

16A[™]

User Guide

MOTU[®]

1280 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138
Business voice: (617) 576-2760
Web site: www.motu.com
Tech support: www.motu.com/support

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 16A ("PRODUCT")

CAUTION! READ THIS SAFETY GUIDE BEFORE YOU BEGIN INSTALLATION OR OPERATION. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS COULD RESULT IN BODILY INJURY OR EQUIPMENT DAMAGE.

HAZARDOUS VOLTAGES: CONTACT MAY CAUSE ELECTRIC SHOCK OR BURN. TURN OFF UNIT BEFORE SERVICING.

WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRICAL SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPLIANCE TO RAIN OR OTHER MOISTURE.

CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRICAL SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER. NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.

WARNING: THIS EQUIPMENT IS NOT SUITABLE FOR USE IN LOCATIONS WHERE CHILDREN ARE LIKELY TO BE PRESENT.

WARNING: DO NOT PERMIT FINGERS TO TOUCH THE TERMINALS OF PLUGS WHEN INSTALLING OR REMOVING THE PLUG TO OR FROM THE OUTLET.

WARNING: IF NOT PROPERLY GROUNDED THE MOTU PRODUCT COULD CAUSE AN ELECTRICAL SHOCK.

The MOTU product is equipped with a three-conductor cord and grounding type plug which has a grounding prong, approved by Underwriters' Laboratories and the Canadian Standards Association. This plug requires a mating three-conductor grounded type outlet as shown in Figure A below. If the outlet you are planning to use for the MOTU product is of the two prong type, DO NOT REMOVE OR ALTER THE GROUNDING PRONG IN ANY MANNER. Use an adapter as shown below and always connect the grounding lug to a known ground. It is recommended that you have a qualified electrician replace the TWO prong outlet with a properly grounded THREE prong outlet. An adapter as illustrated below in Figure B is available for connecting plugs to two-prong receptacles. In the EU, use the supplied EU power cord and be sure that the power outlet is properly grounded (Figure C).

Figure A

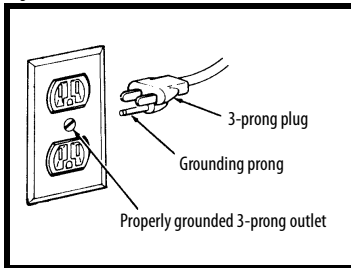


Figure B

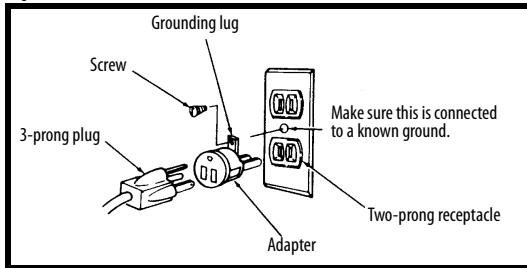
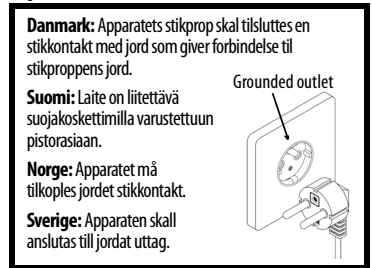


Figure C



WARNING: THE GREEN GROUNDING LUG EXTENDING FROM THE ADAPTER MUST BE CONNECTED TO A PERMANENT GROUND SUCH AS TO A PROPERLY GROUNDED OUTLET BOX. NOT ALL OUTLET BOXES ARE PROPERLY GROUNDED.

If you are not sure that your outlet box is properly grounded, have it checked by a qualified electrician. NOTE: The adapter illustrated is for use only if you already have a properly grounded two-prong receptacle. Adapter is not allowed in Canada by the Canadian Electrical Code. Use only three wire extension cords which have three-prong grounding type plugs and three-prong receptacles which will accept the MOTU product plug.

IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDS

1. Read these instructions. All the safety and operating instructions should be read before operating the product.
2. Keep these instructions. These safety instructions and the product owner's manual should be retained for future reference.
3. Heed all warnings. All warnings on the product and in the owner's manual should be adhered to.
4. Follow all Instructions. All operating and use instructions should be followed.
5. Do not use the product near water.
6. Cleaning - Unplug the product from the computer and clean only with a dry cloth. Do not use liquid or aerosol cleaners.
7. Ventilation - Do not block any ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
8. Heat - Do not install the product near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or another apparatus (including an amplifier) that produces heat.
9. Overloading - Do not overload wall outlets and extension cords as this can result in a risk of fire or electrical shock.
10. Grounding - Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding-type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong are provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
11. Power cord - Protect the product power cord from being walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them. Pay particular attention to cords and plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the unit.
12. Power button - Install the product so that the power button can be accessed and operated at all times.
13. Disconnect - The main plug is considered to be the disconnect device for the product and shall remain readily operable.
14. Accessories - Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
15. Placement - Use only with the cart, stand, tripod, bracket or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the product. When a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid injury from tip-over.
16. Surge protection - Unplug the product during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
17. Servicing - Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the product has been damaged in any way, such as when a power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the product, the product has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
18. Power Sources - Refer to the manufacturer's operating instructions for power requirements. Be advised that different operating voltages may require the use of a different line cord and/or attachment plug.
19. Installation - Do not install the product in an unventilated rack, or directly above heat-producing equipment such as power amplifiers. Observe the maximum ambient operating temperature listed below.
20. Power amplifiers - Never attach audio power amplifier outputs directly to any of the unit's connectors.
21. Replacement Parts - When replacement parts are required, be sure the service technician has used replacement parts specified by the manufacturer or have the same characteristics as the original part. Unauthorized substitutions may result in fire, electric shock or other hazards.
22. Safety Check - Upon completion of any service or repairs to this MOTU product, ask the service technician to perform safety checks to determine that the product is in safe operating conditions.

ENVIRONMENT, HEAT AND VENTILATION

Operating Temperature: 10°C to 40°C (50°F to 104°F). The product should be situated away from heat sources or other equipment that produces heat. When installing the product in a rack or any other location, be sure there is adequate space around the product to ensure proper ventilation. Improper ventilation will cause overheating and can damage the unit.

TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRICAL SHOCK OR FIRE

Do not handle the power cord with wet hands. Do not pull on the power cord when disconnecting it from an AC wall outlet. Grasp it by the plug. Do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture. Do not place objects containing liquids on it.

AC INPUT

100 - 240VAC ~ 50 / 60Hz • 1.0A max



About the Mark of the Unicorn License Agreement and Limited Warranty on Software

TO PERSONS WHO PURCHASE OR USE THIS PRODUCT: carefully read all the terms and conditions of the “click-wrap” license agreement presented to you when you install the software. Using the software or this documentation indicates your acceptance of the terms and conditions of that license agreement.

Mark of the Unicorn, Inc. (“MOTU”) owns both this program and its documentation. Both the program and the documentation are protected under applicable copyright, trademark, and trade-secret laws. Your right to use the program and the documentation are limited to the terms and conditions described in the license agreement.

REMINDER OF THE TERMS OF YOUR LICENSE

This summary is not your license agreement, just a reminder of its terms. The actual license can be read and printed by running the installation program for the software. That license agreement is a contract, and clicking “Accept” binds you and MOTU to all its terms and conditions. In the event anything contained in this summary is incomplete or in conflict with the actual click-wrap license agreement, the terms of the click-wrap agreement prevail.

YOU MAY: (a) use the enclosed program on a single computer; (b) physically transfer the program from one computer to another provided that the program is used on only one computer at a time and that you remove any copies of the program from the computer from which the program is being transferred; (c) make copies of the program solely for backup purposes. You must reproduce and include the copyright notice on a label on any backup copy.

YOU MAY NOT: (a) distribute copies of the program or the documentation to others; (b) rent, lease or grant sublicenses or other rights to the program; (c) provide use of the program in a computer service business, network, time-sharing, multiple CPU or multiple user arrangement without the prior written consent of MOTU; (d) translate, adapt, reverse engineer, decompile, disassemble, or otherwise alter the program or related documentation without the prior written consent of MOTU.

THIS LIMITED WARRANTY AND RIGHT OF REPLACEMENT IS IN LIEU OF, AND YOU HEREBY WAIVE, ANY AND ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, BOTH EXPRESS AND IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. THE LIABILITY OF MOTU PURSUANT TO THIS LIMITED WARRANTY SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE REPLACEMENT OF THE DEFECTIVE DISK(S), AND IN NO EVENT SHALL MOTU OR ITS SUPPLIERS, LICENSORS, OR AFFILIATES BE LIABLE FOR INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO LOSS OF USE, LOSS OF PROFITS, LOSS OF DATA OR DATA BEING RENDERED INACCURATE, OR LOSSES SUSTAINED BY THIRD PARTIES EVEN IF MOTU HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES. THIS WARRANTY GIVES YOU SPECIFIC LEGAL RIGHTS WHICH MAY VARY FROM STATE TO STATE. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW THE LIMITATION OR EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY FOR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATION MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU.

UPDATE POLICY

In order to be eligible to obtain updates of the program, you must complete and return the attached Mark of the Unicorn Purchaser Registration Card to MOTU.

COPYRIGHT NOTICE

Copyright © 2026, 2025 by Mark of the Unicorn, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, transmitted, transcribed, stored in a retrieval system, or translated into any human or computer language, in any form or by any means whatsoever, without express written permission of Mark of the Unicorn, Inc., 1280 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA, 02138, U.S.A.

Apple, macOS, iPad and iOS are registered trademarks of Apple, Inc. Windows is a trademark of Microsoft Corporation in the U.S. and/or other countries. Avnu Alliance and Milan and the associated marks are registered trademarks and/or service marks of Avnu Alliance. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

Limited Warranty on Hardware

Mark of the Unicorn, Inc. (“MOTU”) warrants this equipment against defects in materials and workmanship under normal use for a period of TWO (2) YEARS from the date of original retail purchase. The Warranty Term begins on the date of purchase from an authorized MOTU reseller and applies solely to the original retail purchaser, who must activate the warranty by creating a user account at motu.com to register the product within 90 days of purchase. This warranty applies only to hardware products; MOTU software is licensed and warranted pursuant to separate written statements.

If you discover a defect, first contact MOTU technical support by phone, email or web (motu.com/support) to verify the warranty on your MOTU equipment and obtain a Return Merchandise Authorization (RMA). No service will be performed on any product returned without prior authorization. MOTU will, at its option, repair or replace the product at no charge to you, provided you return it during the warranty period as instructed by MOTU, with transportation charges prepaid. If you purchased your equipment in any country other than the US or Canada, you will be instructed to return the equipment to an authorized MOTU distributor or representative in the country of purchase. You must use the product’s original packing material for the shipment, and insure the shipment for the value of the product. Please include your name, address, phone number, email address, a description of the problem, and the original, dated bill of sale with the returned unit; do NOT include additional accessories such as cables, power supplies, manuals, etc. Please clearly print the Return Merchandise Authorization Number on the outside of the box below the shipping address. Repaired or replaced equipment will be returned to you via UPS Ground/prepaid. (Expedited shipping methods such as UPS next day, 2-day, and 3-day services are available for an additional cost.) Repaired equipment will be warranted for a period equal to the remainder of the original Limited Warranty or for 90 days, whichever is longer.

WARRANTY EXCLUSIONS: This warranty does not apply if the equipment has been damaged by accident, abuse, misuse, or misapplication; has been modified without the written permission of MOTU; or if the product serial number has been removed or defaced. The following examples, without limitation, are NOT covered by this hardware warranty:

- Equipment purchased through any reseller not directly authorized by MOTU or its authorized international distributors.
- “Used” equipment purchased from a third party.
- Equipment purchased in another country.
- Normal cosmetic and mechanical wear of the equipment.
- Equipment damaged by improper installation or connections.
- Equipment damaged in transit to/from MOTU for warranty repair.
- Physically damaged equipment, including but not limited to water damage, cracks or dents, missing or bent parts, burns or other damage caused by faulty or failed electric power

ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE LIMITED IN DURATION TO TWO (2) YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THE ORIGINAL RETAIL PURCHASE OF THIS PRODUCT. THE WARRANTY AND REMEDIES SET FORTH ABOVE ARE EXCLUSIVE AND IN LIEU OF ALL OTHERS, ORAL OR WRITTEN, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED. No MOTU dealer, agent, or employee is authorized to make any modification, extension, or addition to this warranty. MOTU IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES RESULTING FROM ANY BREACH OF WARRANTY, OR UNDER ANY LEGAL THEORY, INCLUDING LOST PROFITS, DOWNTIME, GOODWILL, DAMAGE OR REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT AND PROPERTY AND COST OF RECOVERING REPROGRAMMING, OR REPRODUCING ANY PROGRAM OR DATA STORED IN OR USED WITH MOTU PRODUCTS.

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of implied warranties or liability for incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights which vary from state to state.

Version 1.5

This equipment has been type tested and found to comply with the limits for a class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television equipment reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by any combination of the following measures:

- Relocate or reorient the receiving antenna
- Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver
- Plug the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected

If necessary, you can consult a dealer or experienced radio/television technician for additional assistance.

PLEASE NOTE: only equipment certified to comply with Class B (computer input/output devices, terminals, printers, etc.) should be attached to this equipment, and it must have shielded interface cables in order to comply with the Class B FCC limits on RF emissions.

WARNING: changes or modifications to this unit not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.



Contents

Part 1: Getting Started

7	Quick Start Guide
8	A Typical 16A Setup
9	16A Front Panel
10	16A Rear Panel
11	About the 16A
14	Packing List and System Requirements
15	Software Installation
18	Hardware Installation

Part 2: Using the 16A

26	Front Panel Operation
31	CueMix Pro
59	Working with Host Audio Software
67	Optical Expander Presets
69	Networking

Part 3: Appendices

83	Troubleshooting
85	Audio Specifications
87	Index

Part 1

Getting Started

Quick Start Guide

Thank you for purchasing a 16A! Follow these easy steps to get started quickly.

MAC USERS START HERE

- 1 Visit motu.com/16A-start to download the *MOTU Pro Audio v2.dmg* virtual disk image.
- 2 Copy the CueMix Pro app to your Applications folder. If you are running macOS 13 or later, launch CueMix Pro and click *Install* in the *Discovery* tab. Visit *System Settings* > *Privacy & Security* to allow the driver to install.
- 3 Connect the included power cord to the 16A.
- 4 Connect the 16A to your Mac using the included USB-C cable. If your Mac requires it, use a USB-IF certified USB-C-to-A cable. Plug adapters are not recommended. See page 18.
- 5 Choose *Apple menu* > *System Settings* (or *System Preferences*) and click *Sound* to choose the 16A as the input and output device.
- 6 Proceed to “For all users”.

WINDOWS USERS START HERE

- 1 BEFORE you connect the 16A to your computer, visit motu.com/16A-start to download and run *MOTU Pro Audio v2* installer.
- 2 Connect the included power cord to the 16A.
- 3 Connect the 16A to your computer using the included USB-C cable. If your computer requires it, use a USB-IF certified USB-C-to-A cable. Plug adapters are not recommended. See page 18.
- 4 Go to the Start menu, choose *Sound Settings*, and choose 16A as the default recording and playback device.
- 5 Proceed to “For all users”.

FOR ALL USERS

6 As shown on the next page, connect speakers to the 16A *Line Out 1-2*, or connect a pair of headphones to the headphone output on the front panel, so you can hear your computer’s audio output.

7 You are now ready to start using your 16A interface.

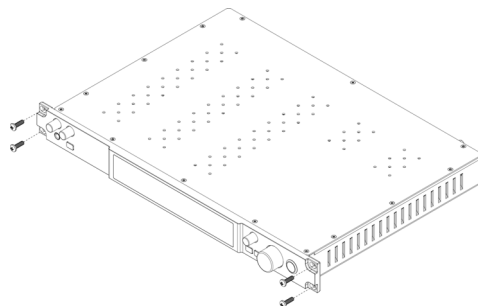
8 Visit motu.com/16A-start to register your 16A, download the included software and watch brief how-to videos, including:

- How to connect other gear to the 16A.
- How to use the 16A with your recording software.
- How to get the most out of the 16A.

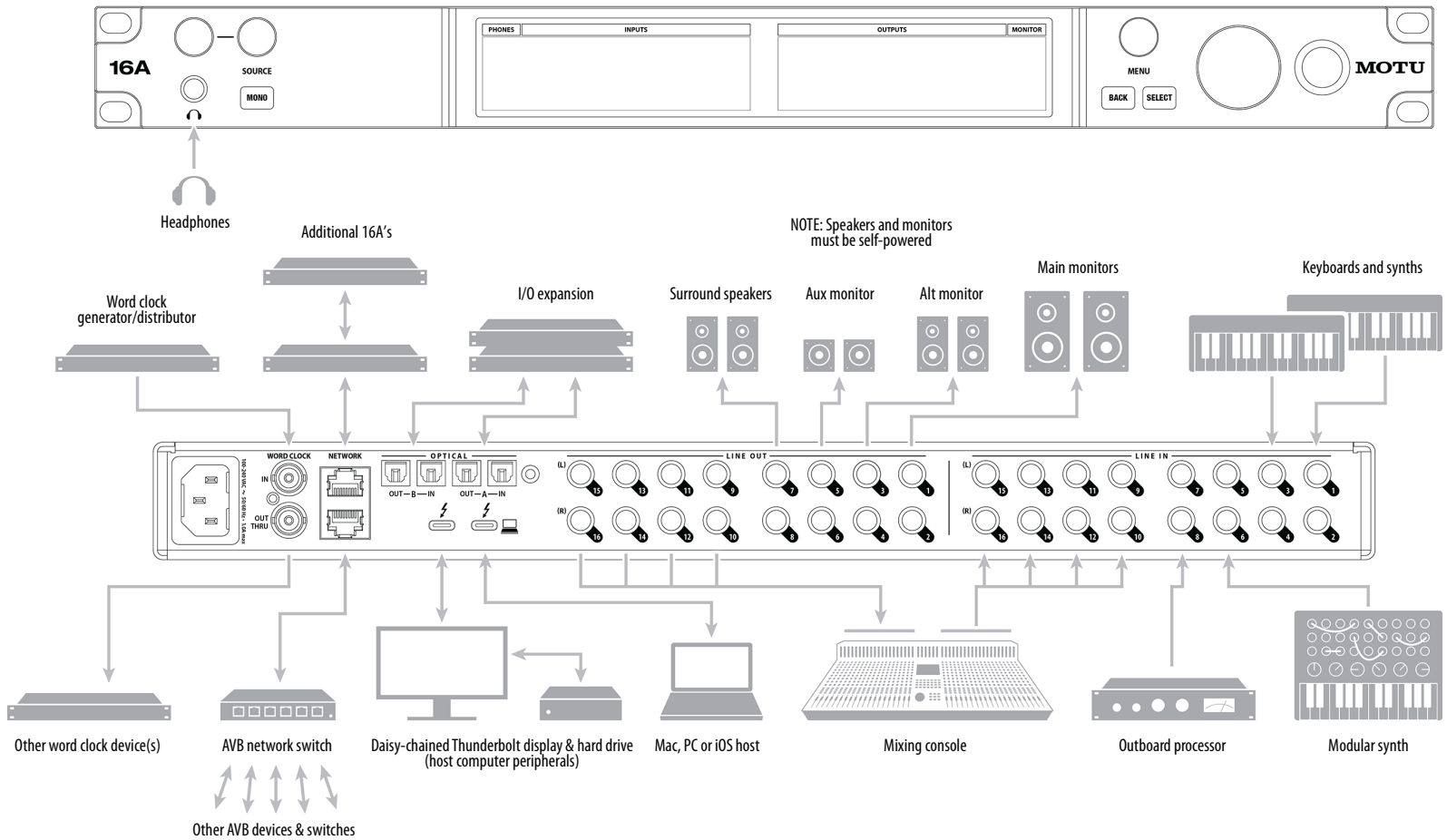
🔗 Register your 16A to gain access to all the software, virtual instruments, loops and sounds that are included with your 16A purchase. Registered users also qualify for technical support and information about software updates, so please register today!

RACK-MOUNT INSTALLATION

The 16A can be mounted in a standard 19-inch (48.26 cm) equipment rack using four standard 10-32 5/8th-inch or M6 1mm pan head rack screws. It is one rack unit (1U) high (1.75 inches, 44.45 mm) with a depth of 12.25 inches (31 cm).



A Typical 16A Setup

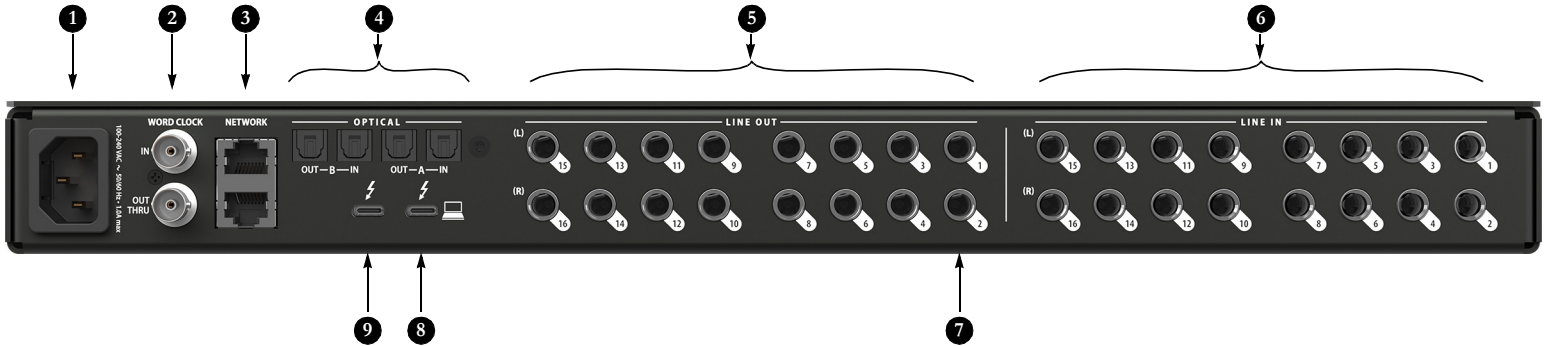


16A Front Panel



1. Connect HEADPHONES here and use the volume knob to control the volume level independently from other outputs. As you turn the knob, the LCD provides visual feedback with a volume meter.
2. Choose the SOURCE for the headphone signal here. The PHONES section (3) displays the currently selected source.
3. The PHONES section provides metering, the current volume setting, and the currently selected signal source for the headphones. Use volume (1) and source select (2) to control the level and signal source.
4. The INPUTS section of the color LCD displays metering for all 16A analog and digital (optical) inputs. Use the *Meter View* MENU setting (7) to choose among several different meter arrangements.
5. The OUTPUTS section of the color LCD displays metering for all 16A analog and digital (optical) outputs. Use the *Meter View* MENU setting (7) to choose among several different meter arrangements.
6. The MONITOR section shows the current level for the Monitor Group, as controlled by the main volume knob (8).
7. Turn the MENU knob (7) to enter the LCD menu and scroll through menu options. Push SELECT (10) to go into the sub-menus, if applicable. To choose the current setting, push SELECT. Use the BACK button (11) to return to the previous menu level. Push BACK repeatedly to return to the main screen.
8. The large monitor knob controls the volume of Line Outs 1-2. This knob also supports surround monitoring. See "The Monitor Group" on page 28.
9. This is the POWER switch for the unit.
10. Push SELECT (or turn the MENU knob) to enter the menus. Push SELECT to select or confirm the currently selected menu setting. Push BACK to go back one level.
11. Push BACK to go back one level in the menu. When the display is showing meters, push BACK to clear the peak indicators and clip indicators, if any.
12. The *status* section displays the 16A's current operating sample rate and clock source. The NETWORK icons show activity to and from the network. The HOST icon indicates the status of the host computer (or iOS device) connection. Blue indicates a successful connection to the host. The 16A negotiates the highest performance connection to the host. If a Thunderbolt or USB4 connection is established, the HOST icon displays *TB*. If a USB 2 or 3 connection is established, a 2 or 3 is displayed, depending on the USB format supported by the host computer. See "HOST Status" on page 27.
13. The headphone source signal is indicated here, as chosen with the SOURCE select knob (2).
14. When MONO is disabled, the headphone source signal is stereo, and the SOURCE select knob (2) lets you choose stereo pairs (e.g. Line Outs 5-6). When MONO is enabled, the headphone source signal is mono (split to left and right), and the SOURCE select knob (2) lets you choose individual mono channels (e.g. Line In 4).
15. Connect headphones here. Signal output is driven by ESS conversion, with plenty of gain.

16A Rear Panel



1. The 16A is equipped with a universal international power supply (100–240 VAC, 50/60 Hz, 1.0A max) with a standard IEC connector.
2. These are standard BNC WORD CLOCK jacks. Use them for a variety of applications, such as digital I/O with devices that cannot resolve to the clock supplied by their digital I/O connection with the 16A. See “Syncing word clock devices” on page 23.
3. These two NETWORK ports provide industry standard IEEE 802.1 (AVB) network connectivity to other network devices. Examples include:
 - Another 16A or any other MOTU AVB-equipped audio interface, such as the 1248, 8M, 16A (original), 24Ai, 24Ao, 112D, Monitor 8, etc.
 - A standard Ethernet hub or Wi-Fi router (for internet connection).
 - A standard AVB Ethernet switch for high-speed, low latency, high-capacity audio connectivity to an AVB audio network.
4. These two banks of ADAT optical “lightpipe” connectors each provide 8 channels of 24-bit ADAT optical digital I/O at 1x sample rates (44.1 or 48 kHz) and 4 channels at 2x sample rates (88.2 or 96 kHz). They are disabled at higher sample rates. Bank A can alternately operate as stereo TOSLink (optical S/PDIF) connectors. See “Optical I/O” on page 21 and “Syncing optical devices” on page 23.

Note: you can choose independent formats for Bank A IN and OUT. For example, you could choose ADAT for the optical A IN (for eight channels of input from your digital mixer, for example) and stereo TOSLink for the optical A OUT (for a set of auxiliary speakers, for example).
5. The sixteen LINE OUT jacks are balanced, DC-coupled quarter-inch connectors that can also accept a TRS plug with the ring disconnected for unbalanced operation (see “TRS quarter-inch line inputs” on page 21 for more on this). They provide analog output for studio monitors, surround monitoring, sub-mixes or any other desired destination. The output trim can be adjusted from the Outputs Tab in the CueMix Pro app. For surround monitoring, connect your surround speakers to outputs and see “The Monitor Group” on page 28.
6. These sixteen LINE IN jacks are balanced (TRS) quarter-inch connectors that can also accept an unbalanced TS plug. Use with line level analog signals up to +21 dBu, including synthesizers, drum machines, effects processors, etc. These inputs are also equipped with the 16A Precision Digital Gain™ feature: 0 to +20 dB of gain adjustable in 1 dB increments from the included CueMix Pro app (Inputs tab).
7. These two line out jacks serve as the 16A main output pair for primary (powered) studio monitors, PA speakers or any other desired destination. You can control their volume from the front panel MONITOR knob (#8 on page 9).

To hear audio playback from your host audio software on this pair of outputs, assign audio tracks (and master fader) to Line Out 1–2. You can also use the CueMix Pro app to route live 16A inputs here as well.
8. Use this (upstream) HOST port to connect the 16A to a computer or iOS device using the included USB-C cable. The 16A negotiates the best-possible connection to the host (Thunderbolt, USB4, USB3 or USB2). For details, see chapter 4, “Hardware Installation” (page 18).
9. Use this (downstream) DEVICE port to connect computer peripherals such as hard drives, monitors, additional 16A’s, a USB hub or Thunderbolt dock, etc. Essentially, you can connect any device here that you could connect directly to your computer. If your computer supports Thunderbolt, you can daisy-chain multiple Thunderbolt devices to this port.

For details see chapter 9, “Networking” (page 69).

CHAPTER 1 About the 16A

The 16A is a 32 x 34 Thunderbolt/USB audio interface with mixing, DSP effects, AVB networking, and very high quality A/D/A conversion at sample rates up to 192 kHz.

Hardware-driven DSP delivers a powerful 64 channel monitor mixer with 16 stereo buses, 32-bit floating point effects processing, double-precision 4-band EQ, compression, gating, HPF, and reverb.

A comprehensive patch bay provides flexible routing between the mixer, local I/O and the AVB network.

The 16A can operate as an audio interface for a computer or iOS device, as a stand-alone digital mixer, as a gateway to an expanded studio system, as a component of an extended AVB audio network, or as a capable hybrid device performing all of these roles simultaneously.

The 16A is designed to be a central component of a modern, high performance recording studio or live mixing platform. The following sections provide a brief overview of its main features and characteristics.

Comprehensive I/O

The 16A provides 66 channels of simultaneous input and output.

Connection	Input	Output
Quarter-inch analog on bal/unbal TRS	16	16
Headphone output	-	Stereo
ADAT optical digital (at 44.1 or 48 kHz)†	16	16
Total	32	34

† The 16A optical connectors support the industry-standard ADAT and TOSLink optical I/O formats, which provide varying channel counts. TOSLink is available on Bank A, and ADAT is available on both banks (A and B). See “Optical I/O” on page 21 for details about optical bank operation.

Universal connectivity

The 16A connects to a host computer via Thunderbolt or USB, depending on the host. The 16A negotiates the best-possible connection to the host (Thunderbolt, USB4, USB3 or USB2). It is USB audio class-compliant, which means that it is iOS compatible and does not require driver installation for USB connection to macOS or iOS hosts. Industry standard audio drivers for both Thunderbolt and USB operation provide universal compatibility with any audio software.

Up to 256 channels of audio I/O

The 16A lets you stream up to 128 audio channels in and out, simultaneously, through its Thunderbolt connection to a host computer. Sources and destinations can include inputs and outputs on the device, inputs and outputs on other interfaces connected via AVB networking, and even audio software apps running on other computers connected to other devices on the network.

State-of-the-art A/D and D/A conversion

The analog section of each interface employs state-of-the-art 32-bit DACs and ADCs, which deliver analog recording and playback with remarkably high dynamic range at sample rates from 44.1 to 192 kHz.

Flexible analog I/O with Precision Digital Gain & Trim™

All quarter-inch analog inputs can accept either a balanced or unbalanced plug. The sixteen line inputs are equipped with 0 to +20 dB of digital gain, adjustable in 1 dB increments.

Equipped with renowned ESS Sabre32™ DAC technology, all analog outputs offer trim (cut), also adjustable in 1 dB increments. Outputs can be trimmed down to -99 dB.

All quarter-inch outputs are DC-coupled, so they can be used for control voltage (CV) output.

On-board DSP with mixing and processing

The 16A is equipped with a DSP engine that drives a 64-input monitor mixer with 32 buses. The mixer offers familiar operation modeled after large format mixing consoles. Effects include 4-band parametric EQ, compression, gating, high-pass filter, and reverb. The included CueMix Pro app provides easy and intuitive on-screen control of everything from your computer or iOS device.

The DSP engine also drives four 16-channel banks of delay line channels, which provide comprehensive, programmable delay compensation for a wide range of applications.

32-bit processing

The DSP engine delivers 32-bit floating point processing for virtually infinite headroom, with 64-bit double-precision processing for the EQ filters for the utmost in sonic quality.

Software control

Control the 16A on-board mixing and device settings from the CueMix Pro app software running on a laptop or iOS device.

Stand-alone mixing

Control all 848 settings on the road at rehearsals or gigs — great for live sound mixing — from your iOS device, connected directly with USB cable or connected wirelessly over the local Wi-Fi network.

ADAT digital I/O

The 16A provides two 8-channel banks of optical digital I/O. Connect outboard digital processors, digital mixers or other gear: 16 channels at 44.1/48 kHz or 8 channels at 88.2/96 kHz. Alternately, the optical Bank A ports can be independently configured to support stereo TOSLink (optical S/PDIF).

Bank A input and output operate independently, allowing you to mix and match optical formats. For example, you could receive four channels of 96 kHz S/MUX input while at the same time sending 96 kHz stereo optical S/PDIF (“TOSLink”) to the output.

Network I/O

AVB stands for *Audio Video Bridging*, a collection of IEEE standards to enable high-bandwidth, low-latency audio streaming over Ethernet. The 16A’s two network ports support 128 channels of network audio input and output for an additional 256 simultaneous audio channels (at 1x or 2x samples rates) using standard CAT-5e or CAT-6 Ethernet cables with lengths up to 100 meters.

Multiple 16A’s or other AVB devices can be daisy-chained up to seven “hops” (links in the chain). Connectivity to a wider network can be achieved with standard AVB Ethernet switches connected to other MOTU AVB devices, 3rd-party AVB devices, and multiple computers, each with full access to all devices on the network (including the other computers).

The entire network operates with near-zero network latency, even over very long cable runs. MOTU’s AVB implementation allows you to

stream hundreds of audio channels among devices and computers on the network with guaranteed Quality of Service (QoS), prioritizing audio streams over less important network traffic.

Matrix routing and multing

The 16A provides completely flexible matrix-style audio routing and multing. You can route any analog or digital input, computer channel, or network stream to any other output, computer, or network device. You can also mult any single input to unlimited multiple output destinations.

Word clock

The 16A supports standard word clock synchronization at any supported sample rate. The word clock OUT port can alternately be used as a THRU port for placing the 16A in a properly-terminated word clock daisy-chain.

Full-color LCD displays

The two 3.9-inch full-color 24-bit RGB IPS TFT LCD displays deliver 480 x 128 pixel resolution (for a combined resolution of 960 x 128) and show all signal activity at a glance with precise, detailed metering for all I/O. You can access many hardware settings directly from the front panel.

Flexible headphone output

The 16A front panel headphone jack includes independent volume control and convenient source signal selection: simply turn the SOURCE knob to choose the signal you wish to hear, as shown in the LCD display. Alternately, you can program the phone output with its own independent mix, or any available source from the 16A's extensive routing matrix.

Control room features

Control room features include talkback and A/B/C monitor select, mute and sum-to-mono for the main outs. Surround monitoring control is also supported for common formats such as 5.1, 7.1.4, and others (up to sixteen channels).

Rack mount or desktop operation

The 16A is housed in a rugged steel full-rack enclosure.

CueMix Pro app

You can control on-board DSP, mixing, device settings, clock/sync settings, and network audio routing from the CueMix Pro app software for macOS, Windows, and iOS. Run CueMix Pro on a tablet or smart phone and control the 16A wirelessly through your local Wi-Fi network. Multiple devices can be used simultaneously to access any audio interface settings on the network.

Stand-alone mixing with wireless control

If you connect your MOTU interface to a Wi-Fi router with a standard Ethernet cable, you can control its powerful mixing and DSP effects from your smart phone or tablet, without a computer — great for live sound mixing from your iPad, tablet, or other wireless device.

Performer Lite

Performer Lite is a full-featured audio workstation software package for Mac and Windows that is available as a free download for you as an 16A owner. Visit motu.com/download to obtain your copy. Performer Lite provides multi-track MIDI and audio production, over 100 included virtual instruments, automated virtual mixing, graphic editing, music notation editing, real-time effects plug-ins with crossfades, support for many third-party audio plug-ins, sample-accurate editing and placement of audio, and more.

CHAPTER 2 **Packing List and System Requirements**

PACKING LIST

The 16A ships with the items listed below. If any of these items are not present in the box when you first open it, please immediately contact your dealer or MOTU.

- 16A audio interface
- 40 Gbps/240W USB-C cable
- IEC power cord
- Printed Quick Start guide
- Getting Started card

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- Intel Core i3 Mac or PC (or AMD equivalent). Faster CPUs, including Apple silicon, are recommended for best performance.
- 4GB RAM; 8 GB or more recommended.
- Windows 11 23H2 or later.
- macOS 12 or later. For best possible performance, macOS 13 or later is recommended. See “MacOS compatibility” below for details.
- iOS device running iOS 17 or higher
- Available Thunderbolt, USB4, USB3 or USB2 port.
-  A Thunderbolt 3 port (or higher) is required for Thunderbolt operation.
- A large hard drive (preferably at least 512 GB).

MACOS COMPATIBILITY

The 16A employs Apple’s latest macOS driver model, which requires macOS 13 or later. Once you run the 16A driver installer on these systems (from the CueMix Pro App *Discovery* tab), the

16A can connect to the host computer via Thunderbolt (128 channels) or USB4 (128 channels) for best possible latency performance.

Using the 16A on macOS 12

The 16A supports USB audio class-compliant operation on macOS 12. Simply connect the 16A to the computer and it will operate as either a USB2 interface (64 channels) or USB3 interface (64 channels), depending on the host computer. Latency performance will be almost as good as Thunderbolt. The CueMix Pro app can be copied to your Applications folder and used as normal. An additional installer package is included on the software installer disk image specifically for macOS 12 (recommended).

iOS COMPATIBILITY

The 16A and the CueMix Pro app require an iOS device running iOS 17 or higher. You can use the 16A as an audio interface with your iPhone or iPad using USB class compliant operation. If you have an iPad with an Apple silicon (M series) processor, you can enable the 16A’s low-latency Thunderbolt/USB driver for best possible performance. See “Software installation for iOS” on page 16.

PLEASE REGISTER TODAY!

Please register the 16A today: motu.com/register.

As a registered user, you will be eligible to receive free bundled software, technical support and announcements about product enhancements as soon as they become available. Only registered users can receive the included free software, so please register today.

Thank you for taking the time to register your new MOTU products!

CHAPTER 3 Software Installation

Software installation for macOS 15

Software installation for Windows 16

Software installation for iOS 16

Audio drivers 16

CueMix Pro app 17

Performer Lite workstation software 17

Working with host audio software 17

SOFTWARE INSTALLATION FOR macOS

1 Visit www.motu.com/16A-start to download the latest macOS *MOTU Pro Audio v2.dmg* virtual disk image.

2 Open the disk image and copy the CueMix Pro app to the Applications folder.

☞ CueMix Pro must reside in the Applications folder for the driver installation process.

3 If you are running macOS 13 or later, launch CueMix Pro. If you are using an earlier macOS version, see “Operation on macOS 12” on page 16.

4 As CueMix Pro launches, macOS will ask you to allow CueMix Pro to access devices on local networks. It is very important to click *Allow* here.

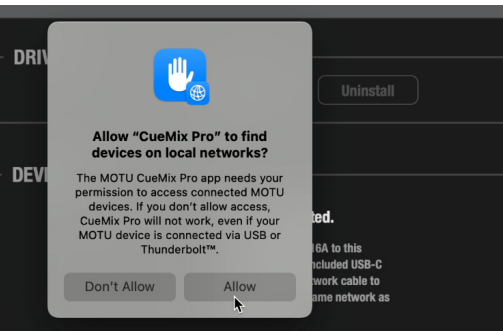


Figure 3-1: Be sure to click 'Allow' in this macOS alert, so that CueMix Pro can communicate with your 16A device.

☞ Network access is required for CueMix Pro to communicate with your 16A device, even if it is connected to your computer with Thunderbolt or USB.

5 In CueMix Pro's *Discovery* tab, click *Install*.

6 When the new driver extension alert appears, click *Open System Settings*.

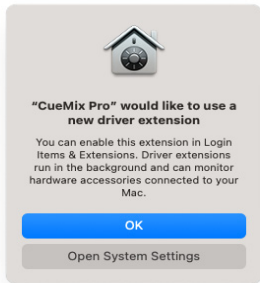


Figure 3-2: Click 'Open System Settings' in the new driver extension alert.

7 In the resulting *Driver Extensions* dialog, enable the *CueMix Pro* driver extension, as shown in Figure 3-3 (for macOS 15).

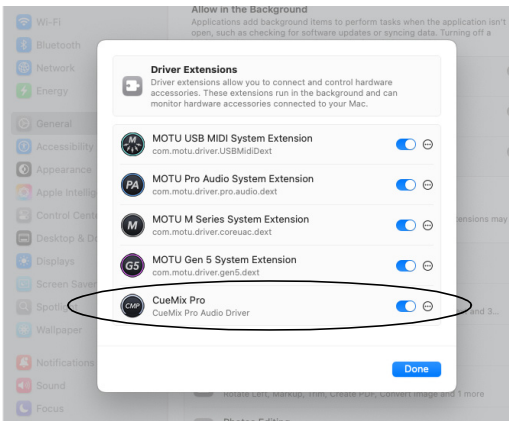


Figure 3-3: Enabling the CueMix Pro Driver Extension (in macOS 15).

Operation on macOS 12

If you are running macOS 12, driver installation (from the CueMix Pro Discovery tab) is not available. Instead, the 16A operates as a USB audio class-compliant device that uses the macOS USB audio driver. You can use CueMix Pro to manage the settings in the interface and use all of its mixing and routing capabilities. An additional installer package is included on the software installer disk image specifically for macOS 12 (recommended).

SOFTWARE INSTALLATION FOR WINDOWS

☛ We recommend that you run the software installer *before* you connect the 16A to your computer and power it on. This ensures that all driver components are properly installed in your system.

1 Visit www.motu.com/16A-start to download the latest Windows *MOTU Pro Audio v2* installer.

2 Run the installer and follow the directions it gives you.

SOFTWARE INSTALLATION FOR iOS

Audio-class compliant operation allows you to connect the 16A to any iOS device (via either USB-C or a standard Lightning camera connection kit adapter). The 16A then provides multi-channel audio I/O to your iOS audio apps, and you can access all of its settings, features, and mixing with the CueMix Pro app, available for download from the Apple App store.

If you have an iPad with an Apple silicon (M series) processor, you can enable the 16A's low-latency Thunderbolt/USB driver for best possible performance. Go to *Settings > Apps > CueMix Pro Audio Driver*.

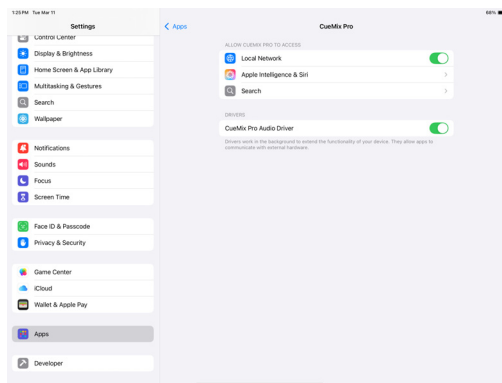


Figure 3-4: Enabling the iPadOS CueMix Pro Audio Driver for lowest possible latency iOS performance. iPads with Apple silicon (M series) processors support the 16A Thunderbolt/USB driver.

AUDIO DRIVERS

The installer provides a Thunderbolt and USB audio driver for macOS 13 and later (CoreAudio) and Windows (ASIO and Wave).

Industry-leading I/O latency performance

On macOS and Windows, the 16A driver provides exceptionally low I/O latency performance. For example, with a 32-sample buffer size, an 16A interface operating at 96 kHz produces round trip latency (RTL) performance of approximately two milliseconds (ms) on macOS and Windows. RTL is the measurement of the time it takes audio to pass from an analog input, through a high-performance DAW host such as Digital Performer, to an analog output.

ASIO Driver support

On Windows, to enable the 16A in your ASIO host software, choose the *MOTU Pro Audio v2* ASIO driver, as shown in Figure 7-1 on page 60.

WDM / Wave driver support

On Windows, the MOTU Pro Audio v2 driver includes support for WDM (Wave) compatible audio software. See item #12 on page 34.

Buffer Size

When connected to a Windows computer, the *Buffer Size* menu is available in the Device tab (item #10 on page 34). This setting determines the amount of latency (delay) you may hear when live audio is patched through your Windows audio software. Smaller buffer sizes produce lower latency, with sizes of 256 samples or less producing virtually imperceptible delay. Many host applications report audio hardware I/O latency, so you can see what happens to the reported latency when making adjustments to this setting.

Be careful with very small buffer sizes, as they can cause performance issues from your host software or PC.

☞ At sea level, audio travels approximately one foot (30 cm) per millisecond. A latency of ten milliseconds is about the same as being ten feet (three meters) from an audio source.

Output Safety Offset

When connected to a Windows host, the *Output Safety Offset* menu in the Device tab of the CueMix Pro app also becomes available (item #11 on page 34). This setting allows you to further reduce host latency. However, the lower latency setting may cause your host software to experience performance issues. Be mindful when choosing the lower latency setting, as this parameter can have a significant impact on your computer system's performance.

CUEMIX PRO APP

CueMix Pro is an easy-to-use app for macOS, Windows and iOS that gives you complete control over all the settings in your 16A interface. For details, see chapter 6, “CueMix Pro” (page 31).

PERFORMER LITE WORKSTATION SOFTWARE

Performer Lite is an easy to use audio workstation software package for macOS and Windows that lets you record, edit, mix, process, bounce and

master multi-track recording projects. Advanced features include over 100 included virtual instruments, real-time effects processing, recording, and much more.

To obtain Performer Lite, visit motu.com to register your MOTU audio interface, download Performer Lite and activate it on your computer.



Figure 3-5: Performer Lite.

WORKING WITH HOST AUDIO SOFTWARE

For further information about using the 16A with host audio software, see chapter 7, “Working with Host Audio Software” (page 59).

CHAPTER 4 Hardware Installation

Host computer setup 18

iOS setup (USB-C)..... 19

iOS setup (Lightning) 19

Device port setup..... 20

Connecting multiple 16A's to a host 20

A typical 16A setup 21

Audio connections 21

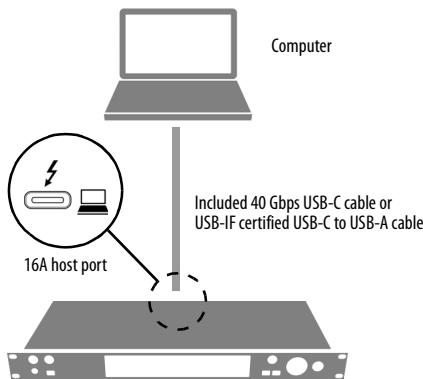
Synchronization 22

Syncing optical devices 23

Syncing word clock devices 23

Syncing AVB devices..... 24

HOST COMPUTER SETUP



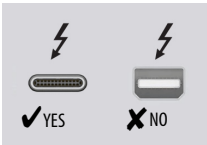
Use this setup if you want to use the 16A as a Thunderbolt or USB audio interface for a computer.

- Use the included 40 Gbps USB-C cable.
- Connect to any USB-C port on the computer or to a USB hub or Thunderbolt dock connected to the computer.
- The 16A negotiates the highest performance connection to the host (Thunderbolt, USB4, USB3 or USB2) based on what the host supports and the cable used for the connection. The USB-C cable



included with the 16A supports all formats. The status section in the front panel LCD (item #12 on page 9) indicates the format of the computer connection achieved.

⚡ Thunderbolt operation requires connection to a host computer with a USB-C style Thunderbolt port. Computers with legacy displayport-style Thunderbolt 1 or 2 ports (as shown above) are not supported. *Adapters are also not supported.*



- The 16A does not supply bus power to the host computer, so be sure the computer has its own power source.

- If your computer doesn't have a USB-C port, use a USB C-to-A cable. For best performance and reliability, a USB-IF certified cable is recommended.



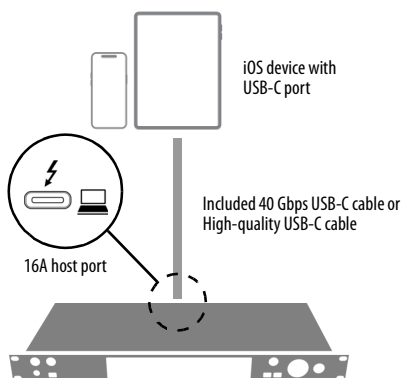
- ⚡ USB-C-to-A plug adapters with a male USB-A plug and a female USB-C port (designed to accept the host-side of the C-to-C cable) *should not be used*, as they are not compliant with USB-IF standards.



This type of USB A-to-C adapter is not recommended.

- For Mac operation, no driver installation is necessary (for USB operation), but it is highly recommended for best performance. Driver Installation is required for Thunderbolt operation. For PC operation, driver installation is required. See chapter 3, “Software Installation” (page 15).

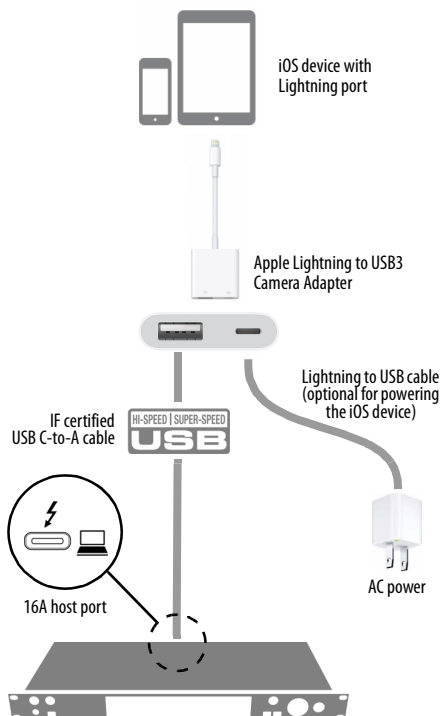
iOS SETUP (USB-C)



Use this setup if you want to use the 16A as an iOS audio interface, or to control it from your iOS device.

- Use this setup for iOS devices with a USB-C port.
- Connect the 16A directly to the iOS device with the included 40 Gbps USB-C cable or a high-quality USB-C-to-C cable.
- For iOS operation, no driver installation is necessary.

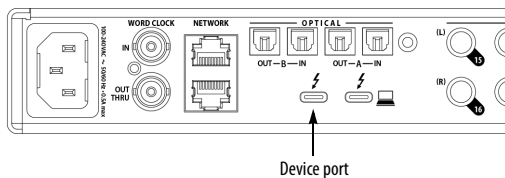
iOS SETUP (LIGHTNING)



Use this setup if you want to use the 16A as an iOS audio interface, or to control it from your iOS device.

- Use this setup for iOS devices with a Lightning port.
- For iOS devices with a Lightning port, an Apple Lightning to USB3 Camera Adapter is required (sold separately), as shown above.
- For iOS operation, no driver installation is necessary.

DEVICE PORT SETUP



The device port allows you to connect additional computer peripheral devices, such as a hard drive or display.

Devices connected to the device port act as peripheral devices for your computer, not the 16A itself. The 16A serves only as a connection between the device and the computer.

What you can connect to the 16A device port depends on the port on the computer that the 16A is plugged into.

Think of the device port as the same as the computer port the 16A is plugged into. If you can successfully connect a device to the computer's port, then you will be able to connect it to the 16A's device port (when the 16A is connected to that same computer port).

Examples of what you can connect to the device port include:

- A hard drive
- A monitor for your computer
- A USB hub
- A Thunderbolt dock

The device port supplies 15W (5V@3A) of bus power for bus-powered devices (USB or Thunderbolt).

Daisy-chained Thunderbolt devices that are bus powered share the 15W power budget supplied by the device port.

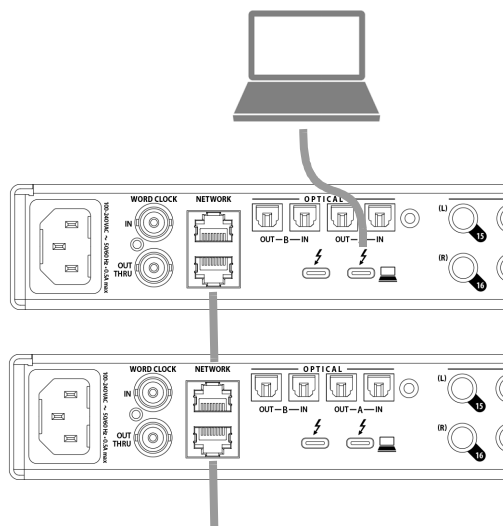
CONNECTING MULTIPLE 16A'S TO A HOST

To connect two or more 16A interfaces to a host computer, use their network ports as discussed in the following sections. For further information, see chapter 9, "Networking" (page 69).

Network daisy-chain

For this approach, connect the first 16A to the host computer (via either Thunderbolt or USB) and then daisy-chain additional units using the two AVB ports as shown below. AVB networking allows seven network "hops" (connections) in a row, which means you can connect up to eight devices in the AVB daisy-chain.

The advantage of this setup is that it can be employed with either Thunderbolt or USB, although Thunderbolt supports more audio channels to and from the host computer (128 in and 128 out). In addition, you do not need to set up an aggregate device in macOS. This setup is also recommended for PC hosts. In this scenario, the 16A units resolve their clocks to one another via their network connections, which prevents their audio streams from drifting apart from one another over time.



Etc. up to eight units total (seven network "hops")

Network switch

A network switch can be used to create a star configuration of interfaces. In general AVB networking provides the most flexible and expandable method for connecting multiple 16A interfaces to a computer (or multiple computers on the network) with long cable runs and very low latency. For further information, see chapter 9, “Networking” (page 69).

A TYPICAL 16A SETUP

See the diagram on page 8 for an example of typical connections to the 16A. The following sections provide important information for achieving best results for each type of connection.

AUDIO CONNECTIONS

Here are a few things to keep in mind as you are making audio connections to your 16A interface.

TRS quarter-inch line inputs

The quarter-inch line inputs are balanced (TRS) connectors. The inputs can also accept an unbalanced (TS) plug.

TRS quarter-inch line outputs

The quarter-inch line outputs are balanced (TRS) connectors. The outputs are DC-coupled, so they can be used for control voltage (CV) output.

☞ The line outputs are not cross-coupled. Therefore, when connecting them to an unbalanced input, use a TRS plug with the ring disconnected. Not floating the negative terminal will short it to the sleeve ground and cause distortion.

Analog I/O calibration

Various settings for the line inputs and outputs, such as gain, trim, phase invert, etc. can be accessed in the Inputs and Outputs tabs in the CueMix Pro app. See “Inputs tab” on page 35 and “Outputs tab” on page 36.

All analog inputs and outputs can be calibrated to support a variety of standards, including EBU-R68, SMPTE RP-155, +4dBu, -10dBv, 2vRMS and 1vRMS.

The line inputs are equipped with 0 to +20 dB of digital gain in 1 dB steps.

The line outputs and headphone outs are equipped with a range of digital trim from 0 to -99 dB, adjustable in 1 dB steps.

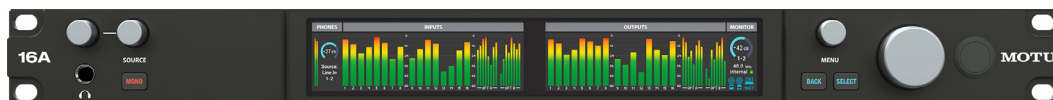
Monitor A/B/C outputs

If you have multiple sets of monitors in your studio, you can use the 16A’s A/B/C monitor switching feature to compare your mixes on each set of monitors. You can use any outputs you wish, analog or digital, for the three speaker pairs. Figure 4-2 provides an example using Line Outs 1-6. In this example, you would connect Line Outs 1-2 to your primary monitors as pair A. Then connect a secondary pair of studio monitors to Line Outs 3-4 as monitor pair B. A 3rd pair can be connected to Line Outs 5-6 as pair C. You can then use the CueMix Pro app to switch among the three monitor pairs. See “A/B/C Monitoring” on page 50.

Optical I/O

The 16A provides two banks of ADAT optical (“lightpipe”) connectors. Each bank provides an input and output connector. Together, they

Figure 4-1: 16A front panel



provide 16 channels of ADAT optical digital I/O at 44.1 or 48 kHz, or 8 channels of SMUX optical at 2x sample rates (88.2 or 96 kHz).

☛ The optical ports are disabled when the interface is operating at a 176.4 or 192 kHz.

TOSLink (optical S/PDIF)

Alternately, the Bank A optical ports can be configured for stereo TOSLink (optical S/PDIF) in the CueMix Pro app (item #4 on page 35 for input and item #9 on page 36 for output). The optical IN and OUT banks can be configured independently.

Choosing a clock source for optical connections

When connecting an *optical* device, make sure that its digital audio clock is rate-locked (in sync with) the 16A, as explained in “Synchronization” on page 22 and “Syncing optical devices” on page 23.

Network connections

The network ports on the 16A are standard Gigabit Ethernet ports that also support AVB.

If you are *not* using these ports as AVB ports (to stream audio to/from other devices over the network), you can use them as standard Ethernet ports for connecting the 16A, along with your host computer (connected via USB or Thunderbolt), to your local area network (LAN). For example, you could connect this port to a Wi-Fi router or Ethernet switch. This allows you to control the 16A from iOS devices or other computers on the same network. This Ethernet connection also provides your host computer with access to the

network. In essence, the 16A acts as a Thunderbolt-to-Ethernet (or USB-to-Ethernet) adapter for your host computer.

If you do plan to use the 16A’s AVB networking capabilities, please refer to the following:

- “Syncing AVB devices” on page 24
- chapter 9, “Networking” (page 69)

SYNCHRONIZATION

If you connect devices digitally to the 16A, or if you need to synchronize the 16A with an outside time reference such as word clock, you must pay careful attention to the synchronization connections and clock source issues discussed in the next few sections.

Do you need to sync?

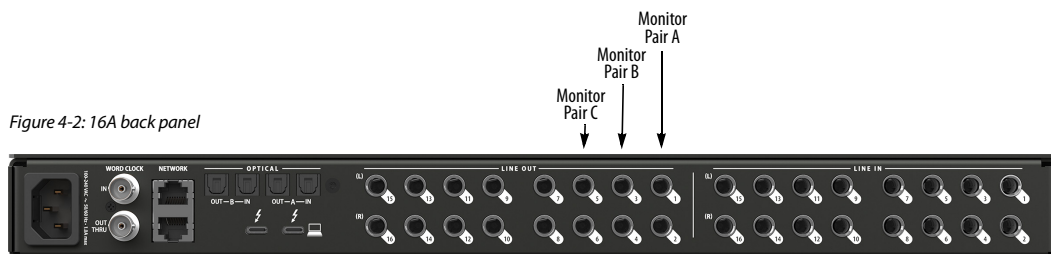
If you will be using only the 16A’s analog inputs and outputs (and none of its digital I/O), and you don’t need to resolve your system to external word clock, you don’t need to make any sync connections. You can skip this section.

Situations that require synchronization

There are two general cases in which you will need to resolve the 16A with other devices:

- Synchronizing with other digital audio devices so that their digital audio clocks are *rate-locked*
- Resolving the 16A to an external clock source

Figure 4-2: 16A back panel



Synchronization is critical for clean digital I/O

Synchronization is critical in any audio system, but it is especially important when you are transferring audio between digital audio devices. Your success in using the digital I/O features on the 16A depends almost entirely on proper synchronization. The following sections guide you through several recommended scenarios.

Be sure to choose a digital audio clock master

When you transfer digital audio between two devices, their audio clocks must be rate-locked with one another, so that their clock rates don't drift with respect to one another over time. Otherwise, you'll hear clicks, pops, and distortion in the audio — or perhaps no audio at all.

There are two ways to achieve rate lock: slave one device to the other, or slave both devices to a third master clock. If you have three or more digital audio devices, you need to slave them all to a single master audio clock.

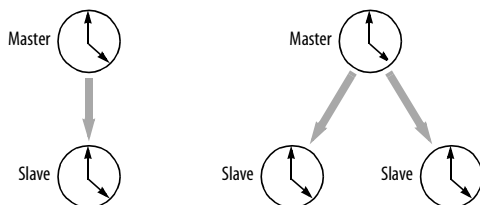


Figure 4-3: To keep the 16A rate-locked with other digital audio devices connected to it, choose a clock master.

Also remember that audio rate lock can be achieved independently of timecode (location). For example, one device can be the timecode master while another is the audio clock master, but only one device can be the audio clock master. If you set things up with this rule in mind, you'll have trouble-free audio transfers with your MOTU hardware.

SYNCING OPTICAL DEVICES

There are several ways to sync an optical device with the 16A:

- A. Resolve the other device to the 16A
- B. Resolve the 16A to the other device
- C. Resolve both devices to a word clock source

For A, choose *Internal* as the clock mode in the Device tab (item #6 on page 34). Then configure the other device to resolve to its optical input. Alternately, the MOTU interface could be resolved to any other external clock source besides *Optical*.

For B, choose *Optical* as the clock mode (item #6 on page 34), and configure the other device to resolve to its own internal clock.

For C, choose *Word Clock* as the clock mode for the 16A (item #6 on page 34), and resolve the other device to its word clock input.

Using word clock to resolve optical devices

If the optical device has word clock connectors on it, you can use them to synchronize the device with the 16A. See the next section, "Syncing word clock devices".

SYNCING WORD CLOCK DEVICES

The word clock connectors on the 16A allow you to synchronize it with a wide variety of other word clock-equipped devices.

For standard word clock sync, you need to choose an audio clock master (as explained in "Be sure to choose a digital audio clock master" on page 23). In the simplest case, you have two devices and one is the word clock master and the other is the slave as shown below in Figure 4-4 and Figure 4-5.



Figure 4-4: Slaving another digital audio device to the 16A via word clock. For the 16A clock source, choose *Internal* (or any source other than *Word Clock*, as daisy-chaining word clock is not recommended).



Figure 4-5: Slaving the 16A to word clock. For the 16A clock source, choose 'Word Clock In'.

The 16A word clock input provides proper 75 ohm termination, but only when the BNC jack is configured to operate as a word clock output. Alternately, the word clock output can be configured as a word clock thru, which connects the input clock signal directly to the output, *with no termination on the input*. See the “Daisy-chaining word clock” below.

Resolving to a word clock signal that matches the 16A base clock rate

The 16A can resolve to a word clock signal running at an even multiple of the current system clock setting (the *base clock rate*). For example, the 16A could be running at 96 kHz while resolving to a 48 kHz word clock signal from another device. Similarly, the 16A could run at 88.2 kHz and resolve to 44.1 kHz word clock signal. Conversely, the 16A could run at 48 kHz and resolve to a 96 kHz word clock signal. However, if the 16A is running at 96 kHz, it cannot resolve to a word clock signal running at 44.1 kHz.

In summary, the word clock signal must be one of the following:

- the same as the current 16A clock rate
- 2x or 4x the current 16A clock rate
- half or quarter of the current 16A clock rate

Daisy-chaining word clock

If necessary, you can daisy-chain several word clock devices together. When doing so, connect WORD CLOCK OUT from the first (master) device to the WORD CLOCK IN on the second device. Then connect its WORD CLOCK THRU port to the next device’s WORD CLOCK IN port, and so on. If the 16A is in the middle of the chain, use its WORD CLOCK OUT port and change its operation from OUT to THRU (using item #7 on page 34 or from the front panel menu). If the 16A is the first device in the chain (to generate word clock for the other devices), do not enable WORD CLOCK THRU mode.

Make sure that the last device in the word clock chain has 75 ohm termination on its input.

If you have more than four word clock devices that you need to synchronize, try to avoid chaining their word clock connections. Instead, use a word clock distribution device of some kind.

☞ When the 16A is powered off, the WORD CLOCK OUT reverts to THRU.

SYNCING AVB DEVICES

When connecting AVB streams between two or more devices on a network, one device needs to be designated as the clock master, while all other devices use it as a clock source. Set the master device’s Clock Source to *Internal* (or any other clock source besides an AVB network stream). Other devices should then resolve to the master device via an AVB stream connection.

For details about how to set this up between multiple 16A’s, or between the 16A and other AVB devices, see “Syncing AVB devices” on page 78.

Part 2

Using the 16A

CHAPTER 5 Front Panel Operation

The front panel provides access to basic settings and the headphone output with independent volume and source select. The high-resolution LCD screens display level meters for all inputs and outputs, status information and activity indicators for network activity. Basic device settings and status information can be accessed in the LCD using the MENU knob and SELECT/BACK buttons.

Level meters	26
Menu Navigation	27
Headphone volume	28
Headphone source	28
Monitor control	28
The Monitor Group	28
Saving and recalling device presets	29
Mac keyboard volume control	29
DAC Filter	29
Applying a static IP address	29
Front Panel Lockout	30
Power button	30

LEVEL METERS

In its default state when the unit is first powered on, the two LCD screens display level meter activity for all audio inputs and outputs (Figure 5-2).

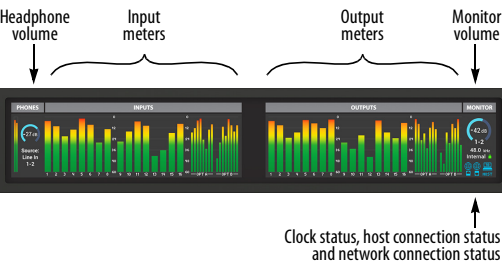


Figure 5-2: The front panel displays.

The Status section

The Status section (Figure 5-3) displays basic information about the 16A.

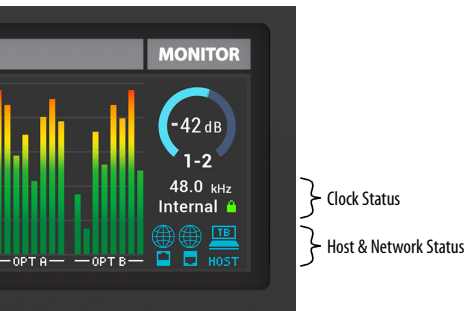


Figure 5-3: The Status section.

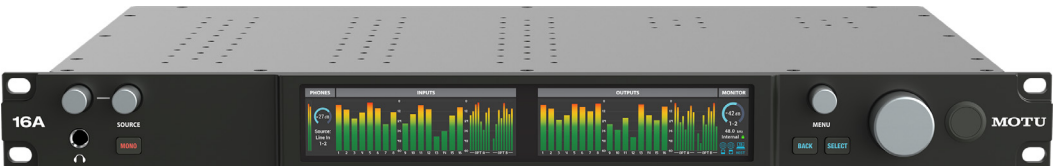


Figure 5-1: The 16A front panel.

Clock Status

The Clock Status section of the screen (Figure 5-3) displays the *Sample Rate* at which the unit is currently operating, and the current *Clock Source* setting (item #6 in the Devices tab on page 34). The Sample Rate and Clock Source settings can also be found (and changed) in the front panel screen menu. They can also be changed in the Device tab of CueMix Pro (page 34).

The Lock icon

When the 16A has successfully resolved to the current clock source, the *Lock* icon (Figure 5-3) turns *green*. When the 16A has not yet successfully locked to the current clock source for some reason, the lock icon turns *red*. Check the *Clock Source* setting (item #6 on page 34), cable connections, etc. The lock icon can also appear *amber*. See “Clock source freewheeling” on page 79.

HOST Status

The *Host* icon (Figure 5-3) indicates the status of the USB connection to the computer, as shown below. *Blue* indicates a successful connection to the host; the number (or letters) indicates the format of the connection (Thunderbolt/USB4, USB3 or USB2). When the icon turns *yellow*, this indicates that a connection has been detected, but full connectivity has not yet been establish for some reason.

Host connection status	Host icon
No connection	 (White)
Connection detected, but not yet fully established	 (Yellow)
Thunderbolt/USB4 (PCIe)	 (Blue)
USB3	 (Blue)
USB2	 (Blue)

Network Status

The *Network Status* indicators (Figure 5-3) turn blue when a network connection has been successfully established on the top or bottom network port on the rear panel of the 16A.

Network connection status	Network icon
No connection	 (White)
Connection established	 (blue)

Meter views

Several alternative meter views are available, such as *All meters* and *Analog I/O only*. These can be chosen from the MENU (see the next section).

All meters



Analog I/O only



Digital I/O only



Figure 5-4: Meter views.

MENU NAVIGATION

Turn the MENU knob or push the SELECT button (Figure 5-1) to access the menu, which provides settings and status information. Turn the MENU knob to scroll through the menu settings.

Push SELECT to enter the selected sub-menu or to select the currently highlighted parameter. Push BACK to go to the parent menu.

To exit the menu entirely, push BACK repeatedly until the menu disappears from the display.

Menu Item	What it does
Sample Rate	Sets the sample rate for the device.
Clock Source	Sets the digital audio clock source for the device. See “Synchronization” on page 22.
Word Clock	Lets you configure the Word Clock OUT port as either OUT or THRU. See “Syncing word clock devices” on page 23.
Optical A Format	Specifies ADAT or TOSLink. See “Optical I/O” on page 21.
Optical Expander	Provides presets for optical expander operation at each sample rate (up to 96 kHz). See chapter 8, “Optical Expander Presets” (page 67).
Meter View	Lets you choose a desired metering configuration, such as <i>All Meters</i> , <i>Analog I/O Only</i> , etc.
Meter Settings	Lets you set the peak/hold time for the meters.
Display	Provides timeout options for the display (after 30 seconds, 30 minutes or off). When timed out, the screen goes dark.
Network	Displays the IP address and network clock source for the 16A unit. Provides options for auto (DHCP) versus manual IP address assignment for the device. See “Applying a static IP address” on page 29. Also provides options for resetting AVB stream latency (presentation time) between MOTU Defaults (0.5 ms) and Milan Defaults (2.0 ms). See “Presentation Time Offset” on page 76 and “Default presentation time offsets” on page 78..
About	Displays the device name, serial number, and firmware version for the device.
Presets	Lets you save and recall device presets, which store the entire state of the interface. Up to eight different presets can be stored.
Advanced	Provides settings for host computer keyboard volume control (Mac only), the DAC filter setting, and front panel lockout.
Reset	Restores factory default settings. Please note: doing a factory reset will erase any saved user presets. To restore factory settings without erasing saved user presets, see “The Default Preset” on page 29.

HEADPHONE VOLUME

Turn the headphone volume knob (Figure 5-1) to adjust the phones volume. The LCD indicates the current level (on a scale from $-\infty$ to 0) and provides feedback during adjustment.

HEADPHONE SOURCE

Turn the headphone SOURCE knob (Figure 5-1) to choose the channel you wish to listen to on the headphones. You can either wait a brief moment for your selection to take effect, or you can push SELECT to confirm your choice (or BACK to cancel it).

The MONO button

When choosing the headphone source signal, the menu displays stereo pairs (e.g. Line Out 1-2, Line Out 3-4, etc.) If you would like to choose just a single channel (e.g. Line Out 7), press the MONO button. Now, the SOURCE knob scrolls through individual channels. The mono signal from the chosen channel is split and sent to both left and right channels on your headphones. Press MONO again to turn off mono mode and return to stereo operation.

MONITOR CONTROL

Turn the main volume knob (to the right of the LCD) to adjust the Monitor volume. From the factory, this knob controls the level of Line Outs 1-2. If you add additional outputs to the Monitor group (see below), this volume knob controls the output level of all of them.

THE MONITOR GROUP

The 16A *Monitor Group* allows you to add additional line outputs to be controlled as a group by the main volume knob (and the corresponding volume control in the Home tab and Outputs tab in CueMix Pro). For example, you could group Outputs 1-6 or 1-8 to control a 5.1 or 7.1 surround system, respectively. Choose the desired outputs in the *Monitor Group* section in the CueMix Pro Home tab (page 33) or Outputs tab (page 36).

After doing so, the main volume knob (on both the front panel and in the CueMix Pro Home and Outputs tabs) affect all of them.

When A/B/C Mode is enabled, the Monitor Group controls all three pairs of A, B and C outputs. See “A/B/C Monitoring” on page 50. Use the trim controls in the CueMix Pro Outputs tab to trim Monitor Group outputs relative to each other.

SAVING AND RECALLING DEVICE PRESETS

Use the *Presets* menu command on the front panel of the 16A to save and recall up to eight 16A device presets in the device. A preset saves the entire state of the 16A interface, including all device settings, mixes and effects settings. You can also manage presets in the Home tab of CueMix Pro. See “Custom presets” on page 55.

The Default Preset

The *Default Preset* (page 53) restores the factory default settings of the unit while at the same time preserving any other presets you may have saved in the other preset slots.

MAC KEYBOARD VOLUME CONTROL

When using your MOTU interface for audio output from your Mac, you can enable or disable volume control from the Mac keyboard from the front panel menu in the *Advanced > Host volume* menu item. For more information, see “Using your MOTU interface for computer audio input and output” on page 65.

DAC FILTER

The ESS™ digital-to-analog converter (DAC) in the 16A provides state-of-the-art, industry leading performance. It also provides several filter settings that allow you to tailor the trade-offs between conversion latency, transient response, high-frequency roll-off, and phase linearity. These filter settings can be accessed from the front panel menu under the *Advanced* menu item. The three filter settings are summarized below.

👁 The differences between the filter settings are extremely subtle, and likely not perceptible, except in the most critical listening scenarios.

Minimum Phase (Default)

The *Minimum Phase (Default)* filter option is chosen as the factory default setting because it offers the best pass-band performance suitable for the widest range of audio material and very low converter latency of 5.4 samples. This option is your best choice if low latency is important for your workflows.

Linear Phase Fast

The *Linear Phase Fast* filter option has higher latency (35 samples) and pass-band performance similar to the minimum phase filter, with no frequency-dependent phase shifting. This is a good option if your use case benefits from linear phase (for example many D/A - A/D round trips) and the increased latency can be tolerated, or you can effectively manage latency with your system’s buffer setting (see “Reducing monitoring latency” on page 62).

Linear Phase Slow

The *Linear Phase Slow* filter has low latency (8.75 samples) and serves as an effective low-latency linear-phase option at higher sample rates (88.2khz or above).

APPLYING A STATIC IP ADDRESS

The 16A is automatically assigned a network IP address through your network’s DHCP server. If you have a need to manually assign a specific (static) IPv4 address to the 16A, you can do so from the front panel menu. Turn the MENU knob to select the *Network* menu item. Press SELECT to access the *Configure IP* options. Press SELECT again and turn the MENU knob to choose the desired option.

Auto/DHCP

The *Auto/DHCP* setting will cause the 16A to be assigned an IP address automatically from your network's DHCP server.

Static IP

When you choose the *Static IP* setting (by pushing SELECT), additional settings appear in the right-hand column of the display for assigning a specific IP address, subnet mask, and gateway. Use the SELECT button to scroll to the desired setting, then press SELECT again to enter that setting (blue box). Then use the MENU knob to choose the desired number (octet). Press SELECT to confirm your choice and move to the next octet. Press BACK and use the knob to scroll to any octet. When you are finished, scroll to the end to select *Apply* and push SELECT to apply your settings. Press BACK repeatedly to exit.

If necessary, you can always reset the device back to *Auto/DHCP*.

Your device's IP address and CueMix Pro

CueMix Pro connects to the 16A via a TCP network connection. By default, this connection employs IPv6 and requires no additional configuration. If IPv6 is unavailable, the connection automatically falls back to IPv4, using a link-local address or DHCP (if available) to obtain an IPv4 address.

In certain situations, it may be necessary to statically assign an IPv4 address to your device, as explained earlier.

☛ Applying a static IP address can only be done from the front panel, as described above.

FRONT PANEL LOCKOUT

The *Front Panel Lockout* feature can be enabled to prevent unwanted adjustments to the controls on the front panel of the 16A. For example, the unit may be installed in a front-of-house mixing position in a theater, within arms reach of theater audience members.

To access the lockout feature from the front panel, Scroll to the *Advanced* menu item and choose the *Panel Lockout* sub-menu option.

Once enabled, the LCD displays an alert when any knob is turned (or button pushed) that the controls are locked.

There are two ways to exit Panel Lockout mode:

- On the front panel, hold down the BACK button while turning the MENU knob clockwise.
- In CueMix Pro, go to the Device tab and click the *Unlock Front Panel* button (Figure 5-5).

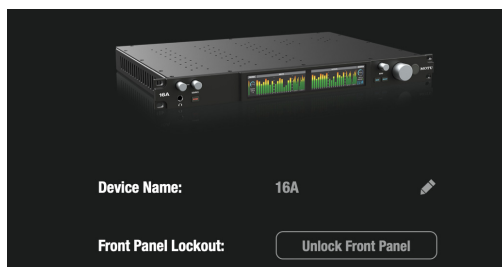


Figure 5-5: Disabling Front Panel Lockout mode in the Device tab in CueMix Pro.

POWER BUTTON

Push the power button to turn the unit on or off.

CHAPTER 6 CueMix Pro

CueMix Pro gives you complete control of all the settings in the 16A. It is a standard software application installed on your Mac or PC when you run the MOTU Pro Audio v2 installer or setup app. It can be found in the Applications folder (Mac) or Start menu under MOTU (Windows). CueMix Pro is also available as an iOS app.

Run the installer, get the app	31
Make hardware connections	31
Discovery tab	32
Home tab	33
Device tab	34
Inputs tab	35
Outputs tab	36
Patchbay tab	37
Routing tab	38
Mixing tab	39
Aux Mixing tab	40
Input channel strips	41
Bus channel strips	42
Input channel settings	43
Parametric EQ	44
Dynamics processing	45
Mix Sends	46
Mixer Effects	47
Multi-band parametric EQ	47
Gate	48
Compressor	48
Reverb	49
A/B/C Monitoring	50
Talkback	51
Delay compensation	52
The factory default preset	53
Custom presets	55
Working with other MOTU AVB interfaces	55
Accessing devices with a specific IP address	56
Firmware Updating	56
The CueMix Pro iOS app	58

RUN THE INSTALLER, GET THE APP

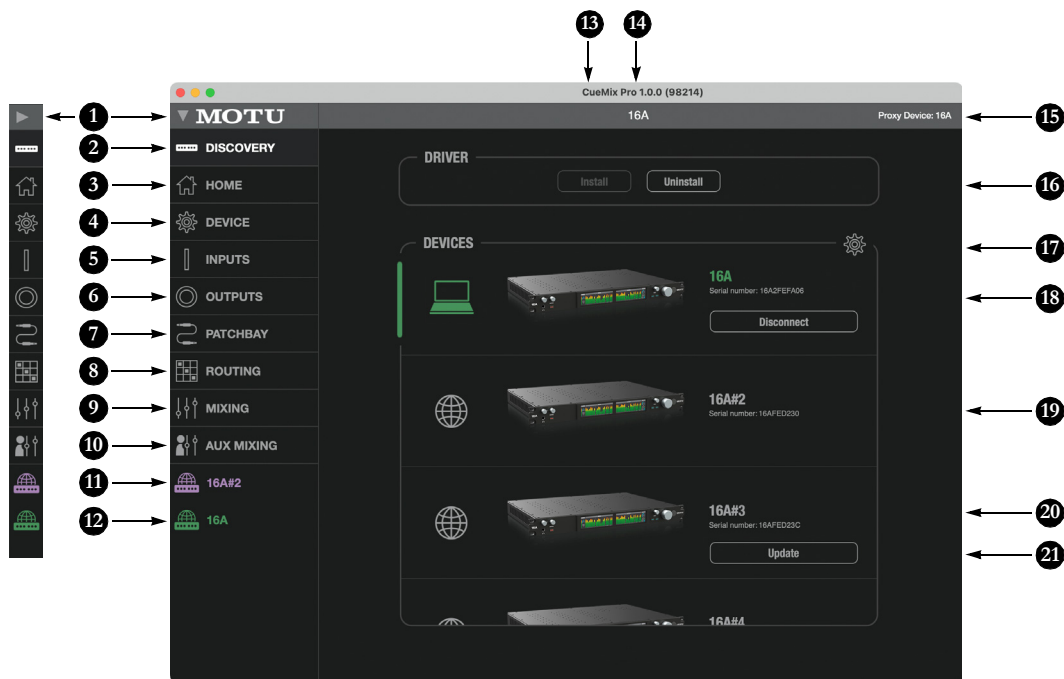
Visit motu.com/16A-start to get the latest MOTU Pro Audio v2 installer or setup and run it on your computer. Visit the Apple App Store to install the CueMix Pro app on your iOS device.

 Look for updated PDF versions of this user guide at the link above, which may document new features and updates to CueMix Pro.

MAKE HARDWARE CONNECTIONS

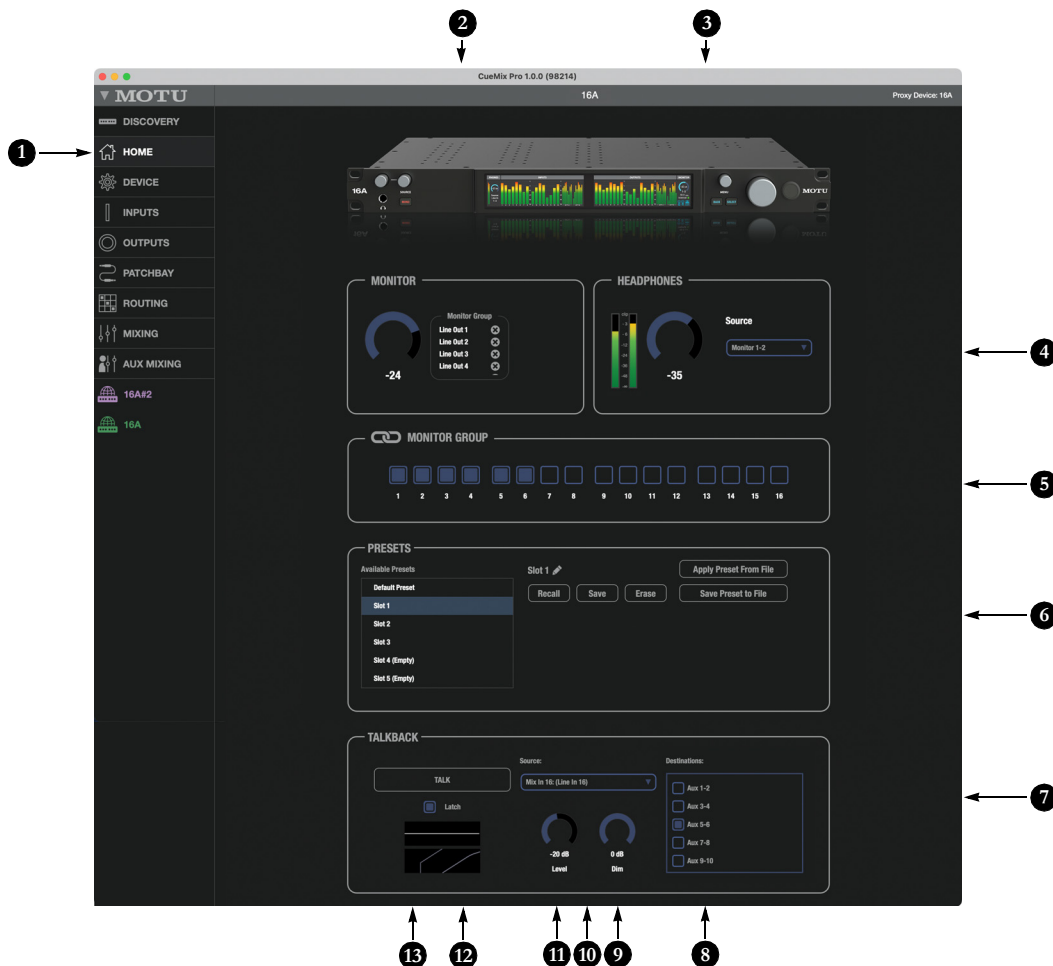
Before running CueMix Pro, be sure that the 16A is successfully connected to your device and powered on, and described in chapter 4, “Hardware Installation” (page 18).

DISCOVERY TAB



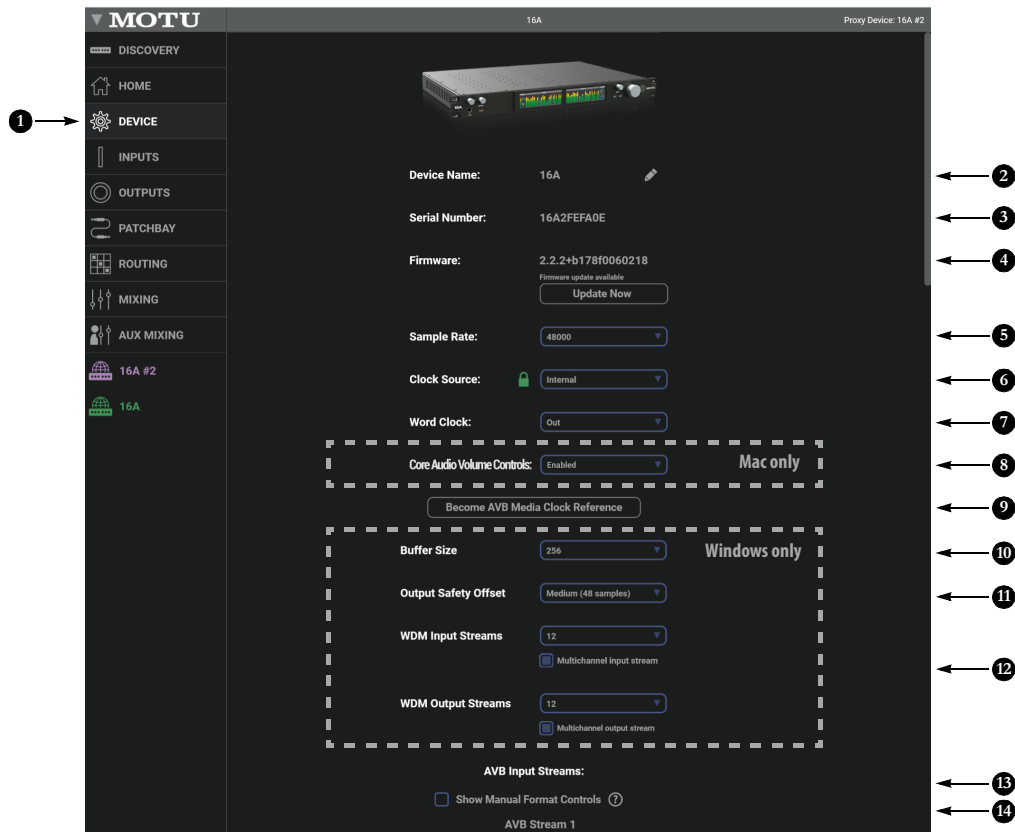
1. Expands and collapses the sidebar.
2. This is the *Discovery* tab. It lets you access and manage all 16A's connected to your computer and local area network (LAN).
3. The *Home* tab provides quick access to basic settings. See "Home tab" on page 33.
4. The *Device* tab provides basic hardware settings, such as the Sample Rate and Clock Source. See "Device tab" on page 34.
5. The *Inputs* tab provides settings for the 16A's physical inputs, such as gain levels for the line inputs. See "Inputs tab" on page 35.
6. The *Outputs* tab provides settings for the 16A's physical outputs, such as trim levels for the line outputs. See "Outputs tab" on page 36.
7. The *Patchbay* tab provides flexible audio channel patching and routing among sources and destinations, including the computer, the 16A physical inputs and outputs, the 64-channel mixer in the 16A, and AVB network I/O streams.
8. The *Routing* tab is another way to manage audio channel patching and routing. See "Routing tab" on page 38.
9. The *Mixing* tab provides access to the on-board mixing and effects. The 16A is a capable 64 x 32 monitor mixer. See "Mixing tab" on page 39.
10. The *Aux Mixing* tab gives you access to send faders for each aux mix. See "Aux Mixing tab" on page 40.
11. This area at the bottom of the sidebar displays any AVB devices on the same network as the currently selected (green) device here in the *Discovery* tab (18), which serves as the network *proxy device* (15). The sidebar list shows both MOTU and 3rd-party devices. Click a device to view its settings in CueMix Pro. When previous-generation MOTU devices or 3rd-party devices are selected, they will display only basic settings in CueMix Pro. Unavailable tabs will be grayed out.
12. This is the currently selected device (highlighted in green). This is the device currently being viewed in the CueMix Pro app.
13. The *Devices* list shows any 16A's detected by CueMix Pro. In the future, other similar products in the 16A (Pro Audio v2) family will appear in this list as well, when detected by CueMix Pro.
14. The title bar displays the name of the 16A or other device on the network that is currently being viewed in (and controlled with) CueMix Pro.
15. The *Proxy Device* provides access to any other AVB devices on the network. These devices are displayed in the sidebar (11).
16. (macOS only) The *Driver* section provides buttons for installing and uninstalling the 16A driver, which supports the best possible performance for your 16A.
17. This menu lets you show or hide a virtual 16A in the device list. Clicking on the virtual 16A lets you work with CueMix Pro off line, when no 16A hardware is accessible or available (i.e. there is no 16A present in the list of available devices). You can access all CueMix Pro settings in all tabs. This menu also provides
- advanced settings for accessing devices with specific IP addresses on the network.
18. The *currently selected device* is displayed in green. Click a device to select it. This is the device that CueMix Pro is connected to. When you connect to a device here, you can view its settings in CueMix Pro. It also serves as the *Proxy Device* (15), providing access to all other AVB devices on the same network; network devices are displayed in the sidebar (11). Click *Disconnect* to sever the connection between the device and CueMix Pro. This can sometimes help when troubleshooting. Click the device again to reconnect.
19. Each device displays its connection type (host or network).
20. To rename a device, click it to select it and then go to the *Device* tab (4) to rename it there.
21. If a firmware update is available, this *Update* button appears. Click it to update the firmware in the device.

HOME TAB



1. This is the *Home* tab, which provides quick access to basic settings.
2. Control the unit's *Monitor* volume here (the level of the Monitor Group). This is the same as the main volume knob on the front panel of the unit (item 8 on page 9).
3. Control the unit's *Headphones* volume here. This is the same as the headphone volume knob on the front panel of the unit (item 1 on page 9).
4. Choose the *Source* signal for the headphone output from this menu. This is the same setting controlled by the *SOURCE* knob on the front panel of the unit (item 2 on page 9).
5. The *Monitor Group* represents line outputs that are dedicated to monitoring in your studio. From the factory, the Monitor Group includes Line Outs 1-2, which you would connect to your primary studio monitors. You can add additional outputs for multi-channel monitoring. All outputs in the Monitor Group are controlled by the main volume knob on the front panel of the 16A, and the Monitor Volume knob in this tab (2). You can adjust their relative volume to one another using the trims in the Outputs tab (page 36).
6. The *Presets* section lets you save, recall, and erase presets in the device's eight preset slots. You can also save and recall presets to and from your computer or iPad. See "Custom presets" on page 55.
7. The *Talkback* section provides controls for setting up and controlling the 16A's talkback features. See "Talkback" on page 51.
8. Use mixer buses to route the talkback signal to the desired destination in your studio. Select the bus you are using here in the *Destinations* list.
9. When engaged, Talkback can temporarily reduce the level of all other signals on the talkback bus. Use the *Dim* control to determine the signal reduction amount.
10. Use the *Source* menu to choose the source signal for talkback, such as an analog input connected to a talkback mic.
11. *Level* controls the volume of the Talkback signal.
12. Click the EQ and dynamics processing thumbnails to access a 4-band EQ, gate and compressor for the talkback signal.
13. Click the *TALK* button to engage talkback. If the *Latch* button is disabled, the TALK button will only engage while pressing on the button. With Latch enabled, you can click the TALK button and it will remain on until you click it again.

DEVICE TAB



1. This is the *Device* tab, which provides basic hardware settings.
2. You can give your 16A a unique *Device Name*, which appears in the *Discovery* tab. This helps you manage multiple devices that are connected or available on the network. Click to edit the name.
3. Displays the *Serial Number* of your 16A device.
4. Displays the *firmware version* currently installed in your 16A device. If an update is available, click *Update Now*. See “*Firmware Updating*” on page 56. Be sure to check frequently for updates for new features and enhancements.
5. Choose the desired *Sample Rate*. Make sure your host audio software is set to the same rate.
6. Choose the *Clock Source*. Your MOTU device will resolve its digital clock to this master source. Set the clock source to *Internal*, unless you have

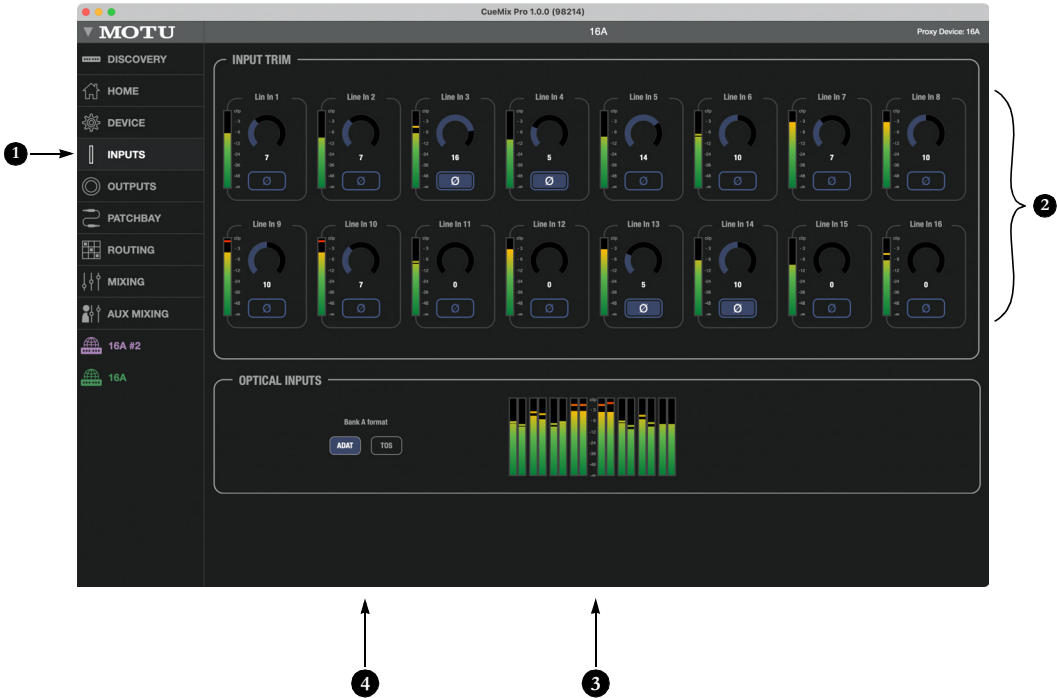
other devices connected to the optical inputs. If so, see “*Optical I/O*” on page 21. If you are resolving the 16A to word clock, see “*Syncing word clock devices*” on page 23. If you are working with other devices on an AVB network, see “*Syncing AVB devices*” on page 78. The lock icon indicates when the 16A is successfully locked. Also see “*Clock source freewheeling*” on page 17.

7. The *Word Clock* output on your MOTU interface can operate as an OUT or a THRU. When *Word Clock Thru* is enabled, 75 ohm termination on the input is lifted and the word clock signal received on the input is patched directly to the *Word Clock* Output. See “*Daisy-chaining word clock*” on page 24.
8. (Mac only) When using your MOTU interface for audio output from your computer, you can enable or disable volume control from your Mac keyboard with the *Core Audio Volume Controls* setting.

9. Click the *Become AVB Media Clock Reference* button to make this device the clock reference for all other devices on the AVB network. All other devices will be resolved to the audio clock in this device. See “*Syncing AVB devices*” on page 78.
10. (Windows only) Choose a *Buffer Size*. Smaller values reduce latency but increase your computer’s CPU load. See “*Buffer Size*” on page 17.
11. (Windows only) Use the *Output Safety Offset* setting to fine tune host buffer latency. See “*Output Safety Offset*” on page 17.
12. (Windows only) The 16A supports *Windows* built-in audio. Choose the number of WDM input and output streams for your *Windows* audio applications that use built-in audio. Use the check boxes to optionally enable a separate 24-channel *Multi-channel/WDM* stream for input and output. These settings don’t affect the ASIO driver channels.

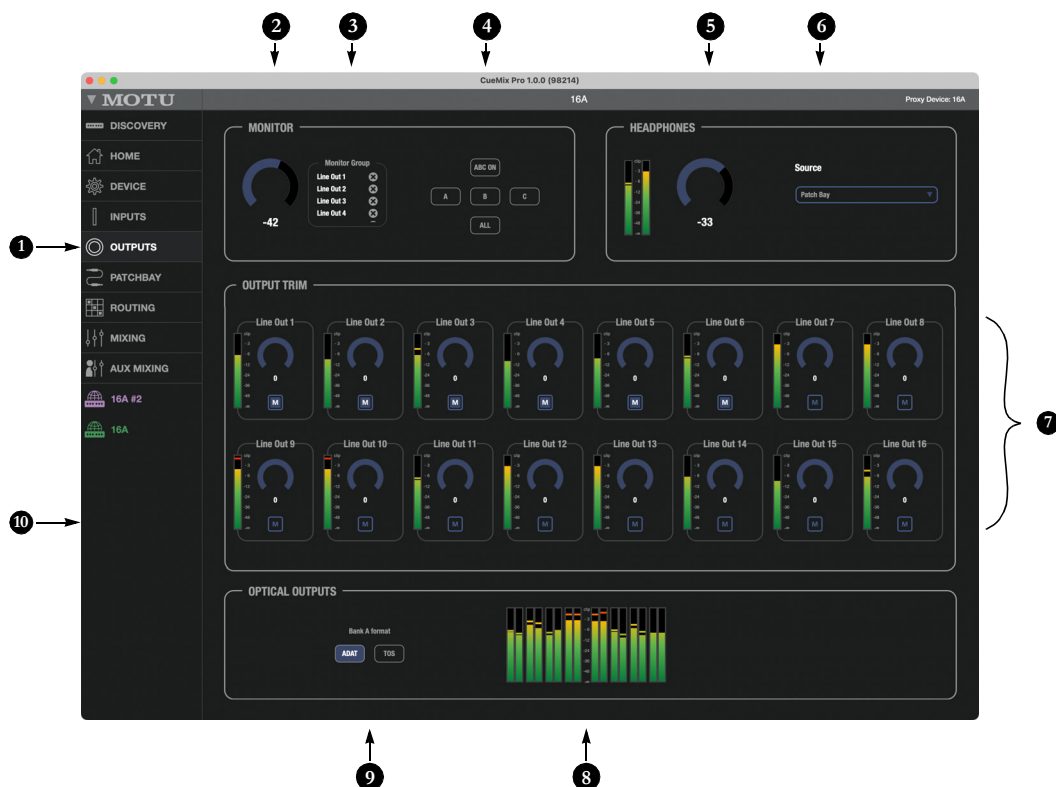
13. The 16A provides sixteen *AVB Input Streams* for receiving audio from other AVB devices on the network. Each stream supports from one to eight audio channels. Use these menus to select the *Source Device* and *Source Stream* for each 16A input stream. You can then use the *Patchbay* (page 37) to route the input streams elsewhere in the 16A (to the host computer, the built-in 16A mixer, 16A outputs, etc.). See “*Setting up the 16A for networking*” on page 73.
14. (Not shown) The 16A also provides sixteen *AVB Output Streams* (scroll past the *Input Streams* section to access them). Output streams allow you to send 16A audio signals to other devices on the AVB network. Here in the *Device* tab, you can configure the number of audio channels for each output stream, and choose the stream format. See “*AVB output stream format*” on page 76 and “*Setting up the 16A for networking*” on page 73.

INPUTS TAB



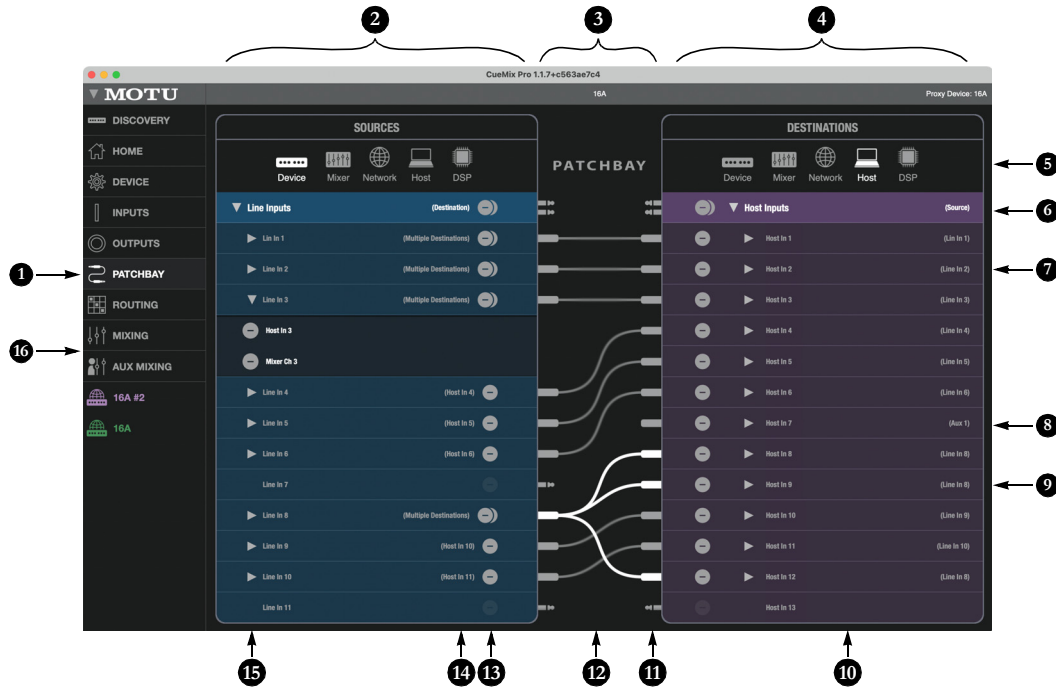
1. This is the *Inputs tab*, which provides access to settings for the 16A analog and digital (optical) inputs.
2. Each line input can be digitally boosted up to +20 dB. This allows the inputs to easily accommodate +4 dB and -10 dB reference levels. Each input also includes a *Phase Invert* button. Click an input name to type in a custom name.
3. Meters are provided here for the two Optical Input banks, for convenience.
4. Configure the *Optical Input format* for Bank A for either 8-channel ADAT or stereo TOSLink. At 88.2 or 96 kHz, the ADAT setting supports 4-channel SMUX format. Note that you can choose a different format for the optical IN and OUT ports. See “Optical I/O” on page 21.

OUTPUTS TAB



1. This is the *Outputs* tab, which provides settings for the 16A's analog and digital outputs.
2. MONITOR volume controls the level of the monitor group. This is the same as the main volume knob on the front panel of the 16A and in the Home tab (item #2 on page 33).
3. The *Monitor Group* determines which outputs are controlled by the *Main* volume knob on the 16A's front panel (item #8 on page 9), plus the Main Volume controls in the Home tab (item #2 on page 33) and here in the Outputs tab. For example, if your studio has a pair of main monitors, plus a sub-woofer connected to Line Out 3, you could click the 'M' button for *Analog 3* to add it to the main volume controls. If you have 5.1 or 7.1 surround monitoring, you can add the surround channels to the monitor group to be able to control the volume of all surround outputs simultaneously with the Main Volume knob.
4. *A/B/C Monitoring* lets you connect two or three sets of speakers and then check your mixes on each pair by switching among them using the A, B and C buttons. See "A/B/C Monitoring" on page 50.
5. Meters and volume controls for the *Headphone* output. These are the same as the headphone volume control on the front panel.
6. Choose the *Source* signal for the headphone output from this menu. This is the same setting controlled by the SOURCE knob on the front panel of the unit.
7. All line outs can be *trimmed* from zero to $-\infty$ dB. This can be useful for speaker calibration or other situations where you need a fixed amount of level adjustment for a particular output (or output pair). You can also rename each output. Click the name to type in a custom name.
8. Meters are provided here for the two Optical Input banks, for convenience.
9. Configure the *Bank A format* for either 8-channel ADAT or stereo TOSLink. At 88.2 or 96 kHz, the ADAT setting supports 4-channel SMUX format. Note that you can choose a different format for the IN and OUT. See "Optical I/O" on page 21.
10. Enable the 'M' button to include the output in the *Monitor Group*. The Monitor Group represents line outputs that are dedicated to monitoring in your studio. From the factory, the Monitor Group consists of Line Outs 1-2, which you would connect to your primary studio monitors. You can add additional outputs for multi-channel monitoring. All outputs in the Monitor Group are controlled by the main volume knob on the front panel of the 16A, the Monitor Volume knob in this tab (2), and the Home tab (item #2 on page 33). You can adjust their relative volume to one another using the trims (7).

PATCHBAY TAB



1. This is the *Patchbay* tab, which lets you make connections between audio sources and destinations in your 16A system.
2. This bank on the left represents *Sources*, which are presented in five separate sub-banks that can be collapsed or expanded:

Device — Analog and digital (optical) inputs on the 16A device itself.

Mixer — Bus outputs from the 16A's built-in mixer, which has 32 output buses.

Network — Incoming AVB audio streams from other devices on the network.

Host — Thunderbolt or USB audio channels from the host computer.

DSP — Delay compensation banks.

3. This is the *Patchbay*, where you drag cables from one bank to the other to make connections, just like a real patchbay. Grab a cable from either side and snap it into any desired socket on the other side. To grab several cables at once, press and hold your mouse on the first one and

then drag down or up to select additional adjacent cables; then drag them together. To grab an entire bank, such as all *Line Inputs*, drag its "double" cables next to the bank name. To clear a connection, click it to select it and hit the delete key. To select multiple connections, drag across them.

When making or clearing connections, you can use *Undo* and *Redo* in the Edit menu.

4. This bank on the right represents *Destinations*, which are presented in five separate sub-banks:

Device — Analog and digital (optical) outputs on the 16A device.

Mixer — Inputs to the 16A's built-in 64-channel mixer.

Network — Outgoing AVB audio streams to other devices on the network.

Host — Thunderbolt or USB audio channels to the host computer.

DSP — Delay compensation.

5. Click the desired source or destination bank here to view it.

6. This is the *Host (computer) Inputs* bank, which represents Thunderbolt or USB audio channels going to the host computer. It is currently expanded so you can see individual channels below. The "double cable" in the Patchbay lets you connect all channels in this bank in one operation.

7. Here, the 16A's Analog *Line In* channel 2 is connected to *Host In* channel 2. This connection routes audio from Line Input 2 to Thunderbolt (or USB) input channel 2 in your host software. Click any source or destination name to rename it.

8. Here, you see a plug connected to *Host Input 7*, but no cable. This indicates that there is a connection from a source in a different source bank, other than the Line Inputs. To view this connection, click its source bank in the left panel.

9. Each destination shows its source in parentheses here (if there is one). Destinations can only have one source.

10. To see more connections, drag vertically on a bank to scroll it, or use the scroll wheel on your mouse (or your finger on iOS).

11. Drag any plug on either side of the patchbay to make a connection.

12. The white connections are selected; hit the delete key to clear them. To select a connection, click it. To select several, drag over them. Use the scroll wheel on your mouse while hovering over the patchbay to scroll both banks. Hold the Ctrl key while doing so to scroll them relatively.

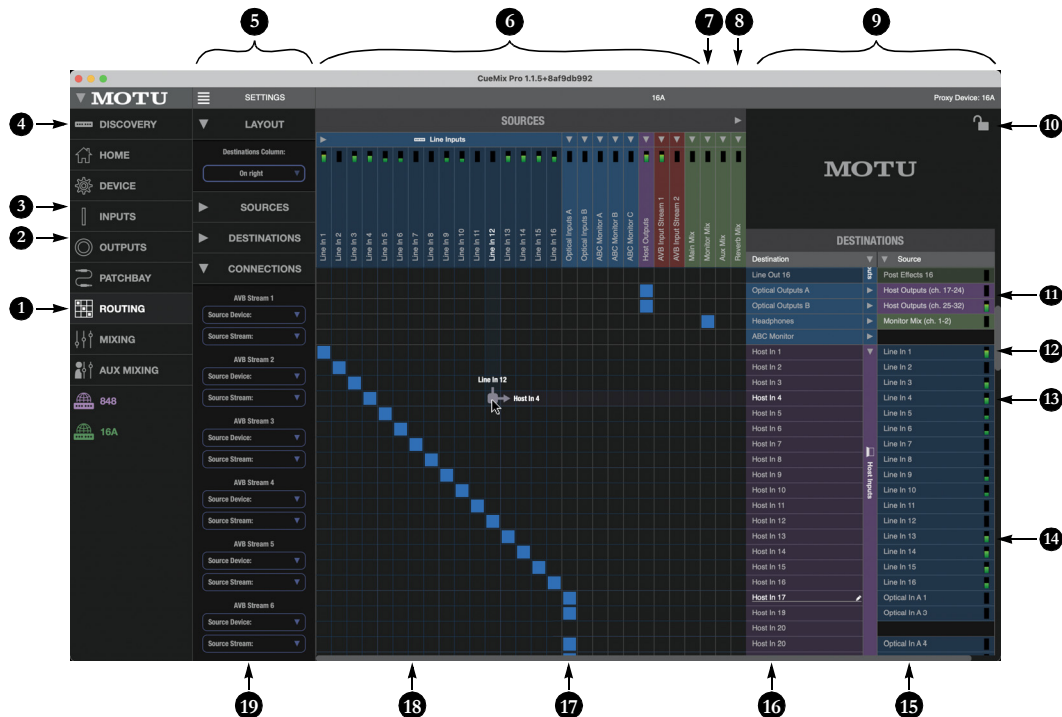
13. Click the minus (-) button to clear a connection; click the double-minus to clear all connections for the source. Click the expand button (15) to delete individual connections.

14. The destination is shown here. To view multiple destinations, click the disclosure button (15).

15. Use the disclosure buttons to see what the source is connected to. Sources can be connected to multiple destinations, either in the same bank or other banks. Shortcut: Cmd/Ctrl-click to expand (or collapse) all.

16. In this example, *Line In 3* is being patched to *Host Ch 3* and *Mixer Ch 3*. The mixer connection is not currently shown, but if you switch the destination bank to mixer (on the right) you'll see it then. Click the minus buttons to clear connections.

ROUTING TAB



1. This is the *Routing* tab, which, similar to the *Patchbay*, lets you make connections between audio sources and destinations in your 16A system. The grid in *Routing* tab provides more of a bird's-eye view, making it ideal for complex routing scenarios.

2. Use the *Destinations* section in the sidebar to show or hide destination banks (9).

3. Use the *Sources* section in the sidebar to show or hide source banks across the top of the grid (6).

4. The *Layout* section in the sidebar provides a setting to display the *Destinations* columns along the left side of the grid, if desired, similar to the web app for earlier generation MOTU AVB interfaces.

5. Click *Settings* to show or hide the *Settings* sidebar.

6. *Sources* are displayed as columns across the top of the grid, grouped in color-coded banks that match those in the *Patchbay* (page 37):

Blue (Device) — Analog and digital (optical) inputs on the 16A device.

Purple (Host) — Thunderbolt or USB audio channels from the host computer.

Red (Network) — Incoming AVB audio streams from other devices on the network.

Green (Mixer) — Bus outputs from the 16A's built-in mixer, which has 32 output buses.

Aqua (Delay Line) — DSP-driven delay compensation banks.

7. Click a bank to expand or collapse it. Expanded banks show all channels in the bank.

8. Click this disclosure triangle to expand or collapse all source banks.

9. *Destinations* are displayed as rows here on the right, also grouped in color-coded banks matching the *Patchbay*. The *Layout* setting (4) allows you to display *Destinations* on the left side of the grid, if desired.

10. Locks the grid to prevent accidental changes. Unlock to make changes to the grid.

11. Here, the two *Optical Output* banks are currently collapsed, but the blue check box indicates the existence of multiple routings within each bank (from the host computer).

12. Here, the *Host Inputs* bank is expanded, showing each host input channel and its source.

13. Hover your cursor (or finger on iOS) over the grid and then click (or tap) to make a connection. Cursor tracking shows the source and destination connected by the grid box. Click an existing blue box to remove it (break the connection). Drag to make (or break) multiple connections in a single gesture.

>> Note that sources can be assigned to multiple destinations (in the same column), but each destination (row) can have only one source.

14. Each source and destination channel has its own level meter to indicate signal activity.

15. When making connections, the *Source* column shows the selected source for each destination, so you can view them by name, side by side. If there is no source, the *Source*

column is blank. Show or hide the *Source* column with the disclosure triangle in the column header.

16. Click any channel name to rename it. To revert to the default name, delete the custom name.

17. Here, *Optical Bank A* is collapsed, but you can still see grid boxes, which indicate connections within the collapsed bank. The destination for each channel in the bank is shown on the right. If you click a collapsed grid box, all channels within it are disconnected. If you click on a collapsed empty grid box, all channels within the bank are connected sequentially to the channels in the destination bank, if possible.

18. This angled line of check boxes shows that all 16A line inputs (1-16) are routed to the host computer (host input channels 1-16).

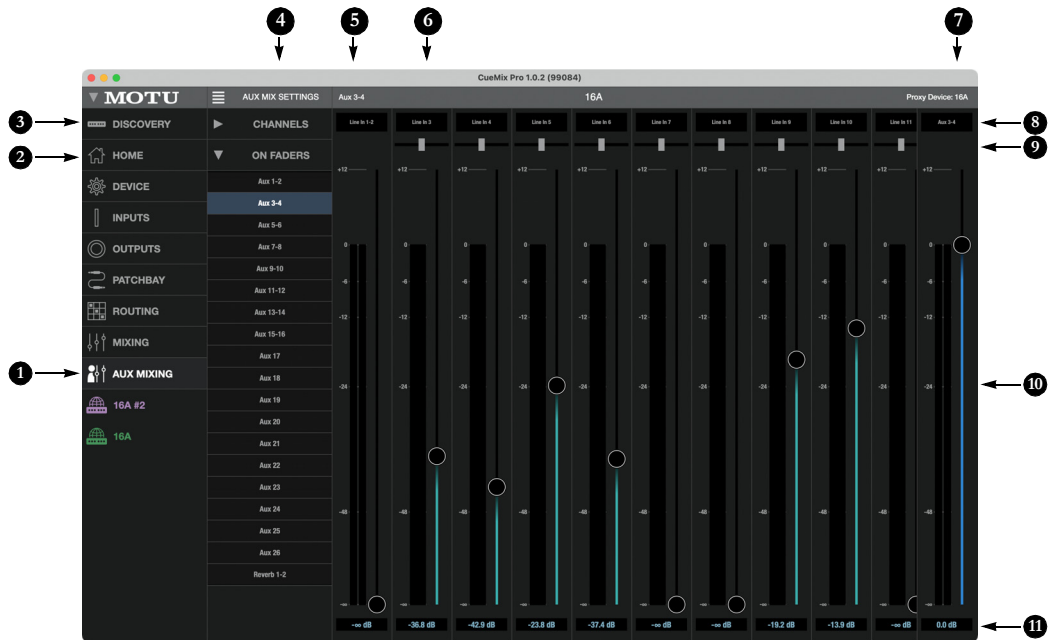
19. The *Connections* section in the sidebar lets you configure AVB streams. These settings are the same as found in the *Device* tab and are duplicated here for convenience while doing routing work.

MIXING TAB



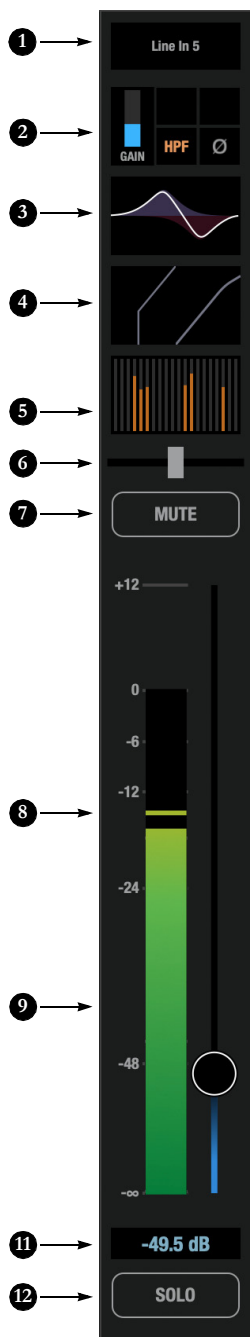
1. The *Mixing tab* gives you access to the 16A's 64-channel 32-bus mixer. The mixer provides 64 input channel strips, followed by 32 bus faders. Scroll horizontally to view them. The current bus fader and its channel strip (*Main 1-2* by default) stays pinned to the right side of the window (5). It can be changed to any bus using the *On Faders* setting (17).
2. Click the *Mix Settings* menu icon to open (or close) this sidebar. The top three items (*Channels*, *Buses*, and *Sections*) let you show and hide channels strips and sections. For example, you can hide inputs you are not using, or the Compressor/Limiter thumbnails. Click their disclosure triangle to view each list. The *Auto* setting in the *Sections* list, when enabled, will show and hide sections automatically, depending on the vertical size of the window.
3. This is the mix bus currently being controlled with the faders, as determined by the *On Faders* setting (17).
4. This is an *input channel strip*. For details, see "Input channel strips" on page 41. There are 64 input channels, which you can show or hide using the *Channels* sidebar section (2). If you scroll to the right of the input channels, you'll see 32 bus faders, including the reverb bus, 26 aux busses, the *Monitor* bus, and the *Main 1-2* bus. For details, see the sections later in this chapter.
5. This output bus channel strip is always pinned to the right side of the window. By default, it shows the *Main 1-2* bus channel strip, but it can be changed to any bus using the *On Faders* setting (17).
6. For input channels, this displays the source signal for the input. For bus channel strips, this shows the name of the bus. Click it to type in a custom name for the channel or bus.
7. Thumbnail for the *channel settings*, such as source signal and High Pass Filter. Click to access the settings.
8. Thumbnail for the *4-band EQ* for the channel or bus. Click to access the graphic EQ controls.
9. Thumbnail for *dynamics processing* for the channel or bus. Inputs have a gate and both inputs and busses have a compressor. Click to access graphic controls.
10. *Send fader* thumbnail that shows any send faders that are up for the input. Click to access all send faders for the input, consolidated in one window. See "Mix Sends" on page 46.
11. *Pan control* for mono input channels. Inputs that are grouped as stereo pairs do not have this pan control. To create stereo pairs, click the channel settings (7) for one of the two channels or any thumbnail.
12. *Mute* the input or bus here. Glide horizontally across multiple channels to mute them in one gesture.
13. *Channel or bus fader and level meter*. The fader range is from $-\infty$ dB to +12 dB. Double-click the fader to jump to unity gain or $-\infty$. Level meters are pre-fader.
14. *Fader level* in dB. Click to edit it numerically.
15. *Solo* the input or bus here. Soloed channels and busses are routed to the *Solo* bus, which can be monitored via the *Monitor 1-2* bus. See "Bus channel strips" on page 42. Glide horizontally across multiple channels to solo them in one gesture.
16. The Talkback section provides access to the Talkback controls here in the *Mixing tab*. See "Talkback" on page 51.
17. The *On Faders* section lets you temporarily convert the faders in the input channel strips into send faders for the chosen bus, providing a convenient way to route multiple inputs to the bus. This includes the reverb bus, for routing input signals to the 16A's built-in reverb. See "Reverb" on page 49. To bring the faders back to controlling input level, choose *Mains* in the *On Faders* list. When a bus is chosen in the *On Faders* list, the channel strip pinned to the right side of the window changes to the fader and channel strip for the chosen bus. Choose *Mains* to revert it back to the *Main 1-2* bus.
18. The *Aux Buses* list provides controls for configuring aux buses as mono or stereo pairs. The *Reverb* bus is always stereo. You can also specify the sends for each bus as *pre-fader* (PRE on) or *post-fader* (PRE off). This setting applies globally to all send faders to the bus.

AUX MIXING TAB



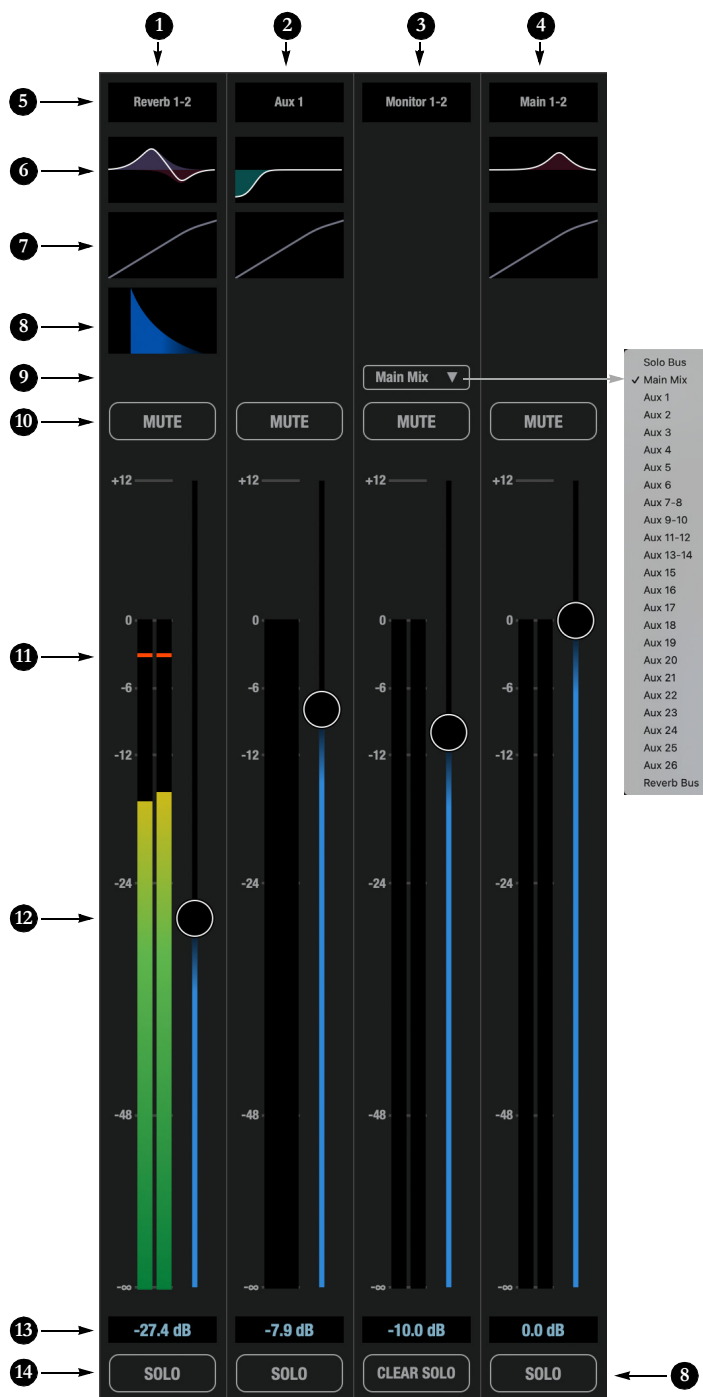
1. The *Aux Mixing* tab provides quick access to the mixer's 26 aux buses and reverb bus, viewed one at a time. Choose a bus in the *On Faders* section of the settings sidebar (2) and then use the faders to directly mix the send levels for all 64 mixer inputs.
2. Use the *On Faders* list to choose which aux bus to work with here in the *Aux Mixing* tab. In this example, the faders for each input are sends to the *Aux 3-4* bus.
3. Use the *Channels* list in the sidebar to show or hide input channel strips here in the *Aux Mixing* tab.
4. Click the *Aux Mix Settings* menu icon to open (or close) this sidebar.
5. This area of the title bar shows the name of the current aux mix you are working with here in the *Aux Mixing* tab.
6. This is one of 64 *input channel strips*. It provides a send fader and pan control for the input. These two controls (volume and pan) are for the send only, not the input channel.
7. This is the bus fader for the aux bus currently being viewed here in the *Aux Mixing* tab (as determined by the *On Faders* selection). It is always pinned to the right side of the window.
8. This is the source signal for the input.
9. This is the *Pan* control for mono input channels. Inputs that are grouped as stereo pairs do not have this pan control. To create stereo pairs, click the channel setting (item #7 on page 39) for one of the two channels, or any thumbnail.
10. Channel *send fader and level meter*. Double-click the fader to jump to unity gain or $-\infty$. Level meters are pre-fader.
11. *Fader level* in dB.

INPUT CHANNEL STRIPS



1. This displays the source signal for the input. If the channel strip is stereo, it will display the names of both the left and right channel source signals. Click it to rename it. To clear the custom name and return to the default name(s), select the custom text and hit the delete key. To change the source signal, click the channel settings thumbnail below (2).
2. Click this channel settings thumbnail to access basic channel settings, like the source signal and High Pass Filter. See "Input channel settings" on page 43.
3. Click this EQ thumbnail to access the parametric EQ and other channel settings. See "Multi-band parametric EQ" on page 47.
4. Click this dynamics processing thumbnail to access the *Gate*, *Compressor* and other channel settings. See "Compressor" on page 48 and "Gate" on page 48.
5. This is a *Send fader* thumbnail that shows any send faders that are up for the input. Click to access all send faders for the input, consolidated in one window. See "Mix Sends" on page 46.
6. *Pan control* for mono input channels. Inputs that are grouped as stereo pairs do not have this pan control. To create stereo pairs, click the channel settings (1) for one of the two channels or any thumbnail.
7. Channel mute. Glide horizontally across multiple channels to mute them in one gesture.
8. The peak/hold indicator shows where the signal has recently peaked.
9. The level meter for each input is pre-fader.
10. Use the channel fader to control the input level. The fader range is from $-\infty$ dB to $+12$ dB. Double-click the fader to jump to unity gain or $-\infty$. Level meters are pre-fader.
11. The fader value displayed numerically.
12. *Solo* the input here. Soloed channels are routed to the *Solo bus*, which can be monitored via the *Monitor 1-2* bus. See "Bus channel strips" on page 42. Glide horizontally across multiple channels to solo them in one gesture.

BUS CHANNEL STRIPS



1. The *Reverb* bus sends input signals to the reverb processor (8). The resulting stereo output from the reverb should be routed to a mixer input, where it can be added to the main mix or any aux mix (via sends).
2. The mixer has 26 *Aux* buses that you can use for flexible mixing and routing.
3. The *Monitor 1-2* bus is dedicated to the role of monitoring. You can use the menu (shown below) to make the Monitor bus follow the Main Mix, the Reverb bus or any Aux bus. When any input or bus is soloed, the Monitor bus temporarily follows the *Solo Bus* (until all solos are cleared). If you choose *Solo Bus* from this menu, the Monitor bus always follows the Solo Bus, even when nothing is soloed. Note that the Monitor bus has no dedicated EQ or dynamics processing, as those functions can be applied to the bus it is following (except the Solo bus, which would never need them).
4. This is the *Main Mix* bus for the mixer.
5. This is the *name* of the bus. Click it to type in a custom name.
6. Click this *EQ thumbnail* to access the parametric EQ and other bus settings. See “Multi-band parametric EQ” on page 47.
7. Click this *dynamics processing* thumbnail to access the bus compressor and other bus settings. See “Compressor” on page 48.
8. Click the *Reverb* thumbnail to access the settings for the reverb processor. See “Reverb” on page 49.
9. Use the *Follow* menu in the Monitor bus channel strip to choose which bus the Monitor bus should follow, as shown in the menu to the left. See item #3 above for further explanation of this menu.
10. Bus mute. Glide horizontally across multiple buses to mute them in one gesture.
11. -The peak/hold indicator shows where the signal has recently peaked.
12. Use the fader to control the bus level. Double-click to return to $-\infty$ or unity gain.
13. The fader value displayed numerically.
14. *Solo* the bus here. Soloed buses are routed to the *Solo bus*, which can be monitored via the *Monitor 1-2* bus (9). Glide horizontally across multiple buses to solo them in one gesture.
15. Use the *Clear Solo* button in the Monitor bus channel strip to clear all solos.

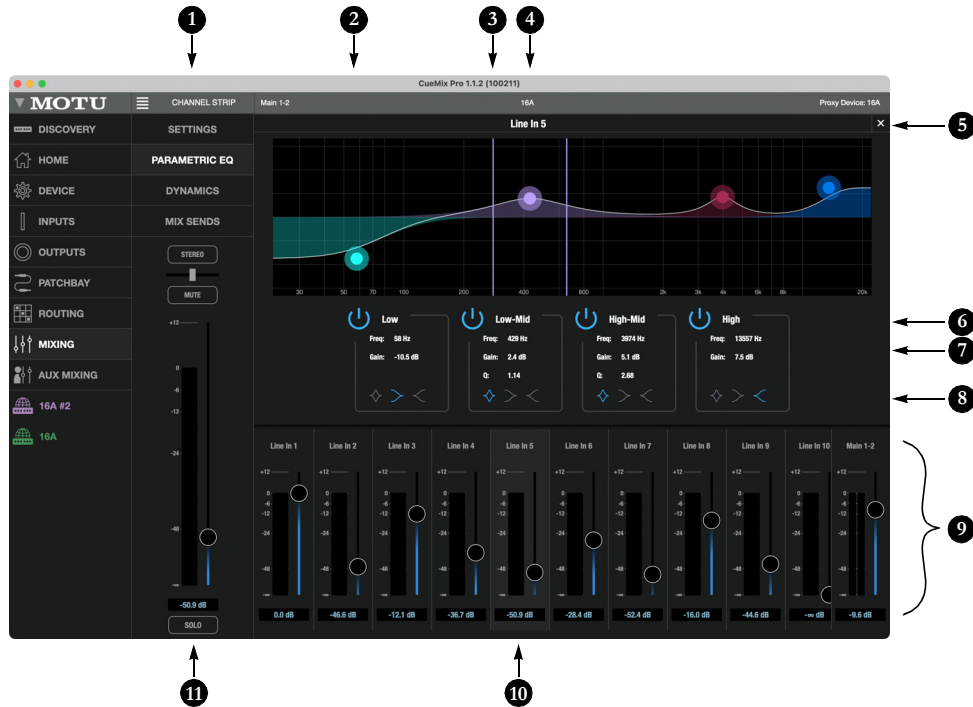
INPUT CHANNEL SETTINGS



Click any of the items at the top of an input channel strip (items #1, 3, or 4 on page 41) to access the Channel Settings shown here.

- Click the *Channel Strip* heading to show or hide this Sidebar, which displays basic settings for the channel and provides tabs for the channel's 4-band EQ, dynamics processing and send faders.
- Choose the signal source for the input channel here. The menu at the top of the list lets you browse four possible banks of source signals as shown: *Device*, *Mixer*, *Network*, or *Host*. In fact, you can route signals to this mixer input in the Patchbay tab using those same banks of sources.
- This is the *Channel Name*. By default, it displays the source signal for the channel. If the channel strip is stereo, it displays the names of both the left and right channel source signals. Click it to rename it. To clear the custom name(s), select the custom text and hit the delete key. To change the source signal, use the Channel Source list below (2).
- Use the *channel source* bank menu to access the desired input signal for the mixer input.
- Click this "x" to close the settings and return to the mixer.
- These are the input settings for the selected source signal, if any. For example, if you choose a 16A analog input, you'll have access to the input gain and phase invert controls, as shown here. These are the same controls as available in the Inputs tab (item #2 on page 35).
- High-Pass Filter* (HPF) for the channel. The HPF is applied first, before any other processing.
- The *Mixer pane* shows faders for all mixer inputs and busses, so you can access them while adjusting channel settings for a specific channel above. Click on any channel strip to access the settings for that input or bus.
- This is the currently selected channel. Click any channel to view its channel strip settings.
- This is the complete channel strip for the currently selected channel or bus. Use the tabs at the top of the strip to access basic settings, EQ, dynamics and bus sends.
- The *Stereo* button links or unlinks the channel to an adjacent channel for stereo pairing.
- Click *Mix Sends* to access all *bus sends* for the channel.
- Click *Dynamics* to access the channel's *Compressor* and *Gate*.
- Click *Parametric EQ* to access the channel's *Parametric EQ*.
- Click *Settings* to access the basic settings show above for the channel.

PARAMETRIC EQ



Click any of the items at the top of a channel strip (items #1, 3, or 4 on page 41 for an input or items 5, 6 or 7 on page 42 for a bus) to access the Parametric EQ and other settings for the channel.

1. Click the *Parametric EQ* tab here in the channel strip sidebar to access the 4-band parametric EQ settings shown here. For further information, see “Multi-band parametric EQ” on page 47.

2. Drag the *Frequency/Gain* handle for an EQ band to change the frequency and/or gain for the band.

3. Drag the *Q (bandwidth)* handles for an EQ band to change them. The handles are color-coded to match the color of their respective EQ band.

4. This is the *Channel Name*. Click it to type in a custom name.

5. Click this “x” to close the settings and return to the mixer.

6. Click the “power” icon to enable or disable the EQ band.

7. Click values to edit them numerically. You can also drag vertically on them to change them.

8. Click the *Notch/Shelf* switches to toggle the filter type.

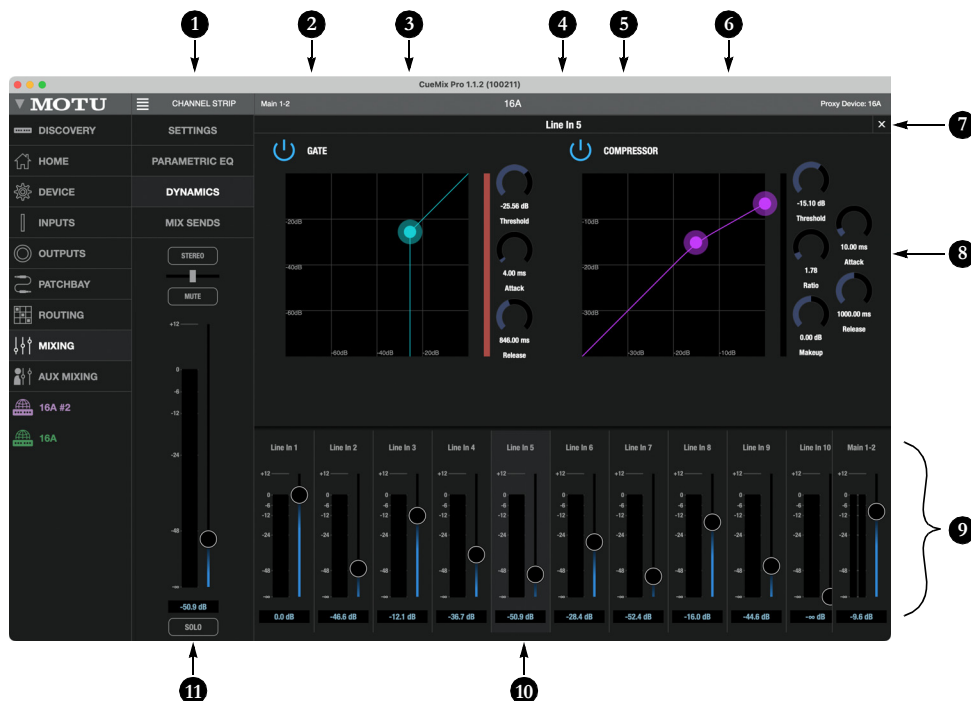
9. The *Mixer pane* shows faders for all mixer inputs and busses, so you can access them while adjusting the EQ

for a specific channel above. Click on any channel strip to access the settings for that input or bus.

10. This is the currently selected channel. Click any channel to view its channel strip settings.

11. This is the complete channel strip for the currently selected channel or bus. Use the tabs at the top of the strip to access basic settings, EQ, dynamics and bus sends.

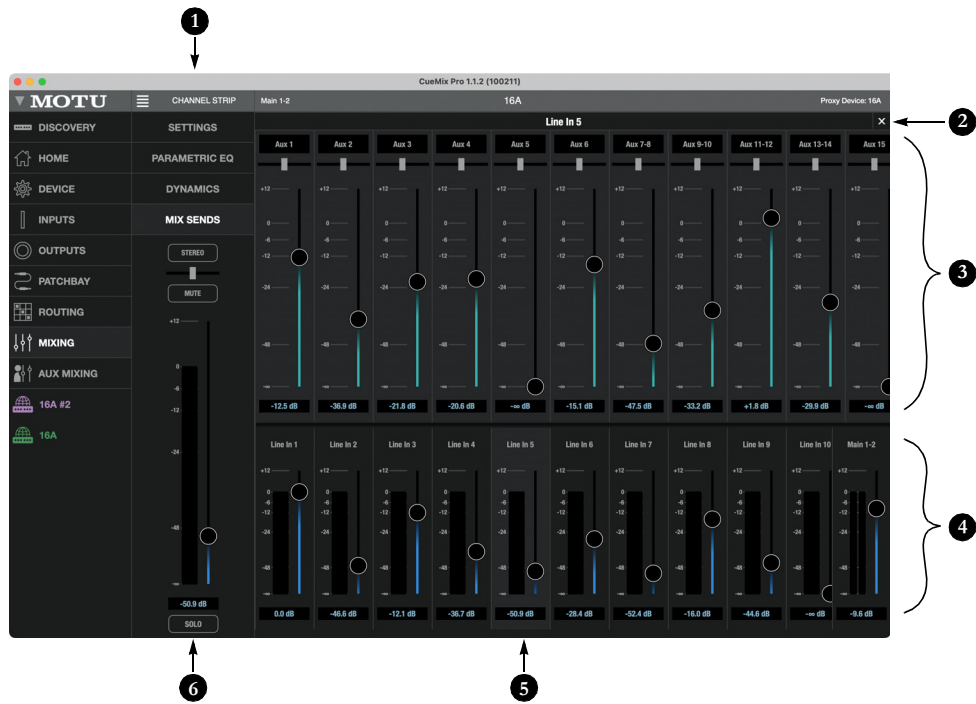
DYNAMICS PROCESSING



Click any of the items at the top of a channel strip (items #1, 3, or 4 on page 41 for an input or items 5, 6 or 7 on page 42 for a bus) to access the dynamics processing and other settings for the channel.

- Click the *Dynamics* tab here in the channel strip sidebar to access the *Gate* and *Compressor* shown here.
- The *Gate* processor is available on mixer input channels only. See “*Gate*” on page 48. Use the “power” button to enable or disable the gate.
- Drag the *Threshold* handle to adjust it graphically.
- This is the *Channel Name*. Click it to type in a custom name.
- The *Compressor* is available on all mixer inputs and busses. See “*Compressor*” on page 48. Use the “power” button to enable or disable the compressor.
- Drag the *Threshold* and *Ratio* handles to adjust them graphically.
- Click this “x” to close the settings and return to the mixer.
- Click values to edit them numerically. You can also drag on them vertically to change them.
- The *Mixer pane* shows faders for all mixer inputs and busses, so you can access them while adjusting the dynamics processors for a specific channel above. Click on any channel strip to access the settings for that input or bus.
- This is the currently selected channel. Click any channel to view its channel strip settings.
- This is the complete channel strip for the currently selected channel or bus. Use the tabs at the top of the strip to access basic settings, EQ, dynamics and bus sends.

MIX SENDS



Click any of the items at the top of an input channel strip (items #1, 3, or 4 on page 41) to access the Mix Sends shown here.

1. Click the *Mix Sends* tab here in the channel strip sidebar to access the send faders shown across the top of this window.

2. Click this “x” to close the settings and return to the mixer.

3. This scrolling pane shows pan sliders and send faders for each mix bus. To send input signal to the bus, just bring up the fader. Double-click the fader to jump to unity gain or $-\infty$. Level meters are pre-fader.

4. The *Mixer pane* shows faders for all mixer inputs and busses, so you can access them while adjusting the sends for a specific channel above. Click on any input channel strip to access the settings for that input. Sends are not available for buses. (You can’t send a bus to another bus).

5. This is the currently selected channel. Click any channel to view its channel strip settings.

6. This is the complete channel strip for the currently selected channel or bus. Use the tabs at the top of the strip to access basic settings, EQ, dynamics and bus sends.

MIXER EFFECTS

The high-pass filter, parametric EQ, compressor, gate, and reverb processor in the 16A are available when operating the unit at 1x and 2x samples rates. At 4x sample rates (176.4 or 192 kHz), all effects processing is disabled, but the mixer still provides 64 inputs and 32 buses.

DSP-driven mixing and effects

The 16A effects are driven by a powerful DSP that delivers 32-bit floating point precision and plenty of bandwidth for no-latency processing. Effects can be applied when operating as an audio interface or as a stand-alone mixer.

Advantages over host-based mixing and processing

The hardware mixer in the 16A provides several advantages over mixing and processing in your host audio software:

- No buffer latency. The DSP-mixer provides the same near-zero latency throughput performance as a conventional digital mixer. Effects processing doesn't impact your computer's CPU.
- DSP mixing and routing can be maintained independently of individual software applications or projects.
- Monitoring is maintained during computer related disruptions (such as switching from one DAW project to another, for example).
- DSP-driven mixing can function without the computer, allowing the 16A to operate as a portable, stand-alone mixer with effects.

Accessing mixer effects

To access the EQ, compressor or gate for a channel, click its thumbnail at the top of the channel strip (item #3 or 4 on page 41).

MULTI-BAND PARAMETRIC EQ

All input channels and buses provide four bands of center-frequency parametric EQ filtering as shown on page 44. All bands include shelf filtering options.

Enabling EQ bands

Each band has an *enable/disable* button (item #6 on page 44), allowing you to enable as few or as many bands as needed.

EQ filter controls

The EQ filters have three controls (item #7 on page 44):

Control	unit	range
Frequency	Hertz	20 to 20,000
Gain	dB	-20.00 to +20.00
Q (bandwidth)	n/a	0.45 to 10.0

Click a value to edit it numerically. Or drag on it vertically to change it. Or drag its corresponding control handle in the graph above. Controls for each EQ band are color-coded.

EQ filter characteristics

EQ is one of the most widely used processing tools and can be applied to many different situations, from minor corrective tasks to creative tone sculpting. The multi-band EQ has been designed to be flexible enough to cover a broad range of applications. By adjusting Gain and Bandwidth together, you can emulate the smooth and musical character of classic analog EQ circuits.

Filter types

The shelf filter options are similar to those found in most conventional parametric EQs and can be used to filter out low or high frequencies.

GATE

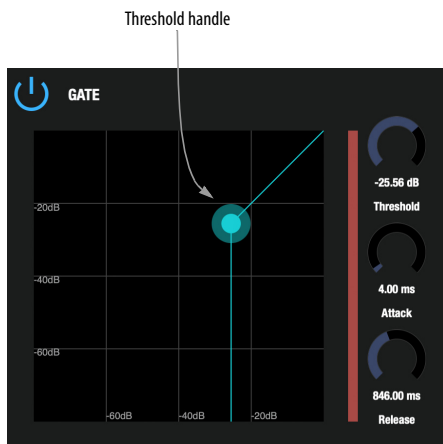


Figure 6-1: The Gate.

To access the gate, click the compressor/gate thumbnail (item #4 on page 41).

The gate silences the signal when the input signal's level drops below the *Threshold*.

The rate at which the gate responds, (opens to let signal through) is determined by the *Attack* parameter. With a short *Attack* time, the gate will open as soon as the signal crosses the *Threshold*; with longer *Attack* times, the gate will gradually open, much like a fade-in.

When the input level falls back below the *Threshold*, the time it takes for the gate to close (how quickly the signal is attenuated), is determined by the *Release* parameter. Short *Release* times will close the gate quickly, abruptly attenuating your signal, versus longer release times, which will gradually attenuate your signal, like a natural fade-out.

COMPRESSOR

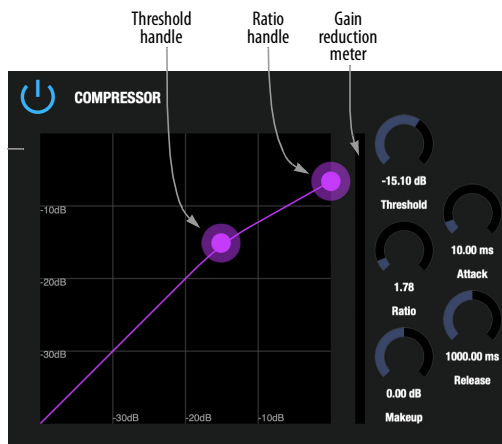


Figure 6-2: The Compressor.

To access the compressor, click the compressor/gate thumbnail (item #4 on page 41).

The *Compressor* lowers the level of the input when amplitude of the signal is above the *Threshold*. The amount of attenuation is determined by the *Ratio* and the input level. For example, if the input is 6 dB above the *Threshold* and the *Ratio* is 3:1, the compressor will attenuate the signal to 2 dB above the *Threshold*. When the input level goes above the threshold, the attenuation is added gradually to reduce distortion. The rate at which the attenuation is added is determined by the *Attack* parameter. Likewise, when the input level falls below the *Threshold*, the attenuation is removed gradually. The rate at which the attenuation is removed is determined by the *Release* parameter. Long *Release* times may cause the audio to drop out briefly when a soft passage follows a loud passage. Short *Release* times may cause the attenuation to “pump”, a term used to describe the sound of the compressor when the average input level quickly fluctuates above and below the *Threshold*. These issues can be addressed by adjusting the parameters. The *Gain reduction meter* (Figure 6-2) displays the attenuation applied by the compressor.

REVERB

To access the reverb settings: scroll to the Reverb bus (item #1 on page 42) and then click the reverb thumbnail, as shown below.

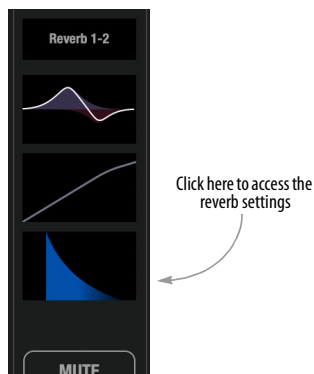


Figure 6-3: Accessing the Reverb processor.

Reverb settings

The Reverb processor (Figure 6-4) provides *Small*, *Medium* and *Large* room sizes, along with *Pre-Delay* (see below), *Damping*, *Decay* (length) and *Width* (stereo image) settings.

Predelay

Predelay is the amount of time before the acoustic energy from the source returns to the listener, after reflecting off the surfaces of the listening space. The very first reflections helps you perceive information about the listening space, (size, distance, surface type, etc.) In large rooms, it takes a while (on the order of milliseconds) before the first reflections return to the listener. Predelay is useful for adding clarity, as it delays these reflections, before the onset of full reverberation. For example, with pre-delay added to vocals, the reflections won't start until after the initial sound of a word has been sung.

Routing inputs to the reverb processor

The reverb processor is a single, independent unit that provides stereo reverb. Use sends to route input signals to it ("Aux Mixing tab" on page 40 and "Mix Sends" on page 46). All incoming signals to the reverb processor are mixed and processed together. The resulting stereo output from the reverb should be routed to a mixer input, where it can be added to the main mix or any aux mix (via sends).

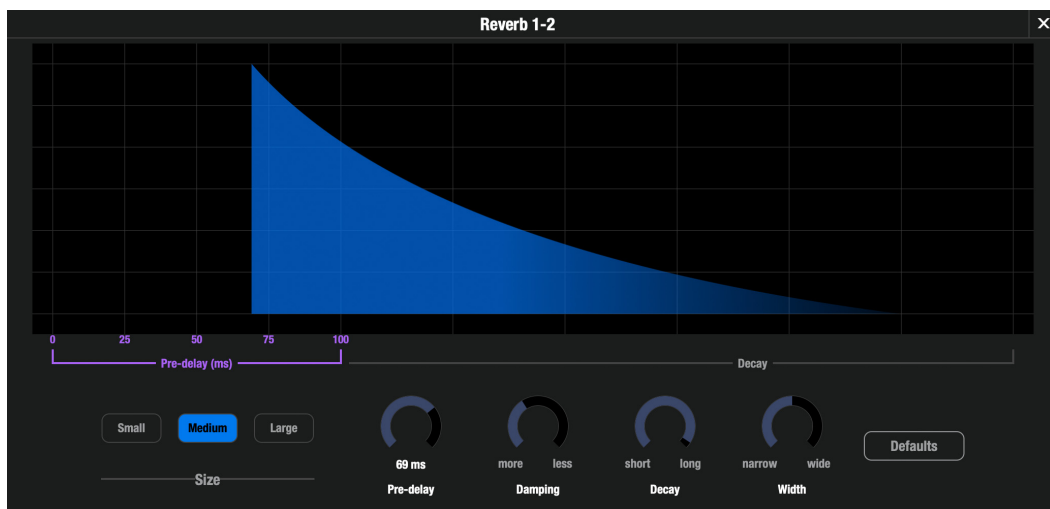


Figure 6-4: The reverb processor.

A/B/C MONITORING

The CueMix Pro Outputs tab (page 36) provides controls for primary, secondary, and auxiliary monitors in your studio, labeled A, B, and C, respectively.

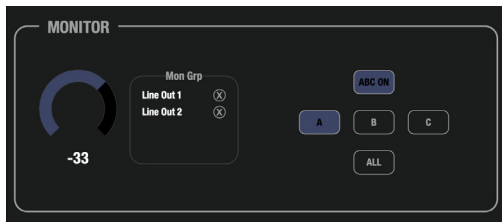


Figure 6-5: A/B/C monitoring.

Output connections for Monitor A, B, and C

Each monitor pair can be connected to any outputs you wish: analog (line) outs, digital (optical) outs, or even network channels. Typically, they are connected as follows:

- Monitor pair A --> Line Outs 1-2
- Monitor pair B --> Line Outs 3-4
- Monitor pair C --> Line Outs 5-6

Once you've connected your speakers, visit the Patchbay tab or Routing tab in CueMix Pro (page 47 and page 48, respectively) to connect the A/B/C source signals to their respective outputs. In the example shown below in Figure 6-6, Monitor Pair A has been routed to Line Outs 1-2, Monitor Pair B to Line Outs 3-4, and Monitor Pair C to Line Outs 5-6.

⚠ Connecting the Monitor A/B/C source signals to mixer inputs can cause feedback loops and is not recommended. Connect them directly to physical outputs.

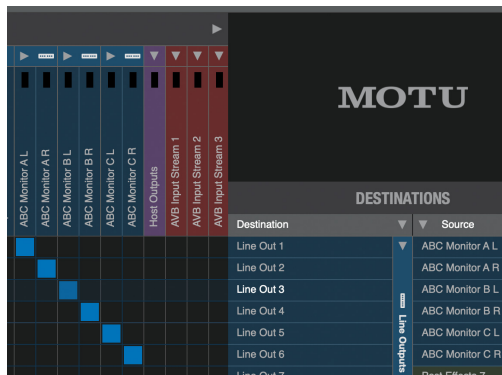


Figure 6-6: Routing the A/B/C Monitor source signals to their respective outputs. In this example, Monitor A is routed to Line Outs 1-2, Monitor B is routed to Line Outs 3-4 and Monitor C is routed to Line Outs 5-6. This is only an example: you can use any outputs you wish (analog, digital or even network channels).

In the Patchbay tab, the same connections shown in Figure 6-6 are shown below in Figure 6-7.

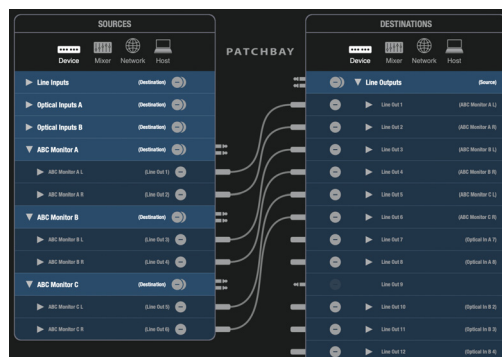


Figure 6-7: Using the Patchbay to route A/B/C source signals to their respective outputs (Line Outs 1-6 in this example). These are the same connections as shown in Figure 6-6.

Routing a source signal to the A/B/C channels

The final step in setting up A/B/C monitoring is to route a source signal, usually the main outs from the computer, to the ABC Monitor channels. From the factory, the 16A routes computer output to the 16A's mixer, where it can be mixed with 16A inputs and other signals. See “The factory default preset” on page 53 and “Playback from your DAW/host” on page 61. If this factory default

routing is still in place, route the mixer output (*Main 1-2*) to the ABC Monitor channels as shown in Figure 6-8 and Figure 6-9 below.

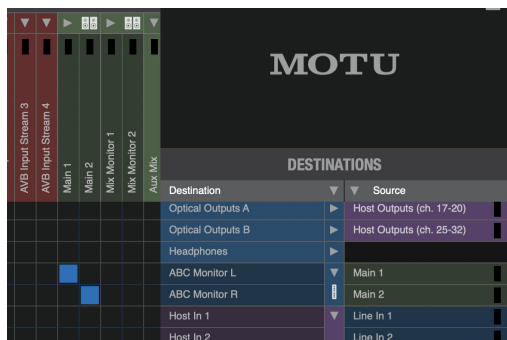


Figure 6-8: Routing host computer (DAW) output to the ABC Monitor channels (via the 16A's built-in mixer).

In the Patchbay tab, the same connections shown in Figure 6-8 are shown below in Figure 6-9.

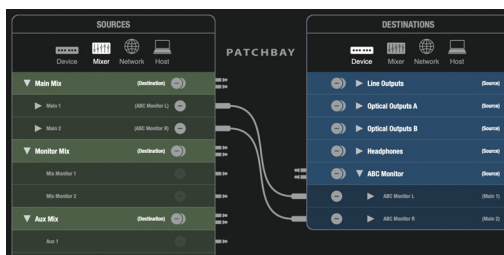


Figure 6-9: Using the Patchbay to route host computer (DAW) output to the ABC Monitor channels (via the 16A's built-in mixer). These are the same connections as shown in Figure 6-8.

Enabling A/B/C monitor mode

Once connections and routing have been made as explained in the previous sections, you are ready to use A/B/C monitor mode. To enable or disable A/B/C monitor mode, press the **ABC ON** button (Figure 6-5). When enabled, the output channels in monitor group A, B, and C share the same audio signal (assigned to the channels in group A).

Monitor A/B/C select

To select a monitor pair and mute the other pairs, press A, B or C (Figure 6-5). Press the **ALL** button to hear all three sets of monitors simultaneously.

A/B/C volume control and separate trim

Control the volume of all three monitor pairs with the main volume knob (to the right of the LCD) on the front panel of the 16A. This knob controls all three monitor pairs. To adjust their volume relative to one another, use their trim controls in the Outputs tab (item #7 on page 36).

TALKBACK

Talkback allows an engineer in the control room to temporarily dim or mute all audio and talk to musicians during a recording session. Talkback requires a microphone located in the control room, near the engineer.



Figure 6-10: talkback settings can be found in the CueMix Pro Home tab.

Talkback setup

To set up talkback:

- 1 Connect a microphone to a preamp and then connect the output of the preamp to any 16A analog input.
- 2 In CueMix Pro's Home tab, choose the mic input from the Source menu.
- 3 In the Destinations menu, check the outputs you wish to send the talkback signal to.
- 4 Adjust the Talkback settings as explained below.

Talkback settings

Talkback has the following settings (Figure 6-10).

Talk

Press and hold the *Talk* button (Figure 6-10) to engage the talkback mic.

Latch

When *Latch* is engaged (Figure 6-10), the Talk button remains engaged when you click it, until you click it again to disengage, so you don't have to hold it down while speaking.

Level

The Talkback *Level* setting controls the volume of the talkback signal, as an additional gain stage after the talkback mic preamp gain (and pad, if any).

Dim

If you are feeding a monitor mix to the musicians on the same Aux bus as your talkback mic, use the *Dim* knob (Figure 6-10) to control how much the monitor mix will be attenuated when talkback is engaged. This gives you control over the relative volume between the talkback mic signal and all other audio on the mix bus. To control overall volume of everything, use the bus fader.

Mic effects

Click the *Mic effects* thumbnail (Figure 6-10) for quick access to the EQ, compressor and gate effects for the analog input you are using for talkback. These are the same settings found in the mix tabs for that input (items #3 and 4 on page 41).

DELAY COMPENSATION

The 16A's DSP engine drives four 16-channel banks of delay line channels, which provide comprehensive, programmable delay compensation for a wide range of applications. By routing audio channels through the delay lines, you can align them accurately, down to the sample, with other channels in the system.

The delay line banks can be accessed in the Patchbay tab (page 37) by clicking on the DSP banks in the Source and Destination columns (Figure 6-11):



Figure 6-11: Accessing delay lines in the Patchbay's DSP banks.

Each 16-channel bank can be set to a specific amount of delay, in either samples or milliseconds.

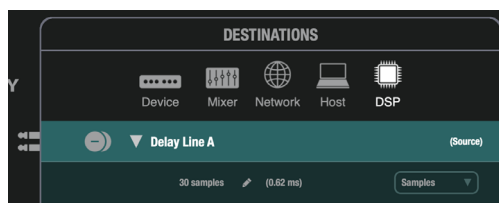


Figure 6-12: Specifying the delay amount in samples or milliseconds.

The delay line banks can also be accessed in the Routing tab (page 38) Source and Destination sections (Figure 6-13). You can set the delay amount for each bank in the Delay tab in the sidebar:

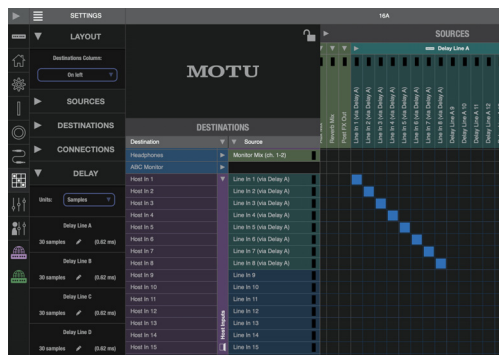


Figure 6-13: Delay line banks in the Routing tab. Delay settings are accessed in the Delay tab in the sidebar on the left.

Delay compensation example 1: host input

Delay compensation can be used to align incoming network audio channels with local input channels. For example, consider a scenario where 16A #1 is connected to a host computer, and 16A #2 is networked to #1. Both are receiving live audio from the same source and feeding it to the host computer.

In this situation, the network audio channels coming in from 16A #2 will arrive at the host computer slightly later than the local input channels coming from 16A #1 due to network latency. The amount of latency depends on the network device (16A #2 in this example). For the 16A and other Thunderbolt 4 MOTU interfaces such as the 848 and 10pre, it is fixed at 24 samples by default (at 44.1 or 48 kHz). (Note that network latency is not affected by cable length, number of connections or switches, or other network topology factors.) To align all the channels with one another, the inputs on 16A #1 can be routed through a delay line bank, as shown in Figure 6-11 on page 52, to delay them by 24 samples. Then, the delay line channels can be routed to the host computer, as shown in Figure 6-13 on page 52. Now, the local inputs on 16A #1 will align (within a sample) with the channels coming in over the network from 16A #2.

Delay compensation example 2: host output

Delay compensation can be used to align host computer output channels being routed to both local outputs and network outputs. Continuing with the setup described above in example 1, consider sending 32 channels of audio output from the host computer, with channels 1-16 routed to the local line outs on 16A #1 and channels 17-32 routed over the network to the line outs on 16A #2. In this situation, channels 17-32 would play 24 samples after channels 1-16. To align both banks of channels with each other, outputs 1-16 can be routed to a delay line bank to delay them by 24 samples. The delay line channels

can then be routed to the line outs on 16A #1, so that they align with channels 17-32 routed over the network to the line outputs on 16A #2.

THE FACTORY DEFAULT PRESET

To restore the factory default settings for the 16A:

- 1 Use the front panel MENU knob to navigate to the *Presets* setting.
- 2 Press the SELECT button.
- 3 The right-hand screen should now show the highlighted word *Recall*. Push SELECT again.
- 4 Push SELECT again, choose *Confirm*, and push SELECT to confirm.
- 5 Push BACK repeatedly to back out of the menu.

Factory default settings

The factory default settings (Figure 6-14 on page 54) provide basic operation as an audio interface running on its internal clock at 48 kHz. The patchbay routing is as follows:

SOURCE	DESTINATION(S)
Line Inputs 1-16	Host In 1-16 Mixer Ch 17-32
Optical Inputs A 1-8	Host In 17-24
Optical Inputs B 1-8	Host In 25-32
Main Mix	Line Out 1-2
Monitor Mix	Headphone L-R
Reverb Mix 1-2	Mixer Ch 33-34
Post FX Out 3-16	Line Out 3-16
AVB Streams 1-12 (8 ch each)	Host In 33-128
Host Out 1-16	Mixer Ch 1-16
Host Out 17-24	Optical Out A 1-8
Host Out 25-32	Optical Out B 1-8
Host Out 33-128	AVB Stream 1-12 (8 ch each)

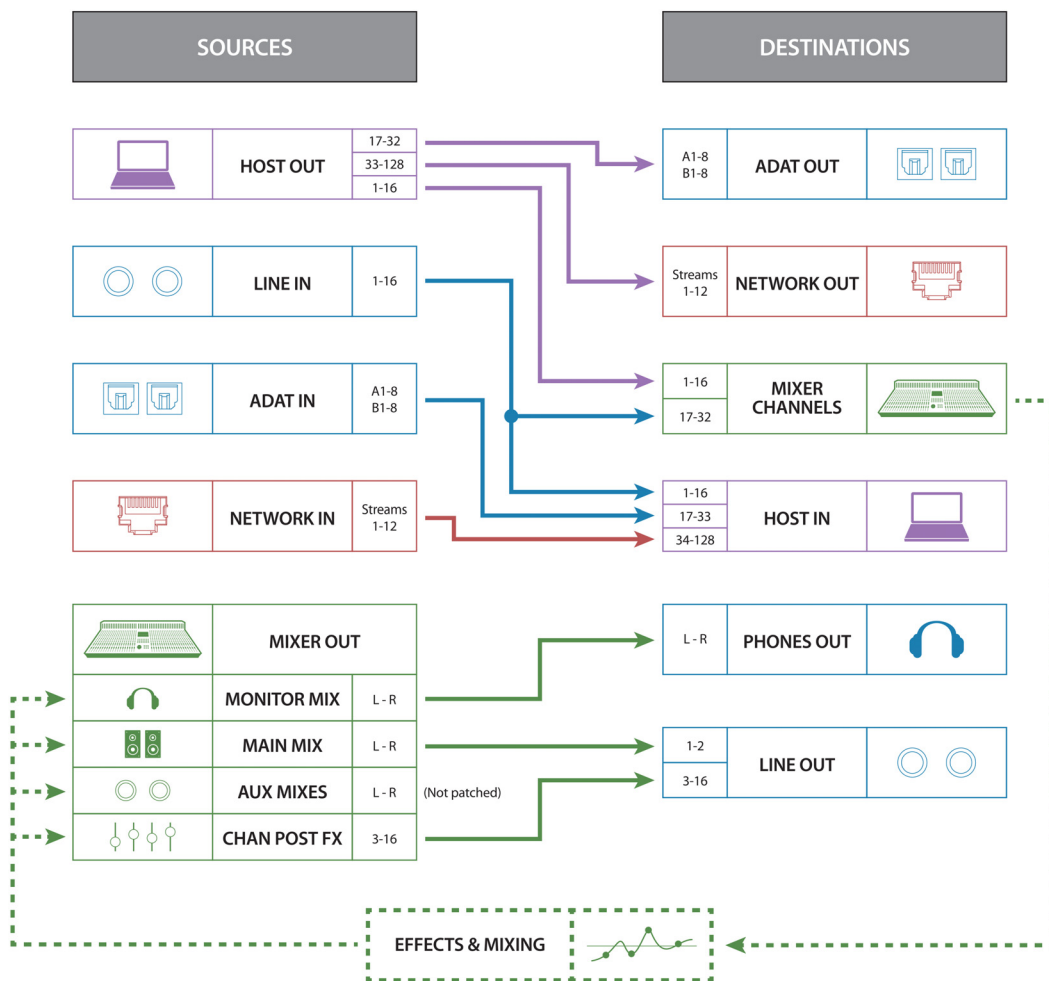


Figure 6-14: The factory default preset provides basic audio interface functionality to and from the host computer, while also incorporating the 16A's 64-channel mixer.

With this default routing, audio that you play back from your DAW or other host software on *Host Out Ch 1-2* can be heard on *Line Outs 1-2* and the headphone output, and all DAW outputs are perfectly time-aligned. In addition:

- In the Mixing tab, if you bring up faders for channels 17-32, you'll add line inputs to the Line Out 1-2 mix through the 16A's ultra-low latency on-board mixing.
- Use the EQ on the main mix for simple speaker processing on Line Out 1-2.
- For the other line outputs, simple speaker processing can be achieved by adjusting the EQs on Mixer channels 3-16.
- Apply reverb to any host output or line input by using the *Sends* panel (page 46) to send it to the Reverb 1-2 Mix Bus, and then bring up the *Reverb 1-2* fader in the main mix.

CUSTOM PRESETS

In the Home tab (page 33), you can save, recall, and erase custom presets in eight preset slots in the device. These controls are also available on the front panel of the device in the Presets menu item.

You can also save and recall an unlimited number of custom presets to your computer or iPad.

All device settings are saved with a preset. Think of the preset as a 'snapshot' of all current settings.

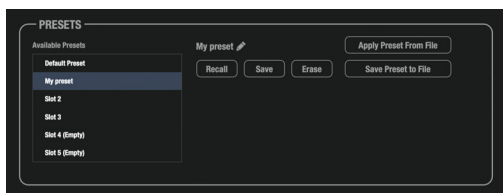


Figure 6-15: A Managing custom presets.

To create a custom preset, set up the device as desired, click an empty slot in the list, and then click *Save*. You'll be asked to name the preset and confirm.

To recall any preset, including the factory default preset, click its name in the list and click *Recall*.

To clear a preset slot, click it in the list and click *Erase*.

To save a preset to your computer or iPad, select it in the list and then click *Save Preset to File*.

To load a preset from your computer or iPad, select a slot in the list and click *Apply Preset From File*.

WORKING WITH OTHER MOTU AVB INTERFACES

If earlier-generation MOTU AVB interfaces are present on the network, they appear in the sidebar. Click on them to access basic settings in the Device tab. Unavailable tabs will be grayed out.

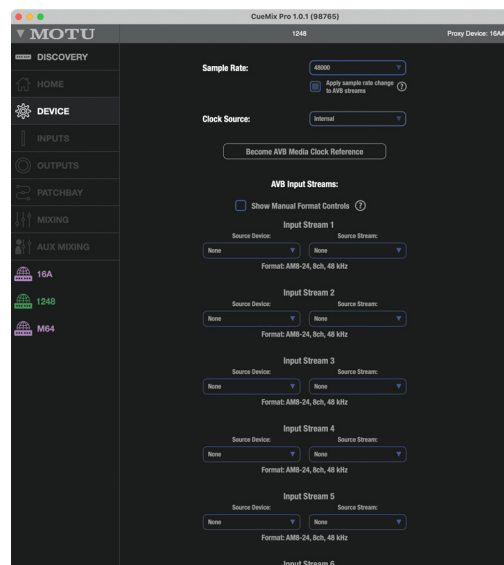


Figure 6-16: A MOTU 1248 selected in the sidebar. Basic network-related settings are available in the Device tab.

ACCESSING DEVICES WITH A SPECIFIC IP ADDRESS

CueMix Pro connects to the 16A via a standard TCP network connection by searching the network and automatically linking up with the 16A, once the unit is found on the network.

In some network configurations, such as those involving VPN connections, CueMix Pro may not be able to establish a connection with the 16A automatically. In this case, you can force CueMix Pro to search the network for a specific IP address to successfully establish a connection to the device.

To manually connect CueMix Pro to a specific IP address, go to the *Discovery* tab (page 32) and choose *Advanced Setup...* from the *Devices* menu (item 17 on page 32).

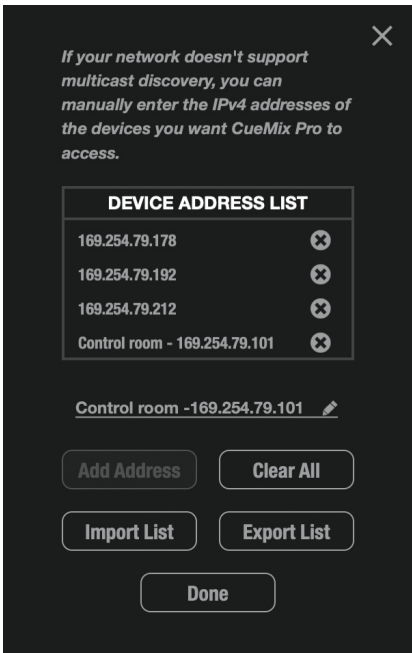


Figure 6-17: The device IP address list.

To add an IP address to the list, type in the address on the line provided. If you would like to include text to identify the address, type the text first, followed by a dash, and then the IP address. Then click *Add Address*.

You can add as many addresses to the list as you wish.

You can export and import lists of IP addresses with the buttons provided. These files have the *.motuiplist* file extension. The import button can only import *.motuiplist* files created with the *Export List* button.

CueMix Pro saves all IP addresses in the list and will search for each IP address on the network upon each launch of the app. Each device will then appear in the *Discovery* tab (page 32), where you can click on it to access all device settings.

🔍 If a device in the address list is not showing up in the *Discovery* tab, double-check the IP address in the device itself to ensure it matches the address in the list. Then try quitting and relaunching CueMix Pro.

FIRMWARE UPDATING

From time to time, MOTU may release firmware updates for the 16A to improve operation and add new features. To update the firmware:

- 1 Click on your device in the *Discovery* tab.
- 2 Go to the *Device* tab and look at the *Firmware* setting (Figure 6-18).
- 3 If your computer has access to the internet, and there is a firmware update available, you'll see the *Update Now* button (Figure 6-18). Click it to update your firmware.

☛ This step requires that the unit already has firmware version 2.1.5 or later. If not, use the Firmware Updater app (Figure 6-19 on page 57), accessed from the File menu.

☛ As a precaution, turn off your speakers and remove your headphones before clicking the *Update Now* button.

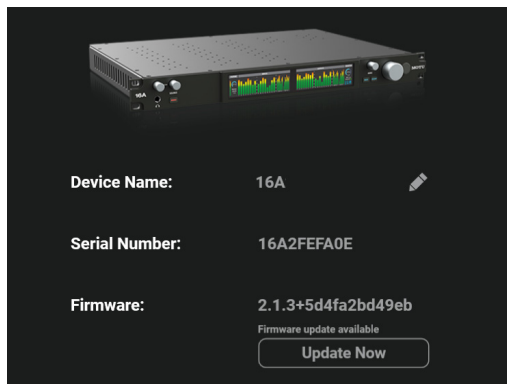


Figure 6-18: Go to the Device tab to see if there is a firmware update available.

4 The 16A unit will reboot and the screen will display *Update...* A progress bar in CueMix Pro indicates the time remaining. After a minute or so, your device will reboot when the update is complete. It is now ready for operation with all previous settings maintained.

☛ Previous settings and presets are preserved during the firmware update process, so you don't need to worry about saving and restoring settings.

Updating from a firmware image file

You can download a firmware image from motu.com/download and then update your device using the firmware image file. To do so:

1 Choose *File menu > Open Firmware Updater* to launch the updater app (Figure 6-19).

2 Load the firmware image with the *Choose File* button.

3 Once the firmware image is loaded, click the *Update Now* button (Figure 6-19).

4 The 16A unit will reboot and the screen will display *Update...* A progress bar in the Firmware Updater app indicates the time remaining. After a minute or so, your device will reboot when the update is complete. It is now ready for operation with all previous settings maintained.

☛ Previous settings and presets are preserved during the firmware update process, so you don't need to worry about saving and restoring settings.

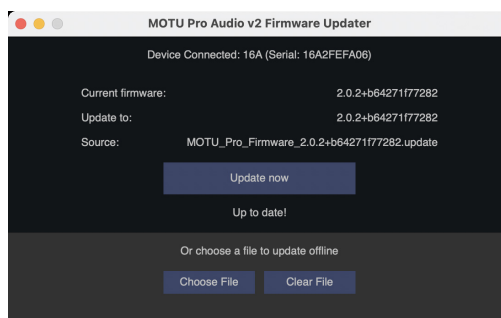


Figure 6-19: The 16A Firmware Updater app.

Updating over Ethernet

A firmware update can be applied to any device over Ethernet, as long as it is available on the same network as your host computer.

☛ Updating over Ethernet requires that the device already has firmware version 2.1.5 or later. If not, connect the device to your computer via USB or Thunderbolt and proceed with the firmware update as described in the previous sections. This only needs to be done once; all future firmware updates for that device can be done over Ethernet.

To update firmware over Ethernet:

1 Download the desired firmware image from motu.com/download.

- 2 In CueMix Pro, go to the Discovery tab to confirm that the device you want to update is visible (available on the network).
- 3 On the 16A front panel, use the MENU knob to navigate to the *Network* menu setting.
- 4 Make note of the unit's IP address.
- 5 Open a web browser on the computer and type in the following URL:

http://[IP address]/update.

- 6 Click *Choose File* to load the firmware image, and then click *Update*.

After a minute or so, your device will reboot when the update is complete. It is now ready for operation with all previous settings maintained.

THE CUEMIX PRO IOS APP

CueMix Pro is also available as an app for iOS and allows you to control the 16A from your iOS device. Simply download it from the App Store. Also see “iOS setup (USB-C)” on page 19 and “iOS setup (Lightning)” on page 19.

CHAPTER 7 Working with Host Audio Software

The 16A provides multi-channel audio input and output for Core Audio compatible audio applications on the Mac and ASIO or Wave compatible applications on Windows, including MOTU’s Digital Performer and Performer Lite, Apple’s Logic Pro and GarageBand, and other third-party software applications such as Ableton Live, Avid Pro Tools, Cockos Reaper, Propellerhead Reason, Steinberg Cubase and Nuendo, PreSonus Studio One, Bitwig, and others.

Performer Lite is available as a free download for 16A owners from their motu.com account page. For complete information about all of Performer Lite’s powerful workstation features, refer to the *Performer Lite User Guide.pdf* found in the Help menu of the Performer Lite application.

Digital Performer, MOTU’s state-of-the-art digital audio workstation software, is available separately; for details about upgrading from Performer Lite to Digital Performer, talk to your authorized MOTU dealer or visit motu.com.

Preparation	59
Run the CueMix Pro app	59
Choose the 16A	60
Channel counts	60
Playback from your DAW/host	61
Input to your DAW/Host	61
Channel naming	61
Reducing monitoring latency	62
Loopback	64
Working with multiple interfaces	65
Using your MOTU interface for computer audio input and output	65

PREPARATION

Install your host audio software first if you haven’t already done so, and complete these chapters before proceeding:

- chapter 3, “Software Installation” (page 15)
- chapter 4, “Hardware Installation” (page 18)

RUN THE CUEMIX PRO APP

Before you run your host audio software, launch CueMix Pro to configure your MOTU hardware.

Sample Rate

Choose the desired sample rate for the 16A (item #4 in the Devices tab on page 34) and your host audio software. Make sure the sample rates for the hardware and software match. Newly recorded audio will have this sample rate.

🔊 Optical channels are disabled when the interface is operating at a 176.4 or 192 kHz. In addition, channel counts for host computer I/O and networking are reduced.

Clock Mode

The *Clock Source* setting (item #6 in the Devices tab on page 34) is important because it determines the master digital audio clock for your system.

If you do not have any digital audio connections to your MOTU device (you are using the analog inputs and outputs only), and you will not be resolving your host software to optical or another external clock source, choose *Internal*.

If you have devices connected to the optical ports, see “Choosing a clock source for optical connections” on page 22.

If you are resolving your system to word clock, see “Syncing word clock devices” on page 23.

CHOOSE THE 16A

Once you’ve made the preparations described so far in this chapter, you’re ready to run your host audio software and choose the 16A as your audio interface (“soundcard”).

For macOS audio software

For audio software running under macOS, go to the menu item or preference where you choose the audio device (Core Audio driver) you wish to use, and then select the 16A by name.

For Windows audio software

For audio software running under Windows, go to the menu item or preference where you choose the ASIO driver you wish to use, and then choose *MOTU 16A*. If your host audio software doesn’t support ASIO, choose the *16A Wave* driver instead.

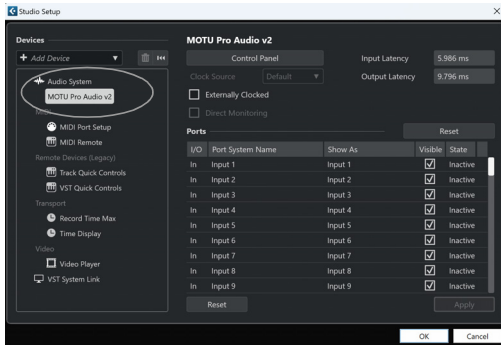


Figure 7-1: Choosing the MOTU Pro Audio ASIO driver in Cubase.

Where to go in popular audio hosts

Here is the location for this setting in various popular audio software host applications:

Host software	Location for choosing the 16A
Digital Performer and Performer Lite	Setup menu > Configure Audio System > Configure Hardware Driver
Pro Tools	Setup menu > Playback Engine or Current Engine
Logic Pro	Preferences > Audio tab > Devices tab > Core Audio tab
Garage Band	Garage Band menu > Preferences > Audio/MIDI > Audio Output/Input menus
Cubase and Nuendo	Device Setup > Devices list > VST Audio System menu
Live	Preferences > Audio tab
Reason	Preferences > Audio preferences
Reaper	Preferences > Audio prefs > Devices
Studio One Pro	Preferences > Audio Setup

Other audio software

Consult your software’s manual for further information.

CHANNEL COUNTS

Available channels to and from the host computer are as follows, based on sample rate and driver versus USB class compliant operation:

Sample Rate (kHz)	44.1 / 48	88.2 / 96	176.4 / 192
Thunderbolt/USB4	128	128	64
USB3 (driver)	128	64	32
USB3 (class)	128	64	32
USB2 (driver)	64	32	18
USB2 (class)	64	32	18

PLAYBACK FROM YOUR DAW/HOST

For playback from your DAW or other host software, here are the factory default host output channel assignments:

Host Output channel	Destination
Host Out 1-16	Mixer Ch 1-16
Host Out 17-24	Optical Out A 1-8
Host Out 25-32	Optical Out B 1-8
Host Out 33-128	AVB Stream 1-12 (8 ch each)

Note that host output channels 1-16 are routed to the 16A mixer, which routes them to the 16A Line Outs 1-2, where you'll hear them on your studio monitors and on the headphone output.

🔊 From the factory, the mixer channel fader for Host Outs 1-2 defaults to unity gain, so you'll hear signal immediately, with no adjustments needed in the mixer. However, the mixer faders for Host Outs 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14 and 15-16 are set to $-\infty$ by default, so if you want to hear them on your studio monitors, bring up their faders in the Mixing tab (page 39).

Host output channels 17-128 are patched directly to 16A optical and network output channels, as indicated in the table above.

You can change any of these routings to suit your needs at any time using the Patchbay (page 37) or Routing Grid (page 38).

INPUT TO YOUR DAW/HOST

For input to your DAW or other host software, here are the factory default host input channel assignments:

Host Input channel	Destination
Line Inputs 1-16	Host In 1-16 Mixer Ch 17-32
Optical Inputs A 1-8	Host In 17-24
Optical Inputs B 1-8	Host In 25-32
AVB Streams 1-12 (8 ch each)	Host In 33-128

Note that line inputs are routed to both your host software and the 16A's mixer. To hear them on your studio monitors, you can either 1) patch thru from your host software, or 2) bring up their corresponding fader in the Mixing tab (page 39). However, be sure to do only one or the other to avoid unwanted doubling of the signal. The advantage of option 2 is that there will be near-zero latency. Option 1 will create a bit of latency (depending on the buffer size setting) but allows you to mix and process the input with your host software. See "Reducing monitoring latency" on page 62.

CHANNEL NAMING

The names of the 16A audio channels that you see in your host software can be customized. To do so, go to the Patchbay tab (page 37), click the host icons in the *Sources* and *Destinations* panels, and click the individual host channel names to rename them. Alternatively, you can use the Routing Grid to rename host channels. Simply expand the host banks (source and destination) and click the channel names at the top and side of the grid to rename them.

If both the host channel name and its source or target have a custom name, the host channel name is used. If a host output channel has multiple destinations, you see the phrase *Multiple Destinations* in your host software.

REDUCING MONITORING LATENCY

Monitoring latency is a slight delay caused by running an input signal through your host audio software and back out. For example, you might hear it when you drive a live guitar input signal through an amp modeling plug-in running in your audio sequencer.

This delay is caused by the amount of time it takes for audio to make the entire round trip through your computer, from when it first enters an input on the 16A, passes through the interface hardware into the computer, through your host audio software, and then back out to an output.

Monitoring through the 16A

If you don't need to process a live input with plug-ins, the easiest way to avoid monitoring latency is to disable your DAW's live monitoring feature and instead use the digital mixer in the 16A to route the input directly to your outputs. For details, see "Mixing tab" on page 39. The mixer in the 16A even provides zero latency effects processing (EQ, compression and reverb), which can be applied to the signal.

Direct hardware playthrough / Direct ASIO monitoring

When managing your live monitor mix through the 16A mixer, remember to disable your DAW's live monitoring features, so that you won't hear record-enabled tracks in your DAW. Also note that the 16A does not support *Direct Hardware Playthrough* in Digital Performer, or the *Direct ASIO Monitoring* feature (or similar) offered and other DAWs, which lets you control no-latency hardware monitoring from within the host application. Instead, you can use the CueMix Pro app mixer ("Mixing tab" on page 39) to set up these monitor mixes manually.

If you don't require any effects processing on the input signal (no reverb or compression, for example), all this takes is one click on a fader to route the input being recorded to the output you are using for monitoring.

If you are recording a mono input that you'd like to monitor in stereo, or if you need to apply effects to the monitored signal, you can use the 16A mixer for that, too. Use the mix tabs and reverb mix (page 39) to apply effects as desired, and perhaps include other channels to the mix.

Monitoring through your host audio software

If you *do* need to process a live input with host software plug-ins, or if you are playing virtual instruments live through your MOTU audio hardware, you can significantly reduce latency by adjusting the audio buffer setting in your host audio software, as explained in the next section.

☛ It is important to note that monitoring delay has no effect on the recording, or playback, of audio data from disk. The actual recording and playback is extremely precise, it is only the monitoring of your live input signal which may be delayed.

Adjusting your host software audio buffer

Buffers are small bundles of audio data. The 16A "speaks" to your computer in buffers, rather than one sample at a time. The size of these buffers determine how much delay you hear when monitoring live inputs through your audio software: larger buffers produce more delay; smaller buffers produce less.

Adjusting buffer size on macOS

Under macOS, audio I/O buffer size is handled by the host audio application (not by the 16A Core Audio driver). Most audio software applications provide an adjustable audio buffer setting that lets

you control the amount of delay you'll hear when monitoring live inputs or processing them with software plug-ins. Here are a few examples.

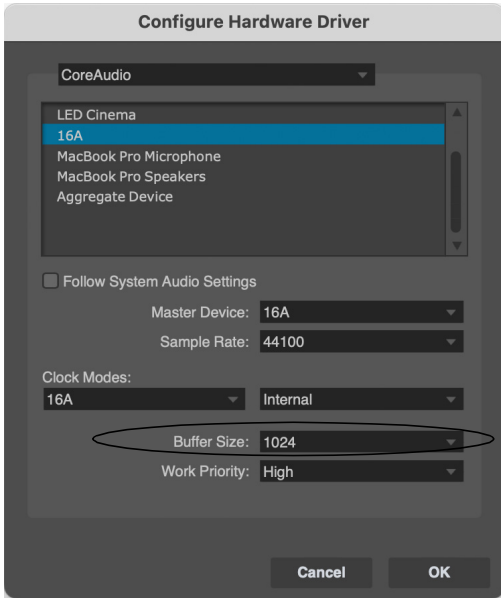


Figure 7-2: In Digital Performer and Performer Lite, choose Setup menu > Configure Audio System > Configure Hardware Driver to open the dialog shown above and access the Buffer Size setting.

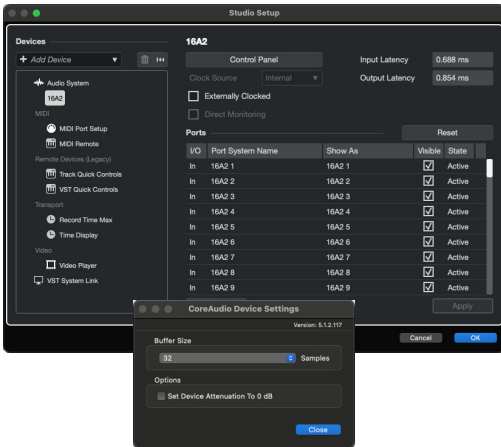


Figure 7-3: In Cubase or Nuendo, choose Devices menu > Device Setup. Select your interface (16A), then click the Control Panel button to access the window above and the Buffer Size setting.

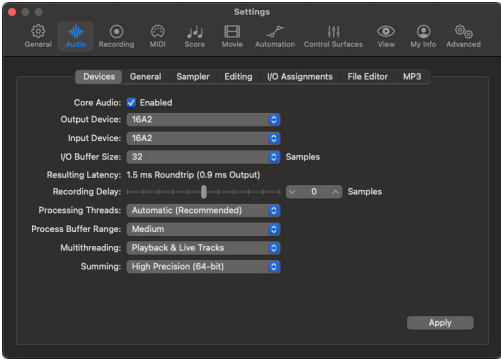


Figure 7-4: In Logic Pro, go to the Audio Driver preferences to access the Buffer Size option shown above.

Adjusting buffer size on Windows

On Windows, the buffer size is adjusted in the CueMix Pro app Device tab (items #10 and #11 in the Devices tab on page 34).

Lower latency versus higher CPU overhead

Buffer size has a large impact on the following:

- Monitoring latency
- The load on your computer's CPU
- Responsiveness of transport controls and effect knobs in Performer Lite, Digital Performer or other audio software.
- Real-time virtual instrument latency.

The buffer setting presents you with a trade-off between the processing power of your computer and the delay of live audio as it is being patched through your software. If you reduce the size, you reduce monitoring latency, but significantly increase the overall processing load on your computer, leaving less CPU bandwidth for things like real-time effects processing. On the other hand, if you increase the buffer size, you reduce the load on your computer, freeing up bandwidth for effects, mixing and other real-time operations.

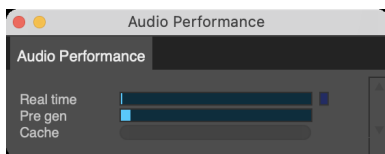


Figure 7-5: When adjusting the buffer size to reduce monitoring latency, watch the ‘Real time’ meter in Digital Performer’s Performance Monitor. If you hear distortion, or if the meter is peaking, try raising the buffer size.

If you are at a point in your recording project where you are not currently working with live, patched-thru material (e.g. you’re not recording vocals), or if you have a way of externally processing inputs, choose a higher buffer size. Depending on your computer’s CPU speed, you might find that settings in the middle work best (256 to 1024).

Transport responsiveness

Buffer size also impacts how quickly your audio software will respond when you begin playback, although not by amounts that are very noticeable. Lowering the buffer size will make your software respond faster; raising the buffer size will make it a little bit slower.

Effects processing and automated mixing

Reducing latency with the buffer size setting has another benefit: it lets you route live inputs through the real-time effects processing and mix automation of your audio software.

LOOPBACK

Loopback is the process of sending audio output from your computer back to the computer so that you can capture the signal in your host software, or stream it live to the web.

Direct loopback in the Patchbay

The simplest way to set up loopback is to route host computer source channels to host computer destination channels directly in the Patchbay, as shown in Figure 7-6. It can be helpful to rename the loopback channels (as shown) for easier identification in your DAW. This method works fine if you don’t need to include other source signal in the loopback channels. Note that you can set up as many loopback channels as needed: you’re not limited to just two.

Using an aux bus for loopback

If you use an aux bus for loopback, you can include additional channels in the loopback mix:

- 1 Choose an aux bus for loopback and make it stereo. See “Bus channel strips” on page 42 and “Input channel settings” on page 43.
- 2 (Optional) Rename the bus *Loopback Aux* or similar for easy identification. See item #5 on page 42 for how to rename a bus.

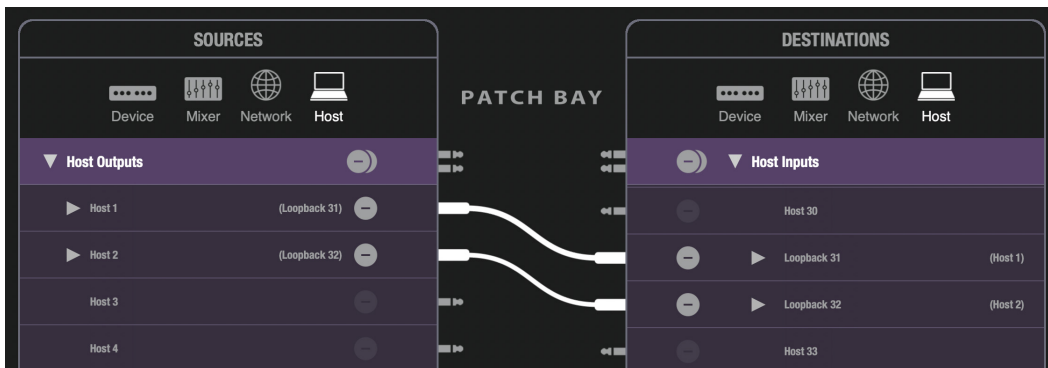


Figure 7-6: Creating loopback routing in the Patchbay. In this example, Host output channels 1-2 are being routed to Host input channels 31-32.

3 In the Patchbay tab, route any computer output channels you wish to include in the loopback signal to mixer input channels. These computer channels can include audio tracks, virtual instruments, or any other audio output from your audio software.

4 Make sure the input channel faders are up enough to allow plenty of signal.

5 Using sends, route each computer input channel to your loopback aux bus.

6 To include other mixer channels in the Loopback mix, such as live inputs from microphones or instruments connected to the 16A, do the same for them as well.

7 In the Patchbay tab, route the output of the Loopback bus to any desired computer input channel pair.

The Loopback mix is now routed back to the computer, where it can be recorded, monitored, streamed, etc.

☞ Some podcasting software applications on the market can only see the first 1-2 or 1-4 channels from an audio interface. In this case, the Loopback aux bus will need to be assigned to computer input channels 1-2 or 3-4.

☞ Remember, be careful! When monitoring loopback channels and live inputs, your host software can cause loud feedback loops. Be sure to disable the monitoring of loopback tracks to avoid feedback.

WORKING WITH MULTIPLE INTERFACES

If you have multiple 16A interfaces (or other AVB equipped interfaces), the best way to use them with your host software is to connect them via AVB to the 16A unit connected to your computer, as explained in “Connecting multiple 16A’s to a host” on page 20. The AVB interfaces can then

stream audio to and from the host interface, which sends the streams to and from the host computer. This approach provides a great deal of flexibility in how you can physically connect the interfaces, and it provides high channel counts with low latency. See “Setting up the 16A for networking” on page 73 and “Delay compensation” on page 52 for further information.

USING YOUR MOTU INTERFACE FOR COMPUTER AUDIO INPUT AND OUTPUT

You can, of course, use your MOTU interface as the audio input and/or output device for your host computer.

On Windows

Click the Start menu, open *Sound Settings*, and choose your MOTU interface as the output and input device.

On macOS

Click the Apple menu and choose *System Settings*. Then click *Sound* and choose your MOTU interface as the output and input device.

Volume control from your Mac keyboard

When your MOTU interface is chosen as your audio output device for your Mac, you can use the volume and mute controls on your Mac keyboard to control the output volume of Line Outs 1-2. Note that this is a final gain stage applied to any audio output from your DAW or other host audio apps.

☞ To change which device outputs respond to your Mac’s keyboard volume keys, route or patch Host Out channels 1-2 to the desired outputs. Mac defaults to controlling Host Out 1-2; this default can be changed using the *Configure Speakers* setting in the Audio MIDI Setup utility.

If you wish to disable Mac keyboard volume control, there are two ways to do so:

- In the front panel menu, scroll to *Advanced > Host Volume*
- In CueMix Pro, go to the Device tab and choose *Disabled* from the *Core Audio Volume Controls* menu.

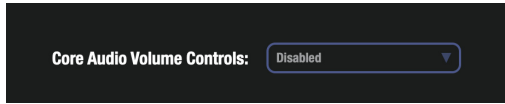


Figure 7-7: You can enable or disable Mac keyboard volume control with this setting in the Device tab.

CHAPTER 8 Optical Expander Presets

OVERVIEW

The 16A has the ability to function as an optical expansion interface. You can connect it to other optical-equipped devices to route the 16A's analog inputs and outputs to and from the other device. Up to 16 channels are supported at 1x sample rates (44.1 or 48 kHz) and 8 channels at 2x rates (88.2 or 96 kHz).

☛ The Optical Expander factory presets are designed to support the 8-channel ADAT format for both Bank A and B. If you would like to use stereo TOSLink for Bank A input or output, you will need to change the Bank A format manually after choosing an Optical Expander preset, as well as any necessary changes in the Patchbay routing.

Overview67
Making connections67
Setting the sample rate68
Setting the Clock Source68
Channel mapping at 44.1 or 48 kHz68

MAKING CONNECTIONS

To route the 16A's analog inputs to the other device, connect the 16A Optical OUT A port to the other device's Optical IN port. If the other device has a 2nd bank of optical, connect the 16A's Optical OUT B to the other device's 2nd Optical IN bank.

To route audio from the other device to the 16A's line outputs, connect the other device's Optical OUT to the 16A's Optical IN A port. Similarly, if the other device as a 2nd bank of optical, connect it's 2nd Optical OUT bank to the 16A's Optical IN B port.

CHOOSING AN OPTICAL EXPANDER PRESET

Before you choose an optical expander preset, you may wish to save the current state of hardware, so you can return to it later. To do so, turn the MENU knob on the front panel and choose *Presets*. Then use the SELECT button and MENU knob to save to an empty preset slot. Use the BACK button to return to the meter screen when you are finished.

To choose an optical expander preset, turn the MENU knob and choose *Optical Expander Presets*. Then use the SELECT button and MENU knob to select the optical expander preset that matches the sample rate you wish to work at:

- 44.1 kHz Preset
- 48 kHz Preset
- 88.2 kHz Preset
- 96 kHz Preset

Optical expander preset settings

The *Optical Expander* presets leave most of the 16A settings unaffected, including basic device settings, mixing, effects, etc. They do affect settings that are directly relevant to optical expansion, as follows:

- All analog inputs are patched directly to both optical output banks.
- Both optical input banks are patched directly to line outputs.
- All analog input gain and output trim settings are zeroed out (no gain or trim).
- All line outputs are assigned to the Monitor Group, such that all analog output can be controlled with the main volume knob.

SETTING THE SAMPLE RATE

In the CueMix Pro Device tab, be sure that the sample rate setting (item #4 on page 34) for the 16A matches both the preset you chose and the sample rate of the other device. At the 1x sample rates (44.1 and 48 kHz), each optical bank provides 8 channels. At the 2x rates (88.2 and 96 kHz), each bank provides 4 channels.

SETTING THE CLOCK SOURCE

When operating as an Optical Expander, the 16A transfers digital audio channels over it’s optical connections. It is therefore crucial to make sure that the clocks in the two devices are properly resolved. See the following sections for further information:

- “Synchronization” on page 22
- “Syncing optical devices” on page 23

CHANNEL MAPPING AT 44.1 OR 48 KHZ

At 1x sample rates, the 16A’s two optical banks are mapped as follows:

Optical Input	Destination
Bank A Inputs 1-8	Line Outputs 1-8
Bank B Inputs 1-8	Line Outputs 9-16
Source	Optical Output
Analog Inputs 1-8	Bank A Outputs 1-8
Analog Inputs 9-16	Bank B Outputs 1-8

CHANNEL MAPPING AT 88.2 OR 96 KHZ

At 2x sample rates, the 16A’s two optical banks are mapped as follows:

Optical Input	Destination
Bank A Inputs 1-4	Line Outputs 1-4
Bank B Inputs 1-4	Line Outputs 5-8
Source	Optical Output
Analog Inputs 1-4	Bank A Outputs 1-4
Analog Inputs 5-8	Bank B Outputs 1-4

CHAPTER 9 Networking

OVERVIEW

The two Gigabit AVB Networking Ethernet ports on your MOTU interface support AVB networking, enabling multiple devices to share, route, and distribute hundreds of audio channels with other devices on an AVB network.

Overview	69
About AVB	69
About Milan™	70
MOTU's Milan AVB implementation	70
Networking examples	71
A quick guide to networking	72
Setting up the 16A for networking	73
Routing audio to/from network streams	80
Mapping computer channels to network streams	80
Managing network latency	80
Device presets and AVB stream connections	81
Using CueMix Pro as a basic Milan Controller	81

ABOUT AVB

Audio Video Bridging (AVB) is a set of IEEE Ethernet standards designed for high-performance audio and video networking. AVB provides precise synchronization, bandwidth reservation, and low-latency data transport, making it well suited for real-time media applications.

☞ You may also see AVB referenced in the context of Time-Sensitive Networking (TSN). TSN is the name of the IEEE 802.1 task group that evolved from the origins of AVB and now encompasses a broader set of standards for deterministic Ethernet networking. AVB specifications remain part of these evolved standards and provide the foundation for synchronized, low-latency media transport on Ethernet networks.

The pro audio industry has seen many network-related protocols come and go over the years, but AVB has emerged as a widely-adopted open standard that brings together the worlds of networking technology and high-end audio. Here is a brief summary of some of the immediate benefits of AVB for you, as a MOTU AVB interface user:

- **An open industry standard** — AVB has been developed by the IEEE as an international standard specification, like AES/EBU and other similar IEEE-driven protocols. It is not proprietary or controlled by one company.
- **High channel counts** — AVB provides hundreds of network channels.
- **Extremely low, predictable latency** — AVB guarantees very low-latency real-time performance.
- **Guaranteed Quality of Service** — AVB's Stream Reservation Protocol provides guaranteed Quality of Service (QoS) for each and every audio stream. AVB streams are prioritized over other network traffic to ensure high performance.
- **Network-wide clocking and sync** — AVB devices share a common network clock using *gPTP* (Generalized Precision Timing Protocol), enabling better-than-sample-accurate phase lock across connected devices. Timing is precise to the sub-microsecond level on typical hardware. Unlike some other network audio protocols, AVB and Milan support multiple independent media clock domains that use *gPTP* as a shared timebase. This allows different groups of devices on the same network to operate with separate audio clocks. For example, some devices could stream audio at 44.1 kHz while others stream at 96 kHz.

■ **Plug-and-play operation** — AVB has been designed from the ground up to provide automatic device discovery, enumeration, and connection management. Just plug your MOTU AVB interfaces into a standard AVB switch and go. If you wish to make stream connections and have the ability to select media clock, you must use the CueMix Pro app, or some other AVB controller. You don't need an IT professional to configure the network. AVB is a self-managing network protocol.

■ **Shared operation with standard Ethernet** — AVB cooperates with standard Ethernet traffic on the network, so you can use traditional Ethernet devices like wireless routers, switches, or any other non-AVB-aware device on the same AVB network as your AVB devices.

■ **Support for existing network infrastructure** — Replace your existing switches with standard AVB-compatible switches, and your CAT-5e or CAT-6 wired infrastructure now supports AVB.

■ **Long cable runs** — A single AVB network connection can run up to 100 meters with a standard copper wire CAT-5e or CAT-6 cable. Fiber-optic cable runs can be much longer. With daisy-chains and multiple switches, you can create a network that covers very large distances, if necessary. You can connect up to seven “hops” (device-to-device connections).

ABOUT MILAN™

Milan is a standardized profile of AVB/TSN Ethernet networking for professional audio. Developed as an open standard, it defines a common implementation of AVB by specifying required features, media formats, and device behavior, ensuring consistent operation across manufacturers.

Developed by professional audio manufacturers within the Avnu Alliance®, Milan standardizes AVB implementations by removing ambiguity

around optional features or manufacturer-specific choices. For example, Milan defines a base audio format, diagnostic counters, and mandatory support for dynamic stream channel mapping, ensuring that Milan-certified devices handle audio streams predictably and compatibly and respond appropriately to Milan controller apps.

MOTU'S MILAN AVB IMPLEMENTATION

MOTU engineering has faithfully implemented the IEEE AVB and Avnu Milan standards in MOTU's 2nd-generation Pro Audio v2 (PAv2) AVB products, which are fully Milan-certified by the Avnu Alliance. MOTU devices are interoperable with compliant third-party AVB-devices and Milan-certified devices.

■ **Up to 256 channels of host I/O** — MOTU AVB interfaces (depending on the model) can support up to 256 simultaneous channels of audio I/O (128 in, 128 out) to and from the entire network through Thunderbolt or USB3.

■ **Support for multiple computer hosts** — All computers and all network devices run in sync with each other, resolved to the network's reference clock.

■ **Gigabit Ethernet** — MOTU PAv2 interfaces and the MOTU AVB Switch deliver 1 Gbit Ethernet performance, which provides substantially higher bandwidth than 100 Mbit Ethernet. This allows you to have many more devices on the AVB network.

■ **Over 600 channels of network audio** — A gigabit AVB network can stream over 600 channels of audio throughout the network (at 1x sample rates). The 16A can simultaneously broadcast and listen to 128 audio channels across 32 AVB streams.

- **Very low network latency** — Network latency is the time it takes for a data packet (such as an audio sample) to be transmitted over the network. AVB networks typically achieve guaranteed latencies of 2 ms or less.

- **Multiple audio stream formats** — MOTU PAV2 interfaces support both the legacy AM8-24 stream format and the Milan-required AAF PCM and CRF formats. Regardless of format, audio streams support 1–8 channels, and standard sample rates from 44.1 kHz to 192 kHz. PAV2 interfaces can serve as a bridge between PAV1 MOTU interfaces and 3rd-party Milan devices.

- **Flexible network topology** — MOTU AVB supports both daisy-chaining and hierarchical tree structures for maximum flexibility.

- **Cross-platform app** — MOTU AVB devices can be controlled from the CueMix Pro app, which runs on macOS, Windows and iOS.

- **MOTU AVB Switch**— The affordable six-port MOTU AVB Switch provides economical AVB networking for a wide range of small to medium sized AVB networks.

NETWORKING EXAMPLES

Here are just a few examples of what is possible.

Personal studio expansion

Let's say you have a 16A mounted in a rack next to your computer. You could add an 10pre interface and position it across the room, near your drum kit, for placing up to ten mics on the drums. All the mic cabling is kept near the drums, and you have one simple, clean network cable running back to your computer system. Despite the distance, the two interfaces operate as a seamless system, controlled from your computer or iPad.

Studio installation

Networking is ideal for studio installation because you can position interfaces at strategic locations. Running cables becomes much simpler and more

cost effective. Not only does a setup like this give you access to all I/O from your computer, even multiple computers, you can also route audio from any input to any output across devices with near zero latency. You can also route audio from one computer to another with very low latency. As a simple example, you could deploy several interfaces across multiple rooms in a recording studio.

Large studio facility

In a larger studio facility, you could build audio network neighborhoods similar to the studio installation described earlier in multiple rooms, even multiple floors, with multiple computers and Wi-Fi control from anywhere in the facility. All computers and devices can see each other and you can stream audio anywhere on the network with near-zero latency, as if any two devices were connected directly to each other.

Concert systems

Concert systems must be flexible so they can adapt to each new venue while on tour. Because of its modular nature, AVB networking allows you to design systems that are scalable and easy to adapt to each venue. You can easily bring devices on and off line, rerouting audio stems as needed.

By connecting multiple computers to the network, you can set up backup playback systems on the network. For example, in a concert setting, if one computer system goes down, the backup system can be brought on line instantly through the same network infrastructure.

Traditionally, live performance setups often have separate domains for front of house mixing, monitor mixing, computer backline, and other systems. With MOTU AVB networking, these systems can be unified on the same network, opening up many possibilities for shared resources and mixing/routing responsibilities, especially from multiple sources (laptops, iPads, tablets, etc.)

MOTU AVB's very low latency makes it particularly suitable for interfacing with line arrays and sound reinforcement.

Large-scale venues

With long cable runs and industry standard networking infrastructure, MOTU AVB systems are well-suited for large-scale commercial installations such as arenas, stadiums, theme parks, clubs, casinos, houses of worship, broadcast facilities, schools, universities, and so on. Audio streams can travel long distances with sub-millisecond latency through as many as seven switches. Audio can be distributed from a centralized location to anywhere in the venue.

A QUICK GUIDE TO NETWORKING

MOTU AVB networking has been designed to be powerful, yet straightforward to set up and use. Here are a few things that are useful to know.

Networking basics

- To make network connections, use CAT-5e or CAT-6 cables (a higher grade cable). They are available wherever network cables are sold.



- Network cable lengths can be long: 100 meters with standard copper wire cables; much longer with fiber-optic network cables.

Working with AVB switches

- If you have MOTU AVB interfaces that are equipped with two network ports on them, you can daisy-chain up to eight devices in a single chain (with a total of seven connections in the chain).
- For larger networks, use an AVB-compatible switch. You can use any standard AVB switch on the market. MOTU offers the six-port MOTU AVB Switch™ (sold separately).
- ☛ A non-AVB compatible switch will not work.

- Connect MOTU AVB interfaces to any AVB Switch using their NETWORK ports.
- You can also connect a Wi-Fi router, your Local Area Network (LAN), and/or your computer.
- Expand the network by adding more switches. Make a single connection from one switch to the other.
- You can daisy-chain devices and switches in serial fashion, but don't create loops. For example, in the network shown below, do not make any additional connections between any two switches.

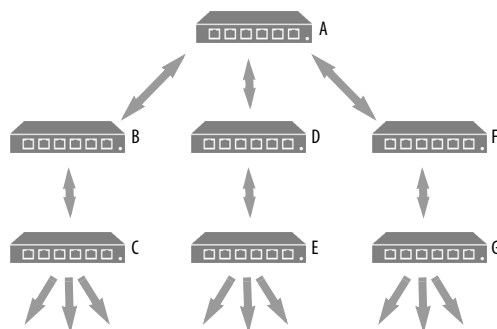


Figure 9-1: Use a hierarchical tree structure, as shown in this example. Be sure there is only one connection between any two devices on the network.

- AVB audio may not pass reliably through more than seven switches, so plan your network topology accordingly to avoid this. See “Presentation Time Offset” on page 76.

Working with computers on a network

- Computers are not required for network operation, as you can control the network from iPads, tablets and smart phones.
- To add computers to the network, connect them to any interface using Thunderbolt (which offers the highest possible channel counts). If Thunderbolt is not available, use USB.
- A computer can be connected to the network through its Ethernet port, but only for the purposes of running the CueMix Pro app on the

computer for command and control over the network. (In this scenario, you won't be able to stream audio to/from the network from the computer.)

- All computers and interfaces on the network have full access to each other.
- MOTU employs a 1 Gbit AVB implementation in the MOTU AVB Switch and 16A, allowing both devices to route many audio channels on the network.

SETTING UP THE 16A FOR NETWORKING

Once the 16A is connected to other AVB devices, either directly or via an AVB switch, using network cables as described earlier in this chapter, the 16A can stream audio to and from the other devices on the network.

The 16A supports sixteen AVB input streams and sixteen output streams. Each stream can be independently configured for one to eight audio channels.

16A input streams are used to receive streams broadcast by other connected AVB devices (*talkers*).

Conversely, 16A output streams broadcast to other AVB devices (*listeners*).

The 16A automatically “sees” the other connected AVB devices and allows you to make stream connections to and from them. Streams must be connected for audio to pass between the 16A and the other devices.

Stream connections and sample rate

When setting up audio streams between two devices on the network, their sample rates must match, or, one of the devices must be capable of sample rate conversion (SRC) to match the sample rate of the other device.

When streaming between two MOTU devices, make sure their sample rates match.

The AVB standard supports streams with different sample rates on the network simultaneously. For example, devices A and B could have a stream connection between them at 44.1 kHz, while devices C and D could have a stream connection at 96 kHz. As noted above, however, you would not be able to create a stream connection from device A (running at 44.1 kHz) to device C or D (running at 96 kHz), unless one of the devices is capable of sample rate conversion to match the other device.

Connecting an input stream

To connect a 16A input stream to a stream from another device:

- 1 In the CueMix Pro app, go to the Device tab (page 34).
- 2 Choose any Input stream (it doesn't matter which one) and use the *Source Device* and *Source Stream* menus to specify the device and stream you wish to connect it to.

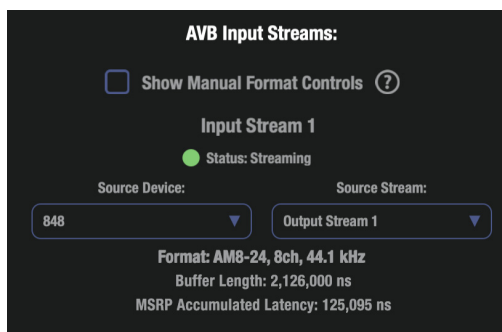


Figure 9-2: Connecting an input stream.

The input stream can now receive signal on audio channels from the source stream device.

Input stream status

Input stream *Status* light (Figure 9-2) indicates the current state of the connection, as follows:

Status	Color	Explanation
Unbound	Gray	The stream is not yet bound (connected) to a source (talker).
Bound	Orange	The stream is bound (connected) to a source (talker) but network packets are not yet successfully being received for some reason (there is a format mismatch or the source is offline, etc.)
Streaming	Green	The stream is actively connected to an on-line source (talker) and it is successfully streaming (receiving network packets) with no errors.
Bound/Muted	Yellow	The stream is temporarily muted because the source (talker) is in 'wait mode'.
Failed	Red	Connection to the source (talker) was unsuccessful for some reason (insufficient network bandwidth, for example).
Connected	Blue	The stream is connected but the input device (listener) is not Milan certified.

Format

When connecting an input stream, the source device determines the stream format and number of audio channels in the stream. CueMix Pro displays the source stream *Format* settings below the menus, as shown in Figure 9-2.

Buffer Length

Buffer Length (Figure 9-2) is the size of the listener's receive buffer. To avoid streaming errors, the presentation time offset of the source stream should never be set to a value larger than this buffer size. See "Presentation Time Offset" on page 76.

MSRP Accumulated Latency

MSRP Accumulated Latency (Figure 9-2) is the highest possible amount of latency that could be introduced by the network for a particular AVB stream, as reported by any switches through which the stream passes on the network. This combined value represents the highest amount of latency

possible, given worst-case network traffic conditions. The accuracy of this value depends on the accuracy of the reporting by the switches on the network. Note that the stream's actual latency performance is solely determined by the source (talker) presentation time offset.

Together, these values (Buffer Length and MSRP Accumulated Latency) can be used to determine an appropriate presentation time offset for a source stream. The source stream's presentation offset should not be lower than the destination (input) stream's MSRP Accumulated Latency or higher than its buffer length.

☛ When working with 3rd-party AVB devices, most devices should display basic device and stream settings in CueMix Pro. In some cases, this may not be the case. If so, you will need to access the device's settings through the device itself, or its control software.

Show Manual Format Controls

As mentioned above, input stream settings are determined by the source device and set automatically by CueMix Pro upon connection. However, when using a third-party Milan AVB controller to manage stream connections, it may be useful to manually configure input stream settings in CueMix Pro. To do so, enable the *Show Manual Format Controls* option, which exposes a menu for each setting, as shown in Figure 9-3.

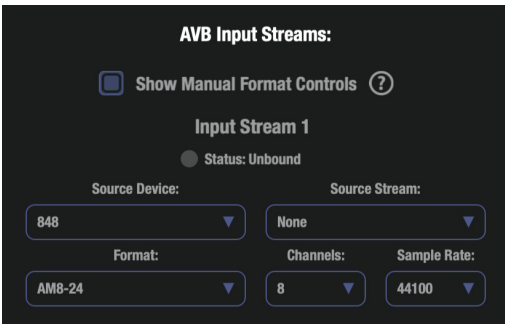


Figure 9-3: Enabling the 'Show Manual Format Controls' option.

Connecting an output stream

To connect a 16A output stream to another device:

- 1 In the CueMix Pro app, go to the Device tab.
- 2 Choose any Output stream (it doesn't matter which one) and use the *Channels* and *Format* menus (Figure 9-4) to specify the number of channels in the stream and its AVB stream format (see "AVB output stream format" below).
- 3 Set the stream's sample rate (Figure 9-4). In most cases, make sure the stream sample rate matches the sample rate of the two devices being connected. The only occasion where the stream sample rate would be different than the device sample rate is if you are working with devices that support sample rate conversion.
- 4 Set the stream's Presentation Time Offset (Figure 9-4) as explained on page 76.

Once the stream connection is made, these settings cannot be changed, so be sure to set them before actually connecting the stream.

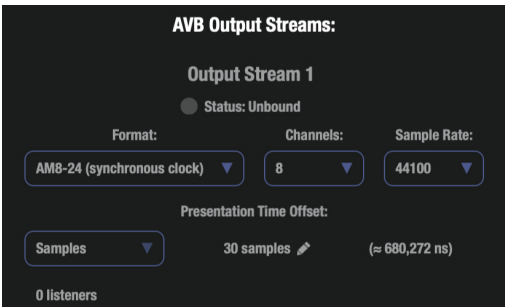


Figure 9-4: Output stream settings.

- 5 Click on the other device in the CueMix Pro sidebar to access its settings (item #11 on page 32).
- 6 Connect one of the device's input streams to the 16A output stream, as demonstrated earlier in Figure 9-2. The stream is listed, along with any other listener streams, below the output stream, as shown in Figure 9-5.

Changing output stream settings

Once a (listener) device input stream is connected to a 16A output stream, the output stream settings cannot be changed. To change them, click the *Unbind* button (Figure 9-5) to break the connection and make your changes. Then, reconnect the stream as usual.

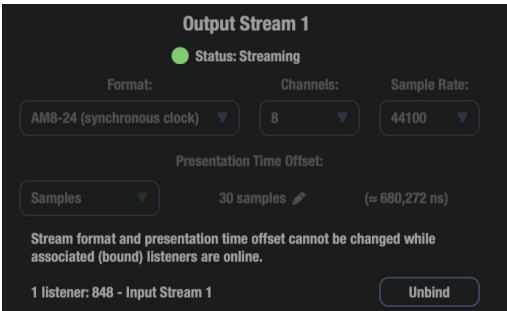


Figure 9-5: To make changes to the settings of an output stream, click the 'Unbind' button.

Output stream status

Output stream status light (Figure 9-5) indicates the current state of the connection, as follows:

Status	Color	Explanation
Unbound	Gray	The output stream has not yet seen any listener stream reservations targeting it on the network.
Bound	Orange	The output stream is successfully bound (connected) to at least one listener, but it is not successfully transmitting network packets for some reason (there is a format mismatch or the source is offline, etc.)
Streaming	Green	The output stream is actively streaming to at least one on-line listener (input stream) without any errors.
Failed	Red	Connection to a bound listener was unsuccessful for some reason (insufficient network bandwidth, for example).
Connected	Blue	The stream is connected but the source device (talker) is not Milan certified.

AVB output stream format

Since AVB was first developed, stream formats (Figure 9-4) have evolved. *AM8-24* is an older format supported by earlier-generation Pro Audio v1 (PAv1) MOTU AVB devices (such as the 1248, 8M, original 16A, etc.) and other 3rd-party AVB gear. *AAF-PCM* is a newer format that is supported by many Milan-certified AVB devices. Below is a summary of which format to use in various situations.

Destination AVB device (listener)	16A output stream format to use
16A (2025)	AAF-PCM or AM8-24 (either works fine)
16A (2014)	AM8-24
Earlier-generation MOTU AVB interfaces	AM8-24
Older 3rd-party AVB devices	AM8-24
Both new and earlier MOTU AVB devices	AM8-24
Milan-certified AVB devices	AAF-PCM

If you are sending a stream to both new and earlier-generation MOTU interfaces, use AM8-24. If you need to send the same audio signal to separate devices that don't support the same format, create two separate streams (for each format) and patch the audio signal to both streams (using the Patchbay).

Bridging from MOTU PAv1 interfaces to Milan

Earlier-generation (PAv1) MOTU interfaces are not Milan certified. However, Since stream formats can be set up on a per-stream basis, you can use current-generation MOTU PAv2 interfaces (which are Milan certified) to serve as a bridge between a MOTU PAv1 interface and a 3rd-party Milan device. Simply connect the MOTU PAv1 and Milan devices to the MOTU PAv2 device, configure each stream as required and then use the Patchbay or Routing Grid in the PAv2 interface to route audio from one stream to the other.

Presentation Time Offset

An AVB stream is a flow of audio data sent over an Ethernet network using data packets. A *talker* sends a stream, and a *listener* receives and plays it. *Presentation Time Offset* (Figure 9-4) determines the latency of the AVB stream. Each AVB packet contains a presentation time, which indicates when the audio should be played. The presentation time is calculated by adding the configured Presentation Time Offset to the time at which the packet is transmitted by the talker. The listener buffers received packets until the presentation time.

Presentation time offsets are specified in nanoseconds by the AVB protocol. However, 2nd-generation Pro Audio v2 (PAv2) MOTU AVB interfaces also support specifying presentation offset in samples. When the offset is specified in samples, the device automatically adjusts the corresponding nanosecond value when the sampling rate changes, preserving a consistent word clock phase relationship across sample rate changes. The sample value is also automatically scaled according to the sample rate multiplier. For example, a presentation offset of 24 samples at 48 kHz is automatically adjusted to 48 samples at 96 kHz. However, a presentation offset of 24 samples at 48 kHz remains 24 samples at 44.1 kHz, and the nanosecond value is updated instead.

PAv2 MOTU interfaces default to a talker presentation time offset of 24 samples (~0.5 ms). This default setting can be adjusted as needed on a per-stream basis using the Output Stream setting shown in Figure 9-4 on page 75.

First-generation (Pro Audio v1, or PAv1) MOTU AVB interfaces with all 16 listener streams enabled support 0.5 ms of buffering. The amount of buffering available increases as the number of enabled listener streams decreases. Generally, stream connections with PAv1 devices should remain at 0.5 ms or less.

If you are using only MOTU interfaces with each other, leave the presentation time offset setting at its default value (24 samples / 0.5 ms).

Milan AVB certified devices expect a default presentation time offset of 2.0 ms (see further explanation below).

In networks containing both MOTU devices and third-party Milan-certified devices, to maximize interoperability, it is recommended to use a presentation offset of 2.0 ms for any stream connections involving third party devices. Stream connections between MOTU devices can remain set to 0.5 ms to minimize latency.

Ultimately, the listener's Buffer Length and reported MSRP Accumulated Latency (Figure 9-2 on page 73) can be used to determine an appropriate presentation time offset for a source stream. The source stream's presentation offset should not be lower than the MSRP Accumulated Latency, as reported by the listener, or higher than the listener's buffer length. See "Buffer Length" and "MSRP Accumulated Latency" on page 74.

Further considerations for Presentation Offset

A non-zero presentation offset is required to allow packets sufficient time to traverse the network. If the presentation offset is configured too small, packets may arrive at the listener after their presentation time, resulting in audio dropouts or stream interruptions.

Talkers can support presentation offsets up to approximately two seconds, but the offset must not exceed the buffering capability of the listener. If the configured offset is larger than the listener's available buffer length, the listener will be unable to store the incoming audio long enough to present it at the specified time.

Milan-certified listeners are required to support at least 2 ms of presentation-time buffering. Therefore, a presentation offset of 2 ms provides the greatest network delay margin while remaining within the minimum buffering capability guaranteed by all Milan-certified listeners.

For Milan-certified devices, the listener stream status in CueMix Pro (Figure 9-3 on page 74) reports Presentation Time Offset errors as either *Presentation time too far in the future* (the presentation offset is too large) or *Presentation time in the past* (the presentation offset is too small).

Network latency

The primary source of network latency is typically the Ethernet switches between the talker and listener. A Gigabit Ethernet switch generally introduces a worst-case forwarding delay of approximately 125 μ s (microseconds), or 6 samples at 48 kHz. If there are only a few, or no, switches between the talker and listener, the presentation offset may be reduced to decrease stream latency. However, note that MOTU PAv2 devices contain an integrated Gigabit Ethernet switch. Consequently, even when two MOTU PAv2 devices are connected directly to each other, stream packets still pass through two Gigabit Ethernet switches, one in each device.

Presentation offset and media clock streams

The presentation offset of media clock streams affects the word-clock phase relationship between the leader (reference stream) and any followers synchronized to that stream. To achieve word-clock phase alignment, the presentation offset must be an integer multiple of the sample period (1 second / sample rate). Because the presentation offset is specified in nanoseconds, arbitrary phase offsets between the talker and listener can result. For MOTU PAv2 devices, specifying the presentation offset in samples ensures word clock

phase alignment. For 3rd-party devices, the number of nanoseconds for a given sample delay can be computed as follows:

$$\text{Presentation Time Offset} = \frac{\text{Sample delay} \times 1,000,000,000}{\text{Sample Rate}}$$

Default presentation time offsets

The front panel menu of your MOTU interface provides a shortcut for restoring default MOTU or Milan presentation time offsets to all active streams. Choose *Network > Milan AVB* and then choose either *MOTU Defaults* or *Milan Defaults* as needed.

To facilitate seamless compatibility with MOTU PAv1 devices, MOTU PAv2 devices in their factory default state use *MOTU Defaults*. In this mode, all stream formats are set to AM8-24 and the presentation offset is set to samples (instead of nanoseconds) with a default value of 24 samples (approximately 0.5 ms).

While this configuration is not incompatible with Milan AVB, it falls outside the Milan standard profile. Milan AVB controllers can still configure stream formats and presentation offsets using standard commands as required. However, some controllers may not gracefully handle streams currently configured with the AM8-24 format, and may assume a presentation offset of 2 ms.

Syncing AVB devices

When connecting AVB streams between two or more devices on a network, one device needs to be designated as the media clock reference, which all other devices will follow as a clock source.

To do so, first choose a reference device and set its Clock Source to *Internal*, or any other clock source besides an AVB network stream. If it is a MOTU AVB interface (including earlier generation MOTU AVB interfaces), go to the Device tab in

CueMix Pro and click the *Become AVB Media Clock Reference* button. Now, all other MOTU devices on the network will resolve to its clock.

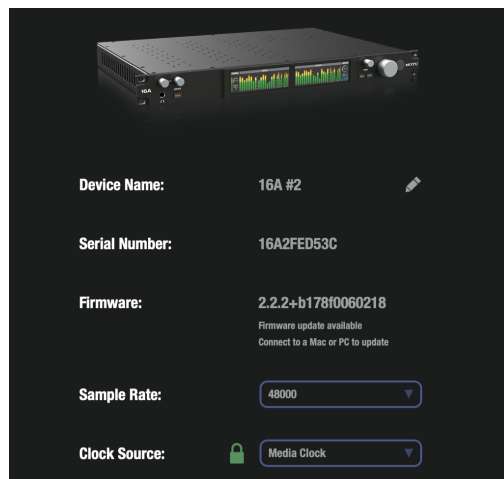


Figure 9-6: In this example, 16A #2 is resolving to the media clock of another MOTU device that has been designated as the media clock reference. (The Media Clock input stream of the 16A is connected to the media clock reference device.)

Earlier-generation MOTU AVB interfaces require firmware version 1.4.8 or later to support the new 16A's *Become AVB Media Clock Reference* button, or conversely, for the new 16A to respond to their *Become Clock Master* button.

Resolving 3rd-party AVB devices to the 16A

To resolve a 3rd-party AVB device to the 16A, use an AVB stream as follows:

- 1 For the 16A (connected to your computer), go to the CueMix Pro Device tab and set its Clock Source to *Internal* (or any other clock source besides an AVB network stream).
- 2 Scroll to the bottom of the 16A Device tab to the *Media Clock* output stream setting and choose a format that is compatible with the 3rd-party device. If the 3rd-party device is Milan certified, choose the *CRF Audio 96/1* format. The other format (*AM8-24*) may also work for some devices. Try it if the CRF format doesn't seem to work.

3 For the 3rd-party AVB device, click its icon in the CueMix sidebar (item #11 on page 32) to access its settings.

4 Go to the Device tab. In the *AVB Input Streams* section choose the 16A as a source device for one of the streams and choose *Media Clock* for its *Source Stream* (Figure 9-2 on page 73), if available. If not, choose any available input stream from the menu.

Be sure to set the 16A format for the chosen stream to a format that is compatible with the other device. See “AVB output stream format” on page 76.

5 In the Device tab *Clock Source* menu for the other device, choose the AVB Input Stream you used above. Doing so resolves the other device to the 16A via their AVB stream connection.

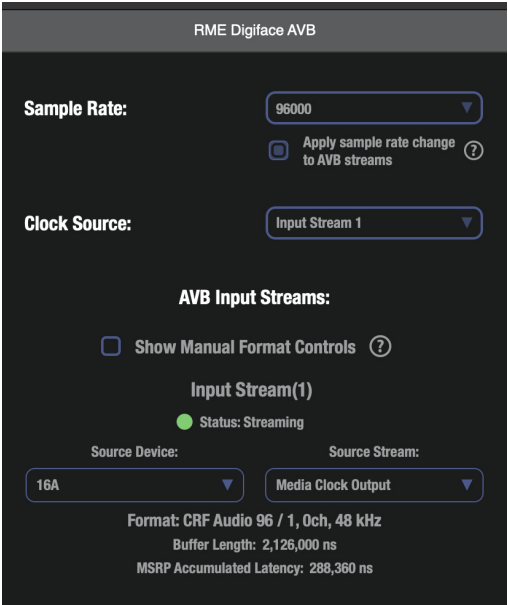


Figure 9-7: Using the 16A's Media Clock Stream as a clock source for another AVB device.

Resolving the 16A to a 3rd-party AVB device

The procedure for resolving the 16A to a 3rd-party AVB device is similar to the procedure described in the previous section, except in reverse: set the 3rd-party device's clock source to *Internal* (or any other clock source besides an AVB network stream), and then in the 16A Device tab, set up an input stream from the other device and then use that stream as the 16A's clock source.

Making stream connections in the Patchbay

You can make stream connections in the Patchbay tab (page 37). Input streams are shown in the network SOURCES bank on the left; output streams are shown in the network DESTINATIONS bank on the right. Click the disclosure triangle for a stream to access the stream settings. These are the same settings as the Device tab, as described in the previous sections.

Clock source freewheeling

When resolving the 16A to the media clock of another device on an AVB network, you may see the freewheeling clock icon, as shown below.

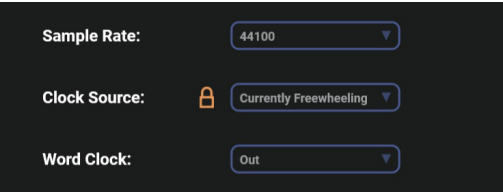


Figure 9-8: Freewheeling mode.

The 16A enters freewheeling mode when it temporarily loses the network media clock reference, switches reference clocks, or links up a network port. In this case, the 16A continues to run at the clock rate last received from the network media clock, with no disruption to any audio streams being passed to/from the device, until the network media clock is regained by the 16A. Momentary disruptions like this can happen in various situations, such as when devices are

added to, or removed from, the network. In most cases, you'll experience no disruption in audio streaming performance during freewheeling.

☛ Freewheeling is momentary and should only occur for a few seconds. (Up to 30 seconds can be considered normal during network topology changes.) If you see the freewheeling icon continuously for long periods of time, check your clock settings, as this indicates that they may need to be reconfigured.

ROUTING AUDIO TO/FROM NETWORK STREAMS

Once you've made stream connections, as explained in the previous sections, use the Patchbay tab (page 37) or Routing tab (page 38) to map input streams to destinations and to choose source audio channels for output streams.

Routing input streams in the Patchbay

In the Patchbay, input streams (coming from other devices) are shown in the network SOURCES bank on the left. Expand the stream to view its channels and use the patchbay to connect those stream channels to any desired destination channel in the right-hand bank. Possible destinations include the computer, the 16A mixer, physical 16A outputs (analog or optical), and even output AVB streams.

Choosing source audio channels for output streams in the Patchbay

16A output streams being broadcast to other AVB devices are listed in the DESTINATIONS bank on the right of the Patchbay. Expand the stream to view its channels and use the patchbay to connect source audio channels to the stream's audio channels. Possible sources include 16A physical inputs (analog and optical), computer output channels, 16A mixer bus outputs, and even input AVB streams. You can also specify the number of channels in the stream, and the stream format (explained earlier).

Routing audio to/from network streams in the Routing tab

AVB input streams (which bring in audio channels from other devices on the network) are shown as Sources across the top of the grid. Expand an AVB stream bank to show its individual channels. Use the grid to connect those channels to any desired destination channel (row) along the right side of the grid (or the left side of the grid, if you are displaying destinations on the left).

AVB output streams (which broadcast 16A audio channels to the rest of the network) are shown as destinations along the right side of the grid (or the left side of the grid, if you are displaying destinations on the left). Expand an AVB stream bank to show its individual channels. Use the grid to connect those channels to any desired source channel (column) across the top of the grid.

MAPPING COMPUTER CHANNELS TO NETWORK STREAMS

If a host computer is connected to an interface (through Thunderbolt or USB), mapping network input and output streams is accomplished as described in the previous two sections. Simply enable AVB streams as desired, and map them to computer channels in the Patchbay tab.

MANAGING NETWORK LATENCY

The 16A's DSP engine drives four 16-channel banks of delay line channels, which provide comprehensive, programmable delay compensation for a wide range of networking applications. By routing audio channels through the delay lines, you can align them accurately, down to the sample, with other channels in the system. See "Delay compensation" on page 52 and "Presentation Time Offset" on page 76.

DEVICE PRESETS AND AVB STREAM CONNECTIONS

When you save a 16A preset, any AVB stream connections that it has established with other devices on the network are included with the saved preset. When you recall the preset, those saved stream connections are restored, as long as the other devices are still present on the network and broadcasting (and listening to) the same streams as when the preset was saved. If the other device is not present (or perhaps turned off), its streams will be reported as *offline*.

In general, if you have multiple devices on a network with interconnecting AVB streams, and you wish to preserve the state of the network, it is recommended that you save a device preset for each device on the network. Doing so will allow you to faithfully restore the entire network stream configuration by recalling each device's saved preset.

USING CUEMIX PRO AS A BASIC MILAN CONTROLLER

CueMix Pro can be used to access Milan-certified devices on the network and adjust basic settings in the Device tab such as sample rate and the device name. Simply click the device's name in the CueMix Pro sidebar (item #11 on page 32), and then click the Device tab to access its basic settings, as demonstrated in Figure 9-7 on page 79.

For more advanced parameter control of 3rd-party Milan-certified devices, use a third-party Milan controller app such as Milan Manager™.

Part 3

Appendices

APPENDIX A **Troubleshooting**

My 16A isn't showing up in Audio MIDI Setup on my Mac.

Due to the updated architecture of macOS Catalina (10.15) and above, the system extensions for all newly-installed third-party software will automatically be blocked from running. If your 16A is not showing up in Audio MIDI Setup, CueMix Pro or your DAW, you might need to enable the driver in your System Preferences. To do so, first download and install the very latest installer for your 16A. After restarting, open System Preferences. Select Security & Privacy. In the General section, click the Allow button. The Allow button will disappear 30 minutes after installation. If the button has disappeared, run the installer for the MOTU driver again.

I have absolutely no audio input or output happening to or from my 16A. Why?

Make sure that the unit has a stable sample rate (the *lock icon* in the front panel display will turn red if the clock hasn't settled yet). Try setting the unit's clock source to *Internal* if you can't sync to any external clock sources. Check that audio is working with Internal sync, and if so, then work on establishing a stable external clock.

I can't hear computer audio output through my 16A.

In the Sound panel of System Preferences, the 16A should be selected as the output device.

How do I monitor live inputs?

Please refer to the documentation for the audio application that you are using. If your application does not support input monitoring, you will need to use the mixer in the 16A. Please see "Monitoring through the 16A" on page 62.

How do I control monitoring latency?

See "Reducing monitoring latency" on page 62.

How do I factory reset my device?

Push SELECT or turn the MENU knob to enter the main menu. Navigate to *RESET* and tap the SELECT button three times to reset.

I hear clicks and pops under optical or S/PDIF sync.

Many problems result from incorrect sync settings. See "Synchronization" on page 22. Whenever there is any unexpected noise or distortion, suspect digital clocking issues.

Connecting or powering gear during operation...

It is not recommended that you connect/disconnect, or power cycle connected devices while recording or playing back audio. Doing so may cause a brief glitch in the audio.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

We are happy to provide complimentary customer support to our registered users. If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to register online at [MOTU.com](https://www.motu.com). Doing so entitles you to technical support and notices about new products and software updates.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you are unable, with your dealer's help, to solve problems you encounter with your MOTU device, you may contact our technical support department in one of the following ways at [motu.com/support](https://www.motu.com/support):

- **Live Chat:** You can connect directly with a technician Monday through Friday between 10 AM and 5 PM Eastern Time.
- **Schedule a call:** You can schedule a callback time to speak with a technician by phone Monday through Friday between 1 PM - 5 PM Eastern time.

- Support ticket: You can submit an online support ticket at any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A technician will get back to you in 1-2 business days.

Please provide the following information to help us solve your problem as quickly as possible:

- The serial number of your MOTU device. This is printed on a label placed on the bottom of the unit and on the side of the box. You must be able to supply this number to receive technical support.
- A brief explanation of the problem, including the exact sequence of actions which cause it, and the contents of any error messages which appear on the screen.

- The pages in the manual that refer to the features or operation of your MOTU Device or Performer Lite with which you are having trouble.

- The version of your computer's operating system.

We're not able to solve every problem immediately, but a quick support ticket or chat may yield a suggestion for a problem which you might otherwise spend hours trying to track down.

If you have features or ideas you would like to see implemented, we'd like to hear from you. Please write to the Development Team, MOTU Inc., 1280 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138, or use our online suggestion box at www.motu.com/suggestions.

APPENDIX B

Audio Specifications

Line In		
Connector Type	1/4" Female, TRS	Balanced/unbalanced, Tip hot
Specification	Complies with EBU-R68 / SMPTE RP-155	
Impedance Load	20 k ohm	balanced
Dynamic Range	120 dB	A-weighted
THD+N	-114 dB	1kHz, 20dBu, 0dB Trim, unweighted
Frequency Response	±0.05 dB, 20 Hz-20 kHz	Ref. 1 kHz
Max Level In	+21 dBu	
Gain Range	0 to +20 dB	Digitally controlled in 1 dB steps
Line Out		
Connector Type	1/4" Female, TRS	Balanced, tip hot
Output Impedance	220 ohm	Per leg
Dynamic Range	125 dB	A-weighted
THD+N	-114 dB	-1 dBFS, Unweighted, 1 kHz
Frequency Response	+0.01/-0.15 dB, 20 Hz-20 kHz	Ref. 1 kHz
Max Level Out	+21 dBu	
Trim Range	0 to -99 or -∞	Digitally controlled in 1 dB steps
Phones		
Connector Type	1/4" Female, TRS Stereo	Tip Left, Ring Right
Output Impedance	< 1 ohm	
Dynamic Range	118 dB	
THD+N	-110 dB	Unweighted, -1 dBFs, 1 kHz
Frequency Response	+0.01/-0.1 dB, 22 Hz-20 kHz	Ref. 1 kHz
Trim Range	0 to -99 dB, plus mute	0 to -99 dB in 1 dB steps
Max output	13.3 dBu	Unloaded

Word Clock In/Out/Thru

Specification	AES-11 2009 Annex B	
Connector Type	BNC	
Termination	75 ohm (in/out)	THRU is unterminated
Lock Range	44.1 kHz / 48kHz, +- 0.5%	x1/x2/x4
Input	1 vpp to 3 v p-p (with termination)	AC coupled
Output	5.0 vpp, (2.5 v p-p terminated)	DC coupled
Jitter	complies with AES3-4-2009	< 0.025 UI

Power Supply

Connector Type	IEC 3-conductor receptacle	For AC mains connection
Configuration	Internal, Universal	
Power Input	100 V to 240 V, 50 Hz or 60 Hz	
Power Usage	1.0A max (peak draw)	

- 16A
 - ASIO driver 60
 - connecting multiple units 20
 - naming 34
 - presets 29
 - renaming 32
 - setup example 8
 - specifications 85
 - summary of features 11
- 24-bit
 - optical 10, 12, 21
- 2x SMUX mode 21
- 40 Gbps USB cable (included) 14, 18
- 4-band EQ 44, 47
- 5.1/7.1 surround monitoring 9, 10, 28, 36
- 802.1 Task Group 69

A

- A/B/C monitoring 21, 36, 50
- AAF-PCM stream format 76
- Ableton Live 59, 60
- ADAT optical 10, 12, 21
 - connecting 21
 - input format 35
 - output format 36
- ADCs 11
- Advanced (front panel menu) 28
- Advanced Setup 56
- AM8-24 stream format 76
- Analog conversion 11
- Analog inputs 10
 - boosting gain 21, 35
 - making connections to 21
 - phase invert 35
 - specifications 85
- Analog outputs 10
 - making connections to 21
 - specifications 85
 - trimming 21
- Apple
 - GarageBand 60
 - Logic Pro 60
- Apply Preset From File 55
- ASIO
 - driver 60
 - monitoring 62
- Attack
 - Compressor 48
 - Gate 48
- Auto setting 39
- Auto/DHCP 30, 56
- Aux bus
 - channel strip 42
 - fader 40
- Aux Buses 39
- Aux Mixing tab (CueMix Pro) 40
- AVB
 - connections 73
 - device list 32
 - Ethernet explained 69
 - input stream setup 73
 - input streams 34
 - networking 69-81

- output stream setup 75
- output streams 34
- overview 69
- routing audio to/from 79
- setup 73
- stream format 76
- switch 21
- switches 72
- syncing AVB devices 78
- Avid Pro Tools 60
- Avnu Alliance 70

B

- Back button 9
- Balanced analog 21
- Become AVB Media Clock Reference 34, 78
- Bound 74
- Buffer Length 74
- Buffer Size 17, 34
- Bus power 18

C

- Calibration (analog I/O) 21
- CAT-5e/6 cables 72
- Channel Strip 43
- Clear Solo 42
- Clock section (front panel display) 27
- Clock source 22, 34
- Cockos Reaper 60
- Compressor 41, 42, 43, 45, 48
- Configure IP 29
- Connections (Routing grid) 38
- Core Audio
 - driver 60
 - Volume Controls setting (Device tab) 28, 29, 34, 65
- CRF Audio 96/1 stream format 78
- Cubase 59, 60
 - clock source 59
 - sample rate 59
- CueMix Pro 17, 31-58
 - app 58
 - Aux Mixing tab 40
 - Device tab 34
 - Discovery tab 32
 - dmg virtual disk image 7, 15
 - Home tab 33
 - input channel settings 41, 43
 - Input channel strips 41
 - Inputs tab 35
 - iOS app 58
 - Mixing tab 39
 - Outputs tab 36
 - Patchbay tab 37, 38
 - Routing tab 38
 - saving/recalling presets 29
 - sidebar 32
- Customer support 83

D

- DAC filter 28, 29

- DACs 11
- Damping (reverb) 49
- DAW
 - input/recording 61
 - playback 61
- Decay (reverb) 49
- Default Preset 29
- Delay compensation 52, 80
- Delay Line (delay compensation) 37, 38, 52, 80
- Destinations bank (Patchbay) 37
- Device address list 32, 56
- Device Name 34
- Device tab 34
 - Clock source 34
 - Device presets 29
 - Host buffer size 34
 - Output Safety Offset 17, 34
 - Sample rate 34
 - Serial number 34
 - WDM Input/Output Streams 34
 - word clock 34
- DHCP 30, 56
- Digital Performer 59, 60
 - Direct hardware playthru 62
- Dim (talkback) 52
- Direct ASIO monitoring 62
- Direct hardware playthru 62
- Disconnect button 32
- Discovery tab 32
- Display setting 28
- Driver
 - installation 7, 15, 16, 31, 32
 - loopback channels 64
- DSP 12
 - effects 47
 - processing 47
- DSP (delay compensation) 37, 38, 52, 80
- Dynamics processing 41, 42, 43, 45
 - Compressor 48
 - Gate 48

E

- Effects 47
- EQ 41, 42, 43, 44, 47
 - enabling 47
 - filter types 47
 - frequency 47
 - gain 47
 - Q 47

- Equipment rack installation 7

F

- Factory preset 28, 53
- Firmware
 - updating 34, 56
 - version 28, 34
- Follow menu (Monitor bus) 42
- Frequency
 - EQ 44, 47
- Front Panel
 - lockout 30

- Front panel 26
 - Back button 9
 - displays 13
 - Headphones section 9
 - Host status indicator 9, 27
 - Inputs section 9
 - lockout 28
 - Menu knob 9
 - metering 26
 - Monitor section 9, 26
 - Mono button 9, 28
 - Network status icons 9, 27
 - Outputs section 9
 - Select button 9
 - Source knob 9
 - Volume knob 9
- Front panel display
 - menu 27
 - menu navigation 27

G

- Gain
 - EQ 44, 47
 - reduction 48
- GarageBand 59, 60
 - clock source 59
 - sample rate 59
- Gate 41, 42, 43, 45, 48
- GR (gain reduction) 48

H

- Headphones 13
 - choosing a source signal 9, 28
 - connecting 8, 9
 - mono monitoring 9, 28
 - source 33, 36
 - Source select knob 9
 - specifications 85
 - volume 9, 28, 33
 - volume control from computer 36
 - volume control from mac keyboard 28, 29, 34, 65
- High-Pass Filter 43
- Home tab 33
- Host banks (Patchbay) 37
- Host computer
 - Buffer Size 17, 34
 - channel naming 61
 - connecting multiple 16As 20
 - connection 18
 - icon 27
 - input/recording 61
 - loopback 64
 - playback 61
 - port 10
 - status indicator (CueMix Pro) 32
 - volume control from Mac keyboard 28, 29, 34, 65
- Host status indicator (front panel display) 9, 27
- HPF 43

I

- IEEE 802.1 69
- Input channel strips 41
 - settings 41, 43
- Inputs
 - analog 10
 - analog (balanced TRS) 21
 - optical 10, 21
 - phase invert 35
 - S/PDIF (TOSLink) 21
- Inputs section (front panel display) 9
- Inputs tab (CueMix Pro) 35
- Installation
 - hardware 18
 - iOS connection 18, 19
 - QuickStart Guide 7
 - software 15, 16
 - USB connection 18
- iOS operation 16, 18, 19, 58
- IP address 29, 56
- iPad
 - support 16
- iPhone
 - support 16
- IPv6 / IPv4 30, 56

L

- Latch 52
- Latency 17, 34, 62, 63
- Latency compensation 52, 80
- Latency performance 16
- Level 52
- Lightening cable connection 19
- Lightpipe 21
- Line inputs
 - boosting 21
 - making connections to 21
- Line outputs
 - making connections to 21
 - Monitor Group 36
 - trimming 21, 36
- Linear Phase Fast/Slow filter options 29
- Live 60
- Lock icon 27
- Logic Pro 59, 60
 - clock source 59
 - sample rate 59
- Loopback 64

M

- M buttons 36
- Mac keyboard volume control 65
- macOS 59
 - audio input/output 65
 - audio software
 - clock source 59
 - sample rate 59
 - compatibility 14
 - system requirements 14
- Main outs
 - A/B/C monitoring 21

- jacks 10
 - mixer channel strip 42
- Main Volume 33
- Mains (mixer inputs) 39
- Media Clock 79
- Media Clock stream 78
- Menu knob 9
- Meter View 9, 27, 28
- Metering 26
 - customizing 27, 28
 - inputs 9
 - optical 35, 36
 - outputs 9
 - pre-fader 41
- Milan 69-81
 - About Milan 70
 - controlling 3rd-party devices 81
 - Defaults (front panel Network setting) 28
 - Manager 81
- Minimum Phase (Default) filter option 29
- Mix
 - Sends 41, 43, 46
 - Settings 39
- Mixer
 - effects 47
 - input channel strip settings 41, 43
 - stand-alone operation 47
- Mixing tab (CueMix Pro) 39
 - bus channel strips 42
 - Input channel strips 41
- Monitor
 - A/B output assignments 50
 - A/B/C select 51
 - bus channel strip 42
 - bus follow menu 42
 - Group 28, 33, 36
 - group volume control 9, 36
 - surround 9, 10, 28, 36
 - volume 33
 - volume control 9, 26, 28, 51
- Mono button (front panel) 9, 28
- MOTU
 - Digital Performer 60
 - Performer Lite 60
 - Pro Audio v2 ASIO driver 16
 - Pro Audio v2 Installer 7, 15, 31
- MOTU Defaults (front panel Network setting) 28
- MSRP Accumulated Latency 74
- Multichannel WDM audio streams 34
- Multiple Destinations 61
- Mute 41, 42

N

- Network
 - daisy-chain 20
 - front panel menu item 28
 - ports (rear panel) 10
 - status icons (front panel display) 9, 27
 - switch 21
- Networking 69-81
 - connections 73

- input stream setup 73
- output stream setup 75
- overview 12
- routing audio to/from 79
- setup 73
- syncing AVB devices 78

Notch filter (EQ) 44

Nuendo 59, 60

- clock source 59
- sample rate 59

O

On Faders 39, 40

Optical

- connectors 10, 21
- expander presets 28, 67
- input format 35
- output format 36
- overview 12
- S/PDIF 22

Optimization 63

Output Safety Offset 17, 34

Outputs

- analog 10
- analog (balanced TRS) 21
- optical 10, 21
- S/PDIF (TOSLink) 21

Outputs tab (CueMix Pro) 36

P

Pan 41

Panel Lockout 30

Parametric EQ 41, 42, 43, 44, 47

Patch tab (CueMix Pro) 37

Patch thru

- latency 63

Patchbay tab (CueMix Pro) 38

Peak/hold indicators 41, 42

Performance 63

Performer Lite 13, 17, 59, 60

Phase Invert 35

Phase-lock 23

Phones (see headphones)

PHONES section (front panel display) 9

Post-fader aux bus sends 39

Power button 9, 30

Power supply 10

PRE (pre/post aux send faders) 39

Predelay (reverb) 49

Pre-fader 41

Presentation Time Offset 75, 76

Preset 28, 29, 33, 55, 81

Presonus

- Studio One Pro 60

Pro Tools 59, 60

Processing 47

Processing (DSP) 12

Product registration 14

Proxy Device 32

Q

Q 44, 47

QuickStart Guide 7

R

Rack installation 7

Ratio 45

- Compressor 48

Reaper 59, 60

Rear panel

- Network ports 10
- Thunderbolt ports 10

Reason 59

- Propellerhead Reason 60

Registration 14

Release

- Compressor 48
- Gate 48

Reset 28, 53

Reverb 49

- accessing 42, 49
- bus 42
- room size 49
- routing to/from 49
- settings 49

Routing tab (CueMix Pro) 38

S

S/PDIF

- optical 21, 22
- optical input format 35
- optical output format 36

Sample rate 34

Save Preset to File 55

Select button 9

Serial number 28, 34

Shelf filter (EQ) 44

Show Manual Format Controls 74

Show/hide virtual 16A 32

SMUX 21

Software installation 7, 15, 16, 31

Solo 39, 41, 42

- bus 42

Source (headphones) 9, 28

Sources bank (Patchbay) 37

Specifications 85

Stage monitors

- connecting 8

Stand-alone operation 26

Static IP 30

Steinberg

- Cubase 60
- Nuendo 60

Stereo Link button 43

Stream format 76

Studio One Pro 60

Studio setup (example) 8

Surround monitoring 9, 10, 28, 36

Switch (AVB) 21

Synchronization 22, 23

- AVB devices 78

Synths

- connecting 8

System requirements

- minimum 14
- recommended computer 14

T

Talk button 52

Talkback 33, 39, 51-52

- dim 52
- latch 52
- level 52
- settings 52
- setup 51

Technical specifications 85

Technical support 83

Threshold 45

- Compressor 48
- Gate 48

Thru (word clock) 10, 24, 34

Thunderbolt

- cable 14, 18
- channel naming 61
- connection 14, 18
- connection status 9
- connectivity 11
- daisy-chaining 20
- devices (connecting) 20
- dock (connecting) 20
- ports 10

Time Sensitive Networking (TSN) 69

Timeout (display) 28

TOSLink 10, 12, 21, 22, 35, 36

Troubleshooting 83

TRS analog inputs/outputs 21

TRS connectors 21

TSN 69

U

Unbalanced analog 21

Unbind button 75

Unbound 74

Undo/Redo (Patchbay) 37

Unlock Front Panel 30

Update button 32

Updating firmware 56

USB

- cable (included) 14, 18
- camera adapter kit 19
- channel naming 61
- connection 18
- connection status 9
- hub (connecting) 20
- installing drivers 15, 16
- loopback channels 64
- USB4 operation 18

User presets 29

V

Volume control 9, 26, 28, 33

- from Mac keyboard 28, 29, 34, 65

Volume knob 9
VPN connection 56

W

Wave driver 60
WDM (Wave) Driver 16
WDM Input/Output Streams 34
Width (reverb) 49
Windows
 audio input/output 65
 system requirements 14
 Wave driver streams 34
 WDM (Wave) driver 16
 WDM Input/Output Streams 34
 Windows
 latency 34
Word Clock 34
Word clock 10, 13
 specifications 86
 synchronization 23
 Thru 24, 34