



DUENDE
NATIVE

Duende Native

User Guide

December 2010

Document History
82BDNM01A

Initial Release

Table of Contents

<u>Introduction</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Welcome to the World of SSL</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>About This Manual</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Plug-in Tutorials and Support</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>About the SSL plug-in range</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Channel Strip</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Stereo Bus Compressor</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>X-Comp</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>X-EQ</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Vocalstrip</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Drumstrip</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>X-Verb</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>1. Software Setup</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>Overview</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>System Requirements</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Windows</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Macintosh</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Host Applications</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Downloading the Software</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Problems Downloading?</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Installing the Software (Macintosh)</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Installing the Software (Windows)</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>Creating an SSL Profile</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>Logging into the SSL website</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>Buying Plug-ins</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Applying Activation Codes to your Profile</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>CD Activation Codes</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>Free Demo Activation Codes</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>Activating Plug-ins</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>2. EQ & Dynamics Channel Strip</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>Introduction</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>Interface Techniques</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Automation</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Input Section</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Filter Section</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Equaliser Section</u>	<u>21</u>
<u>Dynamics Section</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>Compressor/Limiter</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>Expander/Gate</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>Dynamics Values</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>Side Chain Processing Order</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>Channel Processing Order</u>	<u>23</u>
<u>Output Section</u>	<u>23</u>

<u>3. Stereo Bus Compressor</u>	25
<u>Introduction</u>	25
<u>Interface Techniques</u>	25
<u>Control Parameters</u>	25
<u>4. X-Comp</u>	27
<u>Introduction</u>	27
<u>Interface Techniques</u>	27
<u>Automation</u>	27
<u>Control Parameters</u>	28
<u>Plug-in Bypass</u>	28
<u>Presets</u>	28
<u>A-B comparisons</u>	28
<u>Knee</u>	28
<u>Max GR</u>	28
<u>Bleed</u>	29
<u>Auditioning Bleed Bands</u>	29
<u>Compressor Values</u>	29
<u>Input and Output Sections</u>	30
<u>Compression Law Graph</u>	30
<u>Bleed Graph</u>	30
<u>I/O Diff Graph</u>	30
<u>GR History</u>	30
<u>Colour of knobs</u>	30
<u>5. X-EQ</u>	31
<u>Introduction</u>	31
<u>Interface Overview</u>	31
<u>EQ Graph Display</u>	31
<u>Input and Output Sections</u>	32
<u>Interface Techniques</u>	32
<u>Automation</u>	32
<u>EQ Configuration</u>	33
<u>Plug-in Bypass</u>	33
<u>Presets</u>	33
<u>A-B comparisons</u>	33
<u>Analyse</u>	33
<u>Parallel</u>	34
<u>EQ Parameter Values</u>	34
<u>EQ and Filter Shapes</u>	35
<u>Bell Shapes</u>	35
<u>Shelving Bands</u>	36
<u>Filter Shapes</u>	36
<u>EQ History</u>	37
<u>An Audio Engineer's Best Friend</u>	37
<u>The Best of the Analogue and Digital Worlds</u>	37
<u>Analogue Parametric EQ Modelling</u>	37

Non Linear-phase EQ	38
Parallel Passive EQ	38
6. Vocalstrip	39
Introduction	39
Interface Overview	39
Plug-in Bypass	39
Presets	40
A-B Comparisons	40
Automation	40
Input and Output Sections	40
Vocalstrip Modules	40
De-esser	40
De-ploser	41
Equaliser	41
Compander	42
Processing Order	42
7. Drumstrip	43
Introduction	43
Interface Overview	43
Plug-in Bypass	43
Automation	43
Input and Output Sections	44
Drumstrip Modules	44
Gate	44
Transient Shaper	45
HF and LF Enhancers	46
Listen Mic Compressor	46
Processing Order	46
8. X-Verb	47
Interface Overview	47
Plug-in Bypass	47
Automation	47
Presets	48
A-B Comparisons and Morphing	48
The Graph Display	48
Input and Output Levels	49
Mix Levels	49
Image Control	50
X-Verb Configuration	51
Kill Tail Button	51
1. Select an Algorithm or Preset.	51
2. Adjust the Primary Parameters	52
3. Adjust the Detail Parameters	53
Detail Parameter Ranges and Descriptions	56
ER Menu	56

[REV Menu](#)

57

[Appendix: Cross-grade](#)

59

[Cross-grade Eligibility Conditions](#)

59

[Additional Conditions](#)

59

[Who Gets What?](#)

59

[Where is the Catch?](#)

60

[FAQs](#)

60

[Duende Native Cross-grade Installation](#)

61

Introduction

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF SSL

Congratulations on purchasing SSL's Duende Native plug-ins. Duende Native delivers a taste of the SSL mix experience – powerful channel and dynamics processing, the legendary Stereo Bus Compressor, plus a variety of contemporary audio tools developed by SSL to provide you with extensive processing versatility.

SSL is a company that has built its considerable reputation on excellence in audio production. With the rise in popularity of DAWs, there was an increasing demand to bring SSL's values and sonic signature to the world of plug-ins. Duende was our response to that demand. Duende was the result of our unique understanding of SSL's sonic heritage coupled with years of DSP development in SSL's digital console range.

Initially to bring Duende to life, we took the DSP heart of our acclaimed C-Series consoles and transplanted it into a hardware plug-in host. As native processing has become faster, the ability to run the sophisticated Duende plug-in algorithms efficiently in the host CPU has removed the need for additional DSP, while still leaving the DAW to deliver smooth workflow. Duende Native plug-ins deliver the same acclaimed sonic performance as their hardware DSP predecessors, but also offer the convenience and reliability of a complete 'in the box' solution.

Duende is a term used in flamenco connected to magic, spirit and passion, it's a name that evokes all that we've achieved with this product – and all we hope it will inspire its users to achieve.

ABOUT THIS MANUAL

This manual starts with a complete overview of the processes involved in installing and authorising your plug-ins then going on to a detailed description of all seven of the plug-ins in the Duende Native range.

Please note that the procedures involved in using plug-ins within your host application are not covered in this manual. Please refer to your host application's user guide for more information on how to use plug-ins in general.

If you are reading this on-screen, you will find that a number of helpful hyperlinks have been included, providing easy navigation around the manual, as well as quick access to key parts of the SSL website.

PLUG-IN TUTORIALS AND SUPPORT

If you would like any advice or support about your SSL plug-ins, the SSL website has an extensive support FAQ section:

www.solidstatellogic.com/support

SSL have created a number of tutorials which provide plug-in users with clear explanations and expert advice on signal processing techniques. They include Pro Tools, Logic and Cubase/Nuendo project files which allow you to experience real-life examples of the techniques within the Duende plug-ins. These are located within the Duende Product section of the SSL website:

www.solidstatellogic.com/music/duende_native/tutorials.asp

You can access these tutorials by clicking the Tutorial icon on the right – these icons are also found throughout the manual.



ABOUT THE SSL PLUG-IN RANGE

Channel Strip

The EQ and Dynamics Channel Strip plug-in is based on the EQ and compressor sections of the XL 9000 K Series console. SSL were the first mixing console manufacturer to feature dynamics and EQ on every channel on an in-line console with the SL 4000 B Series in 1977. The plug-in includes separate high and low pass filters, an independent compressor/limiter and gate/expander, a four band parametric equalizer which is assignable to the dynamics sidechain, variable processing order as well as input and output gain adjustment and phase inversion.



Stereo Bus Compressor

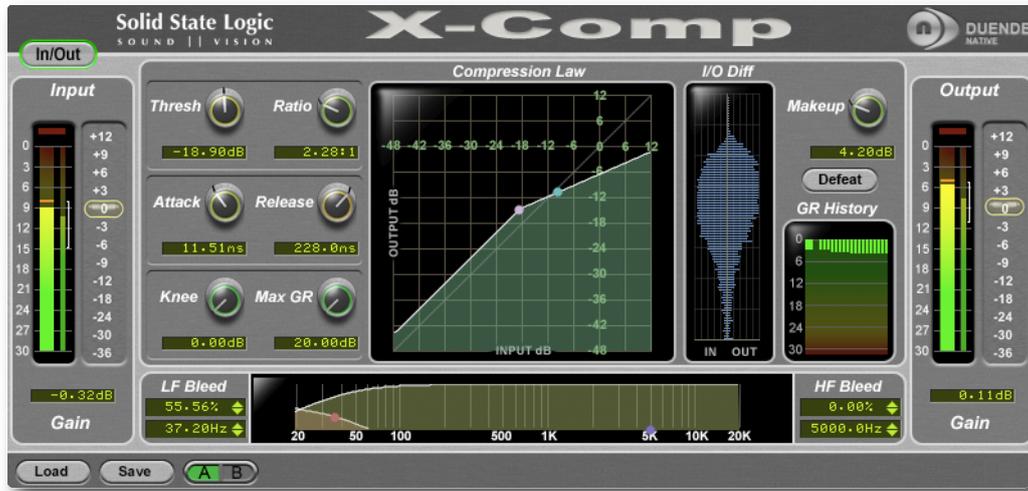
The Stereo Bus Compressor plug-in is a stereo version of the legendary centre section stereo bus compressor found on the XL 9000 K Series console. It provides high quality stereo compression, giving you critical control over the dynamic range of audio signals.



Uses may include inserting the bus compressor over a stereo mix which has the effect of 'gluing' the mix together whilst still maintaining a big sound. The dynamics of drum overheads or whole drum kits can be controlled very effectively with the bus compressor. As it is available as either a stereo or mono plug-in the bus compressor can be used for practically any application that requires superior compression.

X-Comp

X-Comp can deliver the transparent audio finesse of a mastering grade stereo compressor or be driven to inject character and raw power to rival the SSL Listen Mic Compressor. In X-Comp we haven't just modelled a particular compressor, but have provided a set of features and controls that allow the emulation of many vintage and modern compression designs based on a well loved SSL feed forward compressor algorithm.



Key Features

- Dual symmetrical knee design allows detailed shaping of the compression characteristic
- Advanced side chain architecture using 1st order filters delivers user friendly Frequency Dependant Parallel Compression
- Amplitude Histogram and Gain Reduction history displays provide advanced real time pre/post signal analysis
- Max Gain Reduction control provides genuine vintage compressor characteristics
- Intuitive user interface with drag and move graphic, mouse wheel and numeric editing
- A/B facility for instant comparison of two different compression set ups
- Proprietary preset management functions providing compatibility between all DAW platforms
- Global latency free bypass
- Superb mastering grade audio quality delivered by Duende's 64-bit floating point engine
- Preset library based on settings used by some of the worlds top mixing engineers

X-EQ

X-EQ is a versatile and comprehensive mastering grade parametric EQ plug-in built from the ground up for Duende. It has an unprecedented clarity, smoothness, and excellent high-frequency response. A total of 10 EQ bands are provided, split into dedicated HP and LP filters, LF and HF shelves and 6 bell bands. A Parallel EQ mode is also provided which recreates the characteristic sound of an old parallel passive PEQ circuit built with inductors and capacitors.



Key Features

- 10 band fully parametric high quality digital EQ
- A total of 16 different filter types: 5 different cut filters, 9 bell shapes, shelving filters and a parallel mode
- Extensive control options including draggable EQ graph nodes, mouse wheel adjustment and numerical data entry
- Extremely low noise and low non-linear distortion filter algorithms resulting in the residual THD+N significantly lower than 24-bit quantisation noise
- Comprehensive stereo/mono peak (with clip-hold), RMS and dynamic history metering at input and output
- Different bell filter types are all normalised to look identical at +6dB boost allowing for quick comparison between filter types
- Proprietary preset management functions providing compatibility between all major DAW platforms
- A/B functionality for easy comparison of any two settings
- Individual band bypass
- Global latency free bypass
- Real-time FFT Analyser showing the result of the EQ processing on the audio spectrum
- Superb mastering grade audio quality delivered by Duende's 64-bit floating point engine
- Preset library based on settings used by some of the worlds top mixing engineers

Vocalstrip

Vocalstrip is a one stop solution for superior vocal processing, with all the tools you need to take your vocal sound into the major league. Vocalstrip features 4 configurable processing blocks to take care of unwanted artefacts, dynamics and equalisation and extensive metering and visual feedback give you invaluable information during your work.



Key Features

- Intelligent De-esser
- Intelligent De-ploser
- 3 band EQ
- Compander featuring compression, downwards expansion and output drive
- Extensive visual feedback including a real-time FFT analyser showing the result of the EQ processing on the audio spectrum
- Complete control over process order
- Extensive control options including mouse wheel adjustment and numerical data entry
- Proprietary preset management functions providing compatibility between all DAW platforms
- A/B functionality for easy comparison of any two settings
- Global latency free bypass
- Superb mastering grade audio quality delivered by Duende's 64-bit floating point engine
- Preset library based on settings used by some of the worlds top mixing engineers

Drumstrip

The Drumstrip plug-in for Duende brings a unique blend of tools to the Duende Native platform, which provides an unprecedented amount of control over the transient and spectral elements of drum and percussion tracks. Manipulation which previously may have been time-consuming or impossible with traditional EQ and dynamics processing becomes elegant and rewarding with SSL Drumstrip.



Key Features

- Transient shaper capable of drastically changing the attack characteristics of rhythmic tracks. An audition mode makes for easy setup
- Highly controllable Gate featuring both open and close thresholds, attack, hold, release and range control
- SSL Listen Mic Compressor – as featured in the LMC-1 plug-in – with extra functionality
- Separate high and low frequency enhancers provide spectral control not achievable with traditional EQ
- Peak and RMS metering on both input and output
- Wet/dry controls on both the main output and the LMC, allow parallel processing to be easily dialled in
- Process order control over all five sections gives complete flexibility over the serial signal chain
- Latency-free bypass of all processing

X-Verb

X-Verb is a versatile and comprehensive studio grade reverberation plug-in, delivering the density, warmth, depth and stunning detail usually only associated with high class hardware reverb units. The use of innovative Diffusion Engines and innovative processing design provides superior performance that surpasses other Reverb Plug-Ins in both artistic freedom, depth and sonic quality. This plug-in may well provide all the different Reverb options you will ever need.



Key Features

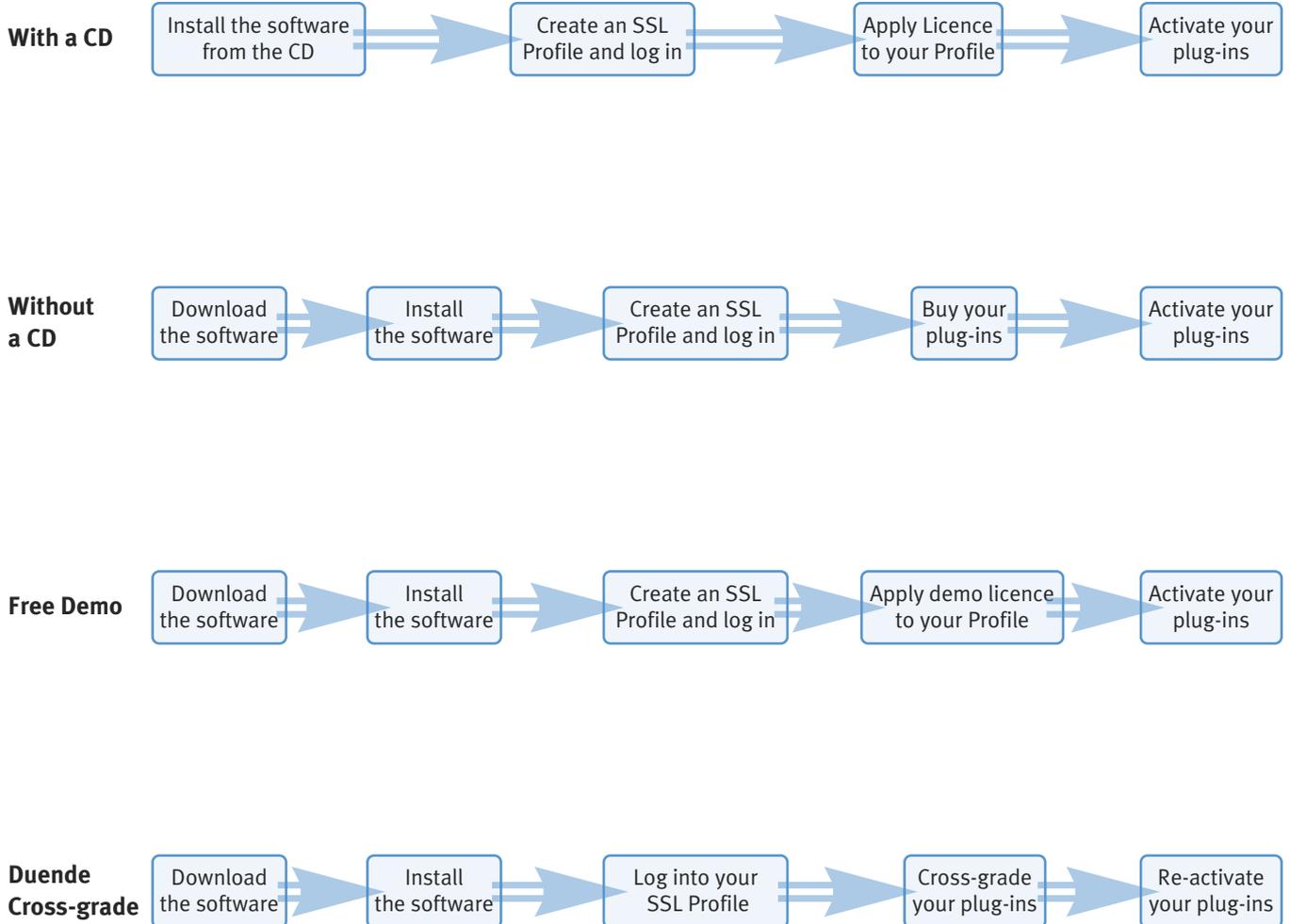
- Unique and modular SSL HiD Reverb Algorithm Engine
- 4 Core Algorithms create a complete collection of processors
- Quick Controls panel to easily alter the superb Presets
- Stunning Graphical User Interface to access the detailed parameter set
- Automatable Morphing feature to dynamically morph from one preset to another

Blank page – well, nearly.

1. Software Setup

OVERVIEW

In order to get your SSL software working, here are the steps you will need to go through:



Each of these steps will be covered over the following pages. There is a good chance that you are already some way through this process – feel free to jump to the appropriate section.

You can navigate to any of the sections by clicking on the appropriate blue box. If you would like more information on any stage of the setup process, please refer to the Duende Native area of the SSL website.

Cross-grade: This option is for users who already have a Duende unit and wish to take advantage of the free cross-grade offer. Please see the Appendix for details, terms and conditions.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Before starting the process, you may want to confirm that no upgrades to your computer or its software are required to run Duende Native:

Windows

- Windows XP, Vista or 7 (32- or 64-bit versions)
- Intel Core2 (or comparable) CPU running at 2GHz or higher
- 2GB of RAM minimum

Duende Native does not support Pentium or Celeron CPUs

Macintosh

- Intel Macintosh running at 1.83 GHz or higher
- OSX 10.5.8 or higher
- 2GB of RAM minimum

Duende Native does not support Power PC Macintosh.

Host Applications

Duende Native is designed to run within the following host applications:

- SSL Soundscape v6
- Steinberg Cubase v5.5
- Steinberg Nuendo v5
- Apple Logic v9
- Pro Tools v8
- Ableton Live v8.1
- Sonar v8
- Reaper v3
- Studio One

Duende Native has been tested in the above applications and is compatible. However, it will work with virtually any VST/AU host, including those which have not been tested. Please refer to the [Duende Native FAQs](#) for updated compatibility information.

DOWNLOADING THE SOFTWARE

If you do not have a Duende CD, you can download the software from www.solidstatellogic.com. Note that you do not need to buy plug-ins to download, though you will need to register on the SSL website before you can use them. To use them for more than one month, you will need to buy authorisation, as described on Page 19.

To download the software, go to www.solidstatellogic.com, hover over the **PRODUCTS** tab (at the top of the page) followed by the **MUSIC** entry in the drop-down which appears, and click on **Duende Native** in the second drop-down which appears. Select the **Downloads** tab to be taken to the page shown below. Alternatively, just click on the page displayed here in the pdf:



There are three download boxes, for Macintosh, 32-bit Windows machines and 64-bit Windows machines. Click on the **Download** label within the appropriate download box, and the download will start automatically.

It is important that Windows users install the correct software version – please refer to your PC's User Guide to establish which of the following host/OS permutations applies to you:

32-bit Windows, 32-bit Host: 32-bit installer required (*the 64-bit installer will not run on 32-bit Windows*);

64-bit Windows, 32-bit Host: 32-bit installer required (*the installer detects that Windows is 64-bit and installs 64-bit CodeMeter, but installs 32-bit plug-ins – see next page for more explanation*);

64-bit Windows, 64-bit Host: 64-bit installer required;

64-bit Windows, Separate 32-bit and 64-bit Hosts: both installers required!

Problems Downloading?

If the download is very slow, click on the drop-down box at the bottom of the download box, and select a different location number (1, 2, 3 or 4) within your geographical area (see right).

If the download doesn't work, check that your computer meets the system requirements on the following page, and check that you have downloaded the correct version.

[Note that the SSL website has a support FAQ section. Click here to be taken there...](#)



INSTALLING THE SOFTWARE (MACINTOSH)

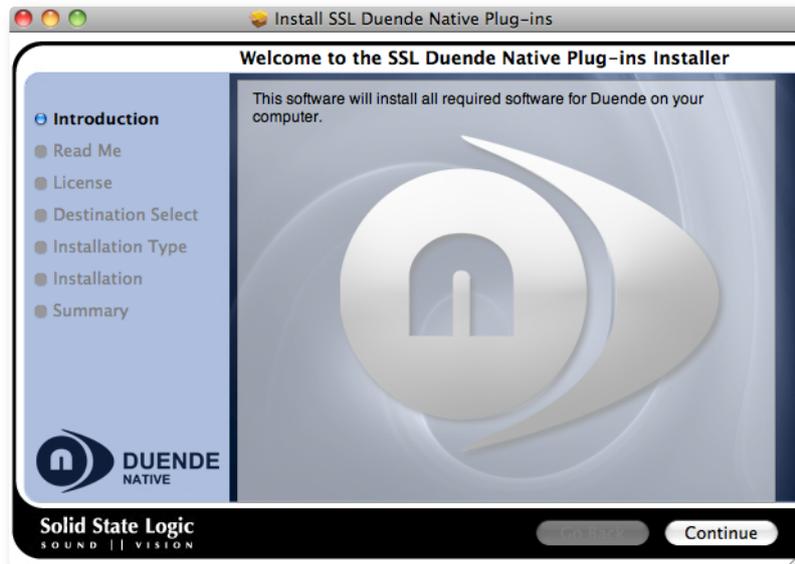
Installation on Macintosh requires that CodeMeter be installed *before* Duende Native. Locate the Duende Native installer.

- If you have a Duende Native CD, both installers will be found on the CD.
- If you have downloaded Duende Native from the SSL Website, the installers will both be contained within the Duende Native disk image file that you downloaded; double click this file to mount the disk image.

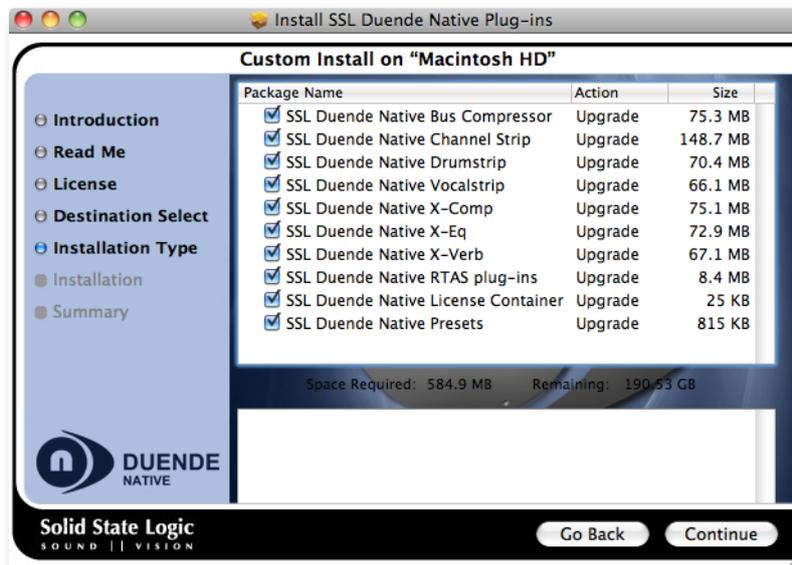


Run the CodeMeter Installer by double-clicking the **CodeMeter Runtime** package. Follow the instructions within the installer. You will then need to restart your computer.

Once your computer has restarted, open once again either the CD or the disk image file and locate the **Duende Native Plug-ins** package. Double-click this package to run the installer:



You will be taken through a number of screens, eventually reaching one which lists the Duende Native plug-ins. Uncheck any of them which you do not wish to install:



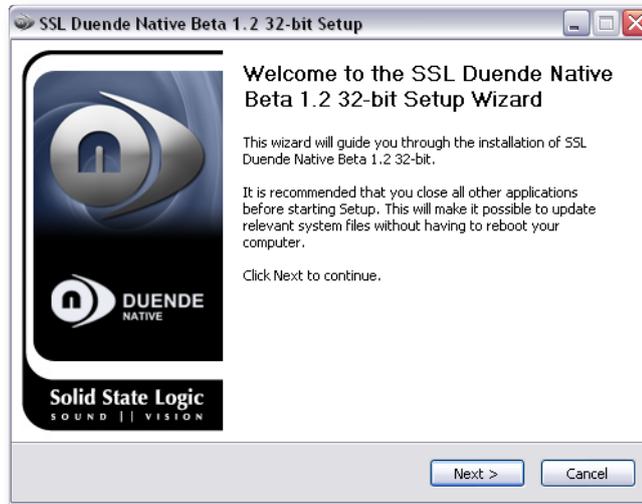
Continue to follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation.

INSTALLING THE SOFTWARE (WINDOWS)

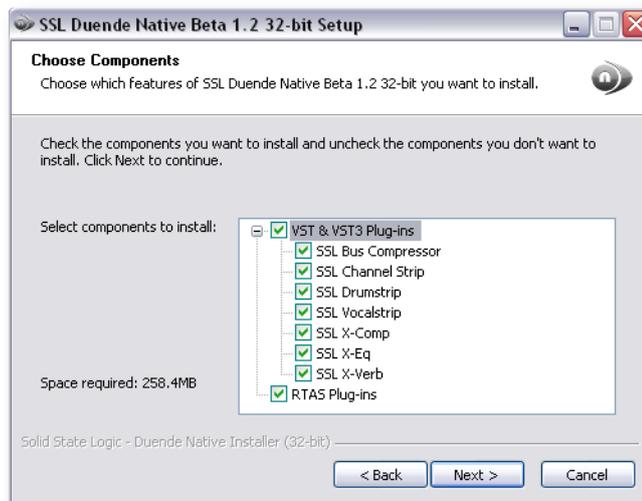
Locate the Duende Native installer, either on the Duende Native Installer CD, or in your computer's downloads folder. The installer application is named **Duende Native Setup 32-bit** for 32-bit Digital Audio Workstations, or **Duende Native Setup 64-bit** for 64-bit Digital Audio Workstations.



Double-click on the icon, and an installer window will open:



You will be taken through a number of screens, eventually reaching one which lists the Duende Native plug-ins. Uncheck any of them which you do not wish to install:

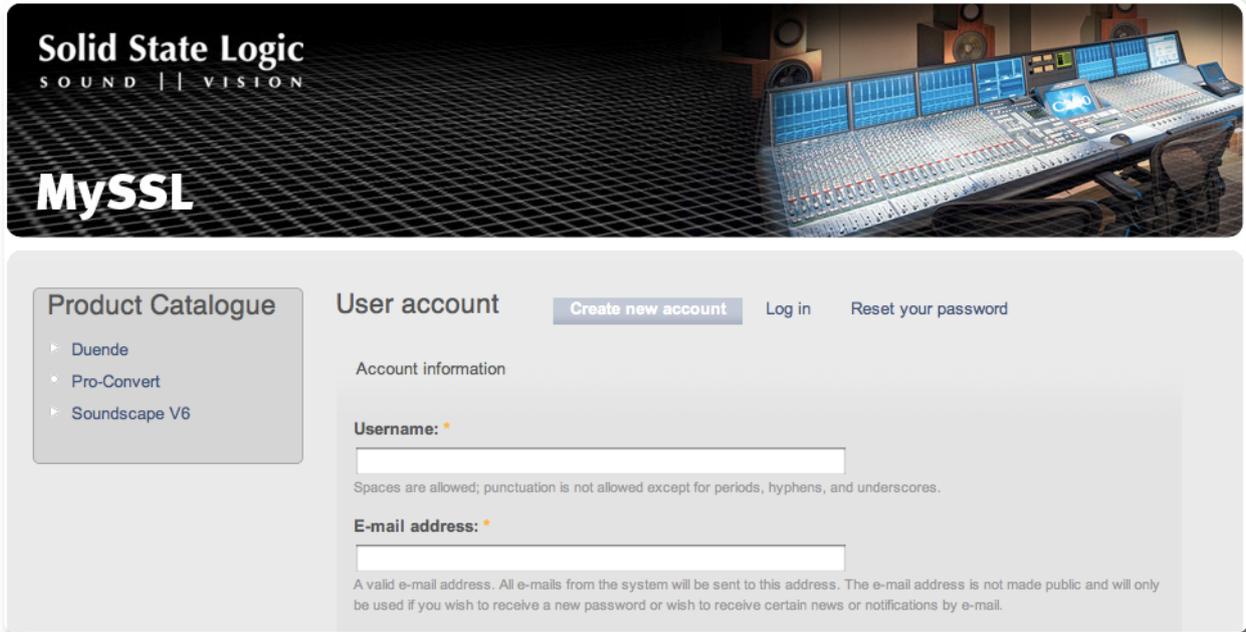


Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation.

CREATING AN SSL PROFILE

In order to authorise your SSL software, you need to create an SSL profile:

Go to www.solidstatelogic.com and click on **REGISTER**, located in the top right-hand corner of the SSL home page. Clicking on the picture below will take you there:



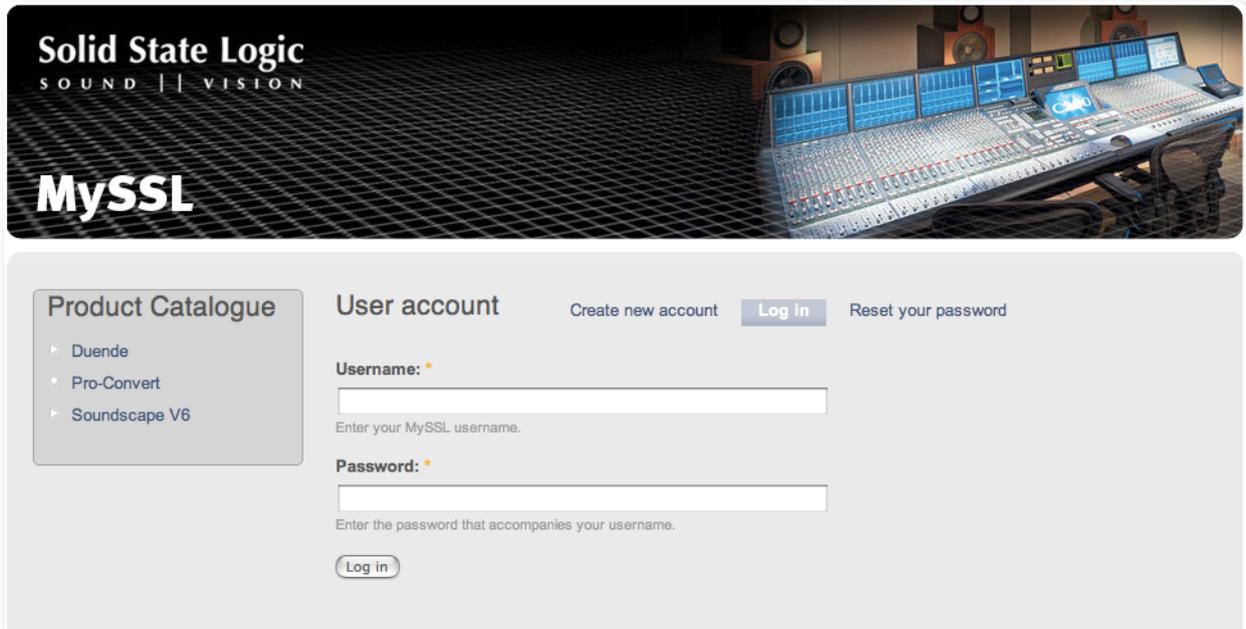
The screenshot shows the Solid State Logic MySSL registration page. At the top, there is a banner with the Solid State Logic logo and the text 'MySSL'. Below the banner, there is a navigation menu with 'Product Catalogue' and 'User account'. The 'Product Catalogue' menu is open, showing 'Duende', 'Pro-Convert', and 'Soundscape V6'. The 'User account' section has a 'Create new account' button, 'Log in', and 'Reset your password' links. The 'Create new account' form includes fields for 'Username' and 'E-mail address', with instructions and a disclaimer below each field.

Fill in your details and click on the **Create New Account** button at the bottom of the page.

You will be sent a password by email. Once you have received this email, you are ready to continue.

LOGGING INTO THE SSL WEBSITE

To log into the SSL website, go to www.solidstatelogic.com and click on **LOG IN** in the top right-hand corner. Clicking on the picture below will take you there:



The screenshot shows the Solid State Logic MySSL login page. At the top, there is a banner with the Solid State Logic logo and the text 'MySSL'. Below the banner, there is a navigation menu with 'Product Catalogue' and 'User account'. The 'Product Catalogue' menu is open, showing 'Duende', 'Pro-Convert', and 'Soundscape V6'. The 'User account' section has a 'Create new account' button, a 'Log in' button, and 'Reset your password' link. The 'Log in' form includes fields for 'Username' and 'Password', with instructions below each field and a 'Log in' button at the bottom.

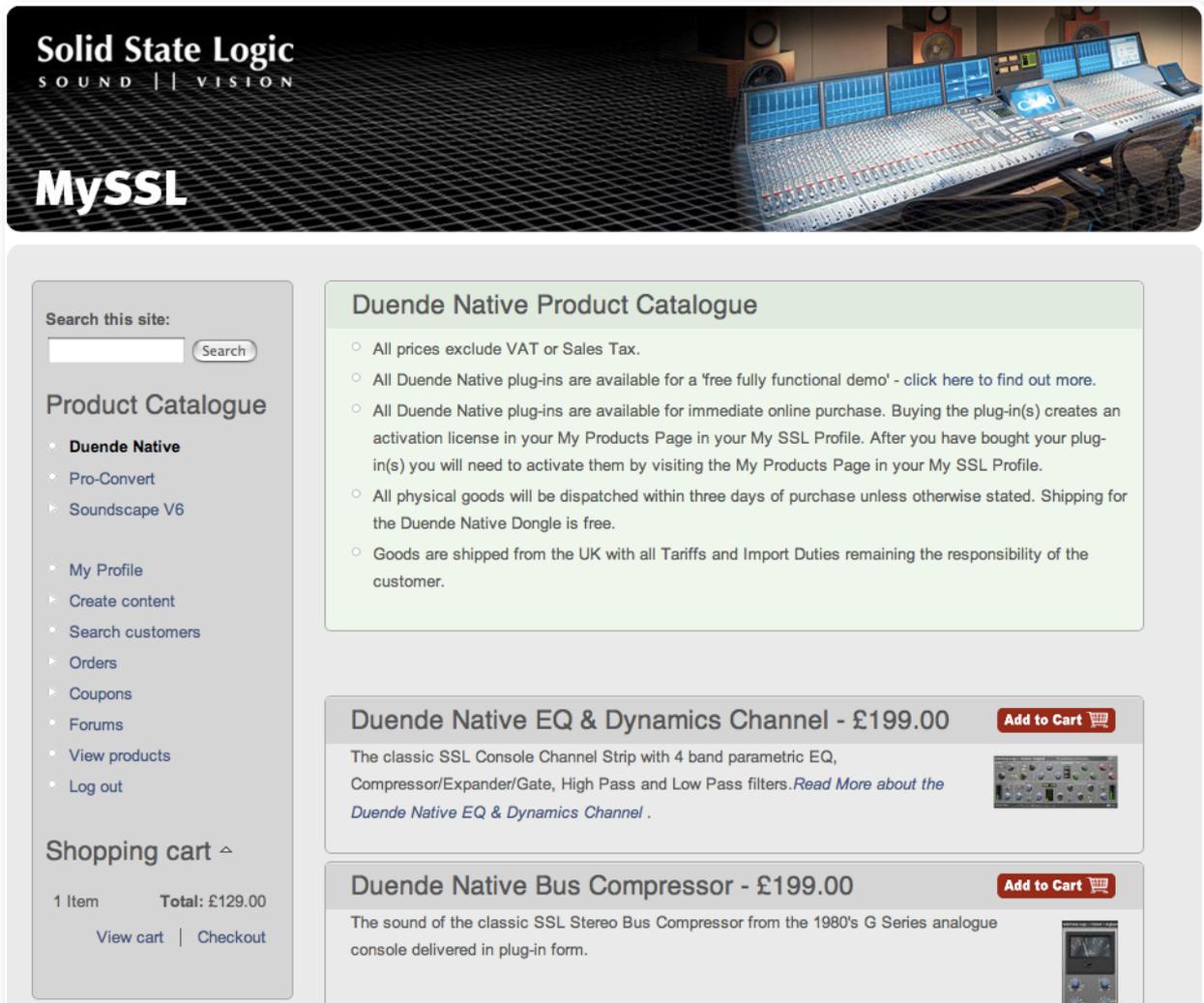
Type your username you created and the password sent to you by email, and click on the **Log in** button below the password.

BUYING PLUG-INS

You must have an SSL profile and be logged into the SSL website to buy plug-ins. Please refer to the previous page for information about creating and logging into a profile.

When you log into the website, you are automatically taken to the **MySSL** area. To navigate there from elsewhere in the website, click on your name in the top right-hand corner of the screen.

In the **Product Catalogue** down the left-hand side of the **MySSL** area, click on **Duende Native** to be taken to the Duende Native store:



The screenshot displays the MySSL website interface. At the top, there is a banner for Solid State Logic (SSL) with the text "Solid State Logic SOUND | VISION" and "MySSL". Below the banner, the main content area is divided into several sections:

- Search this site:** A search bar with a "Search" button.
- Product Catalogue:** A list of navigation links including "Duende Native", "Pro-Convert", "Soundscape V6", "My Profile", "Create content", "Search customers", "Orders", "Coupons", "Forums", "View products", and "Log out".
- Shopping cart:** A section showing "1 Item" and "Total: £129.00", with links for "View cart" and "Checkout".
- Duende Native Product Catalogue:** A section with a list of terms and conditions:
 - All prices exclude VAT or Sales Tax.
 - All Duende Native plug-ins are available for a 'free fully functional demo' - click here to find out more.
 - All Duende Native plug-ins are available for immediate online purchase. Buying the plug-in(s) creates an activation license in your My Products Page in your My SSL Profile. After you have bought your plug-in(s) you will need to activate them by visiting the My Products Page in your My SSL Profile.
 - All physical goods will be dispatched within three days of purchase unless otherwise stated. Shipping for the Duende Native Dongle is free.
 - Goods are shipped from the UK with all Tariffs and Import Duties remaining the responsibility of the customer.
- Duende Native EQ & Dynamics Channel - £199.00:** A product listing with an "Add to Cart" button. The description reads: "The classic SSL Console Channel Strip with 4 band parametric EQ, Compressor/Expander/Gate, High Pass and Low Pass filters. [Read More about the Duende Native EQ & Dynamics Channel](#)."
- Duende Native Bus Compressor - £199.00:** A product listing with an "Add to Cart" button. The description reads: "The sound of the classic SSL Stereo Bus Compressor from the 1980's G Series analogue console delivered in plug-in form."

Select the plug-ins you wish to purchase by clicking on their **Add to Cart** buttons and complete the check-out and purchase processes. You will automatically be taken to the **My Products** section of **MySSL** to activate your plug-ins.

APPLYING ACTIVATION CODES TO YOUR PROFILE

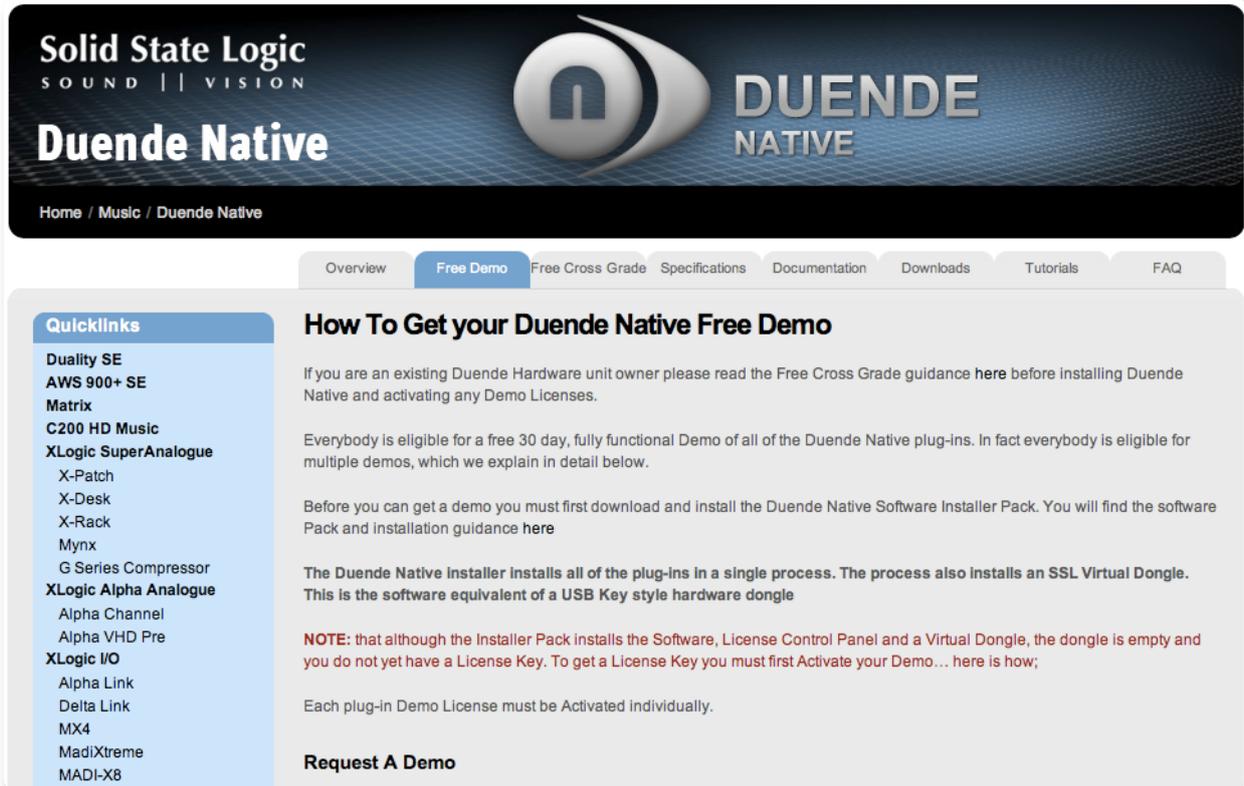
CD Activation Codes

If you bought your plug-ins on CD, you must apply your activation codes to your profile before you can activate them. To do this, log into your profile then go to www.solidstatellogic.com/duendenativepacks and follow the on-screen instructions.

To locate your activation code, open your CD sleeve and you will find it on a sticker on the left-hand panel. It is 18 to 20 characters long, in the format: XXXXX-XXXXX-XXX-XXXXX (note that the third set of digits may be three, four or five digits).

Free Demo Activation Codes

Before you can activate any free demos you have downloaded, you need to apply them to your SSL Profile. To do this, log into the SSL website, as described on Page 18. Then hover over the **PRODUCTS** tab (at the top of the page) followed by the **MUSIC** entry in the drop-down which appears, and click on **Duende Native** in the second drop-down which appears. Select the **Free Demo** tab to be taken to the page shown below. Alternatively, just click on the page displayed here in the pdf:



The screenshot shows the Solid State Logic Duende Native website. The header includes the Solid State Logic logo and the Duende Native logo. Below the header is a navigation menu with tabs for Overview, Free Demo, Free Cross Grade, Specifications, Documentation, Downloads, Tutorials, and FAQ. The 'Free Demo' tab is selected. On the left is a 'Quicklinks' sidebar with a list of products including Duality SE, AWS 900+ SE, Matrix, C200 HD Music, XLogic SuperAnalogue, X-Patch, X-Desk, X-Rack, Mynx, G Series Compressor, XLogic Alpha Analogue, Alpha Channel, Alpha VHD Pre, XLogic I/O, Alpha Link, Delta Link, MX4, MadiXtreme, and MADI-X8. The main content area is titled 'How To Get your Duende Native Free Demo' and contains the following text:

If you are an existing Duende Hardware unit owner please read the Free Cross Grade guidance [here](#) before installing Duende Native and activating any Demo Licenses.

Everybody is eligible for a free 30 day, fully functional Demo of all of the Duende Native plug-ins. In fact everybody is eligible for multiple demos, which we explain in detail below.

Before you can get a demo you must first download and install the Duende Native Software Installer Pack. You will find the software Pack and installation guidance [here](#)

The Duende Native installer installs all of the plug-ins in a single process. The process also installs an SSL Virtual Dongle. This is the software equivalent of a USB Key style hardware dongle

NOTE: that although the Installer Pack installs the Software, License Control Panel and a Virtual Dongle, the dongle is empty and you do not yet have a License Key. To get a License Key you must first Activate your Demo... [here is how](#);

Each plug-in Demo License must be Activated individually.

Request A Demo

Read the on-screen instructions and click on the **I Want A Demo** button. This will send free demo licences to your Profile.



Plug-in Expiration

When your plug-in demo period comes to an end, the plug-in will stop working. When this occurs on Macintosh the plug-in will appear glassed over – as shown left for the Stereo Bus Compressor.

When this happens, you will be eligible for another 7 day free demo after 30 days. Go to the web page shown above for full details of further free demo licences.

Alternatively, you can re-activate your plug-ins permanently by going to the **MySSL** area of the SSL website and purchasing full licences, as described on the previous and following pages.

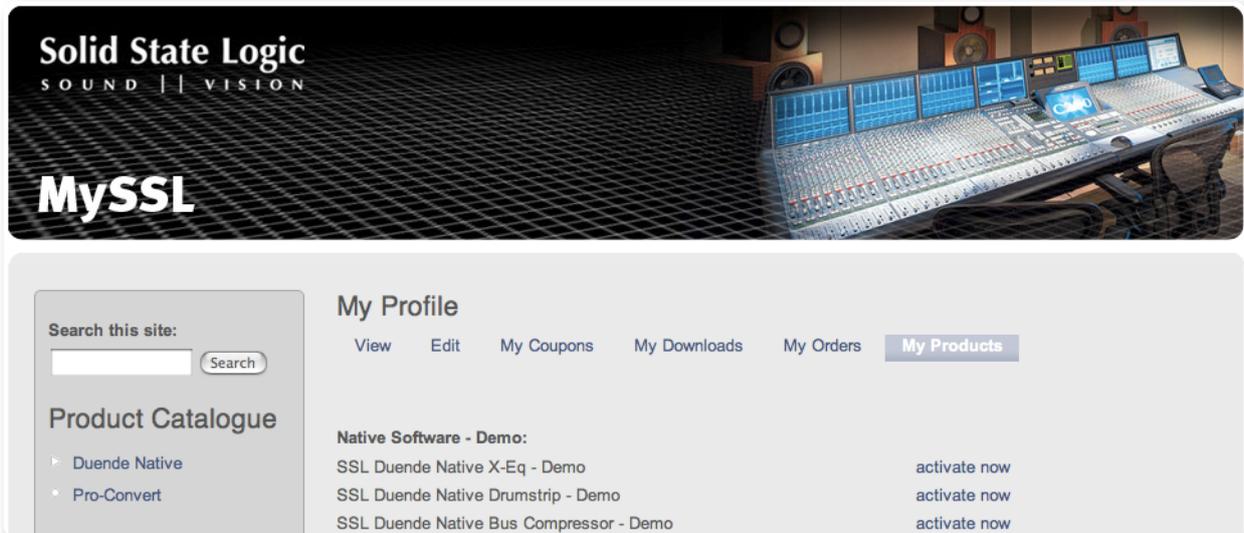
ACTIVATING PLUG-INS

Note that if you have purchased your plug-ins on CD or are using a free demo, you will need to apply activation codes to your profile before activating them, as described on the previous page.

You must be logged into your Profile on the SSL website to authorise your plug-ins. Please refer to Page 18 for information about creating and logging into a profile.

When you log into the website or complete a plug-in purchase, you are automatically taken to the **MySSL** area. To navigate there from elsewhere in the website, click on your name in the top right-hand corner of the screen.

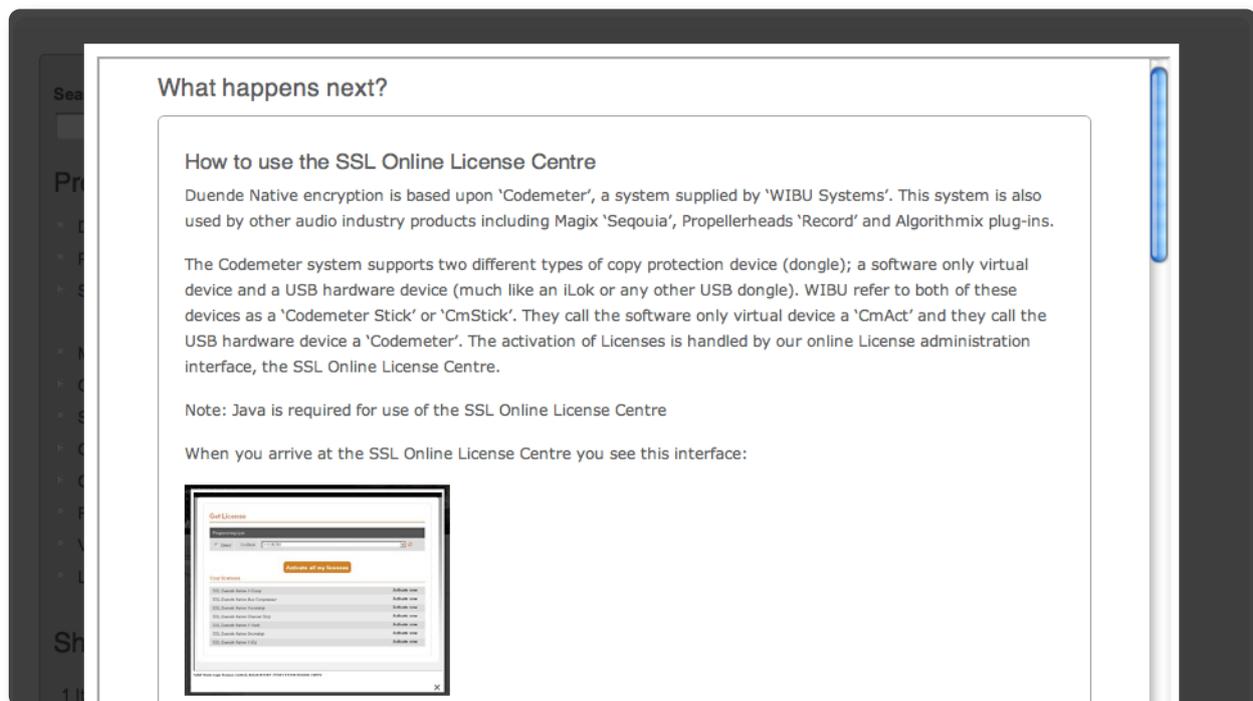
Go to the **My Products** tab within your profile, which will look similar to the below:



If you have applied demo licences to your Profile, there will be a list of plug-ins titled **Native Software - Demo**. To activate your free demo periods on any plug-ins, click on the **activate now** label for one of the plug-ins in the list.

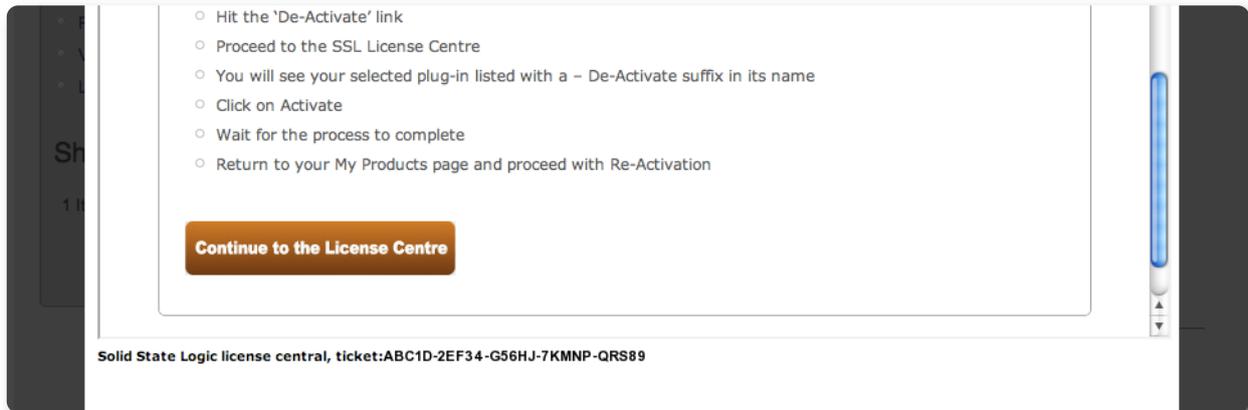
If you have applied full licences to your Profile, there will be a list of plug-ins titled **Native Software**. To activate your purchased plug-ins, click on the **activate now** label for one of them in the list.

You will be taken to the SSL Online Licence Centre:

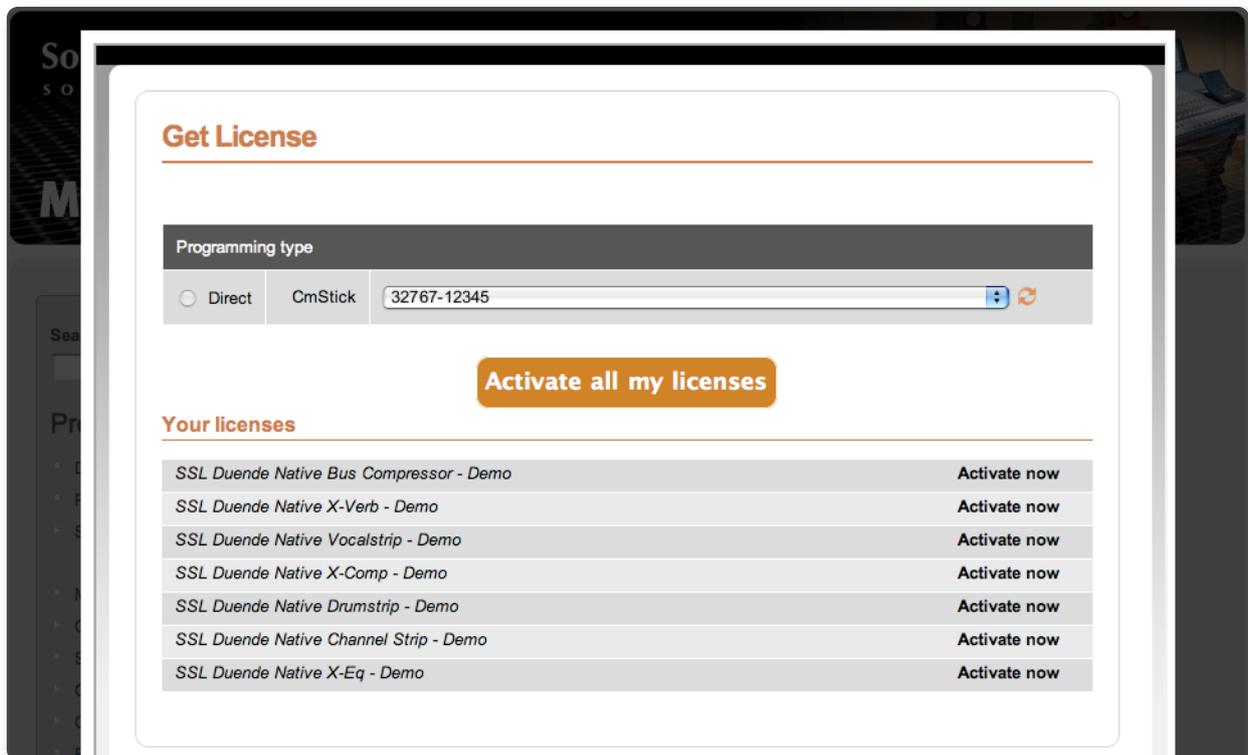


Note that the Duende Native encryption is based upon 'CodeMeter'. You may have other products licenced under CodeMeter, and you may have a USB hardware CodeMeter dongle.

It is important to read the on-screen instructions before clicking on **Continue to the Licence Centre** at the bottom of the page:



A list of plug-ins will appear. Click on the individual **Activate Now** labels to complete the activation process. If you are ready to activate all of the licences listed, click on **Activate all my licences**.



Your plug-ins should now be installed and activated, and should appear in the plug-in list within your host application. You can run Duende plug-ins simultaneously with your other plug-ins in any combination. Below are the locations of Duende plug-ins in common audio applications:

Logic: Audio Units > SSL
Cubase/Nuendo: Solid State Logic
Pro Tools: Wrapped Plug-ins

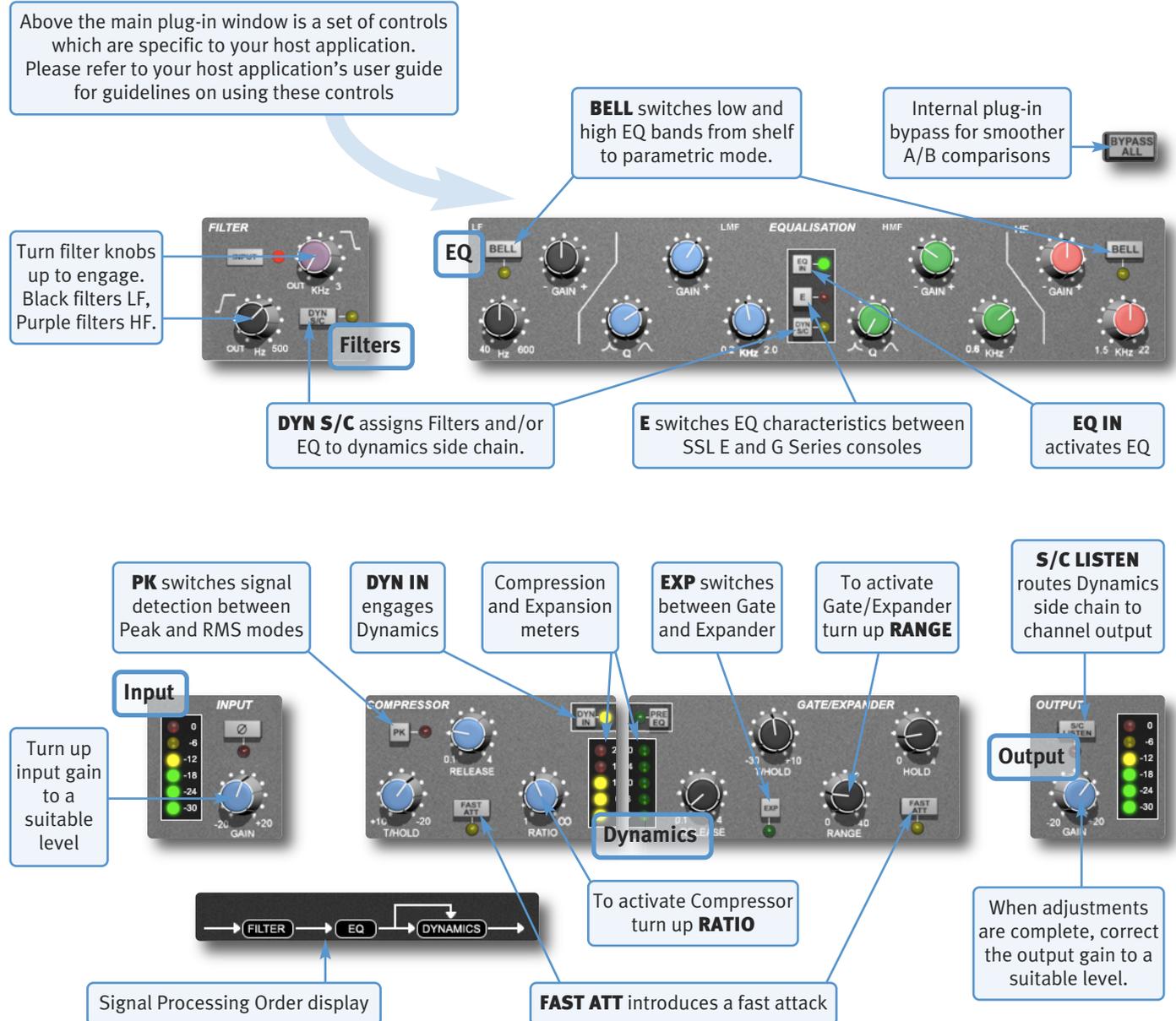
2. EQ & Dynamics Channel Strip

INTRODUCTION

The EQ & Dynamics Channel Strip plug-in provides a complete SSL channel strip, modeled on the XL 9000 K Series console, and includes high and low pass filters, a four band equalizer, compressor/limiter and gate/expander. The channel strip can run in mono or stereo.

Before examining the plug-in in detail, the diagram below provides an operational overview. If you are unfamiliar with any of the operations described, you may also want to view SSL's on-line tutorials (See Page 5 for details). Click on any section of the plug-in to be taken to its description:

?
click here for
on-line
tutorials



INTERFACE TECHNIQUES

- To press a switch in a plugin, simply click on it.
- To turn a knob, click on it, and drag it up and to the right (as shown right). If your mouse has a scroll wheel, you can also turn knobs by hovering over them and turning the scroll wheel.
- To turn a knob slowly for fine adjustments, hold *Shift* on your keyboard whilst turning.
- To reset a knob to its default value, click on it whilst holding *Ctrl* (Windows) or *⌘* (Macintosh).
- To view the value for any knob, hover over the knob cap with the mouse. The current value will appear immediately above the knob (shown right).



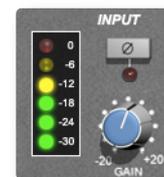
Automation

Every plug-in parameter can be automated in host applications which support automation. The method for recording and editing automation varies from host to host. For specific instructions on using automation within the host, consult the host application documentation.

INPUT SECTION

Turn the **GAIN** knob to control the level of the incoming audio signal. The post-gain signal level is shown to its left. As a rough guide, the '-6' yellow indicator should occasionally come on but the red '0' indicator should remain off.

Press **Ø** to invert the phase of the input signal.



FILTER SECTION

There are two filters in the Filter section:

- The black knob controls an 18dB/Octave high pass filter (20Hz to 500Hz).
- The purple knob controls a 12dB/Octave low pass filter (3kHz to 22kHz).

Filters are inactive when turned fully left (**OUT**). Turn them clockwise to move the filter frequency in from its extremity.

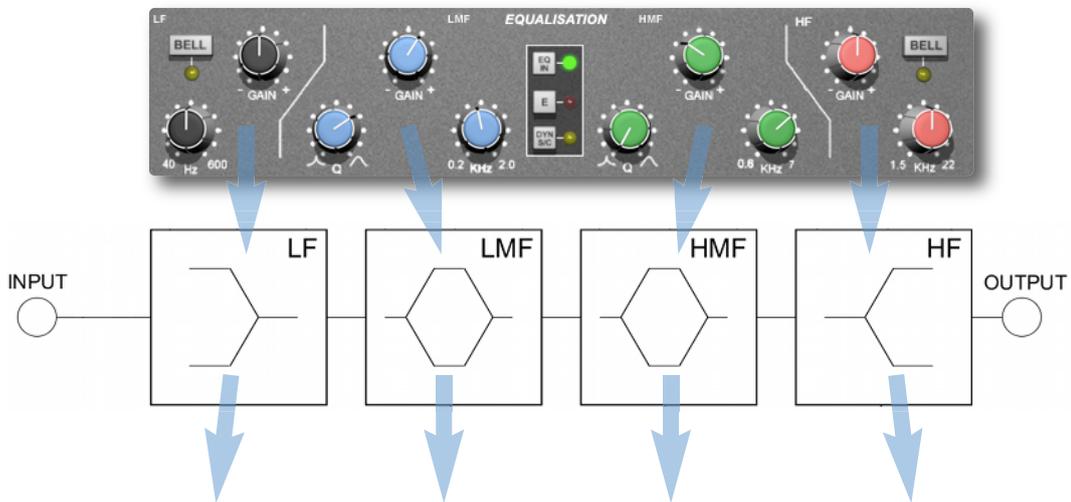
To place the Filters straight after the input control, press **INPUT** (see previous page), and to switch the Filters into the Dynamics sidechain, press **DYN SC** (see Page 27 for more info). Note that these switches cancel each other out.



EQUALISER SECTION

To use the EQ, switch it into circuit by pressing the **EQ IN** switch.

The EQ section has four bands, each with its own knob colour. All bands have gain and frequency control. The low (LF) and high (HF) bands are shelved by default (as shown below) but can be switched to a bell shape (parametric) by pressing the **BELL** button. The low-mid (LMF) and high-mid (HMF) bands also have Q control:



Band	LF	LMF	HMF	HF
Frequency range	40Hz – 600Hz	200Hz – 2kHz	600Hz – 7kHz	1.5kHz – 22kHz
Gain range	±16.5dB	±20dB	±20dB	±20dB
Q range	–	0.5 – 2.5	0.5 – 2.5	–

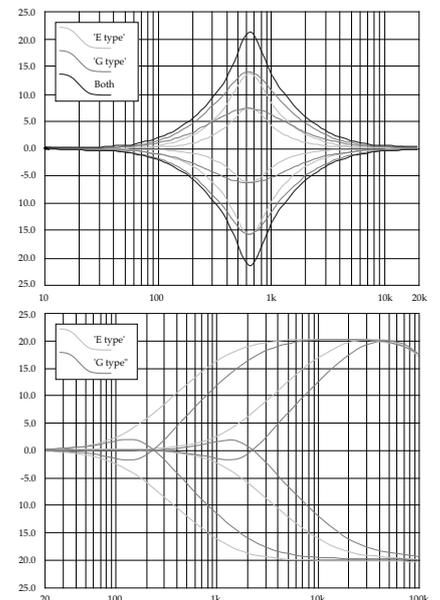
Press the **E** to switch the EQ emulation from G Series to E Series consoles. The diagrams to the right display the difference between them:

G Series: The bell curve has a more rounded shape at low gains, and the shelf curve overshoots zero slightly at the base of the curve. G Series EQ is more subtle and is generally more suited to instruments and vocals.

E Series: The bell curve is slightly more pointed, and there is no overshoot on the shelf curve. E Series EQ is more aggressive and is therefore better for removing problem frequencies. It is generally more suited to drums.

Note. At full boost or cut both curves are identical.

To switch the EQ into the Dynamics sidechain, press **DYN SC** (see Page 27 for more info).



DYNAMICS SECTION

The Dynamics section comprises a Compressor/Limiter and an Expander/Gate. Both sections work independently but can be operational at the same time, providing sophisticated control of signal levels. The diagrams down the right-hand side of the page give a simplified overview what each control represents – If you are unfamiliar with any of the operations described, you may want to view SSL’s on-line tutorials (See Page 5 for details).



Press **DYN IN** to switch the Dynamics into circuit. To place the Dynamics before the EQ in the signal chain, press the **PRE EQ** switch (See Page 27 for more info on processing order).

Compressor/Limiter



To activate the Compressor/Limiter, turn the **RATIO** knob so that it’s ratio is no longer 1:1.

To turn the compressor into a ∞ :1 limiter, turn the knob fully to the right.

There is no gain makeup control as the **T/HOLD** (threshold) knob controls both the level at which gain reduction is introduced and the gain make-up, keeping the output level steady regardless of the compression.

RELEASE controls how quickly the level returns to normal after the input level has dropped below the threshold (measured in seconds). The attack time is adjusted automatically to match the audio. To choose a constantly fast attack time, press the **FAST ATT** switch.

Press the **PK** button to switch from RMS to peak signal detection. In normal RMS mode the compressor reacts to the average signal level, and has a soft knee characteristic. When switched to peak mode, it responds to peak signal level and introduces a hard knee characteristic, resulting in more dramatic compression.

The level of compression being introduced is shown in the left-hand of the two meters in the centre of the Dynamics section.

Expander/Gate



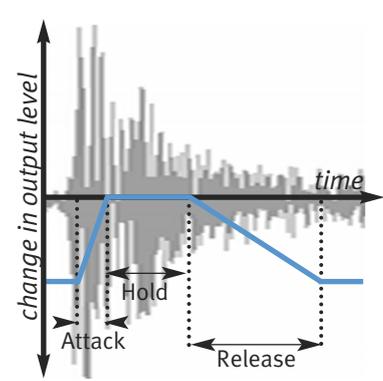
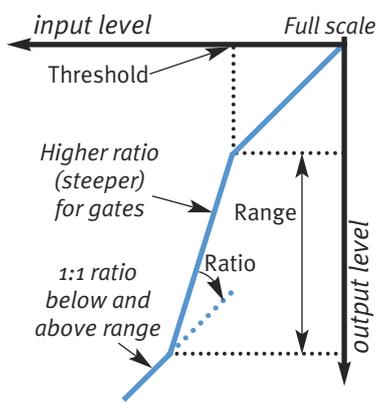
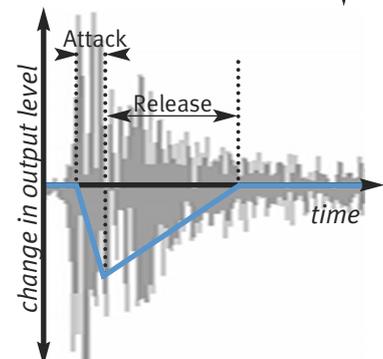
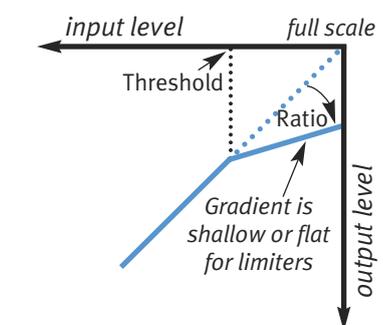
To activate the Expander/Gate, turn the **RANGE** knob so that it’s range is no longer zero. The green indicators in the right-hand of the two meters in the centre of the Dynamics section show the amount of gain reduction being introduced.

By default, the Expander/Gate section functions as a gate. To switch to the expander, press the **EXP** switch.

The **THRESHOLD** function uses different levels to ‘open’ the gate to audio and to ‘close’ it again – the level at which the expander opens is higher than the level at which it closes again. In other words, when the expander is opened, it stays open until the signal level crosses the quieter ‘close’ threshold. This is known as hysteresis and is very useful as it allows instruments to decay more naturally. The word ‘Threshold’ normally refers to the ‘open’ threshold.

HOLD controls the delay before the signal level starts reducing again, and **RELEASE** controls how quickly the level then reduces. Note that the **RELEASE** interacts with the **RANGE**, which determines the depth of gain reduction.

The attack time (the time taken for the Expander/Gate to ‘recover’ once the signal level is above the ‘deactivate’ threshold) is normally set to 1.5ms per 40dB. Press the **FAST ATT** switch to introduce a faster attack time of 100µs per 40dB. This is useful when gating signals with a steep rising edge, such as drums.



Dynamics Values

The value ranges associated with the dynamics controls are as follows:

	Ratio	Threshold / Range	Release time	Attack time
Compressor	1:1 to ∞:1	-20dB to +10dB	0.1s to 4s	3ms to 30ms (automatic) 3ms in Fast Attack
Expander	Gate: 40:1 Expander: 2:1	30dB to +10dB Range: 0dB to 40dB	hold 0s to 4s release 0.1s to 4s	1.5ms / 40dB 100µs / 40dB in Fast Attack

Side Chain Processing Order

The EQ and filter sections can be assigned to the Dynamics sidechains, allowing for advanced processes like de-essing. This is done using the **DYN S/C** switches in the respective sections.

The Process Order display at the base of the plug-in window indicates the sidechain assignments, as shown to the right. Both EQ and filter sections can be assigned to the sidechain together, in which case the EQ precedes the filter.



To listen to the signal feeding the side chain, press the **S/C LISTEN** button in the Output section to route the side chain signal to the channel output.

*Note. Remember to cancel the **S/C LISTEN** button once you have finished auditioning the side chain!*

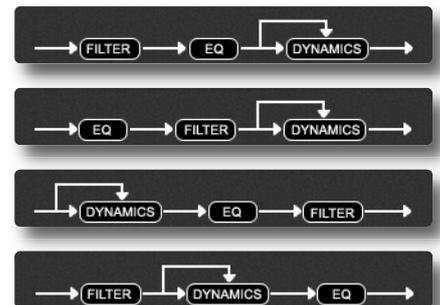
CHANNEL PROCESSING ORDER

Signal processing order is shown in the graphic at the bottom of the plug-in window. The default plug-in order is **Filters > EQ > Dynamics**.

To place the after the EQ section, deactivate the **INPUT** switch in the Filters section. The **INPUT** indicator should go off.

To place the Dynamics before the EQ, press the **PRE EQ** switch in the Dynamics section.

When the **INPUT** and **PRE EQ** switch are active simultaneously, the processing order becomes **Filters > Dynamics > EQ**.



OUTPUT SECTION



The Output section allows you to ensure that the signal retains a good level after all the signal processing. The signal level is shown to the right of the knob. As a rough guide, the '-6' yellow indicator should occasionally come on but the red '0' indicator should remain off.

S/C LISTEN routes the sidechain directly to the output, so you can monitor the sidechain signal.

Blank page – well, nearly

3. Stereo Bus Compressor

INTRODUCTION

The Stereo Bus Compressor plug-in is a stereo version of the legendary centre section stereo bus compressor found on the XL 9000 K Series console. It provides high quality stereo compression, giving you critical control over the dynamic range of audio signals.

The compressor can be run in mono or stereo modes and can be used for practically any application that requires superior compression. For example, place it over a stereo mix to 'glue' the mix together whilst still maintaining a big sound, or use it on drum overheads or whole drum kits for very effective control of drum dynamics.

INTERFACE TECHNIQUES

- To press a switch in a plugin, simply click on it.
- To turn a knob, click on it, and drag it up and to the right (as shown right). If your mouse has a scroll wheel, you can also turn knobs by hovering over them and turning the scroll wheel.
- To turn a knob slowly for fine adjustments, hold *Shift* on your keyboard whilst turning. To reset a knob to its default value, click on it whilst holding *Ctrl* (Windows) or *⌘* (Macintosh).
- To view the value for any knob, hover over the knob cap with the mouse. The current value will appear immediately above the knob (shown left).



Value appears here when mouse is over knob



Every plug-in parameter can be automated in host applications which supports automation. The method for recording and editing automation varies from host to host. For specific instructions on using automation with the host consult the host application documentation.



CONTROL PARAMETERS

Below is a description of the Stereo Bus Compressor's parameters, as shown in the diagrams to the right. If you are unfamiliar with how to use any of the parameters described, please refer to SSL's on-line tutorials (See Page 5 for details).

Compression Meter
Shows gain reduction in dB

THRESHOLD
Controls level at which gain reduction is introduced. Continuously variable: -20dB to +20dB.

ATTACK
Controls response time when Threshold is crossed. Choose between: 0.1, 0.3, 1, 3, 10 and 30ms.

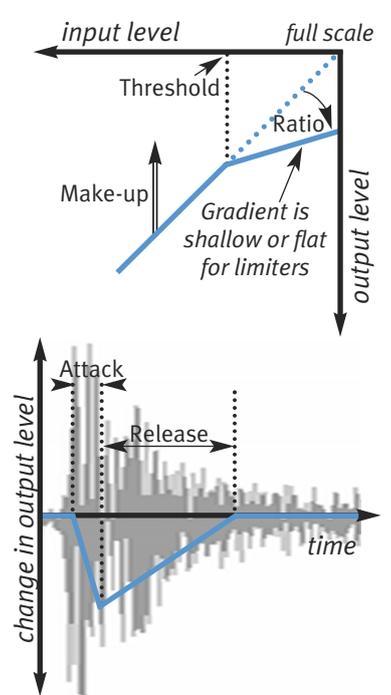
RATIO
Controls the degree of compression. Choose between: 2:1, 4:1 and 20:1.



MAKE-UP
Controls level compensation to offset compressor action. Continuously variable: -5dB to +15dB.

RELEASE
Controls how quickly level returns to normal. Choose between 0.1, 0.3, 0.6, or 1.2 seconds, or Auto. **Auto:** release time is dependant upon duration of signal peak.

COMP IN
Switches the compressor in and out of the signal path.



Blank page – well, nearly

4. X-Comp

INTRODUCTION

The illustration below gives an overview of some of the X-Comp features which are described in full over the following pages. Click on the blue boxes to be taken to fuller descriptions of their contents.

Interactive compressor display with draggable nodes

IO Diff display displays the signal's dynamic range.

GR History displays gain reduction over last second

Defeat button for auditioning bleed signal

Above the main plug-in window is a set of controls which are specific to your host application. Please refer to your host application's user guide for guidelines on using these controls

Internal bypass for smooth in/out comparisons

Input level metering and control

Switch between main and alternative plug-in settings

Bleed section allows LF and HF bands to bypass the compressor. Display includes draggable nodes

Output level metering and control

INTERFACE TECHNIQUES



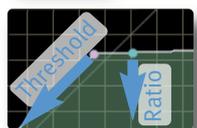
To press a switch in a plugin, simply click on it. A green surround indicates that the switch is in its active state.

To turn a knob, click on it, and drag it up and to the right. If your mouse has a scroll wheel, you can also turn knobs by hovering over them and turning the scroll wheel.

To control **Input** and **Output** levels, click and drag upwards (see right).

To move any control slowly for fine adjustments, hold *Shift* on your keyboard whilst turning. To reset a knob to its default value, click on it whilst holding *Ctrl* (Windows) or *⌘* (Macintosh).

To enter a precise value for any parameter, double-click on its value display, enter a value on your computer keyboard, and press the *Return* key.



Threshold and **Ratio** values can also be controlled directly within the Compression Law display. Move the pink node along its line to control the Threshold, and move the blue node up and down to control the ratio.

The bleed bands can be adjusted in a similar way, as described on Page 33.



Automation

Every plug-in parameter can be automated in host applications which support automation. The method for recording and editing automation varies from host to host. For specific instructions on using automation within the host, consult the host application documentation.

CONTROL PARAMETERS

Plug-in Bypass

The **In/Out** switch located above the **Input** section provides an internal plug-in bypass. This allows for smoother In/Out comparisons by avoiding the latency issues associated with the host application's Bypass function.

In/Out

The button must be 'lit' for the compressor to be in circuit (as shown right).

Presets

The **Load** and **Save** buttons at the base of the screen provide quick access to the host application's Import and Save Settings functions. For specific instructions on using presets within the host, consult the host application documentation. Presets use a standard file format which allows them to be moved between a variety of platforms and host applications.

A file of ready-made X-Comp presets are included in the plug-in installation. These provide starting points for a variety of instruments and effects. To load SSL presets, click on the **Load** button and navigate as follows:

Macintosh: /Applications/Solid State Logic/Presets/X-Comp

Windows: c:\program files\solid state logic\presets\X-Comp

A-B comparisons

The **A B** button at the base of the screen allows you to load two completely independent set ups and compare them quickly. When the plug-in is opened, setting A is selected by default, as shown right. Pressing the **A B** button will switch between setting A and setting B.

A B

You may wish to use this function to compare two very similar settings or to keep a 'maybe' setting in reserve if your current one does not work out.



Common Compressor Parameters

The diagrams down the right-hand side of the page give a simplified overview what each control represents, as shown in the **Compression Law** display in the centre of the plug-in window. If you are unclear about how the **Thresh** (threshold), **Ratio**, **Attack**, **Release** and **Make up** work, please refer to SSL's on-line tutorials (See Page 5 for details).

Knee

The **Knee** controls how focussed the threshold level is:

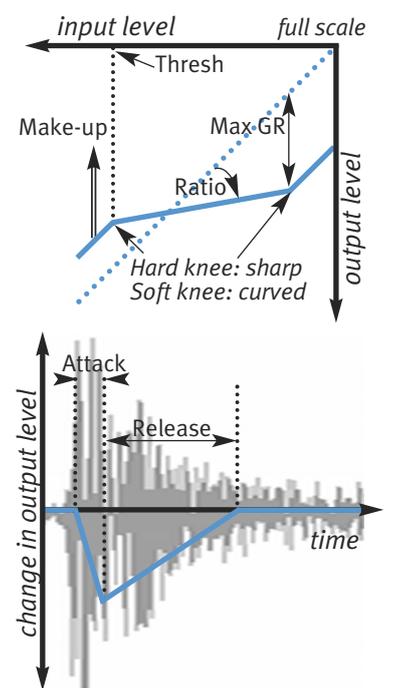
- With a hard knee (knob at minimum) the compressor's parameters all come into force at precisely the point at which the threshold is crossed. In the **Compression Law** diagram, this is shown by a sharp change in gradient at the threshold.
- With a soft knee, the ratio is introduced gradually, starting below the threshold and reaching its full value above the threshold. In the **Compression Law** graph, this is shown by a curve in the gradient around the threshold.

The **Knee** control affects both the main threshold point and the **Max GR** point (see below) in equal measure.

Operational tip. A hard knee allows for greater precision, but can sound more obvious. A soft knee generally provides a more transparent result.

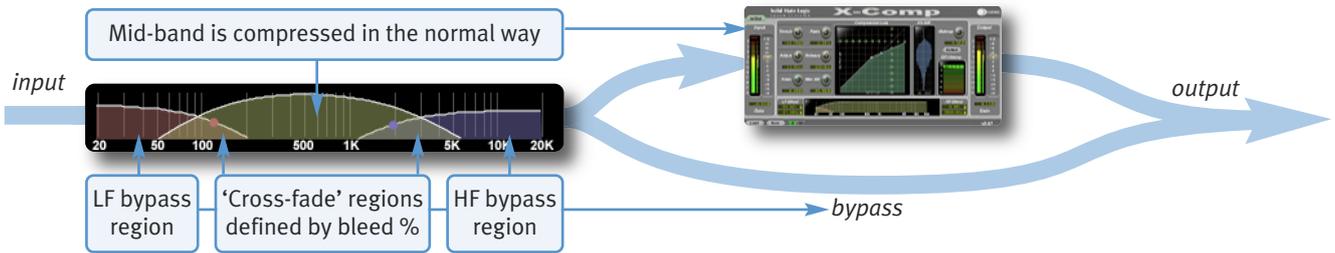
Max GR

The **Max GR** (Maximum Gain Reduction) allows you to set a limit on how much gain reduction can be introduced, replicating the performance of older optical compressors (as shown in the upper diagram to the right). With a Max GR of 20dB, for example, any signals that would normally be reduced by more than 20dB will be attenuated by 20dB. By only compressing the middle of the dynamic range, you can exert some general dynamic control whilst still preserving the affect of a signal's peaks.



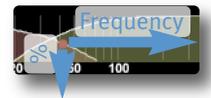
Bleed

The Bleed controls, located at the bottom of the X-Comp plug-in window, allow you to remove the compressor's effect from high and low frequencies. Frequencies outside the mid-band bypass the compressor and are recombined with the compressed signal at the output. Note that the bypassed signal is not affected by the **Make up** gain.



The frequencies and slope of the bleed-band filters are indicated either side of the graph; LF to the left and HF to the right. The slope is measured in percentage.

The bleed bands can be adjusted by clicking on the values in the displays and dragging up and right in the usual way. Alternatively, they can be adjusted directly using the nodes in the display – brown for low frequencies and blue for high frequencies. Move the nodes horizontally to control frequency and vertically to control percentage



Auditioning Bleed Bands

To listen to the bleed bands on their own, press the **Defeat** button, located below the **Make up** gain. This mutes the compressed signal, so only the bypass portion of the signal is heard.



COMPRESSOR VALUES

The table below lists the ranges of all of X-Comp's parameters:

Parameter	Min	Max
Input gain	-36dB	+12dB
Threshold	-48dB	+12dB
Ratio	1:1	50:1
Knee	0dB	40dB
Max GR	20dB	60dB
Attack time	0.5ms	100ms
Release time	1ms	2000ms
Make up gain	-6dB	+36dB
LF Bleed	30Hz	300Hz
HF Bleed	2kHz	12kHz
Bleed slopes	0%	100%
Output gain	-36dB	+12dB

Input and Output Sections

The input and output sections at either side of the plug-in window provide input and output gain control, along with displays of the following information:



Clip Light
Indicates that the signal is clipping. It clears after 1 second, or click on it to clear manually.

Range Meter
The thin white bracket indicates the signal's recent dynamic range. Longer brackets indicate a larger dynamic range. If the bracket edges are moving quickly, this implies an 'energetic' signal.

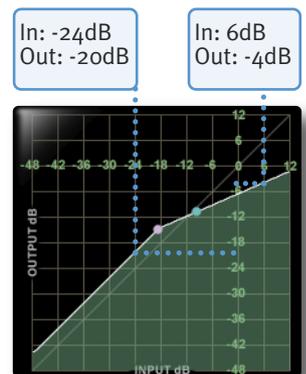
Peak Meter
Allows you to observe the exact level at any point in time. There are two meters in stereo and one in mono.

RMS Meter
The thinner bar to the right shows the RMS (average) level over time.

Compression Law Graph

The display in the centre of the plug-in window compares the input and output signals given the current compressor settings. The thicker white line indicates the relationship between input and output across the range of levels, while the faint line indicates a 1:1 relationship. In the example to the right, an input level of -24dB results in an output level of -20dB (as this is below the threshold, this indicates a Make-up gain of 4dB), while an input level of $+6\text{dB}$ results in an output level of -4dB .

Threshold and Ratio can be defined by moving the nodes within the display: Move the pink node along its line to control the Threshold, and move the blue node up and down to control the ratio.



Bleed Graph



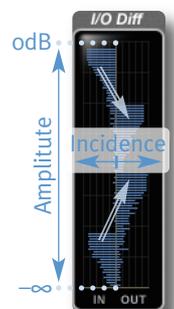
The bleed graph indicates the frequencies which are bypassing the compressor, as described on the previous page.

I/O Diff Graph

The **I/O Diff** meter to the right of the **Compression Law** graph shows how often each level occurs within the input and output signals. The input is shown on the left and the output on the right.

The vertical scale is amplitude, with 0dB at the top and $-\infty$ at the bottom. The length of each line protruding from the centre represents the number of incidents of that amplitude over a period of seconds.

In the graphic to the right, the input signal displays a mixture of very loud and very quiet, indicating that the signal has a large dynamic range which is changing very quickly. The output signal indicates that this dynamic range has been made smaller, with the loud bars being reduced in level and the quiet bars being increased.



GR History

The **GR History** (Gain Reduction History) meter shows the current gain reduction and how it has fluctuating.

The thicker line towards the left of the display shows how much gain reduction is currently being used, while the thinner lines to its right show how this has been changing over the past second.



Colour of knobs



You may also notice that the colour of the knob surrounds change to indicate their level – green for low, yellow for mid, red for high.

5. X-EQ

INTRODUCTION

X-EQ is a 10-band highly configurable EQ plug-in. The six central bands have bell curves, the second and ninth bands are shelf bands, while the first and last bands are filters. The illustration below introduces some of the X-EQ plug-in features which are described in full over the following pages. Click on the blue boxes to be taken to fuller descriptions of their contents. If you are unclear on how to use an EQ, then it may be worth starting with the SSL on-line tutorials (See Page 5 for details).

?
click here for
on-line
tutorials

Above the main plug-in window is a set of controls which are specific to your host application. Please refer to your host application's user guide for guidelines on using these controls

Internal bypass for smooth in/out comparisons

Interactive EQ display with draggable nodes

Input level metering and control

Switch between main and alternative plug-in settings

Switches between Serial and Parallel signal-flow

Activates bands and assigns them to Edit area

Displays graph of frequency content

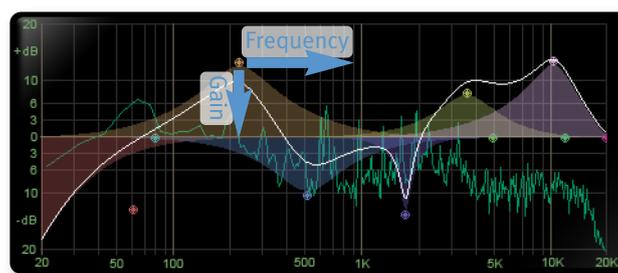
Edit area for the band selected below the main graph

Output level metering and control

INTERFACE OVERVIEW

EQ Graph Display

The EQ graph provides visual feedback for a number of things:



The white line across the graph shows the frequency response of the current EQ settings.

The nodes represent the settings of each individual band, and can be dragged to change the settings:

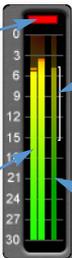
- For the eight central EQ bands, move the nodes left and right to control Frequency, or up and down to control Gain.
- For the filter bands (Bands 1 and 10), move the nodes left and right to control Frequency, or up and down to control Slope.

Each band is colour coded, with the graph node colour matching the coloured dots in their band box below the graph. Each coloured shade area represents the impact of the node with that colour.

The real-time frequency content of the processed signal can be displayed by clicking on the **Analyse** button below the display.

Input and Output Sections

The input and output sections at either side of the plug-in window provide input and output gain control, along with displays of the following information:



Clip Light
Indicates that the signal is clipping. It clears after 1 second, or click on it to clear manually.

Range Meter
The thin white bracket indicates the signal's recent dynamic range.

Peak Meter
Allows you to observe the exact level at any point in time. There are two meters in stereo and one in mono.

RMS Meter
The thinner bar to the right shows the RMS (average) level over time.

Interface Techniques

In/Out To press a switch in a plugin, simply click on it. A green surround indicates that the switch is in its active state.

Click + Drag To turn a knob, click on it, and drag it up and to the right. If your mouse has a scroll wheel, you can also turn knobs by hovering over them and turning the scroll wheel.

To control **Input** and **Output** levels, click and drag upwards (see right).

To move any control slowly for fine adjustments, hold *Shift* on your keyboard whilst turning.

To reset a knob to its default value, click on it whilst holding *Ctrl* (Windows) or *⌘* (Macintosh).

Gain To enter a precise value for any parameter, double-click on its value display, enter a value on your computer keyboard, and press the *Return* key.

You may notice that the colour of the knob surrounds change to indicate their level: green for low, yellow for mid, red for high.



Band 'on' switch To switch each band on, click on the oblong switch at the top of each band box.

The edit controls to the right of the EQ graph control one of the 10 EQ bands. The band being controlled is selected by clicking on the appropriate band box, located in a row underneath the graph, or by clicking on the band's node in the EQ graph.

The band assigned to the edit controls is indicated by the band box being 'lit' with its band colour, and by the band number and colour appearing at the top of the edit controls, as shown right for band 6.

Automation

Every plug-in parameter can be automated in host applications which support automation. The method for recording and editing automation varies from host to host. For specific instructions on using automation within the host, consult the host application documentation.



EQ CONFIGURATION

When one of the band boxes below the EQ graph is selected, it's band is assigned to the band editing controls to the right of the graph.

- **Freq** (frequency) control is provided for each band.
- **Gain** and **Q** control is provided for all bands apart from the filter bands (Band 1 and 10).
- The filter bands have slope control in place of the Q control.
- In addition, you can select from a number of filter shape types by clicking on the text box above the gain control and selecting a shape from the drop-down list which appears. These shapes are described on Page 39 and following. Note that there are no shape types available for the shelving bands (Bands 2 and 9).

Plug-in Bypass

 The **In/Out** switch located above the **Input** section provides an internal plug-in bypass. This allows for smoother In/Out comparisons by avoiding the latency issues associated with the host application's Bypass function.

The button must be 'lit' for the compressor to be in circuit (as shown left).

Presets

The **Load** and **Save** buttons at the base of the screen provide quick access to the host application's Import and Save Settings functions. For specific instructions on using presets within the host, consult the host application documentation. Presets use a standard file format which allows them to be moved between a variety of platforms and host applications.

A file of ready-made X-EQ presets are included in the plug-in installation. These provide starting points for a variety of instruments and effects. To load SSL presets, click on the **Load** button and navigate as follows:

- Macintosh:** /Applications/Solid State Logic/Presets/X-Eq
Windows: c:\program files\solid state logic\presets\X-Eq

A-B comparisons

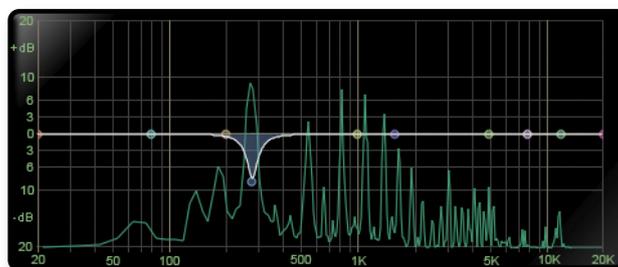
 The **A B** button at the base of the screen allows you to load two completely independent set ups and compare them quickly. When the plug-in is opened, setting A is selected by default, as shown right. Pressing the **A B** button will switch between setting A and setting B.

You may wish to use this function to compare two very similar settings or to keep a 'maybe' setting in reserve if your current one does not work out.

Analyse

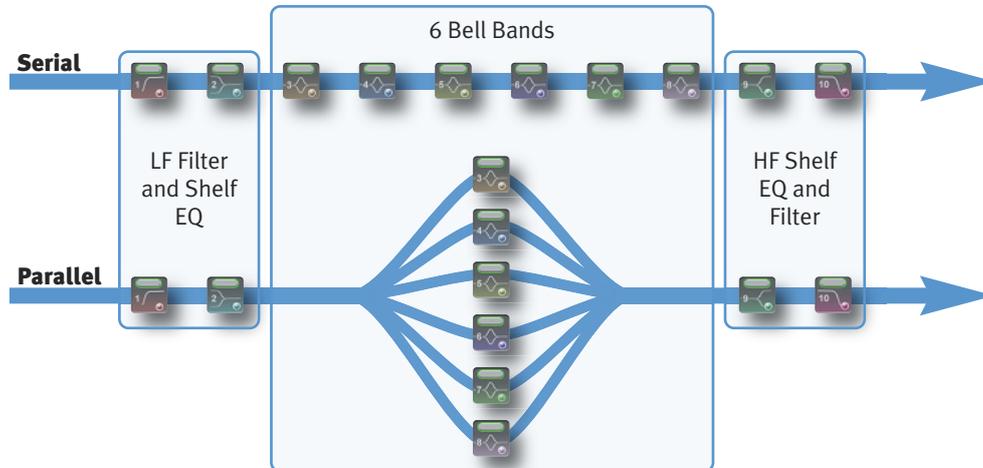
If the **Analyse** button is pressed, a display of the input signal's frequency response is shown within the EQ graph.

This allows problem frequencies to be pinpointed visually and filtered out by moving the nodes within the graph, such as in the example below. As the analyser is placed post-EQ, you can see what effect the processing has on the frequency spectrum.



Parallel

The parallel button changes the order in which the six central bell-shaped bands are processed. In normal (serial) mode, they are processed one after the other. In parallel mode, once the signal has passed through the LF filter and shelf bands, it is split off and routed through each bell band simultaneously, before being combined again for the HF shelf and filter bands:



The parallel EQ is modelled on the old 'Parallel Passive' EQ units, and the different style of band interaction means that the EQ performs quite differently. See the EQ History section on Page 41 for more information.

EQ PARAMETER VALUES

Band	Gain	Frequency	Q
HP Filter	n/a	20Hz – 1020Hz	0 – 48dB/oct in 6dB steps
Low Shelf	±20dB	20Hz – 1020Hz	0.3 – 10.3
Midband 1	±20dB	20Hz – 20kHz	0.3 – 10.3
Midband 2	±20dB	20Hz – 20kHz	0.3 – 10.3
Midband 3	±20dB	20Hz – 20kHz	0.3 – 10.3
Midband 4	±20dB	20Hz – 20kHz	0.3 – 10.3
Midband 5	±20dB	20Hz – 20kHz	0.3 – 10.3
Midband 6	±20dB	20Hz – 20kHz	0.3 – 10.3
High Shelf	±20dB	500Hz – 20kHz	0.3 – 10.3
LP Filter	n/a	500Hz – 20kHz	0 – 48dB/oct in 6dB steps

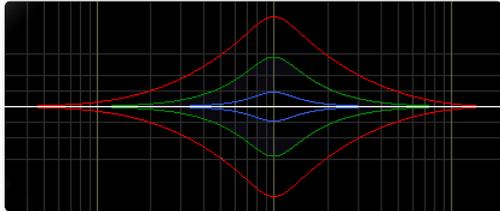
EQ AND FILTER SHAPES

Bell Shapes

Q Definitions:

- P – 3dB** Classical definition that means Q is measured 3dB below peak for boost or 3dB above peak for cut.
- o – 3dB** Definition used for bells in some US products, the bandwidth for Q calculation is measured 3dB below 0dB line for cut or 3dB above for boost. Q in both definitions correct only for +6dB boost/cut.
- P/2** New ‘musical’ definition based on the bandwidth measurement in the middle of a bell filter, between peak and 0dB line.

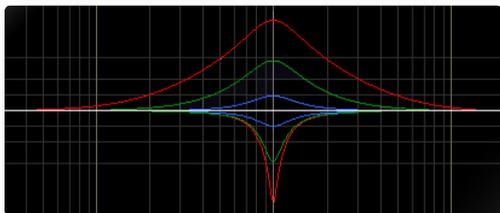
Normalisation 12 equalisers are normalised to have exactly the same bell shape for +6dB boost.



Classic Symmetrical (Classic Sym)

The most popular parametric EQ shape used in various mixing consoles and outboard gear. Almost constant Q characteristic.

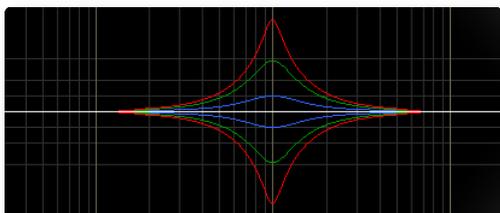
P – 3dB



Classic Asymmetrical (Classic Asym)

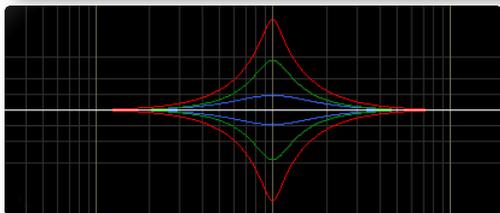
Often features in older equalisers. Boost as above but much narrower cut characteristic.

P – 3dB boost
o – 3dB (x2) cut



Proportional 1 (Prop 1)

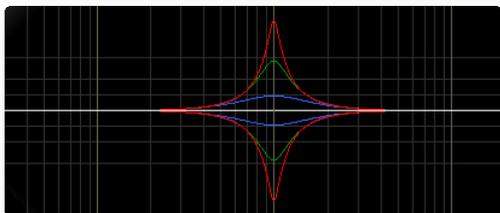
Proportional equalisers are recognised as being more ‘musical’ than Constant Q. The bells are wider below +6dB and narrower above +6dB (or –6dB for cut).



Proportional 2 (Prop 2)

Like Proportional 1 but with larger changes below and above +6dB peak (or –6dB for cut).

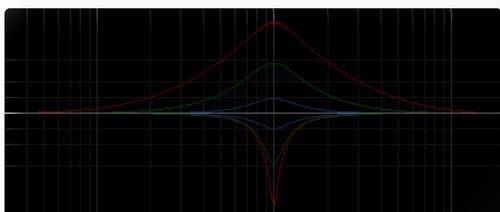
P – 3dB



Proportional 3 (Prop 3)

Like Proportional 1 but with extra widened bells between 0 and +3dB (or –3dB for cut).

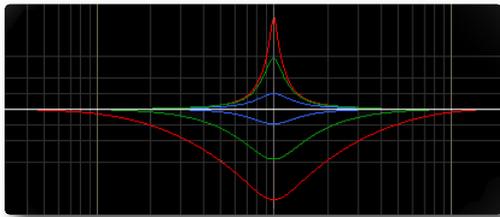
P – 3dB



Constant Q Asymmetrical (CQ Asym)

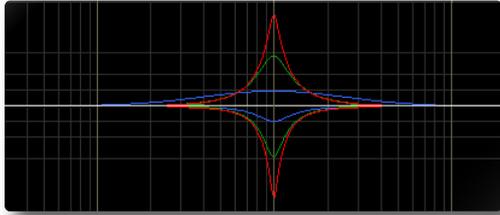
Used in some US products and mixers. The boost characteristics are defined according to o – 3dB formula. Extra widened between –3dB and 0dB.

P – 3dB boost, o – 3dB cut



Constant Q Asymmetrical Reverse (CQ Asym R)

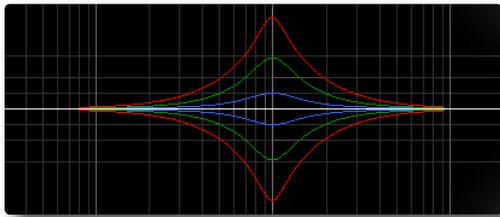
Exactly like above but with mirrored boost and cut characteristics.



Constant Q Invert (CQ Invers)

Both boost and cut characteristics are both defined according to 0 – 3dB formula.

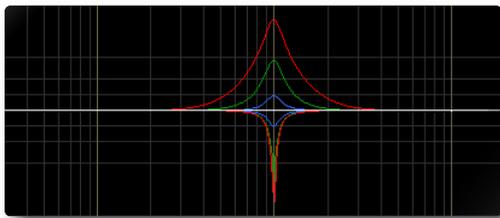
0 – 3dB



Constant Q New (CQ New)

Defined Q is always perfectly maintained independent of bell gain (also below 6dB). In terms of P – 3dB definition of this equaliser can be classified as proportional.

$P/2$



Parallel

Note this is accessed via the **Parallel** switch, not the drop-down menu. Recreates the passive LC parallel equaliser with all its advantages (sound) and disadvantages (band interaction, asymmetry). As found in graphic equalisers.

3dB boost, 0 – 3dB (x2) cut

Shelving Bands

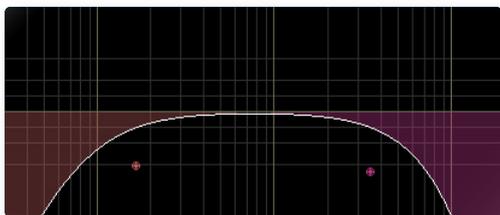


Low and High shelves

Q value is used to control overshoot characteristic. On the left is the Low shelf filter with a low Q value, on the right the High shelf filter exhibits overshoot with a large Q value.

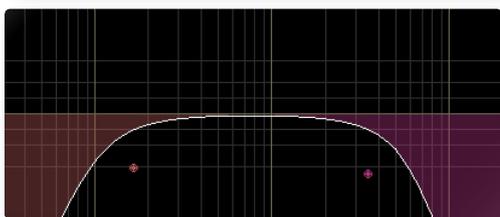
Note that there are no alternative shapes for shelving bands

Filter Shapes



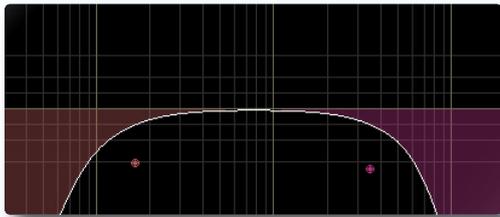
Critical

‘Critical Damped’ filters simulate a chain of passive analogue RC (for high-cut) and CR (for low-cut) stages fixing a behaviour similar to a series of RC elements in vintage analogue equipment.



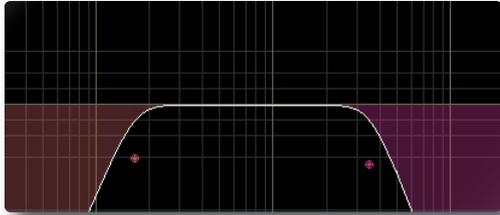
Bessel

Linear phase behaviour leads to no overshoot or ringing resulting from a sudden transition between signal levels. The drawback is a sluggish roll-off rate.



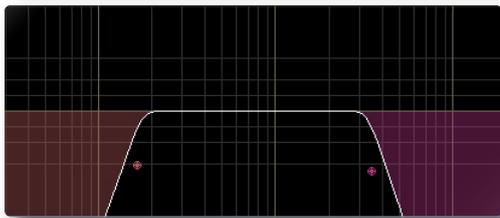
Gaussian

No ringing or overshoot in the time domain, but slow roll-off in the frequency domain.



Butterworth

Characterised by having a maximally flat magnitude response, ie. no amplitude ripple in the passband.



Chebychev

Characterised by having an equiripple magnitude response, meaning the magnitude increases and decreases regularly from DC to the cutoff frequency.

EQ HISTORY

An Audio Engineer's Best Friend

The equaliser is the oldest and the most popular sound processing tool. From the earliest days, its main function has been to correct or enhance sound by boosting or cutting certain frequency ranges. Engineers have developed countless equalisers for over 50 years and some of them became legendary and were considered bench marks. The most popular type of EQ in recording and post-production studios is the parametric equaliser or PEQ. It offers maximal flexibility due to direct access to all relevant filter parameters. Properly used the PEQ is a very powerful tool and the best friend of every sound engineer in the battle for perfect sound. If misused, it can be the greatest enemy of any recording.

The Best of the Analogue and Digital Worlds

X-EQ is a creative equalising tool combining the best of both the analogue and digital worlds. We recreated the most legendary analogue equalisers and added a few experimental characteristics only possible in the digital domain. By using proprietary filter algorithms, we have achieved a huge dynamic range as well as extremely low noise and distortion level, and thus unparalleled sound purity; impossible with any analogue circuitry.

Analogue Parametric EQ Modelling

In today's era of digital audio workstations, hundreds of software parametric equalisers are available. Many of them are intended to be *"THE best sounding equaliser ever"*. The truth is that only few of them are recognised and adored by the experts. You may ask why one equaliser sounds great while another does not. This question is almost as old as the equaliser itself and still is not completely answered. On the one hand there are some obvious rules which must be followed when designing a good sounding PEQ, on the other hand some never really proven esoteric claims driven by marketing departments or self-nominated audio evangelists. Especially treasured analogue equalisers are considered by some people as being absolutely unique and unmatched by any 'dirty' digital equaliser. The truth is that with a properly designed, fully parametric analytic EQ every amplitude and phase characteristic of any other equaliser setup can be recreated. Of course, the contribution of distortions to the specific sound of a particular analogue equaliser caused by the respective electronics has to be considered. If the distortions are 'good', they may make certain applications sound better. Usually however, 'bad' non linear distortions and other deficiencies like limited dynamic range are surely not responsible for a 'magic' sound. Therefore our policy in digital PEQ design has always been to make the equaliser filters as precise and clean as possible. For controlled generation of distortions we recommend using enhancers or any other specialised processors with proper built-in anti-aliasing technology.

Non Linear-phase EQ

Phase shift in equipment is probably one of the most misunderstood topics in audio. Phase shifts often get blamed for anything that is not classed as typical distortion. The reality is that all analogue EQs produce a deviation from linear phase which is specifically related to the shape of the EQ curve, and it is precisely these phase changes which produce the required gain reductions. This is a very natural process which can be found in the audio characteristics of rooms, materials and elsewhere.

Though it is not possible for us to detect phase in isolation, the phase shift of an EQ can often be the cause of the ‘magical’ sound of that device once the EQ signal is added back into the mix. For example, the Duende channel EQ derived from the SSL analogue consoles – plenty of phase shift and plenty of magic!

In contrast, a linear-phase EQ delays all frequencies by the same amount. This can only be achieved in the digital domain by using special techniques. While this process is very effective in certain situations (eg. ‘surgically’ removing troublesome frequencies), it should not be considered as a superior tool for the majority of EQ tasks.

Linear-phase equalisers have become popular over the past few years due to the proliferation of powerful digital processors. We decided not to go down that route with X-EQ and we think you’ll agree with that decision. Maybe linear-phase EQ is something we will explore in the future but... who knows? An equaliser not only changes the relative frequency balance of a signal but also its phase. If you EQ a sound until it sounds right or natural, then the chances are that you are EQing to make it sound in phase with the rest of the mix. We need say no more on this subject.

Parallel Passive EQ

Parallel EQ exhibits quite different sonic properties to the familiar serial parametric EQ. We are generally used to hearing the effect of one EQ band superimposed on another, as opposed to the band interaction inherent to a parallel EQ. Because the bands are placed in a parallel configuration, phase cancellations and re-enforcements happen which is not always obvious when first encountered.

Passive EQ is something that is found in old equaliser units and is generally known for its transparent and natural sound, but has some problems associated with it. However, in the digital domain these shortcomings do not have such an influence.

A passive EQ does not have any gain elements, but can still have controls to seemingly boost frequencies as well as cut. What actually happens is that the entire signal is cut by an amount, but the frequencies which are apparently ‘boosted’ are simply not cut as much. Therefore the unit must attenuate either the input, the output, or both to allow enough headroom. Unfortunately in the analogue domain, a 20dB reduction in signal level produces a 20dB increase in the noise floor. Luckily, in the digital domain with a 64-bit floating point DSP, these issues do not remain.

In X-EQ – when the ‘parallel’ button is engaged – you are presented with a parallel passive EQ model which the original designers of these devices could only have dreamed of. The noise floor can be disregarded due to the huge resolution available in Duende plug-ins.

You may find yourself entering this mode more and more as you become familiar with the sonic signature. Larger gain changes are possible without colouration, and boost starts to become something that is useable to a significant degree in a digital EQ!

Parallel EQ does however exhibit asymmetry in its boost and cut characteristics. But this is not such a bad thing as most engineers would agree that boost is best done with low (wide) Q values and cut with a higher (narrower) Q.

6. Vocalstrip

INTRODUCTION

Vocalstrip is a one stop solution for superior vocal processing, providing tailor-made tools for fixing and polishing your vocal sound. The illustration below introduces the main Vocalstrip plug-in features which are described in full over the following pages. Click on the blue boxes to be taken to fuller descriptions of their contents. If you are unclear on how to use the tools provided by Vocalstrip it may be worth starting with the SSL on-line tutorials (see Page 5 for details).

?
click here for
on-line
tutorials

Above the main plug-in window is a set of controls which are specific to your host application. Please refer to your host application's user guide for guidelines on using these controls

De-esser module, for removing excess sibilance

De-plorer module, for removing low frequency wind noise

Graphic Display, shows EQ and dynamics information

Internal bypass for smooth in/out comparisons

Input level metering and control

EQ module

Switch between main and alternative plug-in settings

Processing order controls

Expansion and Compression module

Output level metering and control

INTERFACE OVERVIEW

In/Out To press a switch in a plugin, simply click on it. A green switch surround indicates that the switch is in its active state.

Click + Drag To turn a knob, click on it, and drag it up and to the right. If your mouse has a scroll wheel, you can also turn knobs by hovering over them and turning the scroll wheel.

To move any control slowly for fine adjustments, hold *Shift* on your keyboard whilst turning.

To reset a knob to its default value, click on it whilst holding *Ctrl* (Windows) or *⌘* (Macintosh).

To view the value associated with a knob, hover over it with the mouse – the text box underneath the knob will switch from displaying its parameter to displaying its value.

 You may notice that the colour of the knob surrounds change to indicate their level – green for low, yellow for mid, red for high.

To enter a precise value for any parameter, double-click on its value display, enter a value on your computer keyboard, and press the *Return* key.



Plug-in Bypass

In/Out The **In/Out** switch located above the **Input** section provides an internal plug-in bypass. This allows for smoother In/Out comparisons by avoiding the latency issues associated with the host application's Bypass function.

The button must be 'lit' for the compressor to be in circuit (as shown left).

Presets

The **Load** and **Save** buttons at the base of the screen provide quick access to the host application's Import and Save Settings functions. For specific instructions on using presets within the host, consult the host application documentation. Presets use a standard file format which allows them to be moved between a variety of platforms and host applications.



A file of ready-made Vocalstrip presets are included in the plug-in installation. To load SSL presets, click on the **Load** button and navigate as follows:

Macintosh: /Applications/Solid State Logic/Presets/Vocalstrip

Windows: c:\program files\solid state logic\presets\Vocalstrip

A-B Comparisons



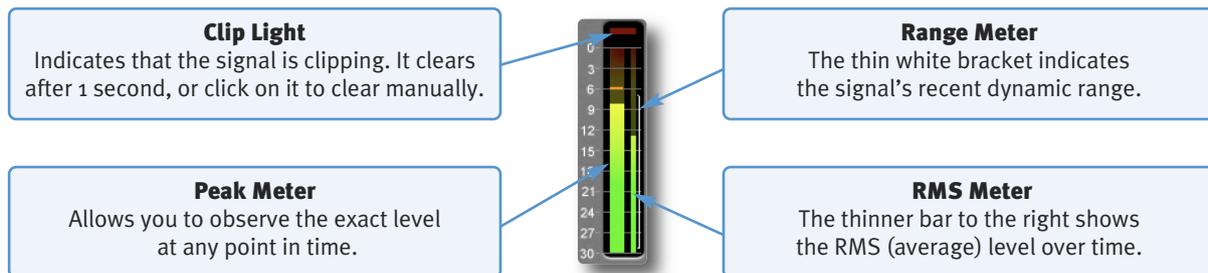
The **A B** button at the base of the screen allows you to load two completely independent set ups and compare them quickly. When the plug-in is opened, setting A is selected by default, as shown right. Pressing the **A B** button will switch between setting A and setting B.

Automation

Every plug-in parameter can be automated in host applications which support automation. The method for recording and editing automation varies from host to host. For specific instructions on using automation within the host, consult the host application documentation.

INPUT AND OUTPUT SECTIONS

The input and output sections at either side of the plug-in window provide input and output gain control, along with displays of the following information:



VOCALSTRIP MODULES

De-esser

Sibilance is a resonance often found in vocal recordings which can result in 'S' consonants becoming too pronounced. The Vocalstrip De-esser can detect and remove sibilance.

Switch the De-esser on by clicking on the power button in its top left-hand corner. The blue indicator between the controls 'glows' to show that it is working.

- Move the **Amount** knob to control how much sibilance is removed.
- Move the **Thresh** (threshold) control to set the detection level, so that the De-esser can distinguish between 'S' and 'non-S' sounds.

To listen only to the sibilance that is being removed, press the **Aud** button. This can be particularly helpful in ensuring that the threshold is correctly set.



De-ploser

Plosives are bursts of low frequency energy in a signal which can cause compressors to sound unpleasant. They are most often caused by the breath of a singer standing too close to the microphone. The Vocalstrip De-ploser detects these artefacts and lets you manage their level. The De-ploser's controls are very similar to those of the De-esser:



Switch the De-ploser on by clicking on the power button in its top left-hand corner. The blue indicator between the controls 'glows' to show that it is working.

- Move the **Amount** knob to control how much plosive is removed.
- Move the **Thresh** (threshold) control to set the detection level, so that the De-ploser can distinguish between plosives and normal low frequency sounds.

To listen only to what is being removed, press the **Aud** button. This can be particularly helpful in ensuring that the threshold is correctly set.

Equaliser

Switch the EQ on by clicking on the power button in its top left-hand corner.

Three popular EQ types are provided to allow you to cut low frequencies, find and attenuate resonances and shape the top end of the signal. Switch each band on by clicking on the oblong switch above the band's curve graphic.



The low cut filter operates in the range of 30Hz to 300Hz, with a slight boost around its cut-off frequency.



The notch filter operates in the range 200Hz to 10kHz and offers 12dB of boost and 36dB of attenuation with a high Q value.

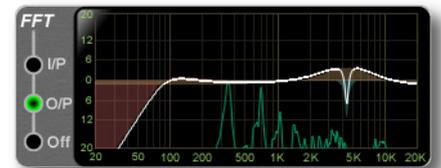


The high band EQ offers 12dB of boost/attenuation over the range of 1kHz to 20kHz with a low Q value.

EQ Display

When any controls within the EQ section are moved, the display in the top right-hand quarter of the window becomes an EQ graph:

- The white line across the graph shows the frequency response of the current EQ settings.
- The brown shaded area represent the impact of each of the three EQ bands.
- A display of the signal's frequency response is shown in green. The signal displayed can be switched between the plug-in input and output and can be switched off, all using the **FFT** buttons to the left of the graph.



! EQ Tip: Finding and Attenuating a Resonance

A vocal recording may contain a resonant frequency caused by a number of factors, including bad mic placement, room modes, or even unpleasant resonances caused by the singer's skull!

These can be detected and reduced in the following way:

- Switch off the low cut filter and high band EQ
- Set the notch filter gain to between about +10dB
- Sweep the frequency slowly up range, listening out for ringing
- Once you have found the offending frequency, bring the gain down to a significant negative value

Another technique is to use the green frequency response line in the EQ graph and locate resonances visually.

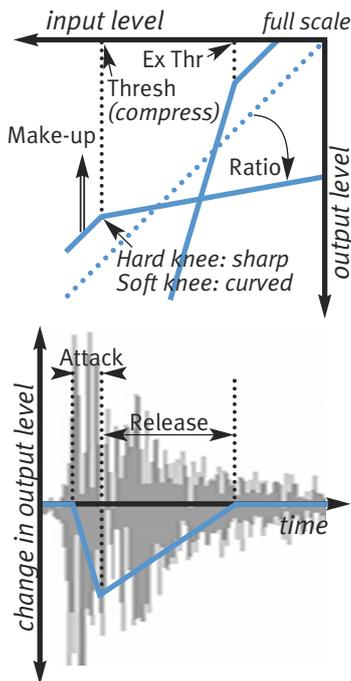
Compander

The Vocalstrip Compander is a hybrid Compressor and Expander. Switch it on by clicking on the power button in its top left-hand corner.

Expander

First the signal enters a fixed ratio downwards expander, designed to reduce room ambience, spill or breath noise that is often brought up by the subsequent compression.

To set the level at which the level reduction is introduced, turn the **Ex Thr** (Expander Threshold), located on the Compander's right-hand side. Turn the threshold to minimum to turn the expander off. The amount of level reduction introduced is shown in the green bar to the left of the **Ex Thr** knob.



Compressor

The compressor offers both hard and soft knee modes alongside fully variable **Ratio**, **Thresh** (threshold), **Attack**, **Releas** (release) and **Makeup** controls, along with a choice of **Hard** or **Soft Knee**.

The output stage which is sourced after the make-up gain features an optional **Drive** feature, which introduces harmonic characteristics to the signal. Its intensity is increase with the **Makeup** gain. If you use a lot of make-up gain to drive the circuit, the level can be reduced again using the Output level control. The amount of level reduction introduced is shown in the red bar to the right of the compressor controls.

Parameter	Min	Max
Ex Thr	-96dB	0dB
Ex Ratio	Fixed: 1.5:1	
Comp Thr	-48dB	0dB
Comp Ratio	1:1	50:1
Attack	0.1ms	100ms
Release	0.5ms	2s
Makeup	0dB	48dB

Compander Display

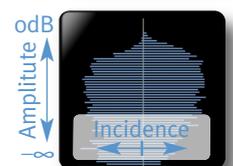
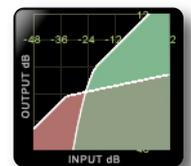
When any controls within the Compander section are moved, the display in the top right-hand quarter of the window shows two different graphs:

The left-hand graph is a gain-law display, showing the relationship between input and output levels, as illustrated in the graph above-left.

The right-hand graph is an IO difference display, showing how often each level occurs within the input and output signals. The input is shown on the left and the output on the right.

The vertical scale is amplitude, with 0dB at the top and $-\infty$ at the bottom. The length of each line protruding from the centre represents the number of incidents of that amplitude over a period of seconds.

Note that the **FFT** controls are for the EQ display, not the Compander display.



Processing Order

The processing order is controlled at the base of the plug-in window.



To move a module within the order, highlight it so that it is surrounded in yellow, and press either the left **<<** arrow or the right **>>** arrow.

7. Drumstrip

INTRODUCTION

Drumstrip is a one stop solution for superior drum processing, providing tailor-made tools for fixing and polishing your drum sounds. The illustration below introduces its features which are described in full over the following pages. Click on the blue boxes to be taken to fuller descriptions of their contents. A good place to start with Drumstrip may be the SSL on-line tutorials (See Page 5 for details).

?
click here for on-line tutorials

The screenshot shows the Drumstrip interface with several callout boxes:

- Gate for removing spill**: Points to the Gate section with controls for Attack, Release, Hold, Open, Close, and Range.
- Transient Shaper for increasing transient attack**: Points to the Transient Shaper section with Gain and Speed controls.
- HF Enhancer, for enriching high and low frequencies**: Points to the HF Enhancer section with Cutoff and Drive controls.
- LF Enhancer**: Points to the LF Enhancer section with T. Over and Drive controls.
- Compressor with Listen Mic characteristics**: Points to the Listen Mic Compressor section with Comp, MakeUp, and Mix controls.
- Output metering and control**: Points to the Output section with a level meter and Gain control.
- Processing order controls**: Points to the Process Order buttons at the bottom (Gate, Trans, LF, HF, LMC).
- Input level metering and control**: Points to the Input section with a level meter and Gain control.
- Internal bypass for smooth in/out comparisons**: Points to the In/Out switch at the top left.
- Above the main plug-in window is a set of controls which are specific to your host application. Please refer to your host application's user guide for guidelines on using these controls**: Points to the top of the interface.

INTERFACE OVERVIEW

- In/Out**: To press a switch in a plug-in, simply click on it. A green surround indicates that the switch is in its active state.
- Click + Drag**: To turn a knob, click on it, and drag it up and to the right. If your mouse has a scroll wheel, you can also turn knobs by hovering over them and turning the scroll wheel.
- Shift**: To move any control slowly for fine adjustments, hold *Shift* on your keyboard whilst turning.
- Ctrl / ⌘**: To reset a knob to its default value, click on it whilst holding *Ctrl* (Windows) or *⌘* (Macintosh).
- Value Display**: To view the value associated with a knob, hover over it with the mouse – the text box underneath the knob will switch from displaying its parameter to displaying its value.
- Knob Color**: You may notice that the colour of the knob surrounds change to indicate their level – green for low, yellow for mid, red for high.
- Value Entry**: To enter a precise value for any parameter, double-click on its value display, enter a value on your computer keyboard, and press the *Return* key.

Plug-in Bypass

The **In/Out** switch located above the **Input** section provides an internal plug-in bypass. This allows for smoother In/Out comparisons by avoiding the latency issues associated with the host application's Bypass function. The button must be 'lit' for the compressor to be in circuit (as shown left).

Automation

Every plug-in parameter can be automated in host applications which support automation. The method for recording and editing automation varies from host to host. For specific instructions on using automation within the host, consult the host application documentation.

INPUT AND OUTPUT SECTIONS

The input and output sections at either side of the plug-in window provide input and output gain control, along with displays of the following information:

Clip Light
Indicates that the signal is clipping. It clears after 1 second, or click on it to clear manually.

Range Meter
The thin white bracket indicates the signal's recent dynamic range.

Peak Meter
Allows you to observe the exact level at any point in time.

RMS Meter
The thinner bar to the right shows the RMS (average) level over time.

In addition, the Output area provides a **Mix** control, for adjusting the mix between the processed ('Wet') signal and unprocessed ('Dry') signal.

DRUMSTRIP MODULES

Gate

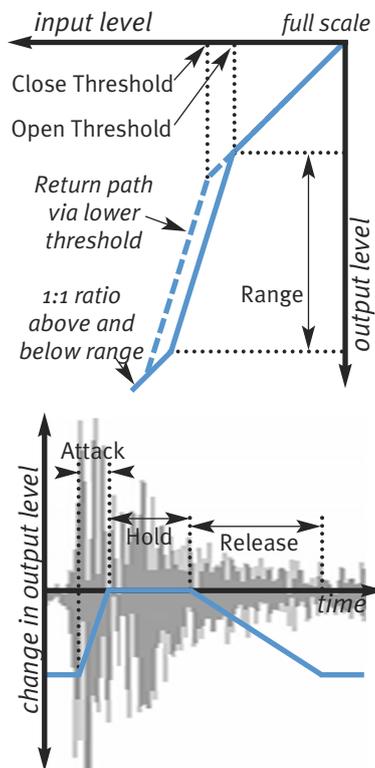
The gate is suitable for many applications, including:

- Shortening drum hits to obtain a 'tighter' sound
- Controlling ambience on live drums tracks
- Manipulating attack and decay characteristics

Switch the Gate on by clicking on the power button in its top left-hand corner.



The Gate provides controls for the **Attack**, **Releas** (release) and **Hold** times, as well as **Open** and **Close** thresholds and **Range** levels, as illustrated in the diagrams below left. If you are unclear about these parameters, please refer to SSL's on-line tutorials, introduced on Page 5.



Open and Close Thresholds

The levels for 'opening' the gate to audio and 'closing' it again are set separately. Generally, the 'open' level is set higher than the 'close' level. This is known as hysteresis and is very useful as it allows instruments to decay more naturally. If the close threshold is higher than the open threshold, the close threshold is ignored.

Range

The range is the depth of attenuation applied to the signal when the gate is closed, as indicated by the white line in the right hand column. For a true gating action the range should be set to -8dB , which is effectively silence. By reducing the range, the gate takes on some of the characteristics of a downward expander where the signal is lowered in level set by the range amount, rather than being completely silenced. This can be useful in cleaning up a drum track containing reverb, where silencing the reverb would sound too artificial but attenuating it by a few dB would push it down to an acceptable level.



Attenuation level

Input level

Green line: 'Open' threshold

Red line: 'Close' threshold

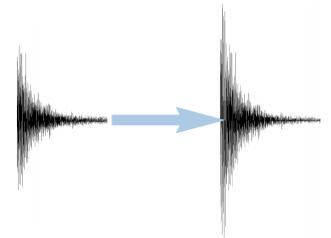
White line: Range value

Parameter	Min	Max
Open Thr	0dB	-30dB
Close Thr	0dB	-30dB
Range	0dB	-80dB
Attack	0ms	0.1ms
Hold	0s	4s
Release	0s	1s

Transient Shaper



The Transient Shaper allows you to add attack to the start of a drum hit by increasing the amplitude of the attack portion of the signal whilst leaving the decay unchanged. The right hand waveform is a processed version of the one on the left. It has been passed through the transient shaper where the amplitude of the attack portion has been increased.

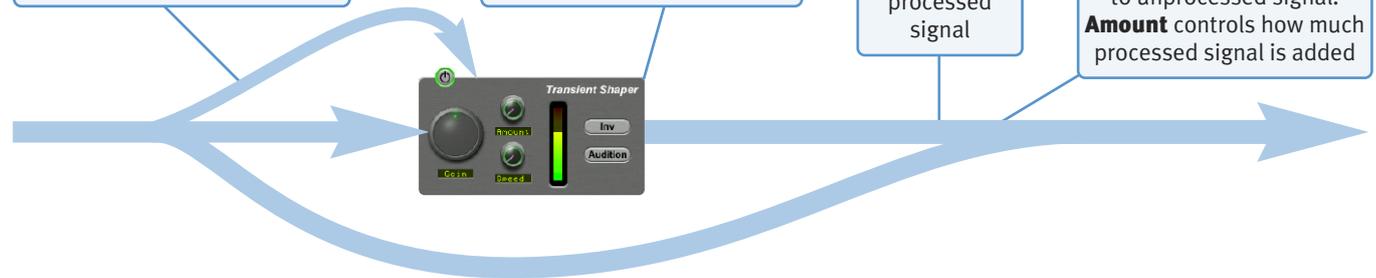


The Shaper uses a control signal to detect transients. **Gain** controls the level of this signal.

You can adjust the **Speed** of the signal's return to normal. You can also **Invert** the signal

Press **Audition** to listen to processed signal

Processed signal is added to unprocessed signal. **Amount** controls how much processed signal is added

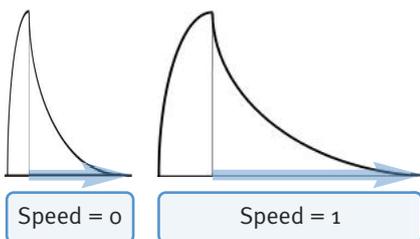


Switch the Shaper on by clicking on the 'power' button in its top left-hand corner. The central meter gives visual feedback on how much attack is being added using the **Gain** and **Amount** controls. If this rises to the top red section then reduce the effect.

Gain controls the detection level of the controller signal, and should be set so that only the transients you want to shape are detected. If this is set too low then the Shaper will do nothing; if it is set too high then the Shaper will detect too many transients, resulting in an exaggerated process, and the attack appearing too long. The default setting of 0dB should be a good starting point.

*Note that **Gain** doesn't directly affect the output signal's gain.*

Amount controls the amount of the processed signal added to the unprocessed signal. This process can increase the peak level of a signal significantly so watch the output meter carefully.



Speed controls the length of time the added attack takes to fall back down to the normal signal level once it has reached the top of the attack phase. Turn the knob clockwise for a slower speed, and longer transient.

The **Inv** switch inverts the processed signal so that it is subtracted from the unprocessed signal. This has the effect of softening the attack, resulting in more body in the drum sound.

The **Audition** switch allows you to listen to the processed signal, to assist in the set up process.

*Note that when the **Inv** and **Audition** buttons are both pressed, the signal will not be inverted.*

HF and LF Enhancers

The HF and LF enhancers respectively enrich the high and low frequencies of the input signal. Whereas a standard EQ simply raises the level of certain frequencies, the Enhancer adds a combination of 2nd and 3rd harmonics to those frequencies, producing a more pleasing effect.



Switch each Enhancer on by clicking on the power button in its top left-hand corner. No effect is heard until an Enhancer's **Drive** and **Amount** are turned up.

HF **Cutoff** sets the frequency above which the HF Enhancer generates harmonics. It ranges from 2kHz up to 20kHz – To add air or sparkle to a signal, push this frequency towards the higher end of the range. To give more presence to a signal, use the lower end of the range. Note that the effect is barely audible in the 15kHz to 20kHz range.

LF **T.Over** (turnover) sets the frequency below which the LF Enhancer generates harmonics. It ranges from 20Hz up to 250Hz. The LF Enhancer is great for adding depth and weight to kick drums, snare or toms.



Each Enhancer has its own **Drive** and **Amount** controls:

- **Drive** (or overdrive) controls the density and amount of harmonic content, from 0 to 100%.
- **Amount** is the amount of Enhanced signal that is mixed into the unprocessed signal, from 0 to 100%.

Listen Mic Compressor

The Listen Mic Compressor was first found in the classic SL 4000 E Series console. The Drumstrip edition includes a narrow-band EQ by-pass and a wet/dry Mix control.



Comp controls the amount of compression, from 0 to 100%.

MakeUp controls the level compensation for the gain reduction and **Mix** controls the balance of the compressed ('**Wet**') to uncompressed ('**Dry**') signal. Note that **MakeUp** only acts on the 'wet' part of the signal.

To simulate the original narrow-band listen mic characteristic, activate the **EQ In** button – to use the compressor on the full frequency range, leave **EQ In** deactivated.

Note that Listen Mic Compressor features very quick fixed time constants. This means it is easily capable of producing distortion on low frequency material.

Processing Order

The five processing blocks in Drumstrip can be configured in any order, as defined by the Process Order blocks at the base of the plug-in window.



To move a module within the order, highlight it so that it is surrounded in yellow, and press either the left <<< arrow or the right >>> arrow.

Typically, the gate is first in the chain so that it is able to act on the full dynamic range of the signal before the signal is processed by the Listen Mic Compressor.

8. X-Verb

X-Verb is a versatile and comprehensive studio grade reverberation plug-in which delivers the density, warmth, depth and stunning detail usually only found in top-end hardware reverb processors. The primary parameters provide conventional reverb manipulation, while nearly 100 detail parameters allow an exceptional level of fine-tuning. Click on the blue boxes to be taken to fuller descriptions of their contents.



INTERFACE OVERVIEW

- In/Out** To press a switch in a plug-in, simply click on it. The active state is sometimes indicated by a green surround (shown left), and sometimes indicated by a shadow at the top rather than the bottom, (shown right).
- Knob** To turn a knob, click on it, and drag it up or down. If your mouse has a scroll wheel, you can also turn knobs by hovering over them and turning the scroll wheel. The value for each parameter is displayed in the centre of the knob.

To move any control slowly for fine adjustments, hold *Shift* on your keyboard whilst turning. To reset a knob to its default value, click on it whilst holding *Ctrl* (Windows) or *⌘* (Macintosh).

Plug-in Bypass

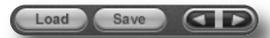
- In/Out** The **In/Out** switch located above the **Input** section provides an internal plug-in bypass. This allows for smoother In/Out comparisons by avoiding the latency issues associated with the host application's Bypass function. The button must be 'lit' for the compressor to be in circuit (as shown left).

Automation

Every plug-in parameter can be automated in host applications which support automation. The method for recording and editing automation varies from host to host. For specific instructions on using automation within the host, consult the host application documentation.

Presets

The **Load** and **Save** buttons at the base of the screen provide quick access to the host application's Import and Save Settings functions. The arrow buttons to the right of the **Load** and **Save** buttons can be used to cycle through all of the stored presets within the same folder.



For specific instructions on using presets within the host, consult the host application documentation. Presets use a standard file format which allows them to be moved between a variety of platforms and host applications.

A file of ready-made X-verb presets are included in the plug-in installation. These provide starting points for a variety of instruments and effects. To load SSL presets, click on the Load button and navigate as follows:

Macintosh: /Applications/Solid State Logic/Presets/x-verb

Windows: c:\program files\solid state logic\presets\x-verb

A-B Comparisons and Morphing

The **A B** button at the base of the screen allows you to load two completely independent set ups and compare them quickly. When the plug-in is opened, setting A is selected by default, as shown right. Pressing the **A B** button will switch between setting A and setting B.



It is also possible to mix between the settings: Press the **Morph** button to the right of the **A B** button and use the slider to its right to morph between A and B. The display to the right of the slider displays '**(Disabled)**' when Morph is off, and displays the A to B ratio when Morph is on.

Every parameter is morphed with the exception of the Algorithm and the Size, which are taken from whichever setup is indicated as active in the **A B** button.

Note that the Morph function is automatically deactivated when a parameter is moved.

Note also that automating Morphs will result in unpleasant artefacts if any time constants are different between setups A and B

The Graph Display

The graph in the centre of the plug-in window displays the impact of the settings currently selected in the controls above and below it. The row of buttons immediately above the graph (with **ER** [Early Reflections] and **REV** [Reverb] at their left-hand end) determine what information is displayed, and also which controls appear beneath the graph.

The bar to the right of the **Reverb Control** label can be used to scroll and zoom the graph's time axis: click and drag the handles on either end of the scroll bar to zoom in and out, or click and drag the main scrollbar to scroll left or right. The graph also auto-zooms to ensure that all of the important information remains visible.

The graph is interactive: move the grey nodes to adjust their associated parameters.

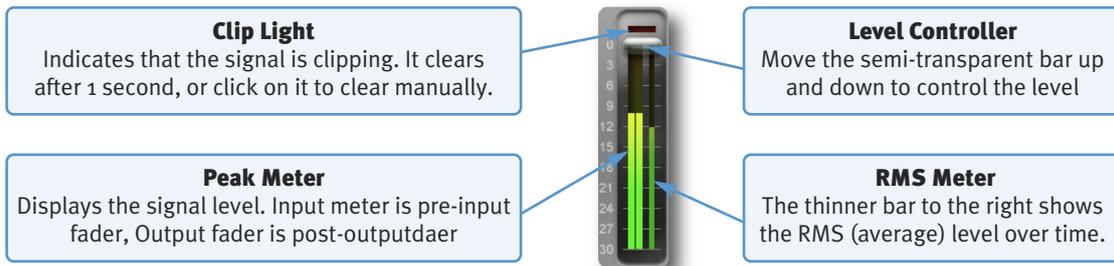
These buttons define contents of display



The parameters displayed in the graph are described on Page 60.

Input and Output Levels

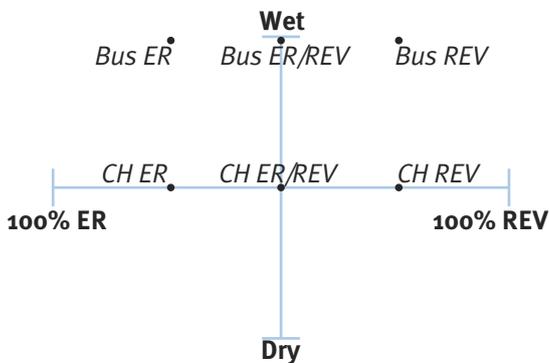
The input and output sections at either side of the plug-in window provide input and output gain control, along with level metering and clip lights:



Mix Levels

The **Mix** area towards the top right-hand corner of the display controls the mix between Early Reflections (**ER**) and reverb (**REV**), as well as the mix between the un-processed (**Dry**) and processed (**Wet**) signals.

A number of presets are available – click on the box to the right of the **Mix** label and select one from the drop-down menu.



The **Bus** and **CH** prefixes indicate the **Dry – Wet** mix:

Bus presets have a 100% Wet mix, for when X-Verb is being used in an auxiliary bus where it has an independent level control.

CH presets default to a 50-50 mix. Use **CH** when X-Verb is being used within a track, and you need to mix a smaller amount of the reverb signal with the original.

In the **ER/REV** presets, both **ER** and **REV** signals are at full. In the **ER** presets, the level of the **REV** signal is halved, and in the **REV** presets, the level of the **ER** signal is halved.



Image Control

X-Verb comes with an innovative Stereo Image interface which performs Stereo width, Phase, Left/Right channel swapping, and Surround Processor compatible L-R – R-L operations. The control is located in the top right-hand corner of the window.

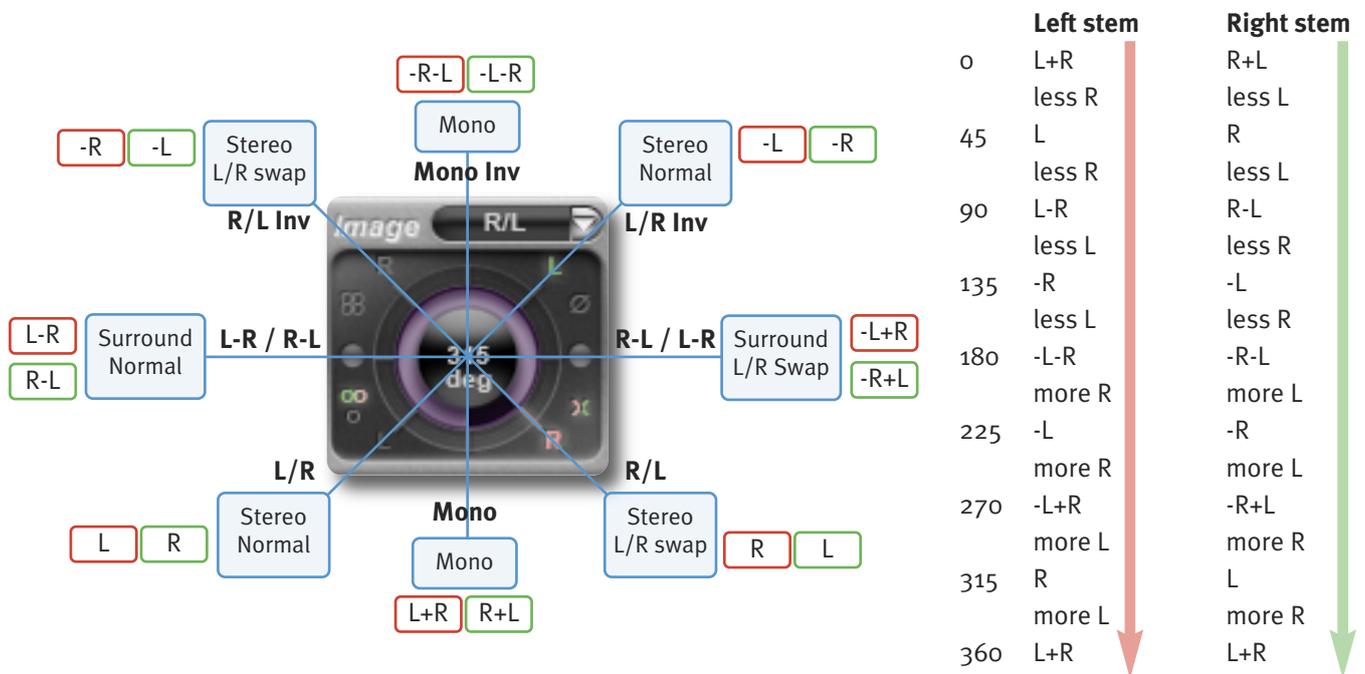


The image can be rotated by 360° in either direction. A number of image presets are included – click on the box to the right of the Image label and select one from the drop-down list which appears (shown left).

Note that the angle of the Image controller is not the position of the signal within the spectrum. In essence, the display works as follows:

As the Image controller moves left, the level of the Left signal is reduced in the Right component, and vice versa. As the image moves up, the level of the Left signal in the Left component is reduced, as is the level of the Right signal in the Right component.

The diagram below illustrates the ‘angle’ associated with each preset, and the subsequent stereo/surround imaging. The blue boxes indicate the stereo image, the red and green boxes indicate the actual signals on the left and right channels respectively, and the image preset name is shown in bold. The diagram to the right indicates what is happening as you turn the image controller clockwise.



The symbols surrounding the image control indicate the following:

- ⊗ Surround image
- ⊙ Stereo image
- Mono image

Note that often two of these symbols will be ‘lit’, as the image moves between them.

- ✕ L/R swap
- L/R L and R symbols represent the phase of the left and right signals in the left component: The lower ones indicate when that component of the signal is in phase, and the upper ones indicate when it out of phase. In other words, the signals are in phase with each other when they are in the same row, and out of phase when they are in the same column.
- ∅ Signals are more out-of-phase than in-phase

X-VERB CONFIGURATION

Kill Tail Button

Whenever you are auditioning changes in your configuration, and don't want to wait for the reverb tail to die away completely, click on the Kill Tail button in the bottom right-hand corner of the window.



1. Select an Algorithm or Preset.

It is often a good idea to begin setting up your reverb by loading a preset as a starting point as described on the previous page. When starting from scratch, the algorithm on which you are going to build the reverb needs to be selected first: click on the algorithm box, located top-centre in the plug-in window, and select an algorithm from the drop-down list which appears.



When algorithms are changed, other current settings remain as they were, making it easy to compare similar settings with different algorithms, though some parameters may change their behaviour or range. Bear in mind that changing the algorithm may lead to a short audio interruption.

Here is an overview of each algorithm:

ALGORITHM	SUGGESTED USES	DESCRIPTION
Super Natural	Rooms and Halls	Produces real sounding rooms and halls of any size, with a rich diffusion and natural sounding reverb envelope.
Super Natural HiD		Produces higher density diffusion and refraction, for even more natural and smooth sounding spaces.
Ultra Plate	Plates, Larger Rooms	A rich, silky, warm reverb, providing a more traditional sound with mainly static and predictable refraction and diffusion. Ideal for making instruments and vocals stand out in a mix, and for sound designers and film composers who need huge reverbs.
Ultra Plate HiD		Adds more density, shine and depth, somewhere between digital reverberation and a real room.

2. Adjust the Primary Parameters

The seven controls across the top left of the plug-in window provide access to the primary reverb parameters. Each of these parameters represent an interaction between a number of more detailed parameters which can also be adjusted (see next page).



The following table explains what each primary parameter does, and what detail parameters are linked to it:

PARAMETER	DESCRIPTION	LINKED PARAMETERS
PreDelay (Short-Long)	Controls delay before reverb is heard, emulating the time it takes for the sound to bounce back from the closest walls.	ER Master Delay REV PreDel
Size (Tiny-Huge)	Emulates the size of the room, altering the quantity and speed of the reflections.	Size ER MasterTime ER Tap Rebound
REV Time (Short-Long)	The time it takes for the reverb to die away.	REV Time REV Shape REV PreDel
ER Time (Short-Long)	The speed of the early reflections. These are the reflections which bounce back early enough to be heard individually. Reflections quickly become too dense to be separated, at which point they become 'reverb'.	ER Master Time ER Master Delay
Density (Thin-Dense)	The level of focus and definition in the reflections. The more dense, the harder it is to discern individually reflections.	Density Definition Attack
Colour (Dark-Bright)	Alters the harmonic colour of the reflections, to emulate the materials the sound might be bouncing off.	9 linked parameters, including: ER Tap Filters, REV Shelf Filters and Freq Times
Distance (Close-Far)	Emulates the distance between the sound and the listener.	ER Time, Delay and Level Masters; REV PreDel, Master Level, Definition, Density, Shape, Attack and Mode

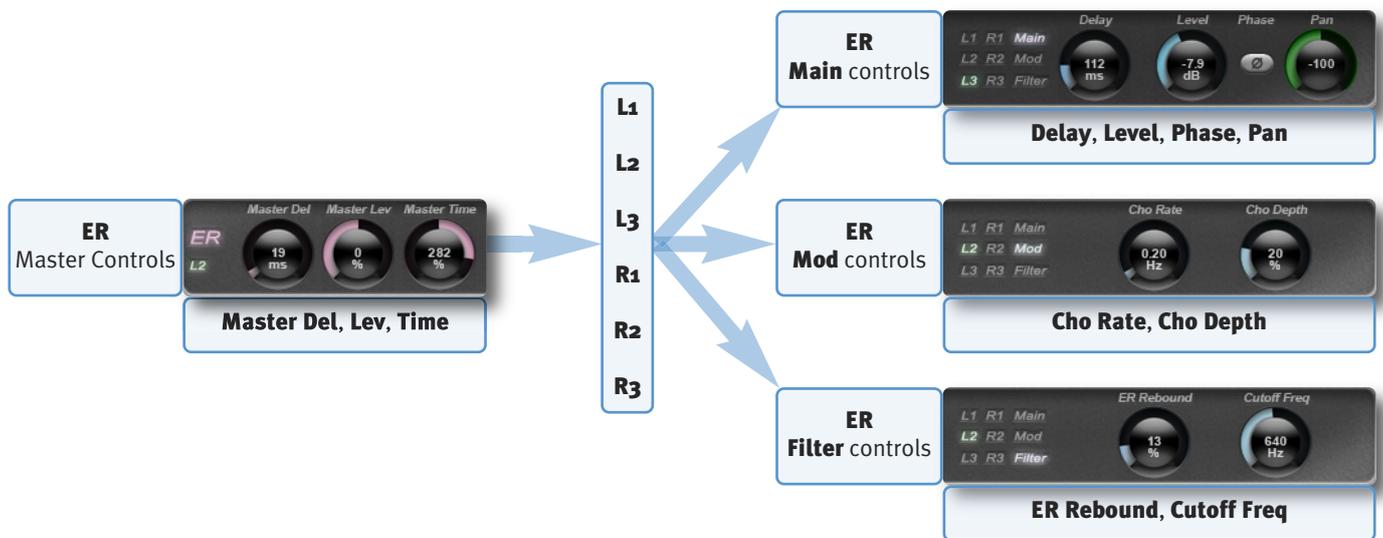
3. Adjust the Detail Parameters

Detail parameters are adjusted in the **Reverb Control** area of the window, located between the **Input** and **Output** areas. The **ER** and **REV** buttons in the top left-hand corner of the display define whether the ER (Early Reflections) or REV (Reverb) parameters, graphs and sub-menus are displayed.

ER
If **ER** is selected, the ER Master Del (delay), Master Lev (level) and Master Time knobs appear below the graph and to the left. In addition, six buttons appear to the right of the **ER** button, labelled **L1**, **L2**, **L3**, **R1**, **R2** and **R3**. These define which of the six Left and Right early reflection ‘taps’ are being edited using the three further buttons which further to the right: **Main**, **Mod** and **Filter**. By selecting one of these three buttons, the controls for their parameters appear below the graph and to the right.

The area between the **ER** controls and the **Main**, **Mod** or **Filter** controls indicate which ER ‘tap’ is being edited, and which set of parameters are displayed to the right – the appropriate symbols light up.

The following diagram illustrates which controls are available when each button is selected. Each parameter is defined in the table on Page 60. The table on Page 56 indicates which of these parameters are affected by the Primary parameters.



When ER parameters are active, the graph displays the ER Box in pink. This represents the loudest and longest ER taps. Each tap (L1, L2, L3 and R1, R2, R3) has a handle which can be clicked/dragged horizontally to adjust the Delay time, or vertically to adjust the tap’s Level. The stem beneath each node is coloured red for left, or green for right.

The handle half way along the top of the ER Block adjusts the Master Level (increasing/decreasing the individual taps levels relatively), the handle half way down the right side of the ER Block adjusts the Master Time (increasing/decreasing the individual taps delays relatively).



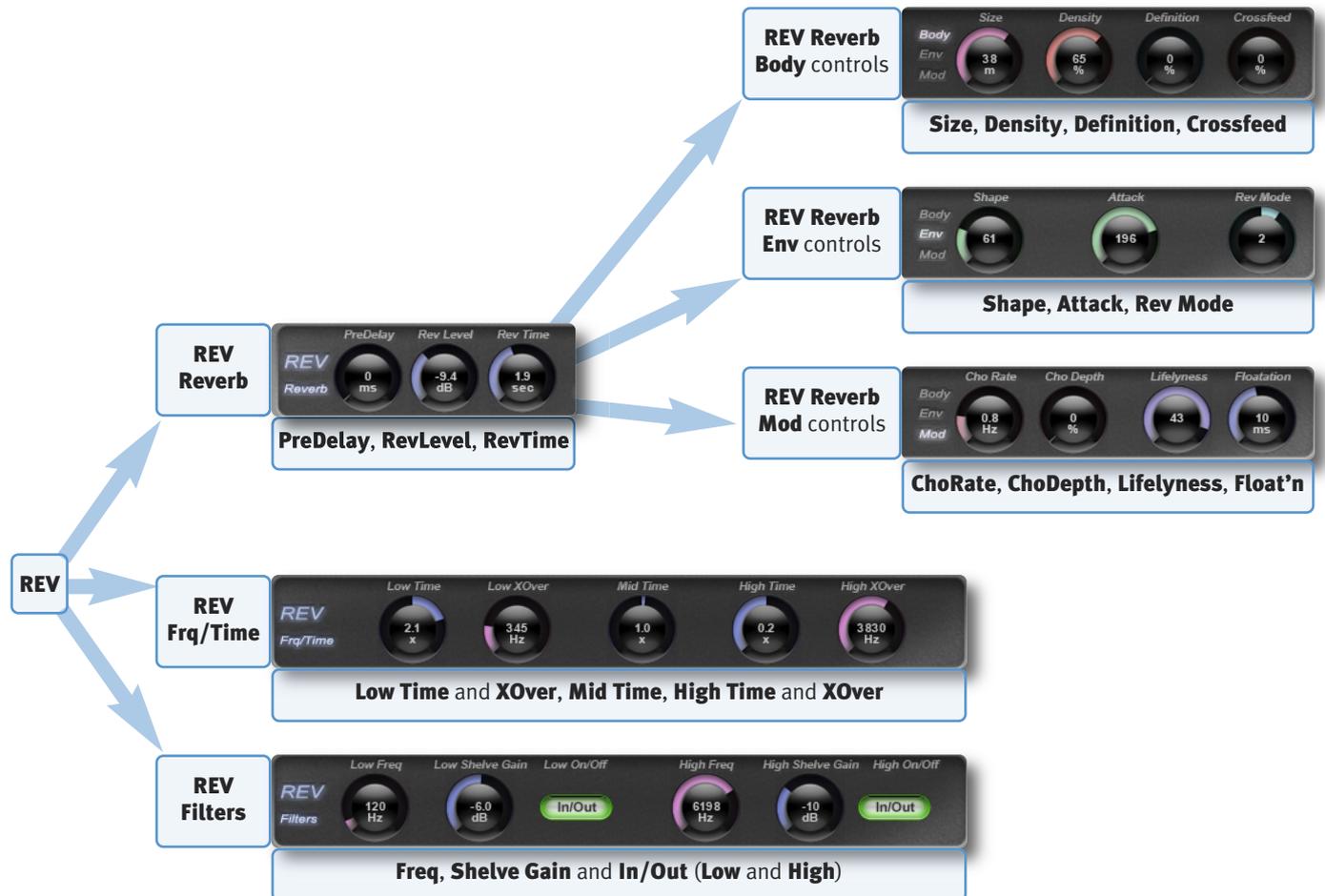
While the ER Box is displayed, the REV triangle is always visible in the background. Clicking on the REV triangle will switch the **Reverb Control** area to **REV** and the sub page to **Reverb**.

REV

If **REV** is selected, three buttons appear to the right of the **REV** button, labelled **Reverb**, **Frq/Time** and **Filters**. When each of these is selected, their parameters appear below the graph.

When the **Reverb** button is selected, a further sub-menu appears to its right, labelled **Body**, **Envelope** and **Modulate**. By selecting one of these three buttons, the controls for their parameters appear below the graph and to the right (the three left-hand parameters – **PreDelay**, **Rev Level** and **Rev Time** – are displayed whenever **Reverb** is active). The area between the left-hand master **Reverb** controls and the **Body**, **Envelope** or **Modulate** controls indicate which set of parameters are displayed to the right – the appropriate symbols light up.

The following diagram illustrates which controls are available when each button is selected. Each parameter is defined in the table on Page 60. The table on Page 56 indicates which of these parameters are affected by the Primary parameters.



When **REV** is selected, the graph display is dependent on which sub-menu is active.

When **Reverb** is selected, the REV Triangle is displayed. The left handle on the bottom adjusts the reverb predelay (horizontal), the handle on the top adjusts the reverb level (vertical) and the right bottom handle changes the reverb time.

The ER block is visible in the background and clicking on it will switch the **Reverb Control** area to **ER**.



When **Freq/Time** or **Filters** is selected, the graph changes to display the Frequency/Time blocks and High/Low Shelving filter curves. Both graphs are overlaid with the active graph being in focus (on top).

Inside the **Freq/Time** graph, the left handle allows the low reverb time factor (vertical) and low crossover frequency (horizontal) to be altered. The mid handle adjusts the mid frequency time factor (vertical) and the right handle changes the high reverb time factor (vertical) and high crossover frequency (horizontal).



In the **Filters** sub page a graph is only displayed when there is an active filter. Each filter has a handle to adjust the frequency (horizontal) and cut slope (vertical).



DETAIL PARAMETER RANGES AND DESCRIPTIONS

ER Menu

Menu		Parameter	Range	Description
ER Master Controls		Master Delay	0 - 1500ms	Adds a Pre-Delay to the whole 'ER Block' so all individual Taps move to the right.
		Master Level	0 - 400%	Adjusts the level of all Taps, counter-clockwise to decrease, clockwise to increase all tap levels.
		Master Time	0 - 400%	Adjusts the delay of all Taps, counter-clockwise to decrease, clockwise to increase all delay times.
Sub menus for each Tap	Main	Delay	0 - 2500ms	Tap Delay
		Level	$-\infty$ to 0dB	Tap Level
		Phase	On or Off	Inverts phase of tap
		Pan	-100 (L) to +100 (R)	Places tap in stereo spectrum
	Modulate	Cho Rate	0 - 4Hz	Adds a Chorus to the Tap to thicken and blur the reflection. At 0.00Hz the Chorus is switched off.
		Cho Depth	0 - 100%	Adjusts the modulation depth of the Chorus. At 0% the Chorus is switched off.
	Filters	ER Rebound	0 - 100%	Adds a modulated Feedback Loop to the delay line of a Tap to create complexity inside the Reflection.
		Cutoff Freq	25Hz - 24kHz	Adjusts the Cut off Frequency of a smooth Low Pass Filter to dampen the reflection and the rebounds.

REV Menu

Menu		Parameter	Range	Description
Reverb Master Controls		PreDelay	0 - 1500ms	Adds a Pre-Delay to the reverb tail, moving the Triangle right.
		Rev Level	$-\infty$ to 0dB	Adjusts the level of the reverb tail
		Rev Time	<i>Varies</i>	Determines the time for the reverb level to fall below 60dB (RT 60). Dependant on the Size, Shape, Attack and Algorithm.
Reverb sub menus	Body	Size	0 - 60m	Adjusts room size by altering the reverb delay structure, the diffusion engine and the complexity approximation. IMPORTANT: Changing the Size can result in audible artefacts.
		Density	0 - 100%	Adjusts the density in the diffusion and refraction engine and complexity approximation. Higher values smoothen the reverb tail and individual 'refractions' or ringing echoes disappear.
		Definition	0 - 100%	Adds defined and randomly modulated reflections to the beginning of the reverb tail. Can add clarity but may reduce density. In Ultra Plate, Definition also modulates the Density in relation to Input Level to create a more natural decay.
		Crossfeed	0 - 100%	X-Verb has separate diffusion engines for left and right. Crossfeed introduces the left input to the right channel and vice versa, reducing the stereo image but adding the impression of distance.
	Envelope	Shape	0 - 255	Alters the Shape of the Reverb Triangle. At higher values the reverb build up phase (Attack) becomes longer, while the tail fade out phase becomes shorter.
		Attack	0 - 255	Expands the time of the Attack. At higher values the reverb build up time can take up to 700 ms. Note that when Shape is set to 0, Attack is inactive.
		Rev Mode	-9 to +9	Allows less natural-sounding reverb. At 0, reverb sounds most natural – positive values compress tail. LF energy may lead to artifacts – lower Input level or set RevMode to 0 to eliminate.
	Modulate	Cho Rate	0-4Hz	Adds Chorus to the tail to thicken and smoothen the reverb.
		Cho Depth	0-100%	Adjusts the modulation depth of the Chorus.
		Lifeliness	0-48	Adds natural sounding random time modulation to refractions in Diffusion engine. For Ultra Plate, adds modulation to Chorus
		Floatation	0-22ms	Determines the maximum range of 'Lifeliness' time fluctuation. Not available in the Ultra Plate Algorithms.
	Freq/Time Controls		Time (Low, Mid, High)	0.1-4
XOver (Low, High)			25Hz - 24kHz	Adjusts the crossover frequency between Low and Mid bands, and between Mid and High bands.
Filters Controls		Freq	25Hz - 24kHz	Sets filter frequency for Low and High filters
		Shelve Gain	$-\infty$ to 0dB	Sets gain reduction for Low and High filters
		In/Out	In/Out	Switches each filter in and out of circuit.

Blank page – well, nearly

Appendix: Cross-grade

It is easy to see that a customer who has previously invested in a hardware Duende DSP unit might want to continue to benefit from ongoing support and development of new Duende plug-ins. In recognition of this SSL is offering every registered Duende DSP owner a free 'cross-grade' to Duende Native. This page describes the terms and conditions for eligibility to a free cross-grade, it describes what we are offering and how to go about applying for a cross-grade.

CROSS-GRADE ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS

- If your hardware Duende DSP unit was registered in your Profile at the SSL web site on or before 1st November 2010 you are eligible to claim free Duende Native licences equivalent to any Duende plug-ins you own for your Duende DSP unit.
- If you register a hardware Duende DSP unit which has not previously been registered with the SSL web site, you are eligible to claim free Duende Native licences equivalent to any Duende plug-ins you own for your Duende DSP unit. There is no time limit on this.
- If you own a hardware Duende DSP unit which had already been registered with the SSL web site on or before 1st November 2010 you will not be able to re-register it and will not be eligible for a free cross-grade.
- If you have bought any of the optional plug-ins (Drumstrip, Vocalstrip, X-Comp, X-EQ or X-Verb) for any model of hardware Duende DSP unit or the Bus Compressor Upgrade for a Duende Mini, the Duende DSP unit will be eligible for a free cross-grade.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

- By accepting the free cross-grade offer you agree that SSL will no longer support your hardware unit.
- If you sell your existing Duende hardware unit, the new owner will not be able to register it, or be eligible for support or be eligible for a free cross-grade.
- The Duende Native copy protection system examines your computer and builds a unique profile of it. As part of the product activation process this information is returned to the SSL Online Licence Centre to be used in the generation of a Product Licence that is unique to your computer. By accepting these Terms & Conditions you agree to SSL examining your computer system and holding information about it. If you are unwilling to have your computer profiled in this way you should not install Duende Native. SSL does not examine any personal data, other software installed or any computer use behaviour. SSL will not share any of your data with any third parties.
- Each Duende hardware unit and all associated plug-ins will be cross-graded as a 'bundle' in a single transaction. If the Duende Native plug-ins created as part of the cross-grade are 'deactivated' at a later date they will all be deactivated as a bundle.
- When you cross-grade a specific unit, you cross-grade the unit and all plug-ins associated with it. You cannot cross-grade individual plug-ins separately. Note that you do not have to install all of the Duende Native plug-ins; during the installation process you can choose which individual Duende Native plug-ins you wish to actually use.

WHO GETS WHAT?

Subject to eligibility and agreement to our Terms & Conditions a free cross-grade means:

- Duende Mini, Classic & PCIe units included the 'EQ & Dynamics Channel' plug-in as standard so owners of all eligible units can claim a free 'Duende Native Channel' licence.
- Duende Classic and Duende PCIe units included the 'Stereo Bus Compressor' plug-in as standard so owners of all eligible units can claim a free 'Duende Native Bus Compressor' licence.
- Owners of optional plug-ins (Drumstrip, Vocalstrip, X-EQ, X-Comp, X-Verb, Bus Compressor for Duende Mini) for eligible units can claim a free Duende Native equivalent licence.
- If you bought one of our Studio or Expanded Packs and your unit is still eligible you can claim a Duende Native licence for each of the plug-ins in your bundle.
- If you own more than one hardware Duende DSP unit, providing each individual unit is eligible, you get a free cross-grade for each unit. If you have multiple optional plug-ins registered (ie. one for each hardware unit) you can claim a free cross-grade for each registered instance of each optional plug-in. So if you own two PCIe units, with all 5 optional plug-ins registered for both units... and both units are eligible... you can claim two complete sets of Duende Native licences
- In short; everybody who owns an eligible Duende DSP unit gets an equivalent Duende Native plug-in pack 100% for free *and* gets to keep their Duende DSP. Everybody who owns multiple eligible Duende units gets multiple plug-in packs.

WHERE IS THE CATCH?

There isn't one. We have changed our future development strategy and think it is the right and proper thing to do to provide our existing customers with an opportunity to benefit from future development. You are not obliged to switch, you can carry on using your Duende DSP but you deserve the choice. It also feels good to reward customer loyalty.

FAQs

Can I run demo versions of the Duende Native plug-ins before I choose to cross-grade?

Yes you can. Everybody can get a free 30 day demo licence for each Duende Native plug-in. Note however that when you choose to install the Native version of a Duende DSP plug-in that is already installed on your system, the Native plug-in will overwrite the DSP version. You can perform a system roll back easily though if you wish as described below. Demos are limited to one per host computer.

Will the new Native plug-ins load into my old projects and recognise my saved settings?

Yes. The Duende Native plug-ins appear to your system as 'exactly' the same plug-ins as your DSP versions... Your DAW sees your Native plug-in as though it is your old DSP plug-in and loads the saved settings.

Can I use the Duende Native and Duende DSP versions of a plug-in at the same time?

The short answer is no you can't... but you can use different Duende Native and Duende DSP plug-ins alongside each other on a single system. When you run the Duende Native installer you are prompted to select which Native plug-ins you wish to install. If you choose to install the Native version of a Duende DSP plug-in that is already installed on your system the Native plug-in will overwrite the DSP version.

So can I run a hybrid system with some Duende Native and some Duende DSP plug-ins running side by side?

Yes you can. For users owning older, less powerful computers this may be a sensible approach to take. When you are installing Duende Native simply choose to only install the plug-ins you wish to run as Native versions.

So my Duende hardware will continue to work even after I have cross-graded?

Yes it will. But as part of the Terms & Conditions of the cross-grade you must agree that, after the cross-grade, you relinquish any warranty terms, your old hardware unit is not eligible for support or repairs, no new upgrades or plug-ins can be purchased for it and while you can keep the unit for personal use, you will not give or sell the unit to a 3rd party.

Can I change my mind and go back to using my Duende DSP after going Native?

Yes you can. You would need to uninstall the Duende Native version and re-install the Duende DSP version. Note that the Duende DSP installer overwrites all of the plug-ins to perform a complete system roll back. If you then wish to re-run the Duende Native installer once again and select only the plug-ins you wish to run Natively you can.

So does that mean I can choose to only cross-grade some of my plug-ins?

No. When you cross-grade you cross-grade the individual hardware unit and all plug-ins associated with it. Although you can then choose which of the Native plug-in versions to Install and Activate you must agree to cross-grade your unit as a bundle.

I have bought a Duende Mini DSP Upgrade or a Duende V3 64 or 128 Channel Upgrade... is that cross-graded too?

Duende Native has no channel count limits. How many plug-in instances you can run simultaneously on a single system is limited only by the power of your computer. In recognition of your financial investment in channel count for your Duende we are also offering, for a limited time, an additional reward offer to all owners of Channel Upgrades. If you have previously purchased one of these upgrades we will contact you directly with details of this offer..

Can I move my Duende Native plug-ins from one computer to another?

You can only use Duende Native plug-ins on one computer at a time. If you use a software only 'Virtual Dongle' you cannot easily move your Duende Native licences from one computer to another. If you need to move your licences because you are changing computer or have suffered a catastrophic failure and need to completely re-build your computer, please contact support@solidstatellogic.com. If you require licence portability; ie. you wish to install the software on multiple computers and transfer your licence between them at will (eg. you have a desktop computer in your studio and a laptop you use when travelling) then you should buy a Duende Native Hardware Dongle. The Duende Native Hardware Dongle enables full licence portability across an unlimited number of computers. You may install the Duende Native plug-ins on as many computers as you like and simply move your dongle to the machine you wish to work on. You can only buy one dongle per set of Duende Native Licences; you cannot install a single licence on multiple dongles. The Duende Native Hardware Dongle is available exclusively from the SSL online store.

DUENDE NATIVE CROSS-GRADE INSTALLATION

Please follow the software download and installation instructions laid out in Section 1 of this manual.

Section 1 also includes information about registering on the SSL website, if you have not already done so. *This is a necessary part of the activation process.*

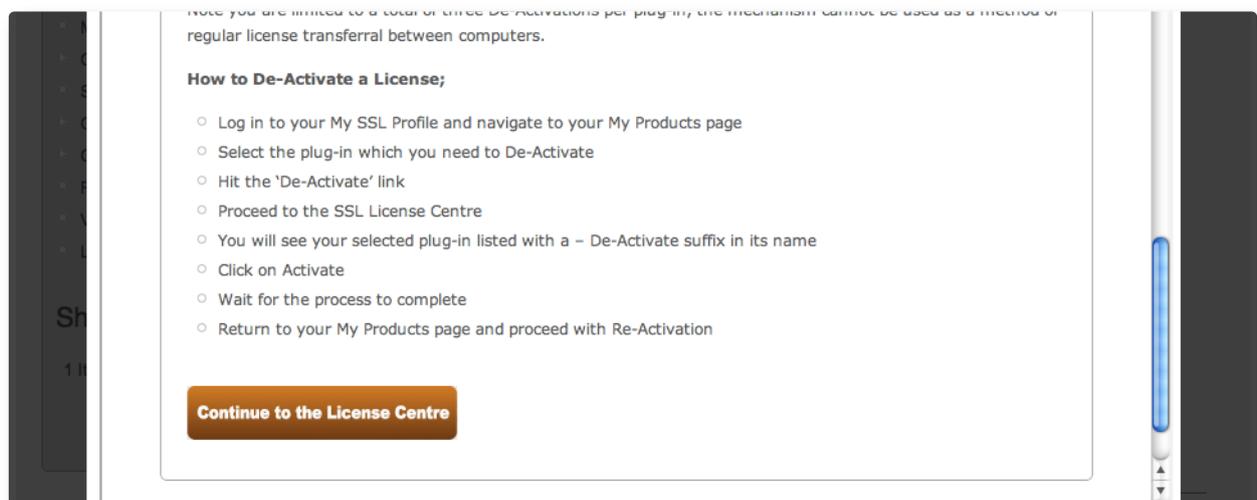
Having logged into the website, go to the **My Products** tab, where all registered Duende hardware will be listed. If you need to register a unit, use the registration section at the top of the screen.

Click on the **Cross-grade** label next to each Duende hardware unit, then confirm that you have read and agree to the terms and conditions and are sure you wish to cross grade.

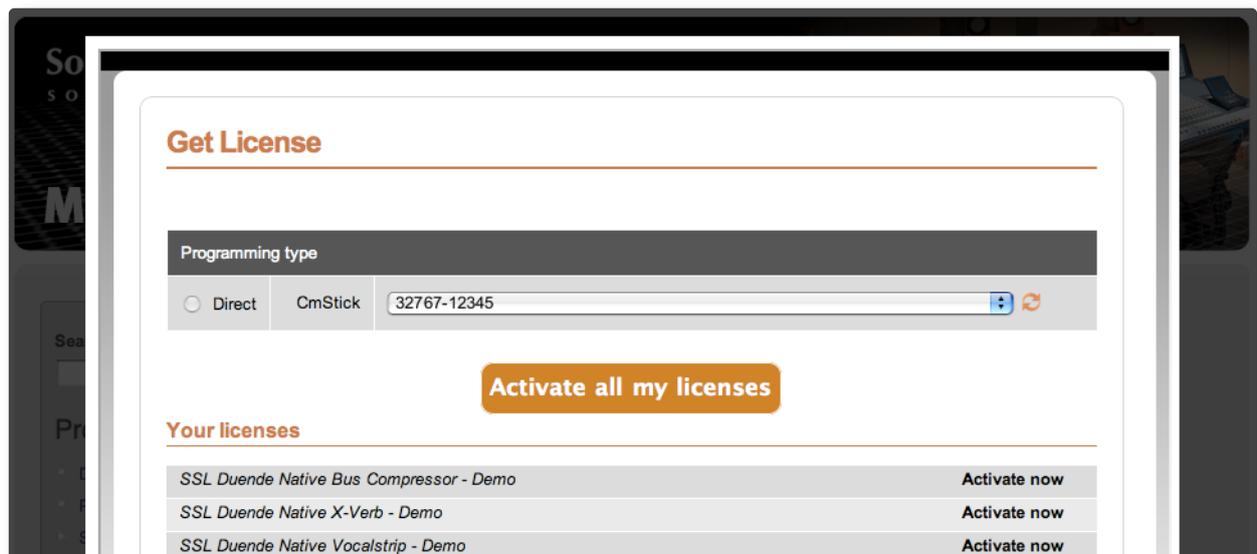
This will create a **Duende Native Products** section within your Product list, containing an item labelled **Free Duende Cross-grade – Unit #x** (where x is the unit serial number), followed by a 32 character activation code. You will also see the plug-ins included in the Upgrade listed.

Click on the **Activate** label beside the activation code and the SSL Online Licence Centre will open in a new web browser window.

Read the instructions, then click where indicated at the bottom of the page:



A list of plug-ins will appear. Click on the individual **Activate Now** labels to complete the activation process. If you are ready to activate all of the licences listed, click on **Activate all my licences**.



Blank page – well, nearly

Index

A		E	
A-B (Vocalstrip)	40	E switch (Channel Strip plug-in)	21
A-B (X-Comp)	28	EQ & Dynamics Channel Strip	19
A-B (X-EQ)	33	EQ History	37
A-B (X-Verb)	48	EQ IN switch (Channel Strip plug-in)	21
Analyse button (X-EQ)	33	EQ Shapes (X-EQ)	35
Aud button (Vocalstrip)	40	Equaliser (Channel Strip plug-in)	21
Authorising Your Plug-ins	16	Equaliser (Vocalstrip)	41
Automation (Channel Strip plug-in)	20	ER (X-Verb)	53, 56
Automation (Drumstrip)	43	EXP button (Channel Strip plug-in)	19, 22
Automation (Vocalstrip)	40	Expander (Channel Strip plug-in)	22
Automation (X-Comp)	27	Expander (Vocalstrip)	42
Automation (X-EQ)	32		
Automation (X-Verb)	47	F	
		FAQ	1
B		FAST ATT (Channel Strip plug-in)	19, 22
BELL (Channel Strip plug-in)	19	Filter (Channel Strip plug-in)	20
Bleed (X-Comp)	29	Filter Shapes (X-EQ)	36
Bleed Graph (X-Comp)	30		
Bypass (Drumstrip)	43	G	
Bypass (Vocalstrip)	39	Gate (Channel Strip plug-in)	22
Bypass (X-Comp)	28	Gate (Drumstrip)	44
Bypass (X-EQ)	33	GR History (X-Comp)	30
Bypass (X-Verb)	47		
		H	
C		HF Enhancer	46
Channel Strip plug-in	19		
Compander (Vocalstrip)	42	I	
Compression Law Graph (X-Comp)	30	I/O Diff Graph (X-Comp)	30
Compressor (Channel Strip plug-in)	22	Image (X-Verb)	50
Compressor (Vocalstrip)	42	Input (Channel Strip plug-in)	20
Creating an SSL Profile	13	Input (Drumstrip)	44
Cross-grade	59	Input (Vocalstrip)	40
		Input (X-Comp)	30
D		Input (X-EQ)	32
De-esser (Vocalstrip)	40	Input (X-Verb)	49
De-ploser (Vocalstrip)	41		
Display (Vocalstrip)	41, 42	K	
Display (X-Comp)	30	Kill Tail Button	51
Display (X-EQ)	31	Knee (X-Comp)	28
Display (X-Verb)	48		
Drum Strip	43	L	
DYN IN (Channel Strip plug-in)	19	LF Enhancer	46
DYN S/C (Channel Strip plug-in)	19	Limiter (Channel Strip plug-in)	22
Dynamics (Channel Strip plug-in)	22	Listen Mic Compressor	46

M	
Max GR (X-Comp)	28
Mix (X-Verb)	49
Morph button	48

O	
Output (Channel Strip plug-in)	23
Output (Drumstrip)	44
Output (Vocalstrip)	40
Output (X-Comp)	30
Output (X-EQ)	32
Output (X-Verb)	49

P	
Parallel button (X-EQ)	34
Parameters (X-Verb)	53, 56
PK button (Channel Strip plug-in)	19, 22
PRE EQ switch (Channel Strip plug-in)	22, 23
Presets (Vocalstrip)	40
Presets (X-Comp)	28
Presets (X-EQ)	33
Presets (X-Verb)	48
Primary Parameters (X-Verb)	52
Processing Order (Channel Strip plug-in)	23
Processing Order (Drumstrip)	46
Processing Order (Vocalstrip)	42
Profile	13

R	
REV (X-Verb)	54, 57
RMS (Channel Strip plug-in)	22

S	
S/C LISTEN (Channel Strip plug-in)	19, 23
Side Chain (Channel Strip plug-in)	23
SSL profile	13
Stereo Bus Compressor	25
Support	1

T	
Transient Shaper (Drumstrip)	45
Tutorials	1

V	
Vocal Strip	39

X	
X-Comp	27
X-EQ	31
X-Verb	47

Notes

Solid State Logic
S O U N D | | V I S I O N

Visit SSL at: www.solidstatelogic.com

82BDNM01A

© Solid State Logic

All Rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions

Duende, Duende Native, Drumstrip, Vocalstrip, X-Comp, X-EQ, and X-Verb
are trademarks of Solid State Logic

All other product names and trademarks are the property of their respective owners and are hereby
acknowledged

No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form or by any means, whether mechanical or
electronic, without the written permission of Solid State Logic, Oxford, OX5 1RU, England

As research and development is a continual process, Solid State Logic reserves the right to change the
features and specifications described herein without notice or obligation.

Solid State Logic cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage arising directly or indirectly from
any error or omission in this manual.

E&OE