

► **GENELEC 7040A ULTRA-COMPACT SUBWOOFER**

The new 7040A ultra-compact subwoofer is designed to go with Genelec's 8010, 8020 and M030 active monitors. Its diminutive size at just 16.125 X 13.75 X 8.125-inches belies its big performance. The 7040A produces 100 dB of sound pressure level (SPL) using a 6 1/2-inch woofer and a Genelec-designed Class-D amplifier.

Designed for use in rooms or mobile studios with limited floor space such as small project music creation studios, sound design suites or post-production rooms, the 7040A features Genelec's acclaimed Laminar Spiral Enclosure (LSE™) technology.

I liked that the 7040A is narrow enough to fit within a 19-inch rack cabinet, weighs 25 lbs. and there is an optional carrying bag for the itinerant engineer to transport the 7040A easily to and from any studio.

For set up and addressing typical monitoring environments, the 7040A locates all DIP-switches on the subwoofer connector panel and the 7040A connects between your monitors with stereo in and out jacks.

The Genelec 7040A Ultra-Compact Subwoofer sells for \$895 MSRP. [genelec.com/products/7040a](http://genelec.com/products/7040a)



◀ **SHURE PG ALTA STUDIO STARTER KIT**

The entry-level PG ALTA™ line has 14 new products ideal for small venue performances, aspiring musicians and home recording sessions.

The Shure PGASTUDIOKIT4 microphone kit consists of four Shure PG ALTA microphones thoughtfully selected for their utility in modern home/project studios.

At \$299 MSRP, the PGASTUDIOKIT4 comes with one PGA52 dynamic microphone, a single PGA57 dynamic microphone and two PGA181 side-address, cardioid-only condenser microphones. Also included are mic clips, stand adapters and four 15-ft (4.5m) XLR mic cables.

I tried the PGA52 on a kick drum in the studio and it compared favorably to the studio's Shure Beta 52—the PGA had more output level. The side-address PGA181 condensers look like old-style lollipop microphones in miniature. I placed them overhead of my drum kit and they sounded open and full. The PGA57 worked awesome as a close snare drum mic as well as on my Fender Blues Junior amp—just like its uncle, the venerable Shure SM57. [bit.ly/1J0QUZM](http://bit.ly/1J0QUZM)



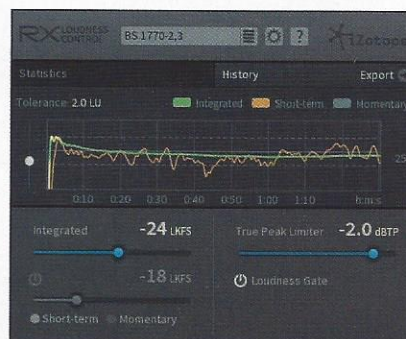
► **IZOTOPE LOUDNESS CONTROL PLUG-IN**

iZotope's RX Loudness Control is an offline plug-in that, in faster than real-time, analyzes mono, stereo or up to 5.1 surround files and renders a transparent and corrected version to comply with the new broadcast loudness standards. It does this by applying only the compression and/or peak limiting as deemed necessary. Worldwide loudness compliance is a new "fact of life" for broadcasters and online streaming companies such as iTunes® Radio.

I tried RX Loudness Control in Pro Tools 12; it runs as an AudioSuite processor and first analyzes a mix file and then applies any correction to comply with a particular loudness standard included as presets.

I liked RX Loudness Control's history view that shows graphically the entire length of the audio file with Integrated Loudness, Short-Term Loudness, Momentary Loudness, True Peak and Loudness Range in one screen. For documentation, loudness history can be exported as a CSV spreadsheet that opens in Excel.

As a plug-in, RX Loudness Control is a comprehensive tool with support for surround sound and the EBU R128 s1 standard. It is compatible with Avid Media Composer, Avid Pro Tools 10-12 and Adobe Premiere Pro CC. It's available for \$349. [izotope.com/rxlc](http://izotope.com/rxlc)



▼ **SOFTUBE CONSOLE 1 XL9000 K UPDATE**

Softube updates their Console 1 hardware controller/software plug-in system with the availability of the Solid State Logic XL 9000 K channel strip. Console 1's SSL XL 9000 K channel strip offers the clean and forward sound of this famous console as an alternative to the grittier-sounding SL 4000 E already included with Console 1. Obtaining the best of both SSL channel strips, you may freely substitute the XL's EQ section, gate and its compressor into those sections of the SL 4000 E strip. If you own other Softube plug-ins, in most cases you can substitute them into sections of Console 1.

I found the Shape section of the XL 9000 K for Console 1 more controllable as a gate than the 4000 E's Shape section. Gating drum tracks and noisy guitar amps is easier to do with the 9K's Shape section.

Console 1's XL 9000 K channel strip also includes a model of Solid State Logic's VHD (Variable Harmonic Drive) circuit, a popular part of the SSL Duality series consoles mic pre-amp. Console 1 uses its Drive control to change the amount of VHD distortion and its Character knob as a blend control for mixing the "color" of the distortion.

Softube's Console 1 Solid State Logic XL 9000 K channel strip upgrade is \$219 MSRP with a 20-day demo license available.

[softube.com/index.php?id=xl9000k](http://softube.com/index.php?id=xl9000k)



**BARRY RUDOLPH** is a recording engineer/mixer who has worked on over 30 gold and platinum records. He has recorded and/or mixed Lynyrd Skynyrd, Hall & Oates, Pat Benatar, Rod Stewart, the Corrs and more. Barry has his own futuristic music mixing facility and loves teaching audio engineering at Musician's Institute, Hollywood, CA. He is a lifetime Grammy-voting member of NARAS and a contributing editor for *Mix Magazine*. [barryrudolph.com](http://barryrudolph.com)