

AlphaMix

Portable Audio Mixer

PSC ALPHAMIX MIXER FEATURE COMPARISON AS OF FEBRUARY, 2004



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The PSC AlphaMix Mixer offers the greatest, most flexible feature set in the 4channel ENG mixer market today. The chart below will allow you to compare the most important features of the top selling 4-channel ENG mixers on the market. Items shown in bold offer a feature advantage over competing mixers. All specifications derived from product literature, company websites, etc at time of comparison.

	ALPHAMIX	442	X4
INPUT SECTION:			
# OF INPUTS	4 XLR	4 XLR	4 XLR
MIC POWER	12T/48PH	12T/48PH	12T/48PH
LINE/MIC SWITCH	YES	YES	YES
CHANNEL LINK	YES	YES	YES
CONTINUOUSLY VARIABLE GAIN	YES	YES	NOT AVAIL.
CONTINUOUSLY VARIABLE PAN POTS	YES	YES	NOT AVAIL.
PRE FADE LISTEN	YES	YES	NOT AVAIL.
INDIVIDUAL LINE OUTPUTS PER INPUT	YES	YES	NOT AVAIL.
INPUT CHANNEL (*1) METERS	PSC EXCLUSIVE!	NOT AVAIL.	NOT AVAIL.
REMOTE CONTROL (*2) OF 1 ST INPUT	PSC EXCLUSIVE!	NOT AVAIL.	NOT AVAIL.

	ALPHAMIX	442	X4
GENERAL:			
TONE OSC	YES	YES	YES
SLATE MIC	YES	YES	YES
HP SELECTIONS	YES	YES	YES
MIX BUSS	YES	YES	NOT AVAIL.
LIMITERS	OFF/LINK/SEP	OFF/LINK/SEP	OFF/LINK
TAPE MONITOR (*3)	2 CAMERAS	2 CAMERAS	1 CAMERA
METERS (*4)	LCD	LED	ANALOG V.U.
OUTPUTS:			
MULTI-PIN (*5)	2 HIROSE 10 PINS PSC EXCLUSIVE!	HIROSE 10 PIN	HIROSE12 PIN
TRANSFORMERS (*6)	YES, DUAL ISOLATEI SECONDARIES. THE LARGEST, HIGHEST QUALITY IN THE INDUSTRY! PSC EXCLUSIVE!		NOT AVAIL.
MAIN FULLY (*7) BALANCED OUTPUTS (NOT PSEUDO BALANCED)	XLR'S L, R, 2 X 10 PINS	XLR'S L, R, 1X 10 PIN	XLR'S L,R, 1X 12 PIN
AUX OUTPUTS (*8)	2 MIC/LINE SWITCHABLE PSC EXCLUSIVE!	1 MIC/LINE	1 MIC ONLY
OTHER FEATURES:			
FIELD CASE AND (*9) SHOULDER STRAP	INCLUDED	OPTIONAL (\$155.00 EXTRA)	INCLUDED
BOOM REMOTE (*10)	PSC EXCLUSIVE!	NOT AVAIL.	NOT AVAIL.
NP-1 BATTERY (*11)	PSC EXCLUSIVE!	NOT AVAIL.	NOT AVAIL.
BUILT IN POWER (*12) DISTRIBUTION	PSC EXCLUSIVE! (SAVES YOU \$280.00)	NOT AVAIL.	NOT AVAIL.
EXPANSION PORT (*13)	PSC EXLCUSIVE!	NOT AVAIL.	NOT AVAIL.
SUGGESTED (*14) RETAIL PRICE	\$1895.00	\$2495.00	\$1695.00

(*)NOTES:

- 1. Only the PSC AlphaMix offers individual LED meters per input channel. These meters are incredibly handy for preamp level setting and PFM (pre fader metering) functions. Once you use them, you will never want to work without them again!
- 2. Only PSC offers you a boom pole mounted remote control for the first input. It makes mixing while booming very easy. No other manufacturer offers this user-friendly feature!
- 3. Two camera shoots are an everyday occurrence. 10 pin Hirose connections for betasnake cables are now the industry standard. If you offer two-camera support, it might as well be done right! Only PSC offers two-camera support including tape-monitoring functions on two Hirose 10 pins!
- 4. Every camera in the world is now equipped with LCD audio meters. Why? Because they are consume little power and are easily sunlight readable. Your mixer's meters are supposed to match the meters on the camera right? So why not use the same technology to begin with. Only PSC offers this meter technology!
- 5. Two camera support should equal two 10-pin Hirose connectors. It's simple enough, but the other manufacturers don't seem to get it. Why should you have to carry two different style betasnakes? And, how reliable is a non-locking 3.5mm tape return jack? You will never have to ask these questions when using a PSC AlphaMix.
- 6. Output transformers with dual isolated secondaries need to be twice the size of output transformers with single secondaries. The laws of physics can't be broken, no matter how hard our competitors try. PSC is the only company to offer true, properly sized, dual isolated output transformers in an ENG mixer. For further information on this subject, go to our web site and look at our "Transformer Physics" page listed under the downloads section.
- 7. True balanced outputs offer signals of equal amplitude and opposite polarities. Pseudo balanced outputs only offer balanced impedances. While this sounds great in theory and works most of the time, it is nearly impossible to replicate the output impedance of an op-amp with a simple network of passive components up through the RF frequency range. This detail seems unimportant until you use your mixer with transmitter hops to the cameras. Then you will see the benefit of true, transformer balanced outputs over "impedance" balanced outputs. Why do other manufactures use impedance balancing?...because it requires less parts!
- 8. Some mixers offer a microphone level auxiliary output and some offer a line level auxiliary output. Murphy's Law will tell you that what you have on hand is the opposite of what you need at that time! The PSC AlphaMix is the only mixer to offer two auxiliary outputs and they are both independently switchable for either mic or line level output! Problem solved!
- 9. Let's face it, you are not going to buy a new ENG mixer and leave it sitting at home in the cardboard box. These mixers are designed for run and gun applications and thus require a sturdy field bag and shoulder strap. Most manufactures provide you with a bag and strap, some don't and you have to buy this "accessory" separately. Keep this in mind when you look at the price of new mixers. PSC always includes a nice bag and strap with every AlphaMix.
- 10. Ever tried to boom with one hand while mixing with the other? Its hard work and the results can sometimes be dangerous. Only the PSC AlphaMix comes with a convenient boom pole mounted remote control for this purpose. Now you can boom with two hands when needed.
- 11. Nearly every mixer is now used with wireless and lots of them. These use batteries at a rate that will cost you hundreds if not thousands of dollars over the life of the mixer. The solution of coarse is to use a NP-1 rechargeable battery for your mixer and wireless power needs. You can buy various accessory battery adapters, etc to cobble together this function or you can use the PSC Alphamix, which is the only mixer to include a built in NP-1 battery compartment at no additional cost to you!

- 12. While you are powering all of those wireless from one NP-1 battery, did you ever notice strange whines or tones coming from your system? They are caused by running everything directly off one battery without any RF filtering to quiet things down. Most NP-1 battery caps do not include individually filtered outputs, but the PSC AlphaMix does. In fact, it's the only mixer to offer filtered power distribution as a built in feature!
- 13. Maybe someday you will have a need for more than 4 channels. Maybe you will need 5 or 6 or 7. But do you need to purchase another complete mixer to make this happen? Not if you own a PSC AlphaMix and the soon to be released expansion module. Details of this exciting new product will be on our website soon. Check back regularly.
- 14. Suggested retail price of the PSC AlphaMix includes the Boom Pole Remote Control, Field Bag and Shoulder Strap and an Alkaline Battery tray. As well as all of the inclusive features found built into the AlphaMix. Buying a field bag and shoulder strap separately for those mixers not so equipped will add more than \$150.00 to the price of your mixer purchase. Buying a NP-1 adapter with multiple 4 pin Hirose power outputs will cost you an additional \$280.00. Think about that when you price your next mixer.

We reserve the right to make changes to features and specifications without notice to enable future product improvements.

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