ACCLAIM AUDIO

ESIONrestore

ACCLAIM AUDIO
NEXT GEN AI TOOLS FOR AUDIO

ESION
restore
POST-PRODUCTION

Dialogue Restoration (Advanced Noise Reduction)

Input Folder | /Volumes/CRC2/Audio_ESION_Restore

File Select | 22_Youth On Course_VO REC.wav

Noise Reduction | Moderate

Destination Folder | /Volumes/CRC2/Audio_ESION_Processed

☐ Same as Input folder

Processed File | 22_Youth On Course_VO REC_ESION_20240529_182804_NRmod.wav

Process

Message: Audio sucessfully processed

Close

ESION Restore
User Guide

Table of Contents

Introduction

Thank you for purchasing from Acclaim Audio! To get the most out of your new Acclaim Audio software, please take a moment to read this user guide.

For information about installation, troubleshooting, specifications, company contact information, and Acclaim Audio support news, see www.acclaim-audio.com/support

Product Overview

ESION Restore is the first app in a series of pioneering AI audio tools for post-production dialogue & speech recordings. With the demanding needs of the professional in mind, this AI tool produces quick accurate results reliably with a single button push.

ESION Restore is a high-quality noise reduction solution that uses AI to intelligently adapt to new and varying noise profiles, saving the user time and improving the sound quality. Unlike most noise reduction plugins, which reduce noise only during non-speech and often sound choppy, ESION Restore reduces noise during speech as well as non-speech, producing an artifact free, transparent sound that's truly spectacular.

ESION Restore has been used on numerous Emmy winning television productions. With ESION, your audio will sound like it was mixed by a professional audio engineer every time.

System Requirements

The ESION Restore app runs natively on Apple Intel and silicon processors.
- Mac OS: Monterey version 12.01 or higher
- 1GB RAM
- Internet connection (needed for installation, activation)
- 3GB of free space for installation
- iLok account/access

Windows OS will be supported on the next release.

iLOK

ESION Restore requires an iLok account/access to authorize your software. You will need to connect the iLok license to your computer to use it. You can deposit your license to a host computer (free of charge) or to an iLok2 or iLok3 USB Smart Key for authorization. If you don't already have an iLok account, you'll need to create one and install the iLok License Manager app. **Each ESION Restore software contains one activation per authorization.**

If you already have an iLOK account, skip the iLOK account creation.

If you don't have an iLOK account:
1. visit www.ilok.com and click **Create Free Account** to create an Account ID and password.
2. Store the ID and password to allow login to the iLOK License Manager account.

If you purchased ESION Restore thru **Shopify**:

1. The first time ESION Restore is opened it will present a series of prompts to apply the iLOK license
2. On the Apply Activation Code press the Skip button at the bottom of the screen.
3. The next screen will list your license and the locations where the license can be applied. Choose either your local host (machine) or your USB iLOK (if you have one plugged in)
4. Select Activate and you are done!!!

If you purchased ESION Restore through any **other online store**:

1. Assign a license to the ESION Restore. You should have an activation code listed for each product in your electronic receipt.
2. Log into your iLok account via the iLok License Manager application.
3. Go to the LICENSE menu at the very top and select REDEEM ACTIVATION CODE. Then the authorization will be in the AVAILABLE section of your account.
4. Right click and select ACTIVATE and assign it to a location (your computer) or an iLok2 or an iLok3, or you can also drag it from the list to an iLok2 or an iLok3.

For further information regarding iLOK technology please visit:
https://www.ilok.com/#!ilok-intro
https://www.ilok.com/#!registration
https://www.ilok.com/#!license-manager
https://help.ilok.com/videos.html

Installation

To install ESION Restore, open the **ESIONrestore_Installer.pkg**. The installer will guide you through the installation process.

Note: The installation can be performed without an iLOK account, however, to use the ESION Restore, an iLOK account must be present and an ESION Restore license deposited into the account.

If this is the first ESION product installed, the total install size will be just over 3GB. All subsequent ESION products will utilize shared code and, as such, require less space.
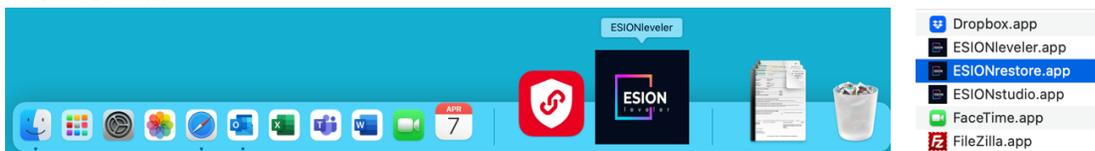
Note: This version of the ESION Restore utilizes a third-party library (Matlab Runtime) for some of its key library functions.
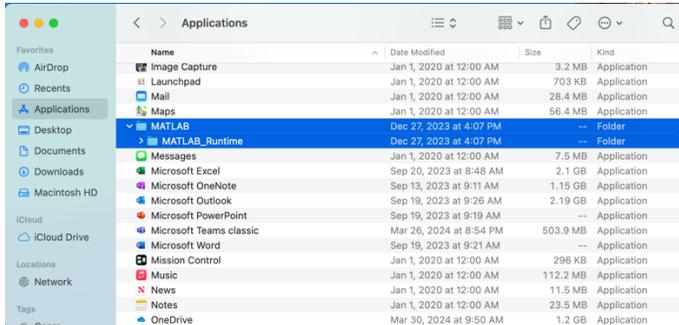
Do not delete the MATLAB Runtime from the Applications folder, ESION Restore depends on it.

How to use

To open ESION Restore app, click the ESIONrestore Icon either in the applications folder or in the Dock.

IMPORTANT NOTE: In the Dock you will now see two icons, ESIONrestore and MATLABWindow.

To minimize the ESION Restore app, use the minus sign or quick key as you would for other applications.

To maximize the ESION Restore app, click the MatlabWindow icon in the Dock (not the ESIONrestore icon).

We understand this is a bit clumsy, but the next release will eliminate the MatlabWindow Icon and Matlab Runtime library completely. When we publish an update, we will notify you and allow you to download the new version free of charge.

When ESION Restore first opens, the stage lights are off. Once it is ready for operation the stage lights turn on.

There is a slight delay in processing after the Restore first opens while AI libraries initialize. All subsequent processing runs at optimum speed.

By hovering the mouse over any field, tooltips will appear.

Key controls

To set Preferences, click the gear icon in the upper right corner. For more information, see the **Preferences** section.

Input Folder
Select the **Input Folder** to navigate to the drive and folder the audio resides. To simplify operations and save time, the Input folder is retained between sessions.

File Select
Click the **File Select** drop down list to select the audio or video file to process. To display audio file metadata, hover over the file name. A tooltip will appear displaying audio/video file details. Below is a sample of the tooltip metadata.
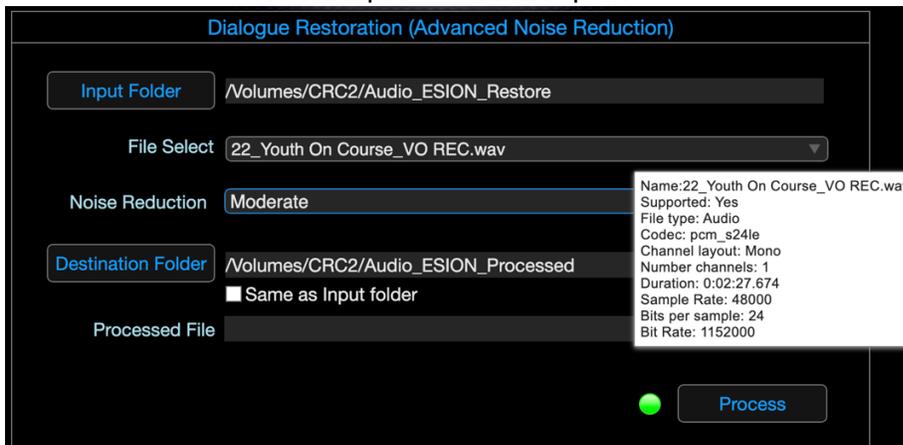
ESION Restore supports both audio and video files. If a video file is selected the audio will first be extracted and then processed.
Note: This version of ESION Restore will not replace the new/processed audio into the original video file. In a future release we will implement a "same as source" option which replaces the audio within the video.

Supported audio files:
aac, ac3, aif, eac3, flac, mp3, m4a, ogg, pcm, ts, wav

Supported video files:
3gp, avi, mkv, mxf, mp4, m4v, mov, ogv, wmv

Channel formats supported:
Mono
Stereo
Multi-channel (up to 8 channels)

Surround sound formats not supported

In multi-stream containers, only the 1st stream is supported

Noise Reduction
ESION Restore provides five different levels of noise reduction from the dropdown menu.

Below are screenshots from the app illustrating the available noise reduction levels.

Minimum
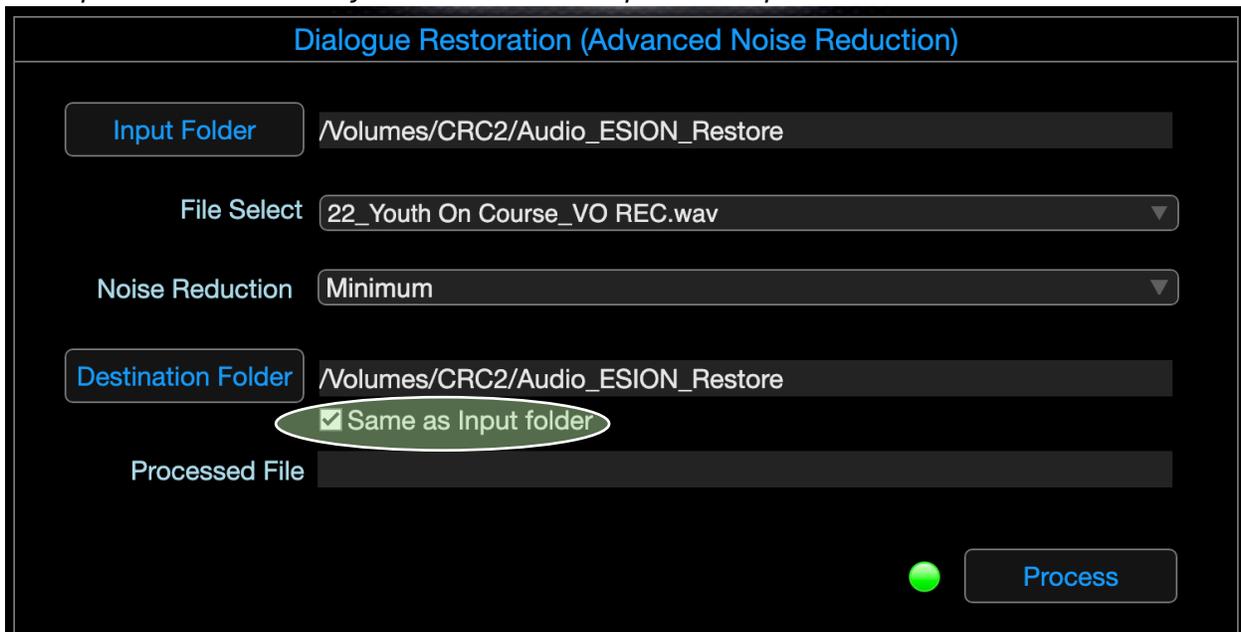Lite
Moderate
Maximum
Extreme
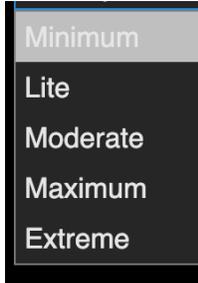
Each level provides the user with increasing amounts of noise reduction ranging from approximately 2dB up to 20dB. We recommend starting with either Lite or Moderate and then if those don't provide the desired result, adjust either up or down accordingly. The default noise reduction level is Minimum.

Note: ESION Restore includes high-quality audio transcoding and dithering to produce artifact-free final audio.

Destination Folder
Open **Destination Folder** to select a drive and folder to write the processed audio files to. To simplify operations and save time, the Destination Folder is remembered between sessions.
Note*: The **Same as Input folder** check box will auto-set the Destination folder to match the Input Folder. For many workflows this simplifies the process.*

Dialogue Restoration (Advanced Noise Reduction)

Input Folder	/Volumes/CRC2/Audio_ESION_Restore
File Select	22_Youth On Course_VO REC.wav ▼
Noise Reduction	Minimum ▼
Destination Folder	/Volumes/CRC2/Audio_ESION_Restore
	☑ Same as Input folder
Processed File	

Process

Processed File At the conclusion of processing, the name of the processed audio file appears. The fields appended to the file name are defined within Preferences.

Dialogue Restoration (Advanced Noise Reduction)

Input Folder	/Volumes/CRC2/Audio_ESION_Restore
File Select	22_Youth On Course_VO REC.wav ▾
Noise Reduction	Moderate ▾
Destination Folder	/Volumes/CRC2/Audio_ESION_Restore

☑ Same as Input folder

Processed File 22_Youth On Course_VO REC_ESION_20240529_202252_NRmod.wav

Process

Message: Audio sucessfully processed   Close

Process Button

Once the Process button is pressed and ESION Restore will engage, the Process button will dim, a progress indicator spins, and a progress bar appears.
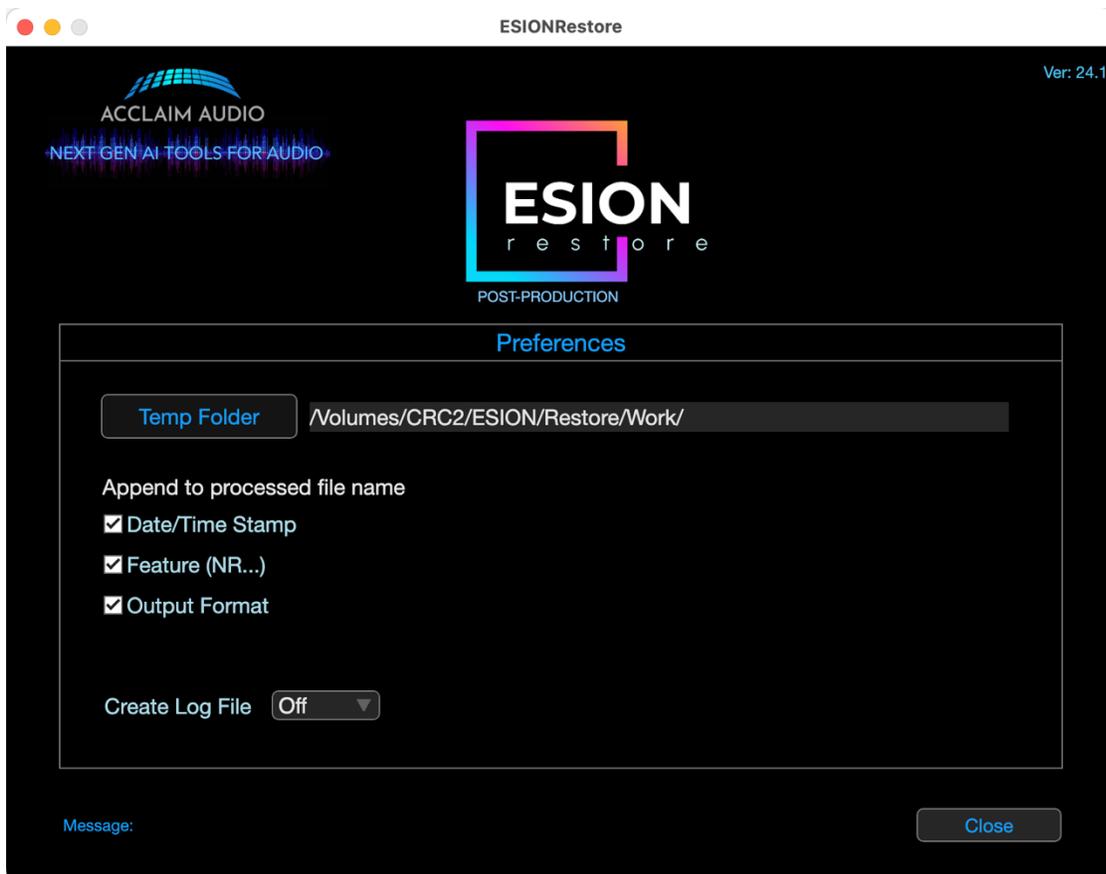
Messages
At the bottom of the app a message box exists. It displays operational or error messages.

Preferences

To set Preferences, click the gear icon in the upper right corner. For more information, see the **Preferences** section.

Preferences is where configuration items are set, which are utilized on all subsequent noise reduction processing operations.

Preference controls:

Because ESION utilizes a 64-bit audio engine, the temporary files are typically much larger than the original input file. When installed, the location of the temporary files are on the system drive within the /Users folder. We strongly recommend moving this location to another drive, preferably an SSD drive. The standard folder we recommend creating is

/SSD drive name/ESION/Restore/Work

When you purchase another ESION product it's temporary files will fit within this same structure. For instance, the ESION Leveler product would use:

/SSD drive name/ESION/Leveler/Work

Once the user has created the Temp folder on another drive click the **"Temp Folder"** button and navigate to the drive/folder created.

The following table illustrates the approximate temporary disk space required for noise reduction audio files. While ESION Restore utilizes temporary files during processing, at the conclusion of processing the temporary files are removed.

Input file duration		Disk Space	
5	minutes	500	MB
15	minutes	1.5	GB
30	minutes	3	GB
1	hour	6	GB
2	hours	11	GB

Preferences also provides the ability to customize what metadata is appended to the processed (noise reduced) audio file name. When combining Leveling, Restore, AutoEdit, Studio... for multiple noise reduction amounts, leveling deliverables, output formats, and so on, it's sometimes nice to place identifiers within the file name to assist with identification. The four identifier options are:

Date/Time Stamp

If selected, the restore will provide a date and time identifier at the end of the file name.

Feature (NR)

If selected, the restore will append the characters "_NR" followed by a short description of the noise reduction level, such as "_NRLite" to the end of the file name to indicate this file has been lightly noise reduced.

An example processed file name with all preferences activated.
22_Youth On Course_VO REC_**ESION_20240406_140520_NRLt**.wav

Create Log File (On/Off)

In the rare event that you encounter an error, or unexpected results are returned, the ESION team may request you to turn on the logging option.

When the logging option is turned on, the next processing will generate a detailed log of events that ESION Restore performed. The file is located at: */Users/your userid/ESIONRestore/Logs*
When requested by the ESION team, please email the log file to:
resolution@acclaim-audio.com
Note: When the Log option is turned on it is only active for the next file processed and then auto turns off.