

Press release – for immediate release

Native Instruments announces the B4 II

New version of the acclaimed software drawbar organ offers even more authenticity, all-new rotary speaker section, revised interface, and more

Berlin, October 7th 2005 – Native Instruments today announced the B4 II, the new version of the famed software instrument that made the full sonic potential of the classic drawbar organ available to countless musicians for the first time. The B4 II offers even more authenticity and flexibility due to further significant advances in sound synthesis and amplifier emulation technology, and brings a wide range of additions and improvements that make it the most versatile and easy-to-use drawbar organ solution both in the studio and on stage.

The sophisticated sound generation engine that made the B4 the benchmark for electro-magnetic organ emulations has been further improved and now includes realistic tone wheel leakage which can be adjusted to set the amount of the characteristic “blooming” in the sound. The bass pedal section of the B4 II has been extended with a Pedal Bass Legato function, and now even includes a special “String Bass” option that changes the tonal characteristics of the bass pedal sounds, similar to the original hardware modification for drawbar organs that was popular in the Seventies. The B4 II comes equipped with a wide selection of included tone wheel models, ranging from a number of B3 organs of different age and condition to Vox Continental, Farfisa and Harmonium models.

The rotary speaker section, the crucial element in achieving the signature Hammond sound, has also received a complete overhaul that brings both its authenticity and versatility to a new level. The B4 II now offers an analog-modelled emulation of the original tube amplification stage in the Leslie Speaker Model 147, based on the same Dynamic Tube Response technology that is at the heart of the award-winning amp emulations in GUITAR RIG. The new amp section gives B4 players a broad spectrum of true-to-life and highly dynamic tube sound flavours, from slight crunch to fierce overdrive.

The cabinet section of the B4 II offers a selection of both various rotary speaker models as well as different conventional speaker cabinets, all modelled after classic real-world units, which allows musicians and producers to emulate a wide range of real-life recording and stage setups. This also includes the option to activate two simultaneous rotary speaker units spinning in opposite directions, reproducing a popular setup used by experienced Hammond players for an even thicker sound. Further improvements include a Speaker Brake to turn off the virtual Leslie motor, and the inclusion of a reverb effect painstakingly modelled after a vintage spring reverb unit.



NATIVE INSTRUMENTS

SOFTWARE SYNTHESIS

The versatility and ease of use of the B4 II has been further increased with numerous enhancements, including a new Preset Manager, and a completely reworked remote control facility that makes host sequencer automation and working with external hardware controllers highly flexible and convenient. The B4 II comes with a large number of control setups that allows the instrument to work with a wide range of MIDI controllers right out of the box, including NI's own B4D Drawbar Controller.