SOFTWARE RELEASE NOTES

Product Lines   Expression-family lighting control systems

Description   Version 3.1 software upgrade

Engineering Change Order (ECO)   6408

Effective Date   December 1, 2000

Purpose

This release provides new system software for consoles, lighting playback controllers (LPCs) and remote interface devices in the Expression-family of lighting controllers. The new software corrects problems found in previous releases of system software and includes new features. Lists of new features and problems (fixed and remaining) are given below. If you have any questions regarding the information provided below or problems with the software, documents or procedures related to this release, please call ETC Technical Services at one of the offices identified on the last page of this document.

Eligible devices

The following devices may be upgraded with the software provided in this release (in two different kits):
- Consoles ~ Express 125, 250, 24/48, 48/96 and 72/144; Expression 2x and 3; Insight 2, 2x and 3; Impression 2; Concept 2x; Imagine 3/600 and 3/1200; Finesse; and Focus
- LPCs ~ Expression 3, Insight 3 and Express
- Network devices ~ Remote Interface Unit (RIU), Remote Video Interface (RVI), ETCNet2 DMX Node, ETCNet2 Video Node

Availability

Version 3.1 software may be downloaded from the ETC website, www.etcconnect.com, or obtained in an upgrade kit ordered through a dealer or directly from ETC. Two kits are available to span the entire range of devices eligible for this upgrade. Choose the Expression/Insight installation package for all lighting controllers (consoles and LPCs) except Express; choose the Express installation package for Express consoles and the Express LPC. If you have any remote interface devices in your system, they must be upgraded at the same time to match the software in the system's lighting controller. The following two sections identify the items in this release that you can download and obtain by kit.

Version 3.1 items separately available for downloading
- Upgrade software for console and LPC
- Remote interface upgrade software
- Expression, Insight, Express 125/250 and Express Two Scene Preset user manuals, version 3.1
- User Manual Supplement (not needed if you obtain the version 3.1 console user manual)
- Expression Off-Line, Personality Editor and their respective QuickGuides bundled in one set-up file
- This Release Notes document
- V.3.1 Installation Instructions document

Version 3.1 kit contents
- Upgrade software for console and LPC (1 diskette)
- Remote interface upgrade software (1 diskette)
- User Manual Supplement (paper and on diskette)
- V.3.1 User manuals (two diskettes for each manual)
- V.3.1 QuickGuide for the Lighting Playback Controller (paper and on diskette)
- Expression Off-Line, Personality Editor and their respective QuickGuides bundled in one set-up file (2 diskettes)
- This Release Notes document (paper and on diskette)
- V.3.1 Installation Instructions document (paper and on diskette)

Compatibility requirements

Lighting controllers (consoles and LPCs)

An eligible lighting controller must also meet all of the following requirements to be compatible with version 3.1 system software. If your controller does not conform, you can still upgrade to version 3.1 but only after first upgrading to meet these requirements. For assistance in bringing your controller up to date, please contact one of the ETC offices listed on the last page of this document.

1. Expression 2x, Insight 2 and 2x, Concept 2x, Impression 2x, Imagine 3/600 and 3/1200, Finesse and Focus:
   - Version 1.8 console software or later (Can be installed on earlier versions if properly upgraded.
   - Version 2.0 Boot EPROM or later
   - Sensor CEM software version 2.14 or later for ETCLink support
2. Expression 3:
   - Face panel EPROM 1.11 or later
   - Version 2.0 Boot EPROM or later
   - Sensor CEM software version 2.14 or later for ETCLink support
3. Insight 3:
   - Face panel EPROM 1.14 or later
   - Version 2.0 Boot EPROM or later
   - Sensor CEM software version 2.14 or later for ETCLink support
4. Express (all consoles)
   - Version 1.02 or later boot EPROM
   - Sensor CEM software version 2.14 or later for ETCLink support

Expression Off-Line / Personality Editor

You must have an IBM PC or a PC-compatible computer with the following features:
- 386 processor (486 or higher recommended)
- Windows 95, Windows 98 or Windows NT
- 8 MB RAM (16 MB recommended)
- 10 MB available hard drive space
- Color monitor (1,024 x 768 x 256 or higher recommended)
- 3.5-inch floppy drive
- Mouse (or equivalent)

New features

- ### *Specifying a date in real time programs*
  As an alternative to specifying the days of the week for real time programs, now you can specify a particular date on which a real time program will run.

- ### *Non-blocking jump-to-cue now available in subroutines*
  Now you can set whether a jump-to-cue from a subroutine acts as a blocking cue or not. Blocking cues end all cues running in the background.

- ### *Port information in About Dimmer displays*
  About Dimmer now identifies the port number and DMX address to which a dimmer is patched.

- ### *ETCNet2 nodes can be used*
  You can now operate ETC's newest remote interface devices, the ETCNet2 DMX Node and the ETCNet2 Video Node, with your console or LPC. All remote interface devices in an Expression-family system operate on the original ETCNet protocol, providing you with the same functionality as the existing Remote Video Interface (RVI) or Remote Interface Unit (RIU).

- ### *New macros added to Express LPC*
  More autocontrol functions were added to the Express LPC to enable you to set all but the astronomic features of the real time clock and ensure the compatibility of networked remote interface devices.

- ### *Single scene default*
  Express two scene preset consoles now default to single scene operation. This change simplifies the operation of the Express LPC.

- ### *Record Solo*
  You can use Solo as a pre-recording filter for any channels, not just the intensity channels, when recording cues, groups and focus points. The Record Solo feature is especially useful for recording specific attributes of moving light fixtures, such as color or position, into focus points.
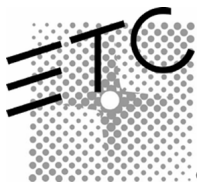
Problems corrected in version 3.1

284	Plugging a digitizer into a node or backup console causes Full Tracking Backup to break.
280	Reading ASCII shows for the first time incorrectly changes cues to blocking.
279	[Create Cue] does not work correctly in Cue Spreadsheet.
277	Tracksheet does not print part cues correctly.
274	Running excessive Time Code Events per frame can cause tracking to fail.
270	Cannot selectively use SOLO for recording Focus Points using fixtures.
261	Time stamping shows in Off-line is off by six hours.
236	Changing all cue types in [cue list] can break Full Tracking Backup.
235	Updating a focus point causes a canceled effect cue to run.
234	Doing a Load Sub in tracksheet will not allow itself to be canceled.
233	Patching 130 fixtures causes Full Tracking Backup to fail.
232	[About Channel] incorrectly displays inhibited submasters that don't exist.
223	[About][Channel] slows down the DMX output and background video if many effect cues are used.
214	LTP channels wiggle on a default [clear] and on a [Go A/B].
182	Inserting effect steps doesn't allow you to arrow down.
98	Writing and Reading from ASCII causes all cues to go to blocking in Off-Line.
85	Adding a group cue with a decimal to an effect will not work.
39	When downloading code from Express, nodes may need to be rebooted.
16	The Designers Worksheet graphic is not redrawn properly.

Problems remaining in version 3.1

297	Systems containing a ETCNet2 Video Node have locked up under the following conditions: Video Node operating in Net1 mode, DWS attached to the Video Node, wired puck or pen device activated and sitting on the tablet for extended periods of time. In addition to lockup, this arrangement can cause irregularities in the system controller (console or LPC) and/or in any ETCNet2 DMX Nodes present in the system.
295	Express 24/48 inhibitive subs need to be deleted in order to use preset sliders.
294	Groups in effects are not allowed to set levels with the Add Channels command.
293	Subs 1-12 in Express cannot be changed with [type] in the Sub List display.
290	Printing 15 or more items causes multiple printouts of the same items.
286	Link List does not work [Group][Only][Group] syntax.
283	Recording the same numbered sub on a different page duplicates sub type.
256	Multipart cues do not record fixtures properly.
237	A recorded focus point in blind may show up as Not Recorded.
229	Deleting a fixture may not always clear out channel attributes.
213	RFU does not display information on the LCD for Fixtures.
201	[About][Channel] does not always highlight the channel you are on.
186	Nonexistent entered cues try to track through in spreadsheet.
169	Moving lights controlled by DMX In is intermittent when recording.

144	Digitizer can fail on console initialization and may need to be rebooted.
128	Using solo in tracksheet may not reload the original cues.
87	Only Part 1 can be updated from stage.
44	A background cue can run at 00 and not be shown on stage.
41	Express 48/96 submasters can flicker with certain combinations pressed.
35	Range select on subroutines is limited either whole or decimal numbered cues.
34	A timed submaster will only send a Note-On message, not a Note-Off.
31	Booting a console with ETCLink enabled may send back a No DMX message.
30	After a CEM reset, the console can hold waiting for ETCLink.
28	DMX In disabled will show magenta levels turn yellow from incoming submasters.
25	ETCLink Errors system status may not update the display properly.
21	Enabling Designers Worksheet sliders in setup can set the grandmaster to 00.
18	Remote nodes can lose net packets during disk operations.
14	Tracking consoles can get out of synchronization.
12	MIDI devices that constantly transmit running status can overload the console.
11	Insight submaster LEDs sometimes do not initialize properly on power up.
10	RFU LEDs go out when [7][8] are pressed simultaneously.
9	Effect steps cannot be created using AND.
4	The alpha numeric keyboard may miss or double enter characters.