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Z-Systems reports sales success for comprehensive range of Digital Audio Interfaces and Signal Processors

Recent deliveries to Paul Stubblebine Mastering, Sterling Sound, Gateway Mastering, Digital Domain, Telarc Records and The Dorian Group.

Gainesville, FL: Z-Systems Audio Engineering has seen a remarkable increase in business during recent months, with orders for its successful range of professional-quality **Digital Audio Interface** and **Signal Processing** products, including ultra-precision tools for **Surround Mastering**.

Recent orders and systems deliveries include:

- **Paul Stubblebine Mastering**, San Francisco, which has been utilizing a z-Q6/z-CL6 Surround-Sound Mastering Suite, which comprises the z-Q6 six-channel Digital Mastering Equalizer and z-CL6 six-channel Signal Dynamics Processor. Both units feature six channels of 24-bit/96 kHz digital processing and the ability to handle multiple simultaneous sample rates and wordwidths within each channel group.

"I was really glad to get my hands on the Surround-Sound Mastering Suite," says company president **Paul Stubblebine**, "because there are virtually no tools available for surround processing that operate at 24/96. The z-Q6/z-CL6 goes way beyond what you can do by piling up three two-channel boxes. You can group and link parameters internally, which really makes sense when you are doing 5.1 channel work. And, most importantly, the z-Q6/z-CL6 sounds great!"

The z-Q6/z-CL6 Surround-Sound Mastering Suite offers four bell-shaped filters and two shelving filters per channel, as well as individual channel volume offsets and a master volume control. The z-CL6 features six channels of compression/limiting with variable ratio, attack, release, threshold and make-up gain per channel. In addition, the z-CL6 incorporates a linking mechanism whereby the different channel groups can be custom-tailored to trigger and compress in unison or separately. Both units feature POW-r word length reduction, and MIDI automation for snapshot snapshot/recall. *More information: +1/415,469-0123 info@paulstubblebine.com.*

- **Gateway Mastering**, Portland, Maine, which has been using a number of z-Q6/z-CL6 Surround-Sound Mastering Suites. "I was delighted to have the opportunity to work with Z-Systems to finish up the final tweaks on their fantastic six-channel equalizer and compressor," says company president **Bob Ludwig**. "When I first got the prototypes, I did a 5.1 session and found a software feature that was missing – there was *nothing* missing in the sound department! I would email the company, and 90% of the time a new EPROM would arrive the following morning. I would do another session, think of more revisions and, *presto-chango*, the next day it

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would be done. That was a remarkable experience for me; I really enjoy working with Z-Systems.”

Recent Warner Bros projects at Gateway using the z-Q6/z-CL6 Surround-Sound Mastering Suite include: a 5.1-channel DVD-Audio of **Fleetwood Mac’s “Rumours”** from 96/24 digital mixes, a Stereo Mix 96/24 from an original two-channel mix, plus DVD-V backward compatible via a Dolby Digital 5.1 mix; and a 5.1-channel DVD-Audio of **REM’s “Reveal”** at 96/24 using Pacific Microsonic converters recording from a two-inch/8-track analog Dolby SR master. *More information:* +1/207.828-9400; info@gatewaymastering.com.

Sterling Sound, a highly successful New-York-based mastering house, which is using both signal processors and digital audio routers. “[Z-Systems president] Glenn Zelniker is an incredibly creative and innovative designer who consistently has been able to develop new products for the ever-changing requirements of contemporary mastering,” offers Sterling Sound president **Murat Aktar**. “Our engineers use Z-Systems processors for mastering everything from hard-driving Rap and Metal for release on CD, to pristine 24/96 surround for release on DVD-Audio. Not only that, but all of our digital audio distribution is handled by a range of routers from z-16.16s in our production suites, to the new z-128.128r units we’ve specified for our surround-mastering suites.”

More information: +1/212.604-9433; murat@sterling-sound.com.

- **Digital Domain**, New York City, which is using a number of Z-Systems processors for CD mastering. “First and foremost,” says company president **Bob Katz**, speaking of Z-Systems staff, “they are audiophiles and perfectionists who want the very best sonic performance from their products. Of nearly equal performance, though, is the support that Z-Systems provide. If you’re a customer and find one of those rare bugs, just give them a call and that problem will be fixed faster than you can say ‘Megaflops.’ Rarely have I seen such diligence, responsiveness and attention to detail.” *More information:* +1/212.369-2932; bobkatz@digido.com.
- **Telarc Records**, Cleveland, Ohio, which has been using Z-Systems products on a number of projects. “These digital tools have been invaluable in our work absolutely every day, says **Michael Bishop**. “I can’t imagine doing many demanding projects without the Z-Systems tools we’ve been relying on for all these years. They were right there with us as we moved into high-resolution digital some years ago; they’re always ahead of the curve.”
- **The Dorian Group**, one of the world’s largest independent record labels specializing in classical and acoustic traditional music, which recently ordered a customized z-16.16 Digital Detangler. “What an incredibly valuable piece of gear,” enthuses company president **Craig Dory**. “I can’t imagine ever trying to set up the control room for a multichannel digital recording again without having one or more of Z-Systems’ Detanglers around to help sort out the *goes-in-to’s* from the *goes-out-of’s*.”

Other recent orders and deliveries:

- A z-Q6/z-CL6 Surround Mastering Suite to **Sony Australia**.
- A z-Q6/z-CL6 Surround Mastering Suite to **Galaxy Studios, Belgium**.
- A z-Q6/z-CL6 Surround Mastering Suite to **The Enterprise, Los Angeles**.
- Another z-Q6 Digital Mastering Equalizer to **Sony Music, New York City**.

Note to Editors: High-resolution images of all Z-Systems products in high-resolution TIFF/JPEG formats are available upon request

Founded in 1993, Z-Systems specializes in the development of leading-edge digital audio interface and signal processing products for the recording, mastering, broadcast and post-production markets. www.z-sys.com

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