

WaveLab Essential 6

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Tagline

“Audio Editing, CD/DVD Burning And Podcast Publishing”

Positioning Statement Short

WaveLab Essential 6 offers a high-value suite of audio editing tools tailored to the needs of musicians, smaller recording environments and podcast authors. Introducing a new level of functionality at a very low price point, WaveLab Essential 6 provides a full complement of streamlined editing and CD/DVD burning capabilities. The integrated podcast tools combine professional editing, restoration and mastering capabilities with full internet audio publishing features, creating a unique one-stop application for recording, editing, CD burning right through to online publication via podcast, perfectly suited for Sequel and Cubase users.

Positioning Statement Long

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The sample-accurate 32-bit/96 kHz audio engine in WaveLab Essential 6 combines a set of quality virtual effect processors and fully Red Book-compatible CD burning engine to provide everything needed produce professional CD masters. The CD montage supports clip-based effects and clip-grouping for creative processing of audio before burning. The integrated Video track even allows editing of music and spoken audio to video, ideal for creating audio for home videos.

Utilizing professional technologies from Steinberg’s industry-standard WaveLab 6 application, WaveLab Essential 6 provides an instantly accessible CD burning, audio editing and podcast publishing toolbox unique at its price.

Top 7 Features

- Podcast creation and publishing
- Redbook compatible CD burning with CD-Text.
- Stereo non-destructive editing with versatile clip grouping over multiple lanes
- Powerful real-time engine with integration of clip-based and global effect plug-ins
- Superior audio processors
- Video track for sample accurate alignment of audio and video
- Sample accurate audio editor with crystal clear audio processing at up to 96 kHz and 32 bit floating point resolution

Product Highlights:

Podcasting

- Excellent integration to the Audio editing environment
- Complete support of the RSS 2.0 standard
- iTunes compatible
- Automated FTP client for internet publishing
- Templates

CD Mastering

- Complete red-book CD mastering including CD Text
- UPC and EAN code support
- ISRC code support
- Independent Track and Index markers
- CD cover layout editor
- DVD and CD editor for ISO and mixed-mode formats

Editing

- Non-destructive Audio CD Montage for clip-based editing
- Video track with thumbnail view for accurate alignment of audio to video
- Real time fades and cross fades with overlapping waveforms that follow fades
- Supports combinations of mono and stereo files
- Easy and intuitive trimming of clips and cross fades
- Sophisticated rubber band editing for volume envelopes

Processing

- Clip based and effects with support for VST and DirectX plug-ins
- Complete suite of sophisticated audio plug-ins included
- Dedicated DeNoiser and DeClicker plug-ins
- Support of a multitude of different audio file formats (WAV, AIFF, SD II, AU, MP3, MP2 (M.U.S.I.C.A.M.), PAF, ADPCM, ALAW, ULAW, VOX, OSQ, Windows Media 9, etc.) and resolutions (8/16/20/24/32 bits with up to 96 kHz).

Applications

Audio Editing (Stereo or Multi-Track)

WaveLab Essential 6 is one of the most powerful and versatile audio editing and processing applications on the market today and combines the facilities of many other products within one, intuitive, flexible application.

WaveLab Essential 6 features sample-accurate stereo combined with impressive effects for sound design. Depending on the editing task, users may chose between a destructive stereo editor and the powerful non-destructive, clip-based Audio CD Montage.

The Audio CD Montage allows real-time fades and cross fades, clip-based effects and global effects through the Master Section. With unlimited undo/redo, no other single software tool can match WaveLab Essential 6 feature set in its price range.

CD Mastering

CD Mastering is more than just squeezing maximum loudness out of music tracks and putting these into the right order for creating a CD. A mastering studio has to match and adjust levels, equalization, spatial integration and many other audio aspects between different audio tracks in order to create a coherent acoustic experience across the entire CD.

WaveLab Essential 6 makes the creation of complex transitions and cross fades between titles very easy. WaveLab Essential 6 provides intuitive track assembly, audio editing, cross-fades and effects processing. You can even create full color CD covers and labels right out of the project. No other audio editing software offers such a complete set of CD mastering features in this price range.

Audio-for-Video

With its “smart” video thumbnail track, WaveLab Essential 6 is the perfect tool for audio-for-video editing. WaveLab Essential allows for far more accurate and detailed audio editing than the typical video editing software. From trimming and editing audio clips to complex sound design – WaveLab Essential 6 offers the full spectrum of audio editing and processing tools needed to turn a flat-sounding movie soundtrack into a powerful and impressive sonic experience. WaveLab Essential 6 can be used to create sound effects, looped background music beds, impressively clear and “in the face” dialog or even complex multi-track edits using the Audio CD Montage window.

Use WaveLab Essential 6 to edit the audio track of a video clip extracted from the video file. Or run WaveLab Essential 6 as the audio editing front-end of your preferred video editor. With XSend and XReceive, WaveLab Essential 6 can be integrated seamlessly into any AV workstation, e.g. Pinnacles Liquid Edition.

Multimedia Sound Design

Besides its powerful editing and processing features, WaveLab Essential 6 supports major multimedia audio file formats like Windows Media, WMA Pro, and various MPEG formats. Instead of inconvenient importing or exporting, WaveLab Essential 6 natively supports all of these formats and allows for direct opening and saving of files in any of its supported formats. In combination with the powerful batch converting function, WaveLab Essential 6 becomes the tool of choice for any file-conversion task.

Podcasting

This growing internet standard is now fully supported by WaveLab. Simple and intuitive user interface allows to create basic or complex Podcasts from A to Z, without ever quitting WaveLab. The perfect integration in the WaveLab audio recording and editing environment makes it a unique solution on the market.

WaveLab Essential 6 in Detail

Environment

- Very flexible environment with user customizable setting for appearance and window control
- Dockable toolbars for quick access to often used commands
- Window layouts can be saved and restored
- Vast set of pre-defined key commands
- Key commands freely configurable
- Waveform coloring can be freely defined
- Smart navigation between document windows
- Mouse wheel control of Master Section faders
- Mouse wheel control for scrolling in time line
- Waveform/Track “point and drag” scrolling with the mouse wheel button
- Active window and plug-ins windows can be saved as screen shot
- Create file type associations from WaveLab Essential 6

File Management

- Very time efficient read and write algorithms for audio files
- Quick access to files through ‘Favorites’ list with validation of broken links
- Smart ‘Audio File Rename’ to update all file references in other documents such as Audio CD Montages, as well as peak and attribute files.
- Smart ‘Audio File Delete’ from within WaveLab Essential 6 to delete relative peak and attribute files.
- Documented plug-in architecture to allow third parties to write audio file format converters.
- Audio peak files might be created in a separate folder
- Automatically save settings associated to an audio file (view, scroll position, Master Section preset) in an attribute file.
- Audio files with a header error can be opened without warning message

Playback and Transport

- Various transport commands including Play-, Skip- and Cycle selection
- Fade when start/stopping playback to avoid clicks

Recording

- Recording from ASIO or WDM compatible audio device
- Record to file or temp file
- Metering of input levels, spectrum and phase
- Clip hold to indicate digital over
- Various 'Auto Start' and 'Auto Stop' recording options including signal present and scheduling

Audio Analysis

- Level, spectrum and waveform meters
- Level meter is highly customizable
- Waveform display provides sample accurate representation
- Peak files for waveform restoration are created in the background with graphical progress monitoring.
- Global analysis for Peaks, Loudness, Pitch, Clipping and Glitches
- 3D Frequency analysis

Destructive Audio File Editing

- Sample accurate waveform display with zoom to single samples
- Huge set of select commands
- Range selection for either left channel, right channel or stereo
- Range and marker creation from selection
- Info field to indicate the mouse position and range values
- Unlimited Undo and Redo

Offline Processing

- Large set of offline processors including level normalizer, DC offset removal and fades.
- Time stretching / Pitch shifting

Master Section

- Real-time Master Section with 4 plug-in slots for VST and Direct-X plug-ins
- Independent set of controls including Solo function for each slot
- Real-time crystal clear sample rate conversion
- Level meter with optional reference to RMS 17 standard
- Fader for left and right channel
- Global Bypass button
- Mono button
- Dropout indicator
- Included dithering and noise shaping algorithms
- Master Section presets can be saved
- Plug-in management with dedicated editor

Plug-ins

- Complete suite of sophisticated audio plug-ins including EQ, Compressor, Dynamics and Reverb
- Crystal Resampler: professional sample rate converter providing exceptional transparency and preservation of the frequency content up to 96 kHz

Miscellaneous

- MP3 Encoder (Lame) included
- Optional Fraunhofer MP3 Encoder available
- MP2 Encoding for broadcast applications
- DTMF tone generator

Audio CD Montage

General

- Dedicated editor for non destructive editing and real-time processing
- 1 or 2 stereo audio tracks.
- Video track with support for most common codes installed to the Windows operating system including AVI, MPEG and WMV
- Overview pane for quick navigation inside the arrangement
- 6 different 'Tabs' for the header of the editor to reflect current state of workflow
- Cloning of Montage for creation of alternative version
- Clip-based or global use of VST and Direct-X plug-ins

Editing

- Non-destructive editing by using clips as reference to the underlying audio files
- Real-time playback of all edits and processing
- Fades and resizing can be done by simple dragging with the mouse
- Waveform representation follows fades and cross fades
- Cross-fade are created automatically when clips overlap
- Cross-fade regions can be moved without moving audio files to adjust perfect match
- Cross-fade regions can be resized symmetrically while keeping its centered position
- Factory set of pre-defined cross-fade envelopes
- Dynamic grouping functions for clips independent of tracks
- Simultaneous editing of all clips in a group with regards to existing edits per fade, e.g. fades, volume, length
- Rubber band envelope for volume in each clip with dedicated command set
- Clips can be rendered to new audio files

CD Mastering

- CD verification prior to burning a CD
- Meta normalizer to equalize loudness of all CD tracks
- Gaps and Pause between track markers can be adjusted automatically
- CD tracks can be rendered as new audio files

Processing

- Clip-based or global use of VST and Direct-X plug-ins
- 1 plug-in per clip
- Up to 4 global plug-ins per Audio CD Montage
- CPU efficient plug-in handling – only clips that are currently played use CPU for plug-ins

Podcasting

- Simple and intuitive user interface that lets you produce Podcasts from A to Z without ever quitting WaveLab.
- Open and maintain an unlimited number of Podcasts, with copy and paste between them
- Complete standard support. All fields and attributes as documented in the RSS 2.0 specification. Podcasts are validated to ensure compliance with the standard.
- WaveLab features automatic picture scaling to match the standard's specifications
- Built-in FTP capabilities let you easily upload your Podcast to the Internet, in the background, while continuing working in WaveLab.
- HTML Import. Podcast descriptions can be imported from an HTML file you would have previously created, for sophisticated presentations. Local pictures referenced by HTML documents are automatically uploaded to the internet's Podcast directory without any user intervention.
- WaveLab lets you save templates, to later create new Podcasts from predefined data. Great time saver to eliminate the need to reenter repetitive data.
- WaveLab lets you insert « variables » in Podcasts fields, which are replaced by your custom definitions when the Podcast is actually rendered.
- Apart audio files, video or PDF files can also be included in Podcasts.
- Complete support for creating iTunes podcasts.
- Podcast publishing functionality independent from podcast webspace providers.
- Save your Podcast to CD or ZIP files.

Competitive Comparison for Podcasting Software

	WaveLab	FeedForAll	Comments
Complete Audio editing environment	X		And of course, good integration (meaning interactions with the rest of WaveLab)
MP3 rendering	X		Not for WaveLab Lite
Creates a Podcast from A to Z	X		This is thanks to Audio + Podcast being supported in the same application
User Interface	Multiple windows / podcasts	1 dialog / 1 Podcast	Renowned WaveLab UI with all its advantages
Multiple RSS version support	Only latest 2.0 specs	X	No need to support outdated format
iTunes support	X	X	
Download existing feeds		X	Only the XML feed file is downloaded, not the media files. WaveLab only publishes, not refactor existing Podcasts.
Automatic date management	X	X	
Search & Replace		X	
Spell Checker		X	Too specialized for WaveLab
Support for All RSS Fields and Attributes	X	X	
Feed Image Support	Automatic scaling	Manual scaling	Transparent for a WaveLab user
Any language Support	X	X	
Extension (Namespace) support		X	Advances uses
Image Editor		Poor	I think anyone already has a decent picture editor; it's not the job of WaveLab to provide one.
WYSIWYG HTML Editor	External	X	The supplied editor of FeedForAll is poor. WaveLab on its side prefers to call an external one (eg. Word, OpenOffice) and to import the edited HTML file.
HTML import	X		Moreover, WaveLab automatically publishes the referenced pictures. FeedForAll's approach, with its HTML editor, is more complex.
Field Default Settings	Multiple templates	1 template	
Text variables	X		Not for WaveLab Lite
Upload & Publish Feeds	X	X	With WaveLab: « set and forget »
XML Editor	External/Read	Internal/Read/Write	In all cases, this is for advances users. For reading/viewing, Internet Explorer does the job (called by WaveLab). For writing, this is of little interest as everything can be input through the dialogs.
Preview option		X	Publishing to the net is so easy in WaveLab that this function (which can be complex to implement and never exact), can be avoided. In WaveLab, one can simply publish with another XML name, and see the result with ones favourite Podcast viewer.
Export Support		Feed to HTML	
Feed Validation Function	X	X	
Backup function	X (ZIP/CD/DVD)		Not for WaveLab Lite
Ease of use	The integration and easier internet publishing put WaveLab in front, but WaveLab has no Wizard!		

Competitive Comparison for Audio Editing Software

	WaveLab Essential 6	Sony Sound Studio 8.0
Copy Protection	Soft e-Licenser	Serial Number
Supported standards		
VST plugins	+	+
Direct-X plugins	+	+
ASIO support	+	+
File formats supported	wav, aiff, bwf, w64, RIFF 64, mp3, mp2, ogg, au, snd, osq, SDII, MPEG, WMA, avi	wav, aiff, w64, mp3, ogg, au, snd, SD I, MPEG, avi, swf, WMV, WMA
File format plugin support	+	
MP3 support	+	+
Format	16-24-32 bit / 96 kHz	16 bit – 48 kHz
Master Section		
Number of slots	4	-
Plugin organizer	+	-
Presets	+	-
Audio CD Montage		
Max effect per clip/track	1	-
Audio tracks	2	1
Video track	1	1
CD/DVD Support		
DVD ROM burning	+	-
Audio CD Extraction	+	-
Audio CD burning	Red book	Track at once
Data & Mixed mode CD Burning	+	-
Integrated CD Label creator	+	-
Tools		
Batch file conversion	+	-
Podcast creation	+	-
Audio looping tools	+	+
DTMF generator	+	+
Audio analysis		
3D spectrum view	+	-
Level Meter	+	+
Spectrum Meter	+	-
Oscilloscope	+	-
User interface		
Last recently used files	20	9
Window sets	+	-
Custom key commands	+	-
Plugin organizer	+	+
Offline processors		
Time stretching / Pitch shifting	+	+
Change level	+	+
Level normalizer	+	-
Dynamics	+	+
Level envelope	+	+
Fade	+	+
Crossfade	+	-
Invert phase	+	+
Reverse	+	+
Eliminate DC offset	+	+
Harmonization	+	-
Chorus	+	+
EQ	+	+
Convert sample rate	+	+
Real-time audio plug ins		
Crystal Resampler	2 qualities	-
PeakMaster	+	-
NaturalVerb	+	-
AutoPanner	+	-
Chorus	+	-
Echo	+	-
StereoExpander	+	-
Puncher	+	-
NoiseGate	+	-
Leveler	+	-
VoiceAttenuator	+	-
AutoPanner	+	-
EQ-1	+	-



VstDynamics	+	-
ToolsOne	+	-
Spectralizer	+	-
Internal dither	+	+
CleanComp	+	-
Silence	+	-
Playback / Record		
Wave scrolling on play	+	+
Multiple start / stop modes	+	-

System Requirements

Windows

Required:

Intel Pentium / AMD Athlon 800 MHz

256 MB RAM

80 MB of free disk space

Windows XP, Windows Vista Home Premium and Ultimate (32-bit only)

Graphic card with 24 bit or 32 bit resolution

Display Resolution 1024 x 768 pixels

Windows MME compatible audio hardware

CD or DVD-ROM drive

Internet connection for product activation

Product can only be used on system on which it was activated

Internet connection (for podcast and future updates)

Recommended:

Intel Pentium IV / AMD Athlon or Opteron 2.4 GHz or faster

1 GB RAM

Graphics card with 32 bit resolution

ASIO compatible audio hardware

DVD writer

Display Resolution 1280 x 1024 pixels, dual monitor setup

Internet Connection (for podcast and future updates)