



## CONTACTS

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## Impact Soundworks blows its own horn(s) with jazz, pop, and big band library latest

**FULTON, MD, USA:** audio software creator **Impact Soundworks** is proud to announce availability of **STRAIGHT AHEAD! JAZZ HORNS** — a newly revised virtual instrument library featuring over 75,000 samples created in collaboration with jazz sampled instrument specialist Straight Ahead Samples, served up as 13 solo brass and sax instruments ideal for jazz, funk, pop, R&B, and much more besides for Native Instruments' industry-standard *KONTAKT PLAYER* platform — as of February 14...

Though the (admittedly deep) sample pool remains largely the same as that found in 'version 1' of **STRAIGHT AHEAD! JAZZ HORNS** (originally released by Straight Ahead Samples) — albeit with some additional tweaks and a cleanup operation that has to be heard to be believed, below the hood **STRAIGHT AHEAD! JAZZ HORNS** represents an entirely different proposition altogether. All-new scripting smooths the way for smooth jazz or otherwise, thanks to **Smart Voicing** technology. This is a truly magical multi-script that can be used to quickly create realistic, properly-voiced jazz and big band ensemble sounds from combinations of four trumpets (**Lead Trumpet, Trumpet 2, Trumpet 3, Trumpet 4**); four trombones (**Lead Trombone, Trombone 2, Trombone 3, Trombone 4**); five saxes (**Lead Alto Sax, Alto Sax 2, Lead Tenor Sax, Tenor Sax 2, Baritone Sax**); all brass (all four trumpets and four trombones); full ensemble (all instruments); and pop horns (trumpet, tenor sax, trombone, baritone sax). Simply playing a left-handed chord tells the script what key and chord is being used while playing a right-handed melody generates fully-voiced chords based on the melody being played and the chord that was input! In a nutshell, then, the multi-script creates harmonised ensemble voicings based on individually played notes. (Not only is **Smart Voicing** deeply customisable with different voicing and chord options, but it can even be used with *KONTAKT*'s Send MIDI To Outside World Feature, allowing users to send generated harmony MIDI data to any other plug-in!) Voicings are intelligently split between all instruments and allow for normal articulation usage, too!

That being said, the **TACT (Total Articulation Control Technology)** used in **Impact Soundworks'** virtual instrument products — **STRAIGHT AHEAD! JAZZ HORNS** included — is far from normal, however. As a modular, scalable system designed to create a consistent plug-and-play performance experience, it manages articulations with up to three triggering types, volume and offset control, and independently controlled legato toggles where applicable. Currently supported sources for triggering are note range, velocity range, CC range (on any CC# from 1 to 127), keyswitches (latching or non-latching, independently chosen per articulation), and sustain pedal up/down. Simply speaking, **TACT** is designed to manage user mapping schemes and facilitate experimentation to create the best user performance setups quickly and easily.

Ease of use is, of course, central to **STRAIGHT AHEAD! JAZZ HORNS'** all-new user interface. There those astonishing **Articulations** are easily accessible via the namesake dedicated tabbed window, as are an array of flexible functions — for example, **ALT DYN MODE** (enabling dynamic filters and EQ instead of crossfading samples to produce different dynamic levels), **SUS PHASE ALIGN** (enabling all **Sustain** samples to be switched to **Phase Align** versions which will crossfade without phasing and with a different, more 'stable' timbre), **EXTRA DYN FILTER** (enabling a gentle lowpass 6 dB/oct filter to be applied to the output, linked to the **DYNAMICS SLIDER** to further emphasise dynamic transitions), and **VOL PAN** (to control the volume and panning for each enabled microphone position) — from the **Main** tabbed window, while the **FX** tabbed window provides access to the onboard (four-band, analogue-modelled, parametric) **EQ**, (analogue-modelled, SSL-style) **COMPRESSOR**, (all-purpose, tempo-synced) **DELAY**, (convolution) **REVERB**, and associated controls.

All add up to an even more playable, realistic, and customisable virtual instrument that offers both excellent solo instruments alongside some of the most powerful ensemble writing tools ever developed. **STRAIGHT AHEAD! JAZZ HORNS** handles anything the discerning jazz, funk, pop, R&B, and big band arranger and composer care to throw at it. **Impact Soundworks** collectively cannot wait to hear what its users can do with it... time to toot their own horn(s) with **STRAIGHT AHEAD! JAZZ HORNS!**



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**STRAIGHT AHEAD! JAZZ HORNS** can be purchased and digitally downloaded (as a 23 GB library totalling 75,000-plus 16- and 24-bit samples) directly from Impact Soundworks for \$249.00 USD from here: <https://impactsoundworks.com/product/straight-ahead-jazz-horns/#purchase>

**Note Native Instruments KONTAKT PLAYER or the full version of KONTAKT (version 5.5.2 or higher) is required.**

For more in-depth information, please visit the dedicated **STRAIGHT AHEAD! JAZZ HORNS** webpage here: <https://impactsoundworks.com/product/straight-ahead-jazz-horns/>

Watch Impact Soundworks Lead Developer Andrew Aversa's **STRAIGHT AHEAD! JAZZ HORNS** video walkthrough here: <https://youtu.be/IPLJUWIt92s>



Print-ready, hi-res image:

<http://impactsoundworks.com/Press/logos/JH-1200x1200-A.png>

## About Impact Soundworks ([www.impactsoundworks.com](http://www.impactsoundworks.com))

**Impact Soundworks** creates audio software designed with composers in mind: sample libraries, virtual instruments, and plug-ins. As passionate about creating music tools as its customers are about making music, the company was founded in 2008 by composers Andrew Aversa and Will Roget, II at a time when there were several large virtual instrument companies already around, but few developers creating affordable, flexible, and focused libraries featuring more unusual and unique sounds. Shrewdly, the dynamic duo noticed much in the way of in-depth orchestral offerings, but more unusual instruments were not being sampled with much detail at all. As such, the company's first two releases were Impact Steel, a collection of found metal objects played as percussion, and Sitar Nation, a set of instruments from North India. It has since been collectively working hard to address the needs of modern composers, successfully striking the balance between depth and ease of use. Ultimately, Impact Soundworks is proud to call tens of thousands of musicians around the world its customers, intelligently investing time to study suggestions and review requests. After all, that is how a number of its best-loved libraries started... from the smallest seed!