

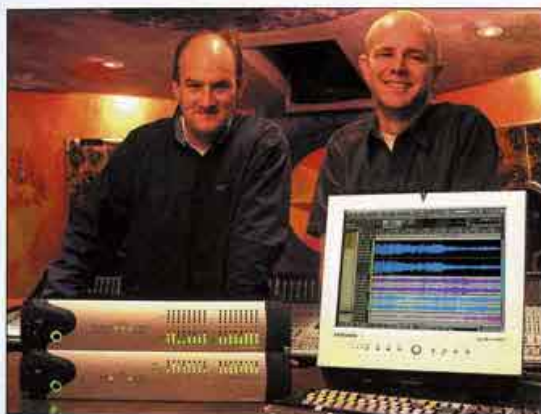


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# Pro Sound News

RECORDING & POST PRO • MASTERING & MEDIA • AUDIO FOR BROADCAST • LIVE SOUND



Rob Buckler (left) and Digidesign's UK sales manager Tim Hurrell, in Strongroom Three. The I/O units (left), mark a radical departure for Digi hardware design

## Digidesign's new gear resolution

**EUROPE** – Digidesign has unveiled Pro Tools HD, a new, high-definition audio production workstation capable of working at resolutions of up to 192kHz. The system features a completely redesigned hardware architecture as well as greater DSP power, high-resolution audio interfaces and peripheral options, a higher track count and I/O capacity, expanded routing flexibility, and more.

As an extra bonus, Digidesign is offering Pro Tools HD at prices on a level with its existing systems.

Though news was embargoed until January's NAMM show, the California-based company revealed Pro Tools HD to the press in mid-December. Digidesign UK announced shortly afterwards that Strongroom Studios, a well-known Pro Tools champion situated in London's Shoreditch, is installing the first PT HD system in Europe.

"We've strengthened our position by giving users the ability to record, mix and master all in one environment," UK sales manager Tim Hurrell told PSNE. "This, and what is happening in Strongroom Five [the all-in-one Digi environment launched in the summer] is indicative of how we see recording developing in the future, where a whole project is possible with just one system."

Hurrell was quick to add that he is not dismissing what Digidesign produced before, but now the market forces for higher resolutions are undeniable.

"Record companies are now dictating 96k archiving. And our technology was three to four years old. So it was time to take it a step further – two steps further, in fact, by including a 192k interface too when everyone might be expecting 96k. It's an (continued on p3)

STRATEGIC PLAN MEANS GREATER UA DISTRIBUTION

## Mackie, Universal Audio form alliance

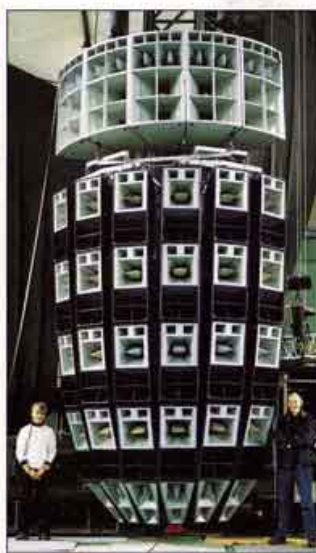
**US** – Mackie Designs Inc and Universal Audio Inc have formed a strategic partnership in which Mackie will market and distribute a series of DSP-based software tools developed by Universal Audio.

"We have a strong relationship with Universal Audio and have been unduly impressed with their innovation and engineering expertise," said Jamie Engen, CEO at Mackie Designs Inc. "We believe that by combining Universal Audio's engineering talents with Mackie's marketing and distribution capabilities, we will be able to provide even more useful and inventive tools to our customers."

The first Universal Audio-developed product to become part of the Mackie family will be the UAD-1 Powered Plug-Ins – rebadged as Mackie Powered Plug-Ins System (\$995) – for Windows-based, VST compatible software including Cubase VST, Logic Audio, Nuendo and others. A Macintosh version that includes support for Mark of The Unicorn's Digital Performer will be available next year.

The software includes emulations of the classic Teletronix LA-2A Leveling Amplifier and 1176LN Leveling Amplifier. Also included are the coveted (continued on p6)

**JAPAN/UK** – It's January, it's Japan, so it must be Jamiroquai... pictured are Funktion One's figurehead Tony Andrews (left) and systems engineer John Newsham, dwarfed by one of the two just-assembled speaker hangs in the 43,000-capacity Tokyo Dome. Andrews flew over as a guest of Funktion One's Japanese distributor and rental company Try Audio to oversee the building of the huge arrays on Jamiroquai's Japanese tour. These are the biggest ever F1 hangs for a touring system to date. It's also the debut of the longthrow Res 9s (at the top) with the Res 5s, of which there are 24 shown here; a beta-testing environment for the UK company's forthcoming amplifier technology; and the try-out of the new add-on flying system. Jamiroquai's frontman Jay Kay commented to F&H engineer Rick Pope, "It's stunning, the best sound I've ever heard."



## Inside

**4 CTS & Lansdowne**  
Lords of the R[ecord]ings

**8 Audio-Technica**  
New Genelec-jollied studio at the A-T HQ in Tokyo



**24 Texas Instruments**  
Simon Trask chips in

**26 Galaxy, Belgium**  
A new mastering room

**30 Radio ga-ga**

What are radio mic makers doing to overcome the increasingly crowded airwaves?



**46 Qube conference**  
Mike Clark took notes at the Italian get-together

**52 Pantomime season**  
Oh yes it is, oh no it isn't, etc

**54 d&b**  
Taking the lid off the German loudspeaker manufacturer

**67 HDR: good or bad?**  
How hard-disk recorders have transformed the industry

**72 Sir George Martin and Air Studios**

The world's most famous producer at home – a Pro Sound News Europe special



**90 Andrew East**  
The chairman of the MPG tells us how it's going to be



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