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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MOTU ANNOUNCES 828MKII FIREWIRE AUDIO INTERFACE WITH 20-INPUT, 8-BUS MONITOR MIXER

MOTU 828MKII FIREWIRE AUDIO INTERFACE OFFERS 96kHz I/O, 8-BUS MIXER, FRONT PANEL LCD, STAND-ALONE OPERATION AND MIDI I/O

Print-ready and web-ready product images are here:

http://www.motu.com/marketing/motu_products/audio_interfaces/828mkii_firewire/

CAMBRIDGE, MA - Tuesday, May 13, 2003. MOTU, Inc. (www.motu.com) announced the 828mkII (\$795), a single rack-space, FireWire audio interface for Macintosh and Windows computers. The 828mkII replaces the 828 at the same price and adds many new features, including more simultaneous inputs (20) and outputs (22), 24-bit 96kHz operation, 8-bus monitor mixing with front panel LCD programming, stand-alone operation, front-panel mic/guitar/instrument inputs with preamps and sends, SMPTE time code sync and MIDI input/output.

"The 828mkII is equally well-suited for both studio and stage," said Jim Cooper, Director of Marketing at MOTU. "It gives you all the analog and digital I/O you need for desktop recording, including convenient front-panel mic inputs with sends for your favorite compressor, EQ or guitar amp. You can program multiple monitor mixes on-screen with the included CueMix Console software, hit the road, and then tweak mix settings at your gig using the front-panel LCD display, without the computer. And we've added convenient MIDI jacks so you don't need to carry an extra MIDI interface. The 828mkII is the world's most capable and versatile FireWire audio interface ever."

The 828mkII provides all of the same features as the original 828, along with many new features, including:

Built-in CueMix DSP™ monitor mixing – the 828mkII provides DSP-driven digital mixing and monitoring for all 20 inputs. Users can connect mics, guitars, synths and effects processors, and monitor everything from the 828mkII's main outs or headphone jack with no separate mixer needed and no latency. The 828mkII supports up to four separate

stereo monitor mixes assigned to any four digital or analog output pairs. For example, separate monitor mixes could be set up for the main outs and headphone outs, while two additional stereo buses could be used for send/return loops to reverb units or other outboard gear. Each mix can support all 20 inputs (8 TRS analog, 2 mic, 8 ADAT optical digital and stereo SPDIF digital). A new "CueMix Return" feature lets the user to route one of the four CueMix DSP mixes back to the computer. This allows users to record their entire mix, including monitored inputs, back into the computer, for example.

Front-panel programming – 828mkII users can access their mixes, or any 828mkII setting, directly from the front panel using six rotary encoders and a 2x16 backlit LCD display. Mix settings such as input gain, panning, +4/-10 input level, 6dB boost, stereo pair grouping, mix output assignment and others are quickly accessed, clearly marked and easy to adjust. Users can create, save, recall and duplicate eight global presets.

Stand-alone operation – An 828mkII user can program the unit at the studio with the included CueMix Console software and then take the 828mkII on the road for mixing/monitoring without a computer. Any setting can be changed on location with the backlit LCD and front-panel controls.

Front-panel mic/instrument inputs with sends – Two front-panel Neutrik combo (XLR/TRS) jacks with preamps and phantom power allow users to connect a microphone, guitar or any quarter-inch input with front-panel convenience. The XLR jack serves as a low-impedance mic input, and the TRS jack serves as a high-impedance guitar/instrument input. Before A/D conversion, the pre-amplified signal from each front-panel input is routed to one of two rear-panel quarter-inch analog sends, so that users can insert a favorite outboard EQ, compressor, amp or effects processor to the mic/guitar input signal before it is converted to digital form. The resulting output from the outboard gear is fed back into the 828mkII via one of the eight TRS analog inputs on the rear panel, for routing to the computer and/or inclusion in the 828mkII's built-in monitor mixes.

20 inputs / 22 outputs – the 828mkII provides the following simultaneous, independent inputs and outputs: 8 channels of quarter-inch TRS 24-bit 96kHz analog I/O (with individually switchable +4/-10 reference levels on input), 2 mic inputs with preamps and phantom power, 8 channels of 24-bit ADAT optical digital I/O (4 channels at 96kHz), 24-bit 96kHz SPDIF digital I/O, headphone out and stereo main out. All inputs and outputs can be individually addressed from host audio software running on the computer. All inputs can also be individually addressed in the 828mkII's built-in CueMix DSP mixer. The headphone output and main outs each have independent front-panel volume control. The headphone output can be programmed via software to either mirror another pair of outputs (such as the main outs) or serve as its own independent output pair.

96kHz digital I/O – The ADAT optical digital inputs and outputs provide 4 channels at 88.2 or 96 kHz. 96kHz SPDIF is also provided. As with the original 828, the optical I/O can be switched to the TosLink format via software.

Sample-accurate MIDI – MIDI IN and OUT jacks are provided for users to connect a MIDI controller and/or sound module with no separate interface needed. MIDI timing is sample-accurate with supporting software.

Built-in SMPTE synchronization – The 828mkII is the first FireWire audio interface to provide on-board SMPTE time code synchronization features. These features allow users to slave their 828mkII system to SMPTE time code without a synchronizer via a dedicated quarter-inch SMPTE input jack. A SMPTE out jack is also provided for time code generation. The 828mkII provides a DSP-driven phase-lock engine with sophisticated filtering that provides fast lockup times and sub-frame accuracy.

The included MOTU SMPTE Console™ software provides a complete set of tools to generate SMPTE for striping, regenerating or slaving other devices to the computer. Like CueMix DSP, the synchronization features are cross-platform and compatible with all audio sequencer software that supports the ASIO2 sample-accurate sync protocol.

The 828mkII provides these additional features:

- ADAT sync input – allows sample-accurate digital transfers with ADATs or any other device that supports ADAT SYNC.
- Word clock input/output – allows the 828mkII to be synchronized with any digital audio clock source. For example, with a MOTU MIDI Timepiece AV-USB interface and synchronizer, the 828mkII can be resolved to SMPTE time code, word clock, blackburst or video.
- Punch in/out – this quarter-inch input connects to any standard foot switch for hands-free punch-in and punch-out during recording.
- Two 1394 FireWire connectors – connects the 828mkII to the FireWire port on any computer via a standard FireWire cable. Two connectors are provided to allow daisy chaining of multiple 828mkII's or other FireWire devices without the need for a FireWire hub.
- IEC power receptacle – the 828mkII has an internal power supply with a convenient external switch for either 115V or 230V operation.
- Universal compatibility – the 828mkII is compatible with virtually all audio software on Mac OS 9, Mac OS X and Windows Me/2K/XP.
- Includes AudioDesk® – sample-accurate workstation software for Mac OS with 24-bit recording/editing and 32-bit automated mixing/processing/mastering.

The 828mkII is expected to ship in Q2, 2003. Price is \$795.

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