
Subject: Other Daw choices ?

Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 15:24:24 GMT

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So, what's the least expensive system I can get with high quality sound, latency compensation for vsts and able to do > 64 tracks with the pro features like Paris? If DJ pitches in, cost is no object but for now I need cheap.

16 ins and outs would be nice

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?

Posted by [EK Sound](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 15:56:14 GMT

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64 tracks lets you out of all the light software, and latency compensation lets out a few more. I would say the new Studio 4 from Steinberg would be decent (or SX), once they patch it once or twice.

pdf of features: http://knowledgebase.steinberg.de/158_1.html

For interfaces, you can't go wrong with a pair of RME multi-face/PCI cards.

<http://www.rme-audio.com/english/hdsp/multifa.htm>

Keep in mind, you may want to wait till they go PCI-e so you have some growth capability computer-wise.

David.

John wrote:

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> 16 ins and outs would be nice

>

>

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?

Posted by [Don Nafe](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 17:11:44 GMT

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Go check out Reaper and www.reaper.fm

still in it's infancy - just out of beta testing but so far it's been a joy to use, straight forward and quite versatile

DOn

"EK Sound" <askme@nospam.com> wrote in message news:452d122a@linux...

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?

Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 17:56:18 GMT

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I can't do things in their infancy anymore. I need something mature with
plug in automation and latency compensation. Ideas ?

I'm gonna check DJ's garbage can and see what he's throwing out.

John

"Don Nafe" <dnafe@magma.ca> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [LaMont](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 18:11:40 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

John,
Your choices are:

PC:

- Samplitude 8-9
- Cubase 4
- Nuendo
- Sony Vegas Pro 7

Hardware choices: Apogee AD 16x /DA 16x. RME Digi/Multi face..Or RME Fircface units..EMU's 1820M, M-Audio

Mac:

Logic Audio Pro- With Apogee Hardware, makes for a great pro setup with very low latency

Digital Performer- Great!O hardware!! Great Professional system.

"John" <no@no.com> wrote:

>

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [Deadmeat](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 18:22:55 GMT
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So, why is no one mentioning Sonar (now with 64bit support in V5) and motu (again, with 64bit and PCIe support, up to 192k)?

Great choices, and reasonable cost, IMO.

"John" <no@no.com> wrote:

>
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>latency compensation for vsts and able to do > 64 tracks with the pro features
>like Paris? If DJ pitches in, cost is no object but for now I need cheap.
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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [animix](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 18:35:28 GMT
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What about ACID? I hear it's come a long way.

"lamont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote in message news:452d33dc\$1@linux...
>
> John,
> Your choices are:
>
> PC:
> -Samplitude 8-9
> -Cubase 4
> -Nuendo
> -Sony Vegas Pro 7
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> Hardware choices: Apogee AD 16x /DA 16x. RME Digi/Multi face..Or RME
Ficreface
> units..EMU's 1820M, M-Audio
>
> Mac:
> Logic Audio Pro- With Apogee Hardware, makes for a great pro setup with
very
> low latency
>
> Digital Performer- Great! hardware!! Great Professional system.
>
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> "John" <no@no.com> wrote:
> >
> >I can't do things in their infancy anymore. I need something mature with
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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [Don Nafe](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 18:38:29 GMT
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I wouldn't be so hasty to jump to conclusions...but it's your choice...get
your wallet out cause you're gonnan need it

heehehehehehe

Don

"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message [news:452d3042\\$1@linux...](mailto:news:452d3042$1@linux...)

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 19:01:15 GMT
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Which ones sound the best?

"Don Nafe" <dnafe@magma.ca> wrote:

>I wouldn't be so hasty to jump to conclusions...but it's your choice...get

>your wallet out cause you're gonnan need it

>
>heehehehehehe

>
>Don

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>
>"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message [news:452d3042\\$1@linux...](news:452d3042$1@linux...)

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 20:38:32 GMT
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Rather, Which audio interfaces are truly pro quality and can give me 16 in/outs?
RME ? others ?????

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [Don Nafe](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 20:42:38 GMT
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Paris / RADAR / SAW studio

"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:452d3f7b\$1@linux...
>
> Which ones sound the best?
>
> "Don Nafe" <dnafe@magma.ca> wrote:
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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [Don Nafe](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 20:47:03 GMT
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"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message [news:452d3f7b\\$1@linux...](mailto:news:452d3f7b$1@linux...)
>
> Which ones sound the best?

or rather which one sounds best to you?

D

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [EK Sound](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 21:30:57 GMT
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If you want truly pro... as in no problems and good sound... Card based I/O is the way to go (No USB or FW). The RME stuff sounds great and works well. The Multiface also has an adat I/O port for additional capability.

David.

John wrote:

> Rather, Which audio interfaces are truly pro quality and can give me 16 in/outs?
>
> RME ? others ?????

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?

Posted by [TCB](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 21:33:14 GMT

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Ah, what faith. 64+ tracks, 'pro' features, latency compensation, but keep it cheap! Doesn't really exist. However, personally I'd recommend Live, SX, or Sonar depending on what you want to do. Live is the most intuitive, musical app I've ever used but doesn't work as well as a traditional multitracker with lots of punch ins and punch outs and such. SX is more of a multitracker without with a really super sequencer (that apparently has been improved in v. 4), and has sample accurate editing in the project window, lots of cool stuff or managing audio flow in the mixer, and so forth. Sonar is, in my opinion, a little in the middle. More of the looping, pattern stuff that Live/Reason have, but a better multitracker than either of them, but not the same kind of audio powerhouse SX is.

Gentlest learning curve is Live, steepest is SX, IHMO. Both take enormous amounts of time to truly master. I'm probably a top 15% SX user but only a top 50% Live user and I'm trying to change that.

The great scandal is that they all sound freaking great, arguments about summing bus minutae to one side.

Good luck,

TCB

"John" <no@no.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 21:49:34 GMT
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And how about the Behringer ADS8000 for A/D convertors?

EK Sound <askme@nospam.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [animix](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 22:16:54 GMT
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I really like my Muliface. I'd look around for the vl units as the vll units
don't have adat sync ports.....but of course, that's because I've always
got to be ****'ing around with something trying to make it perform unnatural
acts.

:oP

"EK Sound" <askme@nospam.com> wrote in message news:452d6ba1\$1@linux...

> Not "pro" but OK sounding... If I were doing a decent quality studio
> on "the cheap" I would get two Multiface/PCI combos and have the adat
> I/O's available for later expansion if needed.

>

> David.

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [Ted Gerber](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 23:20:02 GMT
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So sonically, you'd prefer the RME card to Metric Halo or MiniMe?
I thought that, on principle, external boxes had a better chance for
higher quality conversion etc because of power supply, interference
and clocking issues...

Please enlighten

Ted

EK Sound <askme@nospam.com> wrote:
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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [LaMont](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 23:37:07 GMT
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Yes it has..I use it, but, it still a bit quarky for mixing. It it a great
app.

"DJ" <notachance@net.net> wrote:

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>"lamont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote in message news:452d33dc\$1@linux...

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [LaMont](#) on Wed, 11 Oct 2006 23:42:02 GMT
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Samplitude, Pro Tools, Logic Audio, Digital, Cubase/Nuendo...Sonar..In that order

"John" <no@no.com> wrote:

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>Which ones sound the best?
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>"Don Nafe" <dnafe@magma.ca> wrote:
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>>>>> decent (or SX), once they patch it once or twice.
>>>>>
>>>>> pdf of features: http://knowledgebase.steinberg.de/158_1.html
>>>>>
>>>>> For interfaces, you can't go wrong with a pair of RME multi-face/PCI
>>>>> cards.
>>>>>
>>>>> <http://www.rme-audio.com/english/hdsp/multifa.htm>
>>>>>
>>>>> Keep in mind, you may want to wait till they go PCI-e so you have some
>>>
>>>>> growth capability computer-wise.
>>>>>
>>>>> David.
>>>>>
>>>>> John wrote:
>>>>>> So, what's the least expensive system I can get with high quality
>
>>>>>> sound,
>>>>>> latency compensation for vsts and able to do > 64 tracks with the
pro
>>>
>>>>>> features

>>>>> like Paris? If DJ pitches in, cost is no object but for now I need
>>>
>>>>> cheap.
>>>>>
>>>>> 16 ins and outs would be nice
>>>>>
>>>>
>>>
>>
>>
>>
>

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [audioguy_editout_](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 04:46:22 GMT
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PCI based DSP as in MOTU, RME, Digi, Lynx etc... where the processing and audio busing happens directly at the PCI bus, and not on a USB or FW bus. Yes, the conversion is still happening outside the computer on external boxes (in most cases) The important thing is that the PCI bus connection is very robust. FW implimentation is still quite flaky in Windows... and USB is downright useless for anything past 4 tracks.

David.

Ted Gerber wrote:

> So sonically, you'd prefer the RME card to Metric Halo or MiniMe?
> I thought that, on principle, external boxes had a better chance for
> higher quality conversion etc because of power supply, interference
> and clocking issues...

>
> Please enlighten

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> Ted

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>

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 12:41:33 GMT
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> FW implimentation is still quite flaky in
> Windows...

Interesting, and inexcusable.

Firewire with the Motu 828MII is rock solid here on MacOSX and has been for the last several years.

Cheers,
-Jamie
<http://www.JamieKrutz.com>

Dave(EK Sound) wrote:

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?

Posted by [TCB](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 14:13:25 GMT

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What's not 'pro' about firewire interfaces?

EK Sound <askme@nospam.com> wrote:

>If you want truly pro... as in no problems and good sound... Card
>based I/O is the way to go (No USB or FW). The RME stuff sounds great
>and works well. The Multiface also has and adat I/O port for
>additional capability.

>

>David.

>

>John wrote:

>> Rather, Which audio interfaces are truly pro quality and can give me
16 in/outs?

>>

>> RME ? others ?????

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?

Posted by [fernando](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 14:58:01 GMT

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I'd say it's corporate warmongering: Windows supports USB and USB2, Apple supports Firewire and Firewire 800. This is competition. Discuss.

Jamie K <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

>

> > FW implimentation is still quite flaky in

> > Windows...

>

>Interesting, and inexcusable.

>

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> <http://www.JamieKruz.com>

>

>

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>>>

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?

Posted by [EK Sound](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 15:00:19 GMT

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Having your interface "dissapear" during a session (PC) requiring a re-boot is not what I would call pro. While the quality of the interfaces is good, it's Windows control of Firewire that is not. I would stay away from FW for serious work until they get it sorted out.

The MAC support of FW is fine, but it should be... they invented the thing! ;-)

David.

TCB wrote:

> What's not 'pro' about firewire interfaces?

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> EK Sound <askme@nospam.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [excelav](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 15:09:56 GMT
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USB has been working great on Macs for about 9 years or so.

James

"fernando" <gringo@hotmail.com> wrote:

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>supports Firewire and Firewire 800. This is competition. Discuss.

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [TCB](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 15:18:44 GMT
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Never happened to me, and there ain't no fruit labeled computers in my house.
I use a Presonus FW interface on both my laptop and desktop all the time.
Maybe I'm just lucky.

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>>>>RME ? others ????
>>
>>

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [fernando](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 15:23:21 GMT
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Yes it does, doesn't it? Since Firewire and Firewire 800 also seem to work fine on my Macs but not my PC's, it looks like someone has done more homework than someone else. In the R & D and user benefit areas. I don't wish to re-start Mac vs PC wars, but that has been my experience with Firewire so far. Macs do cost more, however.

"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote:
>
>USB has been working great on Macs for about 9 years or so.
>
>James
>
>"fernando" <gringo@hotmail.com> wrote:
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>>>>> David.

>>>>>

>>>>>

>>>>>

>>

>

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?

Posted by [EK Sound](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 15:43:13 GMT

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We have had a few customers with M-audio FW interfaces that have had the disappearing problem. They have been in the middle of takes when suddenly their I/O is just gone. It also makes a difference if it is an on-board FW port or an add-on card. The latter seem to be more stable, perhaps it is a driver issue.

David.

TCB wrote:

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>>

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>>>>>RME ? others ????
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>

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?

Posted by [animix](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 16:06:20 GMT

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I have found FW on PC to sucketh most theriously. Doesn't Mac usea patented 6 pin protocall and PC use 4 pin or something like that?

"EK Sound" <askme@nospam.com> wrote in message news:452e6093@linux...

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> the dissapearing problem. They have been in the middle of takes when
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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?

Posted by [LaMont](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 16:16:25 GMT

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Limited bandwidth. Even throug, it uses the the PCI bus, it (Firwire) is not
as ronust as a PCI(PCe) interface. Not yet..

LAD

"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

>

>What's not 'pro' about firewire interfaces?
>
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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 16:51:44 GMT
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Firewire offers sufficient bandwidth for audio uses. For example the Motu 828MII has 20 simultaneous inputs and 22 outputs. And it's just Firewire 400, not even Firewire 800.

Other advantages of using a Firewire interface:

- Frees up PCI slots for other uses.
- Less likely to be made obsolete between computer generations (PCI keeps changing).
- Can easily move the Firewire interface to another computer as needed.
- Easy to take along on location recordings with a laptop.

Cheers,
-Jamie
<http://www.JamieKruz.com>

LaMont wrote:
> Limited bandwidth. Even though, it uses the the PCI bus, it (Firewire) is not
> as robust as a PCI(PCe) interface. Not yet..
> LAD
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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [TCB](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 16:58:11 GMT
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The extra pins are just power.

Again, I've never had a problem. I do know a bit more about computers than average, so maybe that's it, or maybe I'm lucky. It just hacks me off when someone says such and such isn't 'pro' when I get it to work just fine.

TCB

"DJ" <notachance@net.net> wrote:
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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [Nil](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 17:53:32 GMT
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"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

>
>The extra pins are just power.
>
>Again, I've never had a problem. I do know a bit more about computers than
>average, so maybe that's it, or maybe I'm lucky. It just hacks me off when
>someone says such and such isn't 'pro' when I get it to work just fine.

Maybe it's just that your kung fu is better.

:)

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [excelav](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 18:02:11 GMT
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EK Sound <askme@nospam.com> wrote:

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>the disappearing problem. They have been in the middle of takes when
>suddenly their I/O is just gone. It also makes a difference if it is
>an on-board FW port or an add-on card. The latter seem to be more
>stable, perhaps it is a driver issue.
>
>David.

I'm thinking M-Audio drivers.

I have 2 FW / USB combo cards from Compuseless. These things never worked right in PCs or Macs. They would drop out, or installing them in my PCs and my PCs would go in to black screen restart mode, were the machine keeps restarting on start up. So it could be the FW card.

Speaking of hight quality mass-produced computer hardware, every time I add memory to my PC, the system goes haywire, with distorted display, crashes, the restarting thing, or just fails to boot. I've tried different memory, it's definitely the high quality after market MOBO.

James

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?

Posted by [animix](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 18:07:38 GMT

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I think my issues with Fx have had o do with the mobo's I've been using. Every friggin one seems to have the onboard FW sharing IRQ with.....you guessed it....the AGP. I'magine if I were to get serious about using FW, I'd buy myself one of those *recommended* TI based cards, pop it in a PCI slot that's not sharing IRQ and likely be good to go. I wonder if it would be possible to get something like 3 x RME fireface units working this way. Can these be daisychained? Without wretched excess, I will die.

;o)

"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote in message news:452e7423\$1@linux...

>

> The extra pins are just power.

>

> Again, I've never had a problem. I do know a bit more about computers than

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [animix](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 18:09:52 GMT

Damn!!!...this new Logitech keyboard needs some velocity curve tweaking, as does my neural network. I meant to refer to FW rather than Fx in the first sentence of the previous post.

"DJ" <notachance@net.net> wrote in message news:452e8442\$1@linux...

> I think my issues with Fx have had o do with the mobo's I've been using.

> Every friggin one seems to have the onboard FW sharing IRQ with.....you

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I'd

> buy myself one of those *recommended* TI based cards, pop it in a PCI slot

> that's not sharing IRQ and likely be good to go. I wonder if it would be

> possible to get something like 3 x RME fireface units working this way.

Can

> these be daisy chained? Without wretched excess, I will die.

> ;o)

>

> "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote in message news:452e7423\$1@linux...

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>> The extra pins are just power.

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>> Again, I've _never_ had a problem. I do know a bit more about computers

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>> average, so maybe that's it, or maybe I'm lucky. It just hacks me off

when

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> patented

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [animix](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 18:11:43 GMT
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.....so why don't you use a Mac?

heheh!!

"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:452e8323\$1@linux...

>
> EK Sound <askme@nospam.com> wrote:
> >We have had a few customers with M-audio FW interfaces that have had
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> >an on-board FW port or an add-on card. The latter seem to be more
> >stable, perhaps it is a driver issue.
> >
> >David.
>
> I'm thinking M-Audio drivers.
>
> I have 2 FW / USB combo cards from Compuseless. These things never worked
> right in PCs or Macs. They would drop out, or installing them in my PCs
> and my PCs would go in to black screen restart mode, were the machine
> keeps
> restarting on start up. So it could be the FW card.
>
> Speaking of hight quality mass-produced computer hardware, every time I
> add
> memory to my PC, the system goes haywire, with distorted display, crashes,
> the restarting thing, or just fails to boot. I've tried different memory,
> it's definitely the high quality after market MOBO.
>
> James
>
> >
> >TCB wrote:
> >

> >> Never happened to me, and there ain't no fruit labeled computers in my
> house.
> >> I use a Presonus FW interface on both my laptop and desktop all the
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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [fernando](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 18:19:10 GMT
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honestly guys, I just think that firewire is still done better by Mac's...they invented it, no disrespect....

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>does my neural network. I meant to refer to FW rather than Fx in the first
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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [EK Sound](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 19:08:53 GMT
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No disrespect meant here at all, I am sure there are users who never have problems... I am simply relating our experiences regarding PC-FW.

Regards,

David.

TCB wrote:

> The extra pins are just power.

>

> Again, I've never had a problem. I do know a bit more about computers than
> average, so maybe that's it, or maybe I'm lucky. It just hacks me off when

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [AlexPlasko](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2006 22:54:16 GMT
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I think the problem is with service pack 2. from what i understand it automatically throttles the bus speed down to S100 ,unless you tweak it a little. RME tech support gives a work around for that issue. rme explains in depth here :
<http://www.rme-audio.com/english/techinfo/fw800sp2.htm>
I dont know if this will work with other interfaces but it should.am i wrong?

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File Attachments

1) [RME Tech Info - FireWire 800 under Windows XP SP2.url](#),
downloaded 31 times

Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [TCB](#) on Fri, 13 Oct 2006 14:04:37 GMT
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And 100mbit is enough for _gobs_ of audio tracks.

I think a lot of the people who have trouble with disappearing firewire/USB stuff on Windows don't do their power management correctly. I discovered this when working on getting better stability on laptop audio interfaces and found that driver settings for how the OS manages power to external devices can change how 'sticky' they are. That can cause problems with all kinds of removable devices on, gasp, both Macs and Windows boxes. But hey, I'm not 'pro' anyway.

In better news, the eclipse project has allowed me to dismiss yet one more proprietary application, and the Apache::MP3 perl module lets me get rid of another. I'll really be down to one stinking XP box in my house pretty soon, plus the laptop for live shows. If only there were Live for Debian

...

TCB

"alex plasko" <alex.plasko@snet.net> wrote:

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Subject: Re: Other Daw choices ?
Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Fri, 13 Oct 2006 16:27:15 GMT
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The problem with firewire/1394 has as much or more to do with chipsets than anything. RME spec'd out which ones would work with the Fireface 800 - stick to them and it works fine. If not, it's a coin toss. IMHO, 1394 in general is a tough protocol for audio (and of course has slightly higher latency than PCI based cards), but people make it work. Apple probably uses TI chipsets, so you don't have the variability of different motherboards, out of spec chipsets etc. that you do with PCs.

But fwiw, I actually use a PCI-based Digiface on my main system and have the Fireface running off of a second PC - just for access to Totalmix. It's standalone/lightpiped to the Digiface for audio.

Firewire and 1394:
Given the ;-) David I assume you were referring to Apple's "claim" on inventing firewire....

FYI for anyone interested, I found this while researching this a bit: Apple only copyrighted/patented the name "firewire". Several companies had a hand in developing it including Apple, Sony, Canon, ST Microelectronics, Matsushita, National Semiconductor, RF Microdevices, ST Microelectronics. Apple may claim they invented it, but likely only because the two guys that developed the transceiver worked for Apple. However, the protocol and other technology that make Firewire/1394 a working protocol and medium were developed after these guys left Apple (some by them, some by other companies - hence the IEEE standards committee developed the 1394 standard. The royalties from "firewire" are actually split among various companies.

Here's a pretty in depth explanation:
<http://www.teener.com/FireWire/index.html>

Regards,
Dedric

On 10/12/06 9:00 AM, in article 452e5685@linux, "EK Sound"
<askme@nospam.com> wrote:

> Having your interface "dissapear" during a session (PC) requiring a
> re-boot is not what I would call pro. While the quality of the
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