

# **ONYX**·FireWire

FIREWIRE OPTION CARD for ONYX MIXERS

### OWNER'S MANUAL



### **Important Safety Instructions**

- 1. Read these instructions.
- **2.** Keep these instructions.
- 3. Heed all warnings.
- 4. Follow all instructions.
- 5. Do not use this apparatus near water.
- 6. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- 7. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
- 8. NOTE: This equipment has been 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 instructions, 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 harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:
  - Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
  - Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver.
  - Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
  - Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help. CAUTION: Changes or modifications to this device not expressly approved by LOUD Technologies Inc. could void the user's authority to operate the equipment under FCC rules.
- **9.** This apparatus does not exceed the Class A/Class B (whichever is applicable) limits for radio noise emissions from digital apparatus as set out in the radio interference regulations of the Canadian Department of Communications.

**ATTENTION** — Le présent appareil numérique n'émet pas de bruits radioélectriques dépassant las limites applicables aux appareils numériques de class A/de class B (selon le cas) prescrites dans le réglement sur le brouillage radioélectrique édicté par les ministere des communications du Canada.

WARNING — To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus to rain or moisture.

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Don't forget to visit our website at www.mackie.com for more information about this and other Mackie products.

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## Introduction

Thank you for choosing to upgrade your Onyx mixing console with the Onyx FireWire card. The FireWire interface allows you to stream up to 16 channels of digital audio to your PC or Macintosh computer, where it shows up as 16 audio input choices in your audio software application. The left and right mix is also sent from the mixer to the computer, and appears as two additional input choices. You can also send two channels of audio back to the Onyx mixer, which you can select in the Control Room Source matrix for routing to the Phones, Control Room, or Main Mix outputs.

You select the sample rate for the analog-to-digital converters in either the Onyx Control Panel (for the PC) or directly from your DAW (for the Mac). The options include 44.1 kHz, 48 kHz, 88.2 kHz, and 96 kHz at 24-bits.

The FireWire card has multiple 6-pin FireWire connectors. Each connector can supply all 16 channels and the L/R mix, and having multiple connectors allows you to connect the Onyx FireWire interface anywhere within a chain of FireWire equipped devices.

It also has a small rotary knob that provides boost and cut for the L/R mix signal being sent to your computer. Since the L/R mix signal that is sent to the FireWire card is tapped prior to the Main Mix fader, this rotary knob gives you control over the signal level going to your audio software application without affecting your main mix level.

A CD-ROM is included with your FireWire card that contains the software to install the necessary drivers. It also contains the full version of Tracktion, our easy-to-use multitrack recording and sequencing software for the PC and Mac. Refer to the installation instructions on the CD to install Tracktion on your computer.

Please write your purchase information here for future reference (i.e., insurance claims, tech support, return authorization, etc.)

### **Purchased at:**

### Date of purchase:

## **System Requirements**

These are the minimum requirements for your computer system to use the Onyx FireWire interface.

### For the PC:

- Windows XP (no earlier operating systems are supported)
- Pentium 4 or Athlon XP processor
- 256 MB RAM

#### For the Mac:

- OS X\*
- G4 processor
- 256 MB RAM

 $\ast$  See www.mackie.com/OnyxFW\_Update for information on compatible Mac OS X operating systems.

### A Note about Hard Drive Speed:



Most tower-style desktop computers have hard drives that spin at 5400 rpm or faster, which is generally fast enough to record 18 channels without a problem. If you are experiencing difficulty recording all 18 channels at once, especially at 96 kHz, you may need to install a faster hard drive (i.e., 7200 rpm).

Most laptops come with 4200 rpm drives. This will work fine if you are recording fewer tracks at lower sample rates. However, if you are buying a laptop to use for recording the maximum number of tracks, specify a faster drive. It may be possible to replace a 4200 rpm drive with a faster one (preferably a 7200 rpm drive with an 8 MB cache), but you should check with the manufacturer to make sure.

Another option for either a desktop or laptop computer is to purchase an external FireWire-equipped hard drive, again preferably a 7200 rpm drive with an 8 MB cache. This can be connected to one of the FireWire connections on the Onyx FireWire card or directly to your computer and appears as an available drive to your computer. Fast SCSI drives can be used as well.

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# Installing the Onyx FireWire Card



**Important:** Although the Onyx FireWire Card has a protective cover on both sides of the card, it does contain static-sensitive components. Anti-static precautions are highly recommended before opening the anti-static bag

and handling the Onyx FireWire card. Use an anti-static wrist strap when performing this installation. These are available at most computer supply stores.



- 1. Turn off the Onyx mixer and remove the AC linecord from the socket on the rear panel.
- 2. Remove the OPTION CARD blank plate on the rear panel by removing the two screws using a #2 Phillips screwdriver. Save the screws for attaching the FireWire card.



3. A 34-pin ribbon cable is attached to the back of the OPTION CARD plate with a cable clamp. Carefully pull the plate away from the opening and slide the ribbon cable out of the cable clamp.



Set the blank plate aside. You won't need it again, unless you want to remove the Onyx FireWire card sometime in the future. Then you'll want to reinstall the blank plate.

4. Remove the FireWire card from the anti-static bag. CAREFULLY line up the connector on the ribbon cable with the connector on the back edge of the FireWire card and slide the connectors together, taking care not to bend any of the pins. Note that there is an alignment tab on the top of the ribbon cable connector that must align with the top of the connector on the FireWire card.



5. Slide the FireWire card into the slot. There are two supporting "legs" on the back of the card. Angle the back edge of the card upward so the legs clear the edge of the slot in the back of the Onyx mixer. Line up the two holes in the plate with the screw holes in the back panel.



- 6. Secure the FireWire card in place with the two screws that previously held the blank plate in place. Two more screws are provided with your FireWire card. These go into the bottom of the Onyx mixer and secure the two supporting legs on the back of the card to the chassis.
- 7. That's it! Now go enjoy a nice cold one before proceeding to the next section.



# **Getting Started**

## For the PC:

When connecting the Onyx FireWire card to a PC, it is necessary to first install the drivers and the control panel. The control panel allows you to set the sample rate and adjust the latency (delay) of the audio passing through the FireWire card.



*Do not connect the FireWire card to your computer yet!* We'll tell you when it's time to do that.

### Installing the Drivers and Control Panel

**Note:** Check our website (http://www.mackie.com/OnyxFW\_Update) to see if there are newer Drivers available for the Onyx FireWire card.

- 1. Insert the CD provided with the Onyx FireWire card into your CD drive.
- 2. Click "Start > Run > Browse" and navigate to the CD drive. Open the "Control Panel" folder and double-click "Setup.exe."
- 3. Click "OK" in the Run window. The Mackie Onyx FireWire Driver Setup window opens. Click "Next" to continue or "Cancel" to close the setup program.



- Owner's Manual
- 4. The next window displays the Software License Agreement. Click "Yes" to accept the terms of the agreement.

🗸 Mackie Onyx Firewire Driver Setup	
Software License Agreement Please read the following agreement carefully, using the Page Down key or scroll bar to view all of the text.	Ĩ
LOUD Technologies Software License Please read this license carefully before using the accompanying Software. By using the Software or opening this envelope, you are agreeing to be bound by the terms of this license. If you do not agree to the terms of this license, promptly return the Software and this unopened envelope to the place you obtained it and your money will be refunded. Software as used herein means all computer code (both source and object) including, but not limited to, all interfaces, navigational devices, search engines, databases, menus, menu structures or arrangements, drivers, development tools, icons, operational instructions, scripts, commands, and syntax, whether created, or licensed from third parties by LOUD Technologies, including all associated documentation.	
Do you accept the terms of the above agreement?	
< <u>Back</u>	<u>N</u> o

5. Next is the Destination Location window. We recommend that you install the drivers in the default location, but you can click the Browse button to select a different location. Click "Next" to continue.

🗸 Mackie Onyx Firewire Driver Setup	
Destination Location	Q
Setup will install version 1.12.1 of the Mackie Onyx Firewire drivers and control panel into folder listed below.	) the
To install into a different folder, click Browse and select another destination.	
When you are satisfied with the destination listed, click [Next]. You can choose not to in Mackie Onyx Firewire driver by clicking [Cancel] to exit Setup.	stall
Destination Folder	
C:\Program Files\Mackie\Onyx Firewire Driver Browse	
Wise Installation Wizard®	
< <u>B</u> ack <u>Next&gt;</u> Car	ncel

6. The next window explains that the device drivers are ready to be installed. Click "Next."



7. This next window may open to warn that the software being installed has not passed Windows Logo testing. Click "Continue Anyway."

Softwar	e Installation
1	The software you are installing has not passed Windows Logo testing to verify its compatibility with Windows XP. ( <u>Tell me why</u> this testing is important.) Continuing your installation of this software may impair or destabilize the correct operation of your system either immediately or in the future. Microsoft strongly recommends that you stop this installation now and contact the software vendor for software that has passed Windows Logo testing.
	Continue Anyway

8. The next window tells you to connect the FireWire card to your computer. **NOTE: DO NOT CLICK EITHER BUTTON** in this window yet!

🖟 Mackie Onyx Firewire Driver Setup 🛛 🛛 🔀						
	Setup is now ready to install device driver.					
	Do not click the buttons below until you have completed the steps outlined below!					
	<ol> <li>Connect your Onyx Firewire card to this computer with the included firewire cable. Turn on the Mixer.</li> </ol>					
	<ol> <li>When "Found New Hardware Wizard" appears for "Onyx Firewire SUB 1", click the [Next] button to install the driver. When "Completing the Found New Hardware Wizard" is displayed, click the [Finish] button.</li> </ol>					
0	<ol> <li>When "Found New Hardware Wizard" appears for "Onyx Firewire SUB C", click the [Next] button to install the driver. When "Completing the Found New Hardware Wizard" is displayed, click the [Finish] button.</li> </ol>					
TEL	(optional) If you have a second Onyx Firewire equipped mixer that you also wish to use on this computer, connect the firewire cable and power on the mixer now. You will repeat step 2 and 3 for this second mixer.					
THL	When you have successfully completed the above steps, please click [I Completed the Above Steps] below.					
	Completed the Above Steps     Cancel					

9. Turn on the Onyx mixer with the FireWire card installed, and the FireWire cable (included) connected to the FireWire card and your computer.

**Note:** If you have two Onyx mixers with FireWire cards, just connect the first one to your computer at this point. We'll have to repeat this procedure again for the second one. *No more than two Onyx mixers can be used on the FireWire bus.* 

10. Wait a few seconds and the "Found New Hardware Wizard" opens. Select "Install the software automatically" option (default) and click "Next."



11. When the wizard indicates that the installation is finished, click "Finish."



12. The "Found New Hardware Wizard" opens again to install the Onyx FireWire Sub C driver. Select "Install the software automatically" option, and click "Next."

Found New Hardware Wizard						
	Welcome to the Found New Hardware Wizard					
	This wizard helps you install software for:					
JENES L	Onyx Firewire SUB C					
Jun	If your hardware came with an installation CD or floppy disk, insert it now.					
	What do you want the wizard to do?					
1 ~	Install the software automatically (Recommended)					
	<ul> <li>Install from a list or specific location (Advanced)</li> </ul>					
	Click Next to continue.					
	< Back Next > Cancel					

13. When the wizard indicates the installation is finished, click "Finish."



Now, if you have a second Onyx mixer with a FireWire card installed, it is time to connect it to your computer and turn it on. If your computer only has one FireWire connection, you can connect the second FireWire card to one of the unused FireWire connectors on the first FireWire card.

- 14. Repeat steps 10 through 13 for the second mixer. This is necessary because each FireWire card is assigned a unique device ID.
- 15. After completing step 13 for the second mixer (or the first mixer, if you only have one), click "I Completed the Above Steps" in the Mackie Onyx FireWire Driver Setup window.



16. The "Found New Hardware Wizard" opens once again for the Onyx FireWire WDM Audio installation. Select "Install the software automatically" option, and click "Next."



17. This next window may open to warn that the software being installed has not passed Windows Logo testing. Click "Continue Anyway."

Softwar	e Installation
1	The software you are installing has not passed Windows Logo testing to verify its compatibility with Windows XP. ( <u>Tell me why</u> <u>this testing is important.</u> ) Continuing your installation of this software may impair or destabilize the correct operation of your system either immediately or in the future. Microsoft strongly recommends that you stop this installation now and contact the software vendor for software that has passed Windows Logo testing.
	Continue Anyway

18. When the wizard indicates the installation is finished, click "Finish." Your new software is now installed and ready to use with any Windows XP ASIO or WDM host application (i.e., Tracktion, Cubase, Sonar, Nuendo, Live, etc.).

Found New Hardware Wizard						
	Completing the Found New Hardware Wizard The wizard has finished installing the software for: Onyx Firewire WDM Audio					
	K Back Finish Cancel					

19. To open the Onyx FireWire Control Panel, click "Start > Programs > Mackie Onyx > Onyx Control Panel." The Onyx Control Panel indicates that a connection is established with the Onyx FireWire Card(s), and allows you to adjust the sample rate and the latency setting.



### If using one Onyx mixer with a FireWire card:

The FireWire card should now appear as an 18x2 audio device available for any DAW application that you have installed on your computer. If you are using an Onyx 1220, the FireWire card still appears as an 18x2 audio device, even though it only has 12 channels plus L/R mix. Inputs 13 through 16 are not used.

### If using two Onyx mixers with FireWire cards:

It is necessary to turn on one mixer first, followed by the second mixer. They appear sequentially as 36 inputs x 4 outputs. If you have one Onyx mixer that will spend most of its time in the studio, always turn that one on first. Then it will always occupy the first 18 inputs, and the second mixer can occupy the last 18 inputs only if you need it.



**Important:** When you are recording a session over a period of time, it is important that you always power up the Onyx mixers in the same order, so you retain the correct order of your inputs in the DAW application.

## For the Mac:

Although you do not need any special drivers from Mackie to use the FireWire card on a Mac, you must have certain specific latest versions of OS X and FireWire components. *Go to www.mackie.com/OnyxFW\_Update for details of what system version and FireWire components are necessary.* Once you have the latest system software, simply connect the Onyx FireWire card to the FireWire connection on the Mac and you're ready to go with any Mac OS X Core Audio host application (i.e., Tracktion, Logic, Cubase, Nuendo, Live, Digital Performer, etc.)

**Note:** Due to the way the current OS X system drivers are designed, if you have two Onyx mixers with FireWire cards installed, they cannot both be used within the same application at the same time.

#### To verify that the Onyx FireWire card is recognized by the system:

- 1. Go to the Applications folder and open the Utilities folder.
- 2. Double-click "Audio MIDI Setup."

000				Audio M	io MIDI Setup							
			Audio	Devices	MI	DI Devic	es –					
System Settir	igs ———											
Default Input:	Built-in	Audio		\$	Default Output: Built-		Built-	in Au	idio		\$	
				Sys	tem Out	put:	Built-	in Au	idio		÷	
Properties Fo	r: Built-in	Audio		\$								
Clock Source:	Default			* )								
Audio Input -					Aud	dio Outp	ut —					
					C		Co	onfigure	Spe	akers		
Master St	ream	\$	]			Master	Strear	n		*		
Source:	External mi	crophone	e/Line In	\$		Source:	Hea	dphone	5			<b>A</b>
Format:	4100.0Hz	• 20	h-16bit	•		Format:	4410	00.0Hz	•	2ch-	16bit	;
Ch Volume		dB Va	lue Mute	Thru	Ch	Volume				dB	Value	Mute
м 💮 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —		n/a	n/a 📃		М	$\odot$			_	n/a	n/a	
1		30.0 0	.42	8	1		-0-		-	-12.7	0.44	
2		30.0 0	.42		2	-	-0-		-	-12.7	0.44	

- Owner's Manual
- 3. Click the Audio Devices tab, and select Onyx FireWire in the "Properties For" drop-down box.

O Audio MIDI Setup								
		Audio Devices	MIDI Devic	es				
System Settin	gs —							
Default Input:	Built-in Audio	;	Default Out	put:	Built-in A	udio		
			System Out	put:	Built-in A	udio		
Properties Fo	✓ Built-in Audio							
Clock Source:	💅 Onyx Firewire							
Audio Input -	-		Audio Outp	ut —				
			(	Co	nfigure Sp	eakers		
- Master St	ream 🛟 –		_ (Master	Stream	n	*	-	
Source:	External microphone/Li	ne In 🛟	Source:	Inte	rnal speake	ers		* *
Format: 4	4100.0Hz 💽 (2ch-1	.6bit 🛟	Format:	4410	0.0Hz 💽	2ch-	16bit	;
Ch Volume	dB Value	Mute Thru	Ch Volume			dB	Value	Mute
м 💮	n/a n/a		м		•	0	1.00	
1	0 0		1 0			n/a	n/a	
2	0 0		2 💮 🚽			n/a	n/a	

4. Here you can change the sample rate used by your OS and applications.

00		Audio M	AIDI Setup			
		Audio Devices	MIDI Devices			
System Setting:	5					
Default Input:	🔮 Onyx Firewir	e 🛟	Default Output:	onyx Firew	ire	
			System Output:	onyx Firew	ire	
Properties For:	💇 Onyx Firewir	e 🛟	-			
Clock Source:	External Clock	1394 Device) 🛟				
Audio Input —			Audio Output —			
			C	onfigure Speake	rs	
- Non-Interie	aved Device	]	Non-Interlea	ved Device	]	
Source: De	fault	Å )	Source: Def	ault		* )
Format: 44	L00.0Hz 💌 🚺	8ch-24bit 🛟	Format: 441	00.0Hz 💽 20	h-24bit	•
Ch Volume	dB V	alue Mute Thru	Ch Volume	di	Value	Mute
м —		1.00	M		0 1.00	
	n/a	n/a		n	/a n/a	
4	n/a	11/d 🖂 🔄 🝸	4		/a n/a	

5. You can also choose to use the Onyx mixer as your default input or output, as well as designate it to be used for system sound output.

## **Channel Assignments**

The following chart shows the order of the channels for each of the three Onyx mixers as they appear in a DAW application.

	Onyx 1220	Onyx 1620	Onyx 1640
Input 1	Ch 1 (Mic/Line)	Ch 1 (Mic/Line)	Ch 1 (Mic/Line)
Input 2	Ch 2 (Mic/Line)	Ch 2 (Mic/Line)	Ch 2 (Mic/Line)
Input 3	Ch 3 (Mic/Line)	Ch 3 (Mic/Line)	Ch 3 (Mic/Line)
Input 4	Ch 4 (Mic/Line)	Ch 4 (Mic/Line)	Ch 4 (Mic/Line)
Input 5	Ch 5 (Stereo L)	Ch 5 (Mic/Line)	Ch 5 (Mic/Line)
Input 6	Ch 6 (Stereo R)	Ch 6 (Mic/Line)	Ch 6 (Mic/Line)
Input 7	Ch 7 (Stereo L)	Ch 7 (Mic/Line)	Ch 7 (Mic/Line)
Input 8	Ch 8 (Stereo R)	Ch 8 (Mic/Line)	Ch 8 (Mic/Line)
Input 9	Ch 9 (Stereo L)	Ch 9 (Stereo L)	Ch 9 (Mic/Line)
Input 10	Ch 10 (Stereo R)	Ch 10 (Stereo R)	Ch 10 (Mic/Line)
Input 11	Ch 11 (Stereo L)	Ch 11 (Stereo L)	Ch 11 (Mic/Line)
Input 12	Ch 12 (Stereo R)	Ch 12 (Stereo R)	Ch 12 (Mic/Line)
Input 13	Not used	Ch 13 (Stereo L)	Ch 13 (Mic/Line)
Input 14	Not used	Ch 14 (Stereo R)	Ch 14 (Mic/Line)
Input 15	Not used	Ch 15 (Stereo L)	Ch 15 (Mic/Line)
Input 16	Not used	Ch 16 (Stereo R)	Ch 16 (Mic/Line)
Input 17	L Mix	L Mix	L Mix
Input 18	R Mix	R Mix	R Mix

# Hookup Diagrams



This hookup diagram demonstrates how you can do a live multitrack recording to a laptop using the FireWire card. The FireWire card provides a digital direct output for each channel, and the L/R Mix. The channel outputs are just after the GAIN control and are not affected by the channel inserts, EQ controls, or fader moves.

Two channels are returned to the Onyx mixer for monitoring through the headphones.

### Onyx 1640 Live Mix and Multitrack Recording to a Laptop via FireWire



Sixteen channels are recorded to the laptop, and two mixdown channels are returned to the Onyx mixer for post-take monitoring through the Control Room speakers. The PHONES output is connected to a headphone distribution amp, providing several headphones for musicians and the recording engineer to monitor the mixdown as well.

### Onyx 1640 Multitrack Recording and Mixdown Monitoring



Sixteen channels are recorded to the laptop, and two mixdown channels are returned to the Onyx mixer for post-take monitoring through the Control Room speakers. The PHONES output provides a headphone for the recording engineer. The six AUX outputs are connected to a headphone distribution amp, providing six individual headphone monitor mixes for the musicians that can be adjusted quickly and easily by the engineer.

### Onyx 1640 Multitrack Recording and Mixdown Monitoring with Six Monitor Mixes



The FireWire card allows you to record directly from the Onyx mixer to a laptop or DAW without the need for a computer audio interface. The twotrack mixdown is returned to the Onyx mixer and can be monitored through the Control Room Outputs (in the control room) and the Main Outs (in the Studio).

### Onyx 1620 Recording Multiple Keyboards and Keyboard Synths directly to a Laptop

# **Tutorials**

We're assuming at this point, that you have done the setup procedure described on pages 8-17, so that the Onyx FireWire card is recognized by your computer and communicating with your software application. We also assume you've installed Tracktion (see the Onyx FireWire CD for directions). We'll use the PC version of Tracktion as the example software for this tutorial, but there shouldn't be much difference for you Mac users.

## **Live Sound Tutorial**

### **Preliminary Steps**

During the sound check, make sure all of the channels and mixer settings are set up correctly, and the Onyx FireWire port is connected to the computer. Also make sure the hard drive you want to record onto has plenty of free space for the entire show (and has been defragmented recently).



Recording one minute of audio on one track at 44.1 kHz/24-bit takes about 8 MB of hard drive space. Recording all 16 tracks for one hour takes about 7.6 GB of hard drive space.

### Recording

- 1. Launch the Tracktion software on your PC or Mac. For more details about the Tracktion software, press F12 on your keyboard, or click the Help button in the lower left corner of the Tracktion screen.
- 2. Click the New Project button.



3.

Navigate to the location where you want to save your new project, enter a name in the pop-up dialog box, then click Save. All of this project's tracks, clips, and edits are saved here by Tracktion, and new audio is recorded in the folder.

Create new pro	ject				? X
Save in	E 🔄 TEST FILE	6	¥	\$ E d*	
History Desitop FET NET					
	File name:	Super Het Set i	n blue		Save
	Save as type:	*.tracktion		*	Cancel

4. "New edit #1" appears at the top of the item list. Do not be alarmed. An Edit is Tracktion's way of keeping everything related to your songs together. You can rename the edit in the Properties panel at the bottom of the screen. See Tracktion's Help for more information.

projects	se	ettings				1.24pm 🔽 🔀
- Active Projects		All items in project	t: 'Super Het Set in blue'			1 item
Super Het Set	t in bl	name	description	project	type	length
Library Projects		hew edit #1	(created as the default edit for this project)	Super Het Set i	edit	

5. Click on the "settings" tab at the top of the Tracktion screen, click the "audio devices" tab, and select Onyx ASIO Driver as the Wave device.

	(nothing	currently selecte							
		O use realti	ne priority I	node	o	only show enabled devices			
		MIDI dev X disabled	ices Microsoft G						
Late	encv	latency .	.064 sampi	es (24.1 millisets)	÷			resart device	
	$\longrightarrow$	sample rate	4100 Hz	(54.4	¢	( <u>O us</u>	e ASIO Direct Mode	show ASIO control panel	$R \leftarrow$
ple	Kate	V ensured					inpoc		
$\mathbf{I}$	D (	√ enabled	In 10				input		
		√ enabled	In 9				Input		
		✓ enabled	In 2 In 8				input		
	miscellaneous	√ enabled	In 6				input		
		√ enabled	In S				input		
	key-mappings	√ enabled	In 3 In 4				input		
	program	√ enabled	In 2				input		
	olugios	√ enabled	In 1 <r< td=""><td>IONE&gt;</td><td>C</td><td>2</td><td>input</td><td></td><td></td></r<>	IONE>	C	2	input		
	uuulo ucvicca	✓ enabled	Main R Ma	ickie XD-2			output	(click to make this the defai	
	audio devices	1 another	Main I Di	rectSound		-	output	default wave out	nut A

6. Make sure the correct sample rate appears in the sample rate box. To change the sample rate on the PC, click the "show ASIO control panel" button to open the — Onyx FireWire Control Panel and make the changes there. Close the Onyx Control Panel when finished. The change should reflect in Tracktion after a few moments. If the change doesn't update, click "restart device" in the Wave Device panel.

On the Mac version, simply select the sample rate you want to use in the sample rate drop-down box.

7. Make sure all of the inputs are enabled. If any of them say "disabled," click it to enable it.

settings	<u> </u>	new	edit #1
	Wave de	evice:	Onyx ASIO Drive
audio devices	🖌 enabled	Main L	. + Main R
	🗸 enabled	In 1	
	🗸 enabled	In 2	
	🗸 enabled	In 3	
	🖌 enabled	In 4	

8. Reopen the Onyx Control Panel (click "show ASIO control panel). Just below the sample rate box is the latency setting. Latency describes the amount of time it takes for audio to get in and out of your software application. Since you are not concerned with monitoring and overdubbing this live recording, you can set the latency control high (all the way up). The higher the latency setting, the more resources are available to your computer to handle the recording process. Select the highest latency setting in the Onyx Control Panel and then close the control panel.



In the Mac version, adjust the latency slider directly in Tracktion.

Click on the "projects" tab, and double-click on "new edit #1" (or whatever you have renamed your edit) to open the edit screen. This new project starts with 8 horizontal tracks, stacked vertically. You can add new tracks as you go along by clicking the "tracks" button in the lower left corner and selecting "create a new track," and you can rename them by selecting the track name and typing the new name in the Properties panel at the bottom of the screen.



10. Configure all the inputs and outputs as mono tracks by clicking on each input arrow and deselecting the "treat as stereo pair" button in the Properties panel. This creates 18 separate audio inputs in Tracktion. Move the input arrows toward the tracks you want to assign them to (e.g., In 1 to Track 1). When the arrow pops out and points to the track, it is assigned, armed, and ready to record.

projects	settings	new edit #1		12.13pm 💌 🗙
	120.00 bpm, 4/4 bar 1 bar 1		ber 9 ber 11 ber 33	be 35 be 37 new filter
Ar Ar sck 1				
track 2				
track 3				

- 11. Rename the first 16 tracks with the names of the connected instruments (e.g., kick, snare, keyboard, guitar, etc.). Click on the track name and rename it in the properties area. Rename track 17 and 18 as L Main Mix and R Main Mix.
- 12. Make sure each track is getting a good signal level on the input meter in Tracktion. Make sure you have adjusted the GAIN control on your Onyx mixer for each channel as recommended under "Set the Levels" in the "Getting Started" section of the Onyx mixer's owner's manual. This will insure that you are sending a good, strong signal out the FireWire card to your DAW. Click each track's input arrow to see the input meter in the properties area.



Also, adjust the MAIN MIX TRIM on the back of the FireWire card to get a good signal from your stereo L-R mix. Use the input meter to verify that you are not peaking.

9.

13. Click the Record button in the bottom right section of Tracktion to start recording (or press the R key on the keyboard).



14. At the end of the show, you have 16 individual tracks from each channel (12 if using an Onyx 1220), and the 2-track L/R mix from the board. You can give the band the 2-track L/R mix to keep them happy, while reminding them that you expect to be paid for the many hours you are going to spend mixing down and mastering those 16 tracks to get a first-rate stereo recording.

## Studio Recording Tutorial

### **Preliminary Steps**

Make sure all of the channels and mixer settings are set up correctly, and the Onyx FireWire port is connected to the computer. Also make sure the hard drive you want to record onto has plenty of free space for the entire session (and has been defragmented recently).



Recording one minute of audio on one track at 44.1 kHz/24-bit takes about 8 MB of hard drive space. Recording all 16 tracks for one hour takes about 7.6 GB of hard drive space.

### Recording

1. Launch the Tracktion software on your PC or Mac. For more details about the Tracktion software, press F12 on your keyboard, or click the HELP button in the lower left corner of the Tracktion screen.



2. Click the NEW PROJECT button.

- 3. Navigate to the location where you want to save your new project, enter a name in the pop-up dialog box, then click Save. All of this project's tracks, clips, and edits are saved here by Tracktion, and new audio is recorded in the folder.
- 4. "New edit #1" appears at the top of the item list. Do not be alarmed. An Edit is Tracktion's way of keeping everything related to your songs together. See Tracktion's Help for more information. You can rename the edit in the Properties panel at the bottom of the screen.

5. Click on the "settings" tab at the top of the Tracktion screen, click the "audio devices" tab, and select Onyx ASIO Driver as the Wave device.

		Wave de	evice:	Onyx ASIO Driver	0		
audi	o devices	√ enabled	Main L	DirectSound		output	default wave output
		/ enabled	Main R	Mackie XD-2		output	
		V erabled	In 1	Onyx ASIO Driver		input	
	plugins	√ enabled	In 2	stiones		input	
		√ enabled	In 3			input	
key-	-mappings	V enabled	In 4			Input	
		√ enabled	In 5			input	
min	ouroonelloo	√ enabled	In 6			input	
111154	cenaneous	√ enabled	In 7			input	
		√ enabled	In 8			input	
		√ enabled	In 9			Input	
		√ enabled	In 10			input	
		√ enabled	In 11			input	
		sample rate	44100 H	łz –	÷	O use ASIO Direct Mode	show ASIO control panel
		latency	24 samp	oles (0.5 millisecs)	¢.		restart device
		MIDIde	Micros				
		A costoso					
		O use realt	time prio	rity mode	O only show	enabled devices	
	(nothing cu	irrently select	ted)				

6. Select the Main L output and make sure "treat as stereo pair" is selected in the properties panel at the bottom of the screen. This links the left and right outputs as a stereo pair so the individual tracks can be routed and panned between the left and right outputs during overdubbing and mixdown.

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 Open the Onyx FireWire Control Panel (Start > Programs > Mackie Onyx > Onyx Control Panel) and set the sample rate and latency you want to use. If your recording is going to be burned to a CD, you might want to select 44.1 kHz. Othewise, you can choose 48 kHz, 88.2 kHz, or 96 kHz.

You want to choose the lowest latency setting that your computer will handle, since you want to minimize the delay when the musicians are monitoring their overdubs. The lower the latency setting, the more resources are demanded of your computer and the less is available for handling the actual recording process. You may need to experiment with the latency setting to find the right balance between performance and monitoring delay. If you hear pops, clicks, or distortion in the audio, increase the latency setting. You can use the CPU bar in the lower right corner of Tracktion to monitor how much CPU horsepower is available. If the CPU bar changes from green to red, you are running out of resources and should increase the latency setting.



- 8. Make sure the correct sample rate and latency settings appear in the settings tab. If not, click "restart device" to update the settings (on the PC), or make the changes directly in Tracktion (on the Mac).
- 9. Make sure all of the inputs are enabled. If any of them say "disabled," click it to enable it.
- 10. Click on the "projects" tab, and double-click on "new edit #1" (or whatever you have named your new edit) to open the edit screen. This new project starts with 8 horizontal tracks, stacked vertically. You can add new tracks as you go along by clicking the "tracks" button in the lower left corner and selecting "create a new track," and you can rename them by selecting the track name and typing the new name in the Properties panel (the default names are Track 1, Track 2, etc.).



11. Configure all the inputs and outputs as mono tracks by clicking on each input arrow and deselecting the "treat as stereo pair" button in the Properties panel. This creates 18 separate audio inputs in Tracktion. Move the input arrows toward the tracks you want to assign them to (e.g., In 1 to Track 1). When the arrow pops out and points to the track, it is assigned, armed, and ready to record.

Dial Olimen, 44         put         put	projects
track 2	the st the st
	track 2
1 track 3	track 3

12. Rename the first 16 tracks with the names of the connected instruments (e.g., kick, snare, keyboard, guitar, etc.). Click on the track name and rename it in the properties panel.

	projects		new edit #1	name of the track			12.21pm 🖬 🔀
		120.00 bpm, 4/4					
		ber 1 ber 3	bar 5 bar 7	ber 9 ber 11		bar 17	new filter racks
244	Vocals						
An 2	Backup Vocal 1						
44	Backup Vocal 2						
40	Guitar						
1+5	Rhythm Guitar						
44	Guitar						
44	Joard 1						
44	Joard 2						
40	Kick						
	Tom 1						
A4	Tom 2						
und	o redo	🖞 track - "Bo's Vo					120.00 hom 4/4 11.1.1.000
	dinhoar	name Bo's Vo	cals [ select all clips	in track	destination output for this traci		1 1 1000
Save	Cipboar	O mute	solo shrink	grow	A (default audio output)	4	
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snapp	ing • tracks	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	auto-advance		Se track 2 (Backup Vocal 1)	-	loop gunch (drop filters here)
optio	ns • automati	on •) insert a new	track advance 0.0 ms		track 3 (Backup Vocal 2)		click srxp
		( insert a new	clip	acks •	track 4 (Lead Guitar) track 5 (Bhythm Guitar)		e-to-e scroll
help	• •	(move track up) (n	ovetrack down delete marked	region •)	track 6 (Bass Guitar)		090 N

13. Make sure each track is getting a good signal level on the input meter in Tracktion. Make sure you have adjusted the GAIN control on your Onyx mixer for each channel as recommended under "Set the Levels" in the "Getting Started" section of the Onyx mixer's owner's manual. This insures that you are sending a good, strong signal out the FireWire card to your DAW. Click each track's input arrow to see the input meter in the properties panel.



### 31

- 14. You can monitor the recording by assigning all the channels to the L/R mix on the Onyx mixer, and selecting MAIN MIX in the CONTROL ROOM/PHONES SOURCE section. This provides direct monitoring through a pair of monitors connected to the Control Room Outputs. You can connect the Headphone output to a headphone distribution amp to provide monitoring for the musicians, as shown in the hookup diagram on page 20.
- 16. Click the Record button in the bottom right section of Tracktion to start recording (or press the R key on the keyboard).



### Overdubbing

Say you want the lead singer to add a second vocal part in harmony with the lead part that you just recorded.

1. Create a 17th track in Tracktion and assign Input 1 from the FireWire card to it (assuming the vocalist's mic is connected to channel 1 of the mixer). Unassign tracks 1-16 to disarm recording. You just want them to play back.

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Acousite	Strum						
Post 18 Kick	Kick+01		<b># + + #+</b> +   ##	<b># •   • +</b>			
Rost 16 Snare	Snare-01		<b>*</b> ********	****			
HiHat	HiHat-01		Diffementer in the second seco	HADHANA			
Crash	Crashes+01		+				
ОН	Overheads-01		<b></b>				
Room	Room-01		<b></b>				
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snapping • track	aliae input	1	detection of deput	10 0m		loop punch (drop filters here)	1
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- 2. Push the FIREWIRE button in the CONTROL ROOM/ PHONES SOURCE section of your Onyx mixer to hear playback of the recorded tracks. Mute all the channels except channel 1 (the overdub vocal part) on the Onyx mixer.
- 3. Click the Record button in the bottom right section of Tracktion to start recording (or press the R key on the keyboard). You can monitor the playback tracks and the second vocal part in the studio monitors, while the vocalist monitors it through the headphones.
- 4. You can continue to overdub parts in this manner, adding as many tracks as necessary. Tracktion has no limit on the number of tracks you can record. It's dependent on the amount of horsepower your computer has.



### Mixdown

For the mixdown part of the recording process, you can playback the tracks as often as you like and make changes to the various parameters for each track (pan, volume, effects, dynamics). These changes can be automated so that when you have everything just right, all you have to do is hit Play, and your 2-track mixdown is ready to record, just as you want it.

You can use the export feature in Tracktion to create a stereo WAV file of your mix that you can use to burn to a CD. Click the "export" button and select "create an audio file."

# **Appendix A: Service Information**

If you think your Mackie product has a problem, please check out the following troubleshooting tips and do your best to confirm the problem. Visit the Support section of our website (www.mackie.com/support) where you will find lots of useful information such as FAQs, documentation, and user forums. You may find the answer to the problem without having to send your Mackie product away.

## Troubleshooting

### No Audio into your Computer

- Confirm that the Onyx mixer is receiving mic or line-level input signals (the signal LEDs next to the fader should be lighting up).
- Make sure the correct driver is selected in the DAW. In Tracktion, this is selected in the Settings tab under Audio Devices.
- If the mixer seems fine and you are using Tracktion, click Restart Device in the Settings tab under Audio Devices. Other DAW software applications may have a similar button.
- In Tracktion, be sure the correct inputs are selected and the tracks are armed.
- Restart your mixer and computer.
- Reinstall the drivers from the CD.

### Glitchy/Distorted Audio into your Computer

- Increase the latency setting. Tracktion: Click the Settings tab and then click Audio Devices. On the PC, click the "show ASIO control panel" button and increase the latency setting. On the Mac, increase the latency slider.
- In other applications, find the control panel to increase the ASIO (PC) or Core Audio (Mac) latency setting.

### Inputs Reversed with Two Mixers

• Turn on the mixers in reverse order, exactly as you did when installing the drivers.

## Repair

For warranty repair or replacement, refer to the warranty information on page 38.

Non-warranty repair for Mackie products is available at a factory-authorized service center. To locate your nearest service center, visit www.mackie.com, click "Support" and select "Locate a Service Center." Service for Mackie products living outside the United States can be obtained through local dealers or distributors.

If you do not have access to our website, you can call our Tech Support department at 1-800-898-3211, Monday-Friday, 7 am to 5 pm Pacific Time, to explain the problem. Tech Support will tell you where the nearest factory-authorized service center is located in your area.

Need Help?

You can reach a technical support representative Monday through Friday from 7 AM to 5 PM PST at:

### 1-800-898-3211

After hours, visit www.mackie.com and click Support, or email us at: techmail@mackie.com

# **Appendix B: Technical Info**

## **Onyx FireWire Card Specifications**

Mic In to FireWire Card to DAW, routed back to FireWire Card to Control Room Output; all signal path gain stages set to unity

### **Frequency Response**

+0, -3 dB, 10 Hz to 42 kHz @ 96 kHz sample rate +0, -1 dB, 10 Hz to 20 kHz @ 44.1 kHz sample rate

### Distortion (THD+N)

< 0.025%, 10 Hz to 40 kHz, +4 dBu input @ 96 kHz sample rate < 0.015%, 20 Hz to 20 kHz, +4 dBu input @ 96 kHz sample rate < 0.010%, 20 Hz to 20 kHz, +4 dBu input @ 44.1 kHz sample rate

### **Dynamic Range**

> 98 dB, 20 Hz to 20 kHz @ 96 kHz sample rate > 100 dB, 20 Hz to 20 kHz @ 44.1 kHz sample rate

### Main Mix Trim

+10 dB to -10 dB, unity detent

### Dimensions

Height:	1.3 in/32 mm
Width:	8.8 in/222 mm
Depth:	3.6 in/91 mm
Weight:	8.3 oz./235 g

LOUD Technologies Inc. is always striving to improve our products by incorporating new and improved materials, components, and manufacturing methods. Therefore, we reserve the right to change these specifications at any time without notice.

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Correct Disposal of this product: This symbol indicates that this product should not be disposed of with your household waste, according to the WEEE Directive (2002/96/EC) and your national law. This product should be handed over to an authorized collection site for recycling waste electrical and electronic equipment (EEE). Improper handling of this type of waste could have a possible negative impact on the environment and human health due to potentially hazardous substances that are generally associated with EEE. At the same time, your cooperation in the correct disposal of this product will contribute to the effective usage of natural resources. For more information about where you can drop off your waste equipment for recycling, please contact your local city office, waste authority, or your household waste disposal service.

**Owner's Manual** 



# **Onyx FireWire Card Limited Warranty**

### Please keep your sales receipt in a safe place.

**A.** LOUD Technologies Inc. warrants all materials, workmanship and proper operation of this product for a period of **one year** from the original date of purchase. You may purchase an additional 24-month Extended Warranty (for a total of 36 months of coverage). Visit our website and follow the "Product Registration" links for details (www.mackie.com). If any defects are found in the materials or workmanship or if the product fails to function properly during the applicable warranty period, LOUD Technologies, at its option, will repair or replace the product. This warranty applies only to equipment sold and delivered within the U.S. and Canada by LOUD Technologies Inc. or its authorized dealers.

**B.** For faster processing (not to mention a free gift), register online or mail in the product registration card.

**C.** Unauthorized service, repairs, or modification of Mackie products will void this warranty. To obtain repairs or replacement under warranty, you must have a copy of your sales receipt from the authorized Mackie dealer where you purchased the product. It is necessary to establish purchase date and determine whether your Mackie product is within the warranty period.

D. To obtain warranty repair or replacement:

1. Call Mackie Technical Support at 800/898-3211, 7 AM

to 5 PM Monday through Friday (Pacific Time) to get authorization for repair or replacement. Alternately, go to the Mackie website, click "Support" (www. mackie.com/support), and follow the instructions for reporting a warranty issue and submitting a request for an advance replacement.

**2. Advance Replacement:** Mackie will ship a replacement unit to you along with an invoice for the suggested retail price of the replacement unit. You must return the defective unit immediately to cancel the invoice. If you do not return the defective unit within 30 days, you must pay the full amount stated in the invoice to satisfy your debt.

**3. Repair:** When you call Mackie Technical Support, explain the problem and obtain a Service Request Number. Have your Mackie product's serial number ready. *You must have a Service Request Number before you can obtain factory-authorized service.* 

• Pack the product in its original shipping carton. Also include a note explaining exactly how to duplicate the problem, a copy of the sales receipt with price and date showing, your daytime phone number and return street address (no P.O. boxes or route numbers, please!), and the Service Request Number. If we cannot duplicate the problem or establish the starting date of your Limited Warranty, we may, at our option, charge for service time and parts.

• Ship the product in its original shipping carton, **freight prepaid** to the authorized service center. Write the Service Request Number in **BIG PRINT** on top of the box. The address of your closest authorized service center will be given to you by Technical Support, or it may be obtained from our website. Once it's repaired, the authorized service center will ship it back by ground shipping, pre-paid (if it qualified as a warranty repair).

**Note:** Under the terms of the warranty, you must ship or drop-off the unit to an authorized service center. The return ground shipment is covered for those units deemed by us to be under warranty.

**Note:** You must have a sales receipt from an authorized Mackie dealer for your unit to be considered for warranty repair.

## IMPORTANT: Make sure that the Service Request Number is plainly written on the shipping carton. No receipt, no warranty service.

**E.** LOUD Technologies reserves the right to inspect any products that may be the subject of any warranty claims before repair or replacement is carried out. LOUD Technologies may, at our option, require proof of the original date of purchase in the form of a dated copy of the original dealer's invoice or sales receipt. Final determination of warranty coverage lies solely with LOUD Technologies.

F. Any products returned to one of the LOUD Technologies factory-authorized service centers, and deemed eligible for repair or replacement under the terms of this warranty will be repaired or replaced. LOUD Technologies and its authorized service centers may use refurbished parts for repair or replacement of any product. Products returned to LOUD Technologies that do not meet the terms of this Warranty will not be repaired unless payment is received for labor, materials, return freight, and insurance. Products repaired under warranty will be returned freight prepaid by LOUD Technologies to any location within the boundaries of the USA or Canada.

**G.** LOUD Technologies warrants all repairs performed for 90 days or for the remainder of the warranty period. This warranty does not extend to damage resulting from improper installation, misuse, neglect or abuse, or to exterior appearance. This warranty is recognized only if the inspection seals and serial number on the unit have not been defaced or removed.

**H.** LOUD Technologies assumes no responsibility for the timeliness of repairs performed by an authorized service center.

I. This warranty is extended to the original purchaser. This warranty may be transferred to anyone who may subsequently purchase this product within the applicable warranty period for a nominal fee. A copy of the original sales receipt is required to obtain warranty repairs or replacement.

**J.** This is your sole warranty. LOUD Technologies does not authorize any third party, including any dealer or sales representative, to assume any liability on behalf of LOUD Technologies or to make any warranty for LOUD Technologies Inc.

**K.** THE WARRANTY GIVEN ON THIS PAGE IS THE SOLE WARRANTY GIVEN BY LOUD TECHNOLOGIES INC. AND IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS AND IMPLIED, INCLUDING THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. THE WARRANTY GIVEN ON THIS PAGE SHALL BE STRICTLY LIMITED IN DURATION TO ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF ORIGINAL PURCHASE FROM AN AUTHORIZED MACKIE DEALER. UPON EXPIRATION OF THE APPLICABLE WARRANTY OBLIGATION OF ANY KIND. LOUD TECHNOLOGIES INC. SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES THAT MAY RESULT FROM ANY DEFECT IN THE MACKIE PRODUCT OR ANY WARRANTY CLAIM. Some states do not allow exclusion or limitation of incidental, special, or consequential damages or a limitation on how long warranties last, so some of the above limitations and exclusions may not apply to you. This warranty provides specific legal rights and you may have other rights which vary from state to state.

## MACKIE.

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