

# 266XL COMPRESSOR / GATE

**dbx**<sup>®</sup>  
PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

## VISIONARY DESIGN

Most compressor/gates provide less than musical compression, coupled with gating that swallows transients—or closes early, cutting off decay and reverb tails. The superb engineering in the 266XL ensures that both its compression and gating provide versatility and excellent sonic performance in situations where other compressor/gates typically produce undesirable processing artifacts.

When using the 266XL's AutoDynamic™ Attack and Release controls, artists and engineers will find that the center settings deliver classic dbx compression, while the full control range produces voicings that extend from slow “leveling” to aggressive “peak” limiting.

The Auto Dynamic™ circuitry continuously adjusts the actual attack and release times to optimally match the program material. Since users aren't restricted to using the Attack and Release controls only in “peak” operation, they can tailor the response of the 266XL for individual tracks, mixed program material, special effects or system protection. As a result, production studios can use the versatile 266XL to replace multiple “single-purpose” limiters while sound reinforcement users can standardize on the 266XL for all of their applications.

The 266XL's advanced gate circuitry uses a completely new, program-dependent timing algorithm to produce ultra-smooth release characteristics—even with complex signals, such as voice or reverb decays. dbx engineers went on to take advantage of the wide dynamic range and high precision of the dbx VCA to design in an extra-wide threshold range and ensure top gating performance for each application.

Separate precision LED displays for gain reduction, compression threshold and gate threshold allow quick, accurate setup, while the 266XL's intuitive operation lets users easily smooth uneven levels, add sustain to guitars, squash drums or tighten up mixes. In Stereo couple mode, the Channel 1 controls become Master controls, and Channel 2 follows precisely to ensure a rock solid stereo image—even with high amounts of compression. Professionals and newcomers will find that the 266XL sets up rapidly and musically the first time it is used, and every time thereafter.

Designed in the USA, the dbx 266XL processor is the result of an intensive engineering and product development effort aimed at taking advantage of the latest and best advances in manufacturing technology to deliver true dbx audio performance and reliability to our customers at the lowest possible cost. The 266XL puts a completely new level of compressor/gate performance within everyone's reach.

## FEATURES

- *Goof proof operation to smooth uneven levels, add sustain to guitars, fatten drums or tighten up mixes.*
- *New gate timing algorithms ensure the smoothest release characteristics.*
- *Program-adaptive expander/gates.*
- *Great sounding dynamics control for any type of program material*
- *Separate precision LED displays for gain reduction, compression threshold and gate threshold allow quick, accurate setup.*
- *Stereo or dual-mono operation.*
- *Balanced inputs and outputs on 1/4" TRS and XLR.*
- *Side Chain insert.*
- *Classic dbx “Auto” mode.*

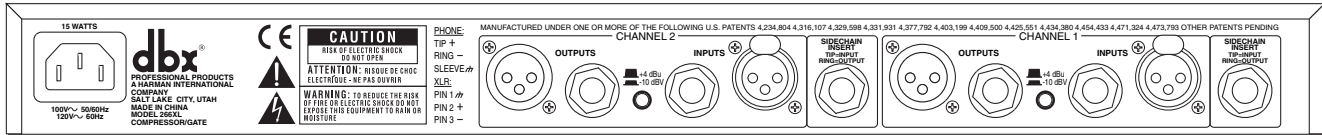
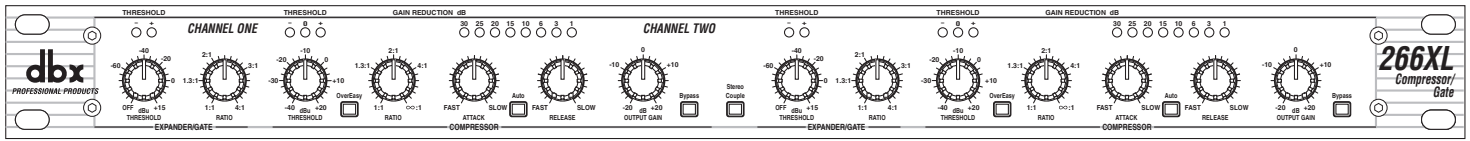
8760 S. Sandy Pkwy.  
Sandy, Utah 84070  
Phone (801) 568-7660  
Fax (801) 568-7662  
customer@dbxpro.com  
http://www.dbxpro.com

**H** A Harman International Company



# 266XL

## COMPRESSOR / GATE



### ARCHITECTS' AND ENGINEERS' SPECIFICATIONS

The compressor/gate shall have two identical channels, each with an audio frequency response of 5Hz-40kHz, +0, -0.5dB, a balanced input impedance of not less than 40kΩ, with a maximum input level of not less than +21dBu and a 1/4" TRS input connector. The output impedance shall be no more than 50Ω unbalanced, 100Ω balanced with a maximum output level of not less than +20dBu, a minimum load impedance at not more than 600Ω and the connector type shall be 1/4" TRS. Total Harmonic Distortion shall be less than 0.2% with any amount of compression at 1kHz, and Intermodulation Distortion shall be less than 0.2%. The unit shall have an output noise level of not more than -93dBu unweighted, and a dynamic range not less than 114dB. Outputs shall be gain adjustable in the amount of ±20dB from nominal gain via front-panel Output Gain controls, and all outputs shall be capable of driving a short circuit indefinitely with maximum input applied. The compressor attack and release times shall be scalable and program dependent. The gate attack time shall be <100μsec. The compression threshold shall range from -40 to +20dB. The gate threshold range shall be from -60 to +10dBu. The compressor/gate shall have a stereo coupling switch as well as the following controls for each channel: Compressor Threshold, Compressor Ratio, Attack, Release, Auto switch Output, Gain, Expander/Gate Threshold, Expander/Gate Ratio, Bypass. The following metering LEDs shall exist for each channel: Compressor Threshold (Below, At Above), Gain Reduction and Gate Threshold (Above and Below). The unit shall operate from a power source of 100 VAC 50/60 Hz to 120 VAC 60 Hz for a domestic unit and 230 VAC 50 Hz for a european unit via IEC type AC cable and shall consume no more than 15 W. The net weight shall be 7lbs. (3.2kg). The unit shall be a dbx 266XL Compressor/Gate.

dbx engineers are constantly working to improve the quality of our products. Specifications are, therefore subject to change without notice.

### SPECIFICATIONS

#### FREQUENCY RESPONSE:

Flat: 20Hz-20kHz, +0, -0.5dB  
 Bandwidth: 0.35Hz-80kHz, +0, -3dB  
 Input impedance: 40kΩ Balanced/Unbalanced  
 Max Level: +22dBu

#### OUTPUT:

Impedance: Balanced  
 +4dBu: Balanced: 200Ω  
 Unbalanced: 100Ω  
 -10dBV: Balanced: 1.5kΩ  
 Unbalanced: 750Ω  
 Max Level: +21dBu into 600Ω

#### SIDE CHAIN INSERT:

Input Impedance: >10kΩ  
 Output Impedance: ≤2kΩ  
 Max Level: +21dBu  
 Distortion + Noise: <0.2% any amount of compression at 1kHz

#### Intermodulation Distortion:

<0.2% SMPTE

#### Noise:

<-93dBu unweighted

#### Dynamic Range:

>114dB, unweighted

#### Crosstalk:

<-93dB @ 1kHz

#### Common Mode Rejection:

>40dB (Any Frequency)

#### Stereo Coupling:

True RMS Power Summing™

#### Threshold Characteristics:

Selectable OverEasy® or hard knee

#### Exp/Gate:

Program Dependent Threshold  
 Compressor: -40 to +20dB  
 Expander/Gate: -60 to +10 dB

#### Ratio:

Compressor: 1:1 to ∞:1  
 Expander/Gate: 1:1 to 4:1

#### Attack Time:

Compressor: Scalable Program Dependent

#### Expander/Gate:

<100 μsec

#### Release Time:

Compressor: Scalable Program Dependent

#### Expander/Gate:

Program Dependent

#### Power Requirements:

15watts, 100 VAC 50/60 Hz, 120 VAC 60 Hz, 230 VAC 50/60 Hz

#### DIMENSIONS:

(H x W x D) 1.75"x5.75"x1.9" (4.45cm x14.6cm x 48.5cm)

#### WEIGHT:

Net Weight: 5 lbs. (2.3 kg);

#### Shipping Weight:

7 lbs. (3.2 kg)



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

dbx Professional Products  
 8760 S. Sandy Pkwy.  
 Sandy, Utah 84070  
 Phone (801) 568-7660  
 Fax (801) 568-7662  
 customer@dbxpro.com  
 http://www.dbxpro.com