

Optimod-FM 5500, 8300, 8500 and 8600 Comparison

Revised 6/1/10

Feature	5500	8300	8500	8600
Rack space required	1u	2u	3u	3u
Construction	Large boards mounted on standoffs inside chassis	Large boards mounted on standoffs inside chassis	Large boards mounted on standoffs inside chassis	Large boards mounted on standoffs inside chassis
Display	2x40 monochrome LCD, LED meters	2x40 monochrome LCD, LED meters	Quarter-VGA active matrix color LCD	Quarter-VGA active matrix color LCD
Meters visible at all times	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
User Interface	Rotary encoder, soft keys, dedicated keys	Rotary encoder, soft keys, dedicated keys	Rotary encoder, dedicated keys, joystick	Rotary encoder, dedicated keys, joystick
Loudness capability for given artifact level (re 8200)	+1.5	+2.0 dB	+2.5 dB	+2.5 dB. In addition, the 8600 offers about 3dB more HF energy and more transient punch than other Optimod-FM processors.
DSP processing power	500 MIPS	800 MIPS	1800 MIPS	4500 MIPS
speech/music detector automatically optimizes processing for input material	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Levels of preset customization	Basic and intermediate from front panel, advanced available only from PC Remote application	Basic and intermediate from front panel, advanced available only from PC Remote application	Basic, intermediate, advanced, all accessible from front panel	Basic, intermediate, advanced, all accessible from front panel
Number of user presets	Essentially unlimited	Essentially unlimited	Essentially unlimited	Essentially unlimited
User presets backed up in non-volatile storage	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2-band AGC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Window gating on AGC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stereo Enhancer	Orban 222-style only	Orban 222-style only	Orban 222 and "Delay" style	Orban 222 and "Delay" style
Bass Shelving EQ	6, 12, 18 dB/octave	6, 12, 18 dB/octave	6, 12, 18 dB/octave	6, 12, 18 dB/octave
Parametric EQ	3-band	3-band	3-band	3-band
Program-adaptive HF Enhancer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dual-Mono AGC	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sum-and-difference processing available on AGC	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dual Mono Multiband Compressor	No	No	Yes	Yes

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Number of bands in multiband compressor	2, 5	2, 5	2, 5	2, 5
Compressor Look-ahead processing	No	No	Yes	Yes
Program-adaptive clipping distortion controller	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes; technology significantly more advanced than 8500
Bass clipper modes	Hard	Hard	Soft, medium, hard	Soft, medium, hard
Bass clipper shape control (Hard mode)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Patented anti-aliased clippers and overshoot compensator	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Patented ITU412 controller	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stereo coder	DSP	DSP	DSP	DSP
Patented non-clipping composite limiter	Yes	Yes	Yes; dual-mode	Yes; dual-mode
Latency	5, 15 ms depending on preset	5, 15, 23 ms depending on preset	5, 20, 23 ms depending on preset	15, 20, 23, 265, 270 ms depending on preset
Activating Ultra-Low Latency Structure (5 ms delay)	DSP code reload with ~1-second audio mute	DSP code reload with ~300ms audio mute	No code reload; mute-free	No code reload; mute-free
Audio Input	Analog, AES3	Analog, AES3	Analog, AES3	Analog, AES3
Audio Output	Analog, AES3	Analog, AES3	Analog, 2xAES3	Analog, 2xAES3
Sync Input	AES11id, 1xWordclock, 10 MHz on BNC.	NA. Digital output can be synced to digital input	AES11 on XLR	AES11 on XLR
19 kHz Pilot frequency sync	AES11id, 1xWordclock, 10 MHz on BNC.	NA	NA	NA
Composite & SCA	2 comp. out 2 SCA inputs	2 comp. out 2 SCA inputs	2 comp. out 2 SCA inputs	2 comp. out 2 SCA inputs
Front panel security lockout	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Remote control	GPI, serial, Ethernet	GPI, serial, Ethernet	GPI, serial, Ethernet	GPI, serial, Ethernet
PC Remote software	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Remote protocol	TCP/IP	TCP/IP	ASCII, TCP/IP	ASCII, TCP/IP
Software upgrade	Internet download	Internet download	Internet download	Internet download
Automation by time of day	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stand-alone stereo encoder mode available	Yes	No	No	No
HD radio/netcast support	N (except for built-in diversity delay)	Digital output switchable between FM and HD-processed audio	Two independent digital outputs	Two independent digital outputs
HD Processing Chain architecture	NA	FM and HD processing is common up to peak limiters	HD & FM processing chains are independent except for AGC	HD & FM processing chains are independent except for AGC

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Built-in HD Radio Diversity Delay	Up to 16 seconds	No	Up to 16 seconds	Up to 16 seconds
Active RS232 serial ports	1	1	2	2
Interface to automation systems via ASCII or scriptable Telnet/SSH API through serial or Ethernet ports	No	No	Yes	Yes