Soundcraft Si Impact

Soundcraft Si Impact 40-Channel Digital Mixer Console User Manual

Model: Si Impact

1. INTRODUCTION

The Soundcraft Si Impact is a powerful and versatile 40-channel digital mixer console designed for live sound mixing and recording. Building on over 40 years of Soundcraft's expertise, this console integrates advanced digital mixing innovations with exceptional audio quality. It offers a user-friendly interface, radical workflow enhancements like the unique FaderGlow system, extensive DSP processing capabilities, and a high-quality 32-in/32-out USB audio interface, making it suitable for professionals who demand uncompromised audio performance.

Figure 1: Front view of the Soundcraft Si Impact digital mixer, showcasing its control surface with faders, knobs, buttons, and a central display screen.

2. Key Features

- **Input Capabilities:** Features 32 microphone inputs and 8 XLR/1/4" Combi-jacks for line inputs and instruments, providing comprehensive connectivity for various audio sources.

- **DSP Channels:** Equipped with 40 DSP input channels, comprising 32 mono inputs and 4 stereo channels/returns, allowing for extensive signal processing.

- **Output Busses:** Includes 31 output busses, each with full DSP processing and a graphic equalizer (GEQ) for precise audio routing and shaping.

- **Parametric EQ:** Each channel and bus features a 4-Band fully parametric EQ, offering detailed frequency control.

- **FaderGlow System:** Incorporates the unique FaderGlow system for intuitive visual feedback on fader assignments and status.

- **USB Audio Interface:** Provides a pristine 32-in/32-out USB Audio Interface for high-quality multi-track recording and playback.

- **Remote Control:** Supports remote control via iPad, enhancing flexibility in operation.

- **Motorized Faders:** Features motorized faders for accurate recall of settings and seamless scene changes.

- **Programmable Scribble Strips:** Digital scribble strips provide instant visual identification of channels and mixes.

3. Setup Guide

3.1 Unpacking and Initial Inspection

Carefully remove the Soundcraft Si Impact console from its packaging. Inspect the unit for any signs of damage that may have occurred during transit. Retain all packaging materials for future transport or storage.

3.2 Power Connection

Connect the provided power cord to the console's power input and then to a suitable AC power outlet. Ensure the power source is stable and meets the console's power requirements. The console operates on corded electric power.

3.3 Audio Connections

The Si Impact offers a variety of connectivity options:

- **Microphone/Line Inputs:** Utilize the 32 XLR inputs and 8 XLR/1/4" Combi-jacks for connecting microphones, line-level devices, and instruments.

- **Outputs:** Connect your main PA system, monitor speakers, and other external audio devices to the console's 31 output busses.

- **Stagebox Connectivity:** For expanded I/O, connect compatible Soundcraft stageboxes via the dedicated Stagebox port.

3.4 USB Audio Interface Setup

To use the 32-in/32-out USB audio interface for recording or playback, connect the console to your computer via a standard USB cable. Install any necessary drivers or software as prompted by your operating system or as provided by Soundcraft's official website. This allows for seamless integration with Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs).

3.5 iPad Remote Control Setup

For remote control functionality, download the official Soundcraft Si Impact app from the Apple App Store onto your iPad. Ensure both the console and the iPad are connected to the same network (e.g., via a wireless router connected to the console's Ethernet port). Follow the in-app instructions to establish a connection and gain remote access to the mixer's functions.

4. Operating Instructions

4.1 Powering On and Off

To power on the console, ensure all connections are secure, then press the power button. Allow the system to fully boot up. To power off, save any unsaved settings, then press and hold the power button or follow the shutdown procedure outlined in the full manual to prevent data loss.

4.2 Navigating the Control Surface

The Si Impact features a highly intuitive control surface:

- **Faders:** The motorized faders provide precise level control for input channels, mixes, and VCAs. The FaderGlow system illuminates faders in different colors to indicate their current assignment (e.g., inputs, aux sends, groups).
- **Scribble Strips:** Each channel fader is accompanied by a programmable scribble strip display, showing the channel name, input source, and other relevant information, which updates automatically when switching fader layers.
- **Touch Screen:** The central touch screen provides access to detailed parameters, routing, effects, and system settings. Use it to adjust EQ, dynamics, and effects parameters visually.
- **Rotary Encoders and Buttons:** Dedicated rotary encoders and buttons provide quick access to common functions and parameters, often with LED indicators for status.

4.3 Channel and Bus Processing

Each of the 40 DSP input channels and 31 output busses offers comprehensive processing:

- **EQ:** Utilize the 4-Band fully parametric EQ on each channel and bus to shape the frequency response of your audio signals.
- **Dynamics:** Access built-in compressors, gates, and de-essers to control the dynamic range of your inputs and outputs.
- **Effects:** The console includes integrated effects processors (e.g., Lexicon reverbs and delays, dbx dynamics) that can be assigned to channels or busses.

4.4 Managing Mixes and Layers

The Si Impact allows for flexible management of mixes:

- **Fader Layers:** Switch between different fader layers to access input channels, 14 submixes, 4 effects busses, and 4 matrix mixes. The programmable scribble strips ensure you always know what each fader controls.
- **Snapshots:** Save and recall complete console configurations using snapshots. This feature is essential for quick scene changes during live performances or for storing different show setups.
- **VCA Groups:** Assign channels to VCA (Voltage Controlled Amplifier) groups for master control over multiple faders simultaneously.

5. MAINTENANCE

5.1 Cleaning

Regularly clean the console's surface with a soft, dry, lint-free cloth. For stubborn dirt, a slightly damp cloth with a mild, non-abrasive cleaner can be used, ensuring no liquid enters the faders, knobs, or ventilation openings. Avoid using harsh chemicals or solvents.

5.2 Ventilation

Ensure that the console's ventilation openings are clear and unobstructed to prevent overheating. Do not place the console in an enclosed space without adequate airflow.

5.3 Software Updates

Periodically check the official Soundcraft website for firmware and software updates. Keeping your console's software up-to-date ensures optimal performance, bug fixes, and access to new features.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section provides solutions to common issues you might encounter with your Soundcraft Si Impact console. For more complex problems, refer to the comprehensive user manual available on the Soundcraft website or contact customer support.

6.1 No Audio Output

- **Check Power:** Ensure the console is powered on and receiving stable power.
- **Cable Connections:** Verify all audio cables (inputs, outputs, main outs) are securely connected and not damaged.
- **Mute Status:** Check if any channels, busses, or the main output are muted.
- **Fader Levels:** Ensure faders are raised to appropriate levels and not at minimum.
- **Routing:** Confirm that input channels are correctly routed to the desired output busses.

6.2 Distorted Audio or Unexpected Noise

- **Input Gain:** Reduce input gain if signal is clipping (indicated by red peak LEDs).
- **Phantom Power:** Ensure phantom power is only enabled for condenser microphones that require it.
- **Cable Integrity:** Test different cables to rule out faulty wiring.
- **Software Glitches:** If distortion occurs intermittently or on specific channels without clear cause, consider performing a factory reset (after backing up settings) or checking for firmware updates.

6.3 Remote Control (iPad) Issues

- **Network Connection:** Verify that both the console and iPad are connected to the same Wi-Fi network.
- **App Version:** Ensure the Soundcraft Si Impact app is up-to-date.
- **Console Firmware:** Update the console's firmware to the latest version for compatibility.
- **Firewall/Router Settings:** Check if your network router or computer firewall is blocking communication between the iPad and console.

6.4 Console Freezing or Unresponsive

- **Reboot:** Power cycle the console by turning it off and then on again.
- **Factory Reset:** As a last resort, perform a factory reset. Consult the full manual for the correct procedure, as this will erase all custom settings.
- **Software Update:** Ensure the console's firmware is the latest version, as stability improvements are often included in updates.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	Si Impact
Brand	Soundcraft
Size/Channel Count	40-channel (40 DSP input channels)
Microphone Inputs	32

Feature	Detail
Combi-jacks (XLR/1/4")	8 (for line inputs and instruments)
Output Busses	31 (with full DSP processing and GEQ)
USB Audio Interface	32-in/32-out
Hardware Interface	USB
Connectivity Technology	XLR, 1/4" Combi-jacks, USB, Stagebox
Power Source	Corded Electric
Item Weight	44.1 pounds (20 kg)
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	29.5 x 19.7 x 6.3 inches (74.9 x 50 x 16 cm)
First Available Date	May 19, 2015

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For detailed information regarding the warranty coverage for your Soundcraft Si Impact console, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Soundcraft website. Warranty terms and conditions may vary by region. For technical support, product registration, driver downloads, and access to the full comprehensive user manual, please visit the official Soundcraft support portal. You can also find contact information for customer service on their website.

Online Resources:

- Soundcraft Official Website

- Soundcraft Brand Store on Amazon