Manual

VoiceStrip for PowerCore

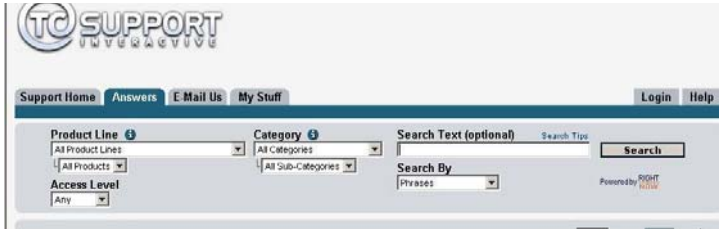
PowerCore

tc electronic

SUPPORT AND CONTACT DETAILS

TC SUPPORT INTERACTIVE

The TC Support Interactive website www.tcsupport.tc is designed as an online support and information center. At the site you can find answers to specific questions regarding TC software and hardware. All known issues are stored in a database searchable by product, category, keywords, or phrases. Under the section "My Stuff" you can login to check the status of your questions, download materials such as product manuals, software updates and new presets.
This site has been specifically designed to meet the needs of our users. We constantly update the database and you will find the site to be a huge resource of information. Browse through Q&A's and discover new aspects of your TC product.
If you can't find an answer online, you have the option of submitting a question to our technical support staff who will then reply to you by e-mail. The TC Support Team is on constant alert to help you in any way they can.



Contact Details
Alternatively, you may contact the TC Electronic distributor in your area, or write to:

TC ELECTRONIC A/S
Customer Support
Sindalsvej 34
Risskov DK-8240
Denmark

USA:
TC Electronic, Inc.
5706 Corsa Avenue, Suite 107
Westlake Village, CA 91362

www.tcelectronic.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME TO TC VOICESTRIP

TC VoiceStrip is a channel strip covering all you needs for voice sound processing: Compression, De-essing, a dedicated Voice EQ, Low Cut Filter and Gate - all in one Plug-In, with total recall of your vocal processing sound!

Enjoy TC VoiceStrip and TC PowerCore!

TC Electronic

GENERAL INFORMATION

GETTING STARTED

Scroll Wheel Support

If you are using a host application that supports this feature, all parameters support scrolling on both Windows XP and Mac OS X. Simply place the mouse over a parameter value field and use the Scroll Wheel to increment/decrement the associated parameter-value.

Key Commands

In most host applications, Plug-Ins support keyboard commands for certain functions. The following key commands are available for all Plug-In parameters.

Key Commands in Mac OS	Key Commands In Windows
Reset To Default = [Alt]	Reset To Default = [Shift] & [Control]

DSP USAGE

For each open instance of the VoiceStrip on PowerCore devices (X8, Express, PCI mkII, Unplugged, Compact & FireWire), the following DSP usage applies:

@44. 1 kHz:	@48 kHz:	@88. 2 kHz:	@96 kHz:
mono 33%	mono 36%	mono 69%	mono 76%
stereo 41%	stereo 45%	stereo 85%	stereo 93%

Activate: *Press to activate deactivate sections*

Clip Indicator: *This indicator will light red when the input signal is clipping.*

Meters*: Input/Output meters for L/R channels.*

Input Level*: Adjusts the input level of the TC VoiceStrip.*

Output Level*: Adjusts the output level of the TC VoiceStrip.*

VOICE EQ
Gain Controls*: Adjust the levels of the three filter bands.*

Frequency Controls*: Adjust the frequencies of the Lo and Mid bands.*

SoftSat: *Activates the SoftSat algorithm.*

LOCUT
LoCut Frequency: *Adjusts the cut off frequency of the LoCut filter.*

GATE
Threshold*: The gate's threshold.*

Intensity*: The higher the Intensity, the more of the signal is removed.*

Reduction Meter*: Indicates, how much the signal level is reduced by the gate (Indication range: -3 to -24 dB)*

COMPRESSOR
Compressor Reduction Meter*: Indicates, how much the signal level is reduced by the Compressor. (Indication range: -1 to -24 dB)*

Input Drive*: The more you drive the input up, the more compression you will get.*

Output Drive*: Adjusts the output level of the compressor block.*

Pre-EQ/Post-EQ switch*: If set to Pre-EQ, the compressor block will be processed before the EQ.*

Ratio: *Defines the compression Ratio.*

Attack*: Response time of the compressor, to reach the gain reduction specified by the Ratio parameter.*

Release*: Fall back time of the compressor, after the signal drops below the Threshold.*

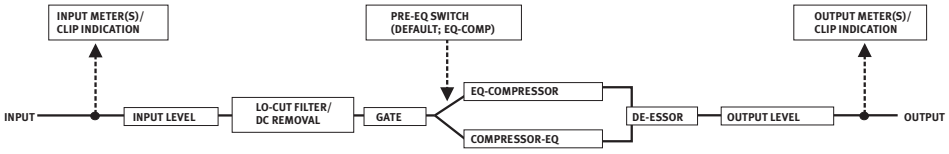
DE-ESSER
De-Esser Reduction Meter*: Indicates, how much the level is reduced by the De-Esser. (Indication range: -2 to -18 dB)*

Threshold*: When the input level exceeds the Threshold, the De- Esser will be activated.*

Frequency*: Sets the cut off frequency of the De-Esser.*

Monitor*: Monitors the sidechain signal, to adjust the cut-off frequency.*

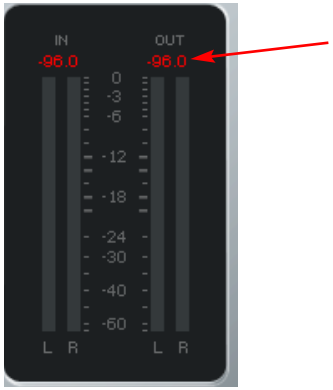
SIGNAL FLOW



METERING

Clip Indicator

With more than three consecutive clips the number above the meter will turn RED indicating that clipping has occurred. To release this condition; click on the number.

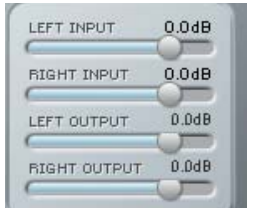


Meters

The LED meters indicate PPM values. With its fast rise time and relatively slow fallback time, PPM metering is excellent for reading fast, transient sounds and will allow much better detection of clips compared to RMS metering."

THE VOICESTRIP - PARAMETERS

INPUT/OUTPUT GAIN



These faders set the Input/Output gain of the TC VoiceStrip. To ungroup the Input or Output knobs in stereo mode, keep the [SHIFT] key pressed while changing the gain value of the left or right channel.

LOCUT

With the LoCut Filter you can easily remove unwanted rumble and other low frequency noise from your material. Simply adjust the cut-off frequency in the range between 60 and 120 Hz. The filter has a slope of 12 dB/Oct.

GATE

The Gate process is a downward expansion of the signal: Low signal levels will be further decreased. This allows to lower unwanted background noise during signal pauses (e. g. to reduce the noise of the playback while the vocalist isn't singing).

Threshold

When the input signal falls below this Threshold, the Gate starts working. This means that the higher the Threshold, the more gating you will get.

Intensity

This parameter is a complex setting of different gate parameters. It will set the maximum damping as well as Ratio, attack and release times of the gate. The higher you set the Intensity, the more signal will be removed.

Reduction Meter

The Reduction Meter will give you a visual feedback of the gate processing: If the gate is "open", none of the Meter LEDs will light up. If all LEDs light up, the gate is completely closed.

DE-ESSER

De-Essers are often required for processing vocal and speech recordings, to fix and adjust the amount of sibilant frequencies (like “s” sounds).
This De-Esser takes advantage of a technique where the Threshold is always relative to the average level of the material. This means that if the average level of the audio material increases, the Threshold will also move up, and the De-Esser will remove relatively the same. This gives you a more musical and useful De-Esser.

Threshold

When the input level exceeds the Threshold, the De-Esser will be activated. The Threshold is relative to the average signal level, so the De-Esser will also work for soft material.

Frequency

Sets the cut off frequency of the De-Esser.

Monitor

Monitors the sidechain signal of the De-Esser. This will help to set the cut off frequency. The sidechain is the reference signal that the De-Esser is listening to internally for processing.

Reduction Meter

The reduction meter gives the feedback of how much the signal is de-essed. The more LEDs light up, the more the De-Esser is removing.

VOICE EQ

Equalizers are some of the most common signal processing devices, and are made in many different variations. The EQ in the TC VoiceStrip is tuned to sound as musical and “analog” as possible in a digital domain. This EQ is based on an old style EQ and incorporates just a few parameters, making it fast and easy to work with. Built-in soft limiters on each band give you a warm and analog sound when you tweak the filters.

Lo Band

The Low Band filter is a shelving filter with 18 dB gain. The frequency range reaches from 100Hz to 350Hz. The slope of this filter will be adjusted together with the gain setting.

Mid Band

The Mid Band filter is a bell shaped filter with 18 dB gain. The frequency range reaches from 700 Hz to 7 kHz. The bandwidth of this bell filter will be adjusted together with the gain setting.

Hi Band

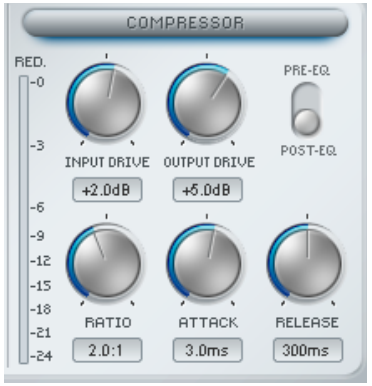
The High Band filter is a shelving filter with a fixed 2.5 kHz frequency. The gain can be adjusted in a 18 dB range.

SoftSat

SoftSat generates that lovely warm sound often associated with analog tube equipment. SoftSat prevents the EQ from being excessively driven to the point of hard clipping (and thereby creating digital distortion). Instead, SoftSat generates a soft “harmonic distortion”.

Do not confuse this distortion with the type of overdrive distortion produced by distortion pedals and guitar tube amplifiers. The processing is very subtle and is restricted to only those portions of the signal that are subject to clipping.

COMPRESSOR



As all the other parts of the TC VoiceStrip, this Compressor algorithm is tuned especially for voice processing. It’s a bit more specialized and “vintage”– like Compressor. It sounds very musical, especially on vocals. It is a feedback type compressor, which means that it gets its sidechain input from the output.
TC’s SoftSat (see EQ section for more details) algorithm is always active in this processing block, to produce a warm, analog compression sound.

Input Drive

This compressor has a fixed Threshold setting of -24 dB. By changing the Input Drive, you will change how much the dynamic content of the input signal will be compressed: The more you drive the Input, the more compression you will get.

Output Gain

Set the output gain to adjust the level after compressing the signal.

Pre-EQ/Post-EQ Switch

With the Pre-EQ/Post-EQ Switch, you can change the order of EQ and Compressor block. By default, the Compressor block is placed after the EQ, but if you want EQing after you have compressed the signal, just switch to Post-EQ.

Ratio

The Ratio defines how much the signal is compressed. A Ratio of 1:1 won't compress the signal, a Ratio of 64:1 will act more like a limiter than a compressor. For voice processing, typical compression ratios will be between 2:1 and 5:1.

Attack

The Attack time is the response time that the Compressor uses to reach the gain reduction specified by the Ratio parameter.

Release

The Release parameter sets the fall back time of the Compressor, after the signal drops below the Threshold.

Reduction Meter

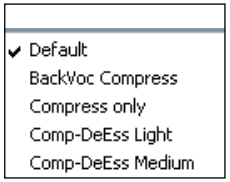
This LED Meter gives feedback of the applied compression. The more LEDs that light up, the more compression is applied to the signal.

Introduction

We recommend using the dedicated PowerCore file handling system that, apart from recall; store and compare facilities, allows for easy exchange of entire preset folders with other users, between Windows/Mac platforms and also between different host applications.

File

Click "File" to open the File menu.



Load Preset: Select to load presets from the default preset location.

Save Preset: Select to save the preset in My Presets folder.

My Presets: Via "My Presets" you are able to load you own presets.

If you chose to store presets in other locations than the "My Preset" folder, these presets will not appear in the "My Preset" drop down menu. However, you can still navigate to, and load these presets via the Load Preset function.

Preset name

This is the name of the preset.

Up/down

The [Up]/[Down] arrows can be used to browse through all presets.

A/B

With the A/B compare function you can easily compare different parameter settings when working with the plug-in.

When you start working with your preset, the A/B button is grayed out. This state indicates that the settings in both memory locations A and B are identical - so there is actually nothing to compare.

PRESET HANDLING

As soon as you touch one of the parameters, the memory location "A" will be active. All parameter changes will be applied to memory location "A". If you switch to memory location "B", you go back to the starting point, and all further changes will now be applied to memory location "B".
Every time you press the A/B button, you will toggle between these two memory locations.

The A/B memory locations are temporary settings only! Saving a preset, will save the currently selected memory location only. The setting of the other (hidden) memory location will not be saved!

Reset

Click “Reset” to clear memories A/B and return to the originally recalled preset.

DEFAULT PRESET LOCATIONS

The following locations will describe where you can find the presets, which are stored in a folder unique to each plug-in:

Mac OS X preset paths:

Factory presets:
‹Macintosh HD›/Library/Application Support/TC Electronic/‹plug-in name›/Presets/

User presets:
/Users/‹user name›/Library/Application Support/TC Electronic/‹plug-in name›/Presets/

Windows preset paths:

Factory presets:
C:\Program Files\TC Electronic\‹plug-in name›\Presets

User presets:
C:\Documents and Settings\‹your user name›\My Documents\TC Electronic\‹plug-in name›\Presets

- To delete a preset file, simply move it to the “Trash” or “Recycle bin”.
- To create a new sub-folder that appears in the plug-in menu, simply create a new folder in the plug-in folder that resides in the PRESETS folder of the plug-ins default preset location.

A folder will not appear in the Preset File menu unless it has at least one preset inside!