

MMA Technical Standards Board/ AMEI MIDI Commitee

Confirmation of Approval for MIDI Standard

Amendment to Scale/Octave Tuning

Primary Authors: Rick Cohen (Kurzweil Music Systems)

Editors: _____

Abstract:

This document reconciles an incongruity between the Scale/Octave Tuning Specification and the GM2 Specification.

The text of #146 includes some parenthetical information which in retrospect appears to have been intended for reviewers of the proposal and should have been removed before publication of the specification.

Background:

The Scale/Octave tuning spec, TSBB Item #146 states (near the end):

"Using a channel bitmap scheme in a system exclusive message is unconventional, but this ability is really necessary for the computer based tuning schemes, in order to change intonation identically on several channels quickly. GM Level 2 will only need to support one channel or all channels in their messages, so the bitmap scheme is not needed. Also, GM Level 2 will only support the 1 byte version of the messages."

The second sentence above makes it seem that there would be a user parameter for which channels would be tuned by the Scale/Octave message, and the values of the parameter would be [1, 2, 3, ..., 16, all]. This would ignore the bitmap, and seems to be incorrect. However the GM2 spec does not mention this restriction (1 or all channels) at all.


The sentence appears to be an oversight in Item #146, perhaps from an old version of the GM2 proposal that originally defined this message, before it was approved as a specification.

Proposal:

Amend the text of CA-021 (Scale/Octave Tuning) as follows:

Old: "Using a channel bitmap scheme in a system exclusive message is unconventional, but this ability is really necessary for the computer based tuning schemes, in order to change intonation identically on several channels quickly. GM Level 2 will only need to support one channel or all channels in their messages, so the bitmap scheme is not needed. Also, GM Level 2 will only support the 1 byte version of the messages."

New: "Using a channel bitmap scheme in a system exclusive message is unconventional, but this ability is really necessary for the computer based tuning schemes, in order to change intonation identically on several channels quickly."

First Date of issue:	<u>Sept 13, 2002</u>	Originated by:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MMA	<input type="checkbox"/> AMEI
Revision Date:	_____			
Reference TSB Item #:	<u>176</u>	Reference TSBB Volume #:	<u>none</u>	
Title:	<u>Amendment to Scale/Octave Tuning message</u>	CA#:	<u>021</u>	
Related item(s):	<u>CA-021 Scale/Octave Tuning</u>			
	<u>RP-024 General MIDI 2</u>			
Approved by MMA:		Date:	<u>Aug. 24 2002</u>	
Approved by AMEI:	<u>Seik Cat</u>	Date:	<u>Dec. 1, 2002</u>	