, a phaser (both hi-fi and lo-fi versions), Flanga, a flanger and chorus effect, and Sfera, a combination flanger and phaser. Each effects allows easy control of frequency, resonance, and spectrum, as well as tempo-based rate selection for musical beat division.

Major Music: (02) 9545 3540

Ray Gun **RTAS Update**

Arboretum Systems is now shipping a free Digidesign RTAS format update version of its Ray Gun noise reduction software.

Ray Gun is built especially for cleaning up the sound of scratchy old vinyl, hissy tape and other problem recordings. Ray Gun selectively reduces or removes hiss, hum, crackles, pops and other unwanted audio, while leaving the original signals intact.

Moore Music: (03) 9419 0344

Prosoniq Go TDM/RTAS

Prosoniq have released their Orange Vocoder, a real-time Audio-Suite effects processor for ProTools. For those not familiar with the VST version of Orange Vocoder, it offers an all-digital simulation of an analogue vocoder with effects that are fully customisable within the ProTools environment. Orange Vocoder uses either the source/audio track or the built-in oscillator as carrier signal, and any audio track as modulator.

Digidesign: (03) 5428 7780
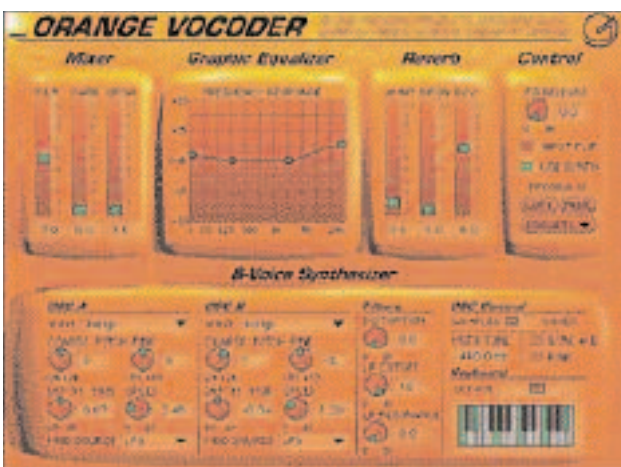
Audio-Genetics **Alkali**

Audio-Genetics' Alkali software is a 'powerful and instant Loop Laboratory', drawing on REX file technology to make any of its loops fit any tempo in your song – much like what Acid does on the PC (get it – 'Alkali'/'Acid'). It is a Direct Connect application, so it appears as a plug-in inside ProTools, and runs alongside and in sync with ProTools so you can experiment in real time while ProTools plays your track.

Sound Devices: (02) 9283 2077

Serato **Pitch 'n' Time**

Serato Audio Research's Pitch 'n' Time AudioSuite has been gaining a name for being one of the best pitch correction devices around. It features: tempo modifying from 50% to 200% and simultaneously pitch shift by ±12 semitones; a time compression/expansion and pitch shifting algorithm; mono or polyphonic tracks processing; stereo tracks processing without phasing; Dolby matrix-encoded track processing without losing surround information; no loss of timing accuracy; time and pitch change selection by various parameters.

Price: $2,116

Sound Devices: (02) 9283 2077

Sensory Experience

The Innova-Son Sensory Live Series aims to combine the functionality of a typical analogue FOH or stage monitor console with the advantages of a fully digital signal path and computer control of all parameters, (including input patching and output distribution), to provide a cost-effective solution for many applications. Innova-Son provide reset of every console parameter, comprehensive on-board dynamic processing, and compact, lightweight and rugged construction.

There are three models on offer:

Essential Live – provides 48 inputs, 20 auxiliary buses (switchable pre/post per channel), plus left, right and mono master output buses.

Grand Live – expands the configuration to include additional inputs, Stage Box, and enhanced automation software functions.

Digital Live – also offers additional inputs, (including the ability to introduce eight digital inputs into the system), plus the Stage Box and expanded automation capabilities.

All three models share the new Sensoft v6 software, which supports Hyper Driver. Hyper Driver will handle

the control of all parameters of an eight-band parametric EQ, dynamic processing and delay function on all of the mix bus outputs. All input channels include a gate/expander, compressor/limiter and four-band para-metric EQ as standard, provided by the on-board 40-bit floating point DSP.

The stage box provides mic preamps on the stage, with remote control from the console of all input parameters, including gain and phantom power. This allows the replacement of conventional multicore cabling systems with a single multiplexing coaxial cable.

Production Audio Services: (03) 9415 1585

Celestion **CXi Series**

The CXi Series' loudspeakers are compact speaker systems specifically designed for high-power, high-quality installations. CXi Series loudspeakers use the 'latest low-frequency drive unit technology', including a long-gap ultra-linear motor assembly for reduced distor-tion and minimal power compression, combined with a 'regenerative flux magnet' design for increased efficiency. Flying hardware options allow CXi Series to be incorpo-rated easily into any installation.

GUET: (02) 9418 6029
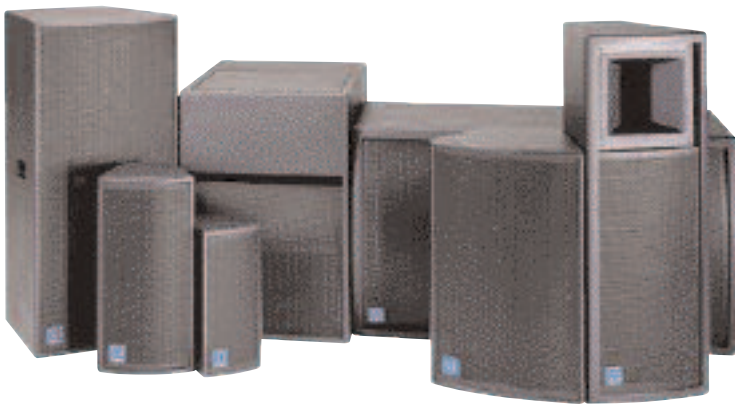
Tour **Gatecrashers** Melbourne

Some 15,000 ravers descended on Victoria Dock in Melbourne to be a part of the Gatecrasher world club tour.

Nathan Pugh, Projects Manager for One Productions was the man who pulled the technical side together, and used a total of 68 Martin Audio Wavefront 8 concert cabinets.

To maintain the club feel in a warehouse (measuring 80m long by 30m wide) six WSX subs and four W8C mid/highs were placed in each corner with a further 12 WSX subs in the middle of the building, six either side. Four W8C's were then hung from the lighting truss in the middle of the venue – one speaker at each end of the cross shaped truss. This arrangement gave 'superb' clarity to the all-important middle of the room where so much of the effects action was focused.

QSC PLX amplifiers powered the whole rig with an Allen & Heath GL2200/24 mixing down the large variety of sources and a LA Audio DigEQ handling the overall equalisation.

TAG: (02) 9810 5300

Cadac
R-Type

Cadac have launched its new R-Type light-weight touring console. The R-Type console is Cadac's answer to touring sophistication, contained within a cost-efficient and easily re-configurable package. Comprising a new lightweight monocoque design and a slimmer module width, the R-Type is designed for fast installation – combining touring ruggedness with Cadac audio quality and reliability. Designed to provide comprehensive facilities for both FOH and monitor mixing, the R-Type provides rental companies with a flexible, reconfigurable console – using Cadac's unique 'plug-anywhere' modules.
System Sound: (03) 9529 2633

New **Sony** Amp

Sony have released the SRP-P450 stereo power amplifier. The SRP-P450 offers 'uncompromising' sound quality and reliability for professional applications, 'outstanding' dynamic punch and clarity for critical mon-itoring applications, and wide-band response for superb reproduction in professional stage and studio music systems.
Sony Australia: (02) 9887 6674

EAW Releases
The **E-Powered** Line

EAW has announced the introduction of the E-Powered Series. Comprised of the EP1, EP2 and EP3, the new E-Powered series provides the same profession-al, high quality performance found in traditional EAW loudspeakers, now in a powered package. The E-Powered loudspeakers are built for flying and ergonomi-cally designed for flexible usage and portability.
Production Audio: (03) 9415 1585

New Pro **Showroom**

Pro Light & Sound has been around servicing Melbourne's nightclub and DJ community for some time now. Their latest venture is to open a 'massive' showroom site. Located at a new North Road site in Melbourne, the new showroom will allow you to experi-ence the gear 'hands-on', that's right, you can hear and feel it first. All the latest gear will be on show – sounds like a nice day out to me.
Pro Light & Sound: (03) 9562 7211

DAS ST-8A

The ST-8A from DAS is their latest addition to the Sound Touring Series. It's a versatile bi-amped (150w/50w) two-way vented loudspeaker system, ideal for solo musicians and keyboard-based groups. It has a built-in two-channel mixer with a mic input and line input with independent level controls.
Magna Systems: (02) 9417 1111

Renkus-Heinz News

The PN81 is an active (self-powered), network-enabled, two-way full-range PowerNet loudspeaker. Features include a 200w R-Control ready Class AB loud-speaker-specific amplifier, an SSL8-4 eight-inch driver and an SSD1803-8 one-inch compression driver. Frequency response is 65Hz to 18kHz and maximum SPL is 115dB program.

Renkus-Heinz PN151 shares similar specs but utilises an SSD3302-8 two-inch compression driver. Frequency response is 55Hz to 10kHz; maximum SPL is 121dB program.

SiDD no Nancy

XTA Electronics have introduced SiDD (Seriously Intelligent Digital Dynamics) a dual-channel dynamics processor – designed specifically for powerful, instant control in live sound applications.

SiDD provides a suite of dynamics tools including compression, gating, dynamic EQ and delay, complete with instant storage and recall of all user settings, either via the front panel, Midi or computer software. SiDD features true digital processing with 24-bit I/O and 40-bit internal processing, utilising XTA's algorithms in the EQ and Limiter sections, coupled with brand new algorithms in all other sections.

Production Audio Services: (03) 9415 1585