

Pro Tools 5.1

This ReadMe documents compatibility details, known issues, and user guide addenda for Pro Tools 5.1 TDM systems (Macintosh) and Pro Tools LE 5.1 systems (Macintosh and Windows 98/Me). Also included is information specific to AVoption and AVoption XL systems.

Compatibility

Digidesign can only assure compatibility and provide support for Digidesign-qualified hardware and software configurations. For a list of Digidesign-qualified computers, operating systems, and third-party devices, refer to the latest compatibility information on the Digidesign Web site (www.digidesign.com/compato/).

Graphics Accelerator Cards (Macintosh Only)

Some third-party graphics accelerator cards when installed and active on Pro Tools systems can interfere with PCI bus traffic. This may result in DAE -6042 errors (PCI bus too busy) when playing sessions with high track counts and dense edits. This can be avoided by disabling the system extensions included with the graphics accelerator card.

Pro Tools LE and Platinum Sounds (Macintosh Only)

To ensure optimal system performance, when using smaller HW Buffer sizes with Pro Tools LE, you should disable Platinum Sounds in the Appearance Control Panel.

Digi 001 with a Power Macintosh “Beige” G3

Because most users will likely encounter DAE -6045 errors when playing and recording audio tracks with the Power Macintosh Beige G3 and Digi 001, this computer is not officially supported (though it is supported with Audiomedia III and TDM-based systems). For more information, visit the Digidesign Web site (www.digidesign.com/compato/).

AVoption & AVoption XL and System Performance

AVoption and AVoption XL place a high demand on the PCI bus on your Macintosh. However, in most configurations, Pro Tools and AVoption or AVoption XL can record and play with one Movie track and up to 32 audio tracks. For sessions with higher track counts, you should take advantage of the following tips designed to reduce PCI bus overhead:

- If using an ATI Graphics Accelerator card, disable any of its system extensions.
- Disable display of Desktop pictures.
- Arrange Pro Tools windows so that no portion of the Desktop is visible.
- On AVoption systems, if using a VGA monitor connected to the ABVB VGA output, restrict its use for displaying the Movie window only.
- For Power Macintosh G4 computers with AGP video capabilities, consider adding a Digidesign-qualified AGP graphics card. This card effectively removes all display data from the PCI bus, allowing for much better PCI bandwidth performance and track count. For details, visit the Digidesign Web site (www.digidesign.com/compato/).

Known Issues

The following sections document known issues you may encounter in using Pro Tools 5.1, along with workarounds if they exist.

Uninstalling SampleCell II on Windows

For SampleCell II users on Windows, uninstalling SampleCell or the Digidesign systems files will cause DAE (which is required by Pro Tools LE) to be removed. To replace the uninstalled DAE, re-install Pro Tools LE from the Installer CD.

Slow Session Loads with Large MIDI Configurations (Macintosh Systems Only)

Sessions that reference a large OMS Studio Setup, and also contain MIDI track outputs routed to plug-in MIDI inputs (for Virus and Bruno/Reso), may open very slowly in Pro Tools 5.1, and also cause a slow-down in CPU operations.

A beta version of the Pro Tools application (titled *Pro Tools 5.1 cs2*) that addresses this problem is included in the Beta/Bug Fix folder on the Pro Tools Installer CD. This beta version of Pro Tools has not been officially qualified and should only be used if you are experiencing the problem with slow session loads.

Sessions with Signal Generator Plug-In and Pro Tools LE 5.0.1

When opening a 5.1 TDM session with Pro Tools LE 5.0.1, any inserts assigned to the Signal Generator plug-in are dropped.

Renaming Multi-Channel Regions

Renaming a stereo or multi-channel region to the same name as a whole-file region causes the renamed region to be displayed as individual mono regions in the Audio Regions List.

Snapping to Sync Point and Fades

If a region includes a fade-in, attempting to snap the region's sync point to the Edit Cursor causes the region's start point to be placed at the Edit cursor location. The workaround is to create fade-ins after snapping regions to sync points.

Audio During FF/Rewind Preference and MIDI Tracks

When the Operation Preference for "Audio During FF/Rewind" is enabled, MIDI tracks play at normal speed when fast-forwarding or rewinding.

Low Latency Monitor and Auxiliary Input Sends (Pro Tools LE Only)

When Low Latency Monitoring is enabled, sends and inserts are supposed to become muted automatically (note that they become dimmed). However, in some instances, after toggling Low Latency Monitoring on and off, the send may not get muted, even though it is dimmed.

Making Inactive and Record-Enabled Tracks (TDM Systems Only)

Making tracks inactive or active could cause the outputs for other record-enabled audio tracks to emit a loud pop, or "zipper" noise. For monitoring safety, take audio tracks out of record-enabled mode before making other tracks inactive or active.

Recording MIDI and VSO

With a USD installed, changing the Variable Speed Override (VSO) in the Session Setup window while recording MIDI is not recommended, and may cause Pro Tools to "freeze."

Dynamics Plug-in Presets

When selecting plug-in presets for the DigiRack Dynamics plug-ins (Compressor, Limiter, Gate, Expander/Gate, and De-esser), no presets or even the wrong presets may appear in the Librarian pop-up menu. To ensure that the correct plug-in presets are displayed, and selected, make sure to Shift-click the Librarian pop-up menu.

Routing MIDI Data to Plug-Ins

When a MIDI track's output is routed to a plug-in MIDI input (for Virus, Bruno/Reso, or DirectConnect), making the plug-in or its track inactive will cause the MIDI track's output to be set to "None." After making the plug-in active, make sure to reassign the MIDI track output.

HUI and Inserts

Inserts do not remain selected when pressing the Bank or Channel arrows. After bank-swapping or channel-scrolling, you must reselect the Insert (from the track's new location) to make it the target in the DSP section.

MP3 Free Trial Period (Windows Only)

When prompted to enable the free MP3 trial period, clicking cancel will cause an error message to appear. Subsequent attempts to bounce with the MP3 option will also fail. At this point, to successfully enable the MP3 trial period, you must exit Pro Tools and restart Windows.

Bouncing to Sound Resource Files (Macintosh Only)

Bouncing lengthy audio sessions (three minutes or longer) to Sound Resource files may cause the bounce to fail, resulting in corrupted files being written.

Importing Audio from CDs (Macintosh Only)

When the option for "Enable Audio CD AutoPlay" is enabled in the QuickTime Settings Control Panel, it is not possible to audition CD tracks from the Audio CD Import Options dialog.

Importing Compressed Audio from QuickTime Movies

Pro Tools does not support importing compressed audio formats from QuickTime movies.

Jam Sync with Serial Time Code

Jam Sync is not supported with MachineControl when using Serial Time Code.

MachineControl with Sony VO-9800

The Sony VO-9800 does not support Auto Edit recording with the Pro Tools MachineControl option. When using this deck, make sure to set the Record Protocol to Punch In/Out (in the Machine Track Arming window).

Addendum to the User Guides

The following sections document corrections and additions to the Pro Tools 5.1 user guides.

Number of Busses for TDM Systems

Pro Tools 5.1 supports up to 64 busses for TDM systems. However, when opening 5.0.1 (or earlier) sessions, only 32 busses are initially available. To make 64 busses available in these sessions, open the I/O Setup dialog, click the Bus tab in the upper left, then click the Default button.

Japanese and Non-ASCII Characters

To use Japanese or non-ASCII characters in track and region names, or track comments, the option for “Enforce Mac/PC Compatibility” must be disabled when creating a new session (this unfortunately means the session cannot be transferred to another platform). Similarly, if you attempt to save a session copy with the “Enforce Mac/PC Compatibility” option enabled, all Japanese and non-ASCII characters will be lost.

Disk Allocation and Full Hard Drives

Hard drives that are full do not appear in the Disk Allocation dialog.

Digi 001 and Powering Up/Down

When powering up or shutting down your computer, the Digi 001 may emit an audible “pop.” Before powering up or shutting down, make sure to first adjust the volume control on the front panel of the Digi 001 I/O Box.

Digi 001 and MIDI Applications (Macintosh Only)

When Digi 001 is configured as a MIDI interface in OMS, Pro Tools LE must be launched before other MIDI applications, such as OMS Setup and the SampleCell Editor.

OMS IAC Driver (Macintosh Only)

If the IAC bus is enabled as a MIDI input and you attempt to record to a MIDI track assigned to IAC Midi Channel 2 or higher, Pro Tools will freeze because of a MIDI feedback loop. Disable the IAC bus as an input source in MIDI > Input Devices.

MIDI Offset and the Metronome Click

The metronome click is not affected by the MIDI Global Offset preference.

Scrolling with Zoomed Displays

Regardless of which Scrolling Option is selected in the Operations menu, Pro Tools does not scroll when zoomed down to the sample level.

Bouncing with Mute Frees Assigned Voice (TDM Systems Only)

When bouncing sessions that include muted tracks, enabling “Mute Frees Assigned Voice” can in some instances increase the number of tracks that can be successfully bounced.

Replacing Fades with Crossfades

Pro Tools does not allow you to replace fade-ins and fade-outs with crossfades. To add a crossfade between regions, any existing fade-ins and fade-outs between the regions must first be deleted.

RTAS Plug-Ins on TDM Systems

When using RTAS plug-ins on TDM systems, you may encounter DAE -6031 or -9128 errors. In these instances, you can increase the H/W Buffer Size and CPU Limit percentage in the Hardware Setup dialog (refer to the *Pro Tools Reference Guide* for details) to get better system performance. With slower CPUs, you may also need to reduce the number of RTAS plug-ins used in the session to get acceptable results.

NOTE: In addition to slower screen redraws and UI responsiveness, larger Hardware Buffer sizes can affect automation accuracy for plug-in parameters and mute data, as well as timing for MIDI tracks.

AudioSuite Processing and Side Chain Inputs

Side chain inputs for plug-ins (such as d3, Compressor, and Limiter) have no effect on AudioSuite processes when the Selection Reference is set to Region List.

AudioSuite Processing and Multi-Channel Regions

When processing multiple regions of different formats (mono and multi-channel surround, for example), only regions in the format supported by the plug-in will be processed.

Control 24 and LCRS Monitoring

The LCRS monitoring example on page 25 of the *Control 24 Reference Guide* (PN 932708328-00 REV A) is incorrect. The S speaker (mono, surround), must be connected to Monitor Output channel 4, not channel 5 as shown in the diagram.

AVoption & AVoption XL

The following details are not documented in the AVoption & AVoption XL Guide (PN 932708445-00 REV A 01/01):

Using Pro Tools AV Captured Video in MediaComposer

The import function in MediaComposer won't work with Pro Tools captured video. However, you can play, edit and work on Pro Tools video in MediaComposer by using the Media Tool and dragging the video files to your work bin.

Importing OMF with AVoption and AVoption XL

Importing OMF files with embedded video media is not supported by AVoption or AVoption XL. For information on preparing media for interchange, refer to the *AVoption & AVoption XL Guide* or the *DigiTranslator Guide*.

DigiTranslator 1.0 and Export of 5.1 Sessions

DigiTranslator 1.0 does not support export of Pro Tools 5.1 sessions. To export Pro Tools 5.1 sessions with DigiTranslator 1.0, you must save it as a 5.0 session with the Save Session Copy In command. In addition, any stereo or multi-channel audio tracks must be separated to mono tracks with the Split Selected Tracks Into Mono command before saving the session copy.

Beat Detective (TDM Systems Only)

The following details on Beat Detective are not covered in the *Pro Tools 5.1 Reference Guide* (PN 932708437-00 REV A).

Trigger Pad

In Region Separation mode, the Beat Detective window displays an option called Trigger Pad. You can enter a value in this field (between 0 and 50 ms) to pad region start points when the separate point (the beat trigger) falls on the attack of the audio material. This results in an amount of space between the region start point and the region sync point, thereby ensuring that the attack portion of the material remains intact.

Sync Points

Sync points, corresponding to the beat triggers, are created when separating regions with Beat Detective. When conforming the regions, the region sync point (not the region start point, as stated in the *Pro Tools Reference Guide*, if the Trigger Pad option was used) determines where the region is placed.

MacOpener and Cross-Platform Sessions (Pro Tools LE Only)

Pro Tools LE 5.1 on Windows supports MacOpener. MacOpener lets you record and play audio from HFS/HFS+ hard drives, as well as open Pro Tools 5.1 sessions created on a Macintosh. In order to share Pro Tools 5.1 sessions between Macintosh and Windows, the “Enforce Mac/PC Compatibility” option must be selected when creating the session, or when saving a session copy. For details on sharing sessions between Macintosh and Windows systems, refer to the *Pro Tools Reference Guide*.

NOTE: While SDII files can be exported, or converted on import, they cannot be used within Pro Tools LE sessions on Windows.

To install and configure the MacOpener demo included with Pro Tools LE:

- 1** Double-click the Setup.exe file in MacOpener Demo folder (located in the Pro Tools Utilities folder inside the Digidesign folder) to launch the installer. Follow the on-screen instructions. After installation is complete, restart your computer.
- 2** After restarting, from the Start menu, choose Programs > MacOpener > MacOpener Driver Preferences.
- 3** Under Driver Settings, select “Enable MacOpener Driver.”
- 4** Under Extension Mapping, select “Do not add the PC extension to the Mac file name.”

NOTE: All formatting and drive maintenance for HFS/HFS+ drives should occur on the Macintosh.

MacOpener Performance Limitations

- ◆ To open a session from an HFS/HFS+ drive, the session must be created with Pro Tools 5.1 or later. In addition, the session must not be of mixed file formats. To use mixed-format sessions in Pro Tools LE, first save a session copy in the desired file format (make sure to select the option for “All Audio Files” under What To Copy).
- ◆ When using the Bounce To Disk command, the bounce destination must be a FAT/FAT32 drive. Bouncing to HFS/HFS+ drives is not supported.
- ◆ Operations such as opening sessions, initiating playback, drawing waveforms when zoomed, and allocating record files are slower on HFS/HFS+ drives than on FAT/FAT32 drives.
- ◆ Because MacOpener must clear the disk cache after copying between HFS/HFS+ and FAT/FAT32 drives, Pro Tools LE will launch very slowly after performing these disk copies.
- ◆ For SDII files to appear in the Import Audio dialog, you must set the File Of Type pop-up menu to “All Files.”
- ◆ On Windows Me, when selecting all files in the Import Audio dialog, and some of these files have names with 13 or more characters, none will be added to the import list when clicking Convert All. The files can be added to the list if they are selected individually by Shift-clicking.