

Prism Sound Firmware Loader manual (Mac OS X)

Revision History:

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Installing

The Prism Sound Firmware Loader is a universal binary that runs on Mac OS X 10.4 or higher.

To install, drag the Prism Sound Firmware Loader icon from this folder to the location of your choice.

Before you start

You only need to upgrade your firmware if the version of the file is greater than the version currently loaded in your hardware.

If you are using Orpheus, you can check which version of the firmware is currently loaded by opening the Orpheus Control Panel. Position the cursor over the blue section of the name control, just above the 'identify' button.

If you are using ADA-8, you can check which version of the firmware is currently loaded from the Menu panel. Click the down key repeatedly until you see the 'Preferences' menu. Select this menu with the 'Enter/Accept' button, then use the down key again to get to the 'FireWire Info' item. The bottom line has the version number; 'Ver:10' is version 1.00, 'Ver:11' is version 1.01, and so on.

Prism Sound firmware files are named with the version number. For example, *Orpheus_1_01.bcd* is a version 1.01 firmware file for Orpheus hardware.

Warning: Do not attempt to upload new firmware whilst the hardware is in use.

- Close all DAWs and other audio-streaming apps, such as Logic or iTunes, before uploading new firmware.
- If using Orpheus, put it into Standby mode.

If you have more than one unit, you need to upload the firmware to each one in turn. Disconnect any units that are daisy-chained to the first.

ADA-8 can have two firewire modules in the same chassis. If so, you will need to remove the connecting firewire cable and upload the firmware to each module in turn.

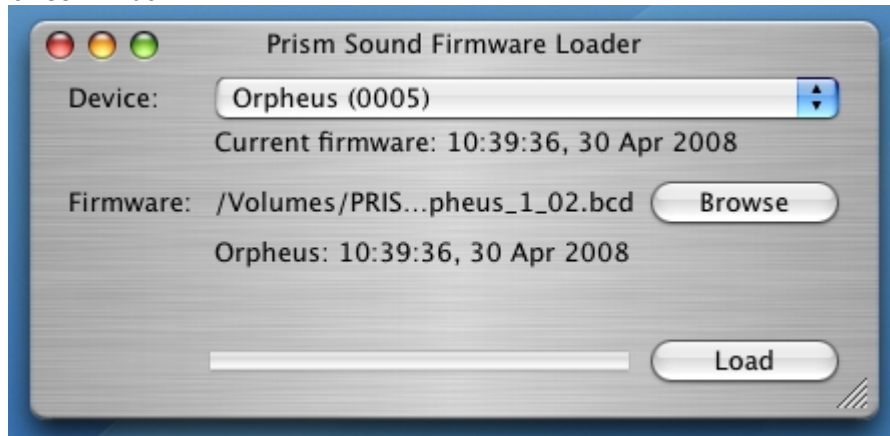
Loading a new firmware file

Connect a single unit and open the app by double-clicking the Prism Sound Firmware Loader icon.



The app displays the name of the connected device and the time stamp of the firmware that is currently loaded.

Select a new firmware file by clicking the *Browse* button. Alternatively, you can select the menu option File->Open (keystroke: cmd + O). You can then select the new firmware file with the file browser window.



Once a firmware file is selected, the app displays its filename and time stamp.

The *Load* button will be enabled, providing that the firmware file is compatible with the connected hardware. If so, you are now ready to upload new firmware.

Warning: Do not interrupt the app whilst it is uploading

- Do not disconnect the FireWire cable
- Do not switch off the Mac
- Do not Force-Quit the Prism Sound Firmware Loader

To begin loading the new firmware, click the *Load* button.



As the firmware is loaded, the app displays the progress. The time taken to upload a file depends on the size of the firmware file and the speed of your Mac, but it should generally take less than a minute.

If you are loading ADA-8 firmware, it is likely that the progress bar will not move for around 20 seconds. This is normal, it occurs because the ADA-8 is preparing to receive the new firmware. You will see a new '.' at the end of the status text every second, which shows that the app is still in contact with the ADA-8.

When the upload is completed, a message box will be displayed. Click Done to close down the app.



Troubleshooting

Load button is not enabled

Two conditions must be met before the *Load* button is enabled:

1. The unit must be connected to the Mac with a FireWire cable and it must be powered from its power lead.
2. A firmware file must be selected that is compatible with connected hardware.

It is possible that the Load button will remain disabled if the firmware file is corrupt or if the wrong firmware type is detected.

Recovery following upload failure

Although every care has been taken to prevent upload failure, there are some circumstances beyond the control of the app that will result in upload failure. These are:

1. Disconnection of the FireWire cable whilst an upload is in progress.
2. Switching off the Mac whilst an upload is in progress.
3. Force-Quitting the app whilst an upload is in progress.

If any of these events happen to you, you will find that your hardware is apparently dead. It will not be seen by the Audio MIDI setup or any other audio application. Orpheus front panels LEDs are all switched off. ADA-8's D1 sync source LED will be flashing, whilst the amber Local LED is lit.

It is possible to re-load the firmware with the Prism Sound Firmware Loader. If the hardware is powered and connected to the Mac with a FireWire cable, the Prism Sound Firmware Loader will see it as normal, and the firmware can be re-loaded.

If the firmware does not upload successfully on the first attempt, re-boot the Mac and re-power the hardware before trying again.