



ON THE DVD

WHAT IS IT?

Software recreation of the EQ and dynamics processor from Neve's flagship console for UAD systems

CONTACT

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HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 Powerful EQ
- 2 'Musical' compression with variable release
- 3 Compression and EQ can be re-ordered

SPECS

Mac OS 10.4 and PC (XP, Vista) compatible
UAD-1 (PCI), UAD-1e (PCIe) or UAD X-pander card
VST, AU, RTAS compatible host
UAD software – current version 4.7.1



upper mids, rendering these fully parametric. The upper and lower frequency bands are handled a little differently. For starters, they feature the option to toggle between conventional and shelving EQ types and secondly, they offer two fixed 'Q' alternatives, with a 'Hi-Q' button narrowing the bandwidth at these extremes.

No sweet

I was impressed by the EQ, particularly as it's possible to load quite a lot of treble into a signal without it becoming too sharp or over-sweet. The results on vocals are particularly impressive, as it's possible to add high end without overloading sibilant frequencies.

The master section features high- and low-pass filters fixed at 12dB/octave plus a dedicated Output Level button allowing you to cut or boost the 88's master out by +/- 20dB. While the default signal path puts dynamics before EQ, you can reverse this with the P-Dyn button and the plug-in also offers the chance to use a sidechain control source, which can be used for effects such as ducking or sibilance reduction. So the 88 is ready to go to work on more or less anything you throw at it, excelling as a vocal and guitar processor in particular. It's capable of warming sounds up and doesn't complain if you drive it hard.

Having previously modelled Neve favourites such as the 33609 compressor and the 1073 and 1081 EQs, it's no surprise that UAD have now produced a Neve 'bundle' in the form of their 'Nevana X2' card plus plug-in package. This brings together their seven Neve software models, of which the 88RS is the icing on the cake. Its dynamics processing is flexible while the EQ can produce a host of musical results, from gentle warming or calming of sounds through to full-on sound-design mayhem. A worthy addition to a collection you can't afford to ignore. **FM**

UAD Neve 88RS | \$299

UAD turn their attention to the mighty 88 Series console. *Jono Buchanan* checks out the strip

Of Neve's currently available desks, the 88 Series has developed a reputation of its own, with enthusiasts lining up not just from the world of audio but also from the film industry.

The 88 Series can be found in many of the world's greatest music and film studios, including Abbey Road and George Lucas' complex, Skywalker Sound. Continuing their range of Neve software clones, UAD now present the 88RS, bringing the EQ and dynamics modules of the 88-console channel strip to UAD card owners.

To the left of the plug-in pane, the dynamics section offers a 'power' button for each of the gate/expander and

limiter/compressor, with dials for each forming an orderly column beneath each one. The Gate/Expander controls provide Threshold and Range dials, alongside a variable release, which can vary between .01 and 3 seconds.

The compressor offers the same release control, alongside an AutoRelease option. Ratio is controllable between 1:1 and infinity, with the latter resulting in limiting. The 88RS therefore offers anything between soft and gentle dynamics processing to full-on 'squash central', making it capable of producing a great result regardless of application.

The EQ section is a 4-band affair, with sweepable 'Q' on the lower and

FutureMusic VERDICT

BUILD	████████████████████
VALUE	██████████████████
EASE OF USE	██████████████████
VERSATILITY	██████████████████
RESULTS	██████████████████

A flexible channel strip of the highest quality, which offers superb results to its users.