Read Me

ATTO Utilities Read Me for Pro Tools 6.9

Introduction

If you are using Pro Tools 6.9 with the Digidesign SCSI128 card or ATTO EPCI-UL3D SCSI Host Bus Adapter card, it is strongly recommended that you verify that you are using the proper ATTO firmware and (if necessary) update it.

This Read Me documents the following:

- Description of the contents of the ATTO Utilities folder, which is automatically installed by the Pro Tools 6.9 Installer and contains all files needed for verifying and updating ATTO firmware
- Instructions for verifying and updating ATTO firmware

Contents of ATTO Utilities Folder

Windows

The ATTO Utilities folder contains the following files:

ATTO Firmware Read Me.pdf This Read Me document.

Epci168.exe Installs the ATTO drivers.

Macintosh

The ATTO Utilities folder contains the following files:

ATTO Firmware Read Me.pdf This Read Me document.

ATTOExpressPCIPlus.pkg Installs the 3.20 ATTO drivers.

Cfgtool Installs the ATTO Configuration Tool, which is used to verify or update ATTO firmware.

Flashbundle_2003_07_15UL3-33 Version of ATTO firmware that ensures that the Digidesign SCSI128 card or UL3D SCSI Host Bus Adapter card is functioning at its maximum performance.

Verifying and Updating ATTO Firmware (Macintosh)

The cards listed below must be set correctly for maximum performance:

- Digidesign SCSI128 card
- ATTO EPCI-UL3D SCSI Host Bus Adapter card

If you are using one of these cards, it is recommended that you verify that you have the proper ATTO firmware and drivers, which are required to make sure that Mac OS X does not override the correct settings. This process involves the following:

- Install the ATTO Configuration Tool and drivers
- Check your firmware version (and update it if necessary)
- Set your SCSI card correctly

Installing the ATTO Configuration Tool and Drivers

To install the ATTO Configuration Tool and drivers:

1 On your computer, navigate to the ATTO Utilities folder and double-click the ATTO Configuration Tool Installer (Cfgtool).

2 Follow the on-screen instructions to install the ATTO Configuration Tool.

You do not need to restart the computer after installing the ATTO Configuration Tool.

3 Double-click the ATTO Drivers installer (ATTOExpressPCIPlus.pkg), also located in the ATTO Utilities folder.

4 Follow the on-screen instructions to install the ATTO drivers.

5 Restart your computer.

Checking and Updating Your Firmware Version

To check your firmware version (and update it if necessary):

1 Locate and launch the ATTO Configuration Tool.

2 Click the triangle next to Hosts.

3 Click the triangle next to Localhost.

4 In the list under Localhost, click the name of the host bus adapter to select it.

5 Click the Flash tab to display the version of the currently installed firmware. Make sure that you are using version 1.6.6f0 of the firmware.

6 If the firmware needs to be updated, follow these steps:

- Click the Browse button in the Configuration Tool window.
- Navigate to the file called Flashbundle_2003_07_15UL3-33, located in the ATTO Utilities folder, and double-click it.

Setting Your SCSI Card Burst and Sync Rates

To set your SCSI card correctly:

1 Locate and launch the ATTO Configuration Tool.

2 Click the triangle next to Hosts.

3 Click the triangle next to Localhost.

4 Click the triangle next to the name of the host bus adapter.

5 Click the first HBA channel to select it.

6 Under the Common NVRAM Configuration section, select 16 ms from the Selection Timeout pop-up menu.

7 From the PCI Burst Rate pop-up menu, select 128.

8 From the Fallback Sync Rate pop-up menu, select 20.

9 Scroll down to the SCSI Target NVRAM Configuration section, and use the Specified Target pop-up menu to select the correct SCSI ID.

10 From the Sync Rate pop-up menu, select 160 DT.

11 Click the Commit button.

12 Repeat steps 5 through 11 for the other HBA channel.

13 Quit the ATTO Configuration Tool and restart the computer for settings to take effect.

Configuring Your Computer for ATTO (Windows)

To ensure optimum performance with Pro Tools, configure your computer before installing Pro Tools hardware and software.

⚠ *Before you make any changes to your computer's system settings, make a backup copy of your registry (where many of these essential settings are stored). By doing so, you will be able to restore your system's original settings in case of trouble. Consider acquiring a disk recovery utility such as Norton Ghost for additional security. See your Windows XP documentation for details.*

If your computer does not provide the BIOS configuration options included in this section, or if you do not feel comfortable changing system parameters, consult with a Windows system administrator, computer dealer, or manufacturer for assistance.

Configuring the BIOS

BIOS (Basic Input/Output System) parameters vary depending on the make and model of the computer. Refer to the documentation that came with your computer for more details.

Different BIOS manufacturers often use different names to describe the same system function. Some manufacturers do not provide a particular configuration option at all. The names and options that appear in your computer's BIOS may differ from those described in this section.

To modify your computer's BIOS:

1 Start or restart your computer.

2 While the computer is starting up, enter BIOS Setup by pressing the appropriate key (usually indicated in the startup message) on your computer keyboard. The F1, F2, or the Delete keys are commonly used.

3 In the appropriate page of the BIOS Setup, disable PCI Parity. If the PCI Parity option isn't available on your computer, skip this step.

4 If you will be using SCSI drives or devices, and your computer is equipped with built-in SCSI hardware, enable SCSI support. SCSI support parameters are typically found on the Devices & I/O Options page of the BIOS setup utility. If you do not have built-in SCSI hardware and are using a SCSI host bus adapter (HBA) card instead, you do not need to enable SCSI support.

5 Disable Power Management, if present.

6 Enable PCI Dynamic Bursting, if present.

7 Save the new BIOS settings.

8 Exit BIOS setup and restart your computer.

Configuring the SCSI BIOS

If you are using SCSI drives or devices, you must modify the settings of your built-in SCSI hardware or SCSI host bus adapter card. This allows SCSI hard drives and devices to work properly with Pro Tools. This procedure varies on different computers. Refer to the documentation that came with your computer.

Modifying the Computer's SCSI BIOS

To modify your computer's SCSI BIOS:

1 Start or restart your computer.

2 While the computer is starting up, when the text message regarding the SCSI BIOS appears, press the key combination listed on the screen to enter the SCSI BIOS setup utility.

3 Refer to your SCSI host bus adapter card documentation to set the following parameters:
   - For each SCSI ID and SCSI channel connected to your audio drives, set the Maximum Sync Transfer Rate parameter to 20 MB/sec for the Digidesign SCSI|128 or ATTO UL3D cards.
   - Change the PCI Burst Size to 128 Bytes and the Burst Length Selection Timeout to 16 ms.

4 Save the new SCSI BIOS settings.

5 Exit SCSI BIOS setup and restart your computer.

Updating the ATTO SCSI BIOS

(ATTO SCSI HBA Cards Only)

If you are using an ATTO SCSI HBA card, you may need to update its BIOS. When starting your computer, you will see which version of the ATTO SCSI BIOS is installed on the SCSI card. If it is not version 1.68 or higher, you will need to flash the SCSI BIOS with 1.68 or higher ATTO SCSI BIOS (flash.bat).

The following procedure uses a floppy disk inserted in a floppy drive as your DOS boot disk. You can use a bootable media other than a floppy disk.

To update the BIOS on the ATTO SCSI card:

1 Insert a High Density PC formatted floppy disk in your floppy drive (this needs to be a DOS boot disk).

2 Copy the DOS folder from the ATTO folder on the Pro Tools Installer CD-ROM to the floppy disk.

3 Shut down your computer.

4 Disconnect any hard drives connected to the SCSI card.

5 Start your computer with the floppy disk in the floppy drive.

6 From within DOS, change directory to the DOS/UTILITY folder and run flash.bat.

7 When prompted with the Update MAC, PC Setup Program message, type Y for Yes and press Enter.

The SCSI BIOS will be updated. This may take a few minutes.

Do not interrupt this process or your system may be damaged.

For more information, see the flash.txt in the DOS/UTILITY folder.

8 When updating is finished, remove the floppy disk and restart your computer.

Installing SCSI Drivers

For Pro Tools to run at maximum efficiency with your Digidesign-qualified SCSI device, install the most current Digidesign-qualified driver.

Check Digidesign's Compatibility Documents for a list of Digidesign approved computers and supported SCSI driver versions. Compatibility Documents and other resources are available at the Digidesign Web site (www.digidesign.com).

Installing the ATTO SCSI Drivers

The full name of the ATTO driver is:

- ATTO ExpressPCI

To install the ATTO Windows device driver:

1 Start your computer. Note the version of the ATTO SCSI BIOS when booting. If it is version 1.6.8, proceed to the next step. If it is not version 1.6.8, you will need to flash the ATTO SCSI BIOS (see "Updating the ATTO SCSI BIOS" on page 4).

2 Insert the Pro Tools Installer CD-ROM in your CD-ROM drive.

3 Locate and launch the Epci0168.exe file.

Epci0168.exe is a self-extracting file which contains version 1.68 ATTO SCSI driver and firmware installers.

4 In the newly created folder that contains unzipped ATTO files, locate and click Setup.exe.

5 When Setup is completed, restart your computer.

After Configuring your Computer

Restart your computer to verify basic system operation with your new settings. While not required, this may resolve any conflicts or incompatibilities revealed by changes made to your BIOS, SCSI configuration, or other computer hardware and settings.

If you experience problems, check your settings again, then try resetting one at a time and restarting until you identify which settings might be the source of the problem. Resolve any startup problems before proceeding with your Pro Tools installation.