Subject: Question from reluctant engineer . . .
Posted by Sarah on Wed, 18 Oct 2006 21:55:23 GMT

Uh . . . what's a "stem"? :)

Sarah
www.sarahtonin.com/wayward.htm

Subject: Re: Question from reluctant engineer . . .
Posted by EK Sound on Wed, 18 Oct 2006 22:02:44 GMT

It's a submix basically. If you were to provide stem files of a mix
you might have stereo drums, stereo guitars, stereo keys, etc etc etc.

Stem mixing is taking those submixes out to another location for
summing to a single stereo mix.

In the surround world, stems are the individual audio tracks of a 5.1,
7.1 etc. mix.

David.

Sarah wrote:

> Uh . . . what's a "stem"? :)
>
> Sarah
> www.sarahtonin.com/wayward.htm
>
>

Subject: Re: Question from reluctant engineer . . .
Posted by Sarah on Wed, 18 Oct 2006 22:37:49 GMT

Funny, that's pretty much what I thought it would be. Thanks. :)

S

"EK Sound" <askme@nospam.com> wrote in message news:4536a275@linux...
> It's a submix basically. If you were to provide stem files of a mix you
> might have stereo drums, stereo guitars, stereo keys, etc etc etc.

>
> Stem mixing is taking those submixes out to another location for summing
> to a single stereo mix.
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>> Sarah
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Subject: Re: Question from reluctant engineer . . .
Posted by AlexPlasko on Thu, 19 Oct 2006 03:19:36 GMT
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the only thing i would add to this would be stems of the same stereo mix ,to
apply different mastering processing, as in a wavelab montage or any multi
for that matter.
"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote in message news:4536a0ec$1@linux...
> Uh . . . what's a "stem"? :)
>
> Sarah
> www.sarahtonin.com/wayward.htm
>

Subject: Re: Question from reluctant engineer . . .
Posted by Ed on Thu, 19 Oct 2006 04:39:37 GMT
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ummm, that's not the answer I would have gave... more like something you
dispose of... I grew up through the 60's and 70's... lol

"EK Sound" <askme@nospam.com> wrote in message news:4536a275@linux...
> It's a submix basically. If you were to provide stem files of a mix you
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Subject: Re: Question from reluctant engineer . . .
Posted by Tyrone Corbett on Thu, 19 Oct 2006 20:46:21 GMT
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I'm not sure this is the same thing that David was expressing, but in the
circles I have worked in, we call "stem files" or "printing stems" the composite
file from an edited track (one contiguous string...no breaks).

Tyrone

Subject: Re: Question from reluctant engineer . . .
Posted by Tyrone Corbett on Thu, 19 Oct 2006 23:19:14 GMT
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To provide an example:

After completing a project in Paris, I "print stems" of all the files as
a form of backing up data. I will first save the Paris project (PPJ), then
back that up to a secondary drive, finally "printing stems" with a zero starting
time
(PAF files)in stereo pairs by the way. This is saved to
CD/DVD.

In addition to this, I convert the PAF "stems" to 24 bit wav files (via the
PAFWAV conversion software) so that I can import them into any other software
app. other than Paris...Pro-Fools, Nuendo, Cubase, etc.

Tyrone

"Tyrone Corbett" <tyronecorbett@comcast.net> wrote:
>
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>
>Tyrone

Subject: Re: Question from reluctant engineer . . .
Posted by Neil on Fri, 20 Oct 2006 05:14:21 GMT

OK, since we're elaborating here... the phrase "stems" is
actually borrowed from the film world. In that realm, "stems"
mean FINAL submixes ONLY... IOW, a music stem, a Foley stem, an
SFX stem, a dialogue stem, etc... in that world it does NOT
refer to any submix prior to those types of FINAL submixes. For
example, in the film world, if you were working on a film that
had an orchestral score, you would not have a strings stem, a
horns stem, a percussion stem,etc... it would be one music stem
which in that case would consist of the final stereo or
surround mix of all the music in the film.
Where the the term "stems" from, (pun intended) I don't know,
but I do know it was used as far back as multiple sync'ed
optical audio tracks were used in film (i.e. before magnetic
tape vehicles like Nagra decks were prevalant in film field
production). In the audio world it has started gaining
popularity since mastering houses have adopted DAW's or DAW-
type systems, and have since become able to accept submixes (as
opposed to only two-track mixes) for mastering (WOT!?!?!? You
can't give it to me on Sony PCM-1630!!!???" lol :)).
OOPS! fucked up that vocal balance... that's OK, bring up the
vocal stem. Wow, those drums didn't sound as hot in my room as
they do here... better bring down the drum stem a bit. It's
almost as if you're doing a "mix after the mix" when mastering
like that; but apart from that, with regard to the term
"stems", I think we've all kind of bastardized it, because it's
now more or less interchangeable with a "submix" of any kind.

Neil

Tyrone Corbett" <tyronecorbett@comcast.net> wrote:
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Subject: Re: Question from reluctant engineer . . .
Posted by Tyrone Corbett on Fri, 20 Oct 2006 20:47:16 GMT
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Thanks Neil, much appreciated info!

Tyrone

"Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:
>
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