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Subject: Tracking and mixing levels in Paris  
Posted by [JohnG](#) on Fri, 01 Nov 2013 16:54:14 GMT  
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Hello everyone,

In my quest to become a better recordist and mixer I am trying to learn more about gain levels during tracking and mixing and what is optimal. A recent topic reminded to run it by anyone here that wants to share their knowledge on the subject.

Most information I have come across has stated digital recording levels should be around -18 dbfs on average, and that this results in a better sounding stereo mix that will respond better to dynamics processing during mastering, preserving the transients and "air" in a mix. And if recording too hot, the stereo mix ends up sounding "small" and "thin".

This goes counter to the "pushing" paris into the red train of thought. (I'm aware that paris is supposed to be different).

What have people found to be true regarding this, in your experience with Paris, or other converters and systems for that matter? Is the sound of a modern recording that sounds "in your face" where everything is very present a result of compressing everything heavily?

Thanks in advance for sharing any thoughts!  
John

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