

# Song of the Weekend

By Lee Jackson

From the Lee Jackson Audio Community Discussion Group

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ljackaudiodiscgroup>)

Entry: 20190512 – Pissed Office Box

---

This week's "Song of the Weekend" is Pissed Office Box, from the 3D Realms blockbuster, "Duke Nukem 3D."

Pissed Office Box's title is one of my standard puns, this time on the phrase "Post Office Box." It was written for a level in the Plutonium Pak add-on (and Atomic Edition full four-episode release) that took place in the post office where 3D Realms did all their business, if memory serves. One of the map designers put together a map of that post office and made it playable. I provided appropriate music. The design of the building has a lot of sharp angles, so I made the music nice and sharp-sounding to match.

The date of the work file that I have on my system comes from August of 1996. As a result, Pissed Office Box makes full use of the 3D Realms EMIDI system (<http://www.vgmpf.com/Wiki/index.php?title=EMIDI>) for alternate loop points. To explain how this worked, let me set up the orchestra for you first.

The orchestra consisted of a rock ensemble (rhythm guitar, bass guitar, drums, aux percussion, electric piano) with a string ensemble "sweetening" things up in the background. In the middle of it all was a synth playing big, sweeping chords at vital points of the song. However, for some reason (it could have been the George filter at work again - I can't remember), we only wanted the synth to play the big chords a couple of times. For the rest of the loops, everything \*but\* the synth would play. That's where the special commands available in the EMIDI spec came in.

I can't explain exactly how the EMIDI system worked without making your eyes glaze over, but if you really want to know, go to the link in the paragraph above and download the spec for yourself. Jim Dosé and I put a lot of work into getting that system going, and we're both quite proud of what we did.

Now, if you want to \*hear\* how the EMIDI system affected the song, pay attention to the end of today's YouTube link. The last portion of it is missing the synth that showed up in the first parts of the song.

With that, I invite you to listen to Pissed Office Box. Please Enjoy!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GbO7MBvFH5c>