



Classically . Defined . Sound

Q8 CONSOLE EQ AND CHANNEL STRIP VST PLUG-IN SUITE

CDSoundMaster
User's Manual



The Q8 444X CONSOLE EQ AND CHANNEL STRIP PLUG-IN SUITE brings this classic, vintage, completely authentic film console to your DAW.

It has been sampled at 96kHz and will convert to any rate directly within the engine. When used at 96kHz, it uses the maximum sample size and length, and because it is sampled at this rate, loads very quickly and takes the largest amount of computer resources (unless using a higher rate than 96kHz). If used at 48kHz or 44.1kHz, the programs will take a little longer to load, but once loaded, use a smaller amount of computer resources. In fact, at lower rates the programs use the same resources as they would if sampled directly at the same lower rates. All programs have been tested for these three rates and remain extremely accurate.

About the Q8 444X CONSOLE EQ AND CHANNEL STRIP PLUG-IN SUITE

The analog hardware device that this collection is inspired by is a completely custom, top-of-the-line 1970's Film Console. It is named after a film processing system developed to allow four strips of 8mm film to be processed on a single professional 35mm film strip. The clever name symbolizes the revolution of combining multiple channels of variable impedance sources into a single routing system, which we now know of as the audio mixing console. The entire signal chain, from transformer to op-amp to eq to make-up gain op-amp, is sampled in each program. If you have heard of Electrodyne, Sphere, Quad-Eight, Reichenbach, the AM10, API 2520, Jensen 990, John Hardy 990C, then you have experienced the heritage of this amazing original vintage device. To describe the sound, think Pink Floyd's "The Wall", which was recorded on four interconnected Q8's using this preamp! The eq section was originally installed into a custom film console, made special order to upgrade the standard eq to the 444X, or Super 444. The 444 is the next generation of the earlier 333. It is quasi-parametric, meaning that variable "Q" is provided by the choice of narrow, wide, and shelf band choices. The very few 444X eq's, also known as the QE PE 444X, that are in existence, were made to add more features and editing options while making use of what many consider the best sounding operation amplifier to date, the AM10. The 444X was installed in this single custom console for a brief time and was only in active duty for a brief time. This makes it one of the most priceless examples of a practically new old stock original Q8 console channel strip, or as it was originally called, the line input module.

Installation

**Download,
Unzip.**

Use Right Click "Run As Administrator" to install the Q8 and also when opening your DAW after installation.

Be sure to choose the correct 32 bit and/or 64 bit folder(s) when installing.

Open the Q8 in your DAW and this will generate you Q8.SER file, located in the same folder where you installed your Q8.

**Email this SER file to CDSoundMaster and we will send your AUT file.
Paste this AUT file in the same folder as your SER and reload the Q8.
Re-Open the Q8 and you are ready to go!**

The Q8 CONSOLE EQ AND CHANNEL STRIP

The Q8 is a suite of 6 plug-ins:

High EQ



Low EQ



High Mid EQ



Low Mid EQ



High Low Cut EQ



The Electronics Signal Chain



Using The Q8

The Q8 is a suite of 6 plug-ins:

The High EQ, High Mid EQ, Low Mid EQ, Low EQ, High/Low Cut EQ, and the Electronics Signal Path.

These plug-ins allow you to use the real, original, classic, flagship Q8 music film score recording console with perfect analog sound directly inside of your DAW.

High EQ



This plug-in allows you to access all three versions of the High EQ filters directly from this one Plug-In instance. Choose the first switch to load the Narrow Band Bell-Shaped EQ. Choose the second switch to load the Wide Band Bell-Shaped EQ. Choose the third switch to load the Shelf EQ.

Use the red 'KHZ' knob to select from 1.8, 2.2, 2.7, 3.5, 4.4, 5.6, 7.2, 9.2, 11, 14, and 18 kHz.

Use the 'Gain' knob to adjust the boost or cut of the selected filter shape and frequency selected.

The High EQ filter is designed primarily as a Shelf EQ. When it is in Narrow and Wide modes, it is more subtle and uses less gain than it does in Shelf mode. This program also provides input and output gain control, allowing you to increase or decrease the amount of harmonic distortion coming from the preamp section of the console as it enters the eq section. Use the Bypass button to run the digital signal through the Plug-In without any of the Q8's signature sound.

Low EQ



The Low EQ operates in the same manner as the High EQ. Choose between Narrow, Wide, and Shelf Low EQ.

Use the red 'HZ' knob to select your choice of frequencies:

50, 63, 80, 100, 120, 160, 200, 250, 300, 390, 500 Hz.

High Mid EQ



The Mid EQ section of the top-tier Q8 console has two separate controls for two separate frequency ranges: High Mid EQ and Low Mid EQ.

The High Mid EQ provides you with Narrow and Wide Band Bell-Shaped EQ.

In kHz, select your choice of frequency from:

.5, .63, .80, 1.0, 1.2, 1.6, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.9, 5.0 kHz

Low Mid EQ



The Low Mid EQ provides you with Narrow and Wide Band Bell-Shaped EQ.

In Hz, select your choice of frequency from:

.18, .22, .27, .35, .44, .56, .72, .91, 1.1, 1.4, 1.8 Hz

High/Low Cut EQ



The 'Cut' function of the Q8 is extremely thorough. Not only does it have High Cut and Low Cut, but it has multiple frequency cut-off points for both. To make this entire section of options available from a single user interface, we have made the High/Low Cut EQ module extensive.

1. In the upper left, you will notice the 'HI-LO-CUT' switch.

Use this mode to make both high and low cut filters available at the same time.

When in this mode, both the left red knob and right gold knob are activated.

Use the red knob marked as 'HI/LO-HIGH' to switch between a high cut-off frequency of 8kHz or 10kHz.

Use the gold knob marked 'HI/LO-LOW' to switch between a low cut-off frequency of 50Hz or 100Hz.

2. Use the 'HIGH CUT' switch to activate only the high cut filter. This means that the low frequencies remain unchanged while you can select between the high eq filters of 8kHz or 10kHz.

Use the gold knob to choose between these two frequencies.

3. Use the 'LOW CUT' switch to activate only the low cut filter. This means that the high frequencies remain unchanged while you can select between the low eq filters of 50Hz or 100Hz. Use the gold knob to choose between these two frequencies.

For both the High Cut switch and the Low Cut single switches, you will use only the gold knob to select your frequency choice. The red knob is only used when using the HIGH/LOW CUT switch.

Electronics



The Q8 has a wonderful, musical quality when using the electronics of the full signal path just for the sake of enhancing the sound of your music. The EQ is absolutely wonderful, unique, first class, but the electronics themselves are worth using to color entire mixes as well.

This this purpose, I have made the Electronics plug-in instance.

Use the 'EQ IN' switch to select the sound of the EQ circuit engaged along with the transformers and the rest of the signal chain, without any change made to the EQ.

Use the 'EQ OUT' switch to run your signal through the same signal path with the EQ circuit

completely bypassed for a slightly cleaner signal path.

The 'Drive' knob has been supplied to allow you to control the harmonic distortion of the electronics independent of the input/output levels for maximum flexibility. The actual harmonics are controlled at the 'Input' of the plug-in, where the 'Output' controls the digital final level without affecting the sound of the rest of the processing signal.

Although you can control the harmonics independently of the volume, remember I said that it is also multiple dynamic layers? This means that the volume of sound processed through the plug-in is taking into account the dynamic response, so the harmonics are actually tied to the volume. If you really want to be precise, use the "Input" knob to control whether you want more or less harmonic distortion response. The level that is entering the plug-in on this setting is intentionally set to its highest volume and the amount of non-linear distortion that can be generated, so that it is easy to generate this subtle effect for processing audio, But, if you have an incredibly quiet signal you can increase the input and it will turn up the level and also the harmonics- in perfect synch to the reaction of the Q8. Turn the input down if you have a hot signal running through the device and you want a complex harmonic response but not much of it.

I truly hope that you enjoy using the Q8!

Thank You so much, and God Bless You.

Sincerely,

Michael Angel

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