

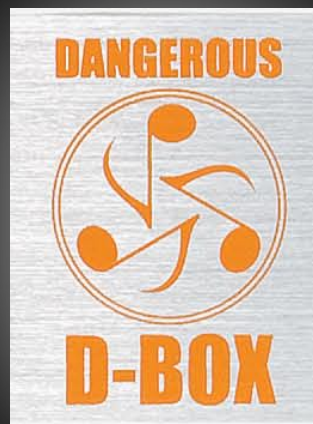
CHOP SHOP

PRODUCT OVERVIEW:

The D-Box packs Dangerous Music's Greatest Hits under one hood. In other words, it incorporates many of the finest features and functionality from other products in the line--with ZERO audio compromise. Analog summing, headphone amplification, speaker selection, D/A conversion, talkback and monitoring functions are all neatly tucked away into this formidable single rack space. The D-Box provides solutions to the practical, daily needs of today's compact computer based studio, and executes them with no audio sacrifice. How? Only the most useful and requested options were incorporated in the design; sonic purity triumphing over feature count.

THE DANGEROUS MUSIC LEGACY:

"Audio Integrity: non-negotiable." This is the credo upon which Dangerous Music is founded. Conceived and designed by end users--not by engineers in lab coats--the results are products that resurrect dynamic range, punch, intelligibility and emotion. These high-fidelity, uncompromised signal paths are achieved by harnessing over 20 years of Chris Muth's design wizardry; creator of infamous custom black boxes for world class facilities like Hit Factory, Masterdisk, Absolute Audio and Sterling Sound Mastering. Then the critical listening skills of golden-eared luminaries are applied, with the result being musical tools that fulfill the actual needs of today's flexible DAW based studio.



WHY SUMMING?

Mixing "in the box" has inherent limitations, identified by users as: "spongy", "collapsed image", "no headroom", "lack of detail" and "zero punch". Much like traditional vintage consoles brought together multiple streams of audio, the D-Box receives 8 analog outputs and combines them to stereo. It performs this transparently, tooled specifically for the DAW environment.

WHERE ARE THE FADERS AND PAN POTS?

Every additional component in the signal path degrades your music. True summing bus devices differ from mixers: they do not have faders, aux sends etc... they simply sum your audio together, while preserving all the functionality of your DAW! If you've got the functionality in your software mixer, you don't need to repeat it in a hardware version.

DAC: DAW & CD

The onboard Digital to Analog Converter not only sounds as good as the entire price tag of the D-Box, it allows switching between different sources set at divergent sample rates. This allows true A/B comparisons by monitoring through the same converter from sources like the mix and CD. Otherwise, poor decisions may be made based upon a cheap converter.

MASTERING GRADE COMPONENTS

Components selected for both performance and sound, tested to draconian tolerances, breathe the analog soul back to life for stunning imaging, headroom, punch and detail.

DC COUPLED

No transformers that color your sound or filter caps that smear stereo. Instead, DC coupling with massive voltage rails and Mogami point to point wiring for simple, electronic elegance. Bandwidth from DC to light.

AUDIO TRANSPARENCY

A virgin canvas for painting sonic landscapes utilizing your own personal arsenal of plug-ins and outboard gear.

HAND ASSEMBLED IN USA

Avoids 6,000 miles of oceanic circuit board rattling, while keeping Americans employed.

STRINGENT QUALITY CONTROL

An exceptionally low failure rate keeps you in the studio mixing, not at the UPS store shipping repairs.

WARRANTY:

2 years, because it's built to last a lifetime.



FACT SNACK



HEADPHONE MONITORING

FEATURE: Two independent, 40 watt headphone amplifiers.

BENEFIT: Serious headroom, to audition intelligibly and make intelligent decisions. Separate volume knobs to accommodate different users tastes and varying headphone impedances.

TIP: Drive a Redco LITTLE RED CUEBOX from a headphone out.

MONO SWITCH

FEATURE: The mono switch combines the left and right channels to the monitors.

BENEFIT: Always check phase by depressing this button. Did things get quieter? Louder? Instruments missing? This is an indication that left and right are not playing nicely together. Consider all those unfortunate folks listening to music on their iPhone's built in speaker.

SUM SWITCH

FEATURE: The sum switch selects monitoring from the stereo summing mix output. (i.e. the summed combination of the 8 inputs).

BENEFIT: Hear your mix BEFORE it hits external processing or A/D conversion.

DAW & CD SWITCH

FEATURE: Both DAW & CD buttons are digital inputs that feed the D-Box's D/A converter.

BENEFIT: Monitoring with the same D/A allows mix decisions to be made, unhampered by different converters. "Wow, where's all that top end crunch coming from? That bell ringing?" Eliminate the .10 cent converter in the CD player. Your blood pressure will drop.

SIGNAL LEDS

FEATURE: 8 signal leds reveal when signal is present at the summing inputs. Signal LEDs light to indicate the presence of audio at the summing inputs.

BENEFIT: Determine whether audio is passing into the D-Box for trouble shooting. "Where's the cowbell?"

VOLUME KNOB

FEATURE: The volume knob controls the level to the monitors from whatever source(s) have been selected

TIP: Does not affect the summing output.



TALKBACK SWITCH

FEATURE: Not to be confused with how you behaved in high school, the TB switch injects the microphone into the Headphones.

BENEFIT: Avoid jerry rigging a separate means of communication to the artist (i.e. Carrier Pigeon, Smoke Signals, Paper Airplanes...) Save a ton of time, which you can bill for.

ALTERNATE SPEAKERS

FEATURE: The ALT SPKR switch allows the engineer to switch between two sets of monitors.

BENEFIT: Every studio should have at least two points of reference. Not all switchers are equal! The D-Box achieves this noiselessly, without drop outs or phase shift.

ANALOG SWITCH

FEATURE: The analog switch selects the "analog input" source from the rear panel.

BENEFIT: Connect all sorts of goodies here and monitor them! Samplers, synths, drum machines, a submixer, an iPod, virtual instruments, a Sound Effects Library or two track editor fed from an alternative computer output.

TIP: Enter setup mode to boost the gain for consumer (-10 dBV) sources like your computer mini-plug output.

SUM OUTPUT TRIM KNOB

FEATURE: The Sum Output trim knob adjusts the level of the summed stereo mix coming out of the XLR connectors on the rear of the unit.

BENEFIT: Used to adjust the mix volume for optimum level into the mixdown A/D converter.

TIP: Start knob at 12:00 to leverage the headroom.

PAN CONTROL

FEATURE: The first six channels of the summing section are fed to the stereo bus in pairs (i.e. 1-2, 3-4 and 5-6). 7 & 8 have pan pots.

BENEFIT: The pan pots for channels 7 & 8 allow the placement of their signals anywhere in the mix and for treating individual instruments. For example, utilizing outboard compression or EQ on a mono source like bass or vocal.

