

# V-COMP MU 6386 USER MANUAL

AUDIOSCAPE  
ENGINEERING CO.



POWERED BY  
**SONIC TRUTH**  
MADE IN THE USA

This manual provides general information,  
preparation for use, installation, and operating  
instructions for the Audioscape 76A.

Audioscape Engineering Co.  
Florida  
Made in the U.S.A.



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A WORD FROM THE AUDIOSCAPE FAMILY.

**Thank you for purchasing the V-Comp from AUDIOSCAPE  
Engineering!**

**Inspired by a legendary, Variable-MU compressor from the  
mid-1950's; the V-Comp is a great addition to any studio.  
Capable of effortlessly bringing any program material to life  
with Fat Warmth, Tube Grit and that sense of WEIGHT you've  
heard on countless hit records!**

**Let's check it out!**





# IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



- **Water and Moisture** - Do not use the unit near any source of water or in excessively moist environments.
- **Object and Liquid Entry** - Care should be taken so that objects do not fall, and liquids are not spilled, into the enclosure through openings.
- **Ventilation** - When installing the unit in a rack or any other location, be sure there is adequate ventilation. Improper ventilation will cause overheating and can damage the unit. Open racks are preferred to let the case vents breathe and give adequate heat dissipation
- **Heat** - The unit should be situated away from heat sources, or other equipment that produce heat.
- **Power Sources** - The unit should be connected to a power supply only of the type described in the operating instructions, or as marked on the unit.
- **Power Cord Protection** - AC power supply cords should be routed so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them. Pay particular attention to cords at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the unit. Never take hold of the plug or cord if your hand is wet. Always grasp the plug body when connecting or disconnecting it.
- **Non-use Periods** - The AC power supply cord of the unit should be unplugged from the AC outlet when left unused for a long period of time.





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**(1) Input** - Extends the range of Input pad and allows precise adjustment of Input Level

**(2) Mode** - Single, Double and Triple modes along with OFF mode. Single mode is the smoothest and least intrusive, Double provides medium clamping and is a great general purpose setting, Triple mode clamps down hard on the signal and is most extreme. In Triple mode with the fast recovery mode selected, the user can get glitch artifacts which may be useful in unique situations, experiment! Out mode allows the user to bypass the modes and get great saturation (Recovery time controls still function in 'OFF' mode and should be typically set in the faster range)

**(3) Recovery Time** - 6 settings. The slowest setting is the standard that is a fixed value in the original STA (\*actual release attack/release times program and setting dependent)

**(4) VU Meter** - Vintage Correct Meter with Illumination

**(5) Power** - Power Light and Power Switch

**(6) Output** - Control the overall output level of the V comp





**(1) AC Power Connector** - Insert 120V IEC power cable only into this connector. For EU wall voltages, please email for a recommendation for a suitable external wall converter.

**(2) XLR OUTPUT** - A balanced XLR connector carrying the line-level output signal of the V-Comp. This signal will normally be routed via a patchbay to a channel or bus insert return.

**(3) XLR INPUT** - Connect line-level input signal to this balanced XLR connector. Pin 2 is wired positive (hot). This signal will normally be arriving via a patchbay from a channel or bus insert send.





# FEATURES

The V-COMP is as an all-tube & transformer-laden, variable-mu compressor that's been heralded for it's extremely unique dynamic response, box-tone, and beautiful, program-dependent compression.

The V-COMP is a FEEDBACK style compressor and operates using a "fixed-threshold" design - the higher the INPUT level, the more compression, tone and tube/transformer saturation will rise.

As we like to put it:

The V-COMP is Johnny Cash in a box!



## INPUT

Raise Input level for more compression and coloration



## OUTPUT

Controls the overall output of the compressed signal



## POWER

Flip switch UP for AWESOME!



## MODE

OFF = bypasses compression and allows use of the V as a saturation device.

- SINGLE = Slowest Attack
- DOUBLE = Attack time TWICE as fast as SINGLE
- TRIPLE = FASTEST Attack time & AGGRESSIVE!



## RECOVERY TIME

Determines how quickly the signal returns back to zero after exceeding the threshold.

Faster (CW) yields more audible, aggressive compression.





## SPECIFICATIONS

Gain Reduction:	up to 40 dB
Freq Response:	20 Hz-20 kHz
Noise:	-80 dB +/-5
Gain:	30 dB
Attack:	3 modes +
bypass	
Release:	6 settings
Impedance in/out:	600 Ohm
Threshold:	+24 dB to -20 dB
Height:	3U
Depth:	9" (229mm)
Width:	19" (48cm)
Weight:	16 Lbs.
Power:	120v

## TUBE COMPLIMENT

6386  
12AT7  
6AL5  
OB2  
6V6  
6V6  
5Y3

## ADDITIONAL FEATURES

- Handcrafted in the USA
- Proprietary, Custom-Wound Input and Output Transformers (Sonically True to the Original)
- 7 Total Tubes
- Premium JJ 6386 Tube for Gain Reduction
- 2x Premium 6V6 Tubes (Matched Pair) for Flawless Performance
- 4x Premium NOS American Made Tubes
- TRIAD Choke
- 4 Operating Modes: SINGLE, DOUBLE, TRIPLE OR "BYPASS", which provides rich, harmonic gain and character without compression!
- Fully-Variable Input and Output Controls (Tweaked for Maximum Use-able Range; Allowing for Countless Saturation Options)
- 6 Position Stepped Recovery Times
- Cornell Dubilier Polypropylene Axial Capacitors
- Allen-Bradley Carbon Comp Resistors in Key Areas of the Signal Path
- Electronically Balanced +4dBu circuitry
- Alpha Potentiometers
- Custom Vintage-Styled VU Gain-Reduction Meter
- Neutrik® XLR Input and Output Connectors
- Authentic Vintage Replica Knobs
- USA Made Battleship Grey Silk-Screened Front Panel
- Custom 120V Power Transformer (240V operation is not yet available)







# FAQ

## COMMON QUESTIONS

**Q: The unit does not turn on.**

**A:** Make sure the unit is plugged in securely, the fuse is not blown (fuse located below IEC inlet).

**Q: There is a loud hum or intermittent signal**

**A:** Unscrew the lid and make sure all tubes and wire assemblies are secure in their respective positions by pushing down or reseating them accordingly

**Q: The unit turns on but no output signal is present**

**A:** After thoroughly checking common external issues (bad cables/channel interfaces/routing) start inspecting tubes and wire assemblies for any possible vulnerabilities

## • CALIBRATION

- **VU METER** - The zero point on the meter may vary slightly due to various wall voltages. To calibrate the needle for zero there is a trimpot located directly behind the meter itself on the main pcb inside the unit. Unscrew the lid and use a flathead mini-screwdriver to turn this trimpot and properly calibrate the meter to zero.
- **HUM BALANCE** - After changing the Power Tubes you may notice an increase in hum level, if so, the you can balance it better in your workable range using this trimpot. It is located on the main pcb directly in front of the Power Tube sockets.



# CE EU DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

## PRODUCT MODEL / PRODUCT:

PRODUCT: V-COMP "6386 EDITION" MU COMPRESSOR

MODEL/TYPE: V-COMP

SERIAL NOS. 125450 - 130000

## MANUFACTURER:

MANUFACTURER: AUDIOSCAPE ENGINEERING CO. LLC

ADDRESS: 1631 S. NOVA ROAD, BUILDING A, DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32119, USA

THIS DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY IS ISSUED UNDER THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MANUFACTURER.



THE OBJECT OF THE DECLARATION DESCRIBED IS IN CONFORMITY WITH THE RELEVANT UNION HARMONISATION LEGISLATION:

73/23/EWG	LOW VOLTAGE DIRECTIVE
89/336/EWG	EMC DIRECTIVE
DIN EN 55103-1&2	ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY OF AUDIO EQUIPMENT
2011/65/EU	THE RESTRICTION OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES DIRECTIVE

THIS DECLARATION BECOMES INVALID BY MODIFICATION ON THE DEVICE WITHOUT APPROVAL.

THE TECHNICAL FILE IS AVAILABLE FROM THE MANUFACTURER AT THE ADDRESS ABOVE.

SIGNED FOR AND ON BEHALF: AUDIOSCAPE ENGINEERING CO. LLC

PLACE OF ISSUE: DAYTONA BEACH, FL, USA

DATE OF ISSUE: NOVEMBER 1ST, 2023

NAME: CHRIS YETTER

POSITION: OWNER

SIGNATURE:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Yetter', is written over the printed name and position.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS EG DIRECTIVE 2003/108/EG IS, AS A FIRST PRIORITY, THE PREVENTION OF WASTE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT (WEEE), AND IN ADDITION, THE REUSE, RECYCLING AND OTHER FORMS OF RECOVERY OF SUCH WASTES SO AS TO REDUCE THE DISPOSAL OF WASTE. PLEASE ASSIST IN KEEPING OUR ENVIRONMENT CLEAN.

