TranzPort/HD24 Bridge - Version 1.0 January 4, 2006

This document provides an overview of the TranzPort/HD24 Bridge program for Windows. The purpose of the program is to provide wireless remote control for the Alesis HD24's transport, location, and track-arming functions via the Frontier Design Group TranzPort wireless DAW controller.

Installation

The Bridge is an applet that runs under Windows XP (may also work w/ Win2k). It provides bidirectional translation between TranzPort and the Alesis HD24 via a Windows MIDI port which is hooked up to the MIDI IN and OUT jacks of the HD24.

Procedure:

- 1. Install the TranzPort drivers according to its documentation. When correctly installed, you should see a) the TranzPort icon in the Windows system tray, b) illuminated LINK lights on the TranzPort and TranzPort USB Interface. See the TranzPort User's Guide for driver installation, Remote/USB Interface "Binding", and general troubleshooting information.
- 2. At this point, pressing buttons on the TranzPort remote should cause TranzPort's Windows System Tray icon to flash. Do not proceed until you are sure that TranzPort is working correctly.
- 3. Connect two MIDI cables between the HD24 and the MIDI In and Out ports on the host computer.
- 4. You must enable **both** "Send MMC" and "Generate MTC" from the HD24's front panel. To do this, press the "MIDI" button on the HD24 until the relevant parameter appears, then use the up-arrow to set each parameter to "Yes."
- 5. Copy the Bridge applet (TranzPort_HD24.exe) to your computer's hard drive, and double-click to start the program. Note that if the Bridge can't find the TranzPort MIDI ports (it checks for them automatically), you will get an error message and the program will terminate.
- 6. Select the HD24 MIDI In and Out ports in the drop-down boxes. (The settings will be saved in the Windows Registry, so you should only have to do this the first time you run the program.)
- 7. You're done. Enjoy a delicious beverage, you've earned it! (And/or...read on!)

Features

1. Transport controls:

- a. STOP, PLAY, and RECORD work in the expected way. Note that RECORD is a one-button operation, rather than requiring RECORD+PLAY (this might change...).
- b. REWIND and FAST-FORWARD are momentary buttons that move the current time in a reverse or forward direction for as long as they are held down. MIDI time code from the HD24 updates the display continuously while the operation is in progress.
- c. To return to location 00:00:00:00, hold down SHIFT and momentarily press the REWIND button.
- d. Note that the RECORD LED lights whenever recording is active, no matter whether the recording is initiated from the HD24 or from the TranzPort remote.
- e. The jog/data wheel can be used to move about the HD24 timeline. To move by seconds, simply turn the wheel. To move by frames, press and hold SHIFT while turning the wheel.

2. Footswitch and punch-in:

- a. The ¼" footswitch input on the TranzPort remote connects to an optional normally-open footswitch. There are two footswitch modes; pressing the PUNCH button toggles between them.
- b. When PUNCH is off, repeated presses of the footswitch toggle between PLAY and STOP.
- c. When PUNCH is on, the footswitch acts as a manual punch in control. If the HD24 is not recording, pressing the footswitch causes record mode to be entered (at least one track must be armed). If it is recording, the program will issue a "record exit" MMC command, and the HD24 will switch from record into playback mode. Typical use would be: 1) arm a track, 2) press PLAY on TranzPort, 3) press the footswitch at the punch-in point, 4) press the footswitch again to exit recording, 5) press STOP on the TranzPort.

3. Track Arming:

- a. Use the "Track <" and "Track >" buttons to select an HD24 track (1-24).
- b. Alternatively, press and hold either "Track <" or "Track >" and rotate the jog/data wheel to quickly select a track.
- c. Press the REC button (not the RECORD transport key...) to arm or unarm a track. The red REC LED will show you the status of the current track. The LCD will also update a map of the tracks to show whether the track is armed ('r') or un-armed ('-').
- d. You can quickly arm or un-arm a number of adjacent tracks: select the first track and press and hold the REC button to set its mode. *While still holding REC down*, move the jog/data wheel to set adjacent tracks to the same mode.
- e. To quickly un-arm all HD24 tracks, hold down SHIFT and momentarily press REC.

4. Locate Points:

a. The locate points in the HD24 itself (unfortunately) do not seem to be accessible via MMC, so TranzPort maintains 10 of its own locate points within the applet. Currently there is no means to save/load these locate points, but we may add that functionality in a future version.

- b. Press the PREV or NEXT button to select a specific locate point and view its associated timecode location in line 2 of the TranzPort LCD. (If the display shows "--:--:-" it means that the locate point has not been set.)
- c. To copy the current HD24 timecode location into a locate point, select that locate point as described above, and the press SHIFT+ADD.
- d. To make the HD24 move to a locate point, select the locate point into the LCD display and press ADD.
- e. To clear all locate points, press SHIFT+NEXT.
- 5. Miscellaneous Controls:
 - a. UNDO toggles between the two main screens: time/markers and track selection. (Note that pressing certain buttons on TranzPort automatically forces the TranzPort to one or the other of these modes.)
 - b. MUTE toggles the HD24's Auto-Input mode.
 - c. SOLO toggles the HD24's All-Input mode.
 - d. LOOP toggles the HD24's Rehearse mode.
 - e. The "IN" and "OUT" buttons are currently unassigned (doesn't seem to be a way to set the punch points on the HD24 using MMC).

Additional notes

- 1. The BATTERY and BACKLIGHT buttons and their associated functions (checking battery level, binding remote and USB interface, setting sleep time, contrast, backlight level, etc) work as described in the TranzPort User's Guide.
- 2. Right-clicking the TranzPort icon in the Windows System Tray allows you to set the active TranzPort protocol. This is not necessary with the TranzPort HD24 Bridge applet, which automatically switches TranzPort to Native Mode.