USB-ASIO V2.2x driver's guide (Win)

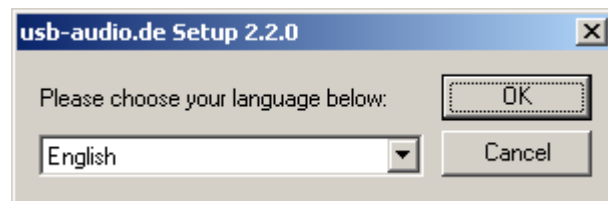http://www.usb-audio.com
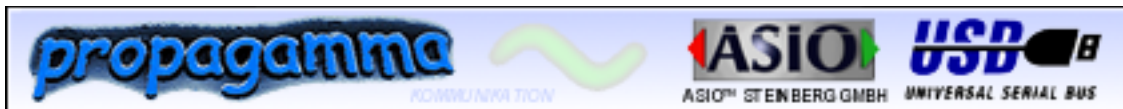
1. Installation

1. Run "setup.exe" as "admin".

2. Select your language.

3. Click on "Install the driver"

4. Agree to our terms of license. Please encourage your friends to purchase their own keycode if you use the commercial version.

5. Now the installer does its job. You will be prompted to connect your USB Audio device to the computer. If your device is already plugged you will be prompted to unplug it and then replug it again.
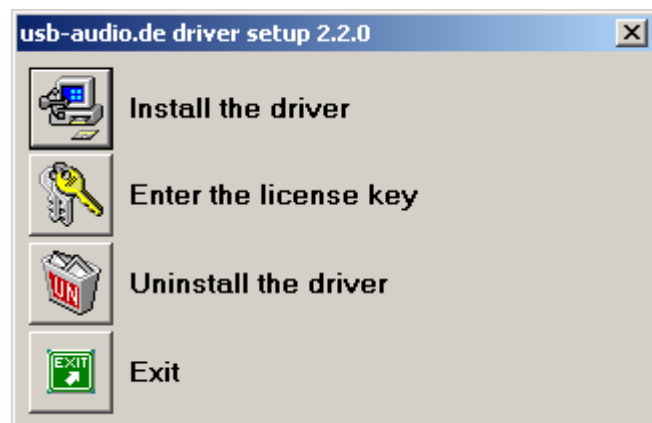

6. There's some Windows popping up and disappearing again during installation, that's normal Windows Plug & Play behaviour. Have fun and do some good music with it!
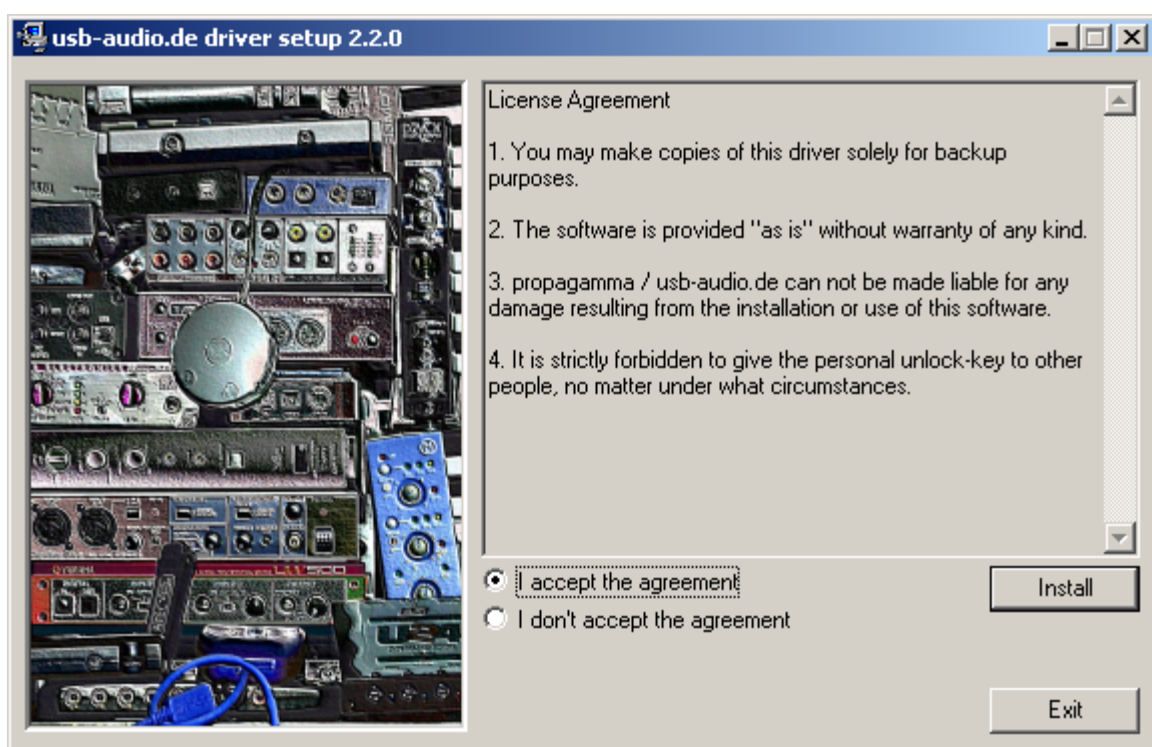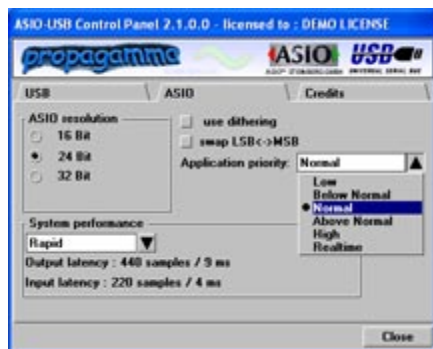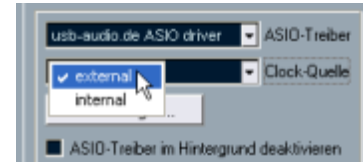
2. Choose bit-depth and sample resolution

Enter the control panel via the button in your application's ASIO settings. If the driver's not licensed yet you're prompted to enter the keycode. Click "ok" in order to use it in demo mode (demo limitation: beep every 30 seconds).
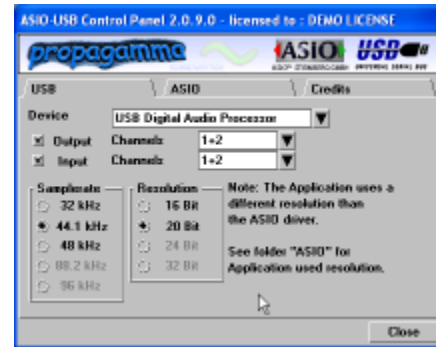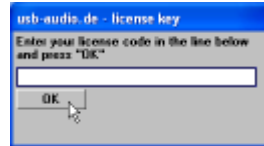
It's recommended to use "external" sync since USB audio devices usually generate their "own" samplerate.

The devices pane allows to select the bitrate used for the USB connection. Some devices only support 16bit.

"ASIO resolution" is the bitrate used for the ASIO connection. If it's different from the USB transfer rate sound quality can be increased by adding "dither". (Dither is noise added to the bits that have to be cut off. So the noise isn't audible but changes the "arithmetical carry" on rounding the last bit to be used.)

"System performance" changes buffersizes and latencies. Higher values allow the use of more plugins, effects etc. at the same time but aren't fun playing virtual instruments live.

"swap LSB <-> MSB" might be necessary on some applications, usually it's LSB first on Windows, MSB first on Mac. This option allows you to switch it, still you might not need it.

The application priority was always set to "high" by earlier versions of this driver. This brings the advantage of having the audio thread on the necessary priority for low latency operation. The disadvantage is that with some audio apps also graphic activity is getting more priority, resulting in crackles. BTW, thank you Martijn Zwartjes for your script demonstrations!

3. Get updates

New versions are available from your manufacturers website (or http://www.usb-audio.com if you purchased the commercial version). For questions contact the manufacturer / distributor of your device (or support@usb-audio.com if you use the commercial version.)

4. Performance troubleshooting

Switch off the "Intel SpeedStep" / "AMD PowerNow!" BIOS option on laptops. Disable anti-virus software, firewalls, energy control and other things that possibly eat up your performance. There's also some interesting articles in Steinberg's knowledge base:
http://service.steinberg.net:80/knowledge_pro.nsf/show/acpi_kills_audio_performance
http://service.steinberg.net:80/knowledge_pro.nsf/show/usb_vs_via_chipsets