

Refinement, redefined: Sennheiser expands studio microphone range with the MK 8

Wedemark/Frankfurt, 12 March 2014 – At prolight+sound, audio specialist Sennheiser will launch the sister model to its MK 4 large-diaphragm condenser microphone. While the MK 4 has been designed as a straightforward “plug-and-play” microphone, the MK 8 is a more refined tool for the recording engineer seeking for added control options. The true condenser, double-diaphragm MK 8 features five selectable polar patterns (omni-directional, wide cardioid, cardioid, super-cardioid, figure-of-eight) to optimally adapt to the recording situation at hand, and is fitted with a low cut/roll-off filter and pad switch. The MK 8 will be available from late summer.

“The sound design of the MK 8 is based on Sennheiser’s successful series of large-diaphragm condensers,” said Sebastian Schmitz, microphone product manager. “This mic offers a defined bass, beautifully rounded-out mids and open treble. The MK 8 is direct and harmonious, with a finely resolved and very musical sound. Professional users will like its versatility – it can cater to basically any recording situation.”

The MK 8 has one-inch diaphragms precisely spattered with 24-carat gold. Its capsule is elastically mounted to reduce structure-borne noise. A three-position switchable filter allows the user to either eliminate any remaining low-frequency noise below 60 Hz (-18 dB/octave, low-cut position) or introduce a softer roll-off effect from 100 Hz down to compensate for the proximity effect in close miking (-6 dB/octave, roll-off position).

The MK 8 is also fitted with a switchable pad (off, -10 dB, -20 dB). A signal level reduction of -10 dB in the capsule protects the mic against excessively loud audio sources, while an additional -10 dB reduction in the mic’s electronics avoids an overload of the connected mic pre-amp and subsequent recording equipment.



The MK 8's five switchable pick-up patterns exhibit relatively constant characteristics, especially in the low end. This ensures better, more defined sound wherever recording circumstances are less than ideal, as the selected pattern is maintained over frequency. For example, the super-cardioid pattern will not "blur" but remain precise, providing the same high attenuation of lateral sound sources that the engineer wanted to have in the first place.



The MK 8 has a sturdy metal housing. It has relatively low sensitivity to humidity as the impedance conversion is done within the capsule.

The MK 8 comes complete with a microphone clip and a protective pouch. Optional accessories include an elastic suspension, a foam windshield, a popshield and a hardcase. The microphone will be available from late summer.

Technical data of the MK 8

Transducer principle	externally polarised condenser microphone
Diaphragm diameter	1" (25.4 mm)
Pick-up patterns	omni-directional, wide cardioid, cardioid, super-cardioid, figure-of-eight
Frequency response	20 to 20,000 Hz
Sensitivity	17.4 mV/Pa (-35 dBV)
Maximum sound pressure level	140 dB (pad: 0 dB)
Equivalent noise level	10 dBA, 16 dB CCIR
Dynamic range	130 dB
Nominal impedance	50 ohms
Min. terminating impedance	1 kohm
Power supply	48 V phantom power (P48)
Low-cut/roll-off filter, switchable	roll-off: -6 dB/oct. from 100 Hz low-cut: -18 dB/oct. from 60 Hz
Switchable pad	0 db, -10 dB, -20 dB
Current consumption	4.1 mA
Diameter	approx. 57 mm
Length	approx. 160 mm
Weight	approx. 485 g

Operating temperature	0° to +40°C
Storage temperature	-10° to +60°C

Optional accessories

MKW 4 Windshield

MZP 40 Popshield

MKS 40 Elastic suspension

MKC 4 Hardcase

Visit Sennheiser at the prolight+sound in Hall 8, Stand A 70.

Captions:

MK 8.jpg: The MK 8 recording microphone

MK 8_Detail.jpg: The MK 8 offers the recording engineer a full set of control options

The Sennheiser Group, with its headquarters in Wedemark near Hanover, Germany, is one of the world's leading manufacturers of microphones, headphones and wireless transmission systems. In 2012 the family company, which was founded in 1945, achieved a turnover of around 584 million euros. Sennheiser employs more than 2,300 people worldwide, and has manufacturing plants in Germany, Ireland and the USA. The company is represented worldwide by subsidiaries in France, Great Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Liechtenstein, Germany, Denmark (Nordic), Russia, Hong Kong, India, Singapore, Japan, China, Australia and New Zealand, Canada, Mexico and the USA, as well as by long-term trading partners in many other countries. Also part of the Sennheiser Group are Georg Neumann GmbH, Berlin (studio microphones and monitor loudspeakers), and the joint venture Sennheiser Communications A/S (headsets for PCs, offices and call centres).

You can find all the latest information on Sennheiser by visiting our website at www.sennheiser.com.

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