

Applies to:

All Emotiva products with USB Audio Class 2 (UAC2) USB audio inputs (including XMC-1, DC-1, XDA-2, Ego DACs).

UAC1

In the early days of USB audio support, most devices operated in USB Audio Class 1 (UAC1), which generally supports sample rates and bit depths up to 24/96k. Both Apple and Windows computers support UAC1 with their internal drivers, so UAC1 devices can be used without the user having to install extra drivers. Virtually all Linux distributions and Android implementations also include internal support for UAC1. (The USB Audio inputs on our PT-100 and TA-100, and what we call "driverless mode" on the Ego DACs, operate in UAC1; the USB input on the XDA-1 is also UAC1.)

UAC2

USB Audio Class 2 (UAC2) was adopted to allow support for higher sample rates. All recent Apple computers support UAC2 with their internal drivers but, until now, Microsoft Windows did not. This is why, until now, you were required to install drivers in Windows in order to use any DAC or USB device input that supports sample rates above 24/96k. Some Linux distros, and some modern Android devices, also support UAC2. (The USB Stream input on the XMC-1, the USB Audio inputs on our XDA-2 and DC-1, and the "standard mode" on our Ego DACs all use UAC2.)

Note: While devices which can automatically switch between UAC1 and UAC2 do exist, all of our Emotiva products use either one or the other. Even on the Ego DACs, which support both, you must manually tell the DAC which mode to use - the default is UAC2. (Your computer will see an Ego DAC operating in UAC1 mode as a different device than the same Ego DAC operating in UAC2 mode.)

Note: If you connect a UAC2 device to a computer or other source that only supports UAC1, you will NOT be able to play music. The device will usually not be recognized as an audio output device at all without its drivers.

The LATEST version of Windows 10, referred to as The Creator's Update, now includes internal support for USB Audio Class 2. This means that the latest version of Windows 10 will now work with the USB Audio inputs on ALL of our products without the need to install extra drivers.

IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT THE WINDOWS 10 CREATOR'S UPDATE

This applies to the Creator's Update of Windows 10, which is the latest version as of October 2017 (this includes Windows 10 Creator's Edition and Fall Creator's Edition). YOU MAY NOT HAVE THIS UPDATE - even if you have Updates turned on.

You should be aware that Microsoft has stated that this version of Windows 10 MAY NOT be compatible with all hardware, including some hardware in computers which were sold with Windows 10 installed. The Windows Update system does some sort of pre-check, and ONLY offers the Creator's Edition update to computers which are deemed to be "good candidates". If Windows Update doesn't specifically offer you the upgrade, you MAY manually install it from the appropriate Microsoft update page, but they warn that it may have compatibility problems with certain hardware in your computer. (They have specifically warned that it may not work with certain WiFi cards commonly used in laptop computers.)

We assume that, as they continue to make minor updates, and eliminate compatibility issues, the Creator's Update will be offered to more and more users - with the eventual goal of updating everyone.

HOW TO TELL IF YOU HAVE THIS UPDATE

The official way to determine which version of Windows you have on your computer is as follows:

Type "version" into the search field at the bottom left of the screen and press Enter.

When "See if you have a 32-bit or 64-bit version of Windows" is highlighted, press Enter.

A window will open showing you information about the version of Windows you have.

The Creator's Edition is: Version 1703 The Fall Creator's Edition is: Version 1709

HOWEVER, you can also simply check for a new App called "3D Paint" which replaces the older Windows Paint. If you have 3D Paint, then you have the Creator's Edition.

WHAT TO DO

If you have the Creator's Edition, then you're done, and your computer should work with the USB Audio or "USB DAC" input on ANY current or future Emotiva equipment.

IF YOU PREVIOUSLY HAD OUR DAC DRIVERS INSTALLED, THIS MAY REMOVE OR DISABLE THEM. THIS IS FINE BECAUSE THEY ARE NO LONGER NEEDED. IF OUR DRIVERS WERE PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED, AND THEY CAUSE A CONFLICT, THEN YOU MAY REMOVE THEM.

*IF YOU ARE USING YOUR EMOTIVA EQUIPMENT WITH THIS COMPUTER FOR THE FIRST TIME, THEN YOU DO *NOT* HAVE TO DOWNLOAD OR INSTALL ANY OTHER DRIVERS.*