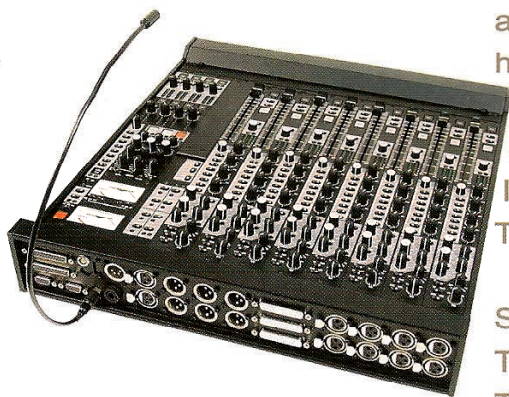


"a little discussion about analog vs digital mixers."



SONOSAX SX-ST

When the combination of sound quality, signal routing, versatility, build quality and portability is what's most important, the new mixer from Sonosax – the SX-ST – has to be the top pick. While it's also the most expensive (what would you expect from top?), for those who can't afford anything less there's plenty to justify the price.

The SX-ST mixer has been used in North America for over a year now in real world production, so those who took out their check book and made that daring first plunge can now tell us just how the water is. (See testimonials further into this article.)

At risk of drawing attention away from many other unique and useful features, it should be mentioned that the SX-ST has 8 mix busses. Many will ask, "When would I ever use 8 mix busses?" Answer: On the very next production you do that uses 7 microphones and a multitrack recorder. If, that is, and only if, you have the Sonosax SX-ST mixer. Those who do will be smiling.

Sonosax earned its respectable name in portable mixers for TV and Film production around 20 years ago with the SX-S8. This stereo forerunner is still highly regarded for its sonic quality and compact design, and many are still in use. In fact, appropriately enough, much of this article was written while using an SX-S8 owned by West Coast mixer Walter Anderson while filling in for him for a couple of weeks on the movie "Hoot". Using the SX-S8 on this show is a good reminder of famous features that were carried directly into the new SX-ST (the limiters and EQ, for example, are largely unchanged). But it also served as a gauge, confirming for me that the new Sonosax SX-ST is much better than even the best of the past.

Abbreviated sample edition. The complete 4500 word article, including testimonials, will appear in the first issue coming January 2007.