KONA · io EXPRESS

Release Notes—Version 7.5

Mac Software for these supported models:
KONA 3, LHe, LHi, LSe, and Io Express

General

If you are installing your KONA or Io Express hardware into a computer that has previously had another video capture card or drivers, we recommend running the AJA Conflict Checker utility BEFORE installing the KONA/Io Express software. The AJA Conflict Checker will help you identify old drivers or software files that need to be removed before installing the new software. Also, please read the "ReadMeFirst.PDF" document on the installation CD, particularly if you are installing for the first time.

Installation Notes—Please Read

Note: *Version 7.5 supports Final Cut Studio Version 3 and Version 2. Not all features will work with versions earlier than Version 3. Please ensure you use the correct software for your system. AJA Driver Compatibility as of KONA Version 7.5 software is as follows:*

> FCP 7 - 6.0.x KONA Driver version 7.5 (Snow Leopard and Leopard OS compatible)
> FCP 7 - 6.0.x KONA Driver version 6.5 (Leopard OS compatible version)
> FCP 6.0.x - KONA Driver version 6.0.3 (Leopard and Tiger OS compatible version)

Also, please note that Easy Setups from earlier versions may not work properly in Final Cut Pro 7.

AJA provides separate installers for each board that only install the board-specific driver for a given KONA board. Please ensure that you use the correct installer for the KONA model present in your system. If you install the wrong software, the KONA Control Panel will report "no board" due to incorrect driver installation. Also, if you should ever wish to regress to an earlier version of software, you will have to perform the following steps to ensure proper operation. *Do not try to simply run an older KONA installer over a newer version*—doing so will not properly remove the newer components and will lead to improper operation.

1. Run the KONA Uninstaller from the current installation.
2. Install the desired KONA software using its installer package.

Note: If after installing the Version 7.5 update, you launch Final Cut Pro and receive a warning message during its launch concerning "Quartz Extreme"—then go to the AJA Control Panel's *Setu*p Tab screen and uncheck the *Enable Desktop Display* checkbox. Next, reboot the Macintosh —this will clear the error and ensure proper operation.

After installing the AJA driver, if you experience any issues booting your computer, restart the computer while holding down the shift key (safe boot), uninstall the AJA driver and then install the NDD driver version instead. The AJA KONA driver version 7.5 NDD is the same as driver version 7.5, but removes the Macintosh Desktop Display feature.

New Features

- KONA 3 now supports double speed transfer from supported VTRs, such as some HDCAM models
- KONA LHi desktop enabled (for standard version, NDD designed for no desktop display)
- Time lapse capture supported (ALL)
- VPID now part of SDI output, supporting some dual-link monitors (KONA 3)
- New 10-bit RGB video output for 1080i/PsF/P (KONA 3)
- KONA 3 now has Apple ProRes 4444 RGB support
- Support added for IMX30/IMX40 codecs (ALL)
- Support added for 720p23.98 (KONA LHi)
- KONA drivers now support multiple KONA cards in a Mac—see "*Using Multiple AJA Products*" presented later in these notes (ALL)
- AJA TV optionally supports playback in the background—see screen example presented later in these notes (ALL)
- AJA DataCalc adds support for new codecs (XDCAM, DNxHD, CineForm, REDCODE, Apple Intermediate, 16bit Uncompressed, and new 4K geometries)

Fixes and Improvements

- Improved downconvert on input (KONA LHe)
- Improved A/V sync for non-Final Cut Pro QuickTime applications (ALL)
- Uninstaller operation improved (ALL)
- Improved timecode display in AJA TV to reflect non-29.97 framerates when the movie being played has no timecode (ALL)
- Improved detection of video input format on the HDMI input (KONA LHi)
- Improved operation with Harris Legalizer (ALL)
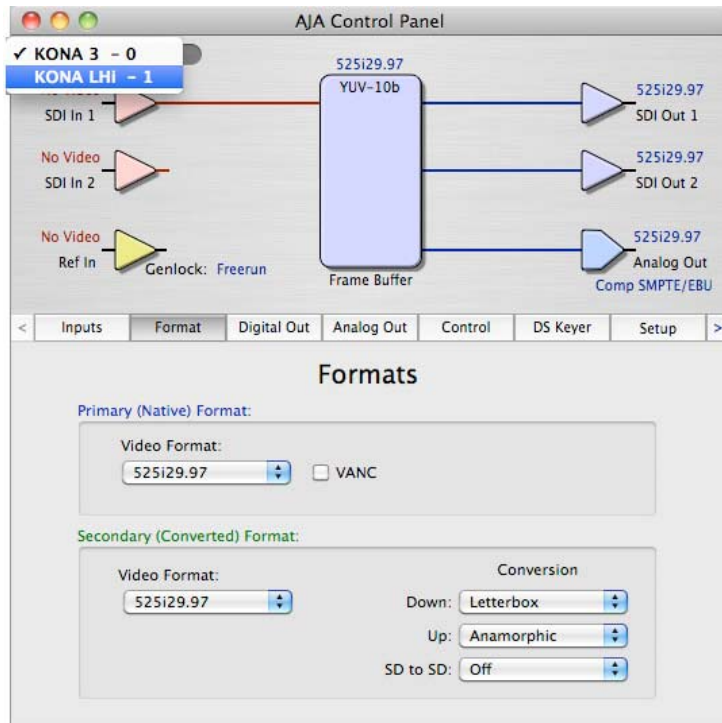- Fix problems involving transfer of clips between Apple Color and Final Cut Pro (ALL)

Recommended Configuration for Mac Computers

For information on Mac computer slot configuration for KONA cards, please visit the following page on the AJA website: *http://www.aja.com/support/kona/kona-system-configuration.php*

Using Multiple AJA Products

Starting with KONA, Io HD and Io Express v7.5, more than one AJA product can now be used with your host computer. Using the AJA Control Panel application, you can choose which installed product an application uses for input/output. In the upper left corner of the AJA Control Panel application, you will see a board name, such as Kona3-0, if you have more than one product and the associated drivers installed (if only one product is installed, you'll see no product or pulldown). To "target" a specific installed product for use, click on the text in the upper left hand side of the UI and select from the list of available products that appear in the pulldown.
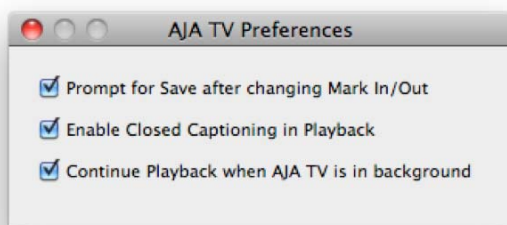
When you launch an application such as Final Cut Pro, or AJA TV, that application will use the product that is currently selected in the AJA Control Panel application for its input/output. Once an application is running, you can change the "targeted" product selection in the AJA Control Panel and select a different product. The running application will retain its connection to the product. If you change the "targeted" product and launch a different application, that application will use the new product for its input/output, while the first application you launched will continue to use the other AJA product.

Example: select a KONA 3 as the targeted product in the AJA Control Panel application. Launch Final Cut Pro. Final Cut Pro is now using the KONA 3 for its input/output. Go back to the AJA Control Panel application and select a KONA LHi as the "targeted" product. Launch the AJA TV application. AJA TV would now use the LHi for its output.

If you switch back to Final Cut Pro, you would note that it is still uses the KONA 3 for its input/output. Note that some applications, like AJA TV, have a provision for playing in the background, so playback on one product could even continue when switching the targeted device for use with another application. You can even feed the output from one AJA product to another AJA product on the same system in such cases.

AJA TV optionally supports playback in the background; checkbox "Continue Playback when AJA TV is in background.
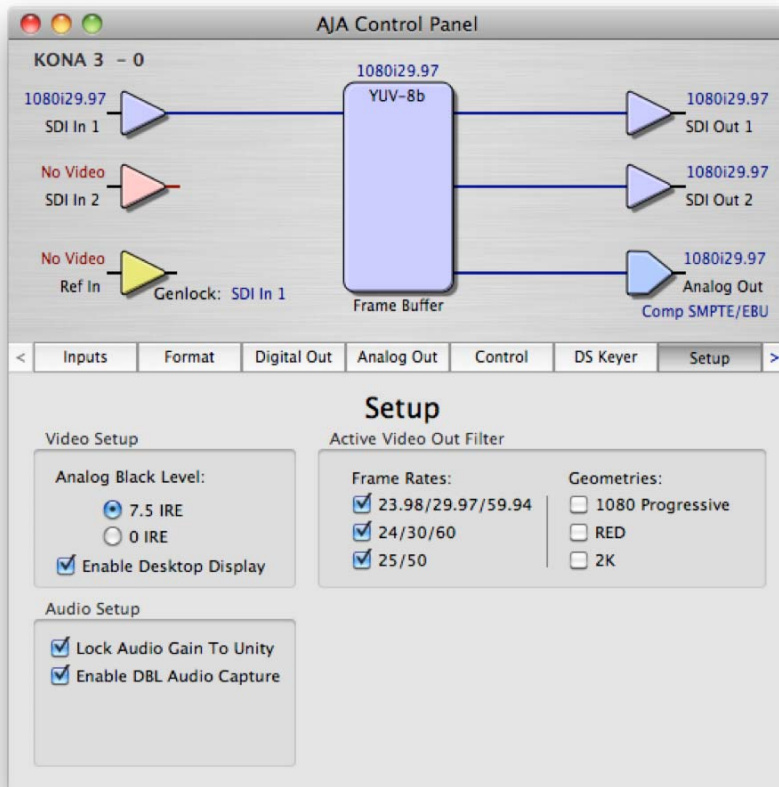
Notes on using multiple AJA Products:

Performance of multi-product use depends on a variety of factors: CPU usage, RAM, disk IOPS/bandwidth for streams of video, etc. and therefore performance may vary. Also be aware that multiple input/output streams are only supported by software that is explicitly designed for a multi-product environment. Also note that due to limitations of FireWire bandwidth, only one Io HD product may be used at a time on a host computer.
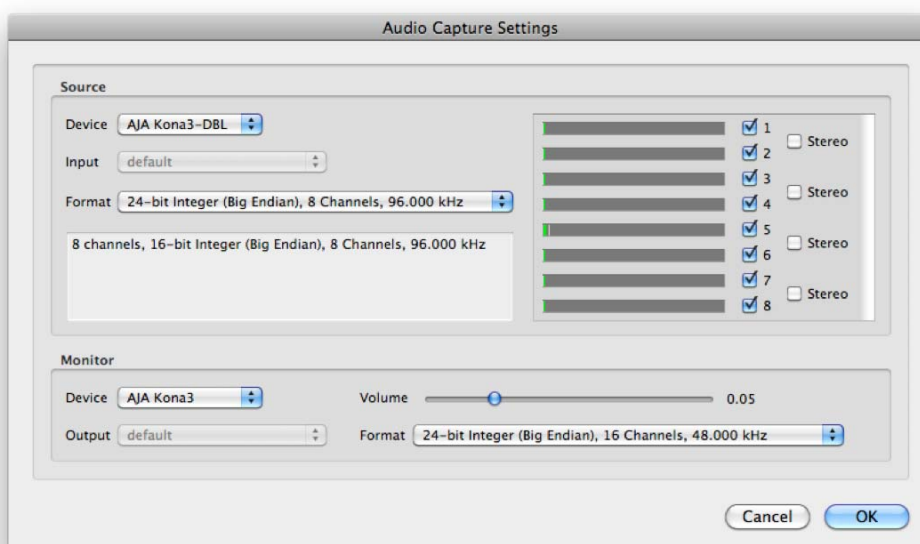
Double Speed Transfer for KONA 3 and Sony HDCAM SR

When used with properly equipped Sony HDCAM SR VTRs (such as the Sony SRW-5800), the KONA 3 can be configured to ingest material at double normal speed or "DBL" speed. There are some specific settings and software that need to be used for this. VTR Xchange v4.1 is required along with KONA 3 driver version 7.5 or later.
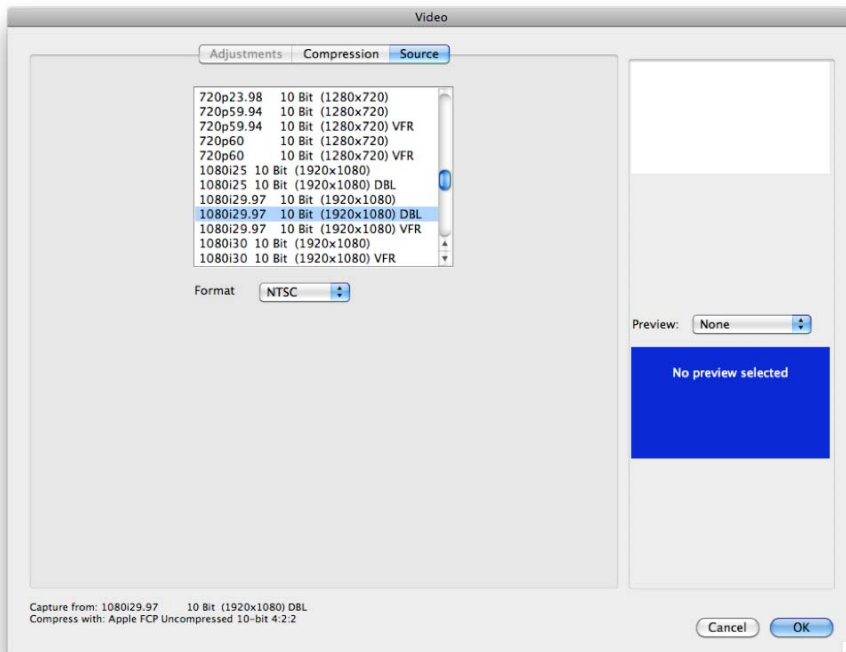

To properly ingest audio at double transfer speed, select the "*Enable DBL Audio Capture*" checkbox in the Setup tab of the AJA Control Panel application.

From within the AJA VTR Xchange application, select "AJA Kona3-DBL" from the Device pulldown in the application's Audio Capture Settings.
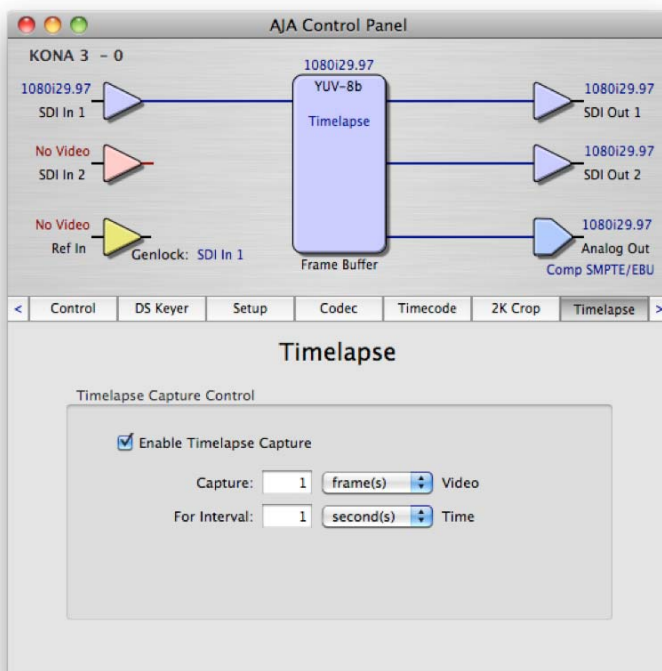

Note that when quitting the VTR Xchange application, the system may be left at 96kHz audio. This can be reset in the AJA Control Panel via the Inputs tab, Audio Sample Rate pulldown.

Select the appropriate video input format/frame rate for the double speed transfer via the VTR Xchange Video Settings. Note that the source is appended with the "DBL" designation.

AJA recommends that if you are not working with any double speed ingest, you disable Double Transfer in the control panel. This prevents the driver from creating two audio engines and having them show up in multiple places.

Using the Timelapse Feature

Beginning with v7.5 drivers, KONA, Io HD and Io Express products now provide a timelapse feature. Within the AJA Control Panel application, there is a new Timelapse tab.
To use the timelapse capability, choose the "Enable Timelapse Capture" checkbox. This functionality is enabled for all QuickTime capture applications (Final Cut Pro, VTR Xchange, etc.) Set the "Capture" and "For Interval" parameters as desired. Launch a capture application like Final Cut Pro, select the desired Easy Setup for the video format desired. You will not need to change anything within the application; the timelapse feature will produce QuickTime files with the framerate specified by the Easy Setup used. The resulting timelapse clip can be used without additional rendering.