

## 4MinX: Mixer/Recorder Designed For The Most Demanding

With its scalable and up-gradable design, its flexible monitoring and routing capabilities, the 4MinX is ideal for almost any situation from TV/film location sound recording to music recording. With six hours' operation from its on-board battery, the 4MinX is remarkably lightweight and features high-end preamplifiers, as always, from AETA Audio Systems.



Born out of the desire to meet new workflows for engineers, this compact and lightweight mixer-recorder benefits from 20 years of AETA Audio Systems' expertise in high quality analogue and digital audio design.

The 4MinX brings new solutions, power, and flexibility, without compromising on the essential needs of field recording: autonomy, audio quality, and user-friendliness.

Whether broadcast or media industry (documentary, film, music), the 4MinX opens new possibilities for production in different specialities. Combining the features of a multi-track recorder (two to eight tracks) and portable digital mixer, the 4MinX is ideal for stereo as well as multi-channel productions.

### Audio

Through its superb audio performance, the 4MinX is ideal for the most demanding sound recordist to showcase their work.

It combines 10 inputs (four Mic/Line, two lines, four digital channels AES3/AES42) and 12 outputs (six analogue channels and six digital channels AES3).

Digital inputs also support AES42 for digital microphones (10V phantom power) without degradation. Gain/Trim/Filter controls are available on each channel in both analogue and digital modes.

AETA AUDIO is renowned for producing high quality mic preamplifiers. The 4MinX remains true to this reputation, and even offers the user an improved mic pre-amp audio specification:

- Maximum overall gain: 92 dB – useful for dynamic and ribbon microphones

- Four Mic/Line transformerless inputs – very low noise (-128dBu) but with great flexibility of trim and excellent headroom (input headroom: 40dB, independent of input stage gain).

It is suitable for all types of sound production, from standard mono, through stereo (X/Y or fully-featured M/S) to surround (A or B formats from our SoundField partnership, or Double M/S)

### Designed To Be Robust, Easy To Use, And Open For Future Features

The construction uses a stainless steel chassis and carbon-fibre loaded polymer casing, to give both lightness and durability. The result is surprisingly lightweight at only 2.1kg including the on-board battery!

The design allows the unit to be used safely in extreme conditions (heat, cold, high humidity, shocks). The 4MinX is fully shielded against radio interference, and the casing has better resistance to denting and damage than heavier conventional metal structures.

Navigation of the menus is by a rotary encoder (thumbwheel) on a superb 3-inch TFT transfective display, and offers a simple, fast, and readable user interface. Multiple buttons allow direct access to assignable functions.

The hardware already includes interfaces (USB, Ethernet) to implement future features: MIDI device, transfer audio... and, since software can be improved and rewritten, the 4MinX is future-proof.

### Power Management

The new lightweight 4MinX allows you to work on location for more than six hours with its rechargeable standard DV Li-Ion battery (NP-F). This type is commonly used with Sony cameras. A spare battery will double this time.

The DC input allows the 4MinX to be powered from an external battery (NP1 or alternative): it is also possible to recharge the internal 4MinX NP-F battery at the same time. The 4MinX can switch automatically between power sources without interrupting recording.

A robust and optimised power supply has been designed for the 4MinX, to provide up to 15 Watts for your peripherals.

A Neutrik MiniCON 12-pin connector (located on the left side) offers two additional line outputs for wireless TX to camera, to the presenter's earpiece, etc. Receivers and transmitters can be powered from the 4MinX through this connector; up to 6 Watts of consumption.

### Recording

The 4MinX uses an Ambient Recording Time Code module – highly regarded within the industry and used in ARRI cameras – to provide high-accuracy LOCKIT TC. The time code module can be used as a TC generator (all video formats supported) or as a receiver to synchronise the 4MinX to any TC source.

Sophisticated project management makes it simple to handle multiple recordings. The multi-track recorder on SD/SDHC card can extend to

eight tracks, with background back-up on external USB disk. More than 15 hours of eight-track/96kHz/24-bit recording can be held on a 128GB SDHC card.

When you record with the 4MinX, you don't record directly to tracks but create self-contained files that hold one, two, or more tracks depending on the selected configuration. With the 4MinX it is possible to simultaneously record two stereo microphones on two different stereo files, for example.

All recordings are done in BWF (Broadcast Wave File) format.

### About AETA

AETA Audio Systems is French, and a leading international developer of portable sound recording units, mixers, and advanced audio codecs, optimised for any kind of media and transmission infrastructure. "Made by AETA" is a synonym for high quality and investment protection.

From its very beginning in 1978, the company focused not only on developing innovative products, but also on making them as small as possible allowing for mobile use and easy handling. They have acquired a considerable reputation in the audio field.

### Some references:

- 1999: PSP3 – Stereo Pre-amp
- 2000: MIX2000 – four channel portable mixer
- 2007: MIXY – three mic/line stereo mixer

BWF metadata in iXML format can be managed directly on the 4MinX and is compatible with most post-production software. The availability of an optional USB keyboard simplifies metadata management.

A complete project management system satisfies the needs of the most demanding users and generates sound report files automatically.

### Flexible and Powerful

To design the 4MinX, we were not afraid to re-write the rulebook in order to offer you more power and flexibility.

The routing capability for each input and each output gives the user a completely free hand. A 4MinX user can set a specific interface

and adapt it to their own preferences regarding inputs and outputs.

Apart from the record sources that you include in each file, the 4MinX offers additional powerful and detailed routing, enabling the user to define what is sent to mix busses, and to analogue and digital outputs.

No need to go back into the menus – personal configuration snapshots



allow complete flexibility of settings, and are simple to use. They give total freedom and users can save up to eight snapshots.

With an optional 10-pin HIROSE socket, it is possible to handle camera return and dedicated communication circuits.

### Pricing

The 4MinX price is very competitive.

With 4MinX you pay only for what you need, and what your budget can afford. The 4MinX is an "evolutionary product", allowing you to upgrade at any time after purchase. You can upgrade your 4MinX from two to eight tracks recording, or add Soundfield monitoring with just a software upgrade, thus avoiding any return to the factory.

AETA's 4MinX was given an award for technological innovation by SATIS Trophies 2011 in France for its compactness and future-proof technology.



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