

time to



Fireface UFX

60-Channel 192 kHz USB & FireWire audio interface



Features

- 30 Input / 30 Output channels
- 12 x Analog I/O
- 4 x Mic / Instrument preamp with Advanced Parallel Conversion
- 1 x AES/EBU I/O
- 2 x ADAT I/O (or 1 x ADAT + SPDIF I/O optical)
- 2 x MIDI I/O
- 1 x Word Clock I/O
- FireWire and USB operation
- TotalMix FX with internal effects
- Integrated Monitoring Control
- Direct USB Recording
- optional Hardware Remote

60 channels of audio! Digitally controlled high-end preamps, reference class converters and complete 192 kHz operation. Ultra-low latency operation with USB OR FireWire combined with the legendary RME driver stability and maintenance.

Including active jitter suppression, professional reference level support, advanced stand-alone functionality, RME's unique DIGICheck metering and analysis toolbox and – of course – identical operation on Windows PC and Mac.

On top of it: TotalMix FX, the new digital high-end mixer and signal router, driven by two powerful DSP, with integrated EQ, Dynamics and Reverb/Echo effects up to 192 kHz plus built-in monitoring control and Direct USB Recording.

The full-blown feature set is backed up by an extraordinary usability. At its heart is a bright multi-functional color display with full front panel metering for all 60 channels plus effect bus, and complete control of all key features - directly from the front of the UFX.

Sound Quality

Like any other RME product the UFX combines excellent analog circuit design with high-grade AD/DA converter chips. Therefore all balanced TRS & XLR I/Os and both phones outputs guarantee outstanding low noise and distortion values. In best RME tradition and product philosophy converters and preamps don't produce "sound", they do not add or remove anything from the source signal, just capture it as it is. Due to its efficient jitter reduction, RME's superior SteadyClock guarantees state-of-the-art AD/DA conversion, even when clocking to an external digital source.

All I/Os operate up to 192 kHz and reach 118 dBA dynamic range on playback - even both headphone outputs. Their high power technology delivers high volume no matter if high or low impedance phones are used. The low-latency converter design from the high-end converter ADI-8 QS and the M-Series guarantees excellent S/N and THD specs across a wide analog level range.

Every input and output channel comes with a luxury feature and effect set, comparable to a full-scale digital console, including 3-band parametric EQ, adjustable Low Cut, Auto Leveler, Compressor, Expander, MS Processing and phase reversal. The Reverb and Echo effects unit is available for all channels by a stereo send and return bus. The UFX easily tops the competition by offering all these effects even at 192 kHz operation.

Preamps

The UFX provides four high-transparency preamps backed up by four stereo converters with RME's new Advanced Parallel Converter technology. The fully symmetrical preamp design impresses with extremely low distortion, excellent signal to noise ratio and a perfect linear frequency response.

Mic and Instrument preamps of the UFX use the core technology from RME's Micstasy - a high-end preamp for supreme sonic demands and critical applications, like the professional recording of classical concerts.

The digitally controlled gain of up to 65 dB, adjustable in steps of 1 dB over a range of 55 dB, is individually set for every preamp by the display-supported controls on the front of the UFX. All level settings are 100% reproducible and can also be adjusted comfortably with the TotalMix software from the host computer or via a MIDI remote controller.

The four inputs on the front use balanced XLR/TRS combo sockets and operate alternatively as Hi-Z inputs. Directly plug in up to four guitars or other instruments - it does not require any other hardware.

Advanced Parallel Conversion. All four UFX preamps are feeding not only four, but eight AD converters. Every Mic-pre channel uses a double, parallel AD conversion on two AD converters at the same time to reach exceptional signal-to-noise values and a performance not available with a classic converter design.

TotalMix FX

The DSP-based TotalMix mixer offers fully independent routing and mixing of all 30 input and playback channels to all 30 physical outputs. Up to 15 totally independent stereo submixes plus a luxury Control Room section offer unrivalled monitoring capabilities and unsurpassed routing flexibility.

The next generation, TotalMix FX, delivers hardware mixing/routing with lots of new features and a highly improved usability. For a seamless integration of the new features TotalMix FX has been rewritten from the ground up. The DSP mixer now not only matches features of high-end digital consoles but even adds the following effects on all input and output channels:

- 3-band parametric EQ plus Low Cut (up to 24 dB/Oct)
- Dynamics: Compressor/Expander
- Auto Level

The UFX provides a separate FX send bus feeding two effect engines: Reverb and Echo.

All effects are available even at 192 kHz.

The complete effects section not only adds a lot of flexibility to the recording chain, but makes latency burdened software dispensable.

TotalMix can easily replace any external mixer, e.g. to create different latency-free monitoring mixes with EQ and Reverb for the main studio monitors and the headphone of the vocalist(s) in the recording chamber.



Optional Remote Control

The addition provides a solid metal case with a main encoder dial and two push buttons. The unit allows to control the most important monitoring functions of the Fireface UFX:

- Volume control
- DIM
- Recall and store of a reference level for the main out



Monitor Controller

The UFX is not only a perfect desktop level controller, but a monitor switcher and source selector with integrated talkback function for modern Mix-In-the-Box studios which are based on software DAWs.

As the UFX includes the usually externally added monitoring controller, it also preserves the original sound, as its hardware output stays directly connected to the studio monitors.

The control room features work hand in hand with the control room section of TotalMix. A flexible management allows you to assign any physical output to the three, directly knob-controlled monitor outputs. E.g. just assign the AES/EBU output as Main Out, or as Phones Out - any output can be used.

Talkback, Listenback, Mono, Dim - all these features work automatically for the assigned outputs in the expected way. Convenience at its best.

USB & FireWire

The UFX combines USB and FireWire, Made by RME, within one interface and has been uncompromisingly optimized for highest performance under Windows and Mac OS. It uses a special customized firmware for every operating system. Like other RME interfaces, the UFX provides revolutionary ultra-low latencies even with multiple channels.

Display

To maintain the best usability for this huge feature set, RME integrated a high resolution color display into the front panel. In combination with a trio of rotary encoders all features of the UFX can be manually controlled directly on the UFX itself. TotalMix FX on Mac and PC is synced to the interface controls and follows all changes automatically.

Drivers

- Windows 7 / Vista / XP SP2 (32 & 64 bit)
- Apple Mac OS X 10.5 Intel or up (Core Audio)

Windows and Mac OS X drivers are completely identical in terms of features and functionality.

* Some features in DIGICheck - the included RME metering and measurement software - are not yet available in the Mac version.



Direct USB Recording

Recording & playback without computer and software.

All 30 inputs and 30 outputs.

On USB stick or hard disc.



The UFX features an integrated recorder for all inputs and outputs directly to USB memory devices at up to 2 TB.

Live concerts, band rehearsals or spontaneous jam sessions can be recorded and played from the medium. Individual channels can be chosen for recording and the playback afterwards.

The UFX records the pure input signals as well as the processed mixer outputs in any combination. The channels to be recorded can be selected directly at the unit or comfortably in TotalMix FX. Playback supports up to 30 channels, either into the UFX outputs or the mixer inputs, enabling a post-processing of the audio data. The UFX also plays back standard wav files that had been copied to the USB memory externally. For all this to work comfortably and safe the Recorder has been integrated not only into the unit, but also as addition into TotalMix FX.

Awards



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