



Avid S3L

Compact and modular networked live sound system

Get the performance, sound quality, and features that countless live sound professionals have come to rely on in a system architecture that's built for the future. The modular Avid S3L System is comprised of a high-performance HDX-powered processing engine running AAX plug-ins, scalable remote I/O that can live on stage or in a rack, award-winning VENUE and Pro Tools® software, and a head-turning compact control surface that's built for the road, but equally at home in the studio. Re-creating the sound of the studio in a live setting has never been easier—or more accessible.

Feature highlights

- Experience uncompromising performance with HDX-powered processing
- Re-create the sound of the studio with integrated Pro Tools AAX plug-ins
- Get reliable Ethernet AVB connectivity, including a fault tolerant ring topology, without the cable bulk
- Configure the modular system with up to 64 remote, recallable mic pres
- Record directly to Pro Tools (or other DAW) through your laptop's Ethernet port
- Control Pro Tools and other DAWs using the S3 control surface as a EUCON controller (feature coming soon)
- Fit the system anywhere and transport with ease—perfect for fly gigs and bus tours
- Get the celebrated hallmarks of Avid live sound systems
- Take your VENUE show files with you on a USB key for use on any Avid live system

Built for the future

The S3L System offers a first-of-its-kind modular, open networked architecture, with a fault-tolerant Gigabit Ethernet network connecting all devices for maximum performance and flexibility. From such innovations as Ethernet AVB and HDX-powered, floating-point processing, to integrated AAX plug-ins and EUCON™ support, you gain a future-proof solution that works with the technologies of today and tomorrow.

Take control—anywhere you roam

Whether you're at the gig, on the tour bus, or in a studio or hotel room, the S3L System's full-featured power and compact size enable you to exercise your creativity practically everywhere you go. It's the ideal cost-effective mixing/recording setup to take to any gig—in any size space—as it easily loads into a car, van, truck, bus, or plane.

Create studio-quality mixes live

Professional-grade I/O. Transparent preamps. Premium signal paths. These are just some of the qualities that enable the S3L System to deliver exceptional sound. The system directly supports AAX plug-ins, giving you access to the same creative tools used in top recording studios today, effectively replacing bulky outboard gear and cumbersome external plug-in “servers.” Whether you want to re-create an artist's signature studio sound live or get more creative with your own mixes, there are plenty of AAX plug-ins available to choose and explore, to get the sounds you want.

Get unmatched Pro Tools integration now—and in the future

Simply connect your laptop (with Pro Tools or other DAW installed) to the system's Ethernet AVB network (using a single Cat5e cable) and you're ready to record with up to 64 tracks of audio recording/playback. VENUE Link makes it easy to control your live mixing and recording/playback setups as one. What's more, with EUCON functionality coming soon, you'll be able to use the control surface to mix Pro Tools and other DAW sessions, making the system an extremely versatile solution for both stage and studio.* Pro Tools on Windows requires the presence of an ASIO-compatible soundcard.

For more information, visit avid.com/S3L

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Scale up without being weighed down

The S3L System features a modular architecture, enabling you to easily scale it to meet your production needs. Go from 16 I/O channels with one Stage 16 box up to 64 channels with four. Rack your I/O in one location for easy supervision, or place each box as close as possible to the source, anywhere in the venue, for maximum flexibility—up to 328 feet (100 meters) away. And with Ethernet AVB connectivity, all you need are lightweight, inexpensive Cat5e cables, putting an end to expensive, bulky analog snakes.

Bring the ease and efficiency of VENUE software to your event

Easy-to-use VENUE software is at the heart of every Avid live sound system, so you can use existing VENUE show files with the S3L System, and vice-versa. The system features the latest version of VENUE software*, offering all of the same features and benefits countless engineers know and love, plus some new ones optimized for the S3L, including a new Media page, EQ and dynamics on outputs, drag-and-drop device features, and enhanced Virtual Soundcheck.

Enhance shows with 2-track USB playback

Connect a standard USB Flash drive to the E3 engine for fast and easy 2-track playback and recording. Use playlists to organize your files and then integrate them with VENUE snapshots and events for easy playback—ideal for triggering spot effects, cues, and music beds for theater performances, or for archiving stereo recordings of your board mix.

What's included

- S3 control surface
- E3 engine
- Stage 16 remote I/O box
- VENUE software
- Pro Tools software
- AAX DSP plug-in bundle:
 - Avid® Channel Strip—EQ, dynamics, filter, and gain effects
 - BF-2A—emulation of the LA-2A vintage tube compressor
 - Mod Delay III—variable delay processing
 - Pultec Bundle—analogue EQ simulator of three classic designs
 - Reel Tape™ Saturation—analogue tape color, compression, and saturation effects
 - ReVibe® —high-quality room-modeling reverb
- Cables, accessories, and guides

System specifications

Avid S3 control surface	
Channel strips/faders	16 (up to 6 fader banks)
Encoders	32 total (each with high-resolution OLEDs and tri-color function indicator)—16 assignable encoders, 8 channel control encoders, 8 global control encoders
Metering	16 10-segment meters, with pre- and post-fade metering options
Analog inputs	4 total—2 XLR mic/line inputs and 2 TRS line inputs for connecting talkback, audience mics, or playback devices
Analog outputs	4 total—2 XLR line outputs and 2 TRS line outputs for connecting recording devices or near-field monitors
Headphone output	1 (1/4-inch TRS) with level control
Ancillary I/O	2 Gigabit Ethernet AVB ports, 2 USB 2.0 ports (for connecting a keyboard and mouse only), 1 footswitch port (1/4-inch TRS), 2 console light ports, Kensington lock slot
Height (front, rear w/knobs)	1.3 inches, 2.8 inches (3.2 cm, 7.2 cm)
Width	28 inches (71 cm)
Depth	14.3 inches (36.3 cm)
Avid E3 engine	
Software	VENUE software
Input channels	64 (with full processing)
Busses	24 aux busses, LCR, plus 8 mono matrixes and 8 VCAs
Onboard EQ	4-band parametric EQ on every input and output channel
Graphic EQs	16
Onboard dynamics	Compressor/limiter and expander/gate on every input and output channel
Digital processing	HDX, 32-bit floating point
Plug-in support	AAX DSP (supports Avid and third-party plug-ins)
Pro Tools integration	Record/play back up to 64 audio tracks on a computer over the Ethernet AVB network—no Pro Tools interface required
2-track USB	Stereo record/playback via USB Flash drive (transport and playlist integrated into VENUE software)
Analog inputs	4 XLR mic/line inputs
Analog outputs	4 XLR line outputs
Digital I/O	4 channels of AES3 input and output (XLR)
Ancillary I/O	GPIO (2 in/2 out), Word Clock in/out
Additional connections	3 Gigabit Ethernet AVB ports, 1 ECx Ethernet port (for wired/wireless remote control), 1 DVI video port, 4 USB 2.0 ports (2 rear, 1 front, 1 internal)
Dimensions (H x W x D)	3.5 x 19 x 14.6 inches (8.8 x 48.3 x 37.1 cm)
Rack spaces	2U
Stage 16 remote I/O	
Analog inputs	16 XLR mic inputs/preamps
Analog outputs	8 XLR line outputs
Digital outputs	4 channels of AES3 input and output
Dimensions (H x W x D)	6.9 x 19 x 8.1 inches (17.6 x 48.3 x 20.6 cm) with ears/handles out (rackmount configuration); 6.9 x 15.6 x 7.9 inches (17.6 x 39.6 x 20.2 cm) without ears/handles
Rack spaces	4U
Connections	2 Gigabit Ethernet AVB ports (up to four Stage 16 boxes can be daisy-chained)
Snake cable type	Shielded 350 MHz Cat5e or better (Neutrik etherCON connectors required)
Maximum snake cable length	328 feet (100 meters)

*Not all features outlined above will be available to all Avid live sound systems.

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Preliminary, subject to change without notice.

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