

# SSL FUSION HF COMPRESSOR

**Solid State Logic**  
OXFORD • ENGLAND



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# USER GUIDE

# SSL FUSION HF COMPRESSOR

The SSL FUSION HF Compressor plug-in **tames undesirable harshness** in your **tracks** and **mixes** with **analogue high-frequency rounding**.



## FUSION ANALOGUE COLOUR WHAT IS SSL FUSION?

SSL FUSION is a hardware mix bus processor, delivering five powerful analogue colouration tools — Vintage Drive, Violet EQ, HF Compressor, Stereo Image enhancer, and SSL Transformer — from SSL, the Masters of Analogue.

find out more @

<https://www.solidstatellogic.com/products/fusion>

## The 5 colors of SSL FUSION AKA the “Analogue Hit List”



### VINTAGE DRIVE

Additional harmonics and gradual saturation that emerge from an analogue ‘sweet spot’.



### VIOLET EQ

A rich analogue EQ with gentle shelving filters.



### HF COMPRESSOR

Smooth top-end rounding, in the analogue domain.



### STEREO IMAGE

Wider stereo imaging with depth via true Mid/Side processing.



### TRANSFORMER

Add that transformer mojo.



YOU ARE  
HERE



**Solid State Logic**

**1 I/O METERS**  
Segmented I/O metering, with 3s peak hold for a clear indication of peaks.

**2 INPUT/OUTPUT TRIM**  
Applies a gain to the input/output signals.

**3 BYPASS**  
Bypasses plug-in processing.

**4 AUTO GAIN**  
Applies an automatic makeup gain to the compressed frequencies. Use this to restore high frequencies after rounding.

**FUSION**  
ANALOGUE COLOUR

UNDO REDO A B Default Preset

**5 LED and GRAPH**

The tri-colour LED provides an 'at-a-glance' indication of how much compression is happening.

The main graph shows the input signal (filled), and compression (the top line) over time.

The meter to the right indicates the instantaneous compression being applied.

**6 LISTEN**  
Auditions the frequencies being compressed and removed.

**7 THRESHOLD**  
Determines at what point compression starts to occur.

**8 X-OVER**  
Determines the frequencies that are affected by compression.

**9 MIX**  
Adjusts the blend between the processed and unprocessed signal.

UNDO REDO A B Default Preset

# THE SSL PLUG-IN ENGINE

## 1 UNDO/REDO

Reverse a mistake, or redo it. Happy accidents can sometimes lead to great things.

## 2 A/B

Toggles between two presets. Useful for comparing between two parameter settings.

## 3 PRESET MENU

Use the arrows to cycle through presets.

Click to open the Preset Menu...

**LOAD** *load a preset from a file*

**SAVE** *overwrite the current preset*

**SAVE AS...** *save a preset*

**SAVE AS DEFAULT** *overwrite the default*

**COPY X TO Y** *copy presets between A/B*

## 4 ECO MODE

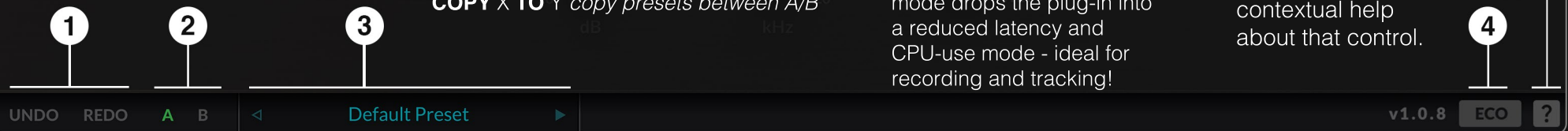
If a plug-in has an 'ECO' button, this means that there's some clever DSP, such as oversampling, going on under the hood. This is why it sounds so good!

Putting the plug-in into ECO mode drops the plug-in into a reduced latency and CPU-use mode - ideal for recording and tracking!

## 5 BUILT-IN HELP

As a traditional user guide, it's not really in my best interests to mention this, but...

Click the '?' and mouse over ANY control in the plug-in GUI to see some contextual help about that control.



## TIPS & TRICKS

This is a circuit that only compresses high-frequencies, introducing a 'tape-like' top-end roll-off, taming unwanted brittleness or harshness that can sometimes build up in a mix or individual stem sound.

Other compressor parameters such as 'attack', 'release' and 'ratio' have all been fixed in the design, and are optimised for the best transparency.

Less fiddling, and more results!

## FULL MIX CONTENT

A good starting point for full mix material is **THRESHOLD** at **+2 dB** and **X-OVER** around **15 kHz**.

Our recommended approach is similar to the hardware - move the controls until the accompanying **HF Compressor tri-colour LED** just starts to flicker green occasionally.

However, in the plug-in version, feel free to go more extreme - you can always dial it back using the **MIX** control!

## AUTO GAIN

What is there to gain from **AUTO GAIN**? Well, that's a very good question, and we're glad you asked...

**AUTO GAIN** introduces an automatic makeup gain to only the compressed frequencies - you'll find this feature fairly common in digital multi-band compressors.

This introduces more of the compressed signal, and you'll hear more of the compressor's envelope - taming harshness while maintaining high-end transients, due to the attack and release. Try it on more extreme settings, with highly transient signals such as drums!

Visit SSL at: [www.solidstatelogic.com](http://www.solidstatelogic.com)

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