THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

J. Hellen

ALLENBRIEATH





Introducing the New Compact Digital Mixers from Allen & Heath

We have been creating high end mixing consoles for some of the most discerning ears in the business since 1969. We're not a software house, we don't make stomp boxes or cable testers – creating excellent mixers is, has been and always will be our great passion. Qu mixers have been designed by our in-house research and development team in Cornwall, Great Britain, and are directly descended from the GLD and iLive digital mixing systems that have earned the industry's respect night after night on tour and in live venues across the globe – so you can be confident that you're standing behind a premium mixer that looks, feels, and sounds like a pro. Qu mixers harness the full potential of digital mixing technology, with total recall of settings (including the all-important fader position and preamp gain), convenient recording and playback solutions, iPad control, personal monitoring options and the choice of local or remote Cat5 I/O.

24

4

25 FADE

20-24

DAV

AnalogiQ[™] Preamps

20-32

Our AnalogiQ[™] total recall preamps feature zero crossing detection and an advanced padless 1dB step gain stage, closely allied to the DSP for optimal gain accuracy and audio transparency. The analogue signal is captured by high class, low latency 24bit analogue to digital converters matched to high quality 24bit digital to analogue converters to deliver the required outputs. The AnalogiQ[™] design has been refined to offer superb transparency, minimal distortion and an ultra-low noise floor, with a warm, musical sound that is missing from some digital consoles.



Qu-16

QU-BH

4 ENGINES	4 STERED FX RETURNS	4 SOFTKEYS
17 FADERS	19 ⁷⁷ MUNITABLE	4 GROUPS
16 INPUTS	3 STERED INPUTS	12 ^{MIX}

The Mixing Experience

Having massive processing power and advanced functionality is great, but it counts for nothing if you can't access the controls you need in a heartbeat. Once you start using a Qu you'll sense the years of research into ergonomics and the hands-on mixing experience that our team has drawn upon to deliver a wonderfully natural layout and workflow. It's not about recreating an analogue interface, it's about creating an experience that's fluid, comfortable and intuitive for novices, digital natives and old school road warriors alike, making all the benefits of digital mixing technology readily accessible to all.



Touch Control

The 800 x 480, sixteen million colour Touchscreen and its dedicated data encoder form the heart of the Qu interface, providing super-fast, easy access to all settings. The user-friendly interface has been designed with clarity in mind. Dedicated keys and screen tabs quickly guide you to meter and RTA views, FX racks, channel processing, USB audio control, scenes, setup menus and much more.



The SuperStrip

All your key processing tools are presented in a clean layout on the SuperStrip, with 1 function per physical control. The SuperStrip is complemented by an onscreen TouchChannel for intuitive access to full processing parameters without clutter or complex menu structures. Processing for Mono and Stereo inputs includes trim, polarity, HPF, gate, insert, 4 band PEQ, compressor and delay. All mixes including LR provide Insert, 4 band PEQ, 1/3 octave GEQ, compressor and delay.





Fader Automation

Moving faders started as an expensive option in the studio desks of the 80s, and later became the norm with the advent of digital technology. Nevertheless some entry-level digital mixers lack this precious commodity which is a fundamental part of the Total Recall approach. Fader automation is essential for rapid mixing, especially when you're dealing with multiple monitor mixes – just press a mix key and the faders immediately fly to the send levels for that mix.

Qu-16, Qu-24 and Qu-32 feature 16, 24 and 32 motorized ALPS faders respectively, arranged over 2 layers, allowing instant access to all channels and masters in a compact space, plus a dedicated master fader which dynamically follows the mix selection. A third, Custom layer is available for ad-hoc user strip layout, where any combination of Inputs, FX Sends, FX Returns, Mix masters and MIDI strips can be assigned.

iLive FX

Qu's dynamics and FX algorithms are derived from the FX used in our iLive pro touring series. Some of the world's most respected audio engineers have chosen to use iLive's FX on tour in preference to top-end plug-ins and external FX units. All Qu models boast 4 stereo iLive FX engines, featuring lovingly crafted emulations of legendary classic reverbs, gated reverbs, delays, modulators, flangers and more.

The FX library has the ability to grow with future firmware releases. FX are returned to the mix on dedicated return channels, so you're not tying up your mono and stereo input channels. Each Stereo FX Return has a dedicated 4 band PEQ.



Qu-Drive

Forget soundcard drivers and software setup, Qu has an integrated multitrack USB recorder, providing 18 channels of 48kHz, 24bit recording and playback straight to / from your USB hard drive. Capturing multitrack recordings of your shows has never been so easy. Mixes and FX returns can be recorded alongside channels, and multitrack audio can be played back to the mixer for virtual sound-checks.



An independent set of controls is provided for quick stereo recording of the main LR or other mix outputs, and a 2-track USB return can be routed to ST3 for playback of stereo WAV files such as walk-in music.

Total Recall

True digital mixing is about being able to save and recall scenes (snapshots) at the press of a button. Qu can store up to 100 full Scenes for recall at will. Channels and mixes can be made Safe from Scene recall. For example, if an instrument or mic gets swapped out after the soundcheck, the channel can be made safe to avoid settings being overridden by Scene recalls. Or if a broadcast feed or walk-in iPod is added last-minute before the show kicks off, that mix or channel can be made safe from any scene change. In addition, single parameter updates can be blocked using a Recall Filter. So if you tweak the graphic EQ to reflect the room response when the audience gets in, you can block this to prevent any overwriting at scene change.

Custom settings for each EQ, compressor or channel can be saved as Library presets. This lets you store your tried and tested setting for your favourite vocal mic or reverb pattern and apply it to other channels or shows. Libraries, Scenes and the complete Show configuration can be saved to a USB key, so you can carry the show with you, ready to use on another Qu mixer.

USB Audio Streaming

Qu's built-in interface streams multitrack audio to your Mac or PC via a flexible patching system: all Input channels and the Main LR can be recorded at the same time, or you may choose to record something different such as FX returns or a pair of mixes.



The returns from the computer can be assigned to the Input channels. The interface is class-compliant on Mac OS X – and drivers are available for Windows systems. Either way, it will be recognized straightaway by any DAW supporting ASIO or Core Audio, including Logic, Cubase, Reaper, and Pro Tools.









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anaLOGIQ **RECALLABLE PREAMP** Qu features crystal clear

Motorised faders provide total recall of mix levels, giving full benefit from the scene recall system and ensuring the fade even when swapping be the lavers.



emulations taken from the iLive pro touring series, including classic reverbs, gated reverbs, delays and modulators.



REMOTE AUDIO Allen & Heath's proprietary dSNAKE[™] low latency audio

connection to a remote audio mixina system.



RACKMOUNTABLE DIGITAL MIXER FOR LIVE STUDIO AND INSTALLATION

With 24 sources to the mix including stereo inputs and returns, Qu-16 is the equivalent of a 30 channel analogue console with extensive outboard equipment (22 gates, 34 compressors, 12 graphic equalizers and 4 stereo effects)! Add the unique Qu-Drive recording facilities, dSNAKE connectivity and Total Recall scene system and you get a true powerhouse in just 19 inches.

> All 12 Mix outputs on XLB Dedicated Talkb

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	6	
	8	
	9	



recorder, allowing multitrack recording and playback to/from an external USB drive



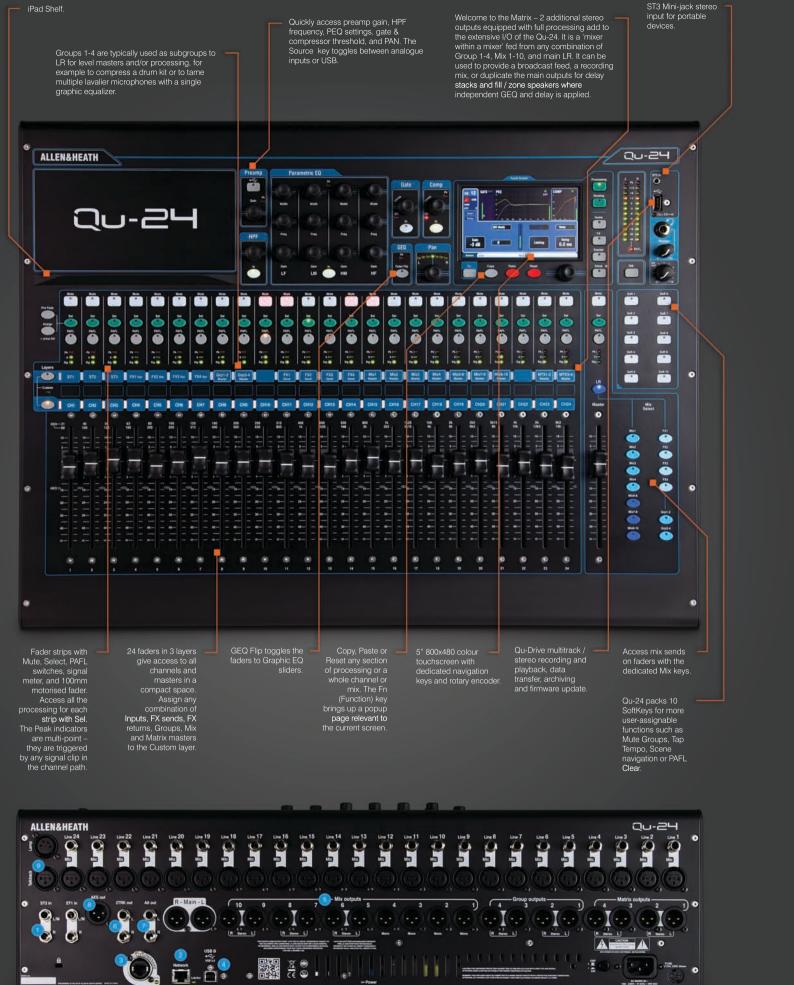
Qu is compatible with Allen & Heath's ME Personal Mixing System – so you can add ME-1 personal mixers to your setup to allow performers to mixes.



Qu's high resolution, full colour Touchscreen and the intuitive Touch Channel interface provide easy access to channel processing, the FX racks and all setup and system management controls



A free iPad app gives instant so you can tweak the PA, and even mix the show from the audience.



11

FUIL OF STREET 0





Motorised faders provide total recall of mix levels, giving full benefit from the scene recall is always in the right position even when swapping between the lavers.



emulations taken from the including classic reverbs, gated reverbs, delays and modulators



AnaLOGIQ total recall pad-less preamps, optimised for transparency and low harmonic distortion.



Allen & Heath's proprietary dSNAKE™ low latency audio connection enables Cat5 connection to a remote audio rack, or to the ME personal mixing system

Balanced Stereo Input Ethernet network port fo remote / wi-fi control dSNAKE[™] Remote Audic port for digital snake and personal monitoring 3 USB audio streaming, class-compliant on Mac All 20 Mix outputs on XLR 2TRK Out Patchable Alt Out 8 Dedicated Talkback preamp





COMPACT DIGITAL MIXER

With 32 sources to the mix including stereo inputs and returns, Qu-24 is the equivalent of a 38 channel analogue console with extensive outboard equipment (30 gates, 50 compressors, 20 graphic equalizers and 4 stereo effects)! On top of this Qu-24 adds extra SoftKeys, a complete Matrix system and two stereo Groups.



Qu-Drive is an integrated USB recorder, allowing multitrack recording and playback to/from an external USB drive



Heath's ME Personal Mixing System – so you can add setup to allow performers to

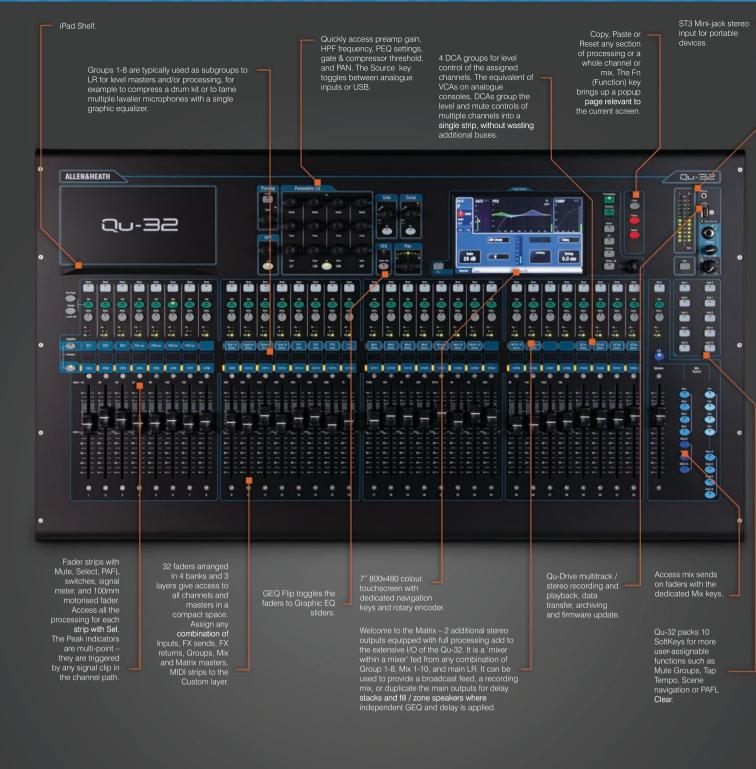


colour Touchscreen and the intuitive Touch Channel interface provide easy access to channel processing, the FX management control

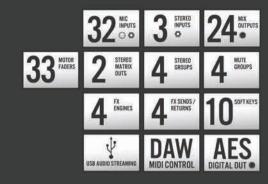


A free iPad app gives instant wireless control of the mixer, so you can tweak the PA, adjust the monitors on stage and even mix the show from the audience.











Motorised faders provide total recall of mix levels, giving full benefit from the scene recall system and ensuring the fader is always in the right position even when swapping between the lavers.



Qu features a library of FX emulations taken from the iLive pro touring series, including classic reverbs, gated reverbs, delays and modulators.



Qu features crystal clear AnaLOGIQ total recall pad-less preamps, optimised for transparency and low harmonic distortion.



Allen & Heath's proprietary dSNAKE™ low latency audio connection enables Cat5 connection to a remote audio rack, or to the ME personal mixing system.





COMPACT DIGITAL MIXER FOR LIVE, STUDIO AND INSTALLATION

With 4 DCAs and 40 sources to the mix including stereo inputs and returns, Qu-32 is the equivalent of a 46 channel, 8 groups, 4 VCA analogue console with extensive outboard equipment (38 gates, 62 compressors, 24 graphic equalizers and 4 stereo effects)!



Qu-Drive is an integrated USB recorder, allowing multitrack recording and playback to/from an external USB drive.



Qu is compatible with Allen & Heath's ME Personal Mixing System - so you can add ME-1 personal mixers to your setup to allow performers to control their own monitor mixes.



Qu's high resolution, full colour Touchscreen and the intuitive Touch Channel interface provide easy access to channel processing, the FX racks and all setup and system management controls.



A free iPad app gives instant wireless control of the mixer, so you can tweak the PA, adjust the monitors on stage, and even mix the show from the audience.

Qu-Pad

Add the Qu-Pad iPad app to your Qu setup and you're free to adjust the monitors on stage, roam around the venue whilst tweaking the PA, and then mix the show from the heart of the audience. Qu-Pad connects to the mixer over Wi-Fi* and gives instant access to all live mixing parameters and settings.

*Requires the connection of a Wi-Fi router or access point to the Qu Network port..



Remote Audio

Qu mixers are self-contained, so if you've already got the analogue cables you're good to go. If you're thinking of trading in the copper multicore for a Cat5 digital snake, Qu's dSNAKE[™] port has you future-proofed, allowing connection to a combination of AR2412. AR84 or portable AB168 AudioBacks



AR84

8 inputs, 4 outputs AudioRack with dSNAKE connection.



Applications

Qu-16 + AB168

Rugged digital box for all 16 mono inputs and up to 8 returns, plus Qu-Drive direct recording on USB media.

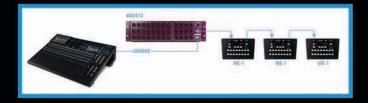
Qu-32 + AR2412 + AR84

dSNAKE digital connection to AR2412 and AR84 AudioRacks, all 32 mic inputs on stage, plus optional iPad wireless control.

ME Personal Mixing System

Qu mixers are fully compatible with our ME Personal Mixing System. Any number of ME-1 personal mixers can be chained from the dSNAKE[™] port (or from an AR2412 / AB168 AudioRack if you've got one connected to the dSNAKETM port). Each performer can be given tailored control over their own mix, leaving the engineer free to focus on the audience experience.

Find out more at allen-heath.com/ME



Accessories

AH9650 – 100m drum of Neutrik EtherFlex Cat5 with locking connector. AH9651 – 20m Neutrik EtherFlex Cat5 with locking connector. **LEDLamp** – Variable brightness 18" gooseneck lamp. QU-16-RK19 – Rack mounting kit for Qu-16. AP9262 – Dust cover for Qu-16. AP9458 – Dust cover for Qu-24. AP9639 – Dust cover for Qu-32.

dSNAKE[™] is our proprietary networking solution, boasting a transport latency of only 105us over cable runs of up to 120m / 390'. So if you're mixing FoH you can place your I/O on the stage and run a single Cat5 cable back to the Qu mixer in the mix position.

AR2412

24 inputs, 12 outputs AudioRack with dSNAKE connection, expansion port and dedicated EtherCon connection to the ME personal mixing system.



AB168

Portable rugged 16 inputs, 8 outputs stagebox with dSNAKE connection and expansion port.



Qu in the Studio



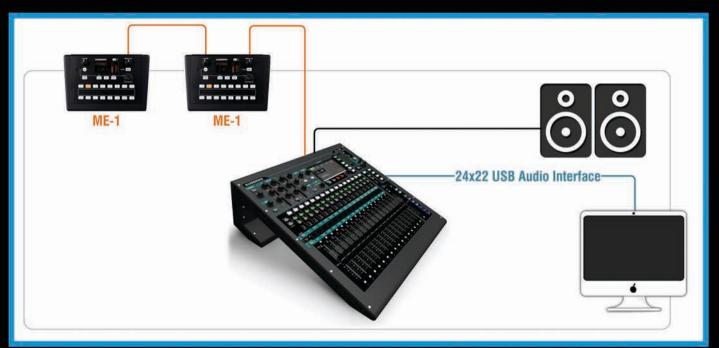
Qu mixers can sit at the heart of your studio and double as a tracking desk, audio interface and DAW controller.

The built-in USB interface can handle up to 32x32* channels full-duplex of high quality 24bit 48kHz audio. MIDI control is tunnelled over the USB connection and the Custom layer can be populated with MIDI strips for direct assignment or 'learning' of faders and Mute, Sel and PAFL keys in the DAW.

You can also download the free DAW Control app for Mac OS X, which translates the standard MIDI messages to popular HUI or Mackie Control protocols, for easier setup and deeper integration with the mixer.

Add one or more ME-1s for personal foldback mixes to the recording room.

* 24x22 on Qu-16, 32x30 on Qu-24



Example Studio Application



The Shape of Things to Come

distinctive frame is designed for strength and rigidity. we started taking Qu out to gigs we soon found the We've done unspeakable things to that chassis in the space beneath it incredibly useful for keeping our USB lab and it's taken everything we've thrown at it - even drive, talkback mic, cue sheet and other clutter tucked

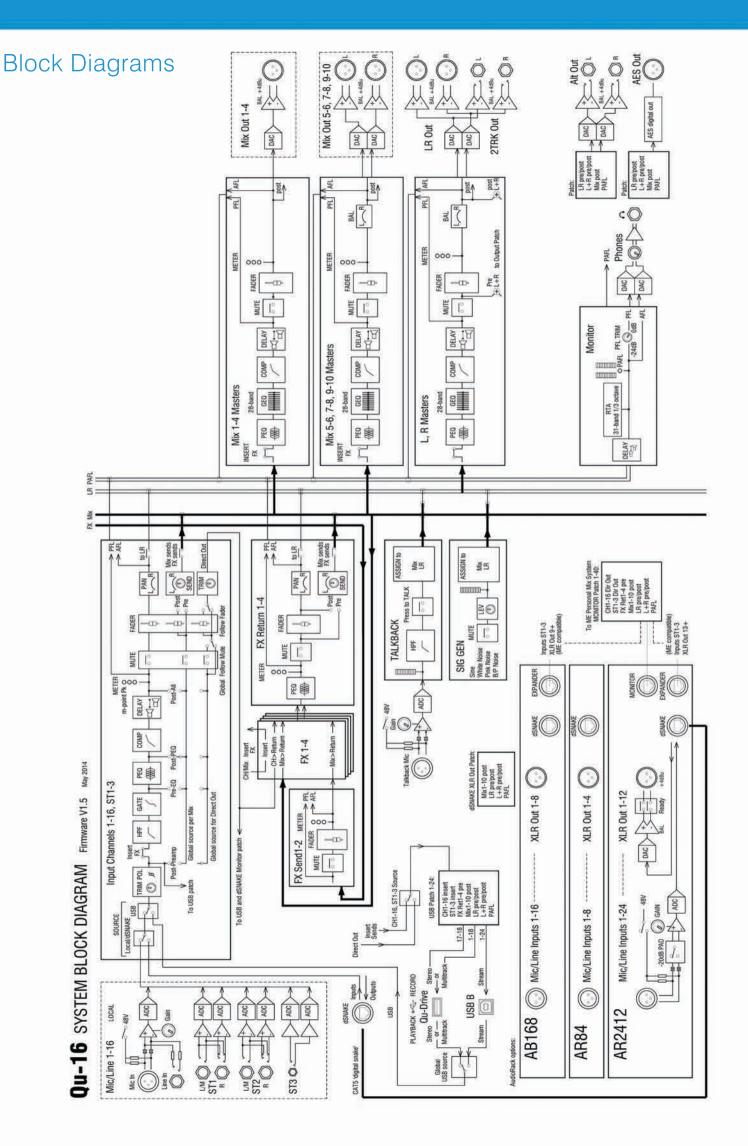
Silence is a precious commodity in the live or studio environment, which is why nobody wants those moments of stillness ruined by the whirring of fans coming from the mix position. Qu's sleek profile generates optimal airflow through the mixer, eliminating the need for any fans.

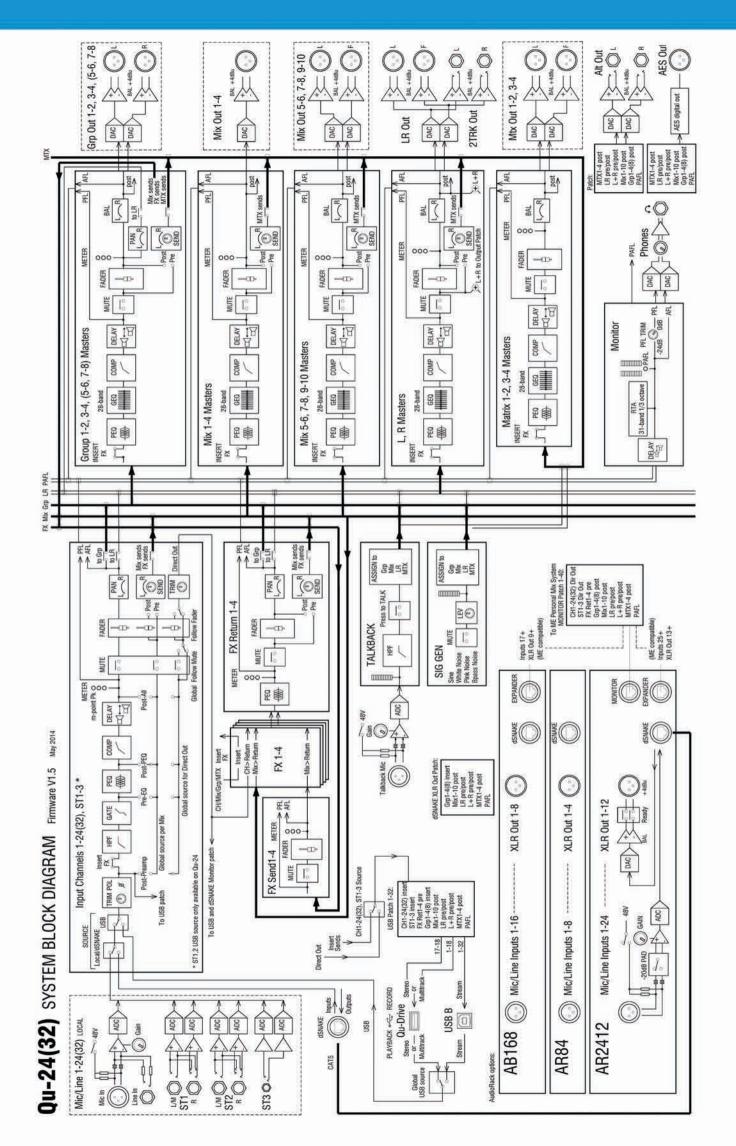
Made from 18 gauge, cold-rolled Zintec steel, Qu's The shape has some unexpected benefits too. When being stomped on by our resident ex-tank commander. out of the way. We've even had engineers hanging the mixer from a handy scaffold bar and mixing vertically.

ARMed to the Hilt

Qu mixers are equipped with 5 cores of high efficiency The mixer's DSP farm exploits next generation dual ARM core processing, with dedicated ARM cores core DSPs. With plenty of DSP power under the hood running the touchscreen display and surface, USB the channel processing is only using a fraction of capacity, so Qu is future-proofed, with ample room for streaming, Qu-Drive multi-channel USB recording / playback, Ethernet and fader automation. Between updates and extra functionality. them the ARM cores provide state-of-the-art processing, working in parallel to deliver extensive The DSP architecture employs varied bit depths, control, instant-on operation, and lightning-fast tailored to specific algorithms, with 48 bits on critical EQ functions and a 56 bit accumulator on the mix bus response. where it really counts, allowing every nuance of the audio to be captured in the final mix.







Technical Specifications

Qu-16, Qu-24, Qu-32 specification

Inputs Mic/Line Inputs

Input Sensitivity (XLR / TRS) Analogue Gain Maximum Input Level (XLR / TRS) Input Impedance (XLR / TRS) THD+N, Unity gain 0dB THD+N, Mid gain +30dB

Stereo Line Inputs ST1, ST2 connector ST3 connector Input Sensitivity (ST1, ST2 / ST3) Trim Maximum Input Level (ST1,ST2 / ST3) Input Impedance

Outputs Mix1-10 and LR Out Group and Matrix Out (Qu-24,32 only) Output Impedance Nominal Output Maximum Output Level Residual Output Noise

> Stereo Att Out & 2Trk Out Source (Alt Output / 2Trk Output) Output Impedance Nominal Output Maximum Output Level Residual Output Noise

AES Digital Output

dSNAKE Inputs Outputs

System

Dynamic Range Frequency Response Headroom Internal operating Level dBFS Alignment Meter Calibration Meter Pak indication Meter Signal indication Meter Type

Sampling Rate ADC, DAC Latency

Operating Temperature Range Mains Power Maximum Power Consumption

USB Audio Qu-Drive Stereo Record Stereo Playback Multitrack Record Multitrack Playback

> USB Audio Streaming Send (upstream) Qu-16/24/32 Return (downstream) Qu-16/24/32

Dimensions Qu-16 Mixer & Weights Desk mounted Rack mounted Packed in shipping box Unpacked weight Packed weight

> Qu-24 Mixer Desk mounted Packed in shipping box Unpacked weight Packed weight

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Balanced, XLR and 1/4* TRS jack, fully recallable} \\ -60 to +5dBu / -50 to +15dBu \\ -50 + 60dB, 1dB steps \\ +19dBu / +29dBu \\ >5K\Omega / >10 k\Omega \\ 0.0005\%, =80 dBu (20-20kHz, Direct Out @0dBu 1kHz) \\ 0.001\%, =83dBu (20-20kHz, Direct Out @0dBu 1kHz) \\ \end{array}$

Balanced, 1/4* TRS jack, half normalled Unbalanced, stereo 3.5mm Mini Jack Nominal +4dBu / 0dBu +/-24dB +22dBu / +18dBu >7KQ

Balanced, XLR <75Ω + 4dBu = 0dB meter reading + 22dBu -90 dBu (muted, 20-20kHz)

Balanced, 1/4" TRS jack Patchable / LR post-fade <75Ω +4dBu = 0dB meter reading +22dBu -90 dBu (muted, 20-20kHz)

2 channel, 48kHz sampling rate, XLR 2.5Vpp balanced terminated 110Ω

Remote source for CH1-32, ST1, ST2, ST3 Patchable from Mix1-10, LR, Grp1-8, MTX1-4 Compatible with AudioRacks AR2412, AR84, AB168 Compatible with ME personal mixing system

Measured balanced XLR in to XLR out, 0dB gain, 0dBu input 112 dB +0/-0.5dB 20Hz to 20kHz +18dB 0dBu +18dBu = 0dBFS (+22dBu at XLR output) 0dB meter = -18dBFS (+4dBu at XLR out) -3dBFS (+19dBu at XLR out), -48dBFS (-26dBu at XLR out) Fast (peak) resonse

48kHz +/-100PPM 24-bit Delta-Sigma 1.2 ms (local XLR in to XLR out) 0.7 ms (local XLR in to AES out)

0 deg C to 35 deg C (32 deg F to 95 deg F) 100-240V AC, 50/60Hz Qu-16= 82W, Qu-24= 120W, Qu-32= 150W

USB A 2 channel, WAV, 48kHz, 24-bit, patchable 2 channel, WAV, 44.1 or 48kHz, 16 or 24-bit, to ST3 18 channel, WAV, 48kHz, 24-bit, patchable 18 channel, WAV, 48kHz, 24-bit

USB B, Core Audio compliant 24/32/32 channel, WAV, 48kHz, 24-bit 22/30/32 channel, WAV, 48kHz, 24-bit

Width x Depth x Height 440 x 500 x 186 mm (17.4° x 19.7° x 7.4°) 483 x 472 x 190 mm (19° x 18.6° x 7.5°) 610 x 680 x 350 mm (24° x 27° x 13.8°) 10 kg (22 lbs) 13.5 kg (30 lbs)

Width x Depth x Height 632 x 500 x 186 mm (24.9" x 19.7" x 7.4") 670 x 790 x 350 mm (26.4" x 31.1" x 13.8") 14 kg (31 lbs) 18 kg (40 lbs) Control Faders Touch Screen Qu-16, 24 Touch Screen Qu-32 SattKeys Mute Groups DCA Groups Network

Input Source Processing CH1-32 ST1, ST2 ST3 USB Global Source

> Stereo Linking Parameters linked Link options

> > Polarity High Pass Filter Insert Delay

Gate Threshold / Depth Attack / Hold / Release

PEQ Band 1 Band 2, Band 3 Band 4 Bell Width

Compressor Threshold / Ratio Attack / Release Knee Types

Channel Direct Out to USB Source select (global)

Mix Insert Processing Delay

GEQ

PEQ Band 1 Band 2, Band 3 Band 4 Bell Width

Compressor Threshold / Ratio Attack / Release Knee Types

FX Internal FX Types

4 dedicated Stereo FX returns

Audio Tools PAFL Talkback Signal Generator BTA

Dimensions Qu-32 Mixer & Weights Desk mounted Packed in shipping box Unpacked weight Packed weight

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100mm motorised 5° TFT, 800x480 resolution 7° TFT, 800x480 resolution 4 (Qu-16), 10 (Qu-24, 32) 4 4 4 4 4

Local, dSNAKE, or USB Local, dSNAKE, or USB Local, dSNAKE, or USB Stereo Qu-Drive or USB B Streaming

Odd/even input pairs EQ, dynamics, insert, delay, assignments, sends Preamp, polarity, sidechains, fader/mute, pan

Normal/Reverse 12dB/octave 20Hz – 2kHz Assign FX1-4 into Input channels Up to 85ms

Self key Sidechain -72dBu to +18dBu / 0 to 60dB 50us to 300ms / 10ms to 5s / 10ms to 1s

4-Band fully parametric, 20-20kHz, +/-15dB Selectable LF Shelving (Baxandall), Bell Bell Selectable HF Shelving (Baxandall), Bell

Non-constant Q, variable, 1.5 to 1/9th octave

Self key Sidechain -46dBu to 18dBu / 1:1 to infinity 300us - 300ms / 100ms - 2s Soft/Hard Peak Manual, RMS Manual, SlowOpto, PunchBag

Follow Fader, follow Mute (global options) Post-Preamp, Pre-EQ, Post-EQ, Post-Delay

Assign FX into Mix channels Up to 170ms

Constant 1/3 oct, 28 bands 31Hz-16kHz, +/-12dB Gain

4-Band fully parametric, 20-20kHz, +/-15dB Selectable LF Shelving (Baxandali), Bell Bell Selectable HF Shelving (Baxandali), Bell Non-constant Q. variable, 1.5 to 1/9th octave

Self key Sidechain -46dBu to 18dBu / 1:1 to infinity 300us - 300ms / 100ms - 2s Soft/Hard Peak Manual. RMS Manual. SlowOoto. PunchBao

4x RackFX engine, Send>Return or Inserted Reverbs, Delays, Gated Reverb, ADT Chorus, Symphonic Chorus, Phaser, Flanger Fader, Pan, Mute, Routing to Mix/LR, 4-Band PEQ

PFL or stereo in-place AFL, 0 to -24dB Trim, 85ms Delay Assignable to any mix, 12dB/oct HPF Assignable to any mix, Sine / White/Pink/Bandpass Noise 31-Bands 1/3 octave 20-20kHz, follows PAFL source

Width x Depth x Height 850 x 500 x 186 mm (33.5" x 19.7" x 7.4") 1000 x 680 x 350 mm (39.4" x 26.8" x 13.8") 20 kg (44 lbs) 24 kg (53 lbs)

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