# PHONIC

# Firefly 808 Universal FIREWIRE & USB INTERFACE



## English User's Manual

### **IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS**

The apparatus shall not be exposed to dripping or splashing and that no objects filled with liquids, such as vases, shall be placed on the apparatus. The MAINS plug is used as the disconnect device, the disconnect device shall remain readily operable.

**Warning**: the user shall not place this apparatus in the confined area during the operation so that the mains switch can be easily accessible.

- 1. Read these instructions before operating this apparatus.
- 2. Keep these instructions for future reference.
- 3. Heed all warnings to ensure safe operation.
- 4. Follow all instructions provided in this document.
- 5. Do not use this apparatus near water or in locations where condensation may occur.
- 6. Clean only with dry cloth. Do not use aerosol or liquid cleaners. Unplug this apparatus before cleaning.
- 7. Do not block any of the ventilation openings. Install in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- 8. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
- 9. 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 is provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
- 10. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plug, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the apparatus.
- 11. Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
- 12. Use only with a cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus. When a cart is used, use caution

when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid injury from tipover.



- 13. Unplug this apparatus during lighting storms or when unused for long periods of time.
- 14. 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.



CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER (OR BACK) NO USER SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED PERSONNEL



The lightning flash with arrowhead symbol, within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated "dangerous voltage" within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient

magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock to persons.



The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.

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

**CAUTION:** Use of controls or adjustments or performance of procedures other than those specified may result in hazardous radiation exposure.

## **FIREFLY 808 UNIVERSAL**

FIREWIRE & USB INTERFACE

USER'S MANUAL

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## INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your purchase of one of the newest members of the Firefly series from Phonic, the Firefly 808 Universal. We know how to make the best audio gear for you and we know your need to create great recordings and productions. The Firefly 808 Universal features a eight mic/line inputs (with +48V phantom power), digital AES/EBU I/O and word sync, ADAT I/O, MIDI I/O, S/PDIF I/O, and all of these with FireWire and USB interfaces for digitally transferring your audio to your computer in high resolution audio (up to 192kHz) that meets today modern productions standards.

We know how eager you are to get started – wanting to get the Firefly out and hook it all up is probably your number one priority right now – but before you do, we strongly urge you to take a look through this manual. Inside, you will find important facts and figures on the set up, use and applications of your Firefly 808 Universal. If you do happen to be one of the many people who refuse to read user manuals, then we just urge you to at least glance at the Instant Setup section. After glancing at or reading through the manual (we applaud you if you do read the entire manual), please store it in a place that is easy for you to find, because chances are there's something you missed the first time around.

## FEATURES

- FireWire (IEEE 1394) & USB 2.0 audio interface
- 24-bit resolution, up to 192k Hz sampling rate
- 18 simultaneous inputs and outputs FireWire audio interface
- 8 microphone preamps with trim controls and individual phantom power switches
- 8 analog line Inputs including 2 Instrument Inputs
- 8 channels of optical ADAT I/O (4 ch. via 96k dual SMUX)
- S/PDIF I/O, AES/EBU I/O, MIDI I/O and word clock I/O
- Headphone output and Main output with volume control for monitoring purpose
- Channel meters on channel 1 to 8 for input or output
- Synchronization, sampling rate, digit I/O and MIDI in/out indicators
- Dual FireWire ports for daisy chaining and direct connection to Mac or PC
- Stand-alone mixer functionality for field and studio use without computer
- Instrument input, pad switch, balanced TRS send jacks on Inputs 1 and 2
- Compatible with Windows XP, Windows Vista and Mac OSX
- Steinberg Cubase LE 4 software included

## **INSTANT SETUP**

## **Quick Start**

- 1. Install the USB or FireWire driver and mixer software included with your Firefly onto your computer. More detailed instructions can be found in the "Driver Installation" section of this manual. Mac users do not need to install the drivers, however have their own mixer software that can ben installed to allow for adjustment of signal levels, sampling rates and so forth.
- 2. During the driver installation process, you will be instructed to connect the Firefly to the computer and turn it on. Connect the Firefly to the computer using the FireWire or USB cables included along with the unit.
- **3.** Connect the supplied AC power cable into the power inlet connector at the rear back of the Firefly 808. Turn the unit on using the power switch on the front of the unit.
- 4. Connect a microphone to the XLR input connector on the front of the unit. You can take a look at the mic LED meter and adjust the level control so it sits at a good level for recording. Do the same with the various mic and line inputs on the rear of the Firefly. It's advisable to keep the unit off when plugging in or unplugging microphones, instruments and such.
- 5. Open the Phonic Control Panel software and check that the Firefly's inputs and outputs are all shown in the appropriate windows. In this section you are also able to change the size of the buffer, sampling rate and a few other properties.
- 6. You can use your headphones with the Phones output to monitor your input and output audio on the Firefly.
- **7.** Now you are ready to start designing high resolution audio productions and ready to find out all the advantages of your brand new Firefly.

### Setup

- **1.** If you have experience connecting our FireWire products you'll find this setup familiar and easy.
- **2.** Turn on your computer and be sure to have a FireWire or USB port available.
- **3.** Connect your Firefly to an AC power outlet through the provided AC power cable.
- 4. Connect the supplied FireWire or USB cable to a port on the back of your Firefly, and connect the other end to your computer. You only need to connect a single FireWire cord to your computer the second port on the Firefly is to allow you to daisy chain the Firefly with additional Firefly 808 Universals.
- **5.** Turn the unit on using the switch located on the back panel.
- 6. Your computer will automatically recognize the Firefly provided you have installed the appropriate drivers (see the Quick Start section). You should be able to view and edit your Firefly's channel properties in the Phonic FireWire Control Panel software.
- 7. Your next and final step would be to activate the Firefly in your DAW software. Most programs will make you open a project before you do so. Then all you need to do is go to the "devices", "tools" or "properties" pull-down menu (depending on your software of choice) - here you should find an option that allows you to view and change your desired inputs and outputs and assign them to your project's channels. Activate the Firefly and you're done!

## **Front Panel Description**

#### 1. Power Button

Push this button in to turn the Firefly 808 Universal on. When the unit is on, the button will light up.

#### 2. FireWire LED

This LED will light up when a connection to the computer is established through the FireWire interface.



#### 3. Channel 1 and 2 Inputs

These two combo jacks allow users to connect either balanced XLR 3-pin connectors, for dynamic or condenser microphones, or 1/4" TRS phone jacks for instruments such as electric or bass guitars.

**NOTE:** When plugging line-level signals into the combo jacks, disengage the PAD button to lower the signal level to an acceptable degree.

#### 4. Input Gain Controls 1 - 8

Turn these knobs clockwise to increase the microphone/ line input gain for the corresponding channels. You have 50dB of gain to work with, but be sure not to adjust it to a level that will make the input meter hit the "clip" point. A good region to be in is about -6dB – this will give you a greater signal level with enough headroom to avoid clipping.

#### 5. PAD selector

This button controls the input sensitivity for channels 1 and 2. Pushing this button in will attenuate the input signal by 20dB, allowing you to connect a microphone or instrument to the combo input jack.

#### 6. +48V Phantom Power

Pushing one of these buttons will activate the +48V phantom power for the corresponding channel, allowing you to use condenser or ribbon microphones (or other devices that require +48V) to work properly. Activation of phantom power will be accompanied by an illuminated LED. If you are not sure if your mic uses phantom power, please refer to the microphone user's manual.



#### 7. Headphone Output Jack and Gain Control

All the audio signals that are mixed inside the Firefly 808 Universal can be monitored with headphones through this jack. You can also use the corresponding control to adjust the signal level.

#### 8. Main Level Control

This control adjusts the final level of the audio sent through the main left and right outputs, the signal of which is taken either from the FireWire return signal or the various analog and digital inputs (depending on your software settings).



#### 9. LED Level Meter

This stereo 6-segment LED meter displays the signal level of sum of all 8 analog input channels. User's are advised to keep this meter sitting around the -6dB mark to make the best use of audio possible without causing any unnecessary clipping.

#### 10. Channel LED Level Meters

The input/output signal levels from analog inputs/ outputs 1 to 8 are shown in these 4-segment LED meters. Whether these meters display the input or output level is dependant on the input/output select button. Users are advised to try and keep their signal level around the -20, -10 marks, as to avoid distortion and clipping.

#### 11. Input/Output Select Switch and Indicator

This button determines whether the LED level meter will display the input or output signal of the Firefly 808's input/output channels. This button is an easy way to compare input and output levels. Depending which setting is currently active, an LED will light up next to the corresponding setting ("analog input" or "analog output").



FIREFLY 808 UNIVERSAL

#### 12. Synchronization Indicators

Firefly 808 Universal can be synchronized with any WCLK sync device, enabling you to use it for your audio/video recording studios as well as cinema and video production that requires high resolution audio. When the Firefly 808 is synchronized, one of these LEDs will light up to indicate which device the Firefly is currently synced with. If you try to sync with a device not connected to the Firefly, the corresponding light will flash briefly and return back to the previous setting.



#### 13. Sampling Rate Indicator

When Firefly 808 is synchronized, one of these LEDs will light up to show the sampling rate of the device the Firefly is synchronized with. The Firefly will automatically be set to that rate.



#### 14. AES/SPDIF LED Indicator

These input and output LEDs will light up when the AES/EBU or S/PDIF interface is in use.

#### 15. ADAT LED Indicator

You can use your optical devices in conjunction with the Firefly 808. When the ADAT optical connection is in use, the input and output LEDs will activate to let you know the connection is successful.

#### 16. MIDI Indicator

When using the MIDI interface, these input and output LEDs will light up.



## **Rear Panel Description**

#### 17. Line Input Channel 1 and 2

These input jacks allow users to connect line-level devices, the signal of which is fed through the FireWire interface, and sent directly out the channel 1 and 2 sends.

#### 18. Channel 1 and 2 Sends

These outputs act as direct sends of the channel 1 and 2 inputs, allowing the signal to be used in other devices.



#### 19. Input Channels 3 to 8

Each of these channels features a balanced ¼" TRS Line Inputs and can be used to connect any line level device like CD players, DAT recorders. You can even connect an analog mixer that does not have FireWire interface to allow you to send that signal to the computer. Also present are 3-pin XLR mic input connectors for use with condenser or dynamic microphones.

#### 20. Main Outputs

These  $\frac{1}{4}$ " TRS outputs will allow users to send the main stereo mix of the Firefly 808's return signal to external devices. The signals from analog channels 1, 3, 5 and 7 are sent through the left output, whereas the 2, 4, 6 and 8 signals are sent through the right output. When the FireWire or USB interface is in use, users are able to use the Mixer software's crossfader to select the degree of the FireWire return signal and the analog input signal that is sent to these outputs. The Main outputs can be connected to active speakers, studio monitors, or other mixers, depending on your needs.



## PHONIC



#### 21. Analog Outputs

These are balanced ¼" TRS line outputs with line (+4dBu) level signals. Users are able to use these outputs to get a stereo output channel from each pair of odd and even numbered outputs, or even a surround mix (5.2 or 6.2). Analog outputs 1 and 2 can be used to send a stereo mix of your analog inputs or FireWire/USB return signal, which is ideal for use with studio monitors or subwoofers (if making a surround mix).

#### 22. AES/EBU In/Out

This is a standard XLR AES/EBU digital interface that lets you connect your digital AES-enabled devices to your Firefly. The IN or OUT LED on the front of the Firefly will light up when the inputs and outputs are in use.

#### 23. S/PDIF / AES IN Switch

This switch determines which of these digital inputs will be used.

#### 24. S/PDIF In/Out

This is a standard RCA S/PDIF Digital Audio Input/ Output that can be used with digital mixers, DAT recorders, or any external device that uses the RCA digital interface format. Please use a 75 ohm coaxial cable with RCA plug when using S/PDIF. The most common problems or glitches incorporated with S/ PDIF transfer are due to use of improper analog cables. Users may also use these inputs for "High-Speed" S/PDIF devices when that option is selected in the computer's Firefly mixer software.





#### 25. FireWire / USB Ports and Select Switch

These connections are digital USB and FireWire (aka IEEE 1394) ports that you can use to connect the Firefly 808 Universal to your computer. Doing so will enable you to use your computer for high quality multi-track recording, as well as editing, mixing, and so forth, in your favorite Digital Audio Workstation Software.

The switch that accompanies these ports is used to determine which of the ports you will be using.

You have two FireWire ports at your disposal; however you need only connect one to your computer. The second port will allow you to connect a second Firefly 808 Universal, allowing twice the number of inputs!

#### 26. MIDI In/Out

These inputs will allow you to send 16 MIDI channels through the FireWire or USB interface to your computer, as well as receive 16 back. These channels will be present within the Firefly Control Software, and available for use in most MIDI-enabled programs.

#### 27. ADAT In/Out

This is a standard TOSlink ADAT optical interface that you can use in the same way as you would use your typical ADAT devices. This input can also be used for SMUX inputs when this option is selected in the computer's Firefly mixer software.

#### 28. WCLK IN/OUT

These are BNC input/output connectors for standard Word Clock Syncs, as are used in DVTRs and other digital devices.

#### 29. AC Power Input and Fuse Holder

Connect the supplied AC power cord to this connector. The other end should be connected to a suitable power supply. The power supply's fuse is located just below this connector. If your fuse blows, remove the fuse holder's cover and replace the fuse with another suitable fuse (as indicated on the fuse-holder's cover).



## FireWire / USB Interface

#### System Requirements

The following are the minimum required specifications for use with the Firefly 808 Universal. If your computer does not meet these requirements, you will experience lagging of audio and possible freezing of your computer when attempting to operate the device.

#### Windows

- Microsoft® Windows® XP SP1 and SP2 / Vista®
- Available USB 2.0 or FireWire port (suggested FireWire Interface: ADS Pyro 64 FireWire card with TI chip)
- Intel Pentium® 4 processor or equivalent AMD Athlon processor
- · Motherboard with Intel or VIA chipset
- 5400 RPM or faster hard disk drive (7200 RPM or faster with 8 MB cache recommended)
- 512 MB or more of RAM (1 GB or more recommended)

#### Macintosh

- OS X 10.3.5 or later with native FireWire support
- G4 or newer processor
- 512 MB or more of RAM

#### **Driver Installation**

To use the Firefly 808 on a PC, it is important to install all the necessary drivers from the included CD (ASIO and WDM drivers). It is important that users read all instructions carefully before continuing on to the each step of installation, as users will be required to unplug and plug in their FireWire device. These drivers are not necessary for Mac users, however Mac users may wish to install our Mixer software from the included CD. It's important to remember that the driver you install will depend on whether you are using FireWire or USB, so make sure you install the right one!

#### Windows XP (with Service Pack 1 or 2) / Vista

- 1. It is recommended that you quit all applications before starting the installation process.
- 2. Ensure the Firefly is not yet connected to your Computer's FireWire or USB input.
- 3. Insert the installation CD included with your Firefly into the CD-ROM drive of your computer. If the CD does not automatically start the installation process within a few moments, then navigate to "My Computer" → your CD-ROM drive → "FireWire Drivers and Control Panel" or "USB Drivers and Control Panel" → run "setup.exe" to begin the installation manually. The Phonic Control Panel software and the Firefly 808 Universal Mixer software will also be installed at this time.
- **4.** Follow the installation instructions. The following applies to the USB driver installation, however the FireWire installation is almost identical.



Make sure no other programs are running on your PC and that the Firefly 808 Universal is not connected to your PC, then click "Next".

🖳 Phonic USB Andio Driver (FF808U) Setup					
License Agreement Please review the license terms before installing Phonic USB Audio Driver (FF808U) V0.73.0.					
Press Page Down to see the rest of the agreement.					
FireWire/USB Device Desktop Software Copyright c 2005-2008 by Phonic Corporation All rights reserved. This license applies to the standard - licensed version of Phonic's FireWire Device Desktop Software.					
FireWire/USB Device Desktop License Phonic Corporation					
Your Agreement to this License This License only applies to the English-language version of the Fire/Wire/USB Desktop Software software and its accompanying files, data and materials ("Fire/Wire/USB					
If you accept the terms of the agreement, click the check box below. You must accept the agreement to install Phonic USB Audio Driver (FF808U) V0.73.0. Click Next to continue.					
I accept the terms in the License Agreement					
< Back Next > Cancel					

Read and accept the terms of the License Agreement, and click "Next" to continue.

🖳 Phonic USB Audio Driver (FF808U) Setup
Choose Install Location Choose the folder in which to install Phonic USB Audio Driver (FF808U) V0.72.0.
Setup will install Phonic USB Audio Driver (FF808U) V0.72.0 in the following folder. To install in a different folder, click Browse and select another folder. Click Install to start the installation.
Destination Folder
Space required: 1.9MB Space available: 13.9GB
Back Install Cancel

Select a new destination for the installation, or else click "Install" to accept the default directory.

🖳 Phonic USB Audio Driver (FF808U) Setup	
Installing Please wait while Phonic USB Audio Driver (FF808U) V0.73.0 is being installed.	
This may take some time to complete. Please wait	X
Create Shortcut: C:UDocument Extract: C:WINDOWS/system Extract: C:WINDOWS/system Extract: C:WINDOWS/system Extract: C:WINDOWS/system Copy to C:WINDOWS/system	t to install and turn them on.
Copy to C:\WINDOWS\system32\u00fcurvers\u00fccu2vs_rnonic_FFedeo.sys Preinstalling device drivers. This may take some time to complete. Please wait Checking connected device. This may take some time to complete. Please wait v	
< Back Next > Cancel	

Connect the Firefly to the Computer and turn the power on or, if the Firefly is already connected, turn it off and then on again.

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 STOP Installation

If a message is displayed indicating that the software has not passed Windows Logo test, click "Continue Anyway." On Vista, you may receive a similar message regarding Signed Drivers. After installation is complete, the Phonic Control Panel software will be visible in the taskbar and you are free to use the device as they wish.

#### Macintosh OS X (10.3.5 or later)

The Firefly 808 Universal works with the primary audio drivers of Macintosh OS X 10.3.5 and later. First verify that you are running Macintosh OS X 10.3.5 or above, then connect the Firefly to a FireWire port to the computer. To ensure your Firefly is working, enter the Utilities folder and double-click the Audio MIDI Setup icon.

Enter the Audio Device's section. From the "Properties for" pull-down tab, select Firefly 808. At the bottom of the window, users can edit the setup of the Firefly 808. Properties such as sampling rate and clock source can be altered and users may also opt to make the Firefly their default input and/or output device.

Mac users are able to use GarageBand, Logic Pro, as well as a host of other programs, in conjunction with the Firefly 808 Universal.

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2	0		_	n/a	n/a		2	0			_	n/a	n/a	
3	0			n/a	n/a		3	0				n/a	n/a	-
4 5	~			n/a	n/a		4	0				n/a	n/a	-
6	<u> </u>			n/a	n/a		6	~				n/a	n/a	-
7	<u> </u>			n/a	n/a		7	-				n/a	n/a	-
8	ŏ		_	n/a	n/a	Ä	8	ě—				n/a	n/a	
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## **Channel Assignment**

When using a Digital Audio Workstation on a PC, and within the included Phonic FireWire control panel software, the following names have been attributed to the input channels of the FireWire device. They can be altered through the Phonic Control Panel software.

FireWire Input Channel Name	Device Channel
Line[1] I L	Analog Input 1
Line[1] I R	Analog Input 2
Line[2] I L	Analog Input 3
Line[2] I R	Analog Input 4
Line[3] I L	Analog Input 5
Line[3] I R	Analog Input 6
Line[4] I L	Analog Input 7
Line[4] I R	Analog Input 8
SPDIF[1] I L	S/PDIF or AES In
SPDIF[1] I R	S/PDIF or AES In
TOS[1] I L	ADAT or SMUX In
TOS[2] I R	ADAT or SMUX In
MIDI I 1	MIDI In
FireWire Output Channel Name	Device Channel
Line[1] O L	Analog Output 1
Line[1] O R	Analog Output 2
Line[2] O L	Analog Output 3
Line[2] O R	Analog Output 4
Line[3] O L	Analog Output 5
Line[3] O R	Analog Output 6
Line[4] O L	Analog Output 7
Line[4] O R	Analog Output 8
SPDIF[1] O L	S/PDIF or AES Out
SPDIF[1] O R	S/PDIF or AES Out
TOS[1] O L	ADAT or SMUX Out
TOS[2] O R	ADAT or SMUX Out
MIDI O 1	MIDI Out

To alter an input channel's name on your computer, open the Phonic Control Panel software. On the left hand side of the control panel, users will find the settings categories. By clicking "Input Channels", the main window will display the titles input channels. You can then highlight the channel names and press the "Edit Channel Name" button on the bottom of the control window. A new window will appear that will allow users to enter a new name for the channel.

If you would like to use the Firefly as your default audio output device on your PC, simply go into the Windows control panel and select "Sound and Audio Devices." Click on the Audio tab and use the pull-down menu to select the Firefly 808 Universal from the list of available devices. The Firefly can also be selected as the default output device for individual programs by editing said programs' settings / options.

## Cubase LE 4

Cubase LE is a fairly powerful program provided along with the Firefly interface that allows users to record, mix, edit, delete, and alter their tracks. Please note that only 8 tracks can be recorded at once with the version of Cubase included, and users must upgrade to Cubase SX, or find other suitable DAW software, if they choose to record more tracks.

#### Installation

Insert the Cubase LE 4 installation CD that came with your Firefly into the CD-ROM drive of your computer. Run the installer. You must install Steinberg's registration software to be able to use the software successfully.

#### Setup

After successfully completing the installation process, the following process must be followed to work efficiently with the Friefly.

- 1. Open the Cubase LE 4 program and start a new Project. Add a track or two to this project.
- Go to the 'Devices' pull-down menu and select 'Device Setup'. On the left, select 'VST Multitrack'.
- **3.** From the ASIO Driver drop-down list select the "Phonic ASIO Driver." A pop-up box will ask you if you want to switch the ASIO driver. Click 'Switch.' This completes the basic installation and setup.
- 4. Activating audio tracks received from the Firefly.
  - a. Go to the "devices" pull-down menu and select 'VST Inputs'. This will display the various inputs ("Phonic FF808U Ch 1", "Phonic FF808U Ch 2", etc.)
  - b. Activate 8 of these channels by clicking the "Active" button located next to each channel name. Please note, only 8 input channels can be activated at any one time in this version of Cubase. This is a limitation of Cubase LE 4. If more input channels are needed, we suggest upgrading to a higher version of Cubase, or use other DAW software.
- For further instructions on the operation of Cubase, please consult the user manual by pressing F1 while the program is open.

If you wish to reset the Phonic ASIO driver, simply go to the 'devices' pull-down menu and select 'device setup'. Simply click "reset" and select the "Phonic ASIO Driver". Click 'ok' to continue and the Firefly 808 should once again become functional.

## **FireWire Device Control Panel**

The FireWire control panel can be accessed at any time by entering choosing the shortcut from your Programs menu. This program will not only allow users to alter their device and channel names and properties, but will also let them correct for latency issues, change sampling rates, and so forth. When opening the software, a number of options will be available for users to select from, allowing them to adjust the available properties.

#### Devices

In the Devices section, users are able to view and edit the name of the Phonic FireWire or USB Devices currently connected to their computer.

Phonic Contr	ol Panel			
File Info				
<ul> <li>Devices</li> <li>Input Channel:</li> <li>Output Channel:</li> <li>√, Synchronisation</li> </ul>	S Device name FireFly_808U		Serial number 0014960018000000	
● Settings ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,				Up Down
	Edit Day	ins Marros		
	Lu, Der	Ne vene		( and )
 Dearly	1 Device(c) connected	Current camplion	rate: 192 0 kHz ctro	

#### **Input Channels**

The Input Channels section allows users to view and edit the name of the various input channels received from the FireWire or USB interface. For a list of default channel names, please consult the table on page 13.



#### **Output Channels**

By entering the Output Channels section, users can view and edit the names of the various output channels from the computer to the Firefly 808 Universal.

Phonic Control Par	nel		
Info			
Devices	Device name	Channel name	ASIO display name
Input Unannels	FireFly_808U	Line1/2 Line[1] 0 L	Line1/2 Line[1] 0 L
	FireFly_808U	Line1/2 Line[1] U R	Line1/2 Line[1] U R
Synchronisation	FireFly_808U	Line3/4 Line[2] O L	Line3/4 Line[2] O L
Settings	FireFly_8080	Line3/4 Line[2] U R	Line3/4 Line[2] U R
🕈 Streams	FireFly_8080	Line5/6 Line[3] U L	Line5/6 Line[3] U L
	FireFly_8080	Line5/6 Line[3] U R	Line5/6 Line[3] U H
	FireFly_808U	Line7/8 Line[4] D L	Line7/8 Line[4] U L
	FireFly_8080	Line//8 Line[4] U R	Line//8 Line[4] U R
	FireFly_8080	SPDIF SPDIF[1] U L	SPDIF SPDIF[1] U L
	FireFly_8080	SPDIF SPDIF[1] U R	SPDIE SPDIE[1] U R
	FireFly_8080	TUS TUS[I]U L	
	FireFly_8080	TUS TUS[1] U R	TUS TUS[1] U R
	FireFly_8080	MIDI Uut	MIDI Uut
		Edit Channel Name	Include device name in ASIO display name
		ed channel:	
ut Channels			1 Device(s) connected.

#### Synchronization

In the Synchronization section, users can adjust the sampling rate and other synchronization properties. Many of these adjustable properties, as they are, are set for optimum performance and, unless you are sure of what you need to change, are probably best left alone.

📲 Phonic Control Pai	nel	
File Info		
■ Devices Input Channels U Dutput Channels Synchronisation Settings	Samping Rate Selection Mode O Automatic Mode O Manual Mode	Apply
, f <sup>a</sup> Streams	Sampling Rate	Apply
	Clock Source	Apply
Synchronisation		1 Device(s) connected.

First off, the sync mode can be altered, though making this alteration is not recommended for novice users. The sync mode is basically the way the computer determines what the 'clock source' (ie. device that your computer will use to determine the timing of all digital signals received) will be. The default setting for this feature is "CSP," meaning the Firefly is the "master" clock source of the device. The other options allow users to make the FireWire follow the "timing" of whichever device is the clock source. Having two clock sources has the potential to create very undesireable results, so it is best avoided. If the Firefly is the only piece of digital audio equipment attached to the computer, there is no reason this option should be changed. Users are also able to change between automatic and manual sampling rate settings. When the sampling rate is manually set, users can select between sampling rates of 44.1, 48.0, 88.2, 96.0 and 128 kHz per second for analog inputs and 176.4 and 192.0 kHz per second for some digital devices. Many devices have sampling rates that do not surpass 44.1 kHz per second, therefore, when using multiple digital devices, users are advised not to exceed this level unless they are sure the secondary device's sampling rate can.

#### Settings

Users are able to adjust various buffer times in the Settings section.

The Stream Buffer Depth is adjustable between 0.5 and 20 milliseconds. It adjusts the buffer used when streaming a signal from the Firefly. If the depth is set too high, an obvious latency will become evident. If the depth is too low, various clicks and pops may become obvious. It is best to set the Stream Buffer Depth to a level that allows users to get the lowest latency, while still maintaining an optimal performance. The default settings are ideal for most computers.

Phonic Control Pa	nel		
ile Info			
Evices     Input Channels     Output Channels     √     Synchronisation     Settings     √     Streams	Stream buffer depty.	2.0 ms	Apply
	Audio Buffers ASIO buffer depth.	10.0 ms 960 samples	Apply
	WDM sound buffer depth:	10.0 ms 960 samples	Apply
	ASIO Statistics Drop outs detected: 0		
ettings		1 Device(s	) connected.

The ASIO Buffer Depth is adjustable between 4 and 40 milliseconds. This allows users to adjust the latency of the stream received by ASIO driver-based software (including Steinberg Cubase LE 4).

The WDM (Windows Driver Model) Sound Buffer Depth is adjustable between 4 and 40 milliseconds. This allows users to adjust the latency of the stream received by WDM based programs.

Also in this section, users are able to view their "drop out statistics", where the number of times the FireWire connection has been interrupted can be viewed.

#### Streams

In the Streams section, the Firefly device properties can be viewed. Each input and output stream can be scrutinized, and the isochronous stream number and its supported sampling rates can be viewed.



### Firefly 808 Mixer Software



When there is no digital audio workstation software is in use, the Firefly 808 Universal can be controlled using this basic mixer which is included along with the driver and control panel software. The signal from this mixing panel is able to be fed back to the Firefly 808 Universal as a stereo signal, routed to analog outputs 1 and 2 and the headphones output.

#### **Channel Inputs**

#### 1. Mute Button

Pushing this button will mute the corresponding channel, stopping it from being sent back to the Firefly.

#### 2. Solo Button

Use this button to solo the corresponding channel back to the Firefly allowing users to monitor the signal. The soloed channels will be sent to analog outputs 1 and 2 and the headphones output on the Firefly 808.

#### 3. Link Button

Pushing this button will enable a link function, allowing users to control two channels as if they were one with the fader, mute and solo buttons being 'linked' to two inputs.

#### 4. Pan

Each of the Firefly's inputs are set to either left or right by default, with odd channels being set to the left, and even channels being set to the right.

#### 5. Fader

Click and hold the mouse button on the fader to adjust the volume of the signal coming into the computer through the FireWire/USB connection for each channel. When in link mode, a single fader will control 2 channels simultaneously.



#### 6. Level Meter

These two parts of the PC-based mixer give users an idea of the input levels received through the FireWire/USB interface. The graphic bar will give visual representation of the level and users are able to read the exact input level in decibels underneath the fader.

#### 7. Channel Status (digital channels only)

This display window will show whether a digital device is connected to or disconnected from the Firefly unit. The status will be updated automatically when a digital device is connected to the correct inputs.

#### **Output Channel**

#### 8. Balance

The balance control for the master output is set to the center by default. Moving it to the left will attenuate the right signal and intensify the left signal accordingly; moving it to the right will do the opposite.

#### 9. Fader

Click and hold the mouse button on the fader to adjust the volume of the stereo output signal being sent through the FireWire/USB connection to the Firefly. The signal controlled by these controls is sent through the Firefly's analog outputs 1 and 2.

#### 10. Level Meter

This gives users an idea of the output levels of both channels sent through the FireWire/USB interface. The graphic bar will give visual representation of the level and users are able to read the exact input level in decibels underneath the fader.

#### **Host Connection**

#### 11. USB / 1394a Selection

This indicator will light up in red to show whether the USB 2.0 or FireWire interface is being used to access the Firefly 808 Universal.



#### Sync Source

#### 12. Device

Pushing this will allow you to use the Firefly 808 Universal as the sync source for all your digital gear.

#### 13. Coaxial S/PDIF

Selecting this option will activate any coaxial S/PDIF device as the sync source for your digital gear. If no device is connected to the S/PDIF input on the Firefly 808, the corresponding sync source LED on the face of the device will flash briefly then return back to the previously selected sync source.

#### 14. Optical S/PDIF

Selecting this option will activate any optical S/PDIF device as the sync source for your digital gear. If no optical S/PDIF device is connected to the TOSlink ADAT input on the rear of the Firefly 808 Universal, the corresponding sync source LED on the face of the device will flash briefly then return back to the previously selected sync source.

#### 15. Word Clock

This option will allow you to use a word clock as your sync source. If no word clock device is connected to the BNC word clock input on the rear of the Firefly, then the corresponding sync source LED on the face of the mixer will flash briefly and then return back to the previously selected sync source. Please see the diagram below for information on hooking up a world clock as your sync source.



#### 16. PC

This is the default option, and allows you to use the PC as the sync source. When set to PC, the corresponding sync source LED on the front of the Firefly 808 Universal will light up.

**Note:** If ADAT and S/PDIF devices are not set to the same sync <sup>Source,</sup> the user will be prompted to correct the problem.

#### **Digital I/O Select**

#### 17. S/PDIF

Selecting this option will allow you to use a S/PDIF or AES enabled digital device with the Firefly.

#### 18. High Speed S/PDIF

If you connect a high speed S/PDIF product to the S/PDIF connector on the rear of the Firefly 808 Universal, clicking this option will allow you to use the output signal from this device.

#### 19. ADAT

Select this option to use the TOSlink ADAT inputs on the rear of the Firefly 808 Universal.

#### 20. SMUX

By selecting SMUX as your digital input/output device, you are able to connect a SMUX enabled product to the "ADAT" TOSlink inputs of the Firefly. The SMUX output signal is typically 8 channel, however if you set the sampling rate to 96 kHz, this is reduced to 4 channels.

#### **Other Features**

#### 21. Sampling Rate Selection

Here you can select the sampling rate of the signal sent to the computer. For most applications, you will be able to select between 44.1, 48, 88.2 and 96 kHz. If you choose ADAT as your digital input selection, you are then able to select 44.1 kHz or 48 kHz. When using high speed S/ PDIF devices, you are able to select between 176.4 and 192 kHz sampling rates. If the 192 kHz sampling rate is set, the Firefly's level meter will be disabled.

#### 22. Crossfader

The mixing software's crossfader allows users to adjust the signal returned to the computer's analog 1 and 2 outputs. When centered, the signal will be a 50-50 mix of the pure signal received by the Firefly 808 Universal and the signal returned to the 808 from the computer. When pulled to the left, the monitor signal from the 808 gradually becomes more dominant; when pulled all the way to the left, this signal is the only signal audible. If this control is pulled to the right, however, the stereo signal from the mixing panel software will become more dominant.



## Stand-Alone Mode

The Firefly 808 Universal can work independently, without any FireWire connection being established. The following is just a couple of points of interest that you may need to know to use the Firefly in stand-alone mode.

Firstly, whatever settings you have made in regards to digital inputs, outputs, and sampling rates while using the Firefly 808's mixer software will be kept even after you restart the device and/or disconnect the FireWire /USB cable. This means whatever inputs and outputs you have set will be activated/deactived as per your previous settings. The default sampling rate is 44.1 kHz, and the default digital input/output is S/PDIF.

Also, the analog inputs are routed to their corresponding analog outputs, as well as a mix of these inputs being sent through any digital outputs that have been set (ADAT, S/PDIF, etcetera).

## APPLICATION

Q -0 • STUDIO RECORDING PREAMPS WITH 192KH2 USB FIREWIRE INTERFACE ″\_✦ ■ CH I~8 METERING CLIP () -10 () -20 () -40 () -10 () -10 () -20 () -40 () -10 () -10 () -20 () -40 () -10 () -10 () -20 () -40 () -10 O -20 O CLIP () -10 () -20 () -40 () -10 (UIP -10 (O -20 (O -40 (O -10 O -20 O -40 O ANALOG INPUT
 ANALOG OUTPUT +48V HANTOM POW +48V ANTOM POWE HANTOM POWER +48V PHANTOM POWE ANTOM POWE +48V ANTOM POWER +48V PHANTOM POW +48V PHONES MAIN POWER Ż PAD ( ) HEADPHONE MICROPHONE ROPHONE DIGITAL MIXER MULTI-TRACK RECORDER COMPUTER 8 in, 8 out FIREFLY 808 UNIVERSAL AES/EBU SWITCH ANALOG OUTPUT WCL B % 🕀 оит 🤂 Ð ಕ್ರಿಕಿ ୍ଟ୍ରିତ  $\overline{}$ 0  $(\bigcirc$  $(\bigcirc$ Q Ð 5000  $(\bigcirc$ MA 4 8 6 5 3 Ū 0 0 MICROPHONE MICROPHONE MICROPHONE MICROPHONE MICROPHONE MICROPHONE STUDIO

Recording vocals (multi-part harmonies, choirs, etc.) or speeches

## PHONIC

176.4 2 ″\_♦ CH I~8 METERING CLIP () -10 () -20 () -40 () CLIP () -10 () -20 () -40 () -10 () -20 () -20 () CLIP () -10 () -20 () -40 () STUDIO RECORDING PREAMPS WITH 192KHz USB FIREWIRE INTERFACE O ANALOG INPUT O ANALOG OUTPUT MICROPHONE POWER +48V +48 +48V +48V +48 PHONES MAIN +48 +480 +48 5 6 8 PAD Q Q PAD HEADPHONE HEADPHOME AMP HEADPHONE MICROPHONE MICROPHONE HEADPHONE HEADPHONE HEADPHONES HEADPHONES HEADPHONES HEADPHONES KEYBOARD HEADPHOME AMP HEADPHOME AMP HEADPHOME AMP HEADPHOME AMP FIREFLY 808 UNIVERSA SWITCH ANALOG OUTPUT WCL 🕀 оит 🕀 Ð ಕ್ಕಿಕಿ  $(\mathbf{k})$ 3000 1000 Ð  $\bullet$  $\mathbb{O}$ MAIN MAINS 100-24 EUSE 1 ANALOG INPUT - 50-60Hz. 20W 6 7 5 4 8 3 L ¢ 4 4 Ð ومح ြိနိဂ္ ဖြို့ရှိ శ్రీశిల్ GUITAR EFFECT  $\odot$ GUITAR EFFECT MICROPHONE MICROPHONE DRUM MACHINE GUITAR

Making studio recordings (without the studio)



## Getting 6.2 audio from your FireFly

## DIMENSIONS



\* All measurements are shown in mm/inches.

## **SPECIFICATIONS**

Fraguanay Pospanaa	
Min has the kine of the transfer of the transf	
Mic input to Line Output (Gain @ unity):	+0.04, -0.26 dB, 20 HZ to 20 KHZ
Mic Input to Digital Output (AES, 96 kHz sample rate):	+0, -0.2 dB, 20 Hz to 85 kHz
Distortion (THD & IMD)	
Mic Input to Line Output (@ +4 dBu output):	THD+N: < 0.007%, 20 Hz to 20 kHz BW, 1 kHz input @ +4 dBu, preamp at unity gain
Mic Input to Digital Output (AES, 48 kHz sample rate):	THD+N: < 0.004%, 10mV rms input, gain at –1 dB FS output
Dynamic Range	>110 dB (through A-to-D converters)
	>120 dB (Mic In to Line Out)
Noise	
Signal-to-Noise (A-weighted):	>100 dB (ref. +4 dBu, Mic In to Line Out, Gain @ unity)
Equivalent Input Noise (E.I.N.), 20 Hz to 20 kHz Bandwidth, 150 $\Omega$ source impedance:	–129 dBu @ +60 dB gain
Residual Output Noise:	Line Out: < –100 dBu (Channel Gain at unity)
	Digital Out (AES, 48 kHz): < –110 dB FS
Common Mode Rejection Ratio (CMRR)	Mic In: >60 dB @ 1 kHz, Gain @ maximum
Crosstalk (Mic Input to Line Output)	<-100 dB @ 1 kHz, +10 dBu signal on adjacent input, 150Ω source impedance
Input Gain Control Range	Mic In: +10 dB to +50 dB
	Line In: –10 dB to + 40 dB
Phantom Power	+48 VDC, individual switches
Rated Output	Line: +4 dBu
Maximum Input Levels	Mic Input: +12 dBu, Gain @ unity
	Inst Input: +20 dBu, Gain @ –20 dB
	Line Input: > +20 dBu, Gain @ 0 dB
Input Impedance	
Ch 1 and 2 Mic Input	1.1 kΩ
Ch 3 through 8 Mic Input	1.1 kΩ
Inst Input	500 kΩ
Line Input	22 kΩ balanced, 11 kΩ unbalanced
Line out	100 Ω balanced
Signal Level LEDs	-40, -20, -10 dBu, 0 dBu (normal operating level), OL = 14 dBu
Sample Frequency Selections	44.1 kHz, 48 kHz, 88.2 kHz, 96 kHz, 176.4 kHz, 192 kHz, External
Input & Output connectors	
Analog Input Connectors	Two combo jack; Six balanced XLR mic inputs
	Two 1/4" TS high-impedance instrument inputs (through combo jack)
	Eight 1/4" TRS balanced line inputs
Analog Output Connectors	Thirteen 1/4" TRS outputs and one for headphones
	RCA for S/PDIF. XLR for AES. BNC for external word clock and Toslink
Digital Input Connectors	Optical inputs
Digital Output Connectors	RCA for S/PDIF, XLR for AES, BNC for external word clock and Toslink Optical outputs
Two Toslink Optical Connectors	Transmit channels 1-8 at 44.1/48 kHz operation
	Transmits channels 1-4 at 88.2/96 kHz operation
AC Power Requirements	Power Consumption: 60 watts
	Universal AC Power Supply: 100 VAC 240 VAC, 50-60 Hz
Dimensions	483 x 88 x 286 mm (19 x 3.5 x 11.25 in.)
Weight	5 kg (11 lbs.)

## PHONIC

## **BLOCK DIAGRAM**



## APPENDIX

#### **Reference Books**

Phonic recommends the following books for those interested in advanced audio engineering and sound system operation:

- Sound System Engineering by Don and Carolyn Davis, Focal Press, ISBN: 0-240-80305-1
- Sound Reinforcement Handbook by Gary D. Davis, Hal Leonard Publishing Corporation, ISBN: 0-88188-900-8
- Audio System Design and Installation by Philip Giddings, Focal Press, ISBN: 0-240-80286-1
- Practical Recording Techniques by Bruce and Jenny Bartlett, Focal Press, ISBN: 0-240-80306-X
- Modern Recording Techniques by Huber & Runstein, Focal Press, ISBN: 0-240-80308-6
- Sound Advice The Musician's Guide to the Recording Studio by Wayne Wadham, Schirmer Books, ISBN: 0-02-872694-4
- Professional Microphone Techniques by David Mills Huber, Philip Williams. Hal Leonard Publishing Corporation, ISBN: 0-87288-685-9

- Anatomy of a Home Studio: How Everything Really Works, from Microphones to Midi by Scott Wilkinson, Steve Oppenheimer, Mark Isham. Mix Books, ISBN: 091837121X
- Live Sound Reinforcement: A Comprehensive Guide to P.A. and Music Reinforcement Systems and Technology by Scott Hunter Stark. Mix Books, ISBN: 0918371074
- Audiopro Home Recording Course Vol 1: A Comprehensive Multimedia Audio Recording Text by Bill Gibson. Mix Books, ISBN: 0918371104
- Audiopro Home Recording Course Vol. 2: A Comprehensive Multimedia Audio Recording Text by Bill Gibson. Mix Books, ISBN:

#### TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL PHONIC GEAR AND ACCESSORIES

To purchase Phonic gear and optional accessories, contact any authorized Phonic distributor. For a list of Phonic distributors please visit our website at www.phonic.com and click on Get Gear. You may also contact Phonic directly and we will assist you in locating a distributor near you.

#### SERVICE AND REPAIR

Phonic has over 100 service centers worldwide. For replacement parts, service and repairs please contact the Phonic distributor in your country. Phonic does not release service manuals to consumers, and advice users to not attempt any self repairs, as doing so voids all warranties. You can locate a dealer near you at www.phonic.com.

#### WARRANTY INFORMATION

Phonic stands behind every product we make with a no-hassles warranty. Warranty coverage may be extended, depending on your region. Phonic Corporation warrants this product for a minimum of one year from the original date of purchase against defects in material and workmanship under use as instructed by the user's manual. Phonic, at its option, shall repair or replace the defective unit covered by this warranty. Please retain the dated sales receipt as evidence of the date of purchase. You will need it for any warranty service. No returns or repairs will be accepted without a proper RMA number (return merchandise authorization). In order to keep this warranty in effect, the product must have been handled and used as prescribed in the instructions accompanying this warranty. Any tempering of the product or attempts of self repair voids all warranty. This warranty does not cover any damage due to accident, misuse, abuse, or negligence. This warranty is valid only if the product was purchased new from an authorized Phonic dealer/distributor. For complete warranty policy information, please visit http://www.phonic.com.

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We encourage you to visit our online help at http://www.phonic.com/help/. There you can find answers to frequently asked questions, tech tips, driver downloads, returns instruction and other helpful information. We make every effort to answer your questions within one business day.

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