



V-COMP+ MU DELUXE 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 V-Comp+.

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+ DELUXE 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!



IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



1. Water and Moisture - Do not use the unit near any source of water or in excessively moist environments.

2. Object and Liquid Entry - Care should be taken so that objects do not fall, and liquids are not spilled, into the enclosure through openings.

3. 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

4 Heat - The unit should be situated away from heat sources, or other equipment that produce heat.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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) Drive/Stock switch - Toggle between the standard STA -20db input pad and -15db input pad value labeled 'Drive'

(3) Mode - Select between various modes which suit different program material, 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 and 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)

(4) Recovery Time - Select between 9 slow to fast release times, the slowest settings furthest counterclockwise is the standard that is fixed value in the original STA (*actual release attack/release times program and setting dependent)

(5) VU Meter - Vintage Correct Meter with Illumination

(6) Power - Power Light and Power Switch

(7) 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



STOCK/DRIVE

The STOCK / DRIVE switch allows more signal into the unit when set to DRIVE; yielding a more compressed & aggressive tone. STOCK = standard "STA-Style" Input level.



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 40db
Freq Response:	20hz-20khz
Noise:	-80db +/-5
Gain:	30db
Attack modes:	3 w/bypass
Release times:	6 modes
Impedance in/out:	600ohm
Threshold:	+24db to -20db
Height:	3U
Depth:	9 In (229mm)
Width:	19in (48cm)
Weight:	16lbs
Power:	120v

TUBE LAYOUT

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

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

- Handcrafted in the USA
- Stylish 3U 19" Rackmount - Battleship Grey
- Exclusive, Custom-Wound Input Transformer (Sonically True to the Original)
- Exclusive, Custom-Wound Output Transformer (Sonically True to the Original)
- 7 Total Tubes
- Premium JJ 6386 Tube for Gain Reduction (Hassle-Free and Superior in terms of Noise and Matching)
- 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 Useable Range; Allowing for Countless Saturation Options)
- 9 Position Stepped Recovery Times
- Cornell Dubilier Polypropylene Axial Capacitors
- Allen-Bradley Carbon Comp Resistors in Key Areas of the Signal Path
- Authentic Vintage Replica Knobs
- USA Made Battleship Grey Silk-Screened Front Panel
- Electronically Balanced +4dBu circuitry
- Alpha Potentiometers
- USA Made Custom Power Transformer
- Custom Vintage-Styled VU Gain-Reduction Meter
- Neutrik XLR Input and Output Connectors (Real Metal)
- Custom 120V Power Transformer (240V operation is not yet available)





TROUBLESHOOTING

• COMMON QUESTIONS/ISSUES

- **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, then 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.

