

16 August 1993 19:32

Welcome To SoundMeister\* & DigitalSession\*!

#### SoundMeister Addendum

The documentation presently supplied with the SoundMeister card incorrectly describes the procedure of connecting the sound expansion cable from the IIGs motherboard to the SoundMeister card. The inaccuracy stems from a last minute change that was made to the sound expansion cable. We are now using a fully shielded cable versus the flat ribbon cable documented in the manual. When connecting the cable to the SoundMeister, you should not go Tup and overU the back of the card as shown. Instead, you should go Tup and underU the front of the SM card. This is the most natural way to connect the cable, and is also how the card is shipped in the box.

#### SoundMeister INIT & Control Panel

The present INIT & Control Panel used to control the SoundMeister settings aren't quite free from all flaws. The principle problem you may encounter revolves around the INIT's attempt to track an application program's use of the SoundMeister card. The theory is to bring the card's volume to a minimum when the card isn't being used. This virtually eliminates any hiss or digital interference which is inevitable in all but the cleanest RF environments. This feature works fine with one exception: the System 6.0 Sounds control panel! It seems that the Sounds control panel is using the sound hardware even when it is not generating a sound. Thus the attempt to enable and disable the SoundMeister only when sound is generated gets foiled. In fact, it sometimes gets confused and the SoundMeister is enabled when not playing a sound and disabled when playing a sound.

The only permanent solution is to rewrite the Sounds control panel. We are presently doing this and will shortly be making it available free to all SoundMeister owners. In the meantime you can do one of the following: 1) Disable the Sounds control panel. Many users have not assigned custom sounds to system events and thus aren't using the Sounds control panel. If you fall into this group of users then you might as well disable it. 2) Using the SoundMeister control panel, set the maximum volume and the idle volume to the same level. The idle volume represents the output volume of the card when it is 'disabled'. Making these two settings the same in effect never disables the card. 3) Disable the Sounds control panel and use Sonics from Quality computers (which we developed, by the way). Sonics correctly shuts down the sound toolset when no sound is being generated.

=====

#### DigitalSession Addendum

The version of DigitalSession presently being shipped with the SoundMeister is version 0.9bX. This is a pre-release version of the software! Not all of the features have been implemented nor have all of the quirks been run out.

The basic DigitalSession shell is 95% complete and has been determined to be quite stable. Any problems that you encounter are most likely to be found in the filter and effects modules. These modules should be completely finalized within a few weeks as well as the remaining 5% of the shell. Be sure and fill in your registration card and return it to us as soon as possible so that we may automatically update you with the final software!