

Technical Bulletin - FlashMic Firmware and FlashMic Manager software

We are delighted to announce new firmware and software for the FlashMic. Both have major enhancements that you will find increase the usability of the FlashMic system.

New features in FlashMic firmware version 4-04-06

- ◆ New flash file system – recordings retained even if batteries removed while in record!
- ◆ Mark in PLAY – allows cue points to be entered during playback
- ◆ When completing any change in a 'MENU', the message 'OK' is briefly displayed
- ◆ Level metering now in both IDLE mode and PLAY mode as well as RECORD
- ◆ Now possible to navigate between tracks **and** markers in playback
- ◆ USB file transfer possible with no FlashMic batteries fitted
- ◆ FlashMic firmware update simplified
- ◆ Time and date is now updated from the FlashMic Manager in real time
- ◆ Meter decay characteristics now corrected
- ◆ Correction of difference in headphone level between record and playback
- ◆ Optimisation of recorded levels and AGC
- ◆ Recalibration of battery metering and better user warnings
- ◆ Correction of minor incompatibilities with MPEG file headers
- ◆ Further optimisation of MPEG encoding algorithms, resulting in improved sound quality

New features in FlashMic manager version 4-0-0

- ◆ Ability to transfer MPEG encoded files with either .wav or .mp2 extension, necessary for compatibility with some audio software
- ◆ File transfer window now shows recording Date & Time
- ◆ File transfer mode retains default directory
- ◆ New installation routines including default directory
- ◆ Multi Language installation routine
- ◆ Plus many other minor fixes and enhancements

To ensure the maximum advantage is gained from these upgrades, please ensure that both the firmware in the FlashMic and the FlashMic manager software is upgraded.

Firmware upgrade:

The new firmware is attached in a zip file "FW VER 4-04-06.zip" and should be unzipped and then installed by following the instructions given in:

"How to update FlashMic firmware"

WARNING: Please note you MUST ensure that there are NO recordings left on the FlashMic before starting the upgrade procedure as this firmware upgrade FORCES a full format of the flash memory, so ANY AUDIO DATA left on the device will be permanently erased!

This is essential because of the new secure flash file system.

FlashMic Manager Software upgrade:

The V4-0-0 installation software is available to download in two forms.

The first is "**FMM_Install_CD_Image_V4_0_0.zip**", a zip file containing disc image files suitable to burn directly onto a CD. The correct sequence here is to unzip the files to a temporary location and then open the

"**FMM_Install_CD_Image.cue**" file with your CD-burning software. This will create a CD that is identical to the version shipped with new devices.

To install the new software from this CD, insert into your CD-drive; with a PC the installation software should run automatically; with a MAC open the "FMM_MacOSX" folder and run the "FMMInstall" program contained therein. . Please note that although MAC OS9 software is included on the CD (and can be installed), it is not currently possible to mount the FlashMic on an OS9 system.

The second way is to download just the relevant install program for your system – "**PC setup.zip**" (containing "setup.exe") for Windows or "**FMMInstall.dmg**" for Mac OS-X. The OS-9 version is not available for direct download as currently FlashMic will not mount on an OS-9 system.

The issue with data corruption that could occur with firmware version 3-02-10 that was corrected with firmware version 3-02-12 is fully addressed in the new firmware, and the new Flash file system is now even more robust! Please ensure that if your FlashMic is still running version 3-02-10 firmware you upgrade immediately.