

Release Notes: Release 4.01

January 1, 1997

Release 4.01 Feature Summary.

Bug fixes and enhancements were made in the following areas:

- Support of Tahiti-IV Magneto Optical Disk
- Better file selection capability in FORMCOPY
- A "Delete" Option in FORMCOPY
- Portamento bug fix
- Ability to abort Poly memory SHUFFLE and COLLECT
- Speeded up L-page NORMALIZE, VOLUME, and MIX functions
- Added L-page MODULATE function
- Monitor enhancements to show megabytes
- More thorough store-and-recall of Audio Event Editor setups
- Simplified "capture" of most recent keyboard note
- L-page typing bug fixed

Notes:

- 1) The Tahiti-IV Magneto Optical Disk Drive is now supported as both a W1, and as a replacement for a 12-inch WORM. The cost savings are dramatic, not to mention the portability and reliability factors!!!

The Tahiti-IV can hold the entire contents of a 12-WORM on a 5 & 1/4" media.

Changes were made to FORMCOPY, OPREPAIR, OPLIST and SYN-4.01 to support this drive.

Note: It is still rather tedious to copy a library from 12-inch WORM to Tahiti-IV media. You must use S/Link and a synclavier. If enough users are interested, I'm sure I could put together a **macintosh** software utility that would provide for speedy duplication of a 12-inch WORM platter onto a 5 1/4" T-4 platter. Duplication would take on the order of 30 minutes per side.

- 2) FORMCOPY - Several enhancements were made to FORMCOPY to simplify various file management tasks. First of all, the file selection process was enhanced to make it easy to select all of the files of a certain type (e.g. sound files, patch files, timbre files). The goal is to make it easier to select all of the files of a certain type (for example: all of the patch files) to back them up to floppy (for example).

Secondly, a "DELETE" option was added to make it easier to delete sound files, patches, and timbres from the hard disk. By combining the two features, it is now easier to do such tasks as "delete all sound files from this subcatalog" or "move all my patches from this subcatalog to that subcatalog while leaving the sound files where they are".

- 3) Portamento - The starting pitch value for a portamento glide is now correct and controllable as portamento is switched on and off with the foot switch (or with the button panel, for that matter).
- 4) SHUFFLE and COLLECT - The Poly Memory SHUFFLE and COLLECT functions activated from the B and R pages can now be interrupted by the VK "STOP" button, OR by the break key on the terminal (control + space on Macintosh). Additionally, they are animated in both the VK window and on the terminal. I was hoping to provide the break feature for all polly memory commands, but

didn't get to add it to the L-page commands. I'm all set to do that for next time if the interest is there. Let me know!

- 5) L-Page NORMALIZE, VOLUME and MIX have been speed up considerably (about by a factor of 3). What used to take 45 seconds now completes in about 17 seconds. Enjoy!
- 6) L-Page MODULATE command was added. This command performs a multiplication of two digitized signals. The effects are somewhat unpredictable, but may very well be useful in sound design situations. Modulation tends to create lots of high frequencies and can reduce signal levels; you will probably want to normalize both before and after the modulate command. Spectrally speaking, the modulate function produces an output file whose frequency content equals the sum and the difference of all of the input frequencies. Enjoy!
- 7) The monitor (you know: "Ready >") enhanced to show megabytes when cataloging winchester disks and subcatalogs. It's about time!!!
- 8) The panel setup buttons on the Audio Event Editor were enhanced to store more information about the Events panel setup. Specifically, the number of tracks displayed and the display contents (e.g. pitch names, event names, RTE's, etc) are memorized when the setup is saved. This will allow you to memorize setups with different display configurations. Enjoy!
- 9) Capturing the last keyboard note shortcut: In response to a customer request, a simplified ability to capture the most recent keyboard note into the Audio Event Editor Event panel was added. The situation involves designing sounds at the VKP keyboard. During a sound design session, you can manipulate the sound at the keyboard and select the pitch by ear. Typing a value of XX into the pitch field of the events panel looks up the most recent key that was played and substitutes that value. Hey, a penny saved is a penny earned, right?
- 10) L-page input bug: The L-page now allows longer fields to be typed when entering sound file times and cross fade lengths. This bug showed up when working with large sound files.