



30th Anniversary of MIDI Fact Sheet

WHAT IS MIDI:

MIDI (which originates from “Musical Instrument Digital Interface,” but is pronounced “mi-dee”) is a technology that allows electronic musical instruments and computers to communicate with each other. It sounds simple, but MIDI is so profoundly significant that even after 30 years it continues to enable new and innovative products and applications.

INTRODUCED:

January 1983 at the NAMM Show in Anaheim, Calif.

MIDI ENABLES:

- Digital music creation/editing/production for film/TV/radio.
- Digital musical instruments and related products (sequencers, drum machines, electronic drums, guitar controllers, effects processors, etc.)
- Songwriting and recording software
- Music education software
- Interactive (aka adaptive) music playback in console and computer games
- Programmed control of stage lighting, animatronics, and sound in live shows and amusement parks
- Home automation (lights, security systems)

WEB SITE:

www.midi.org

KEY MMA EXECUTIVES:

Athan Billias (Yamaha Corp of America)
Bryan Lanser (Muse Research R&D)
Denis Labrecque (Analog Devices)
Claus Dorner (Dream SA)
Tom White (MMA President)

MMA BACKGROUND:

The MIDI Manufacturers Association is a non-profit formed in 1985 to encourage companies implementing MIDI to make their products interoperable through compliance with MMA Recommended Practices. MMA publishes the official MIDI Specification, provides education about MIDI, licenses MIDI trademarks, and promotes the use of MIDI technology for new applications and in various industries, so that MIDI remains one of the most relevant standards in the entertainment industry.

MEDIA CONTACT

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