

The Mixing Console

The Mixing Console allows you to control all other components in the system. It provides the capability to create the desired input configuration from the microphone, CD player, auxiliary input (for some hardware configurations, this is the CD player), digital recorder and MIDI player.

For example, you could turn off input from the MIDI player, and turn on input from the digital recorder and CD player. You can also use the slide controls to adjust the volume of each of these components. When you control the volume of a component from the Mixing Console, you can also see the volume change accordingly on the component itself.

The Mixing Console contains knobs that allow you to set the desired output from the left and right channels for each of the components. If desired, you can also save various input and volume configurations, that can be initiated with the "press" of a button on the Mixing Console.

Note that MCS checks for the number of output jacks on your soundboard and expands the Mixing Console accordingly.

Additional Information:

[Mixing Console Buttons and Displays](#)
[Menu Options](#)

Troubleshooting:

[Questions & Answers](#)

Mixing Console Buttons and Displays

Power Button

Default Button

Level Meter Button

Peak Hold Button

Mute/Rec Buttons

Preset Buttons

Level Meter Display

Balance Control Knobs

Slide Controls

Mixing Console Menu Options

File Menu

Options Menu

Help Menu

File Menu

The following option can be found on the pull-down File Menu:

Exit:

Closes the MIDI Player.

Options Menu

The following options can be found on the pull-down Options Menu:

Standard Environment:

Select Standard to use the Standard/Rack Mount system.

Info Bar:

Select to turn on the Information Bar, which provides a brief description of your current cursor location on the component. When this option is selected, a checkmark will appear on the pull-down menu. Select this option again to turn off the Information Bar.

Save Settings on Exit:

Select to save the Mixing Console's settings upon closing the component. When this option is selected, a checkmark will appear on the pull-down menu. Select this option again, to indicate that you do not want to save your settings upon exiting.

Help Menu

The following options can be found on the pull-down Help Menu:

Index:

Display the help system for MCS Stereo.

Keyboard:

Display a help message on using the keyboard to operate MCS.

Tutorial:

Initiate the MCS StereoTutorial.

Using Help:

Display instructions on using the help system.

About MCS:

Display information on MCS Stereo.

Questions & Answers

Q: I have the volume slider for the Microphone turned to zero, but the meter still registers some sound. Why?

A: Some sound boards don't allow you to turn the sound level on the microphone to zero, even though the Mixing Console indicates the sound level is off.

Q: I replaced my sound board. Is there anything I need to do before using MCS?

A: Yes. Be sure to re-install the MCS software. That way, MCS can make the appropriate internal adjustments for your new sound board.

Q: I changed sound boards and I now have more components showing up on my Mixing Console than I did with my old board. Why is that happening?

A: MCS checks your sound board for the number of output jacks available. It then expands the Mixing Console accordingly.

Power Button

This button can be used to turn off the Mixing Console. Click this button and the mixing console will no longer be displayed.

Default Button

This button is used to return all slider, knob and button settings to their original positions when the system was installed on your PC.

Level Meter Button

Click this button to turn on the level meter, which indicates the sound level coming from the selected input sources. The Level Meter indicator light will be illuminated. Click this button again to turn the level meter off.

Peak Hold Button

Click this button to pause the level meter at the highest audio level it has detected. It remains in the highest position for 3 seconds. The level meter will then return to dynamically displaying the current output level from the selected sources.

Level Meter Display

The level meter dynamically shows the current output level from the selected sources (e.g., CD player, digital recorder, etc.). You can use the Peak Hold Button to pause the meter at the highest level detected during the current session. It will remain paused for 3 seconds.

Related Topic:

[Peak Hold Button](#)

Balance Control Knobs

When sound is output from a component, it has a left and right channel. These knobs control how much sound is output from each channel.

To increase the output from the right channel, you need to turn the knob to the right. Move the pointer to the right of the red dot on the knob, and click and hold the left mouse button. The knob will then turn to the right. Release the left mouse button to stop turning the knob.

To increase the output from the left channel, you need to turn the knob to the left. Move the pointer to the left of the red dot on the knob, and click and hold the left mouse button. The knob will then turn to the left. Release the left mouse button to stop turning the knob.

To return a knob to its central position (even output from the left and right channels), click the center of the knob. The red dot will then return to its middle position.

Slide Controls

These slide controls are used to set the desired volume for each of the system components. Note that the volume on an individual component cannot exceed the volume level set with the Master Volume Slide Control. Although the component's slide control may be moved to a higher level than the master control, the actual volume will not go above the master setting.

Related Topic:

[Master Slide Control](#)

Master Slide Control

This slide control is used to set the highest volume level for all components in the system. You can move a component's slide control to a higher level than the master, but the volume will not exceed the master setting.

Related Topic:

[Slide Controls](#)

Mute/Rec Buttons

Click the Mute Button to temporarily shut off output from the component. Click the Rec Button to allow the recording capability for that component.

Preset Buttons

These buttons can be used to create and initiate a preset configuration of the Slide Controls on the Mixing Console.

Related Topics:

[Creating and Saving a Preset Configuration](#)
[Initiating a Preset Configuration](#)

Creating and Saving a Preset Configuration

To create and save a preset configuration:

1. Click one of the preset buttons.
2. A pop-up menu will be displayed, with the following options:
 - Open
 - Save
 - Use
3. Select the Save option.
4. The Preset File Save Dialog Box will be displayed
5. Enter the desired filename for the preset configuration. You can also enter an associated description, if desired.
6. If the default path is not correct, be sure to specify the desired drive and directory.
7. Click the OK button to save your preset file.

Related Topics:

[Initiating a Preset Configuration](#)
[Preset File Save Dialog Box](#)

Initiating a Preset Configuration

To activate one of your preset configurations:

1. Click one of the preset buttons.
2. A pop-up menu will be displayed, with the following options:
 - Open
 - Save
 - Use
3. Select the Open option.
4. The Preset File Open Dialog Box will be displayed.
5. Enter the name of the preset file you want to open (or select the desired name from the list of filenames).
6. Click the OK Button to initiate the preset file.
7. The Preset File Open Dialog Box will be dismissed and the preset filename will appear on the Preset Button.
8. To activate the volume configuration saved in the preset file, double click the button. You could also click on the button and select the Use option from the pop-up menu.

Related Topics:

[Creating and Saving a Preset Configuration](#)
[Preset File Open Dialog Box](#)

Preset File Open Dialog Box

The Preset File Open Dialog Box is used to select the file that contains the desired settings for the Mixing Console.

Select the desired filename and click the OK Button to open the file.

Related Topics:

[Preset File Open Dialog Box Buttons and Fields](#)

Preset File Open Dialog Box Buttons and Fields

File Name

Description

Directories

List Files of Type

Drives Field

OK Button

Cancel Button

File Name

This field is used to enter the name of the file containing the desired Mixing Console settings. You can also select a file from the File Name display area (below the File Name field). Use the scroll bar to "page" through the list of file names. The default extension of file names shown in the display area is .PRS (Preset).

Related Topics:

[Description](#)

[List Files of Type](#)

[Directories](#)

[Drives Field](#)

Description

When you enter or select the desired file name, the associated description (if specified when the preset file was saved) will be shown in this field. The Description Display Area simply shows the descriptions associated with each file name shown in the File Name display area.

Related Topics:

[File Name](#)

[List Files of Type](#)

[Directories](#)

[Drives Field](#)

Directories

This field is used to enter the directory in which the desired preset file is located. You can also select a directory from the Directory display area. The directories displayed in this area are dictated by the drive specified in the Drives field.

Related Topic:

[Drives Field](#)

List Files of Type

This area can be used to specify the type of file you want to list in the File Name field and File Name display area. The default file type is files with a .PRS (Preset) extension. If you save your preset files with a different extension, you can indicate that extension in this field.

Related Topics:

[File Name](#)

[Description](#)

[Directories](#)

[Drives Field](#)

Drives Field

This field is used to specify the drive on which your preset files are located. Use the Drop List Icon at the end of the field to display a list of available drives.

OK Button

Once you have selected the desired preset file, click this button to open the file. The Preset File Open Dialog Box will be dismissed and the preset file name will appear on the button.

Cancel Button

Click this button to dismiss the Preset File Open Dialog Box without opening a preset file.

Drop List Icon

This Icon is used to display a list. If you click the icon at the end of the Drives Field, a list of available drives will be displayed. You can then select the desired drive. The drop list will be dismissed and the selected drive will be shown in the field.

Preset File Save Dialog Box

The Preset File Save Dialog Box is used to save your current Mixing Console settings under the desired file name.

Enter the desired path and filename and click the OK Button to open the file.

Related Topic:

[Preset File Save Dialog Box Buttons and Fields](#)

Preset File Save Dialog Box Buttons and Fields

File Name

Description

Directories

List Files of Type

Drives Field

OK Button

Cancel Button

File Name

This field is used to enter the name of the file in which you want to save the current Mixing Console settings. The default extension for preset files is .PRS.

Related Topics:

[Description](#)

[List Files of Type](#)

[Directories](#)

[Drives Field](#)

Description

When you enter the desired file name, you can specify an associated description in this field.

Related Topics:

[File Name](#)

[List Files of Type](#)

[Directories](#)

[Drives Field](#)

Directories

This field is used to enter the directory in which the desired preset file will be stored. You can also select a directory from the Directory display area. The directories displayed in this area are dictated by the drive specified in the Drives field.

Related Topic:

[Drives Field](#)

List Files of Type

This area can be used to specify the type of file you want to list in the File Name field and File Name display area. The default file type is files with a .PRS (Preset) extension. If you save your preset files with a different extension, you can indicate that extension in this field.

Related Topics:

[File Name](#)

[Description](#)

[Directories](#)

[Drives Field](#)

Drives Field

This field is used to specify the drive on which your preset file will be located. Use the [Drop List Icon](#) at the end of the field to display a list of available drives.

Related Topics:

[File Name](#)

[Description](#)

[Directories](#)

[List Files of Type](#)

OK Button

Once you have named the desired preset file, click this button to save the file. The Preset File Save Dialog Box will be dismissed.

Cancel Button

Click this button to dismiss the Preset File Save Dialog Box without saving the current Mixing Console settings.