

System Set Up and Maintenance

Project 1 - Analog Studio Design

Objective:

You have been hired as a consultant to equip and install a mid sized music recording studio. The studio already has purchased a Soundcraft Ghost 32 input console, microphones, cue amps, headphones and all the necessary cables and connectors. The studio is relying on you to recommend and purchase the remaining gear listed below, and design the patch-bay wiring diagram to connect all the equipment. The goal is to purchase the best quality gear for the price while staying within the budget.

You have a budget of \$100,000. The studio needs the following equipment:

24-track recorder (Hi end DAW system capable of 24 channels of simultaneous analog I/O)

2, 2-track recorders (one digital hard disk, one ½" analog two track)

1 pair of large main monitors

1 pair of near-field monitors

4 channels of outboard compression

4 channels of gate/expansion

2 stereo high-end time-based FX units

8 channels of high-end outboard mic preamps

All the necessary patch bays to connect the equipment

You will:

1. Create a printed list of all the hardware components (listed above). For Monday, prepare a typed draft copy of the gear list. Try to use excel to prepare the list. Follow the Line Budget Item example (which is a separate document on the online syllabus). Hardware list should include manufacturer's name, model #, seller info and line item price for each. Hardware should have a subtotal listed as well. See handout for an example.

2. Create a patch bay wiring diagram detailing what each point on the patch bay will be. Handwritten diagrams will not be accepted. Students will use a computer program like Excel or something similar (i.e. Apple works, Paint, etc) to create the diagram.

Some websites to look for gear:

www.fullcompass.com

www.odysseyprosound.com

www.sweetwatersound.com

www.mercenary.com

www.proaudiodesign.com

www.hticsproaudi.com

www.westlakeaudio.com

Also consider e-bay, especially for tape machines.

Learning Outcomes: Students will become more familiar with professional audio gear used in recording studios and the companies that manufacture high-end studio equipment. Students will compare and contrast the cost versus the value of studio gear. Students will also be able to explain and diagram how each piece of studio equipment is interconnected via a patch bay.