



CTK Sound Monthly Focus and Updates

🔍 September's Focus: PreAmp/Gain

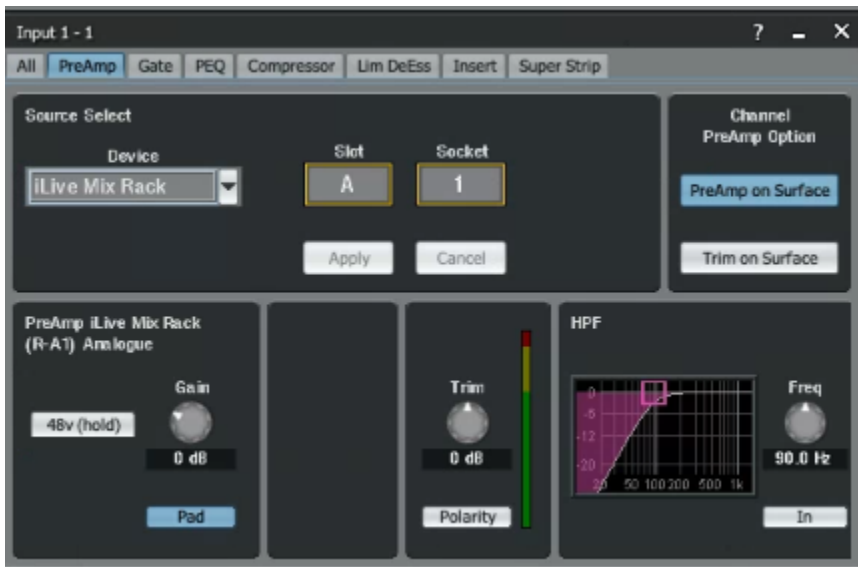
Why is it important?

Setting the correct audio input level (also known as pre-amp or gain) into the system is the first step to success!

The input into the system will impact every mix including in-ear, floor monitor, live-stream, listening assistance system, and front of house mix.

If you're like me, Mike, you might look at the lights on the board to help you set the gain. The problem is, the lights on the mixer above the slider, are after all system processing happens (EQ, Compression, Gate, Limiter...).

To properly set gain, you should select the channel and then press select under the gain knob on the mixer. This will pop up a screen like below. To properly set gain, the musician should be singing/playing something they are quite familiar with (preferably a louder song they will do) and the green/yellow/red bar should be regularly hitting the yellow section. This should be one of the first things you do as the front of house sound tech and when there is also a Live Stream Tech, this should be done predominantly by the FOH tech.



There's only so much you can do at the board in setting the gain before you get feedback. If a singer is not within a few inches of their mic and you can't get a good level, you should kindly ask the singer to adjust their mic so they can get very close to it.

Have questions about gain, get in touch with Mike Burns (mburns@ctkcc.net) or Jeff Leonard (jkwt2000@gmail.com) and they will be happy to find a time to look at it with you.



CTK Sound Monthly Focus and Updates



Test Your Knowledge

Take a short quiz to test your knowledge on what you just learned by clicking the link below.

[CTK Sound Monthly Focus - PreAmp/Gain Quiz](#)



Previous Updates

- Almost all floor monitor mixes have been audited to ensure the mix is pre-fader and not post fader.
- Choir Mics had phantom power turned on and saved in most settings. Some were not coming through the system due to requiring phantom power to be turned on.
- Drum EQ - Mike B has been working pretty hard on Drum EQ and compression to get them sounding decent for live streams. Live Streams shouldn't require much if any changes in EQ/Compression on drums. Eventually these settings will be copied to each scene.
- The REC mix is feeding a hearing system that people can access through an app on their phone. It also feeds the production room where the lyrics person sits. If there is a tech mixing live stream at your Mass, they will take care of this, otherwise, please make sure the slider is set to +5 prior to Mass starting so people using this aid can hear.
- Popping audio - We adjusted some settings in Dante (the audio network) to hopefully help fix these. If you are getting unexplained pops, please let Mike Burns know (mburns@ctkcc.net)