



Using Panorama with MainStage

Applicable to
Panorama P1, P4 & P6
OS X 10.11 or higher

MainStage Integration Setup and Configuration

Installation

There are two components required for Panorama and MainStage integration for OS X 10.11 or higher.

- Updating firmware.
- Installation of MainStage integration files.

Follow these steps to get MainStage up and running with your Panorama:

Removing Previous Panorama Drivers

If you have a previous version of Panorama drivers installed on your system, remove these first as described below.

- To remove any existing drivers on your system, turn Panorama off or disconnect it from your computer. Then run the uninstaller which was included with the Installer package you originally installed the driver with.
- Next locate the Firmware Update application nkupdate installed to //Applications, and trash it.
- In OSX //Applications/Utilities/Audio MIDI Setup select any Panorama icons and remove them.
- Restart your computer.

Your system is now ready to be updated.

Panorama Firmware Update

Updating Panorama's firmware, is required to get Panorama up and running with Logic. Previous versions of the firmware will not work with OS X 10.11 or higher.

- Locate the nkupdate app in the Firmware folder in this package and run it. Now update Panorama's firmware as described [here](#) .

Note: you will find the latest firmware file in the Firmware folder in this package.

Installing Panorama Integration for Apple MainStage

With the Panorama Integrated Installer complete, here are the steps required to get your Panorama successfully up and running with MainStage:

1. Locate "Panorama_MainStage_Support" installer in the zip file you downloaded and run it.
2. If you get a message that the installer "can't be opened because it's from an unidentified developer", right-click on installer and select "Open". You will still encounter the error, but you will be given the option to run the installer anyway.
3. With installation complete, make sure your Panorama is connected to your computer and switched on.
4. Launch MainStage.
5. Select a template such as "Keyboard" to make sure all is working correctly. Panorama's display should now look as per the image on the right, showing the currently selected patch name.



Troubleshooting:

If MainStage is not communicating with Panorama, check the troubleshooting steps on [this page](#).

About Panorama and OS X 10.11 and QWERTY Macro's

From OS X 10.11 (El Capitan) Panorama no longer requires a custom driver but is instead used as a USB Class Device.

This means that QWERTY macros are no longer possible. If this was an important feature for you, we recommend you install an earlier version of OS X which is still supported by Panorama's legacy drivers.

MainStage and Panorama Working Together

Apple MainStage is a highly flexible product which means a certain amount of user configuration is needed to get the most out of it. Panorama's integration with MainStage does not change this, however once Concerts are set up correctly, Panorama does allow you to detach yourself from the computer and operate MainStage as if you are performing with a synth or workstation.

Startup

It's not a given that your existing MainStage Concerts will immediately work flawlessly with Panorama because they already contain control surface mapping. We therefore suggest you start with one of the MainStage templates such as "Quick Start / Keyboard" to get familiar with how Panorama controls MainStage. Setting up your own Concerts with Panorama is covered a little later in this guide.

With the MainStage "Keyboard" template loaded, the Panorama display appears as per the image on the right. The Panorama Instrument mode is active by default. Note that while Mixer and Transport modes can be selected, they merely duplicate the functionality of Instrument mode.

A MainStage document is called a Concert which in turn contains Sets and Patches. A Set is a collection of patches and a common setup for live performance would be to think of a Set as a song and the patches within it, the different instruments needed to perform that song.



The currently selected patch name is displayed in large font characters at the center of the Panorama screen.

The red/gray info-bar provides vital information about the concert including Concert name, Set name and Patch number

Concert name	Set name	Patch number
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Concerts, Sets and Patches

For live performance, navigating MainStage Sets and Patches within a Concert is critically important and with Panorama, there is no less than 3 different navigation approaches to choose from.

- Direct Set and Patch navigation using the LED buttons
- Next/Previous Set and Patch navigation using the Panorama Track and Patch buttons
- Menu navigation of Sets and Patches

Check page 4 for details about how this all works.

MainStage and Panorama Working Together

Direct Set and Patch Navigation using the LED buttons

Panorama's 8 LED buttons allow you direct access to changing patches so press an LED button other than 1, to change the current patch. The display updates the name of the currently selected patch as you press the buttons.

You can also change the current Set using the LED buttons. Hold the [Toggle/Mute] button (under fader 9) then press any of the 8 LED buttons to select Sets 1-8. Release [Toggle/Mute] to revert the LED's to patch selection.

Using the LED buttons to select Sets and Patches is the most immediate and fastest way to navigate MainStage instruments but you are limited to accessing Sets 1-8 within the current Concert and Patches 1-8 within the current Set. Still, that's 64 patches total within instant reach.

Previous/Next Set and Patch Navigation using the Track and Patch Buttons

Panorama's [Track-/+] and [Patch-/+] buttons allow you to navigate to the previous or next Set and Patch respectively. So you can use these buttons to go beyond the 8 sets and 8 patches within a set accessible using the LED buttons. You may for example need more than 8 patches within a song so simply press [Patch+] to select patches 9 and higher.

Set and Patch Menu Navigation

Panorama provides menu driven navigation of Sets and Patches within you concert to complement the direct access LED buttons. Transparent and quick, here are the steps to select a Patch within a Set:

- Move the Data Control to bring up the Patch list in Panorama and locate the Patch you want to load
- Press "Enter" to select or "Esc" to exit without making a Patch selection.

You can also view and select Sets using a similar method:

- Press the 5th display button labeled "Set List" on Panorama will bring up the list of currently available sets.
- Use the Data Control to scroll through the set list.
- Press "Enter" to select or "Esc" to exit without making a Set selection.



Sets and Patches—Good Housekeeping is Essential

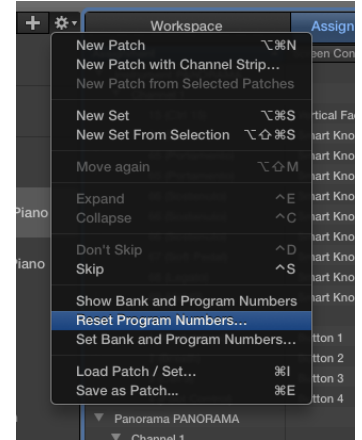
Adding or Reordering Sets and Patches

As you add or reorder Sets and Patches to your MainStage Concert, Panorama will allow you to navigate these in the same manner as the default templates.

However to ensure the navigation follows the sequence you have set up, make sure to do the following, even if all you have done is move one Patch or Set:

- In MainStage, go to Patch List/Settings
- From the list, select “Reset Program Numbers”
- Click “Reset” if the “Reset Program Numbers” confirmation dialogue box appears.

As you probably have worked out, this action will ensure that the MIDI program numbers correspond to the order in the set so that when you select a Set or Patch in Panorama, the correct Set or Patch will be loaded.



Empty Sets and Uncategorized Patches

In addition to resetting program numbers after adding or reordering Sets and Patches, empty sets and patches that lie outside of your existing setlist can confuse program changes and therefore Panorama's navigation.

As a general rule if you are experiencing oddness when navigating patches and sets, check the following:

- 1) All Patches should be categorized within a Set. If you have selected a Patch which exists outside of a set, it confuses program changes.
- 2) Panorama blocks selection of an empty set. They may not cause any problems operating your Concert but it's best avoiding empty Sets, just in case.
- 3) Reset Program Numbers

Set and Patch Limits

Using the 8 LED buttons, a total of 8 Sets and 8 Patches per Set, can be navigated (64 Patches total). Panorama's pop-up navigation allows for a total of 24 Sets and 24 Patches per Set or 576 Patches total.

If a concert contains more than 24 Sets or more than 24 Patches within a Set, you may experience odd feedback behavior. We recommend you stay within these limits, though it's possible to go beyond.

In cases when you have more than 24 patches in a set, it's best to use the [Track +/-] and [Patch +/-] buttons to navigate through Sets and Patches.

MainStage Smart Controls

The easiest way to control MainStage parameters is to use the 12 Smart Knobs.

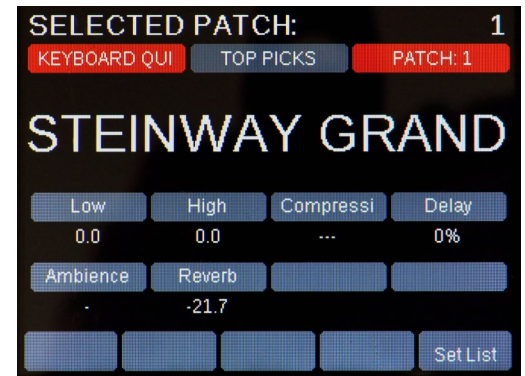
The Smart Controls are by default mapped to Panorama's 2x4 grid of encoders controlling Smart Knobs 1-8 and the first 4 encoders above the faders control Smart Knobs 9-12. The Panorama display shows parameters names and values in the fields below the Patch name, for each of the Smart Controls currently mapped to the 2x4 grid of encoders.

Navigating Display Windows

To view assignments for Smart Knobs 9-12 press [Toggle/View]. This brings the fader display in to view which also shows the status of the 8 encoders above the faders. You can press [Toggle/View] again to revert to the default home page.

If no parameters are currently assigned to controls in the fader display, try pressing Panorama's [View] button to flip the assignments away from their default state. This moves Smart Knobs 1-8 assignments to the row of 8 encoders and Smart knobs 9-12 to the 2x4 grid of encoders.

Press [View] again to flip assignments back again. Pressing the [Instrument] or [Mixer] mode buttons will also reset flipped assignments back to default.



If you select a Smart Control panel with buttons the 4 display buttons will automatically map to the smart buttons.

Assigning Smart Controls to Parameters

Since Smart Controls are assigned by default to the 2x4 encoders, all you need to do is set up the assignment for the Smart Controls within MainStage. Here is how you setup a patch from scratch for an instrument:

- Select the "Edit" mode in MainStage
- In the Patch List, click the "+" sign to add an empty patch
- In the "Workspace" tab (default) click on the "Smart Controls" square
- Select a "Smart Controls Layout" in the Screen Control Inspector such as "Aux Channel"
- Go to the "Channel Strips" section and click "+" to add a channel strip
- Select "Instrument" and click "Create"
- Click on "Instrument" in the Channel Strip and select an AU or MainStage instrument

Now the basics are done. You have created an instrument and set up the Smart Controls but nothing is mapped for control yet. The next steps take you through how to assign Smart Controls to specific parameters, once you get this far:

- In MainStage, select the "Assignments & Mappings" mode
- In Channel Strips, click on the instrument you created to bring up the GUI
- Select a Smart Control either by moving the corresponding encoder on Panorama or by selecting it from the list in MainStage
- Activate the "Assign & Map" button
- Move the parameter you want to assign, on the instrument GUI
- Deactivate the "Assign & Map" button

MainStage Smart Drawbars

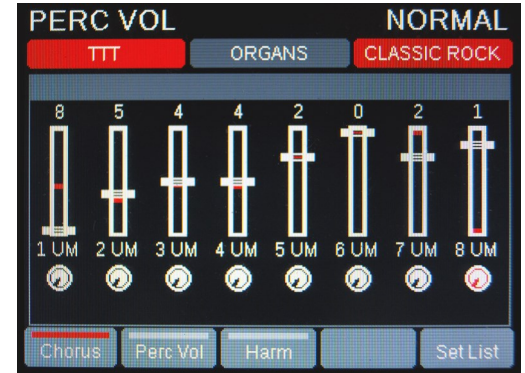
You can continue assigning parameters with the "Assign & Map" button active but it's easy to overwrite previous mapping so be careful to deactivate to avoid this happening.

Note: Smart Controls with multiple parameters assigned may not display the correct feedback value. The reason is that 3 parameters are trying to send values at the same time.

Assigning Smart Drawbars to Faders

Some of the MainStage Smart Control Layouts also feature Smart Drawbars, intended to control the drawbars on organ instruments. The Smart Drawbars are not assigned automatically in the "Keyboard" template we are using as our example here, but that's easily rectified.

- In MainStage, select the "Assignments & Mappings" mode and make sure an instrument using the Smart Drawbars is selected
- Select Smart Drawbar 1 in MainStage
- Activate the "Assign & Map" button
- Move Fader 1
- Deactivate the "Assign & Map" button



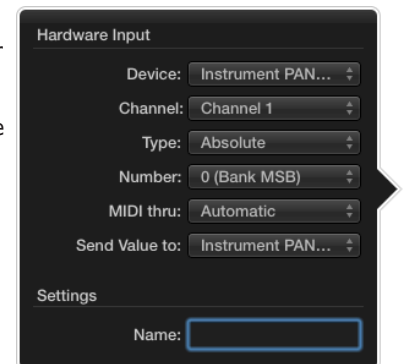
Fader 1 now controls Smart Drawbar 1 throughout the current Concert. Follow the above steps to assign the remaining 8 faders.

Smart Drawbar Parameter Feedback

With the faders assigned to Smart Drawbars, you may also want to view parameter names and feedback in the Panorama display. This is also not setup by default in our example "Keyboard" template, but it's easy to set up:

- Continuing in MainStage's "Assignments & Mappings" mode, locate the Smart Drawbar 1 assignment
- Move the mouse to the left of the assignment and click on the arrow that appears. The Hardware Input menu box will appear (right image)
- In the "Send Value to:" field, select "Instrument PANORAMA"

In order to update the display, change the current patch in MainStage and navigate back again. Make sure the fader display window is in view by pressing [Toggle/View]. You should now see Parameter name of the Smart Drawbar you assigned for this patch.

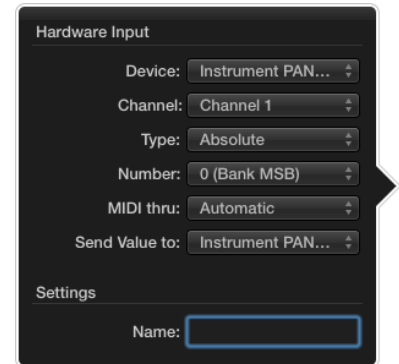
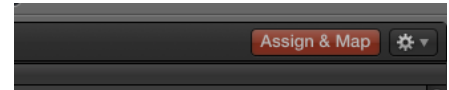


Assigning Additional Controls to Panorama

Smart Controls are just one option to control parameters in MainStage. You can for example create Screen Controls in a Concert and set them up to be controlled by Panorama. Screen Controls in MainStage are helpful if you use a controller that does not provide parameter feedback but because Panorama does, you don't need to create Screen Controls in your layout.

For example, you can assign any of the Panorama faders directly to a parameter:

- In an active Patch, select the "Edit" mode in MainStage
- Select the "Assignments & Mappings" tab
- Click on the settings icon and select "New Assignment" from the drop down menu (you can also press [Alt]+[A])
- Activate the "Assign & Map" button (right image)
- Move the parameter you want to assign, in MainStage
- Move the fader you want to assign the parameter to on Panorama. Make sure to move it all the way up and down until the parameter is picked up.
- Deactivate the "Assign & Map" button
- Move the mouse to the left of the assignment and click on the arrow that appears. The Hardware Input menu box will appear (right image)
- In the "Send Value to:" field, select "Instrument PANORAMA"



Move the control on Panorama and notice the top info line is now displaying the parameter name and the current value.

You can make each Concert or Patch setup complex or simple, only be careful not to unintentionally affect essential default Panorama mapping that you need to navigate or control other parts of the Concerts.

Note: If Panorama controls are not behaving correctly, check the control type in the Hardware Input menu.

For faders and pots it should be "Absolute" and for encoders it should be "Relative (2's Complement)". An incorrect Type can result in parameter jumping or erratic behavior.

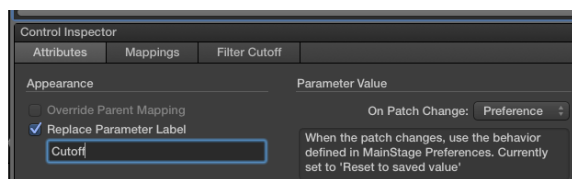
Assigning parameters directly to Panorama controls or assigning Panorama controls to a Screen Control affect the entire current Concert. If a control is mapped with display feedback within one Patch in the Concert, any Patch that does not have the same control assigned to a parameter will display the Panorama control message on the control label.

Replacing the Parameter Name

In some cases, you may find the default label is too large to be displayed legibly on the Panorama display. Or in some cases you'll find that a label isn't displayed at all. MainStage, thankfully, provide you with a feature to replace or add a parameter label.

- In Edit mode, select the control you want to change the parameter label for.
- In the Control Inspector at the bottom of the screen, click the "Attributes" tab
- Tick "Replace parameter Label" and type in a new name.
-

You may need to change patch and navigate back again to see the change take affect.



Additional Button Assignment Options

If you need more assignable buttons, in addition to the 4 display buttons, you have 3 options:

1) Transport buttons

The 11 transport buttons are freely assignable either to the functions that they were originally intended for (such as play, record if you use a playback device) or any other function. It's best to avoid changing the default MIDI cc messages unless you have to but instead simply assign them as already described in MainStage.

Or you can assign any of the buttons to a QWERTY macro to trigger functions in MainStage you would normally use your computer QWERTY keyboard to trigger. If you want to customize QWERTY macros for use with MainStage, you can read more about how to do that [here](#)

2) F-keys F1-F11 buttons

You access the F-keys but pressing the [F-keys] buttons along with [F1-F11] (second layer of the transport buttons). Note that F-keys buttons are by default assigned to QWERTY macros so you would need to reassign them to MIDI cc messages in Panorama's "Internal/Control Edit" menu.

3) LED buttons (8) in [Mixer] mode

Press [Mixer] both shows the fader display window but also un-assigns the 8 LED buttons from the Panorama navigation system. This means you can assign the 8 LED buttons to whichever parameter or function you want.

Make sure to set the parameter feedback if you need the LED to indicate button status. You do that in the Hardware Input module : "Send Value to:" should be set to "Instrument PANORAMA".

Tap Tempo, Patch Reset/Compare, Panic and Mute All

Pressing the [Shift] button on Panorama provides temporary access to "Tap Tempo" Patch Reset/Compare", "Panic" and "Mute All". Release the [Shift] button to exit the menu again.

Setting Up Existing Concerts with Panorama

If you open up existing concert, Panorama's LED button and Menu driven Patch and Set navigation controls will work immediately.

Because assignments and USB inputs are saved with a Concert, other parameters however require that you change their assignments to Panorama controls, where desired. You may also need to re-map the patch/set buttons in your concert to Panorama's track/patch buttons to get them to work and even the keyboard, pitch bend, modulation wheel etc.

For more information about how to reassign the keyboard, go to page 10 "Using Multiple USB devices with MainStage"

Alternatively, an easy workaround is to save your Concert as a Set and then load the entire Set in to a new Concert template that now would contain Panorama's default settings. Then simply reassign the unassigned controls methodically while retaining Panorama's default functionality.

For example, if your existing Concert uses smart controls, the smart controls mapping is retained but you still need to map Panorama's controls to the Smart Controls.

- Select Edit Mode in MainStage
- Click on a screen control named "Smart Knob 1"
- Engage "Assign & Map"
- Move the encoder on Panorama you would like "Smart Knob 1" to be mapped to
- Repeat for other smart controls and deactivate 'Assign & Map' when done

You can use this method to override the mappings of any other controls in your Concert.

When you are done and satisfied, make sure to save your Concert. MainStage retains mapping for each Concert so you can keep your original and save a separate Panorama version.

Controlling Reason ReWired to MainStage

When Reason is Rewired to MainStage, Panorama is able to control both software applications. To switch between mapping for Cubase and mapping for Reason, simply hold the [Shift] button and press [Toggle/View].

When you are controlling the Rewire Host (MainStage), the Info Bar is Red.

And when you are controlling the Rewire Client (Reason), the Info Bar is blue.

Setting Up Reason for ReWire

First: Setting up MIDI ports in Cubase and Reason.

By default, Panorama's Keyboard is set to act as the Master Keyboard in Reason. It's important to disable it to prevent any conflict between the two applications.

Panorama P1 does not have a keyboard so if this is the Panorama product you own, check your port configuration matches the Cubase Installation instructions and move to the second part of these instructions.



- Open Reason in stand-alone mode, and navigate to the Control Surfaces tab in the Preferences window
- Select 'Nektar Panorama' from the list of control surfaces and then click the Edit button
- For Keyboard Port , choose 'Not Selected'. The Instrument Mode ports are labeled "Instrument Mode" and should remain unchanged.
- Close Reason.
- Next launch MainStage followed by Reason and check that your regular ReWire connection between the two applications is still working. If you haven't used Reason ReWired to MainStage before, check the MainStage documentation for details about how to set that up.

With MainStage and Reason ReWired, hold [Shift] and press [Toggle/View] a few times to see Panorama switch back and forth between controlling MainStage and Reason.

Using Multiple USB devices with MainStage

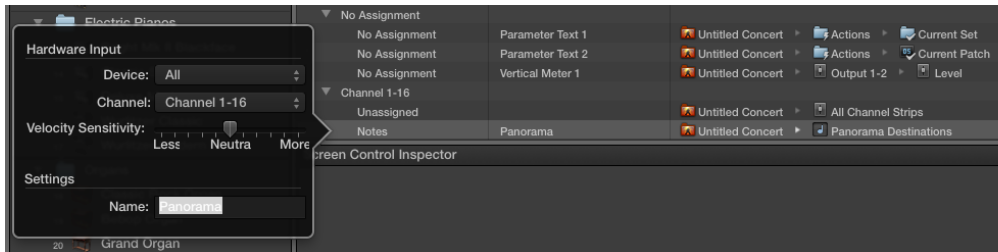
MainStage can be controlled by multiple USB devices at the same time however this is not automatic. The keyboard, pitch bend, modulation wheel, foot switch or in fact any and all controls can be assigned independently in MainStage, for each Concert.

MainStage will assign the keyboard (listed as “Notes” in Controller Assignments”) and controls typically associated with the keyboard such pitch bend, modulation wheel and foot switch to the first USB input source it detects.

To set up MainStage to play the way you want, do the following:

- In an active Patch, select the “Edit” mode in MainStage
- Select the “Assignments & Mappings” tab
- In the assignment list, select the line named “Notes”
- Move the mouse to the left of the assignment and click on the arrow that appears. The Hardware Input menu box will appear
- In the “Device:” field, select “All” for all USB devices be routed to notes or select a specific USB device.

Do the same to set up pitch bend, modulation and sustain. Assignments are saved with your Concert so you can have a different USB device configuration for each Concert you load, just not within the Concert.



Troubleshooting Notes

- The Panorama display does not update correctly if you change patch while on the fader display window. Press [Instrument] followed by [Toggle/View] to reset.
- The motorized fader on P4 and P6 is currently mapped to Patch volume. The feedback however is not currently implemented. That may change in a future update
- If Smart Controls are added to a patch, they will by default map to the motorized fader first and following to the encoders. Simply reassign as described in the guide
- If Patch and Set navigation is not working correctly, read page 5 “Sets and Patches—Good Housekeeping is Essential”
- If the Panorama keyboard is not triggering your MainStage patch, check your assignment of the keyboard as per page 12
- Erratic or incorrect behavior of parameters learned to controls is most likely a result of the Type set incorrectly in the Hardware Input menu. MainStage does not always detect the correct controller type. Check page 8.
- Parameter labels or feedback missing. Check the “Send Value to” field is correctly assigned and if it is, add a label as described on page 8.
- Mixer and Transport mode duplicate Instrument mode functionality and have no separate purpose with MainStage
- When multiple parameters are assigned to the same Smart Control or same direct control, parameter feedback may be missing or incorrect. That’s because 2 or more parameters are sending information at the same time, fighting to send it to Panorama’s display.
- MainStage can be affected by inactive control surfaces in AMS. If you have had many units connected over the years, looking similar to image 1, remove any unused devices and leave only those needed. Side effects include latency when parameters are adjusted particularly using the faders and when parameter feedback is connected.

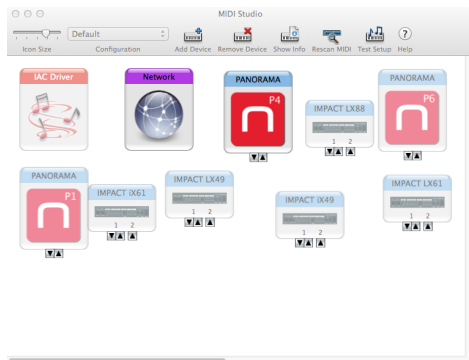


Image 1: Inactive devices in AMS can cause problems with parameter feedback

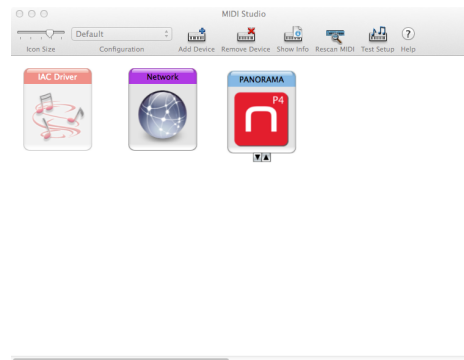


Image 2: A clean AMS gives peace of mind

Future Updates

We have strived to provide a feature complete experience with our DAW support and hope this is reflected in your experience with Panorama. Over time, there will be updates that may include new features, added support for new version of operating systems and programs or bug fixes.

If you want to get automatic notifications of any updates and other news you can create a Nektar user account and subsequently register your product with us. Here is the URL to get started

[Http://www.nektartech.com/registration](http://www.nektartech.com/registration)