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Master Volume

The Master Volume Knob controls the volume of every audio output on the ESI including the submix and headphone outputs. The master volume knob is a digital control. For maximum dynamic range it should be kept near the maximum position.

Data Entry Control

Using the Data Entry Control is the most common way to change parameter values on the ESI. Moving the control changes either the data over the flashing cursor or scrolls through options in the display.

Inc/Dec Buttons

In all ESI menus where the data entry control selects options, the Increment (INC/YES) and Decrement (DEC/NO) Buttons duplicate the function of the Data Entry Control. The increment/decrement buttons can be used when a finer degree of control is required. They can also be used for selecting Yes or No.

Ten Key Pad

The Ten Key Pad is used to enter data in precise amounts. For instance, if you wanted to jump to preset 10, enter 010 on the ten key pad and the new preset number will be instantly selected, eliminating the process of finding the number with the data entry control and then pressing Enter.

Escape

The Escape button lets you back out of a module by one menu each time the button is pressed. It can also be used anytime you do not want to execute a particular function (bail out). In the Sample Management module, pressing the Escape button terminates the sampling process.

Enter

A flashing Enter LED means that the ESI wants you to do something. Data may need to be entered, or the ESI may be waiting for you to press the Enter button to activate a particular operation. If the Enter LED is lit steadily, pressing Enter is optional. Doing so will exit you from the function and return you to the module identifier. You also have the option of going directly to another function within the module.

Cursor/Page

The Cursor is a small flashing line that appears in the display window under the data that is currently being edited. The Cursor/Page buttons are used to move the cursor around in the display. The buttons are shaped like arrows which point in the direction of movement. In many cases a particular function will have more options than will fit on a single page of the display. In this case the right and left arrow buttons become the page selects, allowing you to move through the various pages of the display.

The Cursor/Page buttons perform the following functions:

1. Moving the cursor. To move the flashing cursor line in a particular direction in order to select a different function, simply press the corresponding cursor key.
2. Selecting the display page. In many submodules, a single screen of the LCD cannot display all the available parameters. Arrows (<- ->) in the display indicate that there are additional screens which may be viewed by pressing the corresponding cursor button.
3. Selecting presets. When no modules are selected, and the cursor is placed under the preset number, presets may be incremented or decremented by pressing the left and right cursor buttons. This method is useful for live performance - arrange your presets in the desired order, and step through them as needed.
4. Adding or deleting a space when naming. A quick and easy way to add or delete a space when naming samples or presets is to use the left and right cursor keys. The up key adds a space and the down key deletes a space.
5. Selecting zero crossing points when editing samples. When editing samples in the Digital Processing module, the left and right cursor buttons can be used to select points where the waveform crosses the zero axis.

★ Tip: The cursor buttons can be used to select presets only when the ESI is in Omni or Poly modes.

Preset Selection

Selecting the Current Preset

With no modules active, the display shows the Current Preset name and number on line 1 of the display. The blinking cursor appears under the preset number's first digit. There are five ways to change the current preset:

1. Enter a three-digit number with the keypad. If you enter a number for which there is no preset, the lower display line shows the illegal preset number and says “Empty Preset.” Try again.
2. Move the data entry control or the increment buttons. The top display line continues to show the current preset, but the lower line will scroll through the available presets as you move the data entry control. When the lower line shows the preset that you want as the current preset, press ENTER.
3. Increment or decrement the Current Preset (as displayed in the top line) with the left and right cursor buttons. This method is useful for live performance—arrange your presets in the desired order, and step through them as needed.

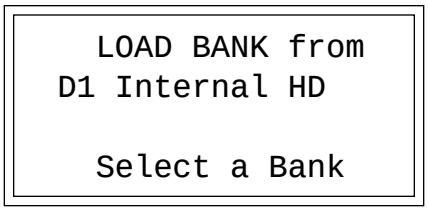
4. Use a MIDI footswitch to advance through the presets.
5. Use a MIDI program change command. Presets 000-127 can be accessed via a MIDI program change command. Presets 128-255 can be accessed using a MIDI bank select command, followed by a program change. See the MIDI Implementation Chart in the Appendix.

To see the current preset number at any time, de-activate any active module and look at the display.

Load Bank

A bank consists of presets and samples. The Load function loads this data into the ESI's memory bank from the floppy disk, hard disk or other external SCSI device.

1. Press Load.
2. If necessary, select the drive containing the bank to be loaded. The ESI defaults to the current drive. If you want to choose a different drive, place the cursor under the drive number in line two, select the appropriate drive and press ENTER.

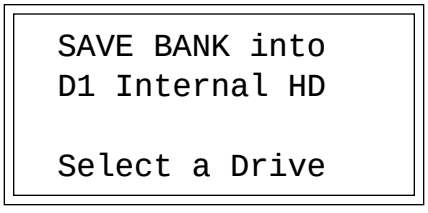


3. Select the bank number that contains the bank to be loaded, then press ENTER. The display will say: Loading Bank. After a few seconds, the bank will be loaded. The display will revert to the preset selection screen.

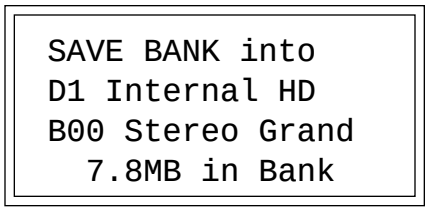
Save Bank

A bank consists of presets and samples. The Save function saves this data from the ESI's memory bank to the floppy disk, hard disk or other external SCSI device.

1. Press Save.
2. If necessary, select the drive to which the bank will be saved. The ESI saves the bank to the current drive by default. If you want to choose a different drive, place the cursor under the drive number in line two, select the appropriate drive and press ENTER.



3. Select the number to which the bank will be saved, then press ENTER. The approximate size of the bank will be displayed on line four. Empty banks are indicated as such, along with their bank number on line three. Or, you can overwrite an existing bank.

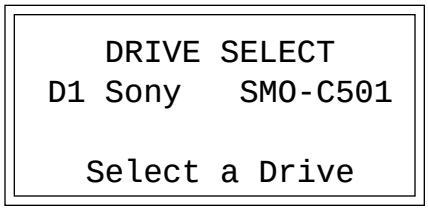


4. Press ENTER to save the bank. A bar graph appears in the display showing the progress of the save operation. The display reverts to the preset selection screen when the save operation is completed.

Drive Select

Use the Drive Select Button to select which storage device to use when loading or saving. The ESI may have an internal hard disk and/or several external SCSI devices connected.

1. Press Drive Select. The display shows:



! Caution: All SCSI devices are listed in the drive select screen, such as a computer or another sampler on the SCSI bus. Please note that only SCSI storage devices can be selected.

2. Use the Data Entry Control or 10 Key Pad to select the desired drive, then press ENTER. Any subsequent Load or Save operations will now use the selected drive.

Audition

The Audition button allows you to play the currently selected sample, at its original pitch, directly from the front panel without having to connect a keyboard or other controller. (The current sample is selected in the Digital Processing module.) When you are in the Load Sample submodule, the Audition button allows you to preview samples directly off the hard disk without having to first load them.

Note: If you are auditioning from the current RAM bank you hear the audition in stereo. If you are auditioning from the disk, you hear the audition in mono.

Trigger Mode

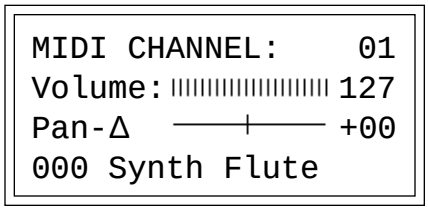
When Trigger Mode is activated, the buttons of the ten key pad become sound trigger buttons which can access any ten notes in the current preset. This allows the ESI to be used as a stand-alone sample playback unit. In Trigger Mode, the LED next to the trigger button illuminates and all ESI functions operate normally, except that the ten key pad is now used exclusively for triggering sounds.

The Trigger Buttons are programmed in the Master/Global module, Special (8), Trigger Buttons (7).

Multimode

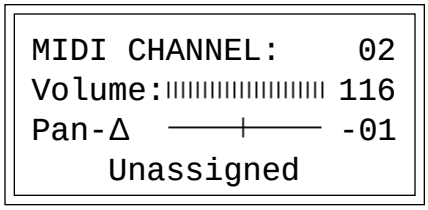
The Multimode Button puts the ESI into Multimode, where it can receive on up to 16 MIDI channels at once. Multimode is used for multi-timbral sequencing and when using a keyboard that can transmit on more than one MIDI channel at a time. The Multimode screen is where you assign presets to MIDI channels for multi-timbral sequencing. You can also set the volume and stereo pan position for each channel's preset.

1. Press Multimode. The display shows:



2. Use the cursor buttons to select one of the following parameters to edit. The volume, pan and preset can be programmed for each of the 16 MIDI channels. Use the data entry control or INC/DEC buttons to change the MIDI channel, Volume or Pan setting. If you do not want the ESI to respond to certain MIDI channels, set the preset for those channels to “Unassigned” which is located just below preset 000.

★ Tip: Setting the preset to “Unassigned” also blocks incoming preset changes on that channel.



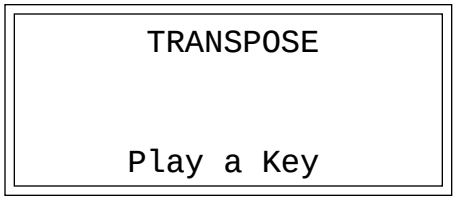
Transpose

This function transposes the entire ESI in half-step intervals up to ± one octave. When in multimode, all channels will be transposed. When the ESI is in Transpose mode, the Transpose LED will be lit steadily. A new transposition can be selected at any time, regardless of whether or not the Transpose LED is lit.

Some applications are:

- Use one key's fingerings in a different key. Modulate to a different key without having to use different fingerings.
- Use transpose to easily reach hidden zones that lie beyond the ends of the physical keyboard.

1. Press and hold Transpose. Its LED flashes, and the display shows:



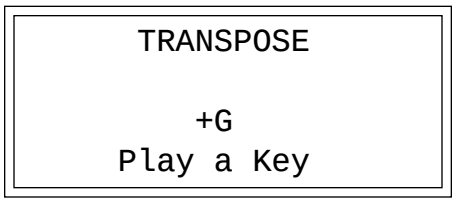
2. While holding Transpose, select the desired transposition interval. All transpositions are referenced to C2, the second C from the left hand side of the keyboard.

Some examples are:

- To transpose down one octave, press C1.
- To transpose up one octave, press C3.
- To transpose up a fourth, press F2.

Note that pressing keys C#3-C4, C#4-C5, or C#5-C6 will, in each case, produce the same effect as pressing keys C#2-C3.

3. While holding Transpose, check the display to confirm the transposition interval. Upward transpositions are indicated with a + symbol, downward transpositions with a - symbol. For example, if the ESI is transposed up a fifth, the display will show:



4. Release Transpose to retain the transposition. The Transpose LED stays lit to remind you that the ESI is transposed.
5. To cancel the transposition, press and hold Transpose and press C2. Display line three will go blank. Release Transpose and the LED should now be off.