

CUE SDK Overview and Reference

Protocol version 3

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Overview

The Corsair Utility Engine (CUE) SDK gives ability for third-party applications to control lightings on Corsair RGB devices. CUE SDK interacts with hardware through CUE so it should be running in order for SDK to work properly.

SDK features are supported in CUE version 1.10 or higher.

To use this SDK you should have basic knowledge in C and library linking.

CUE SDK functional features:

- SDK provides ability to specify RGB color for every LED on keyboard, mouse and headset (ie. control lighting by key id).
- SDK provides information about connected hardware: models, physical and logical layouts.
- SDK provides information about HW geometry so that clients can show visual effects that depend on geometry like wave or ripple (ie. control lighting by key position).
- SDK provides helper functions to convert alphanumeric key names (like 'A', 'Q', 'Z') into identifiers for "tutorial" kind of clients that want to highlight exact keys taking into account logical layout (ie. control lighting by key name).
- SDK provides **exclusive** and **shared** access to SDK clients.
- User can forbid third-party applications to control lighting in CUE settings.



Other SDK features:

- CUE works properly with multiple clients. SDK library itself is thread safe so that clients are able to use it from multiple threads within the same process.
- SDK is fail-safe. If CUE is not present, shuts down by the user or crashes this does not cause a client crashing or hanging.
- SDK handles handshake during client initialization to agree on protocol version that CUE implements, so that CUE can decide if it supports client protocol version and client can decide which of API functions it can call.

SDK Package

The following folders are included:

- include contains C/C++ header files with function prototypes and enum declarations;
- bin contains both 32 and 64 bit .dll files;
- lib contains companion .lib files to access exported functions (32 and 64 bit);
- examples contains sample project that shows how to use SDK;
- doc contains SDK documentation (this document).

Requirements

This SDK can be used on the same platforms that CUE does:

- Windows 7 (32-bit and 64-bit);
- Windows 8 (32-bit and 64-bit);
- Windows 10 (32-bit and 64-bit).



Supported devices

Keyboards:

- CGK65 RGB
- K65 LUX RGB
- K65 RGB RAPIDFIRE
- K70 RGB
- K70 LUX
- K70 RAPIDFIRE
- K70 LUX RGB
- K70 RGB RAPIDFIRE
- K95 RGB
- STRAFE
- STRAFE RGB

Mice:

- M65 RGB
- M65 PRO RGB
- SABRE
- SABRE RGB
- SABRE RGB Optical
- SABRE RGB Laser
- Scimitar

Headsets:

- VOID USB
- VOID WIRELESS

Mouse Mat:

■ MM800 RGB



Multiple clients using the SDK at the same time

SDK provides **exclusive** and **shared** access to SDK clients.

- Exclusive access lighting controlled only by client and not by CUE or other SDK clients. There can be only one exclusive client at a time. If there is already an active exclusive client A and a new client B requests exclusive access to the lighting then client B becomes exclusive client and client A loses exclusive control (ie "last win" strategy).
- Shared access multiple clients may control lighting at the same time. There can be unlimited number of shared clients working simultaneously. If some client requests exclusive access then all other shared clients will not be able to override colors that were set by exclusive client. When exclusive client disconnects all shared clients can override colors again.
- CUE itself acts like a **shared** client, so if there is a client taking over **exclusive** control then CUE will not try to override colors.

The default access mode is **shared**.



Other considerations

Single-color devices

If a connected device only has LEDs of one color instead of all three (RGB) then when RGB color is set to such leds SDK chooses maximum of three (RGB) values and uses it as brightness for LED.

On/off leds

If a connected device has some LEDs that support only on/off control then if supplied brightness value is >= 128 such LED will be switched on, otherwise it will be switched off.

LEDs that are not controlled by SDK

Side LEDs on Corsair STRAFE keyboards can not be controlled by SDK. These LEDs remain controlled by CUE regardless of connected SDK clients.

Memory management

SDK is responsible for freeing memory that was allocated by its functions. The memory is freed when SDK library is unloaded.



Reference

bool CorsairSetLedsColors(int size, CorsairLedColor* ledsColors)

Description: set specified leds to some colors. The color is retained until changed by successive calls. This function does not take logical layout into account. This function executes synchronously, if you are concerned about delays consider using *CorsairSetLedsColorsAsync*

Input arguments:

- *int size* number of leds in *ledsColors* array;
- CorsairLedColor* ledsColors array containing colors for each LED.

Returns: boolean value. True if successful. Use *CorsairGetLastError()* to check the reason of failure. If there is no such ledld present in currently connected hardware (missing key in physical keyboard layout, or trying to control mouse while it's disconnected) then function completes successfully and returns true.

- CE_ServerNotFound, CE_NoControl, CE_ProtocolHandshakeMissing
- *CE_InvalidArguments* if some of r, g, b values are beyond [0..255] interval or array contains duplicates of some led ids.



bool CorsairSetLedsColorsAsync(int size, CorsairLedColor* ledsColors, void(*CallbackType)(void*, bool, CorsairError), void *context)

Description: same as *CorsairSetLedsColors* but returns control to the caller immediately.

Input arguments:

- int size number of leds in ledsColors array;
- CorsairLedColor* ledsColors array containing colors for each LED;
- void (*CallbackType)(void* context, bool result, CorsairError error) callback that is called by SDK when colors are set. Can be NULL if client is not interested in result:
 - context contains value that was supplied by user in CorsairSetLedsColorsAsync call;
 - result is true if call was successful, otherwise false;
 - error contains error code if call was not successful (result==false);

Possible errors: CE_ServerNotFound, CE_NoControl

void* context - arbitrary context that will be returned in callback call.
 Can be NULL.

Returns: boolean value. True if successful. Use *CorsairGetLastError()* to check the reason of failure.

- CE_ProtocolHandshakeMissing
- *CE_InvalidArguments* if some of r, g, b values are beyond [0..255] interval or array contains duplicates of some led ids.



int CorsairGetDeviceCount()

Description: returns number of connected Corsair devices. Returns not more than one device of each type (keyboard, mouse, headset) in case if there are multiple devices of the same type connected to the system. Use *CorsairGetDeviceInfo()* to get information about a certain device.

Input arguments: no.

Returns: integer value. -1 in case of error. [0..4] are possible values.

Possible errors:

CE_ServerNotFound, CE_ProtocolHandshakeMissing



CorsairDeviceInfo *CorsairGetDeviceInfo(int deviceIndex)

Description: returns information about a device based on provided index.

Input arguments:

 int deviceIndex - zero-based index of device. Should be strictly less than a value returned by CorsairGetDeviceInfo()

Returns: pointer to *CorsairDeviceInfo* structure that contains information about device or *NULL* pointer if error has occurred.

- CE_ServerNotFound,CE_ProtocolHandshakeMissing
- **CE_InvalidArguments** if **deviceIndex** is invalid.



CorsairLedPositions *CorsairGetLedPositions()

Description: provides list of keyboard LEDs with their physical positions.

Input arguments: no.

Returns: returns pointer to *CorsairLedPositions* struct or *NULL* if error has occurred.

Possible errors:

• CE_ServerNotFound, CE_ProtocolHandshakeMissing



CorsairLedPositions *CorsairGetLedPositionsByDeviceIndex()

Description: provides list of keyboard or mousemat LEDs with their physical positions.

Input arguments:

 int deviceIndex - zero-based index of device. Should be strictly less than a value returned by CorsairGetDeviceCount()

Returns: returns pointer to *CorsairLedPositions* struct or *NULL* if error has occurred.

- CE_ServerNotFound,
- CE_ProtocolHandshakeMissing
- CE_InvalidArguments if deviceIndex is out of bonds or corresponds to neither keyboard nor mousemat device;
- *CE_IncompatibleProtocol* if the function was called for SDK that implements protocol version 2 or earlier.



CorsairLedId CorsairGetLedIdForKeyName(char keyName)

Description: retrieves led id for key name taking logical layout into account. So on AZERTY keyboards if user calls *CorsairGetLedIdForKeyName('A')* he gets *CLK_Q*. This id can be used in *CorsairSetLedsColors* function.

Input arguments:

• *char keyName* - key name. ['A'..'Z'] (26 values) are valid values.

Returns: proper *CorsairLedId* or *CorserLed_Invalid* if error occurred.

- CE_ServerNotFound, CE_ProtocolHandshakeMissing
- *CE_InvalidArguments* if *keyName* is invalid.



bool CorsairRequestControl(CorsairAccessMode accessMode)

Description: requests control using specified access mode. By default client has shared control over lighting so there is no need to call **CorsairRequestControl()** unless a client requires exclusive control.

Input arguments:

CorsairAccessMode accessMode - requested accessMode

Returns: boolean value. Returns true if SDK received requested control or false otherwise.

- CE_ProtocolHandshakeMissing, CE_ServerNotFound
- CE_InvalidArguments if provided accessMode is not supported by this version of SDK.



bool CorsairReleaseControl(CorsairAccessMode accessMode)

Description: releases previously requested control for specified access mode.

Input arguments:

 CorsairAccessMode accessMode - accessMode that is requested to be released.

Returns: boolean value. Returns true if SDK released control or false otherwise.

- CE_ProtocolHandshakeMissing, CE_ServerNotFound
- CE_InvalidArguments if provided accessMode is not supported by this version of SDK.
- *CE_IncompatibleProtocol* if the function was called for SDK that implements protocol version 1 or earlier.



CorsairProtocolDetails CorsairPerformProtocolHandshake()

Description: checks file and protocol version of CUE to understand which of SDK functions can be used with this version of CUE.

Input arguments: no.

Returns: CorsairProtocolDetails struct.

Possible errors:

■ CE_ServerNotFound



CorsairError CorsairGetLastError()

Description: returns last error that occurred in this thread while using any of Corsair* functions.

Input arguments: no.

Returns: *CorsairError* value.

Possible errors: no.



enum CorsairLedId

Description: contains shared list of all leds on all devices (kb, mouse, hs, mouse mat) and all models/physical layouts.

Item samples:

- CLK_F1, CLK_Esc, CLK_Q, CLK_1, CLK_UpArrow, CLK_G1, ... for keyboard leds;
- *CLM_1, CLM_2,..., CLM_4* for mouse leds;
- CLH_LeftLogo, CLH_RightLogo for headset leds;
- CLMM_1, CLMM_2,..., CLMM_15 for mousemat leds;
- *CLI_Invalid* dummy value.



enum CorsairDeviceType

Description: contains list of available device types.

- CDT_Keyboard for keyboards;
- CDT_Mouse for mice;
- CDT_Headset for headsets;
- *CDT_Mousemat* for mouse mat.



enum CorsairPhysicalLayout

Description: contains list of available physical layouts for keyboards.

- CPL_US, CPL_UK, CPL_JP, CPL_KR, CPL_BR valid values for keyboard;
- CPL_Zones1, CPL_Zones2, CPL_Zones3, CPL_Zones4 valid values for mouse, number represents configurable mouse LEDs;
- CPL_Invalid dummy value.



enum CorsairLogicalLayout

Description: contains list of available logical layouts for keyboards.

- CLL_US_Int, CLL_NA, CLL_EU, CLL_UK, CLL_BE, CLL_BR, CLL_CH, CLL_CN, CLL_DE, CLL_ES, CLL_FR, CLL_IT, CLL_ND, CLL_RU4, CLL_JP, CLL_KR, CLL_TW, CLL_MEX - valid values;
- *CLL_Invalid* dummy value.



enum CorsairDeviceCaps

Description: contains list of device capabilities. First version of SDK only supports lighting, but future versions may also support other capabilities.

- CDC_None == 0 for devices that do not support any SDK functions;
- *CDC_Lighting* == 1 for devices that has controlled lighting.



enum CorsairAccessMode

Description: contains list of available SDK access modes.

Items:

• CAM_ExclusiveLightingControl



enum CorsairError

Description: contains shared list of all errors that could happen during calling of Corsair* functions.

- CE_Success If previously called function was completed successfully;
- CE_ServerNotFound if CUE is not running or was shut down or third-party control is disabled in CUE settings (runtime error);
- CE_NoControl if some other client has or took over exclusive control (runtime error);
- CE_ProtocolHandshakeMissing if developer did not perform protocol handshake (developer error);
- CE_IncompatibleProtocol if developer is calling the function that is not supported by the server (either protocol has been broken by server or client or the function is new and server is too old.
 Check CorsairProtocolDetails for details), (developer error);
- *CE_InvalidArguments* if developer supplied invalid arguments to the function (for specifics look at function descriptions), (developer error).



struct CorsairLedColor

Description: contains information about led and its color.

- CorsairLedId ledId identifier of LED to set;
- *int r* red brightness [0..255];
- *int g* green brightness [0..255];
- *int b* blue brightness [0..255].



struct CorsairDeviceInfo

Description: contains information about device.

- CorsairDeviceType type enum describing device type;
- const char *model null-terminated device model (like "K95RGB");
- CorsairPhysicalLayout physicalLayout enum describing physical layout of the keyboard or mouse. If device is neither keyboard nor mouse then value is CPL_Invalid
- CorsairLogicalLayout logicalLayout enum describing logical layout of the keyboard as set in CUE settings. If device is not keyboard then value is CLL_Invalid
- int capsMask mask that describes device capabilities, formed as logical "or" of CorsairDeviceCaps enum values;
- *int ledsCount* number of controllable LEDs on the device.



struct CorsairLedPositions

Description: contains number of leds and array with their positions.

- int numberOfLeds integer value. Number of elements in the following array;
- CorsairLedPosition* pLedPosition array of led positions.



struct CorsairLedPosition

Description: contains led id and position of led rectangle. Most of the keys are rectangular. In case if key is not rectangular (like Enter in ISO/UK layout) it returns the smallest rectangle that fully contains the key.

- CorsairLedId ledId identifier of led;
- double top, double left, double height, double width values in mm.



struct CorsairProtocolDetails

Description: contains information about SDK and CUE versions.

- const char *sdkVersion null-terminated string containing version of SDK (like "1.0.0.1"). Always contains valid value even if there was no CUE found;
- const char *serverVersion null-terminated string containing version of CUE (like "1.0.0.1") or NULL if CUE was not found;
- *int sdkProtocolVersion* integer number that specifies version of protocol that is implemented by current SDK. Numbering starts from 1. Always contains valid value even if there was no CUE found;
- int serverProtocolVersion integer number that specifies version of protocol that is implemented by CUE. Numbering starts from 1. If CUE was not found then this value will be 0;
- bool breakingChanges boolean value that specifies if there were breaking changes between version of protocol implemented by server and client.



Examples of how to use SDK

There are three usage **examples** in examples folder:

- color_pulse plays pulse effect on all available LEDs on connected devices using CorsairGetDeviceCount, CorsairGetDeviceInfo, CorsairGetLedPositions, CorsairSetLedsColorsAsync functions;
- progress shows how to implement basic progress bar with all keyboard LEDs using CorsairGetLedPositions, CorsairSetLedsColors functions;
- test_highlight gets word from user input and one by one highlights keys that correspond to every char of that word. This example describes sample usage of CorsairRequestControl, CorsairGetLedIdForKeyName, CorsairSetLedsColors functions.



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On-Line End User License Agreement

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