## Digital Dynamics Processor



## **Operator Manual**







**WARNING:** TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK DO NOT EXPOSE THIS EQUIPMENT TO RAIN OR MOISTURE

The symbols shown above are internationally accepted symbols that warn of potential hazards with electrical products. The lightning flash with arrowpoint in an equilateral triangle means that there are dangerous voltages present within the unit. The exclamation point in an equilateral triangle indicates that it is necessary for the user to refer to the owner's manual.

These symbols warn that there are no user serviceable parts inside the unit. Do not open the unit. Do not attempt to service the unit yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified personnel. Opening the chassis for any reason will void the manufacturer's warranty. Do not get the unit wet. If liquid is spilled on the unit, shut it off immediately and take it to a dealer for service. Disconnect the unit during storms to prevent damage.

## U.K. MAINS PLUG WARNING

A moulded mains plug that has been cut off from the cord is unsafe. Discard the mains plug at a suitable disposal facility. **NEVER UNDER ANY CIRCUM-STANCES SHOULD YOU INSERT A DAMAGED OR CUT MAINS PLUG INTO A 13 AMP POWER SOCKET.** Do not use the mains plug without the fuse cover in place. Replacement fuse covers can be obtained from your local retailer. Replacement fuses are 13 amps and MUST be ASTA approved to BS1362.

### SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

NOTICE FOR CUSTOMERS IF YOUR UNIT IS EQUIPPED WITH A POWER CORD.

#### WARNING: THIS APPLIANCE MUST BE EARTHED.

The cores in the mains lead are coloured in accordance with the following code:

GREEN and YELLOW - Earth BLUE - Neutral BROWN - Live

As colours of the cores in the mains lead of this appliance may not correspond with the coloured markings identifying the terminals in your plug, proceed as follows:

- The core which is coloured green and yellow must be connected to the terminal in the plug marked with the letter E, or with the earth symbol, or coloured green, or green and yellow.
- The core which is coloured blue must be connected to the terminal marked N or coloured black.
- The core which is coloured brown must be connected to the terminal marked L or coloured red.

This equipment may require the use of a different line cord, attachment plug, or both, depending on the available power source at installation. If the attachment plug needs to be changed, refer servicing to qualified service personnel who should refer to the table below. The green/yellow wire shall be connected directly to the unit's chassis.

CONDUCTOR		WIRE COLOR			
		Normal	Alt		
L	LIVE	BROWN	BLACK		
Ν	NEUTRAL	BLUE	WHITE		
Е	EARTH GND	GREEN/YEL	GREEN		

**WARNING:** If the ground is defeated, certain fault conditions in the unit or in the system to which it is connected can result in full line voltage between chassis and earth ground. Severe injury or death can then result if the chassis and earth ground are touched simultaneously.

## WARNING

#### FOR YOUR PROTECTION, PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING:

WATER AND MOISTURE: Appliance should not be used near water (e.g. near a bathtub, washbowl, kitchen sink, laundry tub, in a wet basement, or near a swimming pool, etc). Care should be taken so that objects do not fall and liquids are not spilled into the enclosure through openings.

 $\ensuremath{\text{POWER}}$  Sources: The appliance should be connected to a power supply only of the type described in the operating instructions or as marked on the appliance.

**GROUNDING OR POLARIZATION:** Precautions should be taken so that the grounding or polarization means of an appliance is not defeated.

**POWER CORD PROTECTION:** Power supply cords should be routed so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them, paying particular attention to cords at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the appliance.

SERVICING: To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, the user should not attempt to service the appliance beyond that described in the operating instructions. All other servicing should be referred to qualified service personnel.

FOR UNITS EQUIPPED WITH EXTERNALLY ACCESSIBLE FUSE RECEPTACLE: Replace fuse with same type and rating only.

MULTIPLE-INPUT VOLTAGE: This equipment may require the use of a different line cord, attachment plug, or both, depending on the available power source at installation. Connect this equipment only to the power source indicated on the equipment rear panel. To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, refer servicing to qualified service personnel or equivalent.

## ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY

This unit conforms to the Product Specifications noted on the **Declaration of Conformity**. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- this device may not cause harmful interference, and
- this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Operation of this unit within significant electromagnetic fields should be avoided.

• use only shielded interconnecting cables.

## **DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY**

Manufacturer's Name: Manufacturer's Address: dbx Professional Products 8760 S. Sandy Parkway Sandy, Utah 84070, USA

declares that the product:

dbx DDP

conforms to the following Product Specifications:

Safety: EN 60065 (1993) IEC65 (1985) with Amendments 1, 2, 3

EMC: EN 55013 (1990) EN 55020 (1991)

Supplementary Information:

The product herewith complies with the requirements of the Low Voltage Directive 73/23/EEC and the EMC Directive 89/336/EEC as amended by Directive 93/68/EEC.

dbx Professional Products Vice-President of Engineering 8760 S. Sandy Parkway Sandy, Utah 84070, USA March 31,1998

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## Manual Contents

Unpack	.2
Quickstart	.2
Section 2: The DDD Town	2
	ט. כ
	ی. م
Pront Panel / Display	ی. م
	ی. م
	.4
	.0
	.J 5
	.0
Compressor Section	.9 5
	.5 -
	.5
Sidechain EQ Section	.5
Section 3: Setup / Basic Operation	Б
Analog Connections	6
Digital Connections	6
Midi Connections	.0
The Curve Window	7
Software Navigation	.,
Threshold Meterina	.0
Operating Modes	.9
Program Mode	.0
The Bynass Button	.0 10
Setun Mode	10 10
Ext. S-chain and the Digital Meters	.10
Viewing Elements of a Chain	 1 .
Linked Programs	12
	12
	. 10
Section 1: Editing /Decalling /Serving	
Jechon 4. Euning/ necanny/ Javing	
Presets	14
Presets	14 .14
Section 4. Euting/ Recalling/ Saving   Presets   The Store Button   Moving Around	14 .14 .14
Section 4. Earling/ Recalling/ Saving   Presets   The Store Button   Moving Around   Editina Gates	14 .14 .14 .14
Section 4. Euting/ Recalling/ Saving   Presets   The Store Button   Moving Around   Editing Gates   Editing Compressors	14 .14 .14 .14 .15
Section 4. Editing/Recalling/Saving   Presets   The Store Button   Moving Around   Editing Gates   Editing Compressors   Editing Limiters	14 .14 .14 .14 .15 .17
Section 4. Earling/ Recalling/ Saving   Presets   The Store Button   Moving Around   Editing Gates   Editing Compressors   Editing Limiters   Editing De-Essers	14 .14 .14 .14 .15 .17 .18
Section 4. Editing/Recalling/Saving   Presets   The Store Button   Moving Around   Editing Gates   Editing Compressors   Editing Limiters   Editing De-Essers   Editing the Sidechain FQ	14 .14 .14 .14 .15 .17 .18 .18

More About Sidechain EQ	.19
Changing Chain Types	.20
Saving Programs and Setups	.20
Saving a Program	.20
Saving a Setup	.21
Replace Old	.21
Store New	.21
Section 5: Utility Functions	.23
Contrast	.23
Sample Rate	.23
AutoLoad	.23
Digital Input Mode	.23
Digital Output Mode	.24
Digital Input Level Controls	.24
MIDI	.24
SysEx	.24
A/D Calibration	.24
Section 6: Appendices	.25
APPENDIX 1: Misc. Information	.25
Hard Reset	.25
Change Default Startup Program	.25
Front Panel Lockout	.25
TYPE IV™ Conversion System	.25
TSE™ Tape Saturation Emulation	.25
TCM™ Transient Capture Mode	.26
Appendix 2: Factory Setup Listing	.27
Appendix 3: Factory Program Listing	.29
Appendix 4: MIDI/SysEx/CC Guide	.30
Midi Basics	.30
MIDI Channels	.30
MIDI Changes	.30
Continuous Controller Listing	.30
SysEx Basics	.31
General Format	.31
Hex Value Definitions	.31
Procedures	.31
SysEx Program Dump Sample	.34
Appendix 5: Factory Service / Warranty	.35
Appendix 6: Specifications	.36

1

## COX PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

## Section 1: Introduction

Congratulations on your purchase of the dbx DDP Digital Dynamics Processor. For over 25 years dbx has been the industry leader in dynamics processing. With the introduction of the DDP, we take that same leadership into the digital domain. We are sure you will find the DDP able to meet all your dynamics control needs.

This manual will be your key to understanding the full functionality of the powerful DDP. Read it carefully. After you have become familiar with the unit, we encourage you to experiment and find creative ways that the DDP can make you a better musician and engineer.

## Unpack

Your DDP was carefully manufactured, tested, burned in, and packaged at the dbx factory. Before you proceed further, make sure the following items are included in your packaging:

- dbx DDP Digital Dynamics Processor
- Operator's manual
- Power cord
- Warranty registration card

You should save all packaging materials if possible. They were designed to protect the unit during shipping, and in the unlikely event that your DDP should require service, use only the factory packaging to return it to the factory.

## Quickstart

If you are one who prefers to plug and play and read later, follow these simple instructions for setting up the DDP, and get on your way:

- 1. Make sure that AC power is not connected to the DDP. Turn off the power to your console, recorder, and other devices in your setup.
- 2. Make audio connections in one of several ways:
  - A. Wire the analog inputs and outputs into a patch bay. This method will prove to be the most useful in the long run.
  - B. Connect the DDP's inputs and outputs directly to the insert point of a console's input strip, group output, auxiliary send and return, or main outputs.
  - C. Connect the DDP's input to another device's outputs, and connect the DDP's outputs to the line inputs of a console.
- 3. With the power switch in the OFF position, connect the power cable (included) to the DDP.
- 4. Press the LightPipe METER SELECT switch IN to select the INPUT meters for the analog signal. Turn the analog audio input level pots all the way to the OFF (-∞) position (fully counter-clockwise). Apply power to the other devices in the setup first, then the DDP. The DDP "wakes up" in the default program mode. You may use the large wheel to the right of the screen to scroll through the various programs.
- 5. When you have a program selected that suits your application, you can start making sound: make sure there is signal arriving at the DDP's input, and begin to turn up the INPUT level pots until the LightPipe input meters are peaking at, but not above "+12". And away you go!

FOR OPTIMUM PERFORMANCE FROM THE DDP, MAKE SURE TO USE PROPER INPUT LEVELS.

## Section 2: The DDP Tour

## HARDWARE Front Panel



### Analog Input and Output Level Controls

These controls adjust the analog audio levels of the DDP at the input and output stages. Note that the analog output level controls do not affect any digital processing or digital output levels. However, the analog outputs still function while the digital outputs are engaged.

#### Meter Select Switches

These lightpipe switches select between analog input and output monitoring for the Level Meters.

### Level Meters

These meters monitor either analog input or output, depending on the orientation of the Meter Select Buttons.

## LCD Display

The large LCD display shows the program, curve, digital meters, parameters, and modules selected by the **Function** Buttons and the **Data Wheel.** 

### Data Wheel

The Data Wheel changes selected parameters, programs and modules.

#### Function Buttons

The Function buttons activate the programs, modules, utilities, and parameters of the DDP.

#### Power Switch

Turns the DDP on and off.

## Rear Panel



#### *IEC Power Cord Receptacle* IEC Power Cord Receptacle.

## Digital I/O (Optional)

The optional Digital I/O card provides digital input and output capabilities in either AES/EBU or S/PDIF formats at 24bit word lengths.

## MIDI In and Out/Thru Connectors

These connectors provide full MIDI functionality to the DDP. The Out/Thru jack allows you to use the DDP at any point in the MIDI chain. All automation functions are accessed through the MIDI connectors.

## Analog Inputs and Outputs

Each analog channel features both XLR and 1/4" TRS electronically balanced inputs and outputs. They may be used in a balanced or unbalanced configuration. To use unbalanced signal, use a 1/4" TS jack, or ground pin 3 of the XLR cable.

# Section 2: The DDP Tour

## Signal Flow

The following simple illustrations show how audio signal flows through the DDP, and how the LCD display works. They will help you to understand where the DDP's metering points are located, as well as identify the various elements of the LCD display.



Figure 1: DDP Signal Flow



Figure 2: DDP LCD display

## Section 2: The DDP Tour

## SOFTWARE

The DDP software works on a "building-block" philosophy. Every program number consists of a processing "setup" which is built from processing elements that make up a "chain". The chain elements may be used in different combinations to produce a desired effect. Once the desired effect is reached, you may rename and save the setup to a user library area. The setup's chain may consist of any or all of the following: gating effects, compression effects, limiting effects, parametric EQ, sidechain parametric EQ effects, and/or de-essing effects. There are several preset mono and linked setups. For a complete listing of the setups in the DDP, see section 6. Processing setups are linked together using True RMS Power Summing<sup>™</sup> (see section 8) for superior stereo operation, or two separate setups may be used in dual mono mode. Each element of the chain has a full complement of parameters that can be manipulated very precisely via the **Function** buttons and the **Data Wheel**. The following figure shows the hierarchal building block system used in the DDP.



Figure 3: Program Components

#### Setups and Programs

Setups are recalled, manipulated and stored individually. Setups must be recalled into programs before they can be accessed for use. Each program has a number assigned to it, and can consist of one or two setups: channel 1 and/or channel 2. Following is a brief description of the various processor elements that make up the DDP processing software.

#### Gate:

The gate is a dbx expander/gate which gives control over the "ramp" or ratio of the opening, There are also Attack, Hold, and Release times available. Transient Capture  $Mode^{TM}$  is also found in the Gate section, with variable delay times available.

For a complete list of the parameters available in the gate, see section 4. For an explanation of **Transient Capture Mode**, and its implementation in the DDP, see Section 6.

#### Compressor:

The compressor offers comprehensive control over all parameters. OverEasy® is present, with a variable knee feature (VariKnee<sup>M</sup>) found only on the DDP. Auto attack and release, and a hold feature make the compressor more unique than other compressors.

For a complete list of the parameters available in the compressor, see section 4.

#### Limiter:

The limiter offers precise control over Threshold, Attack, and Release. Release times are set in the measurement standard dB/ms.

For a complete description of the limiter, see section 4.

#### De-Esser:

The DDP's de-esser allows a wide frequency control range between 800Hz and 8kHz. The range is wide enough to accomplish the most demanding of de-essing needs.

For a complete list of the parameters available in the de-esser, see section 4.

#### Sidechain EQ / In-Line EQ:

The DDP offers you the ability to do EQ processing in the sidechain circuit without having to hook up an extra unit. It's easy to perform frequency-specific contouring functions all within the DDP's software. Also in the EQ section is the new **TSE**<sup>TM</sup> **Tape Saturation Emulation** algorithm, which works in tandem with the TYPE IV<sup>TM</sup> Conversion System to capture the essence of any analog signal in a pleasing way never accomplished before.

For an explanation of the EQ functions of the DDP, see section 4. For information on the **TYPE IV<sup>TM</sup> Conversion System** and its implementation in the DDP see Section 6.

## ANALOG CONNECTIONS

The DDP is designed to interface as easily as possible to your system. To that end, it may be used in the insert path of a console, in a patch bay, or as a group output processor. Figure 4 shows the DDP used in an insert point of a console. Analog audio connections are made using standard XLR or 1/4" TRS cables. The rear panel is marked as "Channel One" and "Channel Two" to correspond to the way the DDP's software identifies the two channels of audio. If you are used to using the "left/right" identifiers and plan to use the DDP in such a system, just ensure that each channel of the DDP is consistent in its hookups between the inputs and the outputs (ie: if you use the DDP's Channel One input in the "left" side of your system, make sure that Channel One's output also goes to the "left" side of your system). Refer to the illustration of the DDP rear panel on the previous page.

The DDP uses wide ranging analog input and output gain pots that allow the use of either -10dBV or +4dBu connections without the use of a sensitivity selection switch.



Figure 4: DDP Insert Path Connections

## DIGITAL CONNECTIONS

If you have purchased the optional digital input / output module for your DDP, you have the ability to perform complex dynamics processing tasks on digital signals without having to leave the digital domain. The DDP Digital I/O also offers the ability to convert analog to digital signals using the proprietary dbx TYPE IV<sup>™</sup> Conversion System. The dbx TYPE IV<sup>™</sup> algorithms capture an analog signal into the digital domain while maintaining the best qualities of an analog recording, and minimizing the sometimes harsh qualities of digital recordings.

When the digital card is installed in the DDP, the analog outputs are still operative, giving you simultaneous analog and digital output. When digital input is selected via the **Utilities** button, the analog inputs are disabled. For a complete description of the Utilities functions see Section 5.



Figure 5: The DDP rear panel

## MIDI CONNECTIONS

The DDP has a full complement of MIDI functionality. The MIDI connectors on the Rear Panel are configured in the traditional way: with an "In" jack and an "Out/Thru" jack. The DDP can be used in common MIDI systems at any point in the MIDI chain. MIDI setup functions are accessed with the **Utilities** button and are generally the same as the functionality you are used to with most other MIDI devices. Program numbers and setups may be changed and bypassed via the standard MIDI commands. In addition, presets may be saved off of the DDP and reloaded via the MIDI functions. Full SysEx and Continuous Controller functions are also a part of the DDP's architecture. A full explanation of the MIDI, SysEx and CC functions are discussed in Section 5.

## THE CURVE WINDOW

After you have chosen a program, you will want to change some of the parameters to meet your specific needs. One of the most useful tools available on the DDP for setting up a proper compression curve is the curve window. In the curve window you can see the combined effects of all compression-related parameters expressed in a graphical format. The figure below shows the different parts of the curve window you will see as you edit the gate, compressor, and limiter functions of the DDP.

When working with the sidechain EQ, or the in-line EQ, the curve window changes to show a graphical representation of the 3 parametric bands in a frequency grid. Your adjustments to the three bands are shown in real time.

Additionally, the de-esser has its own graphical way of displaying its parameters, as seen above. The frequency is shown on the bottom, or X axis, and the amount is shown on the side, or Y axis. Again, changes to the parameters are updated in real time.



Figure 6:The compression curve window, the EQ window, and the De-Esser window

## SOFTWARE NAVIGATION Threshold Metering

On every program, you will find threshold metering for each element of the processing setup. These take the same form as the now-standard dbx 10 Series processors' threshold meters: a plus (+) or minus (-) sign in a square box.



## Figure 7: The DDP's threshold meters

## Compressor C = O +

For the compressor, the threshold meter has three segments. (See figure 7 above.) The first is the minus (-) sign. It indicates that the threshold that is set in the compressor section is not being exceeded by the program material. There is no processing taking place in the compressor section if the threshold is not being exceeded, no matter what the other compressor settings are. The next part of the threshold meter is the "o". It represents the OverEasy range of compression. When the signal level is in the OverEasy® range, the "o" part of the meter will be blackened, indicating that the signal is in the soft knee mode of compression. (For a complete explanation of the OverEasy® parameter, see section 4.) The third segment of the compressor meter is the plus (+) sign. It is blackened when the signal is being fully compressed at the ratio set by the Ratio Parameter control.

## Limiter L=+

The limiter's threshold meter works on the same principle: when the signal is under the threshold setting (which is set in the limiter section), the signal is not being processed by the limiter section. If the DDP's screen shows that you are getting gain reduction, it is through some other chain element. To determine which element is triggering gain reduction, look at the other threshold meters to determine which element's threshold is being exceeded by the signal. When the signal exceeds the threshold set in the limiter section, the plus (+) sign will darken, and gain reduction will begin to occur as a result of the signal exceeding the limiter's threshold.

## Gate G-+

When the signal is under the threshold set in the gate section, the gate is "closed", or signal is not being passed through. The gate section is before the compressor and limiter sections in all chain types, and if the signal is not being passed through the gate, the other elements of the chain will not be activated. When the signal is under the threshold, the minus (-) sign is darkened, and when the signal passes over the threshold, the plus (+) sign is darkened

## De-Esser DH

The De-esser also has a threshold meter. The threshold meter for this element is also displayed in the upper left corner. When the plus sign is reversed - white "+" on black background, the threshold has been exceeded and de-essing is being applied to the signal.

### **Operating Modes** Program Mode

The DDP comes ready to turn on in "Program Mode". There are a series of 50 factory programs, as well as enough room to name and store up to 50 of your own programs. The factory designed programs have been given obvious names, according to application and should be a good jumping off point for all of your processing needs. They cannot be erased. Their names and characteristics are listed in section 5. At the factory, the factory-designed programs were also copied into the re-writable user program area. A program can be erased at any time by saving a program in its place.

After you have set up and turned on the DDP, it will be in "program" mode and will show something like the following in the middle section of the LCD display screen:



Figure 8: Sample display showing Program #28, Setup 1 is "small Voc" and Setup 2 is "De-Ess Voc".

The large number on the display indicates the program number. It is the method used to bookmark programs, and all programs have a program number. Each program can store either a linked setup, or two dual mono setups.

There are two ways to take a look at the setup for any program:

1. While in "program" mode, the display will show the chain for each setup in the curve window, located on the far right side of the display. The abbreviation for each chain element is as follows:



Figure 9: Display showing elements of each setup in a dual mono program.

O DX PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

## Section 3: Setup / Basic Operation

2. Press the "CH 1" or "CH 2" button, (depending on which setup you want to look at) while the "program" button's light is on. This method only lets you see the setup for one channel at a time. The contents of the setup, or the setup's chain, will be displayed in the third line of text. As you do this, the program LED will go off, and the LED on the button you pressed will light, indicating that you are now looking at channel one's (or two's) setup. In addition to this telemetry, there will be text which says "USER setup" or "FACTORY Setup" in the curve window on the far right side of the display. By turning the Data Wheel, you can scroll through them. You will notice the various factory setups as well as all your user setups. You can store up to 100 linked setups, and 100 mono setups. As you do more projects with your DDP, you will begin to gather all types of setups that you have designed and saved for yourself. You are now in "setup" mode. Using the Data Wheel, scroll through the available setups for the program you have chosen. You will see the 3 linked chain types if you are in a linked program number, or you will see the 6 chains for mono setups if you are in a dual mono program number.

To get out of setup mode and back to program mode, simply touch the program button. The LED associated with the **Channel** button will turn off and the **Program** button LED will turn on.



		Gain Reduction	
		0	
	Link	1	
	2	2 3	
		4	
		6	
	ZEUI Catura	9	ISER Sotup
<	LUI DELAR	12	
		18	
	Race Domo	21	
	Dass Deno	25	
		30	
	HIJƏLƏH MEƏL	35	
		40	

Figure 10: Function buttons and LCD display in chain mode.

While in program mode, you may scroll through the different factory designed programs by simply turning the **Data Wheel**. By default, the DDP is shipped with the AutoLoad feature activated. This means that the program number displayed on the screen is the one which is active, scrolling though the programs cancels any changes you made to the program you last edited. (See Section 4 for details on editing and storing programs and chains, and Section 5 for more information on AutoLoad and other utility features) In AutoLoad mode, it's best to scroll through programs while in "**Bypass**" mode. Enter **Bypass** mode by pressing the Bypass button. Its LED will light indicating that the DDP is in **Bypass** mode.

## The Bypass Button

The **Bypass** button on the DDP works like an analog processor, in order to give you more visual feedback. When you engage the bypass mode, the DDP's meters continue to operate, giving you the ability to change and adjust parameters while bypassed. Refer to figure 1 for more information on where the DDP's metering points are located. It may take a little practice to adjust parameters without being able to hear the effects of the adjustments. However, this feature is very useful in that it allows you to change programs, setups or parameters in a live situation without subjecting your audio system or an audience to the sudden change. Simply bypass the DDP, make your changes, make sure the meters are showing the desired effect, then take the DDP out of Bypass mode.

## Setup Mode

Setup mode is the method by which you will manipulate parameters to make them fit your application exactly. While every effort was made to produce factory presets that work for most applications, it should be noted that no two systems, situations or applications are exactly alike. Therefore you will have to change and fine tune the parameters in the chains that have been provided for you. As you become familiar with this process, you will become more adventurous and creative in setting up your DDP for various applications. In dual mono mode, each chain is manipulated separately. In linked mode, the stereo pair shows up on the screen as one chain, and therefore only needs to be edited once.

There are three different linked chain sequences built in to the DDP. From these sequences you can build your own unique chains in order to fit your needs. They are listed below.

## **LINKED** chains

The following chain types are available in any Linked Setups:



Figure 11: Available linked chains



Chan. 2 OUT Chan. 2 IN Figure 12: DDP Linked Chain Type #3 Audio Connections

## External Sidechain and the Digital Meters

The DDP's external sidechain path offers you the ability to use other processors in the sidechain path. The digital meters give you comprehensive feedback for ease of setup. Note in figure 12 above where the metering points are for the digital meters when the DDP is in external sidechain mode. The Channel One meters will be showing signal whether or not there is signal being passed through the sidechain. The Channel Two meters also show on the way to the sidechain device as well as coming back form the device. When you press the **Bypass** button in sidechain mode, both input meters will continue to operate, allowing you to see levels while bypassed.

PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

## Section 3: Setup / Basic Operation

There are also six different mono chains available to any dual mono program on the DDP. Three have in-line 3band parametric EQ and three have sidechain EQ. They are as follows:



Figure 13: Available Mono Chains

12

From Program Mode (press the **Program** button), you can enter setup mode by pressing either the "**CH 1**" button or the "**CH 2**" button. Notice that when you do, several things happen on the screen:

1. The reversed-text channel number (either "1" or "2") to the right of the program number will light, indicating the "active" channel. The other number will go out. (If you are working with a linked setup, both the "1" and "2" will light, as well as the word "link" between the two numbers.)



Setup mode in dual mono



Setup mode in linked mode

- 2. The first line of text says. "Ch 1 Setup". The second line of text indicates the setup's title.
- 3. The third line of text shows the elements of the setup's chain in their proper order.
- 4. The curve window shows text reading "FACTORY setup", or "USER setup".
- 5. Using the **Data Wheel**, scroll through the available setups. You should recognize these from the previous pages. The chain that is displayed in the window is the one that is active. All the DDP's factory setup names are listed in Appendix #1, page 24.

#### Viewing Elements of a Chain

Individual elements of every setup chain may be viewed and their parameters manipulated. We have provided you with a full slate of parameters for each element. They are described in section 4.

### **Linked Programs**

Select a linked program. If you want to edit the parameters of a linked setup, simply press the function button that corresponds to the element you want to edit. For example, if you wish to edit the parameters of the compressor, just press the compressor button. It will light up, as will the compressor icon to the right of the program number on the DDP's display, indicating that you are ready to edit the parameters of the compressor. As you do so, the STORE button will light indicating that you have made changes to the parameters and must store them in order for them to be saved for later use.

#### **Dual-Mono Programs**

Using a dual mono program number, (one without the "LINK" icon lit between the "CH1" and "CH2" icons) select the element you wish to edit by simply pressing the corresponding function button, like the **Compressor** button, for example. Note that as you do, the icon corresponding to the element lights up beside the program number, the function button lights up, and the top line of text shows the element being edited. Also note that either the CH1 or CH2 icon is lit. It lets you know which channel's compressor you are editing, for example. To edit the other channel's compressor, simply press the **Compressor** button again. Everything stays the same except for the CH1 icon has turned off and the CH2 is lit. You can switch between channels in this way from any chain element. If the CH1 and CH2 setups are different from each other, trying to switch to an element not present in the other setup will result in nothing happening at all. You will remain in the channel that contains the element you selected.

## THE STORE BUTTON

Whenever a parameter has been changed, the **Store** button will light, prompting you that there have been changes made to the setup. If you want to keep the changes, you must store the new setup. You may choose to rename and save the setup in the setup library. Or you may choose to abandon your changes when you leave the program for another one. Refer to the end of this section on page 20 for complete instructions for saving setups.

## MOVING AROUND

Since there are only three parameters viewed at any one time it is necessary to have multiple "pages" of parameters. The gate has three pages of parameters. For example, on the first page of the gate section there is: Gate ON /OFF, Threshold, and Ratio. The next page can be seen by pressing the **NEXT PAGE** / **PREV PAGE** buttons. The number of the current page is shown to the right of the program number and under the chain identifying numbers in reversed-text. The parameters on page 2 are: Attack, Hold and Release. The third and last page has Transient Capture Mode<sup>TM</sup> On / Off, and TCM Time. For a full explanation of Transient Capture Mode, see Section 6.

The **SELECT** button moves the cursor between the three lines of parameters on each page, and the **DATA** wheel changes the parameter that is selected. Note that in order for any changes to be heard, the element must first be in the "on" position.

## EDITING GATES

## Parameters of the Gate

The parameters included on the DDP for gating operations are as follows:



Figure 14: Gate parameters and curve

**Off/on**: This is a bypass for the gate section. Turning it to "off" deactivates the minus (-) section of the threshold meter, and the plus (+) sign is darkened, indicating that the gate is passing signal through, regardless of the other gate settings.

**Threshold range from -75dB to 0dB**: The threshold range goes from -75dB to 0dB. With the threshold set towards -75dB, it takes less signal level to "open" the gate. A setting closer to 0dB requires more amplitude or level to open the gate. As you move the threshold around, notice the behavior of the curve window. The "knee" of the threshold moves up and down according to your setting. Moving the threshold "up" means it takes a louder signal to exceed the threshold.

**Ratio from 1:1 to 1:**∞: The gate ratio sets the amount of gain reduction. (With a lower ratio setting, the gain reduction is lower than a higher ratio.) For mild gating effects, or downward expansion, set the ratio around 1:2, or for more extreme effects set it to 1:∞. For example, a setting of 1:2 means that for every 1dB that the signal is below the threshold (say, 4, for example), the gate imposes 2dB of gain reduction on the signal (for a total of 8dB in this example). As you move the ratio control around, notice the action of the curve in the curve window.

**Attack control from 0.1ms to 200ms**: As the signal reaches the threshold area, the Attack control sets the speed at which the gate opens. Use very fast attack times to catch the fronts of transient signals.

Hold from 0ms to 500ms: The Hold control sets the amount of time the gate is held open after the signal passes below the threshold point.

**Release from 360dB/sec to 5dB/sec**: Release sets the speed at which the gate "closes" when the end of the Hold time is reached.

**TCM**<sup>TM</sup> **Off/on:** Transient Capture Mode is the method by which the gate is able to catch the very beginnings of fast transient signals. Using TCM<sup>TM</sup> results in a smoother sounding signal, because of the increased ability to use slightly less aggressive settings and still achieve the desired effects in gating, compression, and limiting.

**TCM time from 0µs to 3ms**: TCM delay time is variable in the length of time it delays the audio signal, allowing the detectors to begin to react to the signal. For a complete explanation of TCM<sup>TM</sup> Transient Capture Mode<sup>TM</sup>, see section 6.

## EDITING COMPRESSORS

#### Parameters of the Compressor

The parameters included on the DDP for compression operations are as follows:



Figure 15: Compressor parameters and curve

**Off/on**: As with the gate, the compressor section must be turned on. The curve window will show the compression threshold, as well as the ratio and gain levels.

**dbx OverEasy® off, knees 1-10**: Activating the OverEasy® threshold characteristic softens the compression knee, making the transition between uncompressed and compressed signal as seamless as possible. In addition to having the on/off setting, you may choose varying knee slopes with the VariKnee<sup>™</sup> variable knee algorithm (see figure below). Selecting knee #1 activates the curve next to the hard knee curve, #2 selects the next softer knee, etc., up to knee #10, which is the softest knee.



**DX** PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

## Section 4: Editing / Saving / Recalling Programs

**Auto mode off/on**: Activating Auto mode disables the Attack, Hold and Release controls, triggering a message to that effect in the curve window. Attack and release settings become fully program-dependent, and manual changes in the settings do not have any effect on the audio signal or the response of the compressor. Auto mode is especially effective on signals such as vocals or other highly dynamic signals. Most factory setups use Auto mode because of its ability to perform smooth compression under widely varying circumstances.

## When Auto Mode is activated, the Attack, Hold and Release controls are program-dependent and are not affected by your manual settings.

**Threshold range from -60dB to +4dB**: Setting the threshold is the same on the compressor as it is on the gate or limiter. There is a visual representation of the threshold on the curve window, and as you edit the parameter, you will see motion up or down on the curve window, allowing much greater understanding of the effects of each parameter on the entire compression algorithm.

**Ratio from 1:1 through**  $\infty$ :1: As the signal passes through the threshold region, it begins to be compressed at the rate set with the ratio setting. It is expressed in a ratio for ease of use, for example, with a ratio setting of 4:1, the signal would have to increase by 4dB in input to increase the output by 1dB. With the wide-ranging control on the DDP, it is possible to achieve very smooth, transparent compression as well as heavy, in-your-face compression effects.

**Gain from -20dB to +20dB**: When a signal is compressed, by definition some of its gain is taken away. It therefore becomes necessary to boost the now-compressed signal back up to a useable level. As you make this adjustment you can see the effect in the curve window. The compressed signal is now more dynamically controlled and can be boosted to a level that was not possible before it was compressed.

**Attack control from 0.1ms to 200ms**: As the signal exceeds the threshold, the speed at which the compressor begins to react is set by the Attack control. Its range is from very fast to somewhat slow, allowing you to have all the control you want. The Attack control is active when not in Auto mode (see Auto mode above).

**Hold from 0ms to 500ms**: Hold sets the minimum gain reduction amount for a determined amount of time, after the the signal passes below the threshold. If the signal goes back above the threshold, the hold time is "restarted" and will hold the compressor at that amount of gain reduction for the set time, after the signal once again moves below the threshold. The Hold control is active when not in Auto mode (see Auto mode above).

**Release from 360dB/sec to 5dB/sec**: The release control sets the speed at which the signal is returned to the normal signal after it has gone below the threshold, and the Hold time has been exceeded. The Release control is active when not in Auto mode (see Auto mode above).

## EDITING LIMITERS

Parameters of the Limiter

The parameters included on the DDP for limiting operations are as follows:



Figure 17: Limiter parameters and curve

**Off/on**: Again, the limiter must be turned on to be able to change the parameters and affect the signal. The curve window shows the threshold point of the limiter.

Threshold control from -60dB to +4dB: As you move the threshold of the limiter up and down, you see the output level of the DDP move in relation to the setting. This means that **the limiter of the DDP sets the absolute output level for the unit**. Remember that very fast transient signals can occasionally "sneak" past the threshold control of any limiter. If you wish catch every single transient, set the TCM to a longer delay time, allowing the DDP to begin to react to a transient signal faster. (For complete information on the TCM<sup>TM</sup> Transient Capture Mode controls, refer to the gate section on page 14 and 15, as well as appendix #1) Also note that the digital meters show when even 1 sample gets through the threshold. Also, it is possible to set the threshold of the limiter, and none to happen in the compressor. As you do this, you will notice that the curve window displays exactly what the threshold level is set to, even to the point of "overwriting" the compression settings. Move the threshold level of the limiter up and down to see how this effects the composite signal. Limiting takes place after the compressor's gain control setting

**Attack control from 0.1ms to 200ms**: The attack control sets the speed at which the signal is limited as it crosses over the threshold into the limiting region.

**Release from 360dB/sec to 5dB/sec**: The release control sets the speed of release of the signal as it goes below the threshold, out of the limiting region, and is returned to its normal, unprocessed waveform.

## EDITING DE-ESSERS

## Parameters of the De-Esser

The parameters included on the DDP for De-Essing operations are as follows:



Figure 18: De-Esser parameters and curve

Off/on: Same thing as all the others. When you are not using the de-esser, it should be turned off.

**Frequency control from 800Hz to 8kHz**: The Frequency control is much like an audio threshold point as it relates to frequency, rather than amplitude or level. As you scroll through the control area you will see the curve move in accordance to your settings. You are setting the frequency point at which de-essing will begin to occur. For the femail voice a good starting point is in the 5-8kHz range, and for males the range is a little lower, about 3-6kHz.

Amount from 0% to 100%: The Amount control varies the amount of de-essing. For light de-essing set it low, and for a heavier effect, set it higher.

## EDITING THE SIDECHAIN EQ AND THE IN-LINE EQ

## Parameters of the EQ

The parameters included on the DDP for EQ operations are as follows:





**Off/on**: Like any other element, the EQ must be turned on.

**Monitor off/on**: If you are using a program number that has the sidechain functionality enabled, the next parameter you see will be MONITOR. The sidechain monitor lets you hear the signal you are using in the sidechain path, as opposed to the signal you are using for the audio ins and outs. This can be useful for identifying and centering on specific frequencies.

**TSE mode: Dark, Warm, None, Light, Bright**: There are five  $TSE^{TM}$  Tape Saturation Emulation settings in the DDP.  $TSE^{TM}$  is tied to the TYPE IV<sup>TM</sup> Conversion process, and allows you to add definition to your recordings in pleasing amounts of your choosing. Because  $TSE^{TM}$  is related to the analog to digital conversion process, its settings are inactive while processing a digital source. (See Appendix 1.)

**Bands 1, 2, and 3:** The EQ is a three band parametric which allows adjustments of frequency center, Q, and level.

**Frequency Center from 25Hz to 20kHz**: You can choose a center frequency from 25Hz to 20kHz all all three bands of the EQ.

**Q from .25 to 16**: "Q" is a setting that measures the width of the effect beyond the center frequency. For example, a Q of 8 or 16 will produce a very sharply pointed EQ setting, effecting very few frequencies outside of the selected frequency center. A Q of .5 or 1 produces a very wide range of effect beyond the center frequency. The effect is a broad, smoother EQ setting.

## MORE ABOUT SIDECHAIN EQ

The sidechain functions are convenient in many applications, such as broadcast engineering, where engineers are asked to provide "ducking" functions, as well as de-essing. Frequency-specific and sustain-related compression are also possible with the use of the sidechain functions of the DDP. See figure below for an illustration of the relationship of the sidechain path to the DDP's metering points.

It is possible to separate certain vocals and instruments from a mix using frequency-weighted compression. With the 3-band parametric EQ in the sidechain path, the equalization settings do not shift the timbre or frequency response of the audio signal. They merely alter the threshold response of the processing section of the DDP on a *frequency-weighted* basis.

With this arrangement, raising certain frequencies on the equalizer causes them to be suppressed in the audio signal. A relatively high threshold setting can allow normal sounds to be unaffected while solo and very loud sounds are held back. (Of course, when compression does occur, the level of the entire program is affected.) Depending on the threshold setting, lower level fundamentals or harmonics will not cause compression.

During the recording of cymbals and tom-toms, a compressor with an equalizer in the sidechain path can help prevent tape saturation. The equalizer can be adjusted for boost with a peak of about 5kHz, causing the cymbal to be compressed on a very loud crash, stopping tape saturation at high frequencies, where there is less head-room. However, gentle tapping of a drumstick or brushing of the cymbal will not be held back. Assuming the tom-tom is a lower frequency instrument and can be better tolerated by the tape, it has less need for compression. The equalization in the sidechain circuit means that the compressor is not triggered as readily by a loud tom-tom beat as by an equally loud cymbal crash.

The converse of the above EQ technique may be used: dipping the equalizer bands causes any sound with dominant energy in the affected register to pull the level up because the DDP will detect a need for less compression.

To apply de-essing to vocals without using the De-Esser element, use the parametric equalizer in the sidechain circuit and set it for high frequency boost in the specific frequency range where the vocal *biss* or lisp occurs (generally in the 4-6kHz region). This pre-emphasizes the already *bissy* vocal input to the detector. Used in conjunction with a moderate to high threshold and compression ratio, this arrangement greatly attenuates the *essing* without affecting the basic sound quality or balance of the voice. While it is true that all frequencies are lowered in level when the compressor is triggered, generally the *sss* sound occurs alone, before or after the dominant tone in the voice. In the DDP use the factory setup called "De-ess vocal" for this effect.

To increase the sustain of a musical instrument (e.g., a guitar or bass), use the sidechain circuit and boost the EQ in the dominant frequency range of the instrument, along with a fairly low threshold and a moderate compression ratio.

OX PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

## Section 4: Editing / Saving / Recalling Programs

The sidechain path may also be used to reduce the effects of low frequencies on the compressor. Using the EQ to de-emphasize low frequencies allows the detectors of the gate, compressor, and limiter elements to react only to the more musical parts of the audio signal. This method greatly reduces the "pumping and breathing" that can occur in compressors.

The in-line 3-band parametric EQ works in the same way as the sidechain EQ. It is a 3-band parametric EQ that has variable Q and a +/-12dB boost or cut ability in each of the 3 bands

## CHANGING CHAIN TYPES

Users who wish to configure the DDP "from the ground up" may do so. While in program mode and on any program number you may press, hold, and release the **Program** button to enter the **CONFIG SETUP** mode. Doing so from a stereo linked program number takes you to a screen that says "Config Setup" in the top text line under the program number. In the second line of text you will see the cursor and the current chain in any stereo setup. You can scroll between them and choose one of them for your setup by pressing the store button.

## NOTE: BEFORE ENTERING CONFIG SETUP ALWAYS SET AUTOLOAD TO ON.

If you are using a dual mono program, the screen will allow you to choose two different setups from among the 6 chain choices. Once you have chosen the setups, you will need to store the new program you have created. You may save your work at any time. If you like to live dangerously, just save before you finish the session, or save more often, it's up to you. The store LED will light as you scroll to new chains, indicating that you must press store in order to make the current selection active in the program you are in. After you have pressed store, press program again and you will return to program mode. You will need to setup each element of the processing chain. Note that when you choose to create a setup from the user config menu, all the parameters of the chain are turned to the nominal or off position, depending on the parameter.

## SAVING PROGRAMS AND SETUPS

## Saving a program

The most important part of saving your processing library is realizing the following:

## Parameters are associated *only* with setups, not with programs

Saving a program is done by following these steps:

- 1. While in Program mode, press the **Store** button. The screen looks something like this.
- 2. You have the choice of saving the Program, or Saving the setup. Choose the first option by simply pressing the Store button while the curser is in front of the word "Prog".



Figure 20: Store program

3. As you do this, the screen goes to the next save page, asking you to name the new program. The curve window shows instructions.

4. When you have named the new program, press store again. the screen bumps to the next save screen, asking you to select a program for the DDP to erase and write the new program over. Note that you can only access programs 1-50 in this screen, as that is the only area where you can write new programs over old ones. Select the number where you want to write the new program and press store once more. Momentarily the screen will say "Done!!" in the first line of text.

You have now saved a program consisting of two setups or one linked setup.

## NOTE: YOU HAVE NOT SAVED ANY PARAMETERS AT THIS POINT.

For example, if you chose to save Program #40, with setups "Slap Bass" and "Thick Kick", the information you have saved is the following:

Program #40 uses: setup "Slap Bass" and: setup "Thick Kick"

Setups contain parameters. In order to save parameter settings you must save the setup.

#### Saving a setup

Saving a setup can be done by following these steps:

1. After you have edited your setups to your liking press the **Store** button. The screen will look like figure 21 below. Move the curser down to either CH 1 Setup, or CH 2 Setup, if you have been editing a dual mono program. If you have been working with a linked program, your second choice will be "Link Setup". Make your selection by pressing the **Store** button again. Remember that there is room in the DDP to store 100 linked setups and 100 mono setups, in addition to the factory setups.



Figure 21: Store setup

- 2. Like above you are asked to name your setup. Again, there are instructions for you in the curve window. Press **Store** when you are done.
- 3. You now must choose what you want to do with the setup you are going to save. You have two choices: you may write over another setup, or you may make a new one.

#### **Replace Old:**

- 1. To replace an old setup, move the curser to the **Replace Old** choice and press **Store**. You are given a choice of which setup to replace. Using the **Data Wheel** scroll to the name of the setup you wish to replace with your new setup. Press **Store**.
- 2. After a brief pause, the screen will display the text, "Done!!", and you have saved a setup over the old setup that you chose. If you wish to save your setup to a new spot without erasing any other setups follow these instructions:

C C PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

## Section 4: Editing / Saving / Recalling Programs

#### Store New:

- 1. To store a new setup, choose **Store New** after pressing the **store** button. Again, you must name your new setup. After you are done, press **Store** once again. You now must choose a place for the new setup to be placed in the setup library. The name of your new setup is displayed on the middle line of text (the "Parameter 2" spot).
- 2. Use the **Data Wheel** to scroll to the place where you want to the new setup added. As you scroll, notice the names of the setups already in the library scrolling by on text lines 1 and 3 (parameter 1 and parameter 3). This indicates that you are placing your new setup between the two setups displayed above and below your new one. The DDP "makes room" for your setup, no matter where you want to place it.
- 3. Pressing **Store** once more saves the setup in the spot you chose, and after a brief pause, the screen display the "Done!!" line and you have saved a setup, complete with all parameters, ready to use next time.

Notice that as you write over an old setup, all other programs that recall that setup will now recall the newly saved setup.

## UTILITIES

The Utilities menu is accessed at any time, via the **Utility** button. The utilities menu is the same as the other menus of the DDP. Once in the utility area, the LED will light on the **Utility** button, indicating the selection. Different menu selections are shown in the three lines of text below the program number. When you are using the utilities menu, the DDP continues to pass signal, and displays the current program number without interruption. Following is a brief explanation of the different utilities and their parameters:

## Contrast

The contrast selection is always shown on the first line in the "Parameter 1" position, and adjusts the displays visibility.

## Sample Rate

The next utility is Sample Rate. This utility changes the output sample rate. The choices are: 44.1kHz or 48kHz. As technology advances, future software and hardware updates will include other options. The DDP is currently shipped with the 48kHz choice as the default. However, in "digital Input" mode, the sample rate is "locked" to the sample rate of the digital input signal. To help you remember, the display window will show text to this effect.

## AutoLoad

With the AutoLoad feature, you may choose whether the DDP will immediately load the program number on the display, or whether you must be prompted to load the current number into the audio path. With AutoLoad in the ON position, the DDP automatically loads the current program into the audio path without a prompt. While this can be convenient, care should be taken, because if you move the data wheel while in program mode AFTER you have changed parameters in the current program, the program number will be changed and the changes will be lost as the DDP moves to the next program number and loads it into the audio path automatically. In addition, if the DDP is used in a live sound situation, the ramifications could be disastrous if someone bumped the data wheel while signal was being passed through the DDP. With AutoLoad in the OFF position, you can scroll to other program numbers without affecting the sound being passed through the DDP. As you make changes to a program, then move the data wheel to another program number, the **Load** button will flash, telling you that you are in a program number other than the one you have had loaded into the audio path. One press of the LOAD button loads the currently displayed program number into the audio path, and dumps the previous program number from the audio path. AutoLoad mode is best used when changing Program numbers and changing parameters within the given setups. AutoLoad should be "OFF" when you want to change setups within any specific Program number.

## Note: Before entering Config Setup (page 20) always set AutoLoad to ON.

As you move from the program level in another program to the setup level, the **Load** button begins to blink, indicating that you are looking at processing chains other than those that are currently loaded into the audio path. As you return to the program level, and move back to the original program number, the **Load** button turns off, as there is no need to "re-load" the current program, because it has already been loaded, and is in fact the current program number in the audio path.

## Input Mode

This is where you will select the input mode of the DDP. If you have the optional Digital I/O card installed in your DDP, this page refers to setting the input format of the DDP. You can set the input and output independently to either AES/EBU or S/PDIF formats. The analog outputs still operate regardless of the settings in this utility. If you see an "Input Error" message, make sure that the appropriate cables are hooked up on the back of the DDP and that your settings reflect your cable setup.

## Output Mode

This is where you will select the digital output mode of the DDP. If you have the optional Digital I/O card installed in your DDP, this page refers to setting the output format of the optional card. You can set the input and output independently to either AES/EBU or S/PDIF formats. The analog outputs still operate regardless of the settings in this utility. If you see an "Input Error" message, make sure that the appropriate cables are hooked up on the back of the DDP and that your settings reflect your cable setup.

## Digital Input Level Controls

The next utility is digital input level controls. Note that when you are using the analog inputs of the DDP, this utility does not change the level of the signal. When the input is set to AES/EBU or S/PDIF, you may adjust the level of both the left (channel 1) and right (channel 2) channels of the digital signal. This function is helpful for balancing and fine tuning the mix of the two channels of digital signal.

## MIDI / SysEx

The next set of utilities is MIDI based functionality. In the first parameter line, the DDP displays "MIDI Ch". This may be set for channels 1-16, off and OMNI, which is the typical implementation. Communicating with the DDP through the MIDI language is as easy as in any other MIDI unit: program changes as well as parameter changes may be activated through the MIDI ports. In addition, the DDP allows you to send and receive "system exclusive" data and commands on channels other than the MIDI channels, allowing you to perform such complex maneuvers as complete system program dumps and reloads, system setups, and output configurations. These are the SysEx channels. SysEx control is twofold: SysEx channels range from 0-16 and OMNI.

Other MIDI features follow on utility pages 3 through 7. Page 3 of the Utility menu allows you to set the MIDI and SysEx channels for the DDP. Page 4 allows you to perform MIDI merging. CCs are another good and easy way of communicating with the DDP. For a complete guide to the full functionality of the MIDI, CC and SysEx implementation, see section 6. Utility pages 5 and 6 work together and allow you to transfer setups between DDPs as well as backup to computer, if you have a MIDI interface system. Page 5 will receive any setup name as any other, and page 6 will let you send setups the same way.

You may also send the entire contents of the DDP, including MIDI information, and parameter settings via Utility page 7. A bulk dump sends the entire set of programs and setups via the MIDI port.

For complete MIDI / SysEx / CC information see Appendix #4.

## A / D Calibration

The last page of utilities is a calibration section for the analog to digital convertor chips. You will notice a set of more complete instructions displayed in the curve window area. To calibrate the convertors, first turn the input controls of the DDP fully counter-clockwise (-∞) or off. Calibrations performed with these controls open at all could result in inaccurate calibrations, giving the DDP poor processing performance. After the input controls have been turned to the OFF position, press the **STORE** button. If the calibration is not successful, the following text will appear in the third parameter area: "A/D CAL FAIL!" If this happens you should turn the DDP off then back on. If the problem persists, call dbx technical support at 1-801-568-7660 for assistance.

## Section 6: Appendices

## APPENDIX 1: MISC. INFORMATION

#### Hard Reset

From time to time you may encounter a situation which locks up the DDP's software. Usually this is due to operator error. Which means you asked the DDP to do something we did not anticipate in the implementation of the software, or something else has locked up the DDP. It may be necessary to do a "Hard Reset" Perform this only when there is no other option, either by turning off and then on, or moving to another area in the software and then back again.

To do a Hard Reset:

- 1. Turn the DDP off.
- 2. Hold down the Bypass and Store buttons
- 3. Turn on the DDP.
- 4. When the asterisk appears in the Parameter 1 line, press Next Page button.

#### Change Default Startup Program

The DDP turns on in "Program Mode" and is ready to use without any other keystrokes being necessary. The DDP "remembers" the last program number used, and stores that program number as the default startup program number. Occasionally you may wish to manually manipulate this setting. Do so by holding down the **Program** button while turning on the DDP.

#### Front Panel Lockout

The DDP's controls may also be locked, effectively disabling the front panel. Holding the **Utility** button while turning on the DDP displays an instruction screen telling you to press the **Prev Page** button to toggle the locked status. When locked, the program name line flashes between the name of the program and the text, "**DDP Locked!**" Unlocking the DDP controls is accomplished the same way. Note that when in locked mode the DDP can still be controlled via MIDI operations, as well as SysEx commands and CC information.

#### Type IV™ Conversion System

We have included the Type IV<sup>™</sup> Conversion Process as the primary method of analog to digital conversion on the DDP. When the analog inputs are selected, the TYPE IV<sup>™</sup> icon to the right of the program number lights up and the TYPE IV<sup>™</sup> process takes over as the means of converting the analog signal to a digital signal. This means that you may hit +6dB on the digital input meters for the DDP and not hear any audible distortion. This behavior is not unlike an analog tape machine. In conjunction with TSE<sup>™</sup> Tape Saturation Emulation, the essence of the analog signal is captured to the digital medium in a way that preserves the color and emulates the behavior of an analog tape recording. This process results in a digital signal that is more pleasing to the ear, and offers a more musical, useable signal for the DDP to process, resulting in master-quality sound output, whether digital or analog.

#### TSE<sup>™</sup> – Tape Saturation Emulation

Analog tape has always had a specific "sound". In fact different brands of magnetic tape have their own peculiar sound or "color". The color is most apparent when you drive the tape hard, almost to saturation. Conversely, digital signals have almost no "color". If you drive a digital signal to saturation, all you get is an ugly, unuseable "digital over" sound, much like fingernails on a blackboard. As a result, the sound, while crystal clear, can have a sterile or crisp sound. It is this crispness that has been to downfall of digital signals. Tape Saturation Emulation<sup>™</sup> is a process of giving a digital signal an analog-type sound or color, making it more pleasing to the ear. On the DDP you can drive the input past the zero mark without risking the dreaded digital "over". Instead you get a pleasant saturation that is modeled after the sound of analog tape being saturated with signal. the controls for TSE<sup>™</sup> are in the EQ section, and are global in effect. There are five different settings for TSE: Dark, Warm, Normal, Bright and Brighter. Each emulates an analog signal's "color" and is very unique. Their names reflect their characteristics.

The controls for TSE are always active. If you do not want any coloration added to your signal, simply set the controls to "Normal".

## TCM<sup>™</sup> – Transient Capture Mode

Transient Capture Mode<sup>TM</sup>, or TCM<sup>TM</sup> works on the principle of delaying the audio signal up to 30 $\mu$ s, and letting an unheard "control" signal begin to activate the response of the VCA. The overall result is the perception of a very fast moving compressor, able to catch the front of almost any transient signal, but not delaying the audio signal enough to produce any phase correlation errors. In the DDP, you may vary the delay, in the form of a TCM delay control, with a range from 0 $\mu$ s (microseconds ( $\mu$ s) are measurement units in 1000ths of a second) to 3ms. While this is not enough delay to cause phasing errors, it is enough to give the device time to start to react before the signal arrives at the point of processing.

The controls for the TCM section are in the Gate parameter area. While the effect is global, the gate must be turned on in order for the TCM module to work. If you want to use the TCM functions without the gate, simply turn the gate on and set the ratio to 1:1 and the threshold to -75dB. This effectively turns the gate on, but leaves it wide open, no matter what signal is presented at the threshold.

The resulting implementation in the DDP allows you to vary the amount of delay, based on the transient characteristics of the signal being processed. The signal sounds smoother and easier for the DDP to process in the compressor, limiter, and de-esser functions.

## Section 6: Appendices

## APPENDIX 2: FACTORY SETUP LISTING

## Factory Setup Listing

Following is a complete listing of the factory designed setups. While this is not meant to be an exhaustive list of applications, it is meant to be a good starting off point for you to be creative in designing custom setups for you r own needs. Notice the the first three setups are factory default stereo setups that allow you to make a setup completely from scratch. Do you recognize the three different chain types from earlier in this manual? Further down the list, you will notice the six mono chain types as well.

## Linked Setups

St Def #1	EQ-G-C-DS-L
St Def #2	SEQ-G-C-DS-L "Default set-up with all values set to zero, for use when building a custom set-up from scratch."
Ext Sch Def	EQ-G-C-DS-L
Light Mix	EQ-G-C-DS-LVery light compression and sweetening.
Over Heavy	EQ-G-C-DS-L
Too Loud!	SEQ-G-C-DS-L
The Wave	EQ-G-C-DS-L
Telephone	EQ-G-C-DS-L
Phat	EQ-G-C-DS-LLight compression with extra bass.
Mr. Master	EQ-G-C-DS-L
Catz Meow	EQ-G-C-DS-L
SCh Bass	EQ-G-C-DS-L External sidechain for your bass.
Thiknchunky	SEQ-G-C-DS-L
St Drums	EQ-G-C-DS-L
St Vocal	EQ-G-C-DS-L
XL Bottom	EQ-G-C-DS-L
Hill & Dale	EQ-G-C-DS-L
St E Guitar	EQ-G-C-DS-L
St Piano	SEQ-G-C-DS-L
St Synth	EQ-G-C-DS-L Light Compression with some gating and light EQ to clean up Synth tracks.
Tickle Me	EQ-G-C-DS-L Just a touch in all the right places.
Back Bacon	EQ-G-C-DS-L Light to medium compression with a little EQ to fatten up the mix. Eh.
DJ Duck	EQ-G-C-DS-L
Cassette	EQ-G-C-DS-L

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## Mono Setups

Default #1	EQ-G-Cmp-L "Default set-up with all values set to zero, for use when building a custom set-up from scratch."
Default #2	EQ-G-Cmp-DS "Default set-up with all values set to zero, for use when building a custom set-up from scratch."
Default #3	EQ-Cmp-DS-L "Default set-up with all values set to zero, for use when building a custom set-up from scratch."
Default #4	SEQ-G-Cmp-L "Default set-up with all values set to zero, for use when building a custom set-up from scratch "
Default #5	SEQ-G-Cmp-DS "Default set-up with all values set to zero, for use when building a custom set-up from scratch "
Default #6	SEQ-Cmp-DS-L . "Default set-up with all values set to zero, for use when building a custom set-up from scratch."
Swift Kick	EO-G-Cmp-L "Medium Compression, heavy Gating with a push in the bottom."
Fat Kick	EQ-G-Cmp-I. Heavier Compression and EQ with lots of gating
Solid Kick	SFO-G-Cmp-DS Heavy Compression and Gaing with the bottom ringing
Thick Kick	SFO-G-Cmp-L Medium Compression on the mids and heavy gating on everything else
Brite Snare	EQ-G-Cmp-I. Heavy Compression with a lot of gating and a dip at 400 Hz
Rim Shot	FO-G-Cmp-I Heavier Compression with lots of gating and a dip in the bottom
Slam Snare	SEO-G-Cmp-L "Medium Compression on the bottom with some gating and a push at 315 Hz"
Tom's Toms	FO.C. cmp.1
Tight Toms	FO-G-Cmp-I
	out."
Ringin Toms	SEQ-G-Cmp-L Medium Compression on the top and gating.
CongoCongas	EQ-G-Cmp-L Light to medium compression with some gaing and EQ to bring the top out.
Tambourine	EQ-G-Cmp-L Medium compression with some gating and EQ to mellow out the top end.
Sh-shaker	EQ-G-Cmp-L Light compression and gating with the bottom rolled out.
Funk Bass	EQ-G-Cmp-L "A boost in the deep bass with a cut in the mid-bass, medium compression and a little gating"
Punchy Bass	SEQ-G-Cmp-LSidechain EQ with light compression to enhance the low mids and a fair amount of gat- ing.
Slap Bass	EQ-G-Cmp-L EQ with heavy compression and a lot of gating.
Rumble Bass	EQ-Cmp-DS-L Light overeasy compression with the top rolled out.
Martin's Gt	EQ-G-Cmp-L Mild compression with a little EQ for your prized acoustic guitar.
F-Pick AcGt	EQ-G-Cmp-LMedium Compression with a little gating and EQ to keep your picking under control.
Folk Rock Gt	SEQ-G-Cmp-L Sidechain EQ combined with medium to heavy Compression to keep from feeding back.
Twang E Gtr	EQ-G-Cmp-L Light Compression with a tiny boost in the top end to shine through.
2x12 Guitar	EQ-G-Cmp-L Heavy Compression and gating with some sidechain EQ to keep the bottom punchy.
Monster Gtr	EQ-G-Cmp-L Medium Compression with a big boost on the bottom.
FunkStompGt	EQ-G-Cmp-L Medium Compression with heavy gating and wild EQ.
Low Strings	EQ-G-Cmp-L Light overeasy compression with a boost in the bottom end.
Hi Strings	SEQ-G-Cmp-L Light compression with a bump in the sidechain EQ to minimize harshness.
LushStrings	EQ-G-Cmp-DS
Horns O Luv	EQ-G-Cmp-L Medium Compression with some added top and bottom.
Mello Horns	SEQ-G-Cmp-L Sidechain EQ pushed in the upper mid with medium compression.
Horn Splat	EQ-G-Cmp-L Medium to heavy overeasy compression with a push on the top.
Brite Horns	SEQ-G-Cmp-L Medium compression with a real gentle curve on the sidechain EQ.
7ft Grand	EQ-G-Cmp-L Very light overeasy compression with a little more bottom and top.
Upright Pno	EQ-G-Cmp-L Medium compression with a small bump in the midrange.
Tight Voc	EQ-Cmp-DS-L Medium overeasy compression with some of the real low end rolled out.
Small Voc	EQ-G-Cmp-DSMedium compression and gating with the top and bottom rolled out.
De-ess Voc	SEQ-Cmp-DS-L Medium Compression with the sidechain EQ bumped at 8KHz to control the sibilance.
Country Voc	EQ-G-Cmp-L Light compression with a fair amount of top end.
Clear Voc	EQ-G-Cmp-L Medium to heavy Compression with the low end rolled out.
Ambient Voc	EQ-Cmp-DS-L Light Compression with the Sidechain EQ to accentuate the room.

## Section 6: Appendices

## APPENDIX 3: FACTORY PROGRAM LISTING

#### Factory Programs

The DDP comes with a set of factory designed programs that offer wide variety and flexibility for your dynamics control needs. They are located in programs 51-100. At the factory, we copied these programs into the user accessible area, programs 1-50. You may erase any or all of these programs at any time, and replace them with your own program numbers.

Pr	ogram	Ch 1 Set-up	Ch 2 Set-up
1.	THE FINISHER	Mr. Master	<- linked
2.	COFFEEHOUSE	F-Pick AcGtr	Clear Voc
3.	AXE ATTACK	St E Guitar	<- linked
4.	BOOM	Fat Kick	Punchy Bass
5.	SAY WHAT?	Phat	<- linked
6.	ROCK STAR	Tight Voc	Monster Gtr
7.	MID PIANO	Upright Pno	Upright Pno
8.	DRUM ROOM	St Drums	<- linked
9.	JAZZ CLUB	7ft Grand	Mellow Horns
10.	BEEF KIT	Swift Kick	Slam Snare
11.	PIANO ROOM	St Piano	<- linked
12.	TONS O BUNS	XL Bottom	<- linked
13.	RADIO MIX	Thiknchunky	<- linked
14.	OVER THE TOP	Hill & Dale	<- linked
15.	DISCO	DJ Duck	<- linked
16.	HELLO?	Telephone	<- linked
17.	SIDEWAYS	Sch Bass	<- linked
18.	SYNTH BATH	St Synth	<- linked
19.	TICKLE YOU	Tickle Me	<- linked
20.	DREAMING	Light Mix	<- linked
21.	IS IT ON?	Catz Meow	<- linked
22.	A CAPPELLA	St Vocal	<- linked
23.	LINKED DEF #1	St Def #1	<- linked
24.	LINKED DEF #2	St Def #2	<- linked
25.	LINKED DEF #3	Ext Sch Def	<- linked

Program	Ch 1 Set-up	Ch 2 Set-up
26. NASHVILLE	Country Voc	Clear Voc
27. LA VOCALS	Tight Voc	Ambient Voc
28. INDIE VOC	Small Voc	De-ess Voc
29. KARATE	Solid Kick	Swift Kick
30. TOM BOY	Ringin Toms	Tight Toms
31. A WILD SNARE	Bright Snare	Rim Shot
32. PERSUASION	Sh-shaker	CongoCongas
33. BASSIC	Slap Bass	Rumble Bass
34. MAXX AXE	2x12 Guitar	Monster Gtr
35. GOATEE	Folk Rock Gt	Martin's Gtr
36. BIG PIANO	7ft Grand	7ft Grand
37. HORN TOAD	Brite Horns	Horn Splat
38. THUMP KIT	Thick Kick	Rim Shot
39. POWER TOMS	Tom's Toms	Tight Toms
40. BOTTOM	Slap Bass	Thick Kick
41. DADDY'O	De-ess Voc	FunkStompGtr
42. SWANGIN	Rim Shot	Twang E Gtr
43. FILM SCORE	7ft Grand	Low Strings
44. CPT. STUBING	Horns O Luv	Punchy Bass
45. COOL KIT	Fat Kick	Ringin Toms
46. YAWNNI	LushStrings	Sh-shaker
47. ORCHESTRAL	Low Strings	Hi Strings
48. DEFAULTS 1&2	Default #1	Default #2
49. DEFAULTS 3&4	Default #3	Default #4
50. DEFAULTS 5&6	Default #5	Default #6

## APPENDIX 4: MIDI / CC / SYSEX IMPLEMENTATION

### MIDI basics

#### MIDI Channels:

The DDP can be set so that it communicates on 1 of 16 discrete MIDI channels. The DDP may also be set up to transmit or receive information on all channels in an Omni mode or to none of the channels in a Disabled (off) mode.

#### Program Changes:

When the DDP is set to communicate on one or all of the MIDI channels, it will recognize a Program Change command. If the number is legal (e.g. within the device's range of selectable programs) the DDP will respond by changing to the new program. MIDI sends Program Changes 0 through 127. The DDP begins its program numbering with 1, thus Program Change 0 will select program 1. The DDP also allows the user to 're-map' the Program Change commands so that Program Change 0 could call program 60, if so desired. This procedure is described in section 7 - Utilities.

#### Continuous Controllers:

A MIDI Continuous Controller may be 'Linked' to nearly any available parameter in the DDP. CC links (Modifiers) and their ranges are treated uniquely in each program with the assignments being saved only if they are stored as part of the program. The following table shows the CCs that are available, and which parameters are controlled.

cc 0 -> chain1 gate on/off	cc 32 -> chain1 Comp Release	cc 65 -> chain2 EQ PEQ2 Lvl
cc 1 -> chain2 gate on/off	cc 33 -> chain2 Comp Release	cc 66 -> chain1 EQ PEQ3 Freq
cc 2 -> chain1 gate Threshold		cc 67 -> chain2 EQ PEQ3 Freq
cc 3 -> chain2 gate Threshold	cc 36 -> chain1 Limiter On Off	cc 68 -> chain1 EQ PEQ3 Q
cc 4 -> chain1 gate Gate Ratio	cc 37 -> chain2 Limiter On Off	cc 69 -> chain2 EQ PEQ3 Q
cc 5 -> chain2 gate Gate Ratio	cc 38 -> chain1 Limiter Threshold	cc 70 -> chain1 EQ PEQ3 Lvl
cc 6 -> chain1 gate Attack	cc 39 -> chain2 Limiter Threshold	cc 71 -> chain2 EQ PEQ3 Lvl
cc 7 -> chain2 gate Attack	cc 40 -> chain1 Limiter Attack	
cc 8 -> chain1 gate Hold time	cc 41 -> chain2 Limiter Attack	cc 72 -> chain1 SEQ On Off
cc 9 -> chain2 gate Hold time	cc 42 -> chain2 Limiter Release	cc 73 -> chain2 SEQ On Off
cc 10 -> chain1 gate Release	cc 43 -> chain2 Limiter Release	cc 74 -> chain1 SEQ Monitor On Off
cc 11 -> chain2 gate Release		cc 75 -> chain2 SEQ Monitor On Off
cc 12 -> chain1 gate TCM on/off	cc 44 -> chain1 DSr On Off	cc 76 -> chain1 SEQ TSE
cc 13 -> chain1 gate TCM on/off	cc 45 -> chain2 DSr On Off	cc 77 -> chain2 SEQ TSE
cc 14 -> chain1 gate TCM time	cc 46 -> chain1 DSr DS HP FREQ	cc 78 -> chain1 SEQ PEQ1 Freq
cc 15 -> chain1 gate TCM time	cc 47 -> chain2 DSr DS HP FREQ	cc 79 -> chain2 SEQ PEQ1 Freq
	cc 48 -> chain1 DSr DS RANGE	cc 80 -> chain1 SEQ PEQ1 Q
	cc 49 -> chain2 DSr DS RANGE	cc 81 -> chain2 SEQ PEQ1 Q
cc 16 -> chain1 Comp On Off		cc 82 -> chain1 SEQ PEQ1 Lvl
cc 17 -> chain2 Comp On Off	cc 50 -> chain1 EQ On Off	cc 83 -> chain2 SEQ PEQ1 Lvl
cc 18 -> chain1 Comp Threshold	cc 51 -> chain2 EQ On Off	cc 84 -> chain1 SEQ PEQ2 Freq
cc 19 -> chain2 Comp Threshold	cc 52 -> chain1 EQ TSE	cc 85 -> chain2 SEQ PEQ2 Freq
cc 20 -> chain1 Comp Ratio	cc 53 -> chain2 EQ TSE	cc 86 -> chain1 SEQ PEQ2 Q
cc 21 -> chain2 Comp Ratio	cc 54 -> chain1 EQ PEQ1 Freq	cc 87 -> chain2 SEQ PEQ2 Q
cc 22 -> chain1 Comp db gain	cc 55 -> chain2 EQ PEQ1 Freq	cc 88 -> chain1 SEQ PEQ2 Lvl
cc 23 -> chain2 Comp db gain	cc 56 -> chain1 EQ PEQ1 Q	cc 89 -> chain2 SEQ PEQ2 Lvl
cc 24 -> chain1 Comp Knee Switch	cc 57 -> chain2 EQ PEQ1 Q	cc 90 -> chain1 SEQ PEQ3 Freq
cc 25 -> chain2 Comp Knee Switch	cc 58 -> chain1 EQ PEQ1 Lvl	cc 91 -> chain2 SEQ PEQ3 Freq
cc 26 -> chain1 Comp Auto Mode	cc 59 -> chain2 EQ PEQ1 Lvl	cc 92 -> chain1 SEQ PEQ3 Q
cc 27 -> chain2 Comp Auto Mode	cc 60 -> chain1 EQ PEQ2 Freq	cc 93 -> chain2 SEQ PEQ3 Q
cc 28 -> chain1 Comp Attack	cc 61 -> chain2 EQ PEQ2 Freq	cc 94 -> chain1 SEQ PEQ3 Lvl
cc 29 -> chain2 Comp Attack	cc 62 -> chain1 EQ PEQ2 Q	cc 95 -> chain2 SEQ PEQ3 Lvl
cc 30 -> chain1 Comp Hold Time	cc 63 -> chain2 EQ PEQ2 Q	
cc 31 -> chain2 Comp Hold Time	cc 64 -> chain1 EQ PEQ2 Lvl	

## SysEx basics

### General Format:

The general format for the System Exclusive information is as follows (note: all SysEx values are displayed in Hexadecimal format, along with this symbol (h) for clarification):

## Hex Value Definition

F0(h) System Exclusive 'Begin Message' byte 00(h) 01(h) Manufacturer's ID Number (dbx) 1E(h) 0n(h)

n =Unit's Device or SysEx Channel number (minus one) e.g. 01(h) is device or SysEx Ch 1...01(h) is device or SysEx Ch 2, etc...0F(h) is device or SysEx Ch 16

dd dd = device ID number 01(h) identifies the DDP

рр

pp = Procedure number. The different procedure's names and general formats are described in the Procedures Section.

dd(1)1, dd(1)2.....dd(n)1, dd(n)2

dd = Data as needed by procedures. Since the standard MMA MIDI Specification reserves 80(h) through FF(h) (decimal numbers 128 through 255) for specific commands, a split byte format is adopted for all data communication in this SysEx implementation. dd(n)2 denotes the 1st through 7th bits of the nth byte and dd(n)1 denotes th 8th bit of the nth byte. Note: All data that is requested or received, is in split byte format unless noted otherwise.

F7(h) System Exclusive 'End Message' byte

#### Procedures

In the following section, SYS\_HEAD refers to a valid System Exclusive header. The System Exclusive header starts with the System Exclusive status byte, and includes all bytes through the dbx device type. F7(h) is the System Exclusive 'Message End' byte. All SysEx numbers in the format definition of each procedure are given as hexadecimal values, along with this symbol (h) for clarification. Binary numbers are identified with this symbol (b).

## Request One Setup (02h)

SYS\_HEAD, 02(h), yy(1)1, yy(1)2, yy(2)1, yy(2)2, zz1, zz2 F7(h)

When yy = Setup Number: 1-100 (0-63h) When zz = 6Ch Linked Setup type is selected When zz = 6Dh Dual Mono Setup type is selected

When a Request One Setup procedure is received, the DDP will respond with a Receive One Setup procedure.



Receive One Setup (43h)SYS\_HEAD 43(h), vv(1)1, vv(1)2, vv(2)1, vv(2)2, xx1, xx2, yy1, yy2, zz(1)1, zz(1)2, zz(2)1, zz(2)2,<br/>dd(1st)1,dd(1st)2, ... dd(nth)1, dd(nth)2, F7(h)vv.software version number<br/>When xx = 00(h)Dual Mono is selected<br/>When xx = 01(h)Linked Type is selected

yy The Setup number, 1-100 (00-63h)

zz Byte Count

dd(n) Program data

The Receive One Setup procedure is used to load a Setup into the DDP. The number of setup bytes to be received (n) is different for each setup. If the DDP is sent a Receive One setup procedure where the setup number is not a valid RAM destination, it will be ignored.

#### Request Bulk Dump (49h)

SYS\_HEAD, 49(h), F7(h)

When a Request Bulk Dump procedure is received, the DDP will respond with a Receive Bulk Dump procedure.

#### Receive Bulk Dump (48h)

SYS\_HEAD 48(h), dd(1st)1 dd(1st)2, ... dd(nth)1, dd(nth)2, F7(h)

dd(n) .Bulk Dump Data

The Receive Bulk Dump procedure is used to load all User Programs into the DDP. A software version number is imbedded in the data.

## Receive Key Scan Code (54h)

SYS\_HEAD, 54(h), cc, F7(h)

cc Code for the Key Scan (note: there is only one byte, not two)

The Receive Key Scan Code procedure is used to emulate a button press on the front panel of the DDP. See the Key Scan Code Maps for a list of Key Scan codes. The device will respond with a Receive Key Accepted procedure.

Кеу	Code	Кеу	Code	Кеу	Code	Кеу	Code
Next	01h	Gate	02h	Comp	03h	Lim	04h
Select	05h	De-ess	06h	S/EQ	07h	Util	08h
Prev	09h	Prog	0Ah	Store	0Bh	Bypass	0Ch
Encoder up*	0Dh	Encoder down	* 0Eh	Config**	0Fh		

\* Encoder controls are included, to allow you to emulate encoder moves as well as button presses.

\*\* Config is included to make it accessible through SysEx commands even though it is not represented by its own button.

## Section 6: Appendices

#### Receive Key Accepted (56h)

SYS\_HEAD, 56(h), cc1, cc2, F7(h)

cc Code echoed for the Key Scan received. (00(h) if key is invalid)

The Receive Key Accepted procedure is sent from the DDP in response and acceptance of a Receive Scan Code Key or Receive Hold Scan Code Key procedure but is ignored if received by the DDP.

#### Reset Program (20h)

SYS\_HEAD, 20(h), F7(h)

The Reset Program procedure causes the DDP to reload the current saved program.

#### Reset Device (21h)

SYS\_HEAD, 21(h), F7(h)

The Reset Device procedure causes the DDP to reboot the software as if the power had been turned off, and then back on. If edits have been made to the current program without saving, they will be lost.

COX PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

## Section 6: Appendices

## SysEx Setup Dump Sample

Following is a simple example of a SysEx Setup dump. It takes you set by step through all of the operation commands of a typical SysEx procedure.

#### <<SysEx Header>>

F0 00 01 1E 00 01

<<Procedure>>

43

<<Setup Dump Version>>

 $00 \ 01 \ 00 \ 01$ 

<<Setup Type and Setup Number>>

 $00 \ 00 \ 00 \ 00$ 

<<Setup Transmit Count...Lo Bytes, Hi Bytes>>

00 0A 00 06

### <<12 Character Setup Name...dynamic>>

00 31 00 3A 00 52 00 76 00 62 00 20 00 32 00 3A 00 47 00 74 00 52 00 76

### <<Null to indicate end of Character String>>

 $00 \,\, 00$ 

#### <<Misc Setup Data...too dynamic to document>>

#### <<SysEx End>>

F7

## Section 6: Appendices

## APPENDIX 5: FACTORY SERVICE / WARRANTY INFORMATION

### Warranty / Factory Service

If you require technical support, contact dbx Customer Service. Be prepared to accurately describe the problem. Know the serial number of your unit - this is printed on a sticker attached to the rear panel. If you have not already taken the time to fill out your warranty registration card and send it in, please do so now.

Before you return a product to the factory for service, we recommend you refer to the manual. Make sure you have correctly followed installation steps and operation procedures. If you are still unable to solve a problem, contact our Customer Service Department at (801) 568-7660 for consultation. If you need to return a product to the factory for service, you MUST contact Customer Service to obtain a Return Authorization Number.

No returned products will be accepted at the factory without a Return Authorization Number.

Please refer to the Warranty below, which extends to the first end-user. After expiration of the warranty, a reasonable charge will be made for parts, labor, and packing if you choose to use the factory service facility. In all cases, you are responsible for transportation charges to the factory. dbx will pay return shipping if the unit is still under warranty.

Use the original packing material if it is available. Mark the package with the name of the shipper, and with these words in red: DELICATE INSTRUMENT, FRAGILE! Insure the package properly. Ship prepaid, not collect. Do not ship parcel post.

#### This warranty is valid only for the original purchaser and only in the United States.

- 1. The warranty registration card that accompanies this product must be mailed within 30 days after purchase date to validate this warranty. Proof-of-purchase is considered to be the burden of the consumer.
- 2. dbx warrants this product, when bought and used solely within the U.S., to be free from defects in materials and workmanship under normal use and service.
- 3. dbx liability under this warranty is limited to repairing or, at our discretion, replacing defective materials that show evidence of defect, provided the product is returned to dbx WITH RETURN AUTHORIZATION from the factory, where all parts and labor will be covered up to a period of two years. A Return Authorization number must be obtained from dbx by telephone. The company shall not be liable for any consequential damage as a result of the product's use in any circuit or assembly.
- 4. dbx reserves the right to make changes in design or make additions to or improvements upon this product without incurring any obligation to install the same additions or improvements on products previously manufactured.
- 5. The foregoing is in lieu of all other warranties, expressed or implied, and dbx neither assumes nor authorizes any person to assume on its behalf any obligation or liability in connection with the sale of this product. In no event shall dbx or its dealers be liable for special or consequential damages or from any delay in the performance of this warranty due to causes beyond their control.

## APPENDIX 6: SPECIFICATIONS

## Inputs

Connectors: Type: Impedance: Max Input Level: CMRR: Input Gain Range: MIDI:

## Outputs

Connectors: Type: Impedance: Max Output Level:

Output Gain Range: MIDI:

## A-D System Performance

A-D Conversion: Convertor Dynamic Range:

Type IV<sup>™</sup> Dynamic Range:

THD+Noise: Frequency Response: Interchannel Crosstalk:

## **D-A System Performance**

D-A Conversion: Dynamic Range:

THD+Noise: Frequency Response: Interchannel Crosstalk:

## Compressor

Controls:

**Limiter** Controls:

Expander/Gate Controls: Female XLR and  $1/4^{\circ}$  TRS (Pin 2 and tip hot) Electronically balanced/unbalanced, RF filtered Balanced >26 k $\Omega$ , unbalanced >13 k $\Omega$ >+24 dBu balanced or unbalanced >40 dB, typically >55 dB at 1 kHz - $\infty$  to +16 dB 5-Pin DIN MIDI Input Jack

Male XLR and 1/4" TRS (Pin 2 and tip hot) Servo-balanced/unbalanced, RF filtered Balanced 120  $\Omega$ , unbalanced 60  $\Omega$ >+21dBu balanced/unbalanced into 2k $\Omega$  or greater >+20dBm balanced/unbalanced (into 600 $\Omega$ ) - $\infty$  to +16 dB 5-Pin DIN MIDI Out/Thru Jack

24-bit, dbx Type IV<sup>™</sup> Conversion System 109 dB typical, A-weighted, 22 kHz bandwidth 107 dB typical, unweighted, 22 kHz bandwidth Up to 122 dB with transient material, A-weighted, 22 kHz bandwidth Up to 120 dB with transient material, unweighted, 22 kHz bandwidth Typically 114 dB with program material, A-weighted, 22 kHz bandwidth Typically 112 dB with program material, unweighted, 22 kHz bandwidth 0.002% typical at +4 dBu, 1 kHz, input gain at 0 dB 20 Hz to 20 kHz, +0/-0.5 dB < -85 dB at 1 kHz, input gain at 0 dB

24-bit 105 dB typical, A-weighted, 22 kHz bandwidth 102 dB typical, unweighted, 22 kHz bandwidth 0.002% typical at +4 dBu, 1 kHz, output gain at 0 dB 20 Hz to 20 kHz, +0/-0.5 dB < -85 dB at 1 kHz, output gain at 0 dB

Variable Threshold, Ratio, Manual Attack/Hold/Release, Auto Attack/Hold/Release, Output Gain, Selectable Hard Knee or OverEasy® with adjustable VariKnee™

Variable Threshold, Attack, Release

Variable Threshold, Ratio, Attack, Hold, Release

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## Section 6: Appendices

Transient Capture Mode™	
Control:	Variable TCM <sup>™</sup> Time (delay time) in 10 microsecond increments up to 3 milliseconds
De-Esser	
Type:	Wideband gain reduction
Controls:	Variable Frequency, Amount
Parametric EQ	
Type:	3-Band, Fully Parametric, Fully Overlapping over the audio band Switchable location in-line with the audio path or in-line with the internal sidechain
Controls:	Variable Frequency, Q, Gain
General	
Stereo Coupling:	True RMS Power Summing <sup>™</sup>
Sampling Frequencies:	44.1 or 48 kHz
Analog Indicators	
Input/Output Meter per Channel:	8-segment lightpipe bar graph at -24, -18, -12, -6, 0, +6, +12, and +18 dBu
I/O Meter Switches:	Green lightpipe switch for each channel indicates input level is selected
Options	
Digital I/O Card:	AES/EBU (XLR) and S/PDIF (RCA) in and out, software selectable format
Power Supply	
Operating Voltage:	100 VAC 50/60 Hz
	120 VAC 60 Hz
	230 VAC 50/60 Hz
Power Consumption:	22 Watts
Mains Connection:	IEC 320 receptacle
Backup Battery Type:	3 Volt Lithium, Eveready Style ER2032 or equivalent
Environment	
Operating Temperature:	0°C to 40°C (32°F to 104°F)
Physical	
Dimensions:	1.75" H X 19" W X 9" D
Weight:	6.5 lbs. (3.0 kg)
Shipping Weight:	8.0 lbs. (3.6 kg)

## Note: Specifications subject to change.



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