Review - Studer Vista 1

The reality brought about by the law of mandatory transmission of locally produced programs, brings with the need for many producers, and even television broadcasters, to review their equipment and re-think their production flows by optimizing costs while handling a larger number of formats. In this sense, rethinking the entire audio chain, with productions like reality shows, musicals and even news beco-ming a necessity. Think of a mixing console that supports such a large range of formats is an essential starting point for achieving this goal. In addition, looking for a guaranteed brand reputation becomes a requirement for everyone. Finding such quality in one device is not the easiest task.

Released at NAB 2012, the console Vista 1 by Studer immediately draws attention due to the compact size with so many features in just over a meter wide (1.15 m version with 22 faders). Great for studios reduced dimensions, Vista 1 is also clearly an option for mobile tru-cks/vans. It is lightweight and includes, in one stand-alone device, digital signal processing (DSP), inputs and outputs (I /O's) for micro-phones and other equipment (for expansion), plus its control surface.

http://audionapratica.com.br/2013/06/studer-vista-1/

Available with 22 or 32 faders, the Vista 1 console has 32 inputs mic / line, 16 line outputs and 8 stereo inputs and outputs AES / EBU (digi-tal audio protocol). Thinking of applications such as news, reenactments, musical recordings or reality shows, it has a large number of mic inputs to account for proper recording. It is also clear that, in principle, the console offers a very complete solution without the initial need to worry about additional racks or more DSP.

Another factor, that is beginning to be used in national productions, Vista 1 also shows as an attractive option, the ability to work in 5.1 in a very easy way. With audio processing in 96 channels, it offers the possibility to generate 5.1 mixes and, of course, to operate in mono and stereo. In this sense, the console is very intuitive and can distribute audio signals (panning) with clear metering on the well--presented displays. Key feature of the console Vista 1 is the interface Vistonics, offering a great tool and feature in configuring (working on Windows). For those who are accustomed to other consoles of this Swiss brand, such as the Vista 5, transition and operation beco-me even simpler. In this aspect, thanks to the integration of the system Relink, migration from other Studer consoles is easy, making it possible to share signals and transmit signals from one console to another.

Indeed, as one should expect from any console these days, the Studer Vista 1 offers a desk with plenty of customization. With the inte-gration of Vistonics interface, the configuration functions for the user are at hand in two senses - in terms of not only sends and returns, but also allowing changing colors, identifying channels, groups and sends. Along with this, the console provides talkback, GPIO (gene-ral purpose inputs / outputs that are configurable ports for input and output data), N-1 buses (Mix Minus) and automation snapshots. It also features an USB port to save preferences and adding the function "jngle player" with 8 easy access buttons for to the console to be activated as desired (useful for live programs).

For those who wish to expand the console Vista 1, a slot on the back panel is available, allowing insertion of a module in the desired for-mat (supports digital audio transmission protocols, such as AES, MADI, TDIF and others). Thanks to the MADI connection, it is possible to connect to a Studer stagebox (rack used for connecting microphones and other equipment to multicable). Furthermore, the console supports dedicated protocols, like Ember and Probel, very useful when thinking about television stations. Finally, the power supply is dual redundant, something very useful in live broadcasts.

In testing conducted on the premises of Libor, dealer of the console in Brazil, certainly what most caught my attention was the concern of Stu-der in making the console accessible to the operator. LED bars in all fader strips offer very clear indications of level and gain, as well as the level meters in the masters. Each strip consists of basic controls Mic Control, Input, N-1, Filter, Insert Delay, Compressor, Limiter, Expander--Gate, EQ and Pan. Operating the console becomes a simple intuitive task. The dynamic controls are traditional. In order to be able to perform basic tasks of recording, equalization and dynamics, all the controls are clear in front of the operator. In the case of panning (stereo or 5.1), the visibility of the display is quite straightforward. You may spend more time in choosing the settings that each operator will use, just because of the various options that the console offers, but once this has been done, you can work with tranquility. It is simple to understand options to save these settings; therefore, the use of more than one operator or different programs is easily manageable. Or rather, spend a little more time in the configuration to be used, with large numbers of expansion options but, once done, you can work without difficulty.

It is important to understand that the Vista 1 does not have the function of controlling Audio digital workstations (DAWs), but its com-municability with these workstations and its expandability are made easy. Another factor that proved relevant was the concern with maintenance, made more practical thanks to the modular structure of the table. With the aid of Vistonics interface, the configurations are quick and practical.

When you think of applications like events, TV programs (news, reality shows) and its use in mobile units (ObVans), certainly the con-sole shows itself to be a great option, allowing you to ally functionality with quality. In one single piece of equipment, critical when con-sidering all other equipment in the signal flow that will be structured from then on, we have the quality Studer, crowning a package that delivers a great solution for the proposed purpose.