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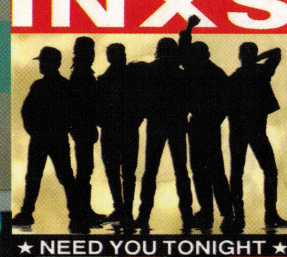
MIX

MUSIC PRODUCTION • LIVE SOUND • SOUND FOR PICTURE

INXS

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CELINE DION
TWO NEW ALBUMS, ONE AMAZING VOICE

REVIEWED

ADAM AX77 MONITORS
SLATE DIGITAL SDD4, VTM
KUSH UBK-1 COMPRESSOR
PSP ECHO

All About the Hardware //// By the Mix Editors

It's become abundantly clear in recent years that the AES Convention has gotten smaller. There were more exhibitors this year than two years ago in San Francisco, but the footprint was smaller. The larger trend is that it's become primarily a hardware show, with many of the more prominent software-based developers noticeably absent.

Still, there were plenty of products to see, and from the opening bell on Saturday, by far the busiest day of the convention, we scoured the floor to bring you the highlights. Here, in no particular order, are a few of the products that caught the eyes, and ears, of the *Mix* editors

Antelope Audio Orion 32

Antelope Audio (antelopeaudio.com) showed the Orion 32, a 32-channel AD/DA converter and master clock all in a single-rackspace box. Features include MADI (optical), ADAT, analog and USB 2 I/O, operation up to 192kHz/24-bit (32 channels), 1 input/4 output clock I/O, LED meters, five presets and companion computer application.

Slate Digital (slatedigital.com) unveiled its 46-inch Raven MTX Multi-Touch Production System. Referred to as the "Giant iPad Mixer" by some, the multi-touch display puts your DAW right at your fingertips with controls for faders, pans, mutes, solos, sends, automation, plug-in inserts, transport control, and more. Other features include a full monitor section, a nano-glide glass surface, iDock for Apple products, USB port, reference speakers, 8-channel cue output and a 7.1 module for surround mastering and mixing.

The Grace Design m905 Monitor Controller (gracedesign.com) picks up where the m904 left off. Features include balanced and unbalanced analog inputs, cue and talkback, (2) AES 3, S/PDIF, Toslink, and ADAT inputs. The asynchronous Class 2 USB supports 192kHz/24-bit playback, while the mastering-quality DAC circuitry and S-lock dual-stage PLL promises top digital performance. The compact, wired remote features controls for speaker selection, talkback, mono, dim and mute, as well as a dedicated SPL meter and headphone output.

The Kush Audio Clariphonic DSP plug-in (kushaudio.com) closely models the hardware version with controls for Presence, Sheen, Shimmer, Silk, Tight and Diffuse. The Focus and Clarity controls allow users to blend and lift the midrange and high frequencies of a track or mix. Supported formats include RTAS, AU and VST (Mac/PC).

Genelec demoed its free speaker alignment app for the iPhone (genelec.com). Available in Apple's app store, it allows users to accurately position speakers for stereo or surround listening via an interactive interface that uses the iPhone's compass. Readout is in degrees and goes bright green when the optimal angle is achieved. At press time, an Android version was also made available.

Solid State Logic (solidstatelogic.com) presented three new products:

Solid State Logic Screensound

Duality Pro-Station with A-FADA automation and the 611 EQ and 611 DYN 500 Series modules (both shown in *Mix*'s November issue). Also new at the show was the company's Screensound ADR workflow solution designed to optimize and standardize ADR for film, Foley recording and local language replacement for film and TV. The turnkey system includes SSL's Nucleus hardware control surface with two SSL SuperAnalogue mic preamps, SSL's Alpha-Link audio converters and the SSL MX4 software mixer environment providing standard mixer templates and open architecture routing flexibility.

Millennia HV37-HP

Millennia's HV37-HP (mil-media.com) puts two of the company's high-end mic preamps in a single-rackspace box. Features include continuously variable gain control, front panel instrument input, DC coupled ribbon mic setting with 10dB gain boost, 80Hz roll-off, phantom power, -15dB pad, polarity flip and an internal power supply.