
NARAS DAW Guidelines

Posted by Charles Dye - 2007/04/08 06:07

Opening a DAW session can sometimes reveal a jumble of tracks that can take awhile to untangle. And this can even be true of our own sessions we haven't seen in a few months. In the past, engineers could open a reel of two inch + go to work after quickly glancing at a track sheet. With DAW sessions that's usually not the case. These guidelines intend on making it that easy, if not easier, and without intentionally reinventing the wheel. They're simply adapted versions of common practices used with tape applied to DAWs.

The guidelines debuted as a part of my Hard Disk Life mixing series in 2002. Since then, the Technical Subcommittee of the Florida P+E Wing of NARAS worked hard to extensively update, expand + improve them. They were then reviewed by the national members of NARAS, and we received many excellent suggestions which were incorporated. The resulting guidelines are based on the input of some of the most experienced engineers + producers in the industry, including Roger Nichols, Bob Ludwig, Tony Maserati, Mick Guzauski, Eric Schilling + William Whittman to name a few, and representatives from most of the major DAW manufacturers.

When followed these guidelines can eliminate much confusion for all operators, provide answers to anticipated questions, solve certain problems before they arise, and shorten the time between when an operator opens a session and when they are able to go to work.

A lot of work + research went into creating these guidelines + making them useful + applicable to nearly all DAWs. They're specifically designed to apply to Cubase, Digital Performer, Logic, Nuendo, Pro Tools, + Sonar. But they should also apply to nearly every DAW out there. Please let me know if something in them doesn't make sense with your platform.

And a huge THANK YOU to all of our very talented contributors who worked so hard to make these guidelines a reality: Chuck Ainlay, Carlos Alvarez, Judson Coplan (Apple), Vincent di Pasquale, Frank Filipetti, Trevor Fletcher (Criteria/Hit Factory), Scott Garrigus, Gil Gowing (Digidesign), Don Gunn, Bob Hunt (Apple), Jim Morris, Tom Morris, Roger Nichols, Greg Ondo (Steinberg), David Rosenthal, Eric Schilling, Ron Taylor, Steve Thomas (Cakewalk), Alex Westner (Cakewalk).

Here are the DAW Guidelines for Music Production:

[Full Version \(PDF\)](#)

[Short Version \(PDF\)](#)

Thank you for downloading them.

We hope they help you as much as they've helped all of us who use them.

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Re:NARAS DAW Guidelines

Posted by TommyJ1112 - 2007/05/04 15:24

The link doesn't seem to be linking to the correct document. I have version 1 of the guidelines from your HDL series, but would be interested to see the revisions/updates you guys made.

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Re:NARAS DAW Guidelines

Posted by Charles Dye - 2007/05/05 03:32

Linked fixed. Sorry!

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Re:NARAS DAW Guidelines

Posted by zebrafuse - 2007/05/05 07:41

Not completely related but Waves has a 50% discount for any product if you're a NARAS member!

It's a one time shot, but say if you've not quite had the dough for that Platinum TDM bundle, you can finally get it.

Best part is that it's ongoing, not limited to this month's special!

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Re:NARAS DAW Guidelines

Posted by Craig Potter - 2007/06/13 02:14

Hope it's not just me but what's NARAS?

How can one join?

Thats for posting the document charles, there's some gteat stuff in there.

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Re:NARAS DAW Guidelines

Posted by Charles Dye - 2007/06/13 06:45

Hey Craig,

How's it goin'?

NARAS stands for the National Academy of Recording Arts + Sciences.

They also go by the name The Recording Academy.

But everyone knows them as the people that put on the Grammys.

And I'm not really sure how membership works for people in other countries. I looked around the website (www.grammy.com) to see if I could find an answer, but I couldn't. Sorry.

I'll try to find out.

I hope all's well.

Best,
Charles

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Re:NARAS DAW Guidelines

Posted by Craig Potter - 2007/06/14 14:03

Hi Charles,

All going great thanks.

Thanks for trying to find out, I'll stop being a lazy git and look for myself.

I checked out the demo of the SSL plugs and you were right they are fantastic. Getting a proper version in the next couple of days. Oh yeah.

Craig

Re:NARAS DAW Guidelines

Posted by Charles Dye - 2007/06/16 06:38

Dood, they so rock!!

Love those things.

:woohoo: :woohoo: :woohoo:

(cool emoticons 2!!)

Re:NARAS DAW Guidelines

Posted by GrimmReaperSound - 2007/06/16 14:18

NARAS is presently for the US only. All chapters are based in the US.

If NARAS says otherwise (if they state that they are world-wide or international) then they have a big problem.

An organisation cannot bill itself as international without allowing international members/chapters. Doing so goes against democracy and fairness.

I do hope that international chapters will be opened up, and that everyone can join.

Re:NARAS DAW Guidelines

Posted by nedleigh - 2007/08/01 15:05

To join NARAS as a full member, you need to have some commercially released credits to your name, in your particular field (musician, engineer, cover art, etc.) Back when I joined, you needed something like six credits for musicians- don't know what the current rules are. You can check it out at:

http://www.grammy.com/Recording_Academy/Member_Services/

You can also join as an associate member (non-voting for the Grammy awards)

Later,

N.

Re:NARAS DAW Guidelines

Posted by nedleigh - 2007/08/01 15:12

BTW, I don't think the link for the Guidelines v. 2 is working.... did it get moved?

Re:NARAS DAW Guidelines

Posted by Charles Dye - 2007/08/01 17:33

Thanks for the info about NARAS.

nedleigh wrote:

BTW, I don't think the link for the Guidelines v. 2 is working.... did it get moved?

I just clicked the link myself (in the 1st post) + was able to view the PDF. What happened when you clicked it?

Since it's a file you can also, CTRL-Click, or Right-Click, and then save the file to your desktop.

Please let me know if you can get it working.

Thanx!!

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