Release note

for the dac8 Stereo v1.6 firmware

Introduction

This document provides comprehensive information related to the v1.6 firmware update package for the dac8 Stereo, including a changelog and step-by-step installation guide.

The firmware numbering has been synchronized with our other product, the dac8 PRO. As a result, v1.6 follows v1.2.

If you are coming from a firmware version prior to v1.2, please update to v1.2 first by following steps in the [Release note for the dac8 Stereo v1.2 firmware](#).

Changelog

Bugfixes

- removed clicks during transitions between PCM, DSD and DoP
- resolved firmware hang-ups and clicks when switching between inputs

New functions

- SPDIF, Optical and AES/EBU inputs are now compatible with DSD over PCM. That means dac8 Stereo is able to receive signals from SACD players and other hardware that transmits DoP.
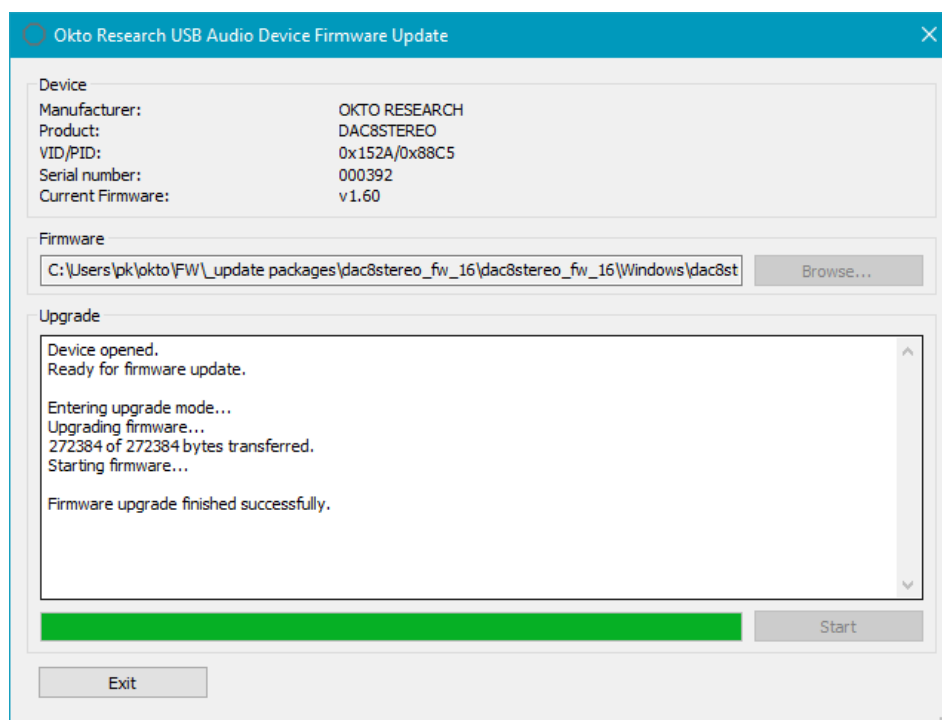
Update installation

Before starting, please ensure the dac8 Stereo is powered on, USB input is selected, and it is securely connected to your computer. Please note that all settings, including remote control codes, will be lost during the update process, and you will need to pair your remote again.
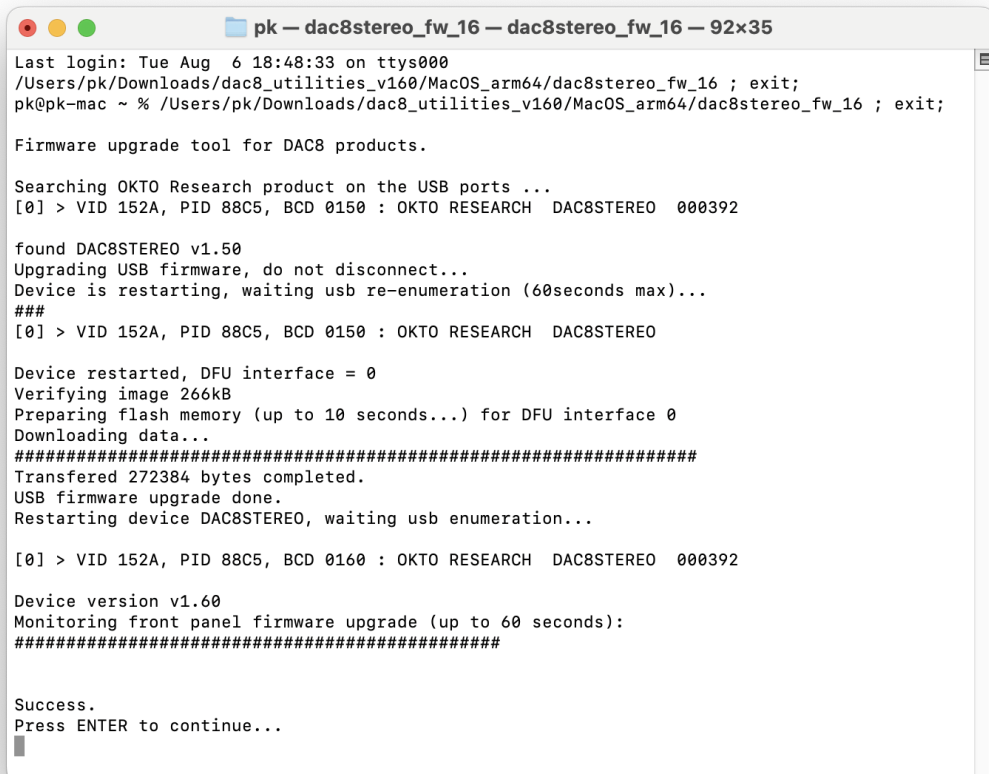
Windows

1) Download and install the v5.68.0 Okto Research ASIO driver if you haven't already
2) Download the update package from the following link: dac8stereo_fw_16 and extract the ZIP archive file
3) Open folder "dac8stereo_fw_16" and Run the Okto Research DFU utility
4) Press "Browse" and select the file "dac8stereo_fw_16_windows.bin".
5) Press "Start" and wait until the process finishes. After that, please wait one more minute for the front panel microcontroller to update. Once completed, you will be able to turn the unit on with the center dial.

MacOS

1) Download the update package from the following link: <u>dac8stereo_fw_16</u>
2) Extract the ZIP archive file and open folder "dac8stereo_fw_16"
3) Right click on the folder called "MacOS" and select "New Terminal at Folder"
4) Add permission to execute the update file by running command "chmod 755 ./dac8stereo_fw_16_macos_*version*", where *"version"* corresponds to your system architecture (x86_64 for older Intel-based hardware, arm64 for the new Apple silicon)
5) Close the terminal window, right-click on the file dac8stereo_fw_16_macos_*version* inside the MacOS folder, select "Open" and authorize the operation
6) Wait for the update process to finish. After that, please wait another minute for the front panel microcontroller to update. Once completed, you will be able to turn the unit on with the center dial.

```
● ● ●          📁 pk — dac8stereo_fw_16 — dac8stereo_fw_16 — 92×35

Last login: Tue Aug  6 18:48:33 on ttys000
/Users/pk/Downloads/dac8_utilities_v160/MacOS_arm64/dac8stereo_fw_16 ; exit;
pk@pk-mac ~ % /Users/pk/Downloads/dac8_utilities_v160/MacOS_arm64/dac8stereo_fw_16 ; exit;

Firmware upgrade tool for DAC8 products.

Searching OKTO Research product on the USB ports ...
[0] > VID 152A, PID 88C5, BCD 0150 : OKTO RESEARCH  DAC8STEREO  000392

found DAC8STEREO v1.50
Upgrading USB firmware, do not disconnect...
Device is restarting, waiting usb re-enumeration (60seconds max)...
###
[0] > VID 152A, PID 88C5, BCD 0150 : OKTO RESEARCH  DAC8STEREO

Device restarted, DFU interface = 0
Verifying image 266kB
Preparing flash memory (up to 10 seconds...) for DFU interface 0
Downloading data...
################################################################
Transfered 272384 bytes completed.
USB firmware upgrade done.
Restarting device DAC8STEREO, waiting usb enumeration...

[0] > VID 152A, PID 88C5, BCD 0160 : OKTO RESEARCH  DAC8STEREO  000392

Device version v1.60
Monitoring front panel firmware upgrade (up to 60 seconds):
#############################################

Success.
Press ENTER to continue...
```

Linux

The update package is available for arm32, arm64 and x86-64 architecture.

1) Download the firmware update package from dac8stereo_fw_16
2) Extract file "dac8stereo_fw_16_linux_*version*" to your home folder, where "*version*" corresponds to one of the three variants available for different platforms
3) Open terminal and install a generic USB library by running command "sudo apt-get install libusb-1.0-0-dev"
4) Run command "chmod 777 ./dac8stereo_fw_16_linux_*version*" into the terminal and run it to change permissions for the file
5) Run command "sudo ./dac8stereo_fw_16_linux_*version*"
6) Verify the successful completion by turning on the unit with a rotary control press, which should bring you to the updated main screen
7) Press and hold the rotary control to turn the unit off and then unplug it from mains for 5 or more seconds. After power cycling, the unit is ready for use.

Footnote

Please note that all settings, including remote control codes, will be lost during the update process, and you will need to pair your remote again.

We have made every effort to ensure the v1.6 firmware is free of bugs. If you encounter any issues, please contact us at info@oktoresearch.com.

Warning: If there is a loss of power or USB connection during the update process, your unit will revert to the original factory version of the firmware. If your unit came with a pre-1.2 version, you will need to update to v1.2 first in order to access newer firmware releases.