TASCAM MX-8A

Control4 Driver by DOMAUDEO

Overview

This plug and play and bidirectional driver integrate most of the features provided by Tascam MX-8A Professional Matrix Mixer with DSP. It provides plug and play configuration that require no prerequisite on the mixer to mimic a standard Control4 audio matrix switch. It will work on any Control4 controller running OS 2.10.6 or later.

Limitations

- You cannot use the Tascam MX Connect app alongside this driver when using IP Connection (see Connections section for more detail). The Tascam EZ Connect app for End User is not affected and can always work.
- Volume Ramping is done through software and thus cannot be applied smoothly. Choppiness is to be expect if you use any of the volume ramping feature of Control4 (such as keypad button binding) with the Tascam Mixer. Direct volume control such as through the C4 app will work perfectly though.

Setup Procedure:

Mixer Mode:

First, choose which mode you want to use with your Tascam Mixer with Control4. The "Mixer Mode" property let you choose between "Audio Matrix" and "Mixer"

- **Audio Matrix** is Plug and Play mode, it will set the Tascam's Mixer Profile in a way to use the device as a plain Audio Matrix just like the Control4 audio matrix. The is the recommended option for people with no commercial audio knowledge or to keep things simple to manage.

- **Mixer** will not alter the Tascam Mixer Profiles and will use the device as configure with the Tascam MX Connect App. This is a more advanced mode that require some knowledge of the Tascam mixer and its management app. For more information on how to set up the Tascam mixer from the app, please read the documentation from Tascam.

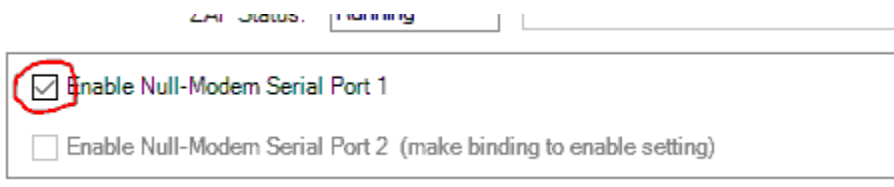There is no particular setting to do on the Tascam Mixer prior of being able to use this driver.

Connections:

The driver supports two connection mode:

- Serial (Recommended)
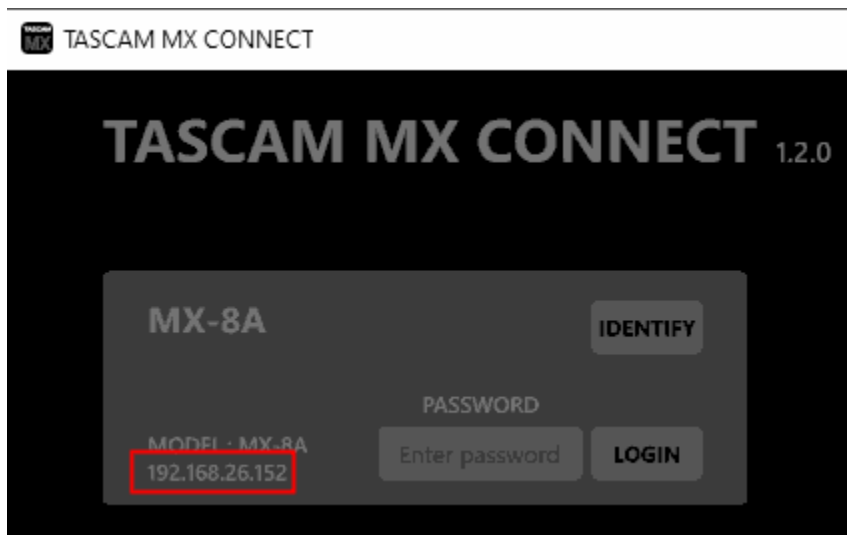- IP (Please read the limitation section)

Serial Connection:

For Serial connection, you need to use a **NULL-MODEM** cable or enable the Null-Modem option in the Controller settings in your project:

IP Connection:

If you plan to use IP, you can get the Mixer's IP Address using the Tascam MX Connect app on any platform:

Enter the IP Address in the property of the driver. We recommend using a **DHCP Reservation or Fixed IP** for better reliability as the driver does not implement any ways to survive DHCP IP Changes.

If you have Serial connected in the same time as IP, Serial will take priority.

Connection Keep Alive:

Enable this option is you want to maintain the IP connection to your Mixer. This will ensure instant feedback and full bidirectional communication but will prevent the use of the Tascam MX Connect app alongside Control4.

If you disable this option, the driver will still fully work and will reconnect automatically when a command is requested, but it might miss feedbacks of changes done over the Tascam MX Connect app.

The Tascam EZ Connect app for End User is NOT affected by this limitation so you leave the Connection Keep Alive option enabled if you use solely Control4 or alongside the Tascam EZ Connect app.
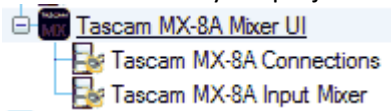
Other Settings Properties

Volume Ramping Step: Defines the size of volume level stepped when using the software volume ramping feature of this driver, mostly used when bound to a keypad using the "Start Raise Volume" command.

Polling Interval: Used mostly to maintain the IP Connection and monitor Serial Connection. Feedbacks are real-time and does not rely on polling.

Auto-Rename Zones: Use the bound room names and replicate it to the corresponding output in the mixer. If disabled, the driver will not change the input or output name in the mixer.

Usage Guidelines

The driver is used the same way as a traditional Control4 audio matrix but it presents two different Matrix devices in your project:

with a specific use for each:

- The "**Tascam MX-8A Connections**" if where all sources need to be bound. The rooms that will be bound to this device will be controlling the **OUTPUT** levels of the Tascam mixer. That is the more common way to use this driver.

- The "**Tascam MX-8A Input Mixer**" does not allow to connect source, it can only be bound to rooms and will control the **INPUT** levels of the Tascam mixer. This may be needed if you need to frequently adjust the sources input levels from Control4.

Advanced Options

More control options are presented as Programming Action in composer:

- Mixer Preset
- Input Level
- Input Mute
- Input Compressor
- Input EQ
- Input ALC
- Output EQ
- Output Limiter

Those actions correspond to the similarly name option in the Tascam Mixer, it serves most likely to turn on or of this particular feature. To gain access to more advanced parameter you will need to use the Tascam MX Connect app.