

## Sony Oxford Limiter Plug-In

For ProTools users, Sony Oxford has a truly reliable tool to maximize stereo mix levels right up to the legal limit. Legal meaning no overloads that CD pressing plants could reject your master CD for replication. The *Oxford Limiter* is a specially designed program limiter that uses logarithmic side chain processing, adaptive timing functionality and look-ahead techniques.



I installed this wonder in my ProTools HD3 Accel rig and immediately put it to work on my mix of a new parade theme for a chain of amusement parks. Using this plug-in is somewhat like using any compressor/limiter with Gain Reduction meter, Input Gain, Attack, Release, Variable Soft Knee controls, but you should study the manual beforehand to get the most out of it and your mix.

I used it on the master stereo buss and adjusted it until I had more loudness, with minimal side effects — dulling the high frequencies and the dynamic “pumping and breathing” of the track. The *Oxford Limiter* is a powerful tool and has very exacting metering that can be trusted to tell when you are overloading the mix buss and the TDM buss or exceeding the maximum allowable output level for 16-bit CDs. In fact, the meters indicate inter-sample overloads and then the Auto feature allows for dynamic correction of reconstruction overloads in real-time. The Enhance function allows volume and punch to be applied beyond what is available from conventional limiters without over-loading.

Finally, there are full dither facilities available including variable depth noise shaping for better mastering output quality in either 24- or 16-bit final master files.

The *Oxford Limiter* Plug-in for ProTools TDM (PTH-LIMG2) has become a mainstay — a requirement on all my mixes and sells for \$530 MSRP while the LE version (PTL-LIMG2) goes for \$350. More information is available at [www.sonyplugins.com](http://www.sonyplugins.com).

