

Audio AG - Press Information - for immediate release

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RME adds stand-alone and Class Compliant operation to Babyface

RME's world-wide renowned desktop interface, the Babyface, excited users already with its small form factor, 10 inputs and 12 outputs including ADAT, 192 kHz and TotalMix FX, USB Bus power operation, full mobility and the typical RME quality in hardware and drivers.

Today RME released a new, free firmware, which adds full stand-alone mode, and full Class Compliant operation to the unit. From now on the small yet 'pro' interface becomes a real wonder in flexibility and features.

The Babyface will operate in three different modes: driver-based USB 2 (as before), stand-alone mode, and Class Compliant mode. The latter describes a standard that is natively supported by operating systems like Windows, Mac OSX and Linux. No proprietary drivers are required, the device will be directly recognized when CC mode is activated. Obviously, native features will be limited in comparison to those provided by the RME driver set. For example there will be no (Total) Mix and no effects.

But: Class Compliant mode is the key to communication with Apple's iPad. This way the Babyface provides the iPad with the professional analog I/O connections it lacks. Superb microphone preamps, in addition to professional balanced line outputs, and a hi-power headphone output that also excels with high impedance headphones. Plus gain and level adjustments, SPDIF and ADAT input and output, at up to 96 kHz and 24 bit. Plus a Sysex-capable MIDI I/O.

Note: since iOS 5 multichannel recording is supported, and since iOS 6 multichannel playback as well. At this time only djay from Algoriddim supports more than one stereo output, but others like Auria are expected to follow soon.

Operation at the unit is very similar to the one under Windows and OS X, with some additions for the new modes. These were done as intuitive and easy to remember as possible. All settings are available with three control elements, visualized by the two level meters. All settings are stored within the unit in both new modes.

In stand-alone mode the unit can be clock master, with adjustable sample rates from 44.1 up to 192 kHz, or clock slave (AutoSync). Typical application examples are the use as AD and/or DA converter, from hi-end converter for CD-players up to more complex setups like a stereo analog microphone preamp with phantom power and double stereo output. Even in stand-alone mode the unit manages to have a very flexible and easy to operate setup and settings, with only three control elements.

High resolution images:

http://www.rme-audio.de/en_press_downloads.php?page=content/press/babyface

Product website:

<http://www.rme-audio.de/babyface>

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