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Subject: Re: DAWs and analog summing???  
Posted by [Don Nafe](#) on Tue, 17 Jan 2006 21:37:01 GMT  
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In a nutshell I believe analog summing is for people with inferior DAWs

;-)

Plenty of discussion on this throughout the Pro Sound Web forums as of late.

Don

"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote in message  
news:43cd5bac\$1@linux...

>  
> DAWs and analog summing???

>  
> The latest trend in audio seems to be analog summing boxes. There are  
> about  
> twenty manufactures putting out analog summing mixers for DAWs. Time to  
> discuss the merits and value of such a product.

>  
> Is anybody using such a device?

>  
> Do you guys think there is a real need for this?

>  
> How much better of a final mix do you guys think can be achieved taking  
> this  
> route?

>  
> What about the loss of life in a mix going through the conversion process  
> multiple times?

>  
> Will this help with the mastering process?

>  
> Do you guys think it would be better to send in analog tape to a mastering  
> house?

>  
> What are your thoughts?

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Subject: DAWs and analog summing???  
Posted by [excelav](#) on Tue, 17 Jan 2006 22:03:40 GMT  
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DAWs and analog summing???

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Is anybody using such a device?

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Will this help with the mastering process?

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What are your thoughts?

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Subject: Re: DAWs and analog summing???

Posted by [LaMont](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 03:27:09 GMT

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Hey James,

Well now you have gone and started us on the [www.gearsutz](http://www.gearsutz.com) path.

Let me put on my Dreck hat, if you will:

Personally, I could really care less about mixing (OTB-Outside the box or DAW).. At our Church Studio, we have an SSL G series, that all of the Producer love running PT\_HD/Logic thru for mixing. To me, I and other engineers who work there can get awesome mixes just using the DAW i/o converters..At most, I'll run a stereo out for the DAW into>Apogee> Masterlink..

Now, to me, a person can get simikar results by just using a decent mackie or soundcraft, Behrignger console to get that same anolog summing performance..really. I'm not crazy. What is crazt to me is this insane new summing \$\$\$\$ bus market.

What I can see spending good money on is analoge ont he from end. Again, you don;t have to spend a fortune to get a nice warmsignal into your DAW. At home,I use a SoundCraft ghost to front end into every DAW I use. But, Whnl only had a mackie 1604, it sound just as good in as it does out.. Now, I'm not naive to think that there's not a difference in BIG Buck \$\$ analog and little buck analog, But when you factor in todays I/O converts, not even the big dollar converts..Rather your, Motus, RME's EMU, M-Audios.. They so

good now, that they make up the deficiencies of the most analog consoles.

I'm not really sold on trying to mimic an old analog console, I rather like the "new" sounds coming from ITB mixes that I hear on the radio of products I personally know were mixed ITB..

As in the recent, but "great" discussions on the "State OF DAW Affairs", just like the gain in cpus, I think the Audio interface products will get better and better, and for not a lot of money.. EMU really spanked the industry the last 2 years with Audio interfaces, with their stellar sound and outrageous price point.. That prompted M-audio to redo their line and upgrade their product and dropping the price. It's only going to get better.. DAW software companies are tweaking the "nines" out their software. Upgrading to 64bit just like Sonar5, will yield higher performance DAW mixer and summing output..

So, again, I'm not jumping into this game.. I mean let's face it. If for no other reason to a Paris system, having to act as summing converter mixer is justification..

Take care

LaMont

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

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Subject: Re: DAWs and analog summing???

Posted by [Gary Flanigan](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 17:54:10 GMT

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

>

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I think that the folks selling equipment have to have something to sell.

As we do more and more inside the box, they have less and less to sell.

Thus the mania over mic preamps, and the almost religious belief that everyone must have an assortment. (With GML, API and Fearn, I'm not immune). Now they are trying to suggest that we also need an assortment of AD converters to use with different instruments and signal paths. Never mind that the choice of mic and placement have an order of magnitude more impact on what gets recorded.

Mixing in the box is different, and requires a different approach to mixing through a console or summing box. Folks like George Massenberg mix through a console because they can work much faster, not least because they are very familiar with that process.

I think the quality of converters is so high now (assuming professional units) that multiple trips in and out of the box don't degrade the signal appreciably.

I also think the folks at Gearslutz and elsewhere should stop talking about mic pres and record something.

Now I will go get my coffee and shut up. :)

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Subject: Re: DAWs and analog summing???

Posted by [excelav](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 19:17:15 GMT

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Gary, I think your right!

"Gary Flanigan" <gary\_flanigan@ce9.uscourts.gov> wrote:

>

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

>>

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>>What are your thoughts?

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Subject: Re: DAWs and analog summing???  
Posted by [Chris Wargo](#) on Wed, 18 Jan 2006 21:05:53 GMT  
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Amen brother, Amen. :-)

"Gary Flanigan" <gary\_flanigan@ce9.uscourts.gov> wrote:

>

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

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Subject: Re: DAWs and analog summing???  
Posted by [Chris Wargo](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 01:50:24 GMT  
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That being said, I just found a vintage piece of Telefunken gear that I must have for my studio, or else I will die:

<http://tinyurl.com/94fb4>

-Chris

"Chris Wargo" <na@na.na> wrote:

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>"Gary Flanigan" <gary\_flanigan@ce9.uscourts.gov> wrote:  
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Subject: Re: DAWs and analog summing???  
Posted by [Kim](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 02:58:25 GMT  
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Hehe, now we could all use one of those! ;o)

"Chris Wargo" <na@na.na> wrote:

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Subject: Re: DAWs and analog summing???  
Posted by [tonehouse](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 16:18:43 GMT  
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Check out this month's issue of "Electronic Musician" for the article on "  
Analog Summing".....

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Subject: Re: DAWs and analog summing???  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2006 17:24:53 GMT  
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can you post a synopsis?

tonehouse wrote:

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>  
>

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