

Press release – for immediate release

Native Instruments releases AKOUSTIK PIANO 1.1 R2

Free update offers increased sonic authenticity, Stretched Tuning, Repedalling and more; improves integration with KONTAKT 2 and KORE

Berlin, July 26th, 2006 – Native Instruments just released AKOUSTIK PIANO 1.1 R2, a free update for its acclaimed piano software instrument. The new version offers significant improvements and additional features in almost every area, further extending its recognized strengths in sonic realism, playability, functionality and ease of use.

In AKOUSTIK PIANO 1.1, a new Overtone technology delivers strikingly realistic string resonance for all three grand pianos and the upright piano. To provide even smoother sonic characteristics across the full key range, the sample sets of all four included pianos have been meticulously retuned and re-adjusted in the new version. The update also adds Stretched Tuning, the preferred tuning mode for classical solo piano performances, and adds highly realistic "Repedalling" behaviour to its implementation of the sustain pedal.

Furthermore, AKOUSTIK PIANO 1.1 offers an enhanced user interface, an improved Recorder section with MIDI song import, MIDI automation for a wide range of sound parameters including volume and pan, an adjustable "bass boost" function, and an easy-to-use output limiter. The update also increases the number of maximum voices to 150, providing sufficient polyphony headroom for even the most demanding piano arrangements.

With the new version, all four pianos can now be fully used in both KONTAKT 2.1 and KORE. The 1.1 update even includes specific KONTAKT 2 patches for each instrument, containing individual matching Performance Views for use in Native Instruments' award-winning flagship sampler. The Performance View gives users full control of the AKOUSTIK PIANO sound parameters directly within the KONTAKT 2 rack.

Mac Intel compatibility for AKOUSTIK PIANO will be introduced with a separate update, which will be released within the third quarter of 2006.

Further product information and press material

Additional information on AKOUSTIK PIANO is available at
www.native-instruments.com/akoustikpiano.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.