

UPDATING THE BIOS ON MDR24/96 RECORDERS

INTRODUCTION

This bulletin describes the procedure for updating the BIOS on Mackie MDR24/96 recorders using the MDR BIOS Update utility disk. This utility can be used to update the BIOS version to improve recorder functionality, and also to restore the default Mackie BIOS settings if the settings have become corrupted. Update your MDR24/96 BIOS *only* when instructed to do so by a Mackie Technical Support Representative, dealer, or technical notice published on the Mackie website.

Follow these procedures exactly as directed. **Failure to do so may render your MDR24/96 inoperable and require that you return the unit to Mackie to complete the update. Even if you follow the directions exactly, there is still a small chance of failure. Do not update your unit unless you are willing to return it to Mackie to complete the update.**

BIOS UTILITY DISK CREATION PROCEDURE

To create the BIOS update utility disk from a Windows™ PC:

1. Download the self-extracting EXE file **MDR BIOS Utility 1_0.EXE** (828 kB) from the Mackie website (www.mackie.com).
2. Once downloaded, double-click on the file. This will launch the WinZip™ self-extraction utility.
3. The default "Unzip To" directory is set to C:\Windows\Temp. If you prefer to have the disk extracted to a different location, type the path into the provided text box and then click the "Unzip" button. Quit the WinZip™ self-extraction utility.
4. Double-click on the extracted file labeled **MDRBIOS1_0.EXE** and you'll see a "WinImage™ Self-Extractor" dialog box.
5. Click the "OK" button in the upper right corner of the dialog box.
6. When the "Batch Assistant" dialog box appears, insert a floppy disk into the floppy drive and click the "OK" button. If the disk was not blank, you will be warned that all data on the disk will be overwritten. Click "YES".
7. When the WinImage™ utility has completed writing to the floppy, remove the disk from your A:\ drive. Your BIOS Update utility disk has now been created.

To create the BIOS update utility disk from a Mac OS™ computer:

1. Download the self-extracting HQX file **MDR BIOS Utility 1_0.HQX** (1.1 MB) from the Mackie website (www.mackie.com).
2. To expand the HQX file, you'll need Stuffit Expander™ (<http://www.aladdinsys.com/>). Drag the HQX file onto the Stuffit Expander™ icon. Stuffit Expander™ creates a file called **MDR BIOS Utility 1_0.SEA**, and another called **MDRBIOS1_0.IMG**. Drag the SEA file to the trashcan.
3. Launch Apple's Disk Copy utility (you may need to download the Disk Copy utility from <http://www.apple.com/> or check the system installations disks that came with your system).
4. Depending on your version of Disk Copy, either click the "Load Image File..." button or choose "Make a Floppy" from the Utilities menu.
5. Locate and select the **MDRBIOS1_0.IMG** file and click "Choose".
6. Insert a floppy disk into the floppy drive when prompted. With older versions of Disk Copy you may need to click on the "Make a copy" button first.
7. Disk Copy will eject the floppy when it has finished. Your BIOS Update utility disk has now been created.

Note to Macintosh USB Floppy drive users:

Apple's Disk Copy program will not work using the above method with a USB floppy drive because the menu option "Make a Floppy..." is not available. You must use Aladdin Systems' ShrinkWrap program, which is available for purchase and trial download from <http://www.aladdinsys.com/shrinkwrap/index.html>. Once you have ShrinkWrap installed, substitute these steps for steps 3-7 in the above directions.

3. Launch ShrinkWrap.
4. Select "Write Image back to Disk..." from the Image menu (Command+B).
5. Locate and select the **MDRBIOS1_0.IMG** file and click "Select".
6. Insert a floppy disk into the drive when prompted.
7. ShrinkWrap will eject the floppy when it has finished. Your BIOS Update utility disk has now been created.

MDR24/96 BIOS UPDATE PROCEDURE

Follow this procedure to update the BIOS on your MDR24/96:

1. Before updating the MDR24/96 BIOS, back up all of your Projects to either Mackie Media M-90 drives or Mackie Project (ORB) disks, or to a PC or Mac via ethernet. While there is no risk of data loss from the update procedure, you will want to have all of your Projects backed up if the procedure fails and you have to return your unit to Mackie.
2. Turn the MDR24/96 off and insert the MDR BIOS Update utility disk in the floppy drive.
3. Power the MDR24/96 on. **Do not power the MDR24/96 off for any reason until instructed to do so! Powering the MDR24/96 off during the flash update routine will cause the procedure to fail and require you to send the unit back to Mackie.**
4. After 10 to 15 seconds the BIOS Update utility will begin to run. **No utility program status information is displayed in the LCD.** The floppy drive activity indicator stays lit for approximately 60 seconds while the update utility is running and then goes out after the utility has finished updating the BIOS.
5. After the floppy activity indicator goes off, remove the floppy disk, and wait 10 seconds.
6. Power the MDR24/96 off by holding down the power switch for four seconds. Then wait 5 more seconds and power it on again.
7. If for some reason the MDR24/96 will not reboot after running the BIOS Update utility, call Mackie Technical Support for assistance (800-258-6883).
8. The BIOS update is now complete.