

# Command | 8

Automated Mixing Control Surface for Pro Tools Systems

Combine Command|8 with Mbox™ and you've got immediate, hands-on access to the Pro Tools LE environment and MIDI connectivity without the need to purchase an additional MIDI interface. Or, use Command|8 with Digi 002 and have a 16-fader Pro Tools LE workstation at your fingertips. Whatever configuration you choose — from Mbox to Pro Tools|HD Accel — Command|8 puts Pro Tools power at your command.

## SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

The Command|8 works with Digidesign-approved Windows® XP- or Mac OS® X-based Pro Tools LE systems (Digi 002, Digi 002 Rack™, Digi 001®, Mbox) and Pro Tools TDM systems (Pro Tools|HD, Pro Tools|HD Accel). Command|8 includes the required Pro Tools 6.4 software installer.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Monitor Section Performance:

- Dynamic Range: 102 dB (unweighted, 105 dB or better A-weighted)
- THD+N: better than 0.0015%

Frequency response: 20 Hz to 20 kHz, ± 0.2 dB

Maximum input level: +22 dBu balanced (matches max. output level of 888|24s or 192 I/Os, +4 dBu nominal; -18 dBFs reference level)

For the latest Digidesign product information and system requirements, and the latest Development Partner plug-in and software compatibility information, visit [www.digidesign.com](http://www.digidesign.com).

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Preliminary Information

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## FEATURES

- Supports Pro Tools TDM and LE systems — Equally suited to home studios and pro audio or video editing suites
- Simple USB connection to your PC or Mac
- Eight moving faders with touch-control circuitry
- Eight rotary encoders for pan, send, and plug-in control
- Big, bright alphanumeric display shows track name, pan, send, and fader info, plug-in values, and time-line position
- SELECT/SOLO/MUTE/REC can instantly be enabled for each channel
- Dedicated transport section with one-touch controls for common Pro Tools functions
- Two stereo inputs (main and auxiliary)
- Focusrite onboard monitor system for high-end audio performance
- Monitor output controls include mono, mute, and a dedicated volume control knob
- Headphone output includes a dedicated volume control knob
- Integrated MIDI interface — 1-IN/2-OUT (16/32 channels)
- Stand-alone MIDI controller mode — Easy to map controls to software or hardware devices; supports Avid family of products
- Footswitch included for QuickPunch punch-in

Pro Tools® TDM and LE software gives you an amazing amount of control over every detail of the recording and mixing process. However, for many Pro Tools operations, a mouse and keyboard simply aren't the fastest — or most gratifying — tools available. For real Pro Tools power and efficiency, it's hard to beat the satisfyingly tactile faders, buttons, and rotary encoders of a Digidesign® control surface.

## ALL HANDS ON DECK

With a control surface, working with Pro Tools becomes a more intuitive process, allowing you to engage physically with your session. As with a musical instrument, it gives you a direct physical conduit to bring your sonic ideas to life. And instead of focusing your attention on a computer screen, a control surface lets you work by ear and feel.

The advantages of control surfaces are most evident when it comes to mixing. Instead of pointing and clicking on one element at a time, you can accomplish multiple functions simultaneously — for example, muting and soloing tracks, panning, adjusting effects send levels, and changing plug-in settings. Complex automation tasks like volume rides and crossfades across multiple tracks can be executed — and saved — with a sweep of the faders, for immediate, real-time results.

Complementing Digidesign's control surface options is the new Command|8™ — an ergonomic, space-efficient, automatable tactile worksurface that gives you absolute mastery over your session. With Command|8 you can bid farewell to the squinting and clicking through menus that inevitably accompanies mouse-based Pro Tools operation and put your productivity into high gear.

## MEET COMMAND|8

The latest collaborative innovation from Digidesign and Focusrite®, Command|8 gives you hands-on control of your Pro Tools LE or TDM system in a compact, affordable package. The Command|8 is a full-featured control surface that's equally well-suited for space-

challenged, multi-room music or post facilities, home or project studios, and portable Pro Tools systems.

Command|8's faders, rotary encoders, displays, and dedicated transport controls enable you to build your Pro Tools mixes with the hands-on feel of a traditional analog console. A simple USB connection facilitates communication between Command|8 and your PC or Mac. The Command|8 onboard monitor system features Focusrite audio performance and quality, accommodating Pro Tools audio along with external inputs, speakers, and separately controlled headphone outputs.

Similar to the Digi 002®, each of Command|8's eight bankable channels of tactile controls includes a touch-sensitive fader and an automatable rotary encoder with an LED monitoring ring. A highly visible, luminescent, 110-character backlit LCD display runs across the top of the channel array, enabling you to easily view essential information such as track and parameter names simultaneously.

## FOCUSRITE MONITORING

Command|8 features a Focusrite-designed onboard analog monitor section, eliminating the need for an additional audio mixer. The monitor section features two +4/-10 selectable stereo inputs (balanced or unbalanced) and stereo speaker outputs (also +4/-10), and a separately controlled headphone amp, providing you with the monitoring flexibility you need to keep an ear or two on your sessions' development.

## MIDI CONTROL AND MORE

Along with its control surface personality, Command|8 manages your MIDI needs by way of its built-in, 1-IN/2-OUT MIDI interface. Simply connect your outboard MIDI gear to Command|8's MIDI ports and you're ready to record MIDI information into Pro Tools. Command|8 can also be used as a stand-alone MIDI controller for any device that accepts MIDI control change messages for level, panning, solo, mute, MIDI machine control, and other parameters. Command|8 supports Avid® products natively, offering the tightest possible integration with the Automation Gain Tool.

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# Command | 8

## 110-CHARACTER LCD DISPLAY (ALSO CALLED SCRIBBLE STRIP)

- Displays track names, track & plug-in parameter values, timecode, etc.

## CHANNEL VIEW CONTROLS

- Plug-in or Pan/Send controls for a selected INSERT or SEND
- Buttons: EQ, DYNAMICS, INSERT, PAN/SEND/PRE, PAGE, MASTER BYPASS, ESC

## CONSOLE VIEW CONTROLS

- Controls status display of pans, sends, or inserts across all channels simultaneously
- Defaults to channel pan position; select A-E to determine which SEND or INSERT values are displayed in the scribble strip

## MODIFIER KEYS

- Correspond to their computer keyboard counterparts

## FADER SECTION

- 100 mm touch-sensitive moving faders with support for +12 dB fader scale
- SELECT, SOLO and MUTE buttons and color-coded LED indicators
- Multi-purpose rotary encoders with 11-LED rings displaying pan position, send level, etc.
- Five-segment LED meters (0 to -42 dBFS)

## CONTROL ROOM AND HEADPHONE CONTROLS

- Control Room: Mute, Mono, and External Source monitor selectors; dedicated volume level control
- Headphones: 1/4" stereo headphone jack; dedicated volume level control

## MISCELLANEOUS CONTROLS & INDICATORS

- Record-enable, Pan/Meter (with L/R indicators), Enter, and Undo selectors
- Standalone button — Places Command | 8 into stand-alone controller mode
- USB and MIDI activity indicators

## MASTER FADER/FLIP CONTROLS

- Master Fader: Activate to move master fader control to the rightmost faders
- Flip: Activate to move PAN/SEND or INSERT control from rotary encoders to faders

## NAVIGATION KEYS

- Four-key navigation pad enables you to BANK through software mixer eight faders at a time, NUDGE through mixer one channel at a time, or ZOOM in or out on track data horizontally or vertically, and move the play selector horizontally and vertically

## SPECIALIZED FUNCTION CONTROLS

- Including Utility, Midi Edit (for MIDI mapping), PRE/Midi recall (recalls MIDI controller sets, MIDI maps, or Digidesign PRE parameter values), Fader Mute, and plug-in Focus

## GENERAL CONTROLS

- Select Pro Tools interface window (Plug-in, Mix, or Edit), Loop Play, Loop Record, Quick Punch, and Memory Location

## TRANSPORT CONTROLS

- Control common transport functions within Pro Tools (Play, Record, Stop, etc.)



## POWER

- Power cable connector
- Power switch

## INTERFACES

- 1-IN/2-OUT MIDI interface
- USB connector
- 1/4" Punch In connector

## OUTPUTS

- Speaker outputs — 1/4" TRS (balanced/unbalanced) connectors with +4 / -10 pushbutton

## MONITOR INPUTS

- Main and External Source stereo inputs — 1/4" TRS (balanced/unbalanced) connectors with +4 / -10 pushbutton per pair