

OAS DEVELOPMENT – FROM BLUEPRINTS TO OAS 7

The Open Art-System was conceived in the late 1990's by the Wersi Company. Rumours started around 1999 about a new generation of instruments that were being produced by the German manufacturer. Sure enough in 1999, the prototypes were being constructed. The first prototype instruments were the "Da Vinci" & "Abacus". The Da Vinci eventually became the Scala and the Abacus remained under the same name.



The Wersi Da Vinci OAS Prototype – notice the lack of speakers, different touch screen housing and also extra detailing on the cabinet.

The first software version that OAS first had was **Software 2.25 (2000)**

This was basically a shell that had about 50 long wave sounds, styles, basic Realdrums and relied mainly on the XG sounds for drum accompaniment. A basic sequencer and a few other features were also included.

Software 3.0, Software 3.30 (2001 – 2002)

Software 3.0 saw the introduction of being able to save presets, sound and style Mapping. At this



stage you had to restart the instrument every time that you changed the mapping for it to take effect. New features of OAS software version 3.0 included:

The new Easy Record function, offering hard disk recording with multi-tracking that allowed audio recording from microphones and line-inputs. With the optional CD writer compiling and burning of audio CD's onboard is easily done. 30 new factory sounds included several saxophone, brass, guitars, choirs, jazz vocals, pianos and violin

sounds. The style editor in version 3.0 allowed changing of volumes, sounds and effects as well as individual track-settings of attack, release, filter and wrap points. Settings can now be made without using a connected computer keyboard and mouse. Using the sequence editor gave access to volumes, sounds and effects of all of the 16 tracks. Single tracks could now be transposed in octave steps and a complete sequence could now be transposed quickly. Total presets were expanded and now included the storage of programmable footswitches and pedals for drums and accompaniment. Also stored within total presets are Wersi chord type, after touch on/off (only Abacus, Vegas und Verona) and the accompaniment bass off/on. Version 3.30 imports up to 128 new sounds, including Akai S1000/2000/3000 compatible and offers multiple keyboard splits. The MIDI functionality was expanded and includes integration of sound presets for MIDI modules into total presets and sound/style button mapping.

Software 3.30E

Same as the Software 3.0 but the introduction of different languages - with 3.30E, the only choice was switching between English and German.

Software 4.0 – (2002-2003)

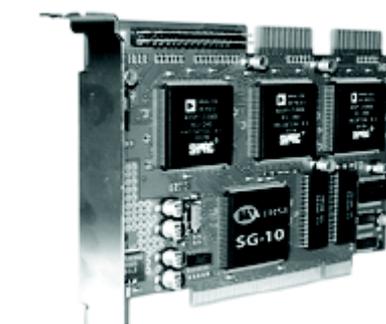
OAS 4.0 reaches a level that the instrument is totally playable with many new functions and a new Windows operating system – Windows XP

Main benefits are that over 250 new long wave



sounds, 128 new GM sounds, 160 new Drum sounds, new sequencer, new style editing, Realdrum accompaniment editing, realtime auditioning of

sounds, new effect record, improved Quickload functions, keyboard tuning, selector de-tune functions, OX7 preset functions, 30 new Realdrums, new MIDI functions, new reverb, chorus and echo system. The OAS system also



benefited by having a new Hardware DSP card fitted. The SG-10 allowed the selection of Longwave sounds in accompaniments.

OAS 4 saw a new digital mixer system for OAS. EQ, effects and output routing could be set for every sound generator and section on the OAS instruments. The Vocoder also improved greatly over the Version 3.0 functions. OAS 4.0 also sees the integration of the B4 from native instruments.

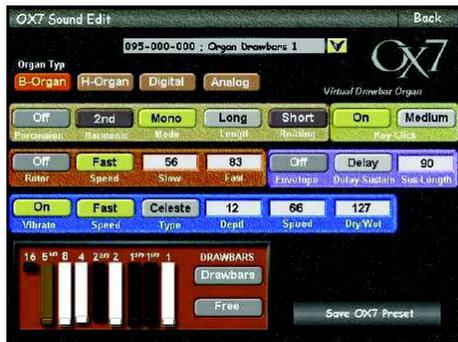


OAS 5.0 - (2003-2004)

OAS 5.0 saw the entire OAS system undergo a major overhaul. A whole new user interface based upon "the Workstation" concept was designed for easier and more elaborate programming and use of the instrument. OAS really became a super system with Version 5. Version 5.0 saw the introduction of MP3s, a new and improved mixer, new



Quickload system, new style editor, new sequencer with new functions, new multi-mapping for sound buttons, new preset functions, new advanced presets, new advanced selectors, CD burning from OAS, MIDI sound editing, new MIDI functions, new effect presets and new auto accompaniment



OX7 sound presets. OAS 5 was considered to be a landmark in software for the OAS system.

OAS 6.0 (2004-2005)

OAS 6.0 mainly saw new easy play functions appear as well as the long awaited variable tempo Realdrums. Other new functions included



new Video files – for tutorials and concerts on using the OAS system, Arabic Tuning, text in total presets, new reverb and echo per selector saveable, loading of music CD's into the Wersi Database, Easy Preset, bank naming, favourite total preset lists, OAS Jukebox, Solo voice for upper manual, Length



indicator of sequences, Waves etc, Multi select function for lists, new sound effect button functions. Version 6 also saw the integration of the OAS Drawbar XM7 system for the Ikarus keyboard.

OAS 7.0 - (2005 - Present)

OAS 7.0 has been unveiled at this years Frankfurt Musikmesse. The software takes the Open Art-System to a whole new level. This year sees the integration of mass sound expansions. Over 300 new sounds come with version 7, over 100 new styles and Realdrums as well as a new part sequencer, VST instrument integration, new sound generators, new effects such as wha wha, compressor, and distortion. Other new features for OAS 7 include add on sound expansions/upgrades.

- B4 update – adding new organ types
- Grand Pianos – a brand new piano sound package
- World of Organ – a brand new organ sound package
- World of Synthesisers – a brand new sound package complete with 256 new synthesiser sounds.
- EMC Style converter – integrated into the OAS system to allow you to convert your favourite styles from other instrument manufacturers.
- Hermode Tuning – a new tuning system that will automatically tune samples/sounds so that they are playable together without any harsh discord tones. This is especially good when used in conjunction with third party Akai sounds that have not been tuned correctly or with the different sound generation systems within OAS.



OAS is now a mature system with a wealth of functions and sounds. Constantly improving software means that our instruments stay up to date and remain state of the art.

OAS has come along way since its early days only a few years ago. The future looks very exciting. We will bring you more in-depth news on OAS 7.0 in future issues.

WERSI UNVEILS OAS 7.0!

The Frankfurt Musikemess was the usual hub of excitement with regards to what new products the German organ, keyboard and piano manufacturer would unveil to the world. WERSI did not fail to impress people at the music fair with their new products. 2005 sees WERSI Launch the new OAS 7.0 software for all OAS instruments.

SOUNDS

There are many new features in OAS 7 – again the instrument is made totally brand new! OAS 7 includes new sound synthesis technology which means that new sounds are possible. Wersi have already added 300 additional new sounds into OAS 7. This brings the total amount of sounds to over 700 sounds available to use in your instrument!!! The new tone generation technology includes 5 different tone generators for sound production. They include Analog, Sampling, Wavetable, Drawbars and FM sound generation. For the first time in the Open Art System, genuine synthesizer sounds are possible.



Naturally all of the new sounds from the different tone generators can be used on the keyboard manuals and in accompaniments and the sequencer. This once again opens up a whole new world for us OAS users in terms of a new sound palette – over 300 new sounds to play with!

NEW EFFECTS

OAS 7 also sees the introduction of a whole new range of effects including Reverb, Chorus, Phasing, Wha Wha, Distortion, Compressor & Flanger. Wersi have also put a great amount of

effort into the quality and quantity of the new effects. Many new effects programs are available. They range from many different Chorus, Phasing and naturally new Reverb programs. The new effects will improve the onboard sounds greatly and Wersi have re-worked the factory sounds from OAS 5 – improvement in quality of the actual rendition of the samples and the use of the new effects make the Long Wave sounds audibly improved. Now you can really capture the feeling of the panpipes echoing through the Andes mountain range or the sound of a dynamic concert grand piano in a large auditorium!

- The sound editor has been improved in OAS 7. The huge extension of the new tone generator system means it is all fully programmable too!

VST POWER!

With OAS 7, Wersi has succeeded in integrating a complete VST host into the Open Art-System. A VST is a “Virtual instrument” program used in professional studios within a Cubase sequencer environment. Basically what this means is that many music producers like to use the sounds which come in the VST and use them in their music productions. The VST instruments such as “The Grand” from Steinberg sound absolutely fantastic and is one of the most detailed Grand Piano sounds on the market. With VST integration, Wersi have allowed these VST instruments to be played live and completely within the OAS system like a normal factory sound. 4 VST instruments can be loaded and used at the same time. Like the other new sounds, the VST instruments can be used for sequences, styles and in conjunction with any of the other sounds that are available in the OAS system



(Above Left) The Grand VST from Steinberg (Above Right) Steinberg Halion VST screen shot.

NEW SEQUENCER

OAS 7 also sees the introduction of a new “Part Sequencer” which allows for detailed editing of MIDI files. With the new part sequencer MIDI files can be partitioned in up to 8 sections (Intro, verse, chorus, solo, bridge etc).

These 8 sections can then be played in a random order of your choice – i.e., you can re-arrange a whole song, remix a song to your liking or you can decide how long a song will play for.



INTEGRATED STYLE CONVERTER (OPTIONAL)

An option with OAS 7 allows the optional EMC Style Works style converter program to be integrated into the OAS system. This means that you no longer have to use Windows XP to convert styles. You can now do all conversions from the comfort of the OAS system. Styles from Yamaha, Technics, Roland, Korg, Solton & Ketron can all be converted. Now you can have the best of all other keyboards in your WERSI!

B4 EDITING

All users of the B4 virtual tonewheel from Native Instruments can now create edit and save their own B4 sounds. Up to 128 of your own B4 user sounds can be saved. Further to this, there is an extension of the B4 drawbar system. 3 other organ types are available. They are the vintage organ types: Farfisa organ, Vox continental organ and Harmonium organ.

NEW STYLES & REALDRUMS

Over 100 new styles and Realdrums come with OAS 7. This again boosts your onboard library of accompaniments. As in OAS 6.0, Realdrums are variable in tempo! Amazing accompaniment

is possible with the high quality Realdrums and styles.

STYLE PRESETS

New for OAS 7, sees the integration of new “Style Presets”. This means that styles in the OAS system will be coupled to “One Touch Settings”.

ADDITIONAL OAS 7.0 ADD ON SOUND PACKAGES...

Wersi have created an additional 3 add on sound packages for OAS 7. The first of the additional packages is...

Add on sound pack 1: Grand Pianos.

This sound package includes two brand new grand piano models with exact detailed realism. The sound characters of the grand pianos are adjustable in dynamics. (Soft, natural, bright and hard).

Add on sound pack 2: World of Organ.

This sound package includes sounds of legendary organs and their rotor cabinets. The emulations of the famous tonewheel organs are adjustable over the drawbars and include 9 drawbar footages, percussion and key click. Other features are tube distortion and different rotor simulations.

Add on sound pack 3: World of Synthesisers.

This sound package is similar to a professional, flexible synthesiser with three oscillators, analog and wavetable synthesis, Fat Unisono-Waveform and multi-mode filter. The World of Synthesisers sound pack comes preloaded with 256 sounds for the OAS system.

ADDITIONAL FEATURES...

Many other features have been incorporated into the new OAS 7.0 software. Hard disk streaming of sounds is now utilised via Gigasampler. This means that sounds are no longer loaded into RAM and are streamed straight from the hard drive. This also means that polyphony is increased by at least 170 notes! This method should mean that OAS loads a lot quicker too.

OAS 7 has also seen a general overhaul of the OAS system with lots of little tweaks and additions for comfort of playing and management of sounds, styles, presets etc.

Contact your local WERSI dealer for more information.

OAS 7.0 NEW FEATURES LIST

- 300 NEW SOUNDS
- 5 SOUND GENERATORS, ANALOG, WAVETABLE, FM, SAMPLING & DRAWBARS
- ALL NEW ADDITIONAL SYNTH/VINTAGE SOUNDS
- DISK STREAMING OF SOUNDS
- 170 NOTES ADDITIONAL POLYPHONY (298 NOTES POLYPHONY)
- HERMOD TUNING
- IMPROVED SOUND EDITOR
- 100 NEW STYLES & REALDRUMS
- NEW EFFECTS, REVERB, CHORUS, WHA WHA, DISTORTION, FLANGER, COMPRESSOR ETC
- VST INSTRUMENT INTEGRATION ALLOWING 4 VST INSTRUMENTS TO BE USED AT ANY ONE TIME
- STYLE CONVERTER FOR ALL MAJOR BRANDS DIRECT WITHIN OAS. CONVERTS YAMAHA, ROLAND, KORG, SOLTON, KETRON ETC
- NEW B4 EDITING
- B4 DRAWBAR SYSTEM EXTENSION - NATIVE INSTRUMENTS "VINTAGE SET" OFFERING 3 NEW ORGAN TYPES (FARFISA, VOX & HARMONIUM)
- STYLE PRESETS - FOR EASY PLAY STYLE PRESETS COUPLE WITH ONE TOUCH SETTINGS FOR EASY SETUP OF THE INSTRUMENT.
- NEW PART SEQUENCER - ALLOWS LOOPING AND ARRANGING OF MIDI FILES
- ADD ON SOUND EXPANSION PACKAGES INCLUDING:
 1. GRAND PIANOS
 2. WORLD OF ORGAN
 3. WORLD OF SYNTHESISERS

PRICING:

OAS 7.0 BASIC SOFTWARE :

SOUND EXPANSION SOFTWARE:

GRAND PIANOS

WORLD OF ORGANS

WORLD OF SYNTHESISERS

OTHER OAS 7.0 OPTIONS

EMC STYLE WORKS

B4 ORGAN UPDATE

HERMODE TUNING



For more information on OAS 7 and pricing you should contact your local WERSI dealer or contact WERSI GmbH in Halsenbach.

*Hammond is a copyright of Hammond-Suzuki Japan.