
Subject: My NAMM Show picks,...and the winner is!!!
Posted by [excelav](#) on Mon, 06 Feb 2006 15:35:38 GMT
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Here are some of my picks for the coolest recording gear from 2006 winter NAMM show.

Alesis io 26 is some bang for the buck on I/Os, check it out. Similar to the I/O configuration of the Focusrite Pro 26 I/O, their using a T.C. electronic chips. \$599.00 list.
<http://www.alesis.com/product.php?id=96>

Apogee symphony PCI Express with up to 96 ch. and Ensemble FireWire interface with 36 ch. of I/O.
<http://www.apogeedigital.com/products/>

Lexicon MX400 And MX400XL Dual Stereo/Surround Reverb Processors.
You XP guys might be able to add a lexicon unit to your Paris rig???
<http://namm.harmony-central.com/WNAMM06/Content/Lexicon/PR/M X400-MX400XL.html>

PerSonus FireStudio
<http://namm.harmony-central.com/WNAMM06/Content/PreSonus/PR/ FireStudio.html>

PreSonus FireMax FS 8-ch. light pipe mic pre.
<http://namm.harmony-central.com/WNAMM06/Content/PreSonus/PR/ DigiMax-FS.html>

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My number one pick has got to be the Focusrite Saffire pro 26 I/O FireWire interface! 52 I/O, 26 inputs and 26 outputs in a single rack space! You can daisy chain three of them for a total of 156 I/O!!! that would be 96 I/O ch. of light pipe, 48 in and 48 out! Hey DeeJ! If you could live with 48 ch. of light pipe in and 48 out, this could free up some PCI slots! The cost, \$699.00 MAP.

The reasons the Focusrite Saffire Pro 26 I/O would work for me. Add the Gator Case Studio To Go and this would make a great portable recording rig. It's rumored that Focusrite will implement stand alone mode in the future, which would turn it in to a stand alone 8 ch. mic pre. It would make a good 16 ch. light pipe computer interface for my Panasonic DA-7 MKII digital mixer or any other digital mixer and it would add 8 mic pres and SP/DIF. It's cool that I could quickly move it around for computer to computer simply by unplugging the FireWire cable. It would be the perfect inter face for the second computer in the dual computer Paris rig. 16 ch. light pipe, 8 additional ch. of analog I/O, 8 focusrite mic pres, SP/DIF, WC, MIDI I/O and 2 head phone out puts, for \$699.00!!! I think they just knocked off MOTU.

The one thing that is a bummer is, they didn't include the DSP chip for effects processing like they did on the original Saffire, but they did include VST and AU plugins of their effects.

<http://namm.harmony-central.com/WNAMM06/Content/Focusrite/PR/Saffire-Pro-26i-o.html>

<http://www.focusrite.com/>

Video

<http://namm.harmony-central.com/WNAMM06/>

<http://www.sonicstate.com/news/wnamm06.cfm>

Check out the video for Gator cases studio to go soft case and Pedal Tote, both vary cool!

<http://namm.harmony-central.com/WNAMM06/>

Studio To Go, Hard case

<http://namm.harmony-central.com/WNAMM05/Content/Gator/PR/GRC-Studio-2-Go.html>

James

Subject: Re: My NAMM Show picks,...and the winner is!!!

Posted by [jjdpro](#) on Tue, 07 Feb 2006 08:17:31 GMT

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Hey James,

Thanks for namm review, however, I don;t think that the Focusrite Firewire products will kill off the Motu line..Motu's hardware are industry standards with a long pedigree. As well as, having the reputation as being very reliable and have great drivers for both Mac & Win platforms.

The true test of any company making hardware i.o unitss the drivers, then the converters, and so on.. With lame non low latency drivers, all you have is a converter box..

Right now, Focusrite is still to green for to slam so \$\$ into their new products. A safer bet would be to go with the EMU-1820m or Motus 828',RME units even Mackies 410 unit is HOT!!

Take care,
LaMont

"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: My NAMM Show picks,...and the winner is!!!

Posted by [excelav](#) on Tue, 07 Feb 2006 09:22:26 GMT

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Hey LaMont! All good points. Of course the Focusrite would have to work well and sound good for me to buy it. If that turns out to be the case I might be buying one. I was going to purchase a MOTU 828 MKII, however the focusrite would be a much better fit for me. The reports on the original saffire sound good and monitor latency is suppose to be a non issue, in time we'll have to see. It sure looks cool though!

I sure learned my lesson when I bought the Lexicon studio 32, I don't jump in anymore. At least I bought it when they were blowing them out. Another system without support. I too have a studio of the living dead! Now if I could just find a Ensoniq DP4+ for a real cheap price, those 16 bits sound good;)

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