M e d i a   K i t

Feature Title: "Fundamentals of Audio"
Series Title: Empower Your People In Technical Ministry

Media Available: Single DVD
Format: NTSC
Approximate Running Length: 80 Minutes

CHURCH PRODUCTION RESOURCES
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P R O D U C T   O V E R V I E W

General Product Overview:

"Fundamentals of Audio" is a video teaching tool designed specifically for church audio technicians - volunteer and paid alike. This course was created with knowledge from more than 10 years of in-field experience teaching audio engineering to churches. The concept is not to explain theory, but rather practical functions of a typical sound system, to a person who has never before operated a sound system professionally.

Design Theory of Series:

Unlike other products that claim to be similar, "Fundamentals of Audio" is a training tool that is relevant to real world scenarios. The series was designed based off four primary levels of knowledge. The series begins with the most basic of concepts and slowly works to the top level of what is considered to be a fundamental working knowledge. Each lesson is designed with a volunteer in mind. Other products on the market are mearly an overview with no in-depth training. "Audio Fundamentals" is designed to teach the viewer step-by-step so they completly understand each lesson.

Teaching Methods:

The series utilizes all primary forms of learning. The concept is originally taught one on one, then it is demonstrated with close up camera angles, following this are graphics and animations driving home the point. At the end of each major section there is a step by step review that is both written and spoken. This insures the viewer **hears**, **sees**, **visualizes**, **reads**, and **hears** again each primary teaching point within the lesson.

The series takes full advantage of the video medium by utilizing graphic overlays and animations so the viewer can "see" what they can normally only hear. We have found that by utilizing visualization for sound systems the average person learns much quicker.

The series also uses analogies to make the point clearer. For instance, instead of referring to the sound as "signal" (a common word utilized in average sound training), the sound is compared to water. This analogy is then continued when we refer to the various buttons and knobs as being gates and water spicets. The training demonstrates how the more you open the gate, the more "water" flows through. This is compounded with graphics and animations. This type of training tool aides the viewer in visualizing the path and functions of each component.

DETAILED LESSON DESCRIPTION

Church Production Resources realizes that the key to successful interactive training is short, in-depth, specific lessons.

Each primary lesson teaches a specific fundamental of audio engineering. The lesson is long enough to provide detailed explanation but short enough to maintain the viewers attention and not overwhelm them.

By using creative graphics, animations, and analogies the lessons are effective to a broad range of viewers - from beginner to vetran. There is something in each lesson for everyone.

Full-time media ministers will love this series as a training tool they can use to teach fundamentals to new people within their minsitry.

Lesson 1 - Signal Flow :
This lesson takes an in-depth look at how signal travels through a typical sound system. We examine a typical mixing console button for button and knob for knob, explaining what it does, how it works, and what it is referred to on other popular consoles.

Lesson 2 - Setting a Proper Gain Structure :
Utilizing real-world examples we walk through a solid procedure for setting a proper volume and base EQ on the human voice, tape deck, and CD player. This no-nonsense approach ensures you will have a consistent sound and prevent damage to your equipment in the process.
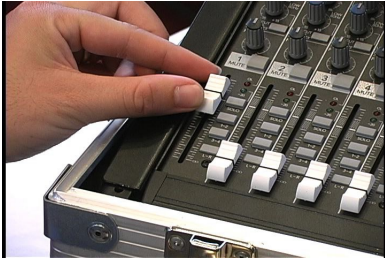
Lesson 3 - Equalization Techniques :
Equalization is key to acheiving good results with your audio mix. This lesson takes a close look at the various forms of equalization, explains frequency ranges, and teaches simple, real-world methods to learn how to EQ sound.

Lesson 4 - Auxiliary and Subgroup Mixing :
This final lesson will take you to a deeper level of audio mixing. Now that you have some of the basics down we will look at using our auxiliary mix for tape feeds, nursery feeds, and monitor mixes. We will also learn how to use the subgroup feature to simplify your mix.
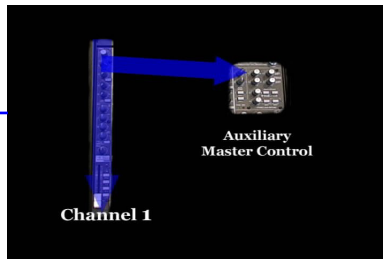
Close-up views

One on one instruction

Real-world examples

Auxiliary Master Control

Channel 1

Graphics and animations

Auxiliary Mixing - Quick Review:

1) Plug in the auxiliary device to the desired auxiliary output on the console.

2) Select the input channel that you wish to send to the auxiliary device.

3) Turn up the auxiliary knob that corresponds to the master output used in step #1.

Step-by-step text reviews

"Fundamentals of Audio" utilizes video to retain that one-on-one feel while maximizing the potential of animations and graphics to actually teach more efficiently.

Through the use of such animations and graphics the viewer is able to visualize the process. This is someting very difficult to achieve in the field.

By using close-ups, real-world examples, and one-on-one styles we are able to retain the feeling of the being in an actual training class.

Completing each major teaching point with step-by-step review cards ensures that each point is driven home by as many different memory learning principles as possible.

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C U S T O M E R   Q U O T E S

"Outstanding! Brad Herring has a heart for ministry and an outstanding talent to train Audio, Lighting, and Video Engineers. There are many people with much experience, but Brad brings this to you with the addidition of a passion for team ministry. As a minister, he understands what it takes to train a church technician to support a ministry team"

> Doug Burrier
> Senior Pastor, Northwest Church

"Great! The training tools that I've needed for years!"

> Donnie Compton
> Minister of Music, Centennial Baptist Church

"These instructional videos were a blessing to a sound neophyte like me. Not only did it explain how our church sound system should work, but it did so at a practical level that anyone can understand. This has provided great consistency of sound from service to service. From the Director of Music down to each sound system volunteer, we are able to be on the same page with respect to how best use the system in our church. Thanks!"

> Lance Parks
> Sound Engineer, County Line United Methodist Church

"The title of this DVD training course says it all: "Church Audio Training Made Simple." Brad Herring made it simple with this practical training course that is specifically designed for the church sound tech. I recommend this DVD training course highly. And I know you will not be disappointed in the results it will produce, if its techniques are adopted by your volunteer techs."

> Don Brooks
> Audio Consultant, Techmissions

PRODUCT REVIEW: "Church Audio Training Made Simple: Fundamentals of Audio"
By: Don Brooks

One of the most common questions that I receive as a technical consultant for churches is: "Where can I get training for my techs?" I refer them to my favorite technical book list, recommend a few video training courses, and of course suggest technical conferences such as Technology for Worship Inspiration Conference.

Recently, I had the opportunity to review a new format of training for the church sound tech and I was truly impressed. Brad Herring of Church Production Resources recently sent me his latest product, *Church Audio Training Made Simple: Fundamentals of Audio*. What makes the training course unique is it is presented on DVD. What a great format for training. All the previous video training courses I have reviewed have been on VHS tape and the advantage of the DVD format makes this four-course DVD a must-have for any church interested in increasing the technical knowledge of its sound team.

In addition to the clarity and durability of the DVD format, its ability to move through the course material with the simple touch of a button on the remote control, makes this a tool that can be used in either class format or self-study. Being able to pause the DVD with a perfect picture, allows for study or practice of what was just taught.

Brad Herring is the on-screen instructor in all four courses, and I found his teaching style easy to understand as he presented in a hands-on style. His use of graphics and close-up images provide clarity to the lessons being taught. This is a course specifically designed for the church tech, as it addresses issues specific to the unique church environment.

The four lessons presented on the DVD are: *Signal Flow* which discusses a typical sound system configuration and spends most of its time examining a typical mixing console, button by button and knob by knob; *Gain Structure* which demonstrates a solid procedure for setting proper volume and base EQ for a typical church sound system in order to ensure a consistent sound; *Equalization Techniques* which teaches the importance of equalization in obtaining good sound and presents a simple method for EQ'ing a typical church sound system; and finally, *Auxiliary and Subgroup Mixing* which looks at using aux sends for tape feeds or monitor sends, while subgroups are presented as a way to simplify the mix.

All four lessons were presented at what I would consider "entry level" for a sound tech. They were complete in teaching the basics of the topics covered, however, as an experienced sound tech, I also learned some new things. This is a DVD that you could hand to a new tech to take home and view, and neither you nor the new sound tech would be disappointed with the end result.

The title of this DVD training course says it all: "Church Audio Training Made Simple." Brad Herring made it simple with this practical training course that is specifically designed for the church sound tech. I recommend this DVD training course highly. And I know you will not be disappointed in the results it will produce, if its techniques are adopted by your volunteer techs.

Church Production Resources offers a variety of training courses and can be reached at www.churchproductionresources.com.

Don Brooks operates a no-fee consulting service called TechMissionS with its goal: "To help today's church with the issues of technology in much the same manner Paul helped the first church with issues of theology." He can be reached through his web site www.techmissions.com.