

EX3 Audio Settings With Wireless Mics

Wireless System: Sennheiser EW100-G3 Deluxe wireless units.

The stock lavalier mics that Sennheiser ships with the kit are Sanken COS-11 mics. The Deluxe kit comes with the extra two VT500 Voice Technologies lavalier mics. The first thing I did was test the difference between these two lavalier manufacturers. There are two noticeable differences. The first is that VT500 has nice flat and broad response from 20-20k. The second is that the Sanken's require almost 10db of extra gain at the transmitter end to obtain proper levels in the EX3. What helped me to sort out all of the various settings was that the VT500 mics came with the following explicit instructions:

"Your VT500/506 lavalier microphone is wired to perform optimally with the sensitivity of your Sennheiser EW wireless transmitter set at -20. Please use this -20 setting for typical everyday speaking dialogue application."

So my settings are as follows:

Sennheiser transmitter sensitivity set to "-21db" (per VT500 instructions)
Sennheiser receiver AF out set at "0db" (factory default)

EX3 external trim dials (both) set at "5" (i.e. optimum gain setting)
EX3 external Audio Select set to "Manual" (i.e. to eliminate AGC pumping)

EX3 internal Trim CH-1 set at -29dBu (for a softer voice)
EX3 internal Trim CH-2 set at -35dBu (for a louder voice)

My audio meters via the Status window indicate levels between -20 and -10 which are the optimum range to avoid the EX1/3 internal limiters.

With the above settings, I get very good audio every time. If I need to adjust levels for a softer or louder person, then I adjust the internal trim settings up or down to get meters levels in the status window between -20 and -10.

So to conclude for your situation, I would recommend that you set the gain on the receiver to 0db and then add gain on the transmitter end to compensate for the lower levels coming off the Sanken lavalier mics. Good luck and cheers!

EX3 Audio Settings With Audio-Technica BP4029 Stereo Mic

EX3 external trim dials (both) set at "5" (i.e. optimum gain setting)
EX3 external Audio Select set to "Manual" (i.e. to eliminate AGC pumping)

EX3 internal Trim CH-1/2 set at -59dBu (for a music & average ambient sounds)

My audio meters via the Status window indicate levels between -20 and -10 which are the optimum range to avoid the EX1/3 internal limiters.