

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014

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Radial Engineering EXTC Effects Reamper

The EXTC is a clear choice for simplifying the often-complicated task of reamping with effects.

Sometimes balanced audio needs to take a trip through unbalanced stompboxes, which involves impedance and level-matching as well as numerous patchpoints for ideal flexibility. The EXTC does all this and encourages creativity like no other single device I've ever used!

It starts with a mono input, either XLR or quarter-inch (TRS or TS). Next, tap into the signal via two unbalanced, hi-impedance, guitar-level effects loops with adjustable send/receive levels, polarity inversion and a wet/dry blend control. This blended signal feeds the XLR and quarter-inch outputs for reamping or returning to the recorder.

With this much flexibility and control, EXTC applications are limited only by your imagination. The spacey effects my client Grey Revell and I achieved (as this box excels with two pairs of hands to animate parameters) were mind-blowingly good and way beyond what I've ever achieved with plug-ins. There was a certain randomness and organic-ness to the mangled signals

that was truly inspiring, in a sound design/experimental kind of way.

Drums were transformed into alien blips with phasers/overdrive, bass guitars into roaring mechanical beasts with distortion pedals/tremolos/flangers and—my film-scoring favorite—line noise and the micro-

phonic tapping of cables with too much gain, a modulation and the sweeping of a delay with ample feedback. "This is the ultimate spontaneous sound-design tool," Grey noted enthusiastically as he completed a jet take-off warble-swoosh that would fit into anything between dub, dubstep and EDM.

The EXTC is a clear choice if you want to simplify the often complicated task of reamping with effects. If the \$300 street price seems high, do consider that the design is near perfection (level controls to balance the two loops *would* be perfection). All the unique creative realtime flexibilities imaginable (and unimaginable) are brought to life with the EXTC.

Price: \$299 street

Contact: Radial Engineering | radialeng.com

