
Subject: Thinking of making a mobile rig... need suggestions

Posted by [Paul Braun](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2007 01:11:26 GMT

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I may be taking a long break from the theatre (certain people down there are sucking all the fun out of it....) and expanding our acoustic concert series into other venues.

Obviously, my second Paris rig won't be staying up in the treehouse where it's been living for the past 5 years or so.

I'd like to make it into a mobile rig that would fit into no more than two rack cases - cpu, MEC, two lcd's, keyboard & mouse.

Problem is, I'm a Mac guy. I've been looking on *bay for the Marathon G-rack to rackmount a G4, but since they're discontinued, they are now stupid money. Really stupid.

Hacking the motherboard into a rackmount ATX case is a huge PITA.

I suppose I could just lay it on its side on a rack shelf and make straps to tie it down.

Or, I could use the rack case I already have, throw an AMD board and Athlon chip, and run the mobile rig on XP or 98, then mix at home on the Mac here.

As long as I use fat32 on my firewire drives, do you see any problems doing that?

I have had such good luck with the Macs - typically, I'm tracking 8 or more tracks for 2 hours straight during a concert and nary a hiccup.

Or does someone have an unused G-rack lying around that they'd be willing to sell to me for significantly less than stupid, just because I'm a really nice guy?

If I had access to one, a friend of mine owns a machine shop and could whip something up, but he's never seen one.

Thanks.

pab

Subject: Re: Thinking of making a mobile rig... need suggestions

Posted by [Chris Ludwig](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2007 01:57:57 GMT

HI Paul,

If you already have a G4 laying around then either having your machine shop buddy or buying the marathon stuff will be the cheapest solution either way.

You would have to buy a Computer MAC/PC otherwise which if you want to use Paris to record with then your options will be really really limited.

You should maybe also consider a hard disk recorder. If you are doing 24 tracks or under then they would probably be the most reliable of the bunch.

Chris

Paul Braun wrote:

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>there are sucking all the fun out of it...) and expanding our
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--
Chris Ludwig
ADK
chrisl@adkproaudio.com <mailto:chrisl@adkproaudio.com>
www.adkproaudio.com <http://www.adkproaudio.com/>
(859) 635-5762

Subject: Re: Thinking of making a mobile rig... need suggestions
Posted by [Paul Braun](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2007 02:24:17 GMT
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On Wed, 24 Jan 2007 20:57:57 -0500, Chris Ludwig
<chrisl@adkproaudio.com> wrote:

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>You should maybe also consider a hard disk recorder. If you are doi0ng
>24 tracks or under then they would probably be the most reliable of the
>bunch.
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Right now, I'm running one card on a beige G3/300 desktop - I just
wanted to up the horsepower a bit and add a second card possibly.

I think I have a motherboard and a reasonably fast Athlon on the
shelf, so building a windows pc wouldn't cost that much.

Yeah, a HD recorder would probably be easiest and lightest, but
ultimately, considering what I already have, a lot more \$\$\$.

But I'll consider it.

pab

Subject: Re: Thinking of making a mobile rig... need suggestions

Posted by [Paul Braun](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2007 02:24:52 GMT

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On 25 Jan 2007 12:51:22 +1000, "James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote:

>
>You could build your own brackets. I've been thinking about doing a business
>and G4 brackets would be one of the products. Only they would steel power
>coat, and cost under \$50.00.
>

I'd be all over a pair of those at that price point.... how serious
and how close to making a set are you?

pab

Subject: Re: Thinking of making a mobile rig... need suggestions

Posted by [excelav](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2007 02:51:22 GMT

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You could build your own brackets. I've been thinking about doing a business
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coat, and cost under \$50.00.

James

Paul Braun <cygnus_nospam@ctgonline.org> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Thinking of making a mobile rig... need suggestions
Posted by [Paul Braun](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2007 04:50:49 GMT
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On 25 Jan 2007 15:30:11 +1000, "James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com>
wrote:

>
>It will be awhile before I get to that project. So do what you have to for
>now. I'll make you the beta tester when I get to it. One of the biggest
>problems is the liability insurance.
>
>James

Right now, I'm using one EDS in a beige G3/300 desktop case, sitting
on a rack shelf under the MEC.

I can live with that for a while longer, I guess, but I was hoping to
up the road rig to a Sawtooth or Quicksilver.

The Marathon piece was nice, but cost almost as much as the cpu, and apparently they've gone out of business anyway.

pab

Subject: Re: Thinking of making a mobile rig... need suggestions

Posted by [excelav](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2007 05:30:11 GMT

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It will be awhile before I get to that project. So do what you have to for now. I'll make you the beta tester when I get to it. One of the biggest problems is the liability insurance.

James

Paul Braun <cygnus_nospam@ctgonline.org> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Thinking of making a mobile rig... need suggestions

Posted by [TCB](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2007 16:05:35 GMT

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I'd say a rack strip and two pieces of velcro would do the trick. Not pretty but you didn't ask for that.

As an alternative I'd think about a laptop. I'm keeping quiet about it because I'm still stress testing, but I just set up a \$500 (yes, \$500) laptop with an RME cardbus card that is doing astonishing things. You might be able to record with laptop + RME cardbus/firewire and then fly the tracks over to PARIS via lightpipe.

I know this isn't not the best place to be saying this, but native is looking really impressive these days. I bought the \$500 laptop on the theory that

I could take it out live and not care too much if I broke it. This was after watching my work laptop fall off a stand while on stage, with me wondering if I had backups of my perl code or not. But this crappy little machine is something else. Again, I'll stress test it and see what I can find out, but think about that as an option.

TCB

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Subject: Re: Thinking of making a mobile rig... need suggestions

Posted by [Rich\[3\]](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2007 16:26:24 GMT

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What Laptop (model and spec's) are you using? Tracking in Cubase or?

Thanks!!!

"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Thinking of making a mobile rig... need suggestions

Posted by [TCB](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2007 17:54:33 GMT

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Not saying yet, until I work with it a bit more. It will be shocking if it keeps working like this.

TCB

"rich" <studiodog_99@yahoo.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Thinking of making a mobile rig... need suggestions
Posted by [Rich\[3\]](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2007 19:29:02 GMT
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OK - I'm really interested in hearing this (I'm sure I'm not the only one)...

Thanks in advance!!

"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

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