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Subject: 442 vs MEC converters

Posted by [uptown jimmy](#) on Sun, 15 Aug 2010 20:34:35 GMT

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Howdy. I was planning on using a 442 on my 2nd EDS card so as to save rack space, but then I started thinking about the 20 bit converters vs the 24 bit converters on my spare MEC.

What is the practical difference, if any? Am I really compromising my signal so much with the 442 if I record vocals through it? Am I better off plugging in the 2nd MEC?

Also, if I decide to record to card 2 via the attached 442, do I need to physically re-patch my monitor system so that it's connected to the 442, and not the MEC on the 1st card?

This is all kinda confusing to me.

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Subject: Re: 442 vs MEC converters

Posted by [kerry](#) on Mon, 16 Aug 2010 23:20:25 GMT

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I can't speak for the 442's I/O but I've honestly never noticed any significant difference in quality between the MEC's 20-bit converters and the 24-bit converters on the 8in card myself.

A lot of investigation has been done by a lot of talented folks, and it seems to have been pretty firmly established that the "mojo" that happens in PARIS is a function of the internal mixing/summing/gain staging processes going on in the PSCL. I'm not saying bit depth isn't important, but IMO aspects like those do appear to have a more profound impact on the sound than the converters or the number of bits being passed at them.

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