



APPLICATION NOTE

Sept 27, 2007

TDC-100 VER 3.4 FIRMWARE

This application note describes version 3.4 firmware for the Lance Design TDC-100 disk controller. These are installation and operation notes. A version 3.4 manual is available for download from www.lancedesign.com.

Purpose of Ver 3.4

There is only one change from version 3.2/3.3. Version 3.4 provides an additional menu item called "CLIP LIST MODE" (item 5). The two choices are INT and EXT. Also, a little-used item called 'COMMAND DELAY' has been deleted from the menu.

INT (Internal List Mode) is the way the TDC-100 has always worked. The TDC builds an internal clip list, which is limited to 99 clips per channel. This limitation is caused by hardware memory limits in the TDC. This internal list was required because with Odetics protocol there is no way to scroll backwards through the list of clips in the ddr, so in order to allow scrolling both forwards and backwards, the TDC had to build the list internally. The list was also required to determine the currently-loaded clip.

EXT (External List Mode) is the new mode. With the co-operation of EVS, we've added some commands to Odetics protocol which allow the TDC to do this bi-directional scrolling, and to directly request the currently-loaded clip name. This means that the TDC no longer has to build its own list, and can simply scroll through the list contained in the Spotbox. This eliminates the 99-clip limit.

An additional benefit of the EXT mode is that the currently-loaded clip status is obtained very quickly by the TDC-100, so that if you load a clip using the EVS keyboard, the TDC will see that clip immediately.

Currently these additional commands are only supported by EVS*. If you're using the XT/Spotbox you should select EXT mode. (Note that it is not possible to use the clip filter function in the EXT mode. Any filter selection will be ignored.)

If you're using another type of ddr, like Profile, Abekas, or something else, you should select INT mode.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE: Because of the added menu item, all other items move up by one.

You must go through ALL menu items and reset them to your preferences!

They will have changed when you install this new firmware.

Contents of the cue registers should not be affected.

* As of Sept 28, there is a slight bug in the EVS implementation of these new commands. When scrolling down through the list (counter-clockwise rotation of the knob), the scrolling does not stop with the first clip name, but rolls over to the top of the list. This is compounded by the fact that when scrolling up, the list does stop at the highest item (as it should), so it prevents you from getting back to the first item without scrolling down through potentially thousands of clips. EVS has promised to fix this bug in their next software release, scheduled for next month (October 2007).

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