8 > User Guide Fast Track

9 The Software Control Panel

- ▶ Windows XP/Vista users: A small M-Audio logo ▶ will be placed in the system tray, generally located at the bottom of your Windows desktop. Double-click this icon to open the Control Panel.
- Mac OS X users: The Fast Track Control Panel can be found in System Preferences, under "Other."

Note: The Software Control Panel is available only after the Fast Track driver software has been installed. It will not appear if Fast Track is being used as a *class compliant* device (this means using the device with the drivers already built into the computer's operating system).

Latency Tab (Windows XP and Vista)

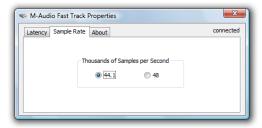
Latency is defined as the time it takes for your input signal to pass through your audio software and appear at the outputs. This latency can result in a delay that is undesirable when overdubbing to existing tracks. The slider lets you select the size of the buffer in samples. Smaller buffer sizes result in lower latency, but may not function well with slower systems, causing clicks, pops and dropouts in the audio playback. The default buffer size is 256 samples. If you are experiencing clicks and pops in your audio, try



increasing the buffer size. On Macintosh systems, the buffer size is normally adjusted within your audio recording software.

Sample Rate Tab (Windows Vista Only)

This page allows you to choose a sample rate of 44.1kHz or 48kHz. This is provided in order for MME applications in Vista to have access to both of the supported sample rates. ASIO and WDM applications allow you to change the sample rate within the recording software, regardless of the setting on this tab.



Performance Tab (Macintosh Only)

This page allows you to choose a sample bit depth of 16-bit or 24-bit. The default sample bit depth is 24-bit. On Windows systems, the sample bit depth is normally adjusted within your audio recording software.

About Tab (All Systems)

This page contains information on your hardware and current driver software versions. This information may be helpful should you ever have the occasion to call for technical support. Clicking the links on this page will take you to useful pages on the M-Audio website.

Note: If Fast Track is not currently connected to, or not recognized by your computer, a message noting this will be displayed on all pages of the





10 Troubleshooting

Fast Track has been designed to give you high performance and professional-quality audio. It has been tested under a wide range of systems and operating conditions. However, there is a virtually limitless number of operating scenarios, any of which could affect your system's performance. Though this section cannot cover all possible issues you may encounter, we would like to offer you some suggestions for dealing with common problems.

We recommend that you avoid connecting too many devices via USB. The USB bus is a dependable protocol that is ideally suited for digital audio. Nevertheless, it is important to remember that audio and multimedia streaming can place considerable demands on your processor and the USB bus.

If you are having trouble getting audio in or out of your Fast Track, please check the following:

- Make sure the device is connected via USB at both ends, and that the computer's USB port is providing sufficient bus power (the blue Power LED on Fast Track should be illuminated).
- If you have no sound, and are using Fast Track as a *class compliant* device (this means using the device with the drivers already built into the computer's operating system), download and install the latest Fast Track drivers for your operating system. If this does not resolve the issue, check to see if the Fast Track drivers are properly installed:
 - In Windows XP, go to the Windows Control Panel and double-click the System icon (under Performance and Maintenance if you are in Category view) and then:
 - Select the Hardware tab and click the Device Manager button.
 - Click the plus sign ("+") next to Sound, Video and Game Controllers, and locate the Fast Track listing.
 - If you see a question mark or exclamation point next to it, or if you do not see it listed, you may need to reinstall the driver software.
 - In Windows Vista, go to the Windows Control Panel, double-click the Device Manager icon, and then:
 - Click the plus sign ("+") next to Sound, Video and Game Controllers, and locate the Fast Track listing.
 - If you see a question mark or exclamation point next to it, or if you do not see it listed, you may need to reinstall the driver software.
- Make sure your audio software has been configured for use with Fast Track.
 - Open the Sound Control Panel (Windows Vista) or Sounds and Audio Devices Control Panel (Windows XP) and make sure that Fast Track is set as the Default Playback device. On Mac, go to System Preferences > Sound and select Fast Track under the Input and Output tabs.
 - Open your application's audio settings page and check to see if the correct ASIO or WDM drivers (on Windows), or Core Audio drivers (on Mac) have been selected.
- If you are certain Fast Track is correctly installed and configured for your audio software, check your signal path. Make sure your outputs are routed correctly so that your signal is sent to your headphones, amplifier, or powered monitors. Verify that your recording application is receiving audio signal. If you find that your recording application is not receiving audio signal:
 - Check your audio connections and cables to make sure everything is plugged in correctly.
 - Check the Signal/Clip indicators for each channel to see if input signal is present.
 - If using a condenser microphone that requires phantom power, make sure the Phantom Power switch (14) is set to the "on" position, and that the Phantom Power Indicator LED (48V) is illuminated.

For more troubleshooting tips, visit the Knowledge Base at www.m-audio.com/support