USER MANUAL — VER 2.0.1

TSC RACK 2

NEURAL CAPTURE WORKSTATION

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to TSC Rack 2

TSC Rack is the plugin we always wished existed.

Designed from the ground up for Neural Amp Modeler technology, TSC Rack 2 brings a true stereo workflow, an integrated profile library, four re-orderable processing slots, automatic calibration and level matching together in a single, elegant environment.

Whether you're recreating classic analog mastering chains or building modern hybrid workflows, TSC Rack keeps the process simple, fast, and musical.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Four processing slots in a 2×2 rack — drag to reorder
- True Stereo — L/R Split & Merge
- Integrated Profile Library & Browser
- Per-slot Input / Output / Mix with inverse Link
- FULL / SLIM engine and Level Match per slot
- Automatic calibration and delay compensation
- Factory and user Presets
- Audio Unit · VST3 · AAX (Pro Tools)

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Build the plugin we wanted to use every day.

TSC Rack began with a simple idea. Every feature exists because it solved a real problem in our own mastering workflow — no unnecessary complexity, just a fast, elegant environment built around Neural Amp Modeler technology.

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INTERFACE OVERVIEW

The Rack at a Glance

One window. Nothing unnecessary. Four slots in a 2 × 2 rack, global metering above, presets and master controls below. Each numbered element is explained on the following pages.

1. Slot number · drag to reorder
2. Profile name · Browser
3. L/R SPLIT · MERGE
4. FULL · SLIM
5. INPUT · OUTPUT · MIX
6. LINK
7. BYPASS
8. LEVEL MATCH
9. Slot L/R VU meters
10. INPUT · OUTPUT meters
11. PRESETS
12. MAIN OUT · GLOBAL MIX
13. Tokyo Studio Capture · Credits

Slots & Profiles

1 Slot Number & Reorder

TSC Rack 2 hosts four slots arranged in a 2×2 rack. The large number in each slot is its position in the signal chain — audio flows from **01** through **04**. To change the order, drag a slot by its number and drop it onto another slot: the rack re-sequences and the remaining slots shift to make room. The switch takes place inside a brief, silent crossfade, so re-ordering while audio is playing never clicks. Press **Esc** during a drag to cancel.

2 Profile & Browser

The top of each slot shows the loaded profile. Click the name — or an **EMPTY** slot — to open the Profile Browser, use the ◀ ▶ arrows to step to the previous or next profile in the same folder, or drop a `.nam` file straight onto the slot. The browser, the library folder and profile tracking are described in *Profile Library & Browser*. If a new profile cannot be loaded (for example a damaged file), the previous one keeps playing and the slot shows **LOAD FAILED**.

3 L/R Split & Merge

The toggle in the top-right of each slot shows its current mode. **L/R MERGE** — one profile processes both channels. **L/R SPLIT** (True Stereo) — the slot exposes two rows, and the Left and Right channel can each load an independent capture, such as the CH1 and CH2 of a stereo unit. Click the toggle to switch. Returning to MERGE keeps the Right profile in memory, so switching back to SPLIT restores it.

A slot in **L/R SPLIT**: the common product name with its CH1 (Left) and CH2 (Right) rows.

4 FULL / SLIM

Selects the engine variant used for the slot. **SLIM** (the default) runs the lighter, faster variant of the profile; **FULL** runs the full-size, highest-precision variant. Both variants are calibrated when the profile loads, the switch is click-free, and the latency reported to your DAW does not change. For profiles without a slim variant (such as standard A1 captures) the switch is dimmed and inactive.

Gain, Link & Level

5 Input · Output · Mix

Per-slot gain staging. **INPUT** sets the level feeding the profile (–24 to +24 dB), **OUTPUT** trims the level after processing (–24 to +24 dB), and **MIX** blends the processed signal against the dry signal for parallel processing (0–100 %). The current value appears while you drag. Double-click INPUT or OUTPUT to reset it to 0 dB, and MIX to return to 100 %.

The control row of a slot: INPUT, OUTPUT and MIX with FULL / SLIM, BYPASS, LEVEL MATCH and LINK.

6 Link

Links INPUT and OUTPUT inversely: raise INPUT by 3 dB and OUTPUT falls by 3 dB, so the overall level stays balanced while you drive the profile harder or softer. Click **LINK** to keep the link engaged, or hold **Option** (macOS) / **Alt** (Windows) while dragging for a temporary link. While a linked drag is in progress, both values are displayed.

7 Bypass

Bypasses the slot instantly — perfect for A/B comparisons. The bypassed slot dims and the signal passes through it untouched. The latency reported to your DAW stays the same, so the timing of your session never shifts when you compare.

8 Level Match

Automatically compensates for the overall level of the loaded profile, so different captures can be compared at equal loudness. When a profile loads, TSC Rack measures its gain against a –18 dBFS reference and, while **LEVEL MATCH** is on, applies the correction (within ±12 dB). Switch it off to hear the profile at its native level. Level Match works per slot and per FULL / SLIM variant, with nothing to set up.

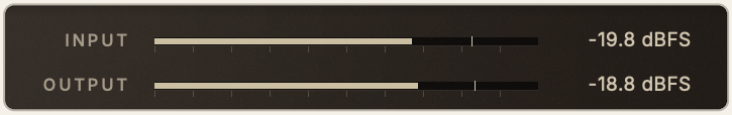
Metering, Presets & Master

9 Slot L/R VU Meters

The two rails inside each slot are VU meters showing the Left and Right output level of that slot after processing. The reference line marks **0 VU** (–18 dBFS), the classic operating level, and a peak marker shows the recent maximum. In a MERGE slot both rails follow the same profile; in SPLIT they let you compare the two captures at a glance. A side without a profile shows a dimmed rail.

10 Input & Output Meters

The header meters show the signal entering the rack (**INPUT**) and leaving it after MAIN OUT (**OUTPUT**) on a –60 to 0 dBFS scale, each with a numeric readout of the current level.



Global INPUT and OUTPUT meters with their dBFS readouts.

11 Presets

Opens the preset panel: four factory presets, your own user presets, and the **Save New…**, **Rename…**, **Delete…** and **Reset to Default** commands. The current preset name is shown next to the button; an asterisk (*) means the rack has changed since the preset was loaded or saved. See *Presets*.

12 Main Out & Global Mix

GLOBAL MIX blends the output of the entire four-slot chain against the original, time-aligned input. **MAIN OUT** sets the final output level (–24 to +24 dB) and is applied *after* Global Mix, so it always reflects your final balance. Double-click either control to reset it.

13 Tokyo Studio Capture

Click the Tokyo Studio Capture mark in the top-right corner to open the credits: the plug-in version, the Neural Amp Modeler attribution, **Third Party Notices**, and your license status with a **Details…** link.

Profile Library & Browser

One library for all your captures, and a browser that never leaves the plugin.

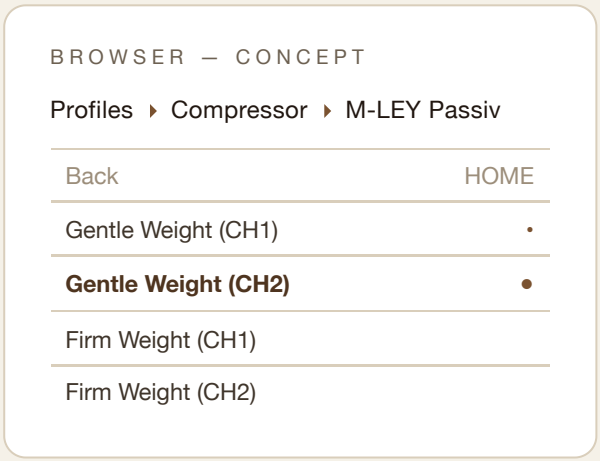
The Library

TSC Rack keeps your profiles in one folder — `~/Music/Tokyo Studio Capture/TSCRack/` on macOS, `%USERPROFILE%\Music\Tokyo Studio Capture\TSCRack\` on Windows. On first launch the complimentary factory profiles are added there, organised by category and product. They are only ever *added*: nothing in the folder is overwritten or deleted, so your own `.nam` files and sub-folders are safe alongside them.

The Browser

Click a profile name to open the browser. Folders open with a click, the breadcrumb shows where you are, and **Back** / **HOME** take you up or to the top level. Choosing a profile loads it into the slot.

⚙ **Set Root Folder…** at the top level points the library at any folder you like; ✕ **UNLOAD** clears the current profile from the slot. The keyboard works too: ↑ ↓ move, **Return** opens, ← goes back and **Esc** closes.



Quick Loading

The ◀ ▶ arrows beside a loaded profile step to the previous or next `.nam` in the same folder, wrapping around at either end — ideal for auditioning a product's captures. You can also drop a single `.nam` file from Finder or Explorer onto a slot; in SPLIT mode, the row you drop on decides Left or Right.

Profiles Are Tracked by Content

Every loaded profile is identified by its content, not just its path, so moving or renaming a file — or opening a session on another computer with the same library — still finds it. If a profile cannot be found, the slot keeps its name, marks the status, and passes audio through untouched until the profile is available again or you load another one.

MISSING	The file could not be found in the library or at its original location.
OFFLINE	The file lives on a drive that is not mounted right now.
CHANGED	A file exists at the original path, but its content differs from the one that was loaded.
AMBIGUOUS	Several files in the library match the name and none can be identified with certainty.

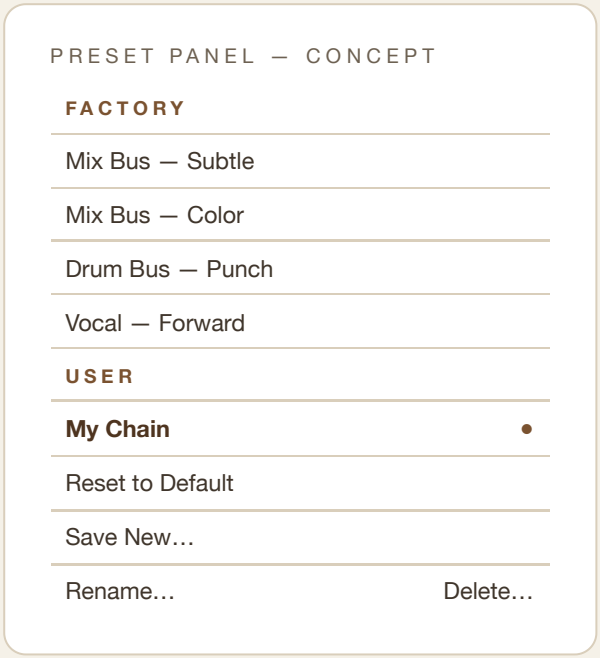
Presets

A preset captures the whole rack — profiles, order, modes and every control.

Factory & User

The **PRESETS** button opens the panel. Four factory presets ship built-in — *Mix Bus — Subtle*, *Mix Bus — Color*, *Drum Bus — Punch* and *Vocal — Forward* — and your own presets appear under **USER**. The current preset is marked in the list and shown next to the button.

User presets are stored as `.tscpreset` files in `~/Library/Application Support/Tokyo Studio Capture/TSCRack/Presets/User/` on macOS and `%APPDATA%\Tokyo Studio Capture\TSCRack\Presets\User\` on Windows.



Saving, Renaming & Deleting

Save New… stores the current rack under a name of your choice and never overwrites an existing preset — a duplicate name is numbered automatically. **Rename…** and **Delete…** apply to user presets only; factory presets are read-only. Deleting a preset leaves the rack exactly as it sounds — only the name is cleared.

Reset to Default clears all four slots and returns every control to its startup setting. Both Delete and Reset ask for confirmation first.

Unsaved Changes

Any change after loading or saving a preset — a control, a profile, the slot order, LINK or a mode — adds an asterisk (*) after the preset name. The preset name and this state are also saved with your DAW session, so a project re-opens exactly as you left it.

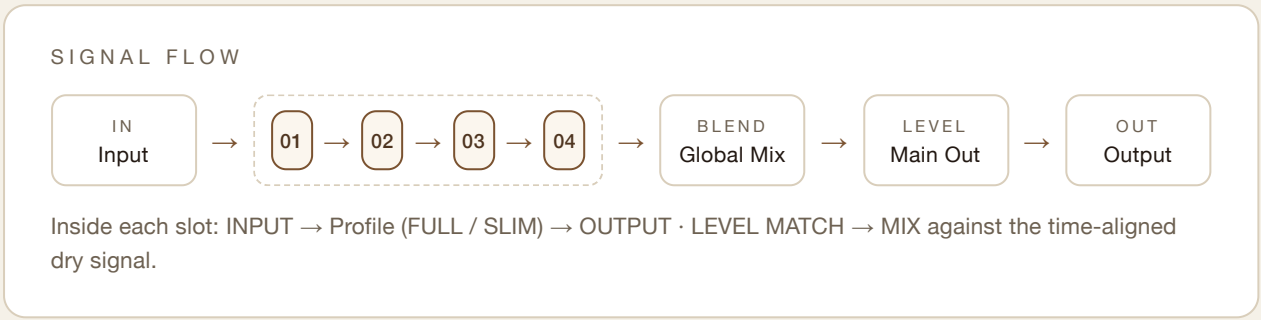
Presets & Profiles

A preset refers to its profiles by content. If a profile is not available on this computer, the slot shows the name with its status (see *Profile Library & Browser*) and passes audio through until you load it; the rest of the preset is recalled as usual.

UNDER THE HOOD

Calibration, Level & the Engine

What TSC Rack 2 does for you automatically — and why it matters.



Automatic Calibration

Every time a profile loads, TSC Rack measures its timing and polarity — for each channel and for both the FULL and SLIM variant — using a short internal test signal. The dry path of the slot is aligned accordingly, so any MIX setting blends without phase cancellation or comb filtering. There is nothing to run or set up; you may briefly see **CALIBRATING…** next to the profile name, and the measurement is independent of the audio in your session.

Plugin Delay Compensation

The latency of the rack is reported to your DAW automatically whenever a profile is loaded, replaced or unloaded. It does not change when you bypass a slot, move MIX, switch FULL / SLIM or reorder the slots, and an empty rack reports zero latency.

Level Match Reference

Level Match measures each profile with a fixed, loudness-weighted test signal at –18 dBFS RMS — the same level the slot VU meters show as 0 VU — and stores the gain difference. Corrections are applied within ±12 dB; larger differences are limited, and an unreliable measurement leaves the level untouched.

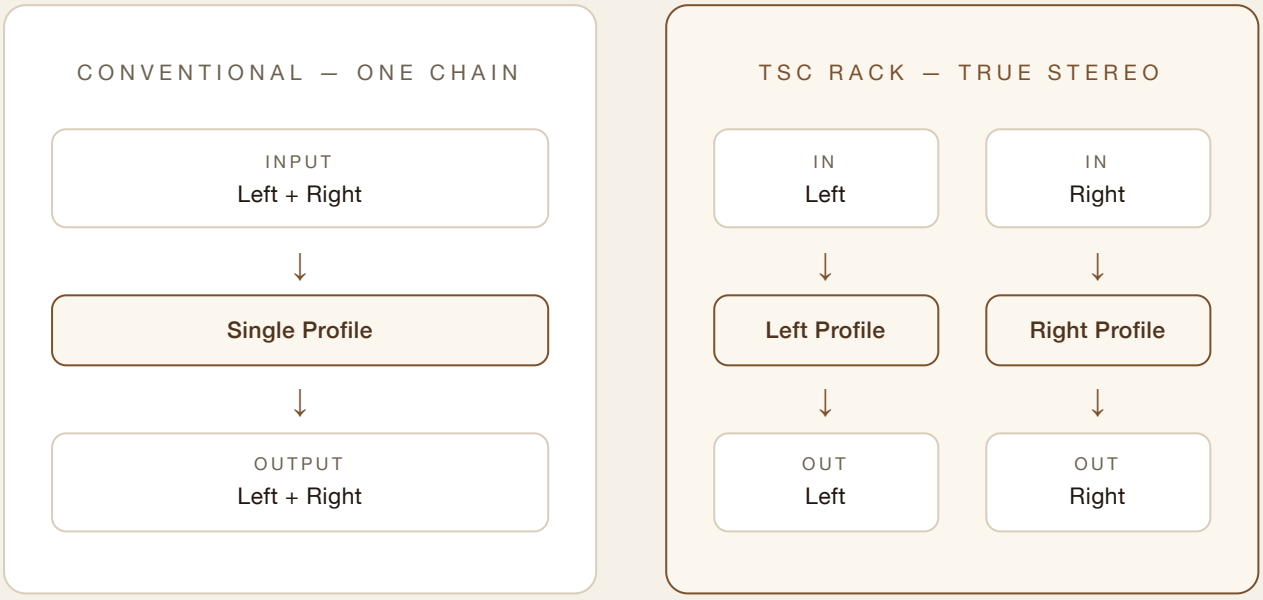
Internal 48 kHz Processing

TSC Rack processes NAM models internally at 48 kHz and automatically bridges between the host sample rate and its internal processing rate. When your session runs at another rate — 44.1, 88.2, 96 or 192 kHz — the audio is converted transparently on the way in and out, which keeps processing behavior consistent across supported session sample rates. The small conversion delay is included in the reported latency, and an empty rack passes audio straight through.

THE IDEA BEHIND TSC RACK

What is True Stereo?

The single feature that shapes everything else about the rack.



> Each channel of analog hardware behaves slightly differently. TSC Rack preserves those unique characteristics by allowing independent Left and Right profile loading — so your stereo image stays wide, natural, and alive.

L/R Split — two independent profiles, one per channel.

L/R Merge — a single profile shared by both channels.

Installation & Activation

System Requirements

Operating System	macOS 11 (Big Sur) or later · Windows 10 (64-bit) or later
Processor	Apple Silicon or 64-bit Intel · 64-bit Intel or AMD
Formats	macOS: Audio Unit (AU) · VST3 · AAX (Pro Tools) Windows: VST3 · AAX (Pro Tools)
Host	Any current AU / VST3 / AAX compatible DAW

Installation

MACOS

Open the `.pkg` installer. On the **Installation Type** page choose the formats you need — **Audio Unit** and **VST3** are selected by default; select **AAX** only if you use Avid Pro Tools. Then launch your DAW and rescan plugins if they don't appear right away.

The plugin installs to:
`AU:` `/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components/`
`VST3:` `/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/`
`AAX:` `/Library/Application Support/Avid/Audio/Plug-Ins/`

WINDOWS

Run the `Setup.exe` installer. If Windows SmartScreen shows a notice, click **More info** → **Run anyway** to continue. Choose the formats you need — **VST3** is selected by default; select **AAX** only if you use Avid Pro Tools. Then launch your DAW and rescan plugins if they don't appear right away.

The plugin installs to:
`VST3:` `C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3\`
`AAX:` `C:\Program Files\Common Files\Avid\Audio\Plug-Ins\`

Formats you leave unselected are simply not installed in that run. Updating over a previous version keeps your existing settings, license, presets and profile library.

Activation

The first time TSC Rack opens, the activation panel appears. Enter your license key and click **Activate**. An internet connection is required only for this initial activation; afterwards the plugin runs offline. Your license may be activated on up to **three** personal computers. A computer already activated with TSC Rack 2.0.0 needs no new activation: 2.0.1 keeps working and moves the activation to the new system automatically when the computer is online.

To check the license on a computer later, click the Tokyo Studio Capture mark and choose **Details…**. To free an activation for another computer, sign in to your account on tokyostudiocapture.com and go to **My Account** → **License Keys** → **MANAGE ACTIVATIONS**, then deactivate the computer you no longer use.

HELP

Frequently Asked

Q **The plugin doesn't appear in my DAW.**

→ Rescan plugins in your DAW's plugin manager and make sure the format your DAW uses (AU, VST3 or AAX) was selected during installation.

Q **TSC Rack opens but produces no audio.**

→ Confirm that the plugin is activated — audio stays muted until activation is complete. Then check that the slots aren't bypassed and that MIX, GLOBAL MIX and MAIN OUT aren't turned down.

Q **Activation failed.**

→ Check your internet connection and confirm the license key was entered exactly as provided.

Q **I've reached the activation limit.**

→ Your license covers up to three computers. Sign in at tokyostudiocapture.com, go to **My Account** → **License Keys** → **MANAGE ACTIVATIONS** and deactivate a computer you no longer use; the freed activation can then be used on the new one.

Q **My profiles aren't showing up.**

→ Open the browser, check the root folder with **Set Root Folder…**, and make sure the folder actually contains `.nam` files.

Q **A slot says MISSING, OFFLINE or CHANGED.**

→ The profile the session refers to isn't available in its original form — the drive may be unmounted, or the file moved outside the library or replaced. The slot passes audio through until you make the file available again or load another profile.

Q **Does latency change when I bypass a slot or switch FULL / SLIM?**

→ No. Latency is only updated when a profile is loaded, replaced or unloaded, and it is reported to your DAW automatically.

Q **What happens when my DAW bypasses TSC Rack?**

→ The dry signal is delayed by the reported latency, so tracks stay in time, and switching bypass on or off is click-free. TSC Rack keeps running while bypassed, so its CPU use does not drop.

Q **Does TSC Rack support GPU acceleration?**

→ Not currently. We extensively tested GPU-based NAM processing across low-buffer, True Stereo, multi-model and modern NAM workloads. For TSC Rack's four-slot serial architecture we found no meaningful real-world advantage without trade-offs in latency, compatibility or reliability, so TSC Rack 2.0 uses an optimized CPU engine. We'll continue evaluating GPU acceleration as the technology evolves.

Terms & Support

TSC Rack is licensed under the Tokyo Studio Capture — TSC Rack End User License Agreement accepted during installation. The key terms are summarised here.

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Support

For support, activation, and licensing questions, please contact Tokyo Studio Capture official support at **info@tokyostudiocapture.com**.

Agreement

By installing or using TSC Rack, you acknowledge that you have read and agree to these terms. If you do not agree, do not install or use the software.

Thank you.

We built this plugin because we wanted a better way to work with Neural Amp Modeler. We hope it becomes an essential part of your workflow, too.

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