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K4 Highlights

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K4 Highlights #1: Stereo Audio Pitch Mapping

Working in CQ WPX this weekend, I was reminded of the "wall of sound" effect you can experience during a CW contest. This was the motivation behind the K4's AFX PITCH feature (pitch-mapping audio effect).

While AFX PITCH can be used in other modes, it really shines in CW mode, especially when wider bandwidths are used (800 Hz and up). What it does is "map" lower-pitched signals to the left, and higher-pitched signals to the right. All it takes is a little DSP magic.

Here's one way to think of it:

Imagine you're listening to a great jazz ensemble using mono headphones. Yes, you can hear all the instruments, but your brain does a lot of extra work in separating them. Now put yourself near center stage in an actual performance venue: the performers surround you, with each instrument's voice standing out distinctly thanks to binaural hearing.

This is what happens when you turn K4 pitch mapping on. The effect with headphones on is dramatic.

Steps:

1. Tap MAIN RX.
2. If the AFX button shows AFX OFF, tap to turn it ON.
3. Hold the AFX button to switch from DELAY to PITCH.

Headphones and wide CW bandwidths are recommended when you first try this. This will give you the full effect. And you'll want a pileup or contest to be going on to provide plenty of signals.

Full disclosure: The CW operators in your passband won't know they're part of your own private band. And unless it's a traffic net, they won't be working together on a single composition. Yet whatever notes they're playing, they won't sound like they're all sitting in the same chair.

K4 Highlights #2: Transverter Band Displays & Dual-Transverter Receive

Like the K3 before it, the K4 provides extensive support for external transverters. The K4 adds several important new wrinkles:

1. Up to 12 transverter bands

Each transverter band has a corresponding button in the band selection group. Each band can be customized for lower band edge (up to 99,000 MHz), IF (0 to 53 MHz), oscillator error offset (+/- 99.999 kHz), and power level (0.1-5.0 mW). XVTR buttons display their lower band edge in MHz.

2. Convenient switching between HF and transverter bands

When you tap the BAND button, you'll see the currently selected band within either the HF or XVTR band group. An additional button will be labeled either XVTR or HF, allowing you to easily switch to the last HF band if you were on XVTR, or XVTR band if you were on HF. VFO A can be on HF while VFO B is on a transverter band, and vice-versa. If the sub is on you can monitor both an HF band and an XVTR band at the same time.

3. Independent dual receive with two external transverters (K4D)

If you have two external transverters (and a K4D), you can use RX ANT 1 for one and XVTR IN/RX ANT 2 for the other. With the sub RX on, you can then listen to both transverters at the same time, with stereo audio. You can then use the SPLIT control to determine which transverter is selected for transmit. (For this purpose, you'd need to drive both transverters' IF inputs from the XVTR OUT jack.)

See you on the high bands!

News & Updates



All of us at Elecraft are excited and ready for the upcoming HAM EXPO. Come by our booth and spend some time with us. We will be demoing the KX-Line - our most compact and versatile HF transceivers, KPA500 and KPA1500 amplifiers, and of course...our new K4 Direct Sampling SDR.

Eric, one of the Expo presenters, will be presenting the latest features of our K4 Transceiver, and he along with the rest of the Elecraft team will be available at the Elecraft booth to answer your questions. *By visiting our booth, you'll be entered in our drawing for some great prizes!*

Check out the **QSO TODAY Virtual Ham Expo** [Here](#).

- 80+ presentations by internationally recognized ham radio experts.

- Content for everyone whether you are a newly licensed ham looking for next steps to using that license or a 30+ year experienced ham looking for new projects.
- Watch as many presentations as you want! At the Expo, return anytime within 30 days to listen to any Live speakers you missed. At the last Expo, 7,500 attendees downloaded 100,000 presentations.
- Interact with exhibitors and fellow amateur operators. You'll find this is a great way to meet up with friends, talk to vendors, and network on specific subject areas.

Elecraft is a Gold Sponsor...Come by our booth and say Hi!

2021 Conventions

Please note that our plans to attend any of the listed on-site conventions may change if the event location shows an increase in Covid-19 cases near the event date.

- **QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo**, Online - Aug 13-15
- **Huntsville Hamfest**, Huntsville, AL - Aug 21 & 22
- **W9DXCC**, Chicago, IL - Sept 10 - 11
- **W4DXCC**, Pigeon Forge, TN - Sept 24-25
- **Pacificon**, San Ramon, CA - Oct 15 - 17

All Orders Shipped To The EU Are Subject To VAT.

As of July 1st, 2021, EU buyers will be required to pay VAT (Value Added Tax) on purchases up to €150 that are shipped from outside of their countries. Import VAT and duties will continue to apply on orders above the €150 threshold. Elecraft has applied for a VAT Identification Number. When we receive our VAT ID Number, we will collect VAT from EU buyers at the time of purchase. Collecting VAT on orders below €150 will simplify the buying and shipping experience for our EU customers.

Equipment Servicing For Our EU Customers

VAT will also be charged on equipment repairs or upgrades completed and shipped from outside of the equipment owner's country. The company providing repairs will have to disclose the value of the equipment. This is only if your warranty or non-warranty repairs and upgrades are done outside of your country. We have verified this information with our VAT representative located in the UK.

If your Elecraft equipment requires warranty or non-warranty repairs, we recommend that you contact our European Distributors listed below to schedule repairs.

[Carlo Bianconi](#)

Carlo and his staff also speak excellent English and provide Elecraft authorized repair services both for warranty and after warranty service to all Elecraft customers. There are Italian and English options on this website.

[Lutz-Electronic](#)

René offers warranty and non-warranty repairs for all Elecraft radios. René and Carine speak German, French and English.

[QRP Project](#)

Nik and his staff speak German and English. They provide technical support and Elecraft authorized repair services to their customers.

[Waters & Stanton](#)

Waters & Stanton provides technical support and Elecraft authorized repair services to their customers.

K4 Update

High-Performance Direct Sampling SDR



Check Out These New K4 Stations!

If you have pictures of your K4, email them to us! We will place them on our website [Gallery](#).



Elecraft Equipment, including his new K4.
Thaire Bryant, W2APF



First K4 in a rack.
Bill Levy, N2WL

K4 Documentation Now Available

If you're interested in the capabilities of the K4 transceiver, you might want to take a look at two user documents that are now available for download. Visit our [Manuals](#) page and select the K4 section.

- [Introduction to the Elecraft K4](#)
- [Operating Manual](#)

Additional documentation will be released soon, including the K4 Owner's Manual and the K4 Programmer's Reference.

K4 Shipping Update

We are starting to notify Group 1 customers from May 22nd.

You can see K4 shipping status update on our [Shipping Status page](#).

How You Will Be Notified When Your K4 is Ready to Ship

A member of the Elecraft Sales Team will contact you by email when your K4 is ready to ship. They will verify your shipping address and provide you with any additional information regarding your order.

If your email address has changed, please complete the [New Email Address Form here](#).

Learn more about the K4 and pre-order [here](#).

Listen for us on the air - We'll likely be on a K4!