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SonicPanel or VoxStream: which streaming panel to choose for your radio

Comparisons and alternatives

CODE	VERSION	COUNTRY · LANGUAGE
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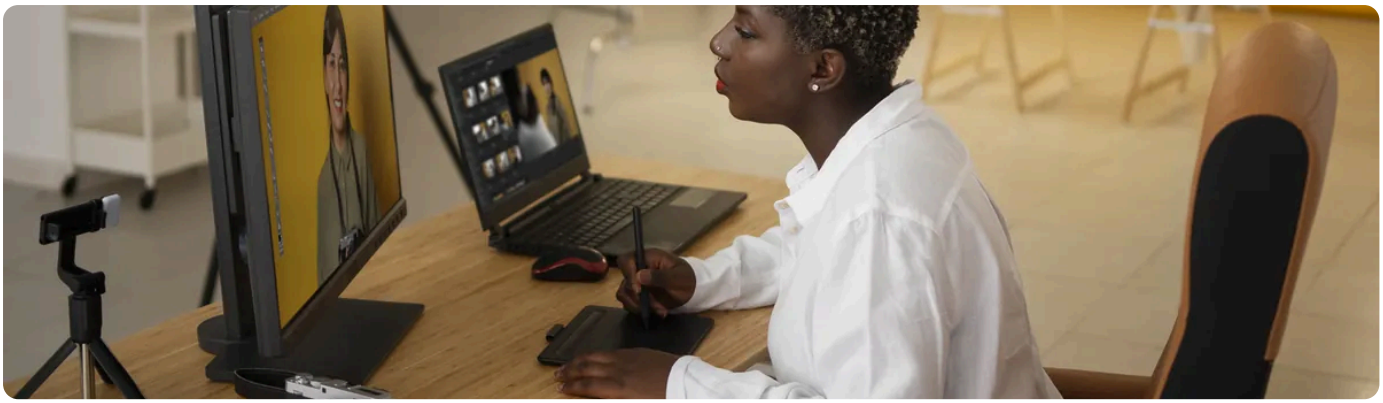

The short answer: both panels get your station on air with the essentials: **AutoDJ, playlists, DJ accounts, jingles, statistics and a player**. Pick **VoxStream** if you want a schedule that runs almost by itself, on “autopilot” (Programs, Short Segments, time announcements, WebDJ, studio camera). Pick **SonicPanel** if you need more audio formats (FLAC and OGG on top of AAC+ and MP3), want to choose between **Shoutcast and Icecast**, or want a more customisable DJ panel with automatic recording of live shows. Both come with the Streaming Server at no extra cost: you choose the panel when you order.

What tips the choice

If you need…	Pick
To broadcast in FLAC or OGG	**SonicPanel.** VoxStream encodes in AAC+ and MP3. See **audio formats on each panel**.
To choose the server type: Shoutcast or Icecast	**SonicPanel.** Handy if you already have software or a player that expects one of them.
Several DJs with permissions, automatic recording of live shows and a “live DJ” widget on your site	**SonicPanel**, with its more customisable DJ panel.
Typing text and hearing it read out on air, or talking into a microphone from the browser	**SonicPanel**, depending on the panel version.
Ready-made content that drops into the playlist by itself: Programs and Short Segments	**VoxStream.** Read the warning below before relying on them.
The station telling the time (time announcements) from the AutoDJ	**VoxStream.**
Going live from the browser with nothing to install (WebDJ), video from the studio (studio camera)	**VoxStream**, if your plan includes the feature.
Song requests from listeners and a report of songs played, in Excel or PDF	**VoxStream.**
AutoDJ, playlists, jingles and ads, DJ accounts, statistics, a player for your site	**Either one.**
Broadcasting to YouTube or Facebook as well	**Live Stream** exists only on the **Streaming Ultra** plan, and it works on both panels, SonicPanel and VoxStream.

Deciding in five minutes

1. **Think about who will listen.** If most people listen on a phone, on mobile data, AAC+ is enough and both panels have it. FLAC only makes sense for an audience that wants lossless sound and has a good connection.

2. **Think about who will be on the microphone.** A team of DJs with time slots, permissions and a recording of every show calls for SonicPanel. One person who wants to go live from the browser is well served by VoxStream's WebDJ.

3. **Count the hours you need to fill.** A 24-hour station with few people behind it gains a lot from VoxStream's automation (time announcements, jingles, Short Segments). A station with presenters most of the day gains less.

4. **Pick the plan by the plan's numbers,** not by the panel: AutoDJ space (20, 50 or 150 GB) and maximum quality (128, 192 or 320 kbps) are the same with either panel. See **which plan for online radio or video**.

5. **Say which panel you want when you order.** Our team sets up the station by hand after payment and sends you an e-mail with the sign-in details.

6. **If you change your mind later,** read **what changes when you switch panels** before asking for the switch.

VoxStream's Programs and Short Segments are produced in Brazil, in Brazilian Portuguese, and talk about Brazil (the weather forecast, for example, covers Brazilian regions). They depend on the producer keeping them available. For a station outside Brazil, use the music shows and the general topics (trivia, health, humour, faith messages) and leave out local news, weather and traffic: your listeners would be hearing another country's forecast.

Not every feature is on every plan. If an advanced feature decides your choice (studio camera, recording, relay, text read out on air), ask us whether the plan you want has it before you order.

Tell us what your station will be like (music, talk, how many DJs) and we will help you pick the panel.

Open a support ticket

SEE ALSO

First steps with VoxStream: signing in and getting your radio on air

Streaming Server: first steps with SonicPanel

AAC+, MP3, FLAC or OGG: audio formats and quality on each streaming panel

Switching from SonicPanel to VoxStream or back: what changes and what to take

Online radio or video: which plan, and why an ordinary hosting plan is not it

What you can host here: media, streaming, Windows and the limits

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