

MacPatch DA™3.0

from Beaverton Digital Systems ©1989

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Finally!! A great Bulk Dump Utility in a DA that really works!!! Are you tired of having to purchase multiple Librarian/Bulk Dump programs to keep up with your vast and changing array of musical equipment?? Do you wish you didn't have to quit your sequencing application just to send a bank of new sounds to your MIDI gear?? Not enough RAM to effectively use Multifinder with your sequencing program and that Bulk Dump/Librarian program?? Wish you could send literally ANY Sys-Ex MIDI file to your MIDI gear without having to look for a specialized program or format?? Well, Kids...This DA is for YOU!!!!

MacPatch DA 3.0 is a Bulk Dump Utility that will receive, and save MIDI System Exclusive Voice and Patch data from most ANY MIDI gear that can perform a Bulk Dump from it's front panel. MacPatch DA can send not only files created by MacPatch DA or MacPatch Universal Librarian (more on it later!), but can send Opcode and Passport formats as well!! In Version 3.0, you have the ability to send ANY file on your hard disk or floppy to your MIDI gear!!! This gives you the greatest flexibility yet created and it's all in a convenient Desk Accessory!!!

To use MacPatch DA, you must first copy it into your System using the Font/DA Mover, or open it with a utility such as Suitcase, or MasterJuggler. When MacPatch DA is selected from the Apple menu, a window will appear in the middle of the Mac screen. You will see 6 panel buttons, 2 scrollbars, and 4 radio buttons among the text. The left column of panel buttons are used to select the format of the sys. ex. file you wish to send to your MIDI gear. The right column includes a button to set the DA in a receive mode to await a sys. ex. dump from you MIDI gear, and a button to exit (or close) the DA. The uppermost horizontal scrollbar will let you select the MIDI channel to receive on. The other scrollbar allows you to vary the speed of the data transfer. The radio buttons give choices for serial port selection, and MIDI/ Non-MIDI programs (See below).

Selecting the "Send Data File" will open a standard file selection box in which you can open files that are MacPatch DA and MacPatch Universal Librarian formats. (Note: The MacPatch DA saves sys. ex. data in files with a "DATA" file type. The MacPatch Universal Librarian can save in the "DATA" file type (Auto-Receive Bulk/Receive Bulk) or it saves in particular file types when particular synths are selected.-i.e. When DX7 is selected as the instrument and receive is selected, MacPatch Universal Librarian will save the info in a file with the file type-"MPD7". This file type can also be read by Opcode programs!!). Select a file(or bank) to send to your MIDI gear by double-clicking on the selection or by clicking the "Open" button. The other buttons should be self-explanatory.

Selecting the "Send Passport File" button will allow you to send sys. ex. files saved in Passport's format. Select a file and send it as described above.

Selecting the "Send Opcode File" will allow you to send files saved in Opcode's Bulk Dump format. Again, select a file and send it as above.

The "Send Any File" button allows you the ability to send ANY file on the hard disk or floppy to your MIDI gear. ALL the applications, files, invisible files, and Desktop file can be seen and selected one at a time.

Though it would be useless to send say...the Desktop file, for example...

this feature let's you open any other sys. ex. files created with a different file type than those already discussed. A great example is the ability of

MacPatch DA to open and send files created by Jambox Saver, an application that requests and saves Southworth's Jambox MIDI interface

setups to disk. Thus, you don't have to quit your sequencing program to setup the Jambox with new settings!!!

When you select the "Send Any File" button and a file to be sent, a small Dialog box will appear prompting you for Header information to add to the file being sent. This Header info. is SOMETIMES necessary to have your MIDI gear recognize the file being sent to it. It is my experience that 9 times out of 10, the default setting (0) can be used. Just hit the Return key and the file will be sent without Header information-just as it was saved. If you know that your MIDI gear needs certain Header information(via Manual?), it can be added in the small Dialog box easily. As soon as you hit the OK button, the file will be sent and you will see the "Attempting to send..." Dialog box. It will show you the amount of bytes being sent to your MIDI gear (just as the other "Send" procedures do).

The "Receive Data File" button is used when you want to save your MIDI gear sys. ex. to the Mac. (The sys. ex. information is saved in the "DATA" format, so the MacPatch DA and MacPatch Universal Librarian will have the ability to open and send the file later.) When you select the "Receive Data File" button, a small Dialog box will appear stating that the DA is attempting to receive sys. ex. info now. You would then push the Bulk Dump/Sys. Ex. command sequence or buttons on your MIDI device to send the data to the DA. (Most every piece of MIDI gear has a different set of commands to issue a bulk dump. Consult your manual(s) if you don't know the bulk dump commands for your MIDI gear.) The number of bytes received will be shown in the small Dialog box. When the dump is completed, the DA will then ask you to name and save the new "DATA"

file. If no sys. ex. info. is sent within 7-10 seconds to the awaiting DA, the small Dialog box will close automatically. (Note to Roland D-50 Users: MacPatch DA has a maximum buffer size of 32 kilobytes!!! The D-50 sends almost 35 kilobytes of info in it's bulk dump. Therefore, MacPatch won't be of much use to you...but Beaverton Digital Systems DOES make a D-50 Bulk Dump DA also!!! And the best part is....it's FREE, too!!! Just call BDS and request it and YOU SHALL RECEIVE!!!)

(A special note to everyone: BDS has other Bulk Dump DAs specifically aimed at certain synthesizer types such as DX7II, DX7, TX7, D-50, MT-32, etc. and they're ALL FREE!! Just contact BDS and simply ask for them. There may be certain shipping/disk charges involved, I'm sure!!?)

The MIDI Channel scrollbar selects which MIDI channel is to Receive the sys. ex. information from the MIDI gear. It is important to note that MacPatch DA does NOT rechannelize in the output (or send file modes). Many manufacturers have the the MIDI channel embedded or sent within the sys. ex. bulk dump that their products send thru MIDI. When MacPatch DA sends a bulk dump, THE MIDI CHANNEL IN WHICH THE DATA WAS RECEIVED IS THE MIDI CHANNEL THAT THE DATA WILL BE SENT OVER!!!

(MacPatch Universal Librarian DOES allow rechannelization, I believe. And Jambox owners can simply rechannelize in the interface!--The rechannelize setup can be saved as a Jambox Saver file, then MacPatch DA can send it to the Jambox!!)

The Output Delay scrollbar is used to speed up or delay the transfer, as many devices are different in respect to how much data they can process within a certain timeframe. I've found that the default of 15 works just fine with most MIDI devices.

The Modem/Printer radio buttons select the port that MacPatch DA will assign itself to. It will not assign to both ports at the same time.

The MIDI Program/Non-MIDI program radio buttons tell the DA if the serial ports are being used or not being used by an application. For instance, if you're using say... Performer (I have Ver. 3.1) and Jambox 4+ and select MacPatch DA from the Apple menu, before you send or receive you must make sure that the "MIDI Program" button is selected. This will give MacPatch DA TEMPORARY use of the serial port selected. When you close MacPatch DA, Performer will take over the serial port again with no problems. IF you had the "Non-MIDI Program" selected Performer will not work with the serial ports properly. You CAN fix the problem without rebooting Performer...You must select the Jambox DA from the Apple menu again (even if it's already on the menu) and then select Setup... from the Jambox menu. When the Dialog box appears, don't change anything just click OK. Performer will have use of the serial port(s) again. This, of course,

could be a problem seeded in the Jambox interface! I don't know...If anyone does know the answer, please leave me a message!!

That's about it for the "Operation Manual" section. There is a small redraw bug with the DA when you're using it with Multifinder. If you have the MacPatch DA selected or uppermost on the screen, then go to other applications, etc., when you come back to the DA layer, MacPatch DA will not have redrawn itself. You must click the close box in the upper left corner of the DA, and reselect it from the Apple menu and it will redraw itself as well as work properly. I'm sure John at BDS is working on the problem!!

If you find a bug in MacPatch DA or have questions, please contact Beaverton Digital Systems and NOT ME!! I am only a firm believer and user of the product, not the developer!! John at Beaverton asked me to upload this on his behalf and I agreed to write the Info. text for the many MIDI musicians who have been dying for a GOOD Universal format for Bulk Dump programs. I wouldn't mind hearing some feedback and comments about the DA and Universal Bulk Dump programs...{I do know that "Super Librarian" will be out soon and it will read it's file type across different computers (i.e. Mac to IBM to Atari to Yamaha C1 to Amiga). This has to be done using a TEXT format. The GREAT thing about MacPatch DA is that it already can do that!!! It can read ANY file type, and "Super Librarian" sys. ex. files INCLUDED!!!!(when S.L. is finally out!)}
John at BDS is giving this GREAT product for FREE!!!, guys and gals!! Please don't change anything and then distribute it among the masses as it is registered and licensed to Beaverton Digital Systems. Always include this Info. file with the MacPatch DA when distributing to other Mac-likes. All that John would like is for people to get to know his company and the great things they do!!! AND.... some of the new products BDS has come out with that will carry a reasonable price tag!! I'm going to list a couple of pieces and tell you about another GREAT service for us MIDI Hounds!

MacPatch Universal Librarian-The Mother application of this DA. It does MUCH more and is priced lower than the upcoming "Super Librarian".

JX10/MKS 70/JX8P Editor/Librarian-The Editor section emulates a PG800 Programmer with working faders and the Librarian section allows the user to create, copy and paste individual tones to create new patches, copy and paste patches to create new banks, instant patch previewing, and it reads Opcode formats, too.!!

LXP1/LXP5 Editor/Librarian-to be released soon.

M1/M1r/M3 Editor/Librarian-to be released soon.

Roland L/A Synthesis Editor/Librarian-for use with D-50, D-550, D-5,etc.-to be released soon.

And Many More to Come I'm Sure!!!

One more thing that John is doing soon is the reopening of his "MacMusic" BBS!!! This BBS is devoted to Patches and Sequences only!!! Patches and Sequences from every variety possible AND not only for MacHounds!!! He has duplicate patches and sequences for the IBM and Atari as well!!! I'll try and give notice on the MIDI forum and I'm sure there will be some kind of advertisement!!! Look for it soon!!!!

TO ANY OF YOU THAT MADE IT THIS FAR...CONGRADS!!! AND I THANK YOU
FOR PUTTING UP WITH MY LONG-WINDEDNESS!!!

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