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MOTU SHIPS DIGITAL PERFORMER™ 2.4 UPGRADE WITH SONIC MODULATOR AUDIO PLUG-IN

MARK OF THE UNICORN ADDS 24-BIT AUDIO SUPPORT AND REAL TIME SONIC MODULATOR PLUG-IN TO DIGITAL PERFORMER

Cambridge, MA - May 15, 1998. Mark of the Unicorn, Inc. (MOTU) announced that it is now shipping Digital Performer 2.4, the latest upgrade to its flagship MIDI sequencing and digital audio recording software. New features include 24-bit recording, 24-bit to 16-bit dithering features, the Sonic Modulator™ plug-in, sample accurate sync, enhanced Adobe Premiere™ plug-in support, drag & drop support for the Yamaha A3000™ sampler, Trim and DC offset removal plug-ins, AIFF and WAV file import/export, and an innovative drag & drop approach for managing and grouping plug-ins.

Sonic Modulator Plug-in

The latest addition to Digital Performer's growing set of real-time, 32-bit audio effects plug-ins, Sonic Modulator provides a wide range of modulation effects in one integrated plug-in. "Sonic Modulator is truly unique", says MOTU Product Manager Matthew Davidson. "It can modulate pitch, amplitude, delay and filtering all at the same time." The Sonic Modulator produces a wide range of effects on any audio signal, from Leslie speaker cabinet simulation to wild sci-fi effects. An intuitive graphical user interface encourages users to explore the multitude of possible effects. Presets include "Jerry Wah", "Slow Lez", "complex chorus", "Ray Gun", "Fast Trem" and "Trigger Pan". Users can apply the effect to audio tracks in real-time while playing back the audio from their Power Macintosh's built-in audio output. Or they can achieve higher I/O fidelity via a wide variety of audio hardware from Digidesign, KORG and MOTU.

24-bit audio support

Digital Performer 2.4 can record, play, edit, mix, process and bounce 24-bit audio files, taking full advantage of the increased resolution and headroom provided by 24-bit capable audio hardware systems such as Digidesign's Pro Tools|24 and Mark of the Unicorn's 2408 hard disk recording system.

Dithering

Digital Performer 2.4 provides high quality dithering options when converting 24-bit audio to 16-bit audio. Dithering squeezes more resolution from 16-bit audio signals and reduces unwanted artifacts, maintaining the highest possible audio quality. Users can employ dithering throughout the program wherever 24- to 16-bit conversion is required.

Sample Accurate Sync

Digital Performer 2.4 has a new "Sample Accurate Sync" option that allows users to achieve sample-accurate audio transfers between their computer and one or more ADATs connected to a KORG 1212 audio card or MOTU's 2408 hard disk recording system. For example, if a user records audio from their ADAT into Digital Performer, and then transfers it back to the ADAT, it will be recorded at its original location, to the very sample. Sample-accurate locating like this ensures accurate phase coherence between tracks, and makes the transfer of audio between ADATs and the computer completely transparent. Digital Performer can also make sample accurate transfers with Tascam DA-38/88/98 tape decks via MOTU's 2408 hardware, together with a MOTU Digital Timepiece universal synchronizer.

Support for Yamaha A3000 Sampler

Digital Performer is still the only audio sequencer that allows users to easily transfer audio samples between their Macintosh and their sampler. Digital Performer 2.4 adds the Yamaha A3000 to the long list of samplers now supported.

Enhanced Premiere Plug-In Support

Digital Performer 2.4 allows users to preview Adobe Premiere™ audio plug-ins through their audio hardware (instead of the built-in Macintosh speaker). Preview time can now be adjusted up to 60 seconds.

Trim and DC Notch Real-time Audio Plug-Ins

Digital Performer 2.4 ships with two more real time audio plug ins, Trim and DC Notch. The Trim plug-in can add up to 60dB of gain to any audio track, swap stereo channels and invert phase. The DC Notch plug-in removes DC offset.

AIFF/WAV file import/export

Digital Performer can now import and export audio files in the AIFF and WAV formats. When importing, users can drag and drop AIFF and WAV files from their Mac OS desktop directly into Digital Performer's windows.

New Drag & Drop interface for plug-ins

Digital Performer is the first audio sequencer to employ an intuitive, drag and drop interface for applying, deleting, moving, duplicating, grouping and storing effects plug-ins. In Digital Performer's Mixing Board window, users can now treat plug-ins as objects that can be selected, moved, and duplicated. Users can also select multiple plug-ins to treat them as a group. A group of selected plug-ins can be dragged as a group to other inserts in the Mixing Board, or they can be stored as a group in Digital Performer's clipping windows. For example, a user might put four plug-ins on a track: chorus, echo, flange and EQ. They can then store them as a single effect by selecting them and dragging them to a Clippings window, where they appear as a single clipping. To apply them to another track, the user could then drag them from the clipping window back into the Mixing Board and drop them onto the inserts for any desired track.

Digital Performer 2.4 is now shipping. It is available as an upgrade to existing Performer and Digital Performer users. It will be shipped as a free update to all registered Version 2.3 users.

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