

Strand Library



LIGHTING CONTROL OFF-LINE

Genius™ Software has established itself as a powerful operating philosophy for the GSX and LBX consoles. In addition, the application programs - Kaleidoscope and Communiqué - expand the Genius base to give comprehensive features usually only available with much larger systems. The introduction of the Strand 430, 530 and 550 range of high-capability consoles, has developed Strand's software concept with the introduction of GeniusPlus and Lightpalette Operating software, and Networker, Tracker and CommuniquéPlus application software.

Even with such powerful software at the operator's disposal, there is frequently too little time to perfect a lighting plot using all of the features on the console during plotting and rehearsal sessions. The problem is often created by the lack of time with the console. One solution to this problem is the Off-Line Editor.

An Off-Line Editor is a software program which emulates the operation of the lighting console on a conventional PC or laptop computer. It provides the means to keep working on the lighting cues remotely from the lighting console, and venue, so if there is insufficient time to plot or edit the show at the GSX, LBX, or one of the Strand 430, 530 and 550, any PC or laptop of suitable specification can provide the answer.

The Genius Off-Line Editor offers the same displays, and operating functions as a fully-equipped LBX or GSX. For the Strand 430, 530 and 550, either GeniusPlus or Lightpalette Off-Line Editors will be available. A simple, clear 'map' of the PC's keyboard indicates which keys may be pressed to operate the PC as a lighting console. The Off-Line Editor is a complete duplicate of the console's software (except it won't provide a direct output to the dimmers) so a show can be edited or created using a floppy disk as the medium which transfers the information to and

from the console. A full handbook is also included in the Off-Line Editor software pack.

The idea of separating hardware and software has many advantages and one of the affects of offering a simple upgrade path for the console through the purchase of future application software is a requirement for a demonstration of the new facilities before purchase. Demonstration versions of Strand's Off-Line Editor are ideal for this, as well as giving a low-cost introduction to the operating system of the Strand consoles for training purposes. The demonstration version offers all the features of the full Off-Line Editor with the exception of recording onto disk, and the software is supplied with a keyboard 'map', but no handbook.

If a show is created on a full-specification Off-Line Editor with 125 channels with Kaleidoscope and Communiqué and the disk is transferred to a GSX with Genius 50 channels and no application software, the channels above 50 will be ignored. Secondly, any effects that

use the Kaleidoscope features (30 memories, different step types etc) will run as basic Genius effects (max. 3 with chase only).

The Genius Off-Line Editor and the demonstration version offer all the features of a fully-installed GSX or LBX with 125 channel Genius, plus Kaleidoscope and Communiqué.

GENIUS

- Off-Line Editor program for PC with MS-DOS operating system.
- To prepare lighting, special effects, and system setup memories on floppy disk in advance of using the lighting console.
- Emulates either a GSX or LBX console running 125 channel Genius with Kaleidoscope and Communiqué application software.
- Standard PC keyboard used for all GSX/LBX panel control functions.
- Permits playback of recorded memories and effects to be displayed in real time on the PC monitor.
- Supplied with full Genius manual, program disk, security key and waterproof colour keyboard legend.

The GeniusPlus and Lightpalette Off-Line Editors and demonstration versions offer all the features of a fully-installed Strand 550 with 1500 channel GeniusPlus (or Lightpalette), plus Communiqué Plus, Tracker and Networker.

- Off-Line Editor program for PC with MS-DOS operating system.
- To prepare lighting, special effects, attribute cues and system setup memories on floppy disk in advance of using the lighting console.
- Emulates a Strand 430, 530 or 550 console running up to 1500 channel GeniusPlus or Lightpalette with a full suite of application software.
- Standard PC keyboard used for all panel control functions.
- Permits playback of recorded memories and effects to be displayed in real time on the PC monitor.
- Supplied with full GeniusPlus or Lightpalette manual, program disk, security key and waterproof colour keyboard legend.

The computer requirements to run a Strand Off-Line Editor program are:

- IBM Compatible PC with 486 or better processor.
- SVGA monitor.
- 2Mb RAM minimum (8Mb for Genius plus) with at least 450kb of conventional memory and 1Mb of extended memory.
- 3Mb of free hard disk space (6Mb for Genius Plus).
- DOS 3.30 or higher.

