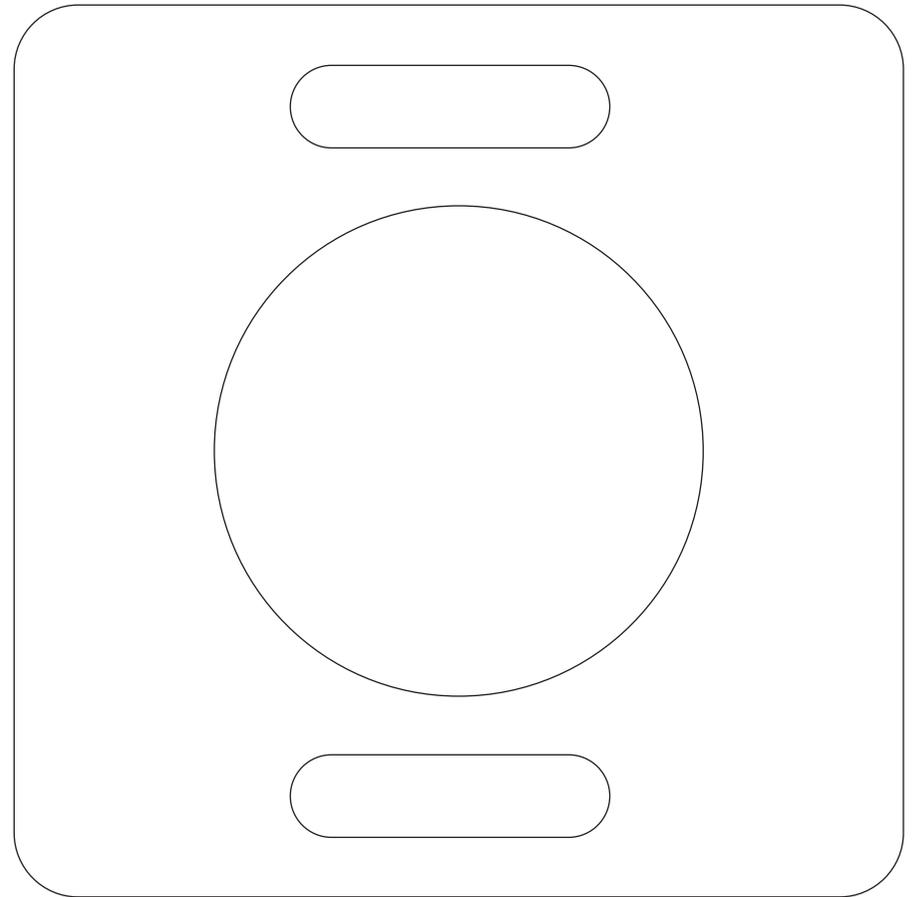


 ACUSTICA

**FI RE**



## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 FIRE SERIES**

Processing audio has never been easier thanks to FIRE, the new series of single-knob plug-ins from Acustica. The aim of this series is to create an 'easy-to-use' product line that encompasses Acustica's TOP QUALITY, alongside a very intuitive use with just a few simple clicks! The FIRE series plugins will make your life easier and help save your time!

### **1.2 FEATURES**

- A single-knob plug-in capable of changing the overall sonic character of a signal in no time.
- Easy to use and cool interface,
- Four custom filtering modes available (2 x TILT curves, 2 x SMILE curves).
- Four convenient processing mode (L-R, M, S, M-S CMPX)
- Output Level and M-S Balance controls
- Part of Fire, a high quality series with a great and distinctive sound.
- Low CPU consumption
- Low latency

## **2 FIRE THE TILT**

Tilting is often all it takes to turn your track around with a few simple interventions. Sometimes you need to improve your track by making it sit better in a mix, maybe you want to make it almost instantly more 'vibrant' and 'warm' or on the contrary 'cold' and 'less intrusive'...or maybe you may find that your final mix, while being basically well balanced as such, needs only just a bit more highs and less lows...

These are all cases in which the best and quickest way to enhance your mix is a good TILT EQ, and even more so if different shapes and frequencies are available.

If that's not enough, think about the possibility of drastically altering the frequency spectrum, allowing you to have more bass and more treble at the same time, or vice versa, less of both... in those situations a SMILE (AKA "Loudness") EQ is the way to go.

Finally, think about applying TILT and SMILE curves only to the Mid or Side component of the signal: by doing so you can further enhance the stereo depth with a few simple clicks, while maintaining the ability to balance the amount of the Mid and Side information.

Well, all this and more can be found in Fire The Tilt.

After a careful design phase, our high technical know-how and thanks to the precious contribution of the N4 library developer SoundDrops, Acustica has built and sampled a bespoke analog processor with the aim of creating one of the best and most complete Tilt EQ plugins currently on the market.

### 3 CONTROLS

**FIRE The TILT** is the third in the Fire series of Acqua plugins, a collection of simple, easy-to-use tools specifically designed to quickly enhance your mixes. Its graphical user interface is laid out in the most straightforward, user-friendly manner.

- **Mode:** There are 4 different frequency responses. (○: , □: , △: , +: .



The first Tilt shape model, featuring a smooth slope, capable of gentle corrections, boosting the highs and cutting the lows or vice versa, pivoting around the selected center frequency.



The second Tilt shape model, characterized by a steeper slope than the previous model, ideal for more drastic and evident corrections.



The first Smile EQ model; characterized by a wide bandwidth, it simultaneously boosts both high and low frequency ranges or vice versa, according to the selected center-frequency.



Second Smile EQ model, featuring a somewhat narrower Q than the previous model; again, it simultaneously boosts both high and low frequency ranges or vice versa, according to the selected center-frequency.

- **Out**

This slider control the global output level, ranging from -6dB to +6dB.

- **Size drop-down menu**

This menu adjusts the whole plugin-GUI size (1x,1.5x,2x). Select the desired resizing format from the drop-down menu. Close the plugin and re-open it in your DAW to finalize the selection.

- **Special Buttons**

Four special buttons are available.

Details:

1. L-R (←→): Regular Left/Right processing is enabled by selecting the L-R button (default processing mode). When this button is enabled, both channels of the stereo input signal are equally processed by the plugin.



2. MID (M): When the MID button is selected, EQ processing is applied only to the center of your soundstage (Mid component).

3. SIDE (S): When the SIDE button is selected, processing is applied only to the edges of your soundstage (Side component).

4. M-S CMPX (M): This is a 'compensated' M-S configuration. In this mode, MID and SIDE processing is linked by an inverse law that always ensures that any change in MID processing is automatically compensated for the SIDE.

As an example, when the user selects the first TILT curve in this mode, turning the knob to the right will boost the highs and attenuate the lows of the Mid component, while applying an inverted, but otherwise identical curve, to the Side component of the signal. Actually, the most common way of using this control should be the opposite: turning it to the left the user applies a high boost to the Side and a low boost to the Mid part of the signal in equal measure. This is a well-established practice in audio production.



• **Tilt / Smile EQ knob**

This control can rebalance the whole sound of your track with the simple twist of a knob.

1) In  or  mode, this control behaves like a TILT EQ. It adjusts the general balance between the high and low range of the entire frequency spectrum.

- Turning it to the right (clockwise), the highs are boosted and at the same time the lows are equally attenuated.

- Turning it to the left (counter-clockwise), the lows are boosted and the highs are attenuated.

2) When you are in  or  mode, the action of this control changes to a SMILE response.

- Turning it to the right (clockwise), extreme lows and highs are boosted, while the central frequency range is equally attenuated.

- Turning it to the left (counter-clockwise), the central frequency range is boosted, while lows and highs are equally attenuated.

The range of this control goes from -8 to +8dB.



The illuminated light ring around this control can be of great help in understanding what kind of processing is being performed by Fire The Tilt at any given moment.

The colors of the illuminated ring represent the different parts of signal that are being processed by the plugin:

- Left is blue;
- Right is red;
- Mid is green;
- Side is yellow.

For instance, in L-R mode there are two blue and red concentric rings that follow the position of the knob; in Mid mode there's only a single green ring around the knob. These light rings really come in handy in M-S CMPX mode, to the effect that they show very clearly how the Mid and Side components are differently processed by the plugin.

#### • M-S CMPX Bal

This slider is only displayed when the M-S CMPX mode is activated, and allows the user to readjust the balance between the Mid and Side part of the signal after the filtering action is performed. Moving this slider to the left, the Mid component of the signal can be increased up to +6dB, while simultaneously decreasing the level of the SIDE component by an equal amount of dB. Conversely, moving it to the right it's the amount of Side information that is increased, simultaneously decreasing the Mid component.



- **Freq**

This chooses the operating frequency of the filter.

Range:

from 80 Hz to 10kHz in  and  modes (TILT curves)

from 200 Hz to 5kHz in  and  modes (SMILE curves)



## 4

### HOW TO DOWNLOAD, INSTALL, AND AUTHORIZE YOUR PRODUCTS

Acustica Audio products can be downloaded, installed, and authorized using the Aquarius Desktop application.

The Aquarius Desktop application is a free standalone application that will manage every step in an automatic way without user intervention.

**Download Aquarius Desktop Application**  
[www.acustica-audio.com/pages/aquarius](http://www.acustica-audio.com/pages/aquarius)

#### 4.1

##### How to **download** a product in Aquarius Desktop Application

To download a product using the Aquarius Desktop application go to the purchase page and select the product and format (VST2,VST3,AAX,AU) to install.

In case you can't find your product on the purchase page use the search page.

## 4.2

### How to **install** a product in Aquarius Desktop Application

The installation is done automatically by the Aquarius Desktop application after the download. As the Aquarius Desktop application creates a temporary file of the downloaded products, known as the stage area, at the moment you want to reinstall a product it will not be necessary to download it again.

## 4.3

### How to **authorize** a product in Aquarius Desktop Application

The authorization is done automatically by the Aquarius Desktop application after the product installation. You can manage your authorizations using the [Aquarius Web Service](#).

## 4.4

**Click [HERE](#) or a complete installation user guide**

## **5 SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS**

Before starting the installation process, please confirm that your system meets the minimum system requirements to run the plugins please consult the following link:

<https://app.box.com/v/AASYSTEMREQUIREMENTS>

## **6 CUSTOMER CARE**

### **6.1 Contact Point**

To contact Acustica Audio, always use the single point of contact, which is this help-desk portal:

<https://acusticaaudio.freshdesk.com/>

We do not provide official assistance via social networks, public forums, or email accounts. For troubleshooting and issue reporting, check the available solutions in the knowledge base.

## **6.2 COPYRIGHT AND CREDITS**

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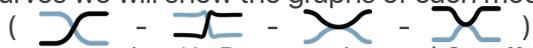
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6

APPENDIX

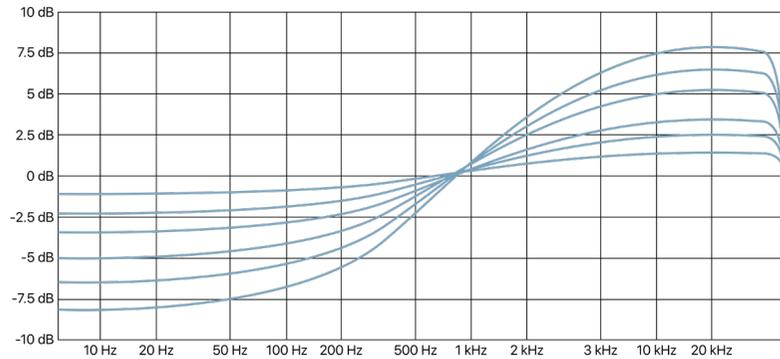
Frequency responses graphs

For a better understanding of the potential of each tilt/smile curves we will show the graphs of each mode

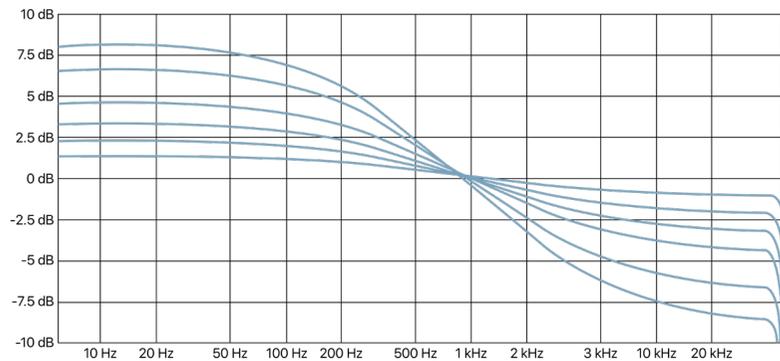


with a common setting (L-R processing and Cutoff frequency at 1kHz).

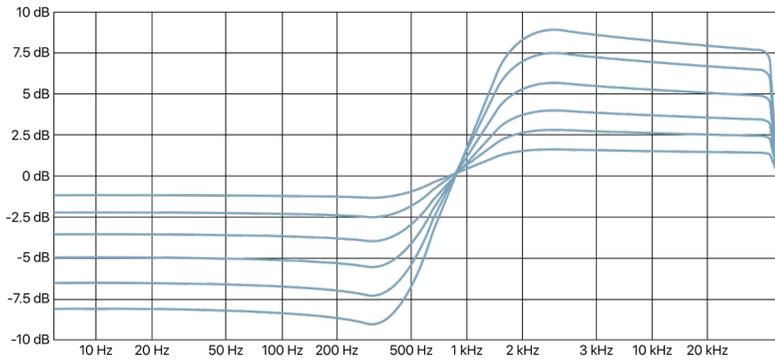
As already described, each of them have their own characteristics, these plots clearly show the differences and peculiarities of each one.



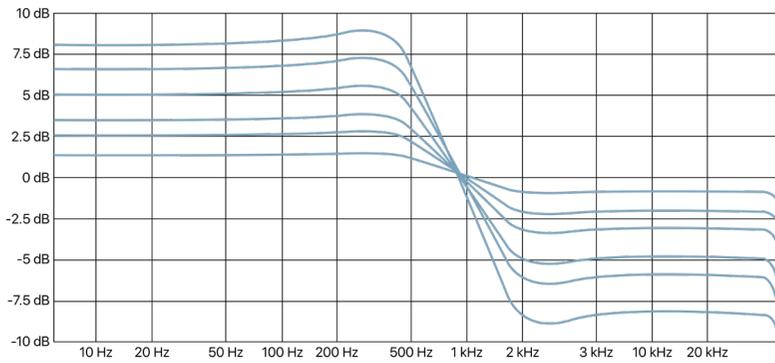
Mode  - Gain: +8 dB - Freq: 1 kHz



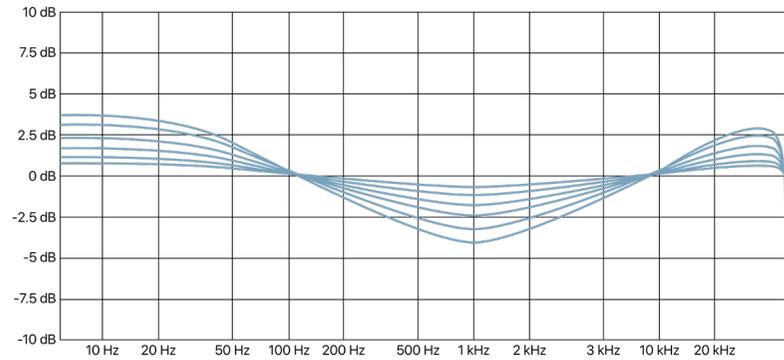
Mode  - Gain: -8 dB - Freq: 1 kHz



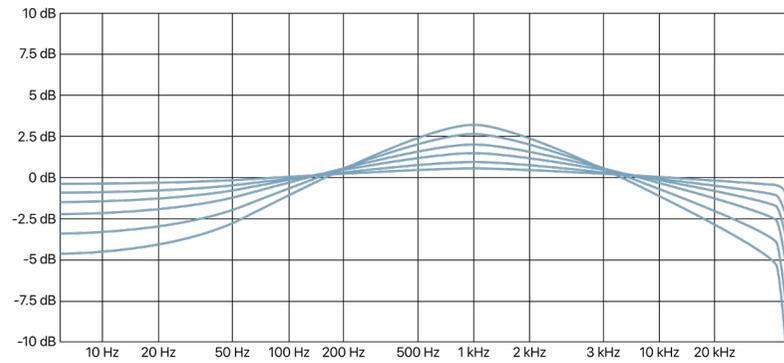
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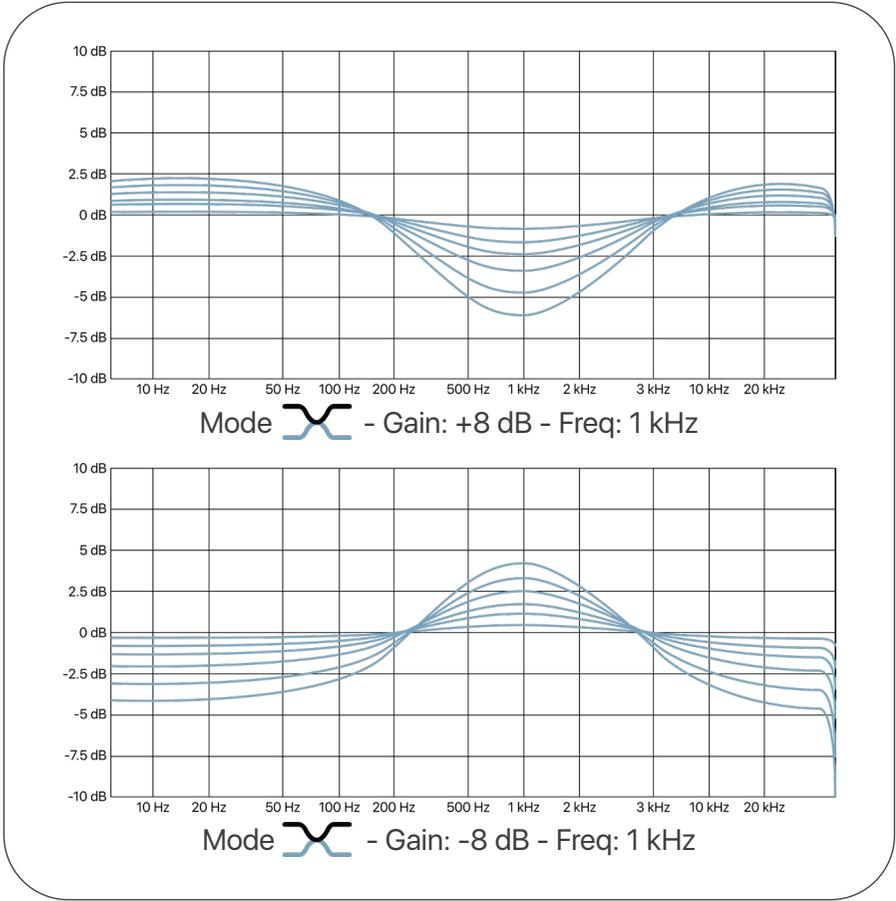
Mode  - Gain: -8 dB - Freq: 1 kHz

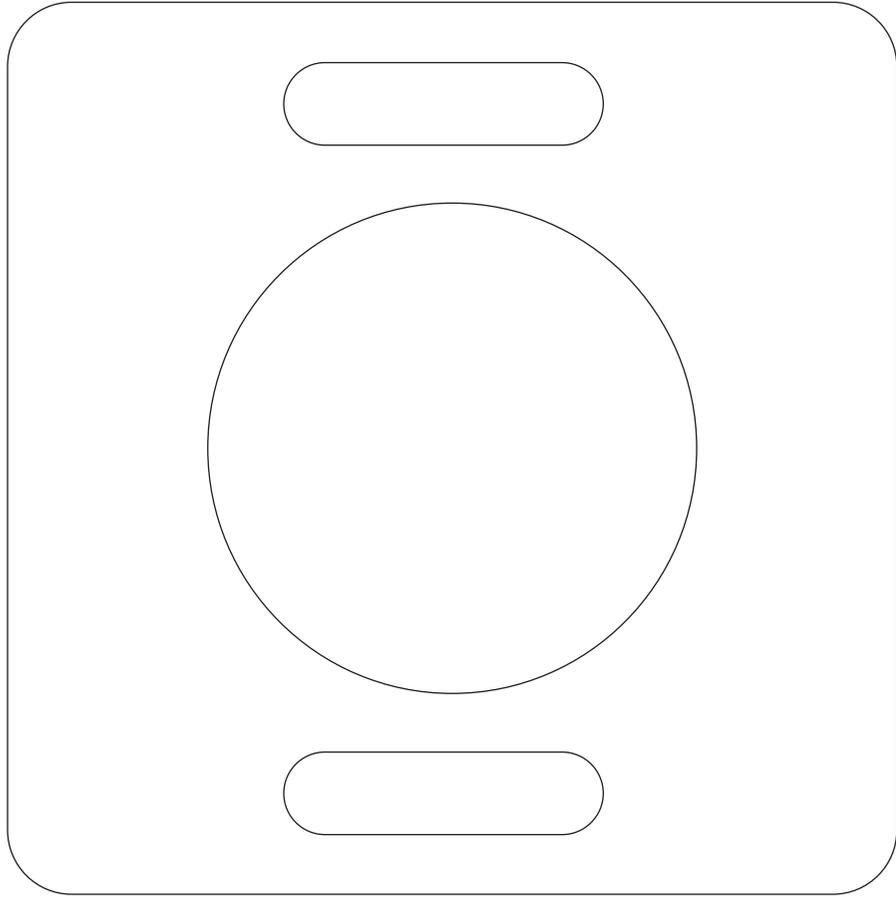


Mode  - Gain: +8 dB - Freq: 1 kHz



Mode  - Gain: -8 dB - Freq: 1 kHz





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