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MOTU ANNOUNCES CROSS-PLATFORM USB MIDI INTERFACES FOR MAC & PC

WINTER NAMM, LOS ANGELES, CA - January 27, 1999. Mark of the Unicorn, Inc. (MOTU) is developing an entire line of USB MIDI interfaces for Macintosh and Windows computers. The new USB interfaces closely match MOTU's MIDI Timepiece AV and other current award-winning cross-platform MIDI hardware, providing advanced features such as SMPTE synchronization, word clock sync, and sample-accurate ADAT sync.

"USB is exciting because it will allow MOTU users to network many of our interfaces to a single computer using a standard, affordable USB hub," said Jim Cooper, MOTU's Marketing Director. "Users will also be able to mix and match any combination of interface models to suit their needs." MOTU software users will enjoy simultaneous access to all MIDI devices connected to their USB MOTU MIDI network, and they will even be able to "hot-swap" them. For example, if a user un-plugs a MOTU interface and then plugs it in again, their MOTU software will maintain communication with the interface and all devices connected to it.

MOTU's new USB interfaces are almost identical to their current line, which includes the 8x8 MIDI Timepiece AV, the 8x9 MIDI Express XT, the 4x6 Micro Express and the 2x2 FastLane. MOTU has removed the parallel port and replaced it with a full-bandwidth, 12 megabit USB port. The new USB interfaces retain Mac serial ports, so they'll work with both old and new Macs alike. MOTU plans to continue selling their existing parallel port-equipped interfaces until market demand for them subsides as PC vendors switch exclusively to USB. MOTU expects their new interfaces to ship in Spring, 1999.

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