

Press release – for immediate release

Native Instruments announces ABSYNTH 4

Acclaimed semi-modular synthesizer offers vastly extended sonic arsenal and improved creative workflow; adds KORE-compatible browser

Berlin, September 13th 2006 – Native Instruments today announced ABSYNTH 4, the fourth generation of its award-winning semi-modular software synthesizer that is renowned for its unique evolving sounds and textures. The new version offers extended sound design and performance capabilities through a new customizable signal flow; additional oscillator, waveform and envelope features; and a completely revised modulation concept. Numerous usability improvements, including a new KORE-compatible sound browser, provide a more convenient creative workflow. With its refined combination of sonic flexibility and ease of use, ABSYNTH 4 strengthens its role as the leading sound-design synthesizer for innovative timbres and complex soundscapes.

The sonic capabilities of ABSYNTH have received a major extension in its fourth revision. The semi-modular signal flow is now customizable, allowing users to freely specify the combination and order of filter, modulator and waveshaping modules in each oscillator channel. A new “Wave Morph” function creates a wide range of new timbres through seamless interpolation between two user-definable waveforms, with real-time modulation of the interpolation readout leading to dramatic, highly musical results. A new “Sync Granular” oscillator mode also adds an entirely new sound source that can resemble a blown or bowed acoustic instrument.

Powerful envelopes are one of the signature features of ABSYNTH, and the fourth generation of the instrument offers significant enhancements. A new global Master ADSR envelope can be used to shape even the most complex sound in a quick and intuitive way. The individual multi-breakpoint envelopes can now be synchronized to a beat grid, creating sound movements that follow the global tempo of a host sequencer. With this new feature, ABSYNTH 4 effectively integrates the concepts of envelopes and step sequencers into a powerful new tool for creative sound design.

A completely revised modulation concept in ABSYNTH 4 offers significantly increased real-time performance and automation options. Sixteen assignable macro controls can now manipulate any combination of oscillator, filter, modulation and effect parameters, with the additional option to convert any pair of controls into an XY field. “Audio Modulation” also now allows an external input signal to be used as a routable controller.

ABSYNTH 4 ships with more than 1,200 outstanding preset sounds, while a new integrated sound browser provides advanced categorization and search features. The ABSYNTH sound browser is now fully compatible with Native Instruments’ KORE host system and its KoreSound format.

Pricing and availability

ABSYNTH 4 will be available in October 2006 for a suggested retail price of \$ 339 / € 299 from authorized dealers and in the NI Online Shop. An update for owners of ABSYNTH 3 will be available for \$ 119 / € 99.

ABSYNTH 4 is also a part of the KOMLETE 4 bundle, which will in turn be available as a free update for all owners of KOMLETE CARE 2006.

Further product information and press material

Additional information on ABSYNTH 4 is available at
www.native-instruments.com/absynth.info

A digital press kit including picture material is available for download at
www.native-instruments.com/press.info

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About Native Instruments

Native Instruments is the pioneer and market leader in the field of software instruments, and one of the key players in the market of computer-based audio production technology. The company's mission is to develop outstanding musical tools for all styles and genres. The resulting products regularly push technological boundaries and open up new creative horizons for professionals and amateurs alike.

Native Instruments opened up the fascinating world of real-time sound synthesis on standard computers in 1996, and today offers an extensive product range for the Instruments, Guitar and DJ markets, designed and developed by three corresponding divisions within the company. Native Instruments currently employs more than 130 people in its two offices in Berlin and Los Angeles, and works closely with more than 40 international distribution partners to ensure its future growth and success.