MP3 Files for Tape Groups

Cassette Tapes

- Limited capacity
- Bulky
- Hard to position
- Difficult to rewind
- Difficult to organize
- Must turn tape over
- Quality degrades
- Hard to copy

MP3 Files

- HUGE capacity
- Very compact
- Instant random access
- Instant precise rewind
- Easy to organize
- Unlimited recording
- Maintains Quality
- Easy & FAST to copy

MP3 Files for Tape Groups

Cassette Tapes

- Limited capacity
- Bulky
- Hard to position
- Difficult to rewind
- Difficult to organize
- Must turn tape over
- Quality degrades
- Hard to copy

MP3 Files

- HUGE capacity
- Very compact
- Instant random access
- Instant precise rewind
- Easy to organize
- Unlimited recording
- Maintains Quality
- Easy & FAST to copy

Required Equipment

Hardware

- Laptop 300 Mhz
  - CD drive
  - Flash Drive
- Patchbox/cables
- Amplified Speakers
- Remote Control (optional)

Software

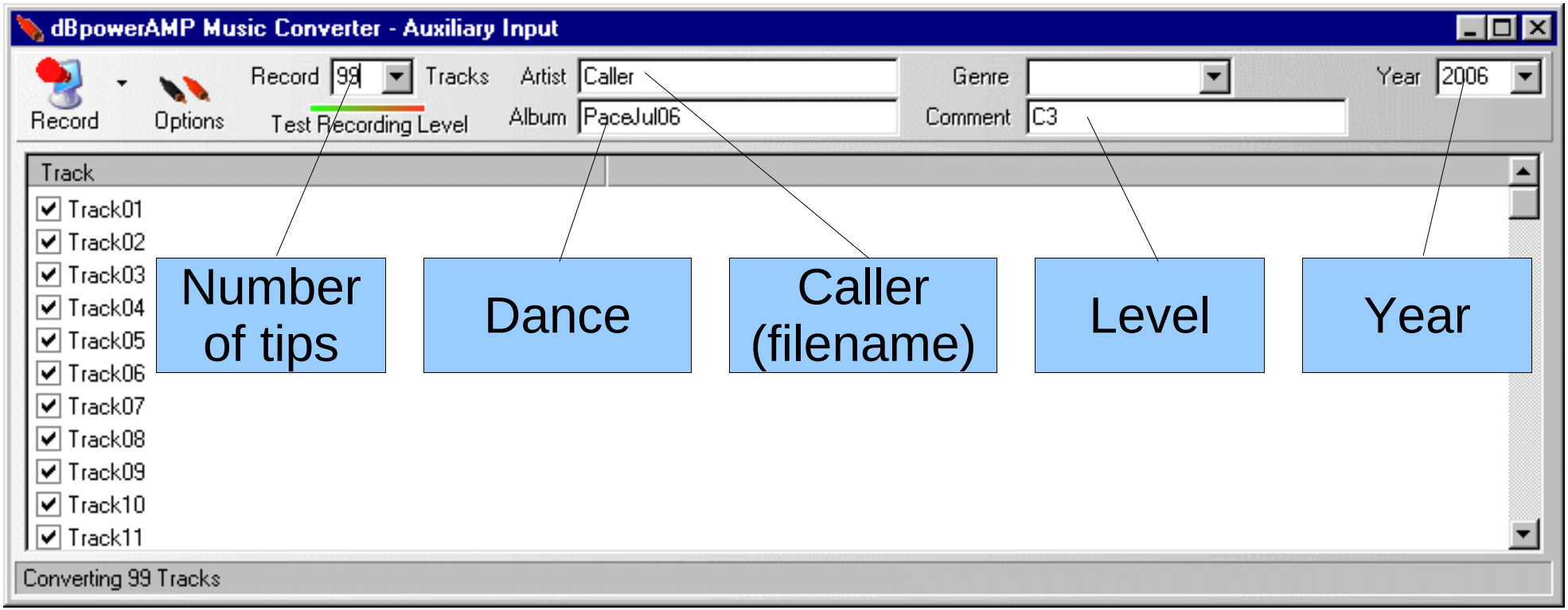
- dBpowerAMP Music Converter
- mp3DirectCut editor
- Utagit tag editor
- Winamp media player
- Wplayer
- RfRemote (optional)
- Visual CD (optional)

Computer Sound Systems

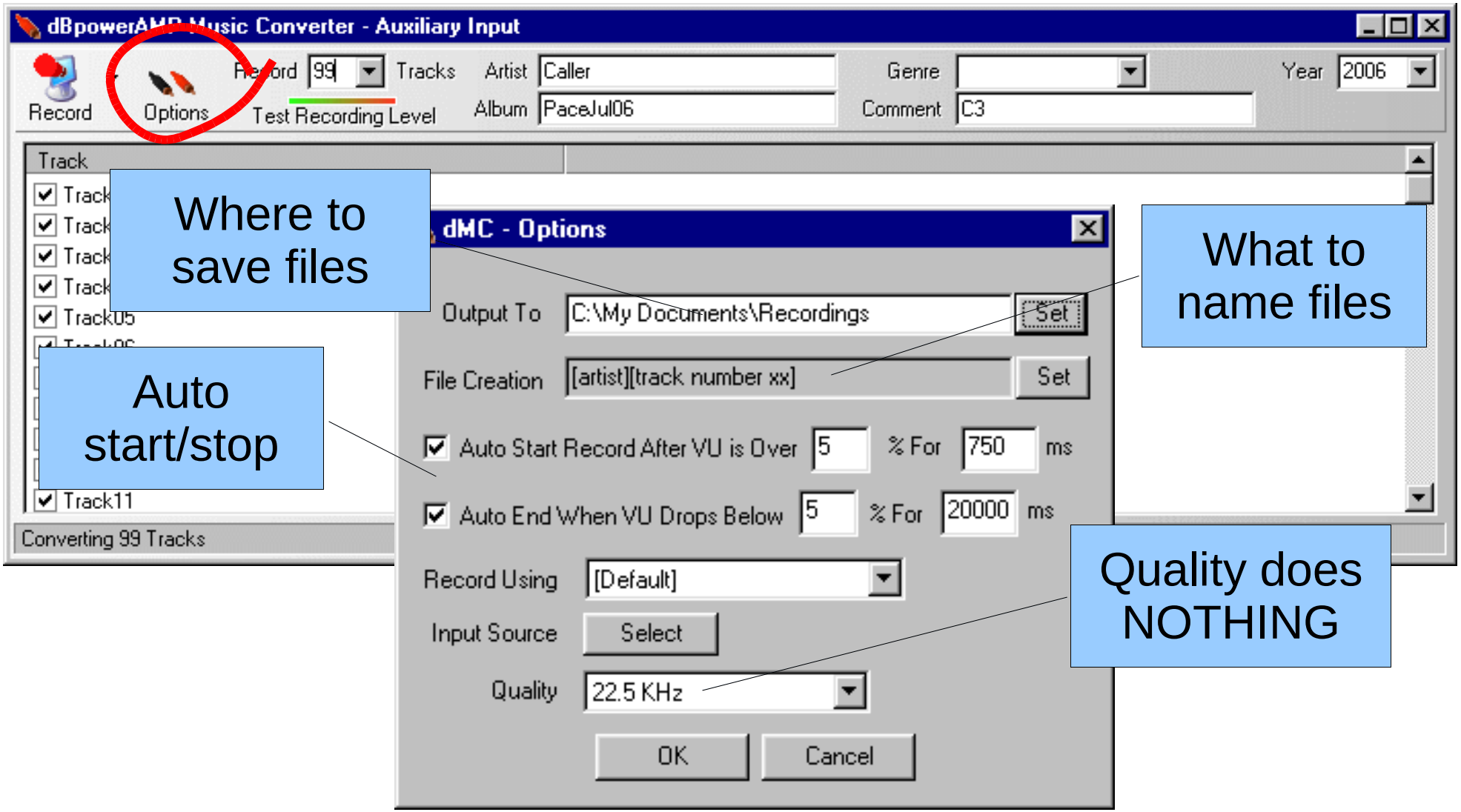
Not very standardized

- Number of input jacks
  - Microphone
  - Line
  - Combined Line/Microphone
- How to enable/disable input sources
- Input levels required for Line or Microphone
- Stereo vs Mono input behavior
  - Might need Mono to Stereo adapter cable

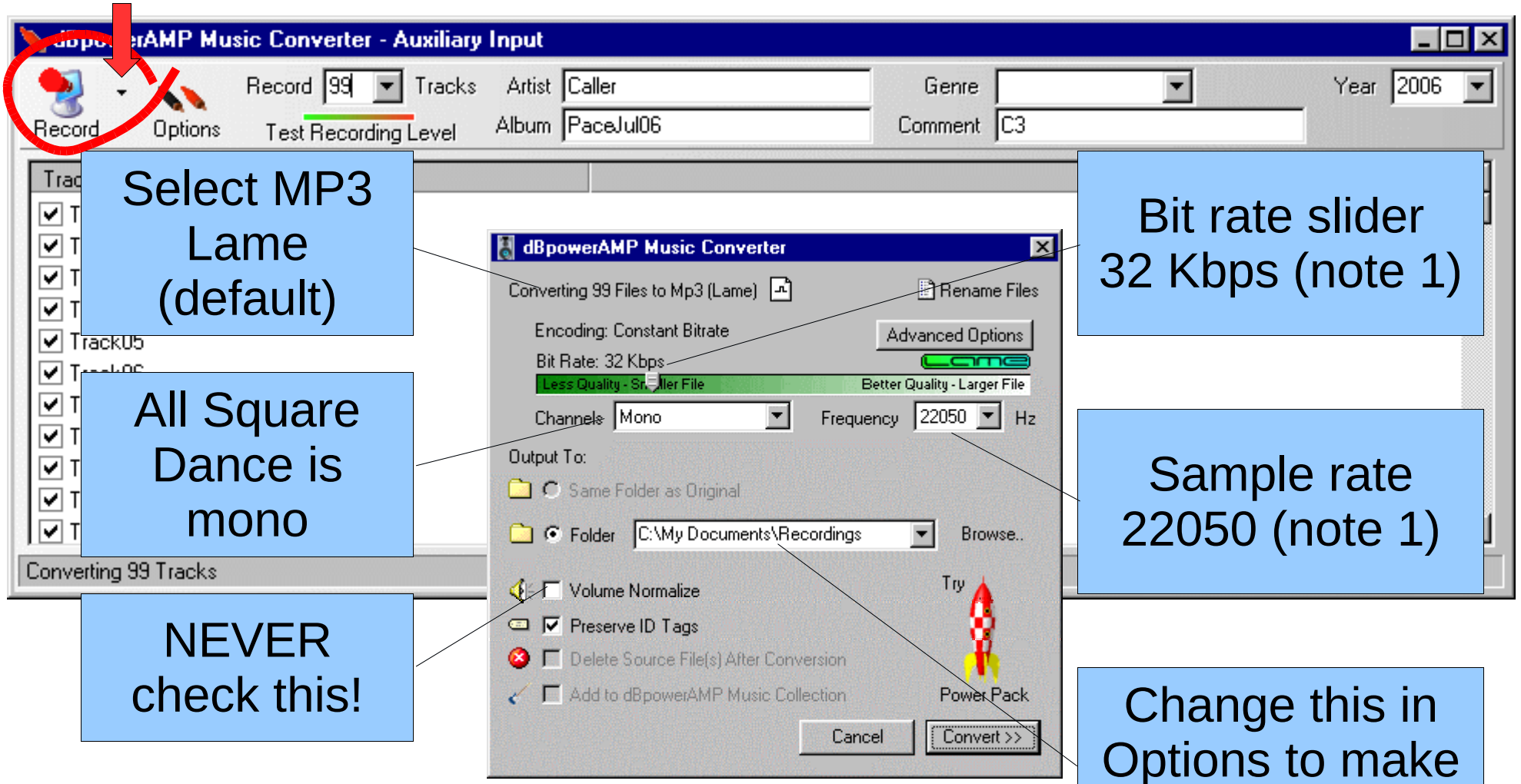
DMC Auxiliary Input



DMC Auxiliary Input Options



Record (with options)



Select MP3 Lame (default)

All Square Dance is mono

NEVER check this!

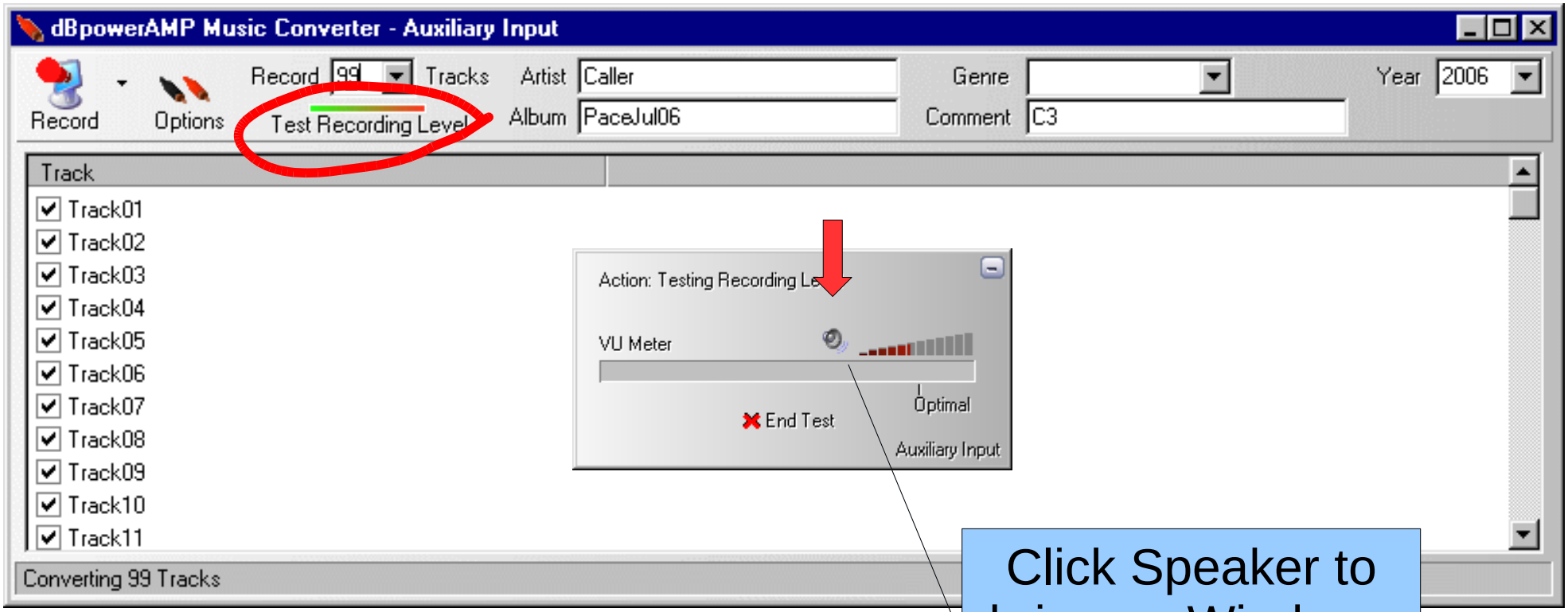
Bit rate slider 32 Kbps (note 1)

Sample rate 22050 (note 1)

Change this in Options to make permanent

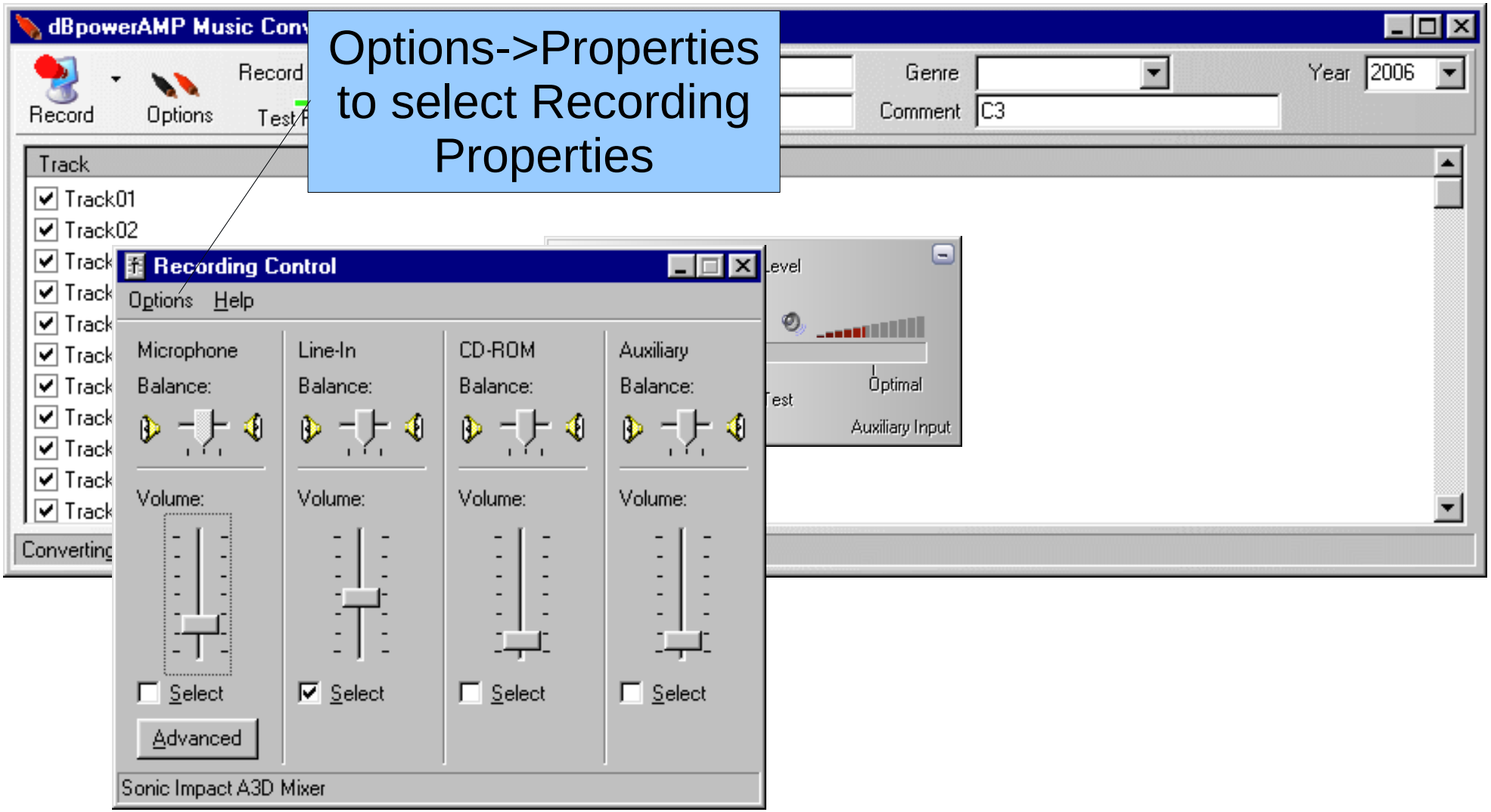
Note 1: These settings affect sound quality and file size. This gives cassette tape quality.

Test Recording Level

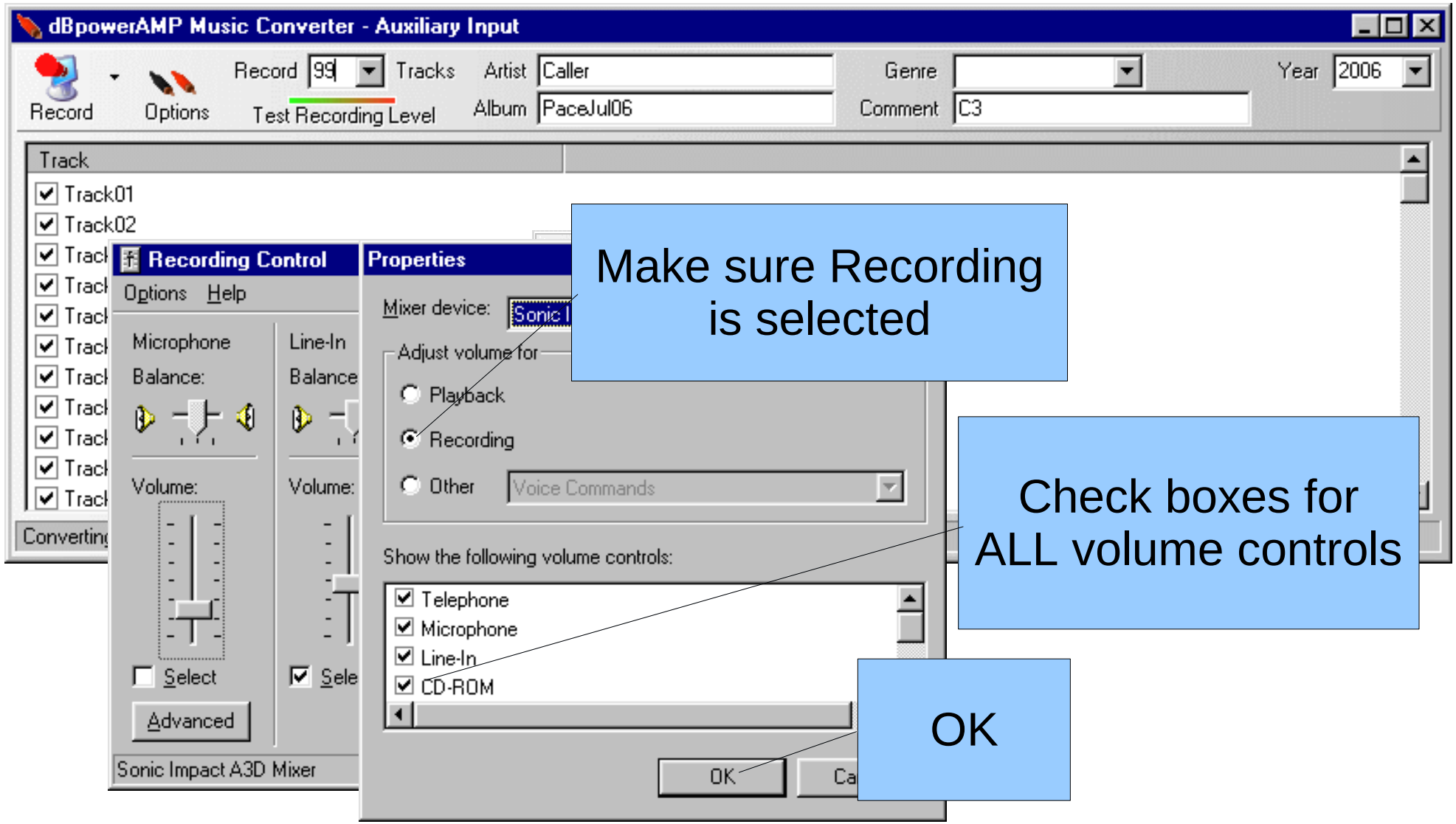


Click Speaker to bring up Windows Recording Control

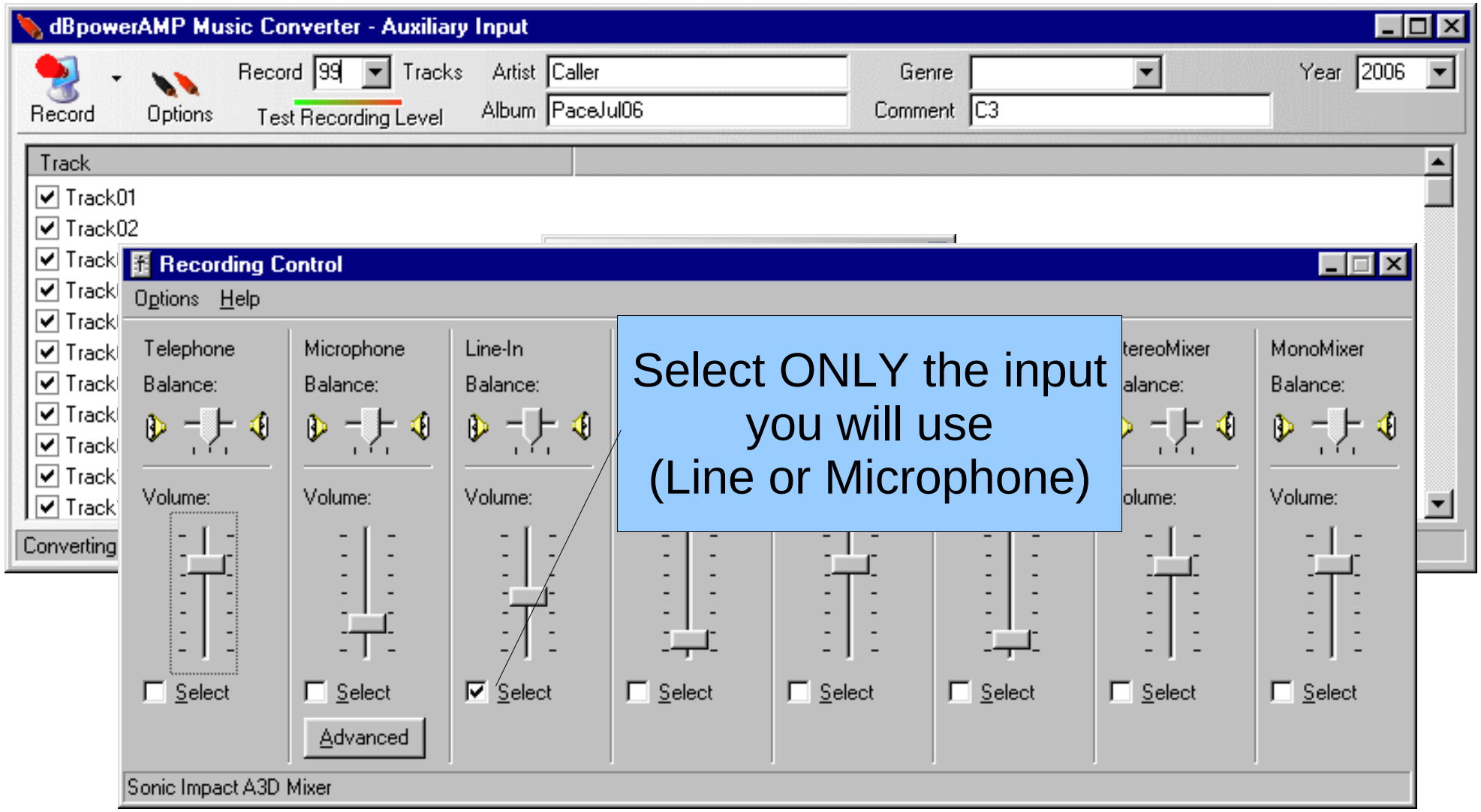
Recording Control



Recording Control Properties

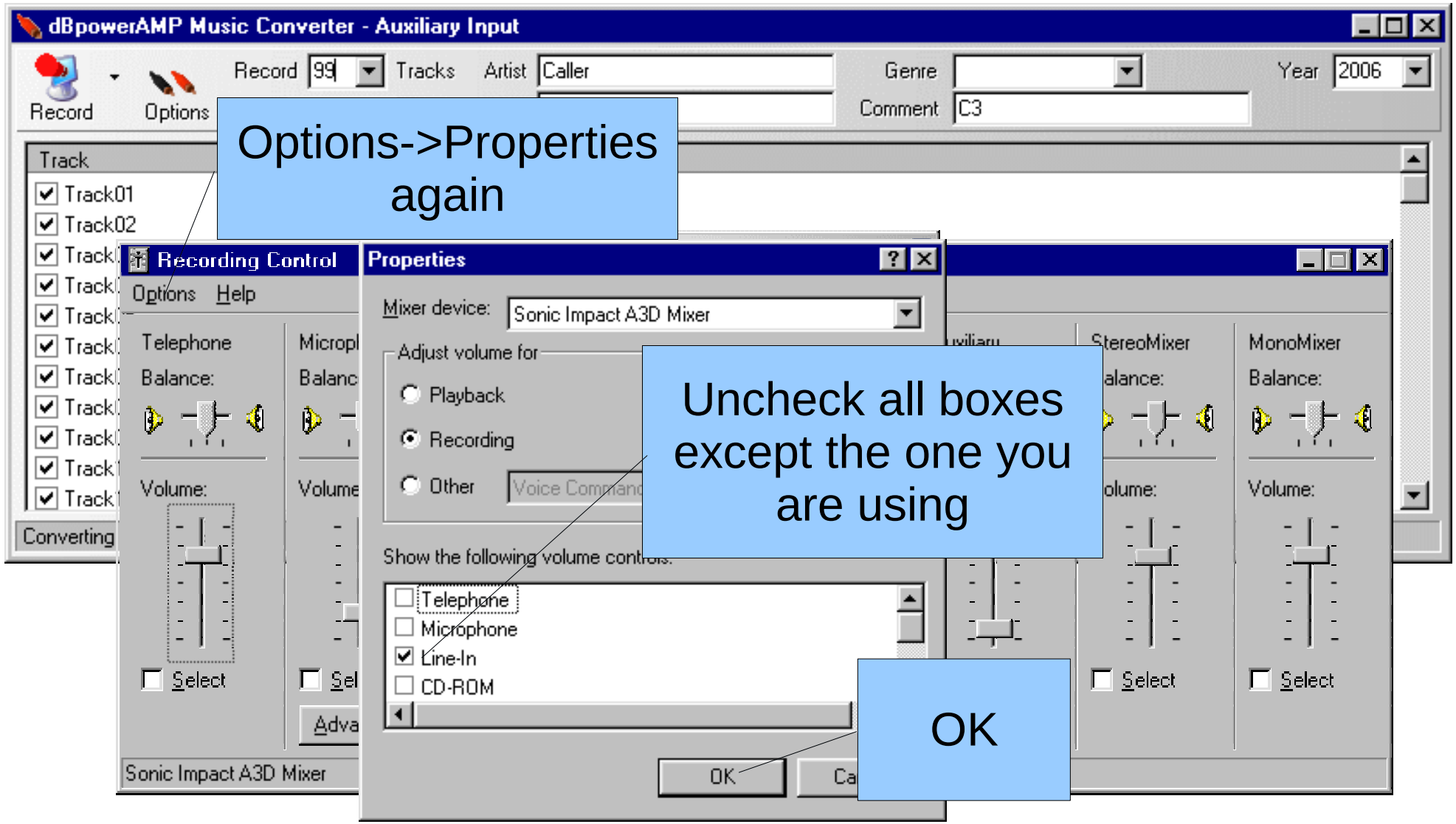


Recording Control

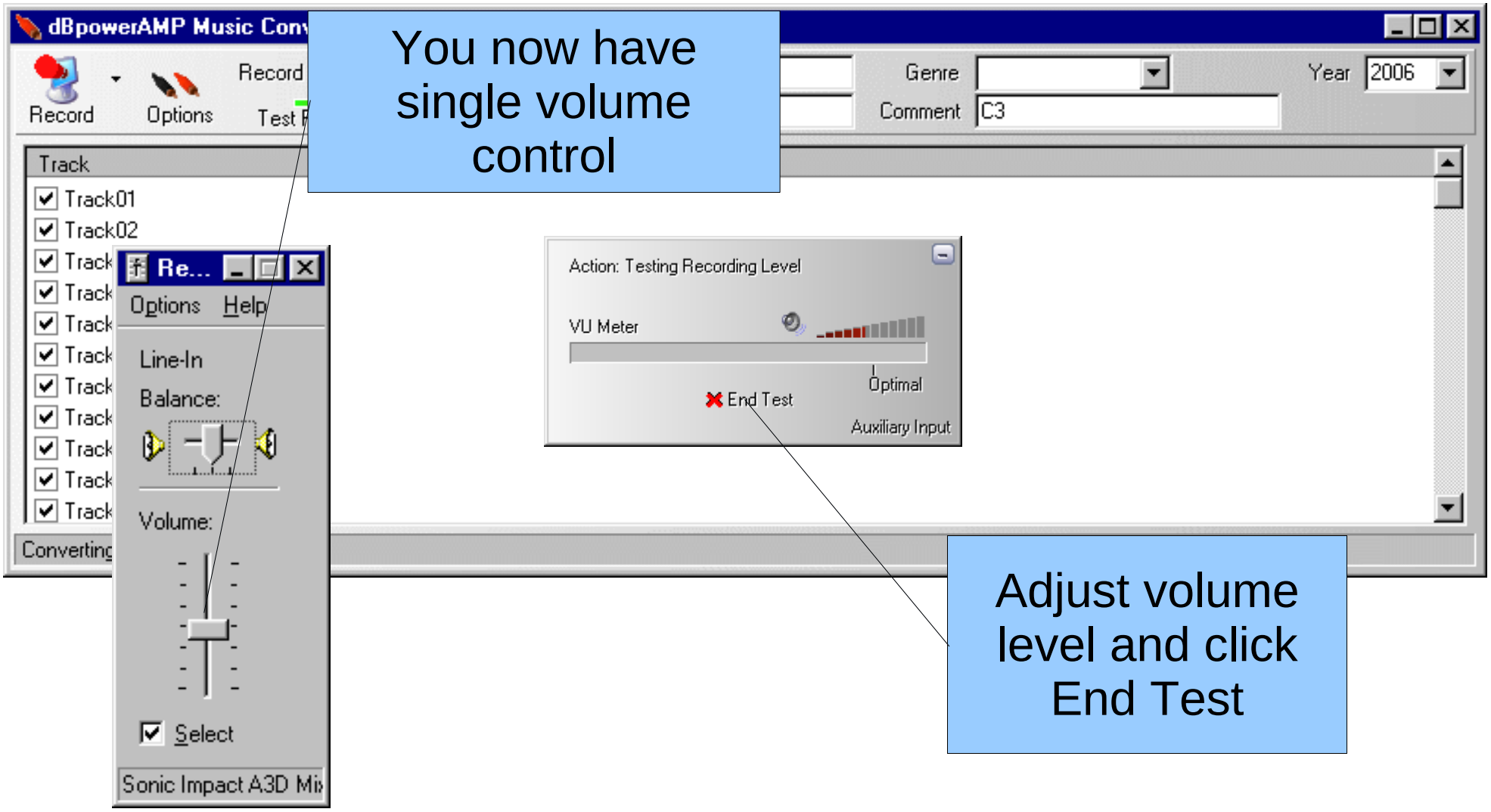


Some computers allow multiple inputs to be selected at same time!

Recording Control Properties

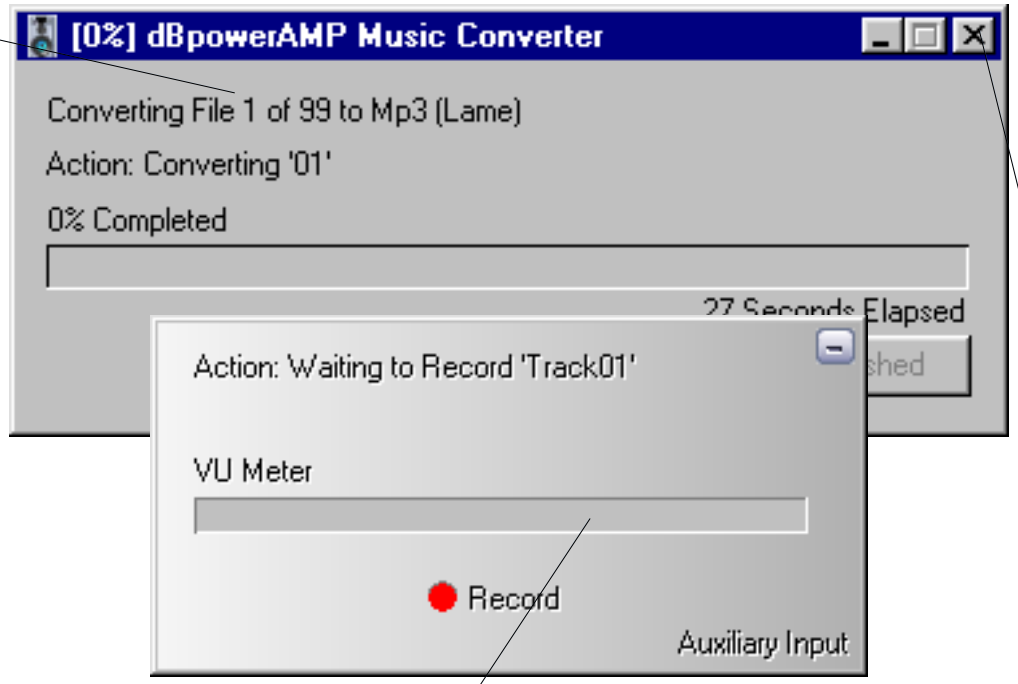


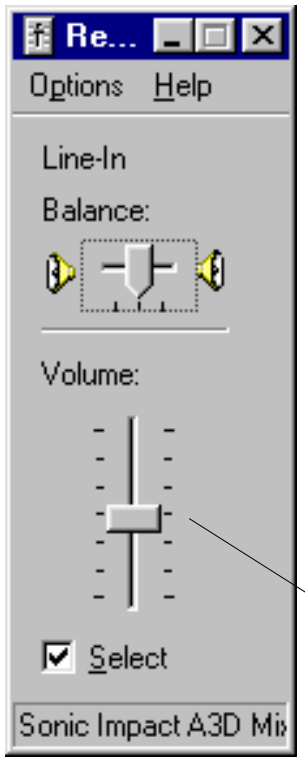
Recording Control



Recording

Count “tips” recorded



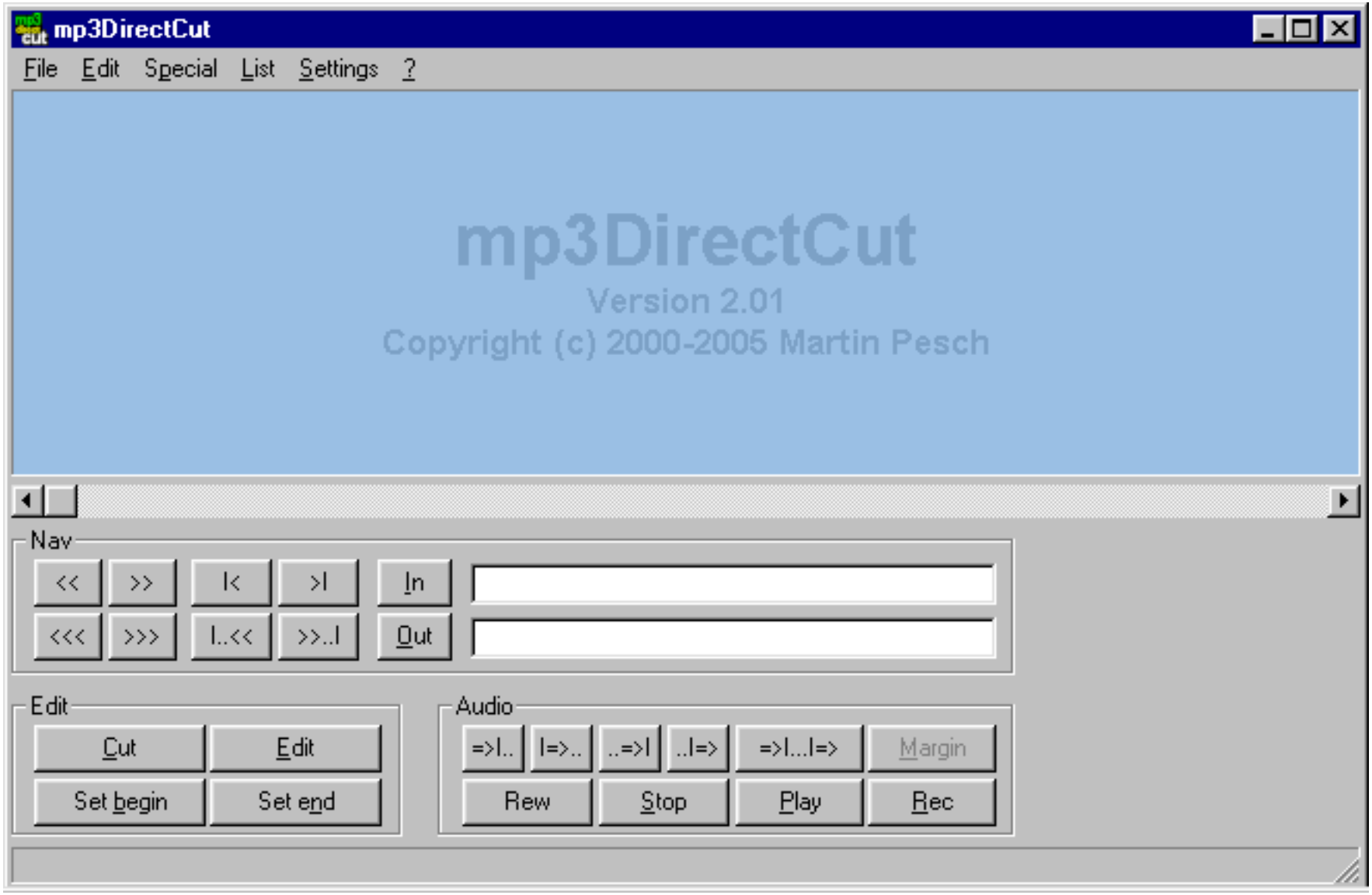


Recording level (peaks 1/2 to 2/3)

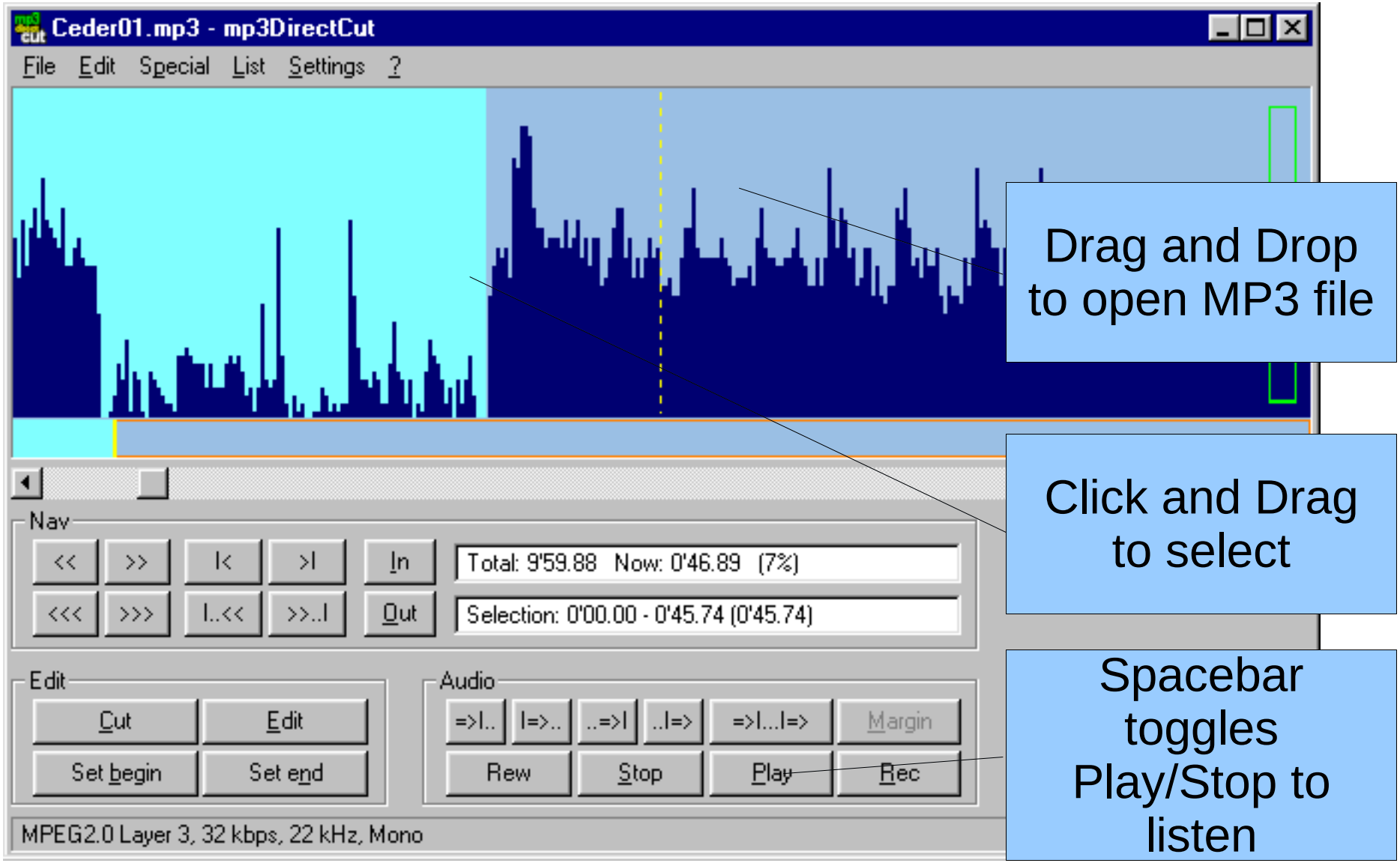
Adjust level

Close window to stop recording

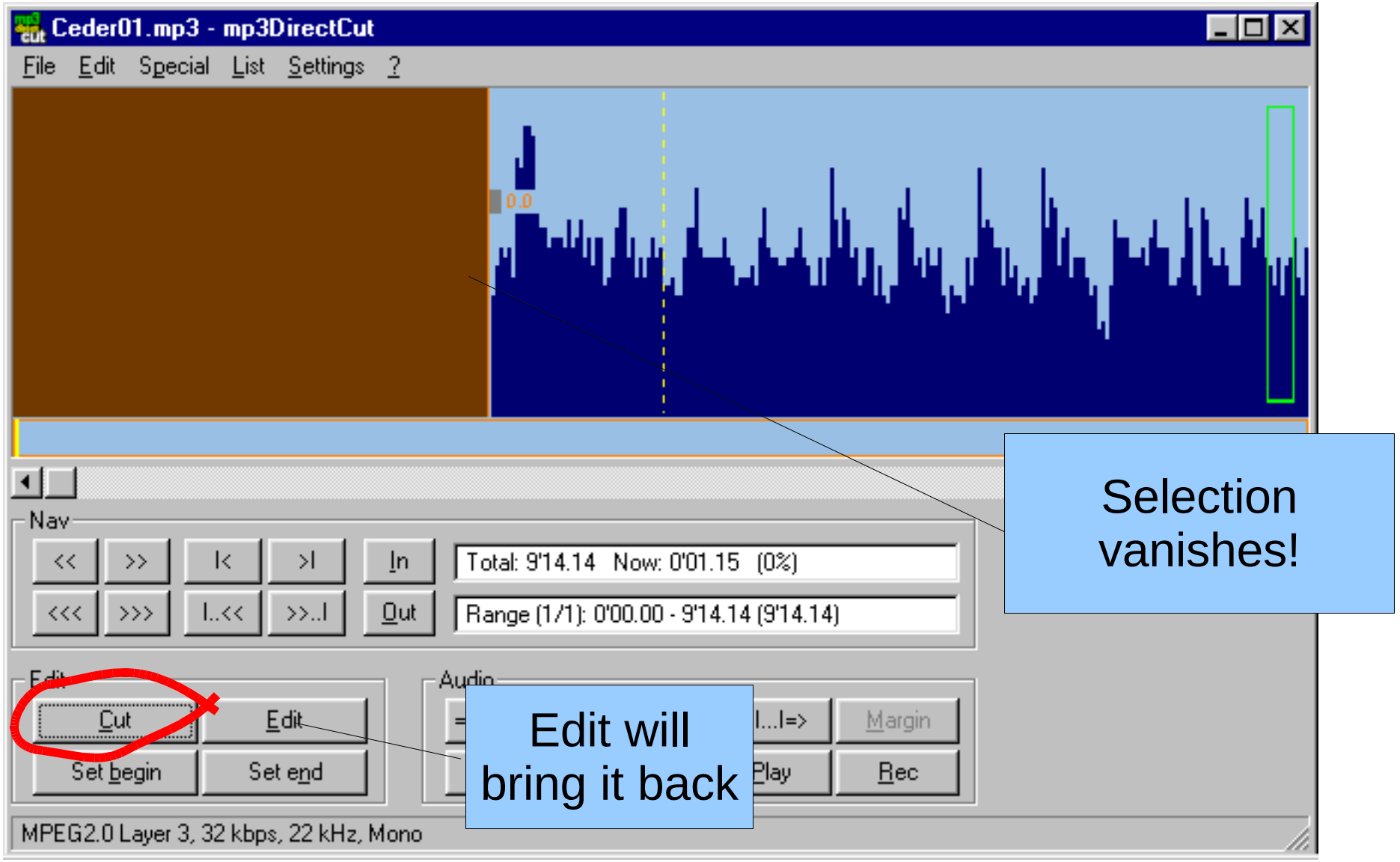
Mp3DirectCut



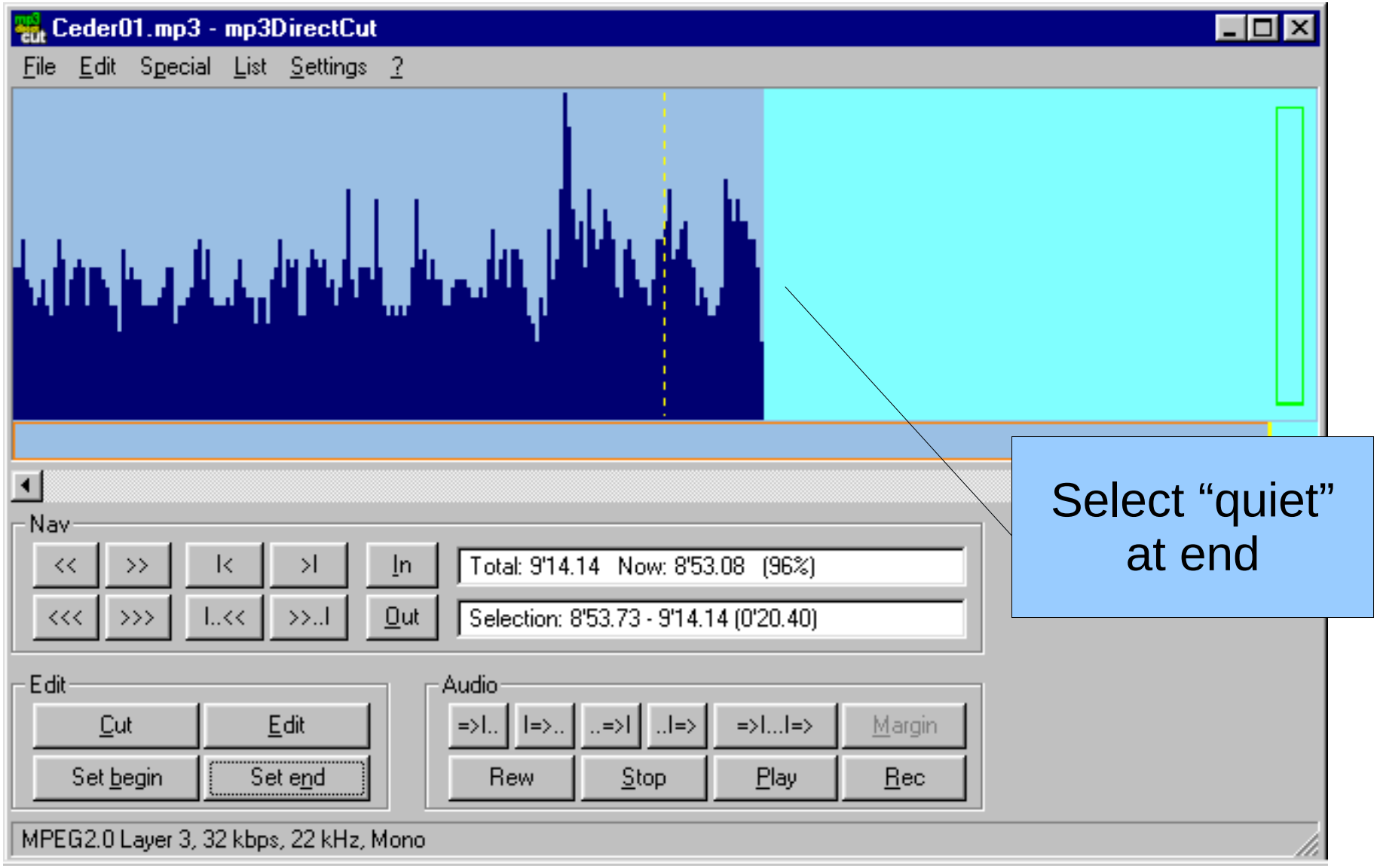
Mp3DirectCut Select Start



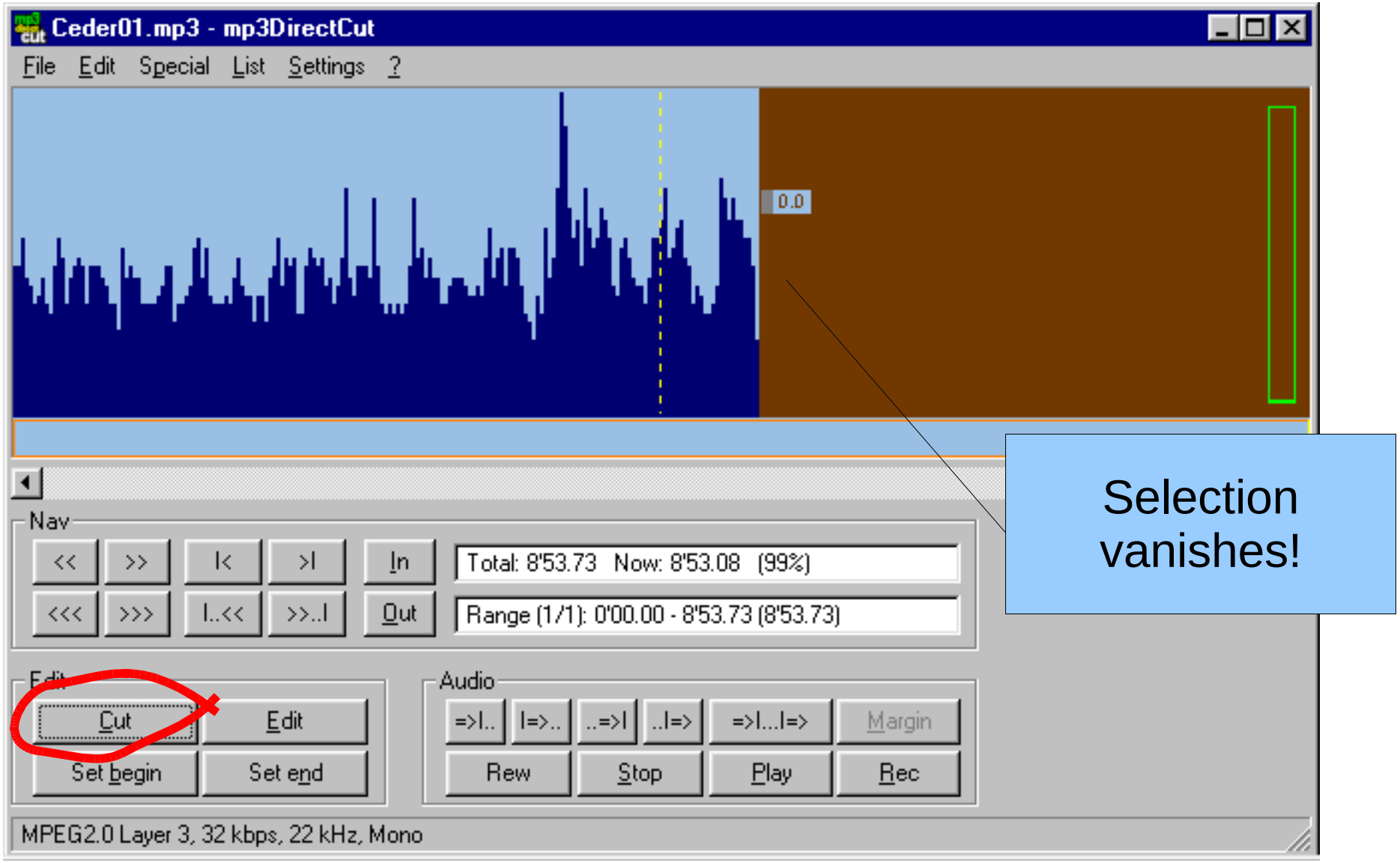
Mp3DirectCut Cut Start



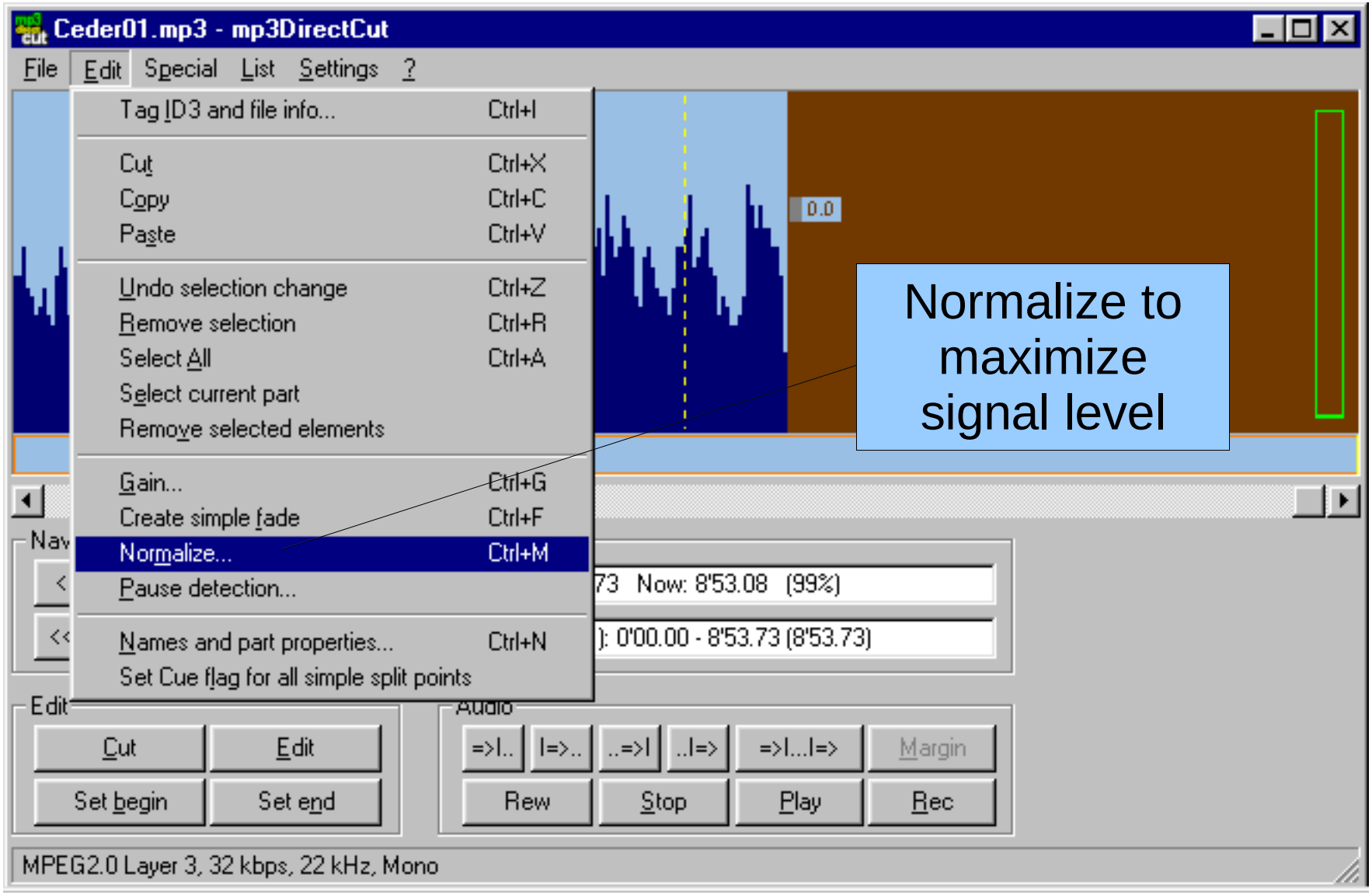
Mp3DirectCut Select End



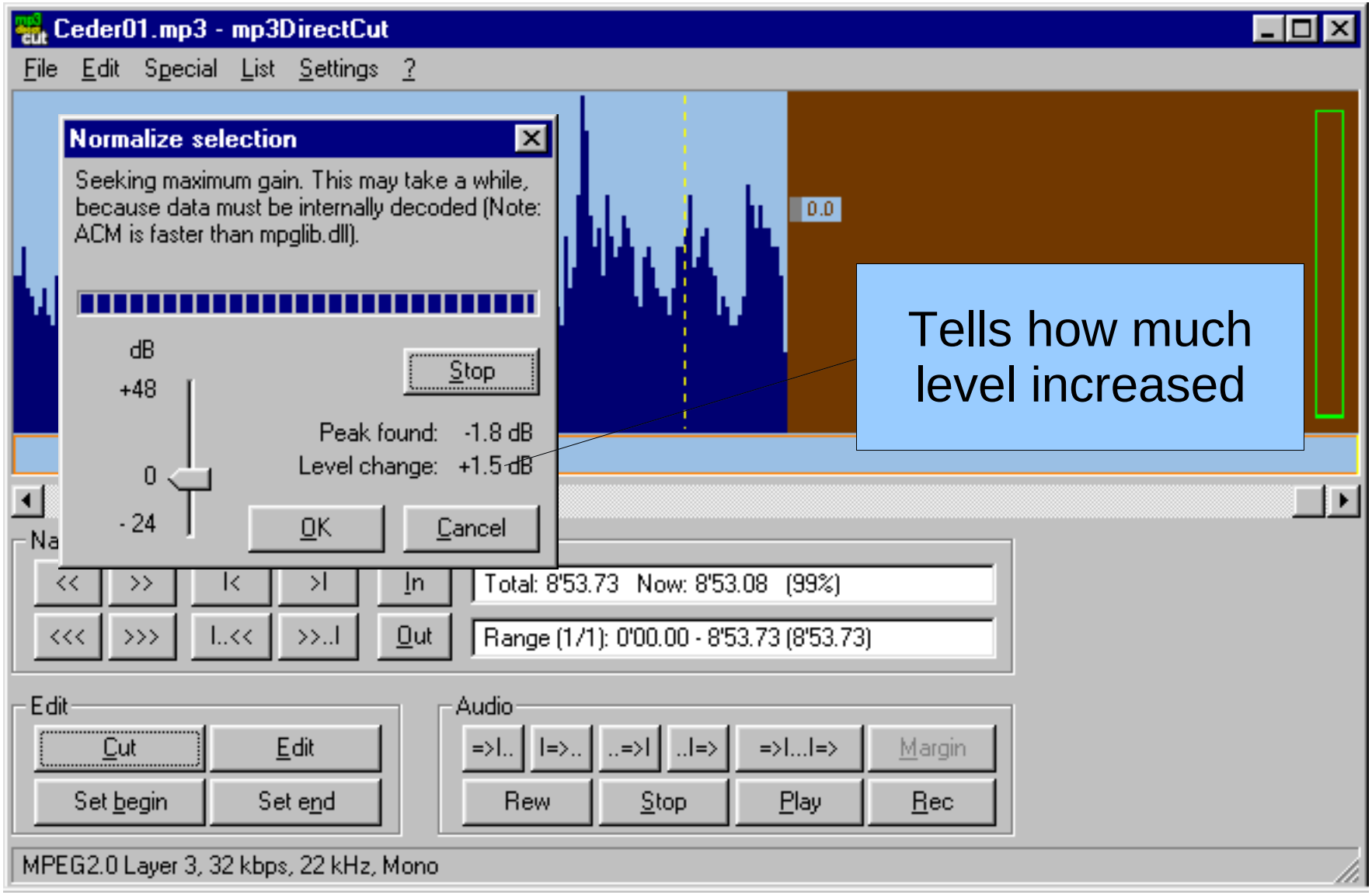
Mp3DirectCut Cut End



Mp3DirectCut Cut Normalize

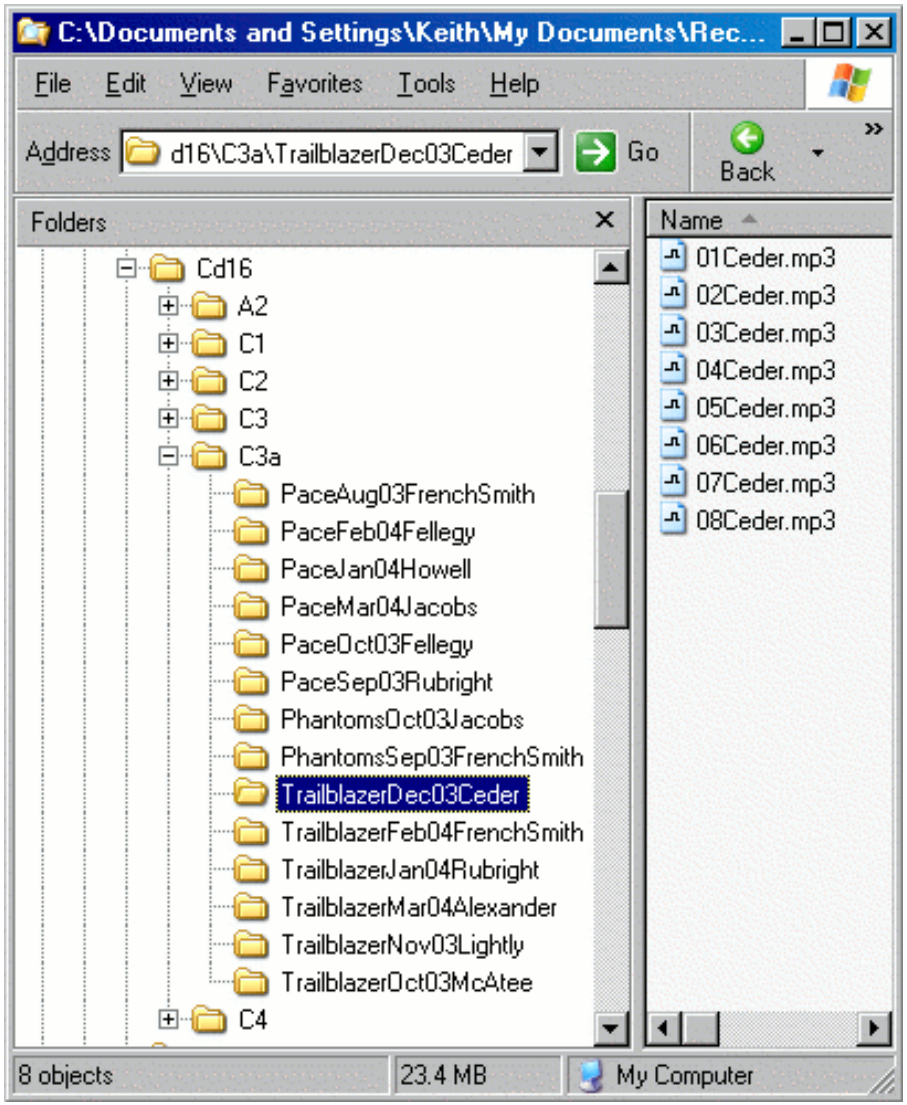


Mp3DirectCut Cut Normalize

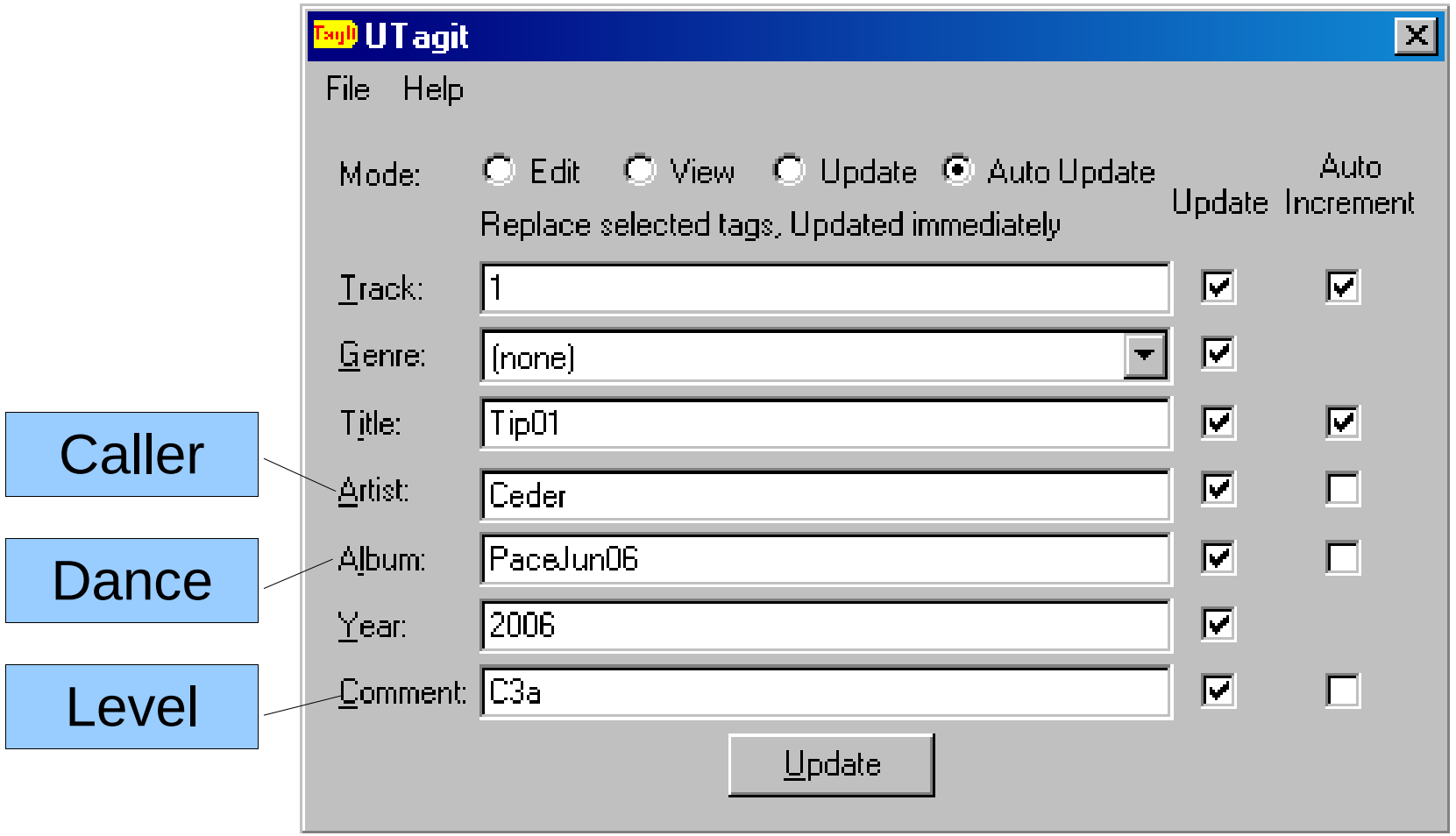


Keeping MP3 Files Organized

- File naming convention
- Folder naming
- Organize by Level, Dance, Caller
- Searching
- MP3 ID3v1 Tags
- Keep Backups
- Keep Backups
- Keep Backups



TagIt UTagit TagIt



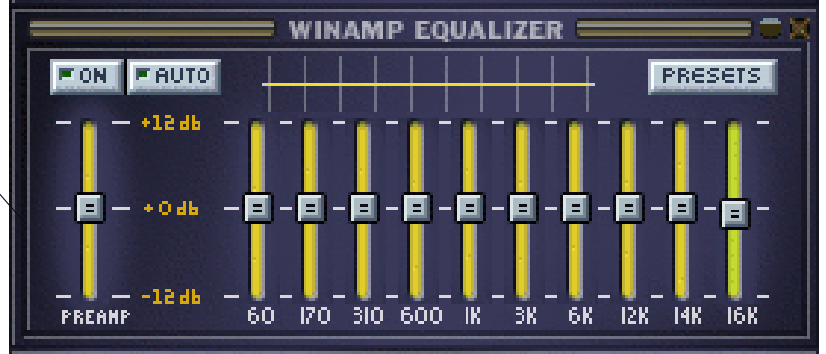
Drag and Drop files onto Utagit window to edit the MP3 ID3v1 tags.

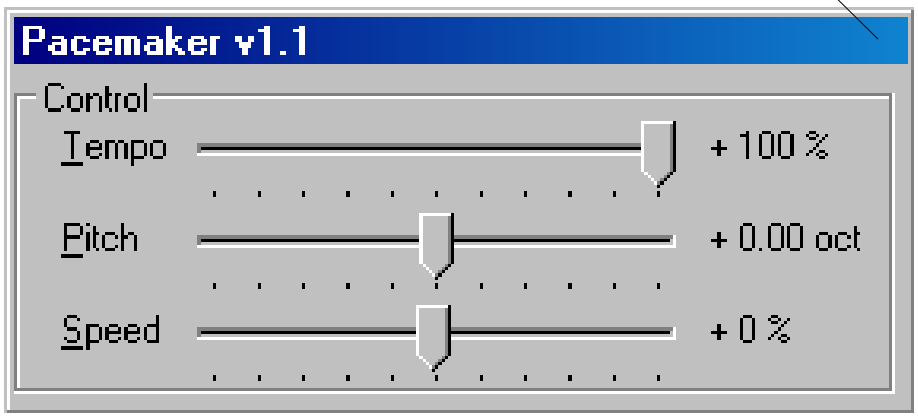
MP3 ID3v1 Tags

- Permanently label files with useful data
  - Artist (caller)
  - Album (dance)
  - Comment (level, etc.)
  - Year
- Windows Explorer can display tags in columns
- Programs can search based on tags
- Identifies file even if moved to wrong folder
- Media players can display MP3 tag information

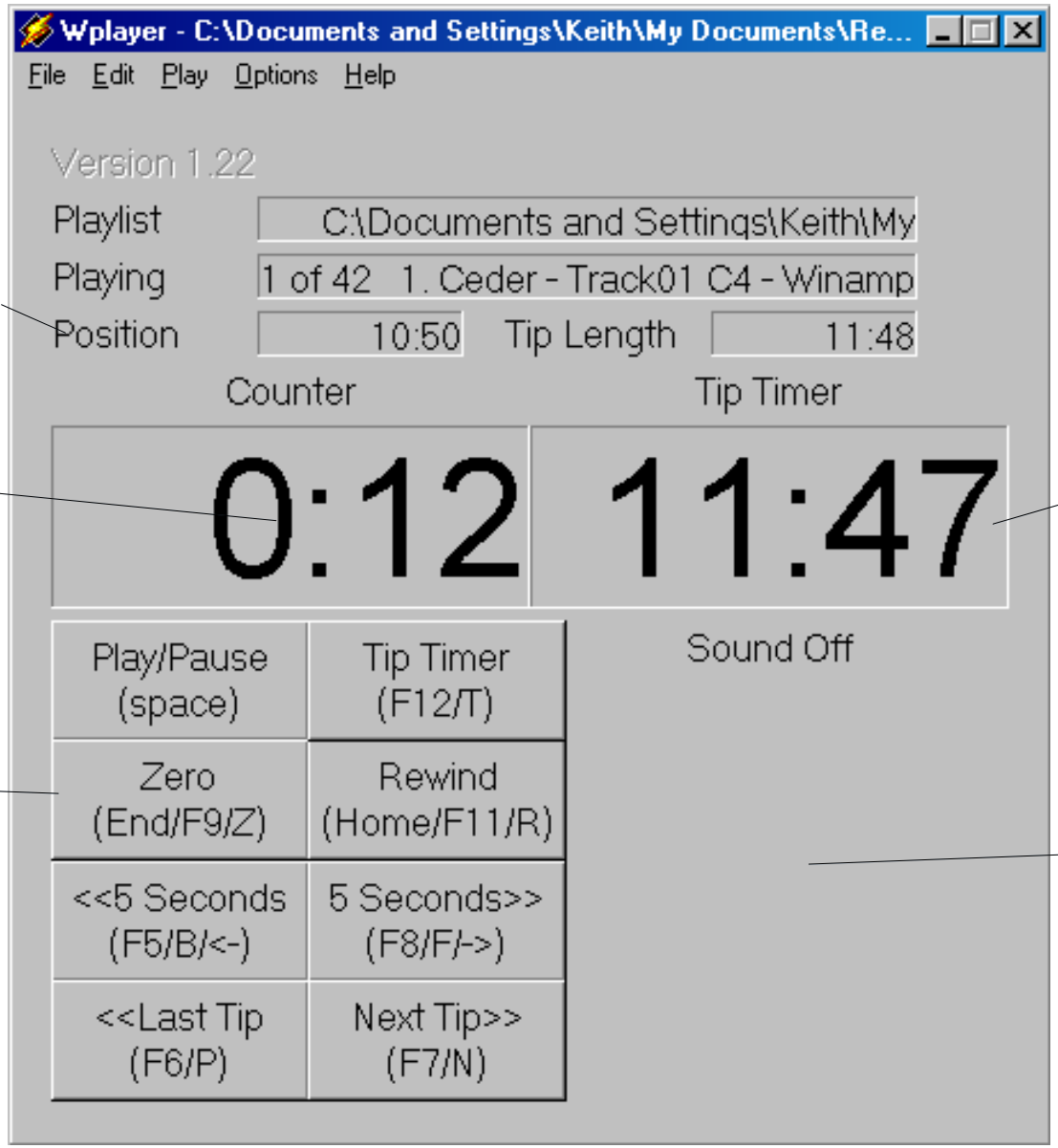
Winamp

- Player
- Equalizer
- Playlist (shows tags)
- Optional Plugins





Wplayer



Position from start of file

Position from Zero

Buttons and keyboard shortcuts for most functions

Time left in tip

Visual indication at end of tip

Wplayer Features

- “Tape” counter to mark start of sequence
- Instant rewind back to zero
- Tip timer, reminds you when to rotate dancers in
- Auto backup after pause (never miss a word)
- Convenient keyboard shortcuts (e.g. Spacebar for play/pause)
- Resumes at last zero when file opened again
- Programmable tip timer sound (have fun)
- BIG position and timer displays, easy to read

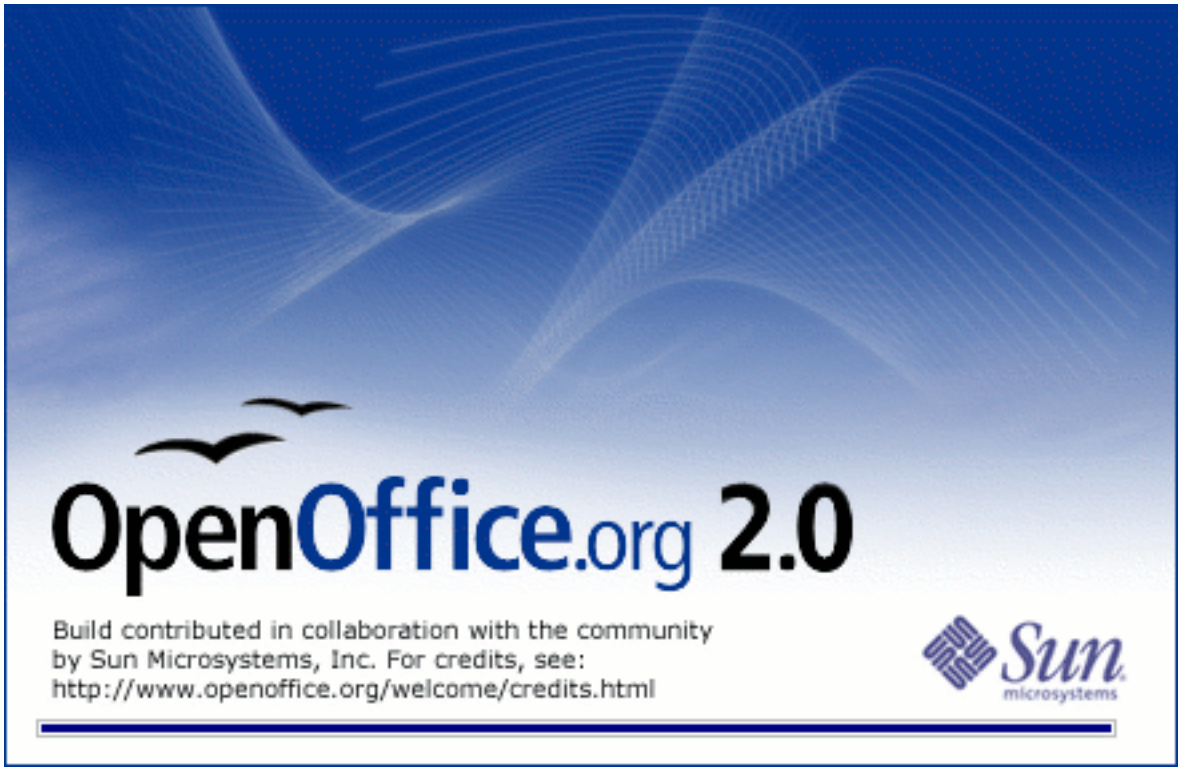
Wplayer and Winamp Operation

- Add files to Winamp playlist (drag/drop files/folders)
- Save Winamp playlist file (m3u file)
- Open playlist with Wplayer (Play->Open Playlist)
- Save tape group file with Wplayer (File->Save As)
- Now Wplayer will remember last zero position when it is closed.
- Open tape group file (grp file) with Wplayer, or drag and drop grp file to Wplayer, and it resumes from where you left off
- Keep multiple playlists and tape group files. Wplayer knows where you left off on each one!

RF Remote Control

- RF overcomes line-of-sight problems of IR remote controls
- No one needed to sit and run the computer
- No problem if there are only 8 people
- Play/Pause, skip Forward/Back, Zero, Rewind, Tip Timer all controlled by remote control
- Receiver connects via USB
- Transmitter attaches to belt
- Compatible with Windows 98 through XP
- General purpose, control any Windows application

This Presentation Produced With



Open Office

the Free Open Source Office Suite