

SOS News Headlines

- ▶ Facebook and Google announce music services
- ▶ AES 2009: Fucifier distortion synthesiser
- ▶ AES 2009: Rupert Neve Designs Portico II
- ▶ AES 2009: Focal CMS Sub
- ▶ New Apple iMac, MacBook, Mac Mini and Magic Mouse
- ▶ When is a composer not a composer?
- ▶ Flux Syrah dynamics processor
- ▶ De-mixing is here at last!
- ▶ Ableton Live UK tour 2009
- ▶ AES 2009: JCF DA8V
- ▶ AES 2009: Thermionic Culture (Video)
- ▶ AES 2009: BAE 1023 (Video)
- ▶ AES 2009: BAE 1073 MPF (Video)
- ▶ AES 2009: Tascam DP-008 (Video)
- ▶ AES 2009: Waves WNS (Video)
- ▶ AES 2009: Slate Digital Trigger (Video)
- ▶ AES 2009: Focusrite OctoPre MkII (Video)
- ▶ AES 2009: Audient Zen (Video)
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- ▶ AES 2009: Novation Automap (Video)
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## News

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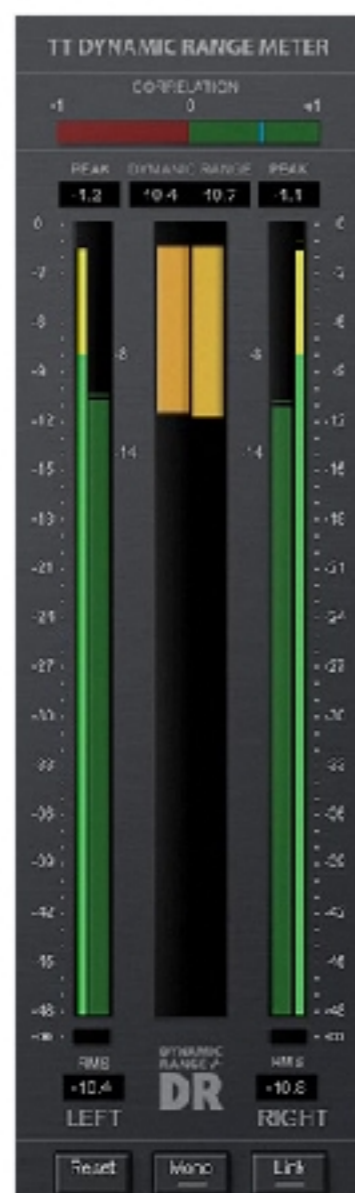
RSS 

(Miscellaneous)

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# Pleasurize Music Foundation

## Calling all mastering engineers!



Something that may be of interest to fans of music with a wide dynamic range is the [Pleasurize Music Foundation](#). Based in California, the foundation is a non-profit organisation aiming to improve the quality of recorded music by encouraging the release of musical material that has good 'dynamics'. For those unfamiliar with the recent 'loudness wars' debate, the trend in recent years has been to 'brickwall limit' many tracks (usually in contemporary and chart-oriented styles) at the mastering stage, to increase their perceived loudness compared with other contemporary recordings.

This practice has led to the so-called 'loudness wars' (a quick search on-line will yield examples), with the loudness of some commercial releases increasing to the point of distortion, and the corresponding loss of enjoyable dynamic light and shade in performances.

The loudness war debate gained momentum last year, as the release of Metallica's *Death Magnetic* caused an uproar among fans, audiophiles and mastering engineers with its heavily distorted sound. Artists such as Elbow have fought back, deciding to have their records mastered with more dynamic range than is currently popular (see [SOS December 2008](#)).

The Foundation encourages producers and listeners alike to become active members, supporting the cause with a donation of \$30 per year (around £18). Membership brings several benefits, including free use of the Foundation's own TT Dynamic Range Meter software. This meter has been designed to help mastering engineers avoid producing over-compressed mixes and comes in two versions: an off-line version, which analyses a file and gives an official DR value that can be used for registering your release as a 'wide dynamic range' track; and a plug-in version for giving a real-time reference to dynamic range values. The plug-in is available in VST, RTAS and Audio Units formats.

[www.pleasurizemusic.com](http://www.pleasurizemusic.com)