

## Welcome!

Greetings from Team ENCO! Well, users asked for it and you know how we like to do what users ask for... We're bringing back the *Letter From DAD* quarterly newsletter, designed to keep you informed about DAD and all things ENCO.

Something you may all be noticing now is that DAD is, well, DAD... We've moved from DAD486x to DADpro to DADpro32 and to just DAD. Nice simple name for a powerful, feature packed solution; "DAD". Fits well on a console button label too...

For those of you that have been around DAD for long enough, you're probably familiar with the DAD ReadMe file. It lives in several places – the latest online at: <ftp://ftp.enco.com/pub/win32/DAD.txt> and the one for your version of DAD in: `c:\dad\read.me\DAD.txt`. As stated right at the top of the file, these notes are intentionally vague. Why? To keep the file and entries short enough that you'll glance at it every now and then; just enough information to intrigue you to ask more about a particular enhancement or correction. I personally maintain this file as changes are made. It's a great way to see what we've done to DAD, even before a release is available. For the sites out there that like to experiment with new pre-releases, it's the way to know what's in the version being tested. It was intended to let you check to see if updating to a particular version is worth while for your site.

There are a few new enhancements worth making less vague.

DAD 5.1a does a lot of new things:

- We have added new fields in the database. These are well described in the DAD.txt readme but the really cool ones are: STARTDCL/STOPDCL and DEFTRANS. When a cut starts playing you now have the ability to run any one of 26 lettered command cuts (like E.cmd) or a cut specific command (12345.cmd). Similar functionality for when a cut stops playing. Similar to what GPO's do for an audio board starting or stopping. DEFTRANS adds the ability to control what transition code a cut gets when it's added to a playlist – regardless of automation defaults – very handy for jingles, liners, command cuts, etc.
- We have extended existing fields in the database. All those pesky 24 character fields (title, outcue, etc.) are now 60 characters. Plenty of room for all that metadata your users want. Don't ask where 24 characters came from...
- DAD is getting a new look. Legacy users say DAD looks fine just the way it is. New and potential users say it looks dated and too DOS-like. So we modernized the buttons and fields in Playback and Record machines. Based on your 5.1a comments we'll update the



other machines with a similar look. See page 2 for a peek!

- DAD is adopting a traffic light scheme for operating state. For years DAD was Red-Yellow based and we were reluctant to change for legacy reasons. Red indicated DAD was going to STOP, yellow meant DAD was in automation. With the addition of Live Assist, it really made more sense to fully utilize traffic light colors. RED still means DAD will STOP (i.e. autoLoad or MANUAL mode). Yellow means DAD is in Live Assist mode (primarily in AirPlay where a user may be controlling things). Green means DAD is in automation mode. And "no" there won't be a config option to make it run the old way.

I hope you enjoy browsing our *Letter from DAD*! More next time... Thank you for your support – thank you for your ideas. I'm always available at: [novacek@enco.com](mailto:novacek@enco.com) or via the ENCO Users List Server. See you online...  
Gene

## Introducing StreamLine

ENCO has partnered with Wicks Broadcast Solutions and Powergold to produce StreamLine®, an integrated system addressing all aspects of radio automation, music scheduling and traffic management. StreamLine combines Powergold® Music Scheduling and Wick's Visual Traffic® with DAD® to deliver a complete integrated radio management and automation solution.

StreamLine integrates DAD's Library/Playlist functions with Visual Traffic spot entry/log management and Powergold music scheduling/analysis simplifying workflow. Delivered

as a single integrated solution, StreamLine frees broadcasters from managing multiple discreet applications and interfaces, eliminating errors and synchronization issues. In many new markets, customers are seeking a single system that addresses all their scheduling and automation needs. StreamLine marries three best-in-class technologies in an integrated system to meet total needs without compromise. Customers that already use Visual Traffic or Powergold will benefit from these integration efforts in our next release of DAD. DAD customers considering adding or

# StreamLine



changing their music and traffic scheduling systems can contact ENCO Sales or our partners directly. Features and capabilities are described more fully on the StreamLine page of our website.

## Sneak Peek, DAD's New Look



In the coming weeks DAD will be getting a new modern look. Some users are already testing playback and record machines with the new design in pre-releases of DAD 5.1. The modern look makes not only an attractive and comfortable user interface, new Active-X controls allow for more intuitive operation. DAD's new look will be phased into Playback, Record, Arrays, AirPLAY, P\_Play, Lib, PLMod and others. Look for initial availability in Record and Playback machines in version 5.1a.

## What's New in DAD - Database

There's a lot new with DAD, but where to start? How about at the core of the system - the database. With version 5.0a, DAD now supports the optional usage of SQL as our database engine. You can use MySQL, MimerSQL or Microsoft SQL variants. Note that SQL is an option and is not required to use any existing, new or planned feature within DAD. There are many reasons why

SQL might make sense for your application, and several reasons why it might not. You should contact ENCO sales to discuss your specifics. Also new is Multiple Libraries, giving you a virtually infinite number of 100,000 cut libraries all available and accessible from within DAD. This option can work with SQL but does not require SQL and it supports removable

media such as DVD-R and USB 2.0/IEEE-1394 portable hard drives. That makes it especially useful for seasonal music libraries or for use on remotes, either radio remotes or operations in remote TV production trucks. Contact the ENCO Sales team to discuss SQL or Multiple Library options for DAD.

## Navigating the ENCO WEB Site

About a year ago we began revamping our WEB site to provide better access and information on the internet. Our site now hosts over 900 pages of ENCO and DAD materials covering all product literature, documentation, downloads, technical data and more. There are also links to other useful material and sites. We currently experience over 300 unique visitors and 700 page loads daily. Two of our most popular pages are the "Support" and "Download" pages reachable from the main navigation menu on any page. The "Support" page provides telephone contact and availability as well as "quick links" to popular "how to" information such as implementing time changes, GPI interfacing, sound card support and many others. Here you will find access to the User List Server that is an excellent "knowledge base" of technical items and user experiences. This is a good starting point for trying to do something with DAD that you have not tried before or perhaps have not done in a while. Links are also provided to ENCO's list server where you will find a very active on-line forum and

discussion board for everything related to DAD. If you are looking for the latest software updates, manuals, drivers or utilities, the "Download" page is where you will find it. The "Download" Page generally points to ENCO's ftp site, but provides an easy access point where our latest releases are clearly identified and easy to get. Documentation is available in a variety of formats. If you are looking to contact someone directly, "Contact Us" should be your target. The "meet the staff" link will give you email access to any ENCO staff member. The "Product" and "DAD Options" sections provide links to product literature in PDF format. There are also a couple of links to a "help guide" for new users, particularly those in Public Radio moving to ContentDepot. This can be reached from the "Product" page "take a tour" link (under DAD for ContentDepot) or on the "Support" page in Quick Links. Our entire site is indexed and



searchable from the "Home" page and the "Support" page. This is useful when searching for technical information that may be somewhere in the manuals or tech notes.

As always, we continue to look for better ways to serve you, our customer. Your comments and suggestions for improving our WEB site are welcomed either directly to [price@enco.com](mailto:price@enco.com) or via the comment links on our "Contact Us" and "Support" pages. Thanks for visiting!

## New Product - PADapult

Recently, you might have seen some press blurbs about PADapult, our new data tool for HD Radio, the web and RDS. PADapult not only handles the now playing metadata from the automation system automatically sending that data to your HD Radio Importer, web site or RDS encoder, it also allows you to insert real-time messages into the data stream on the fly. You

can think of PADapult as Instant Messenger for HD Radio. PADapult lets you choose which messages go to which destinations (up to six different destinations available), allowing you to send one type of message to your web site and HD Radio, but not to RDS, or any combination thereof. Station ID and slogans can be predefined and selected from drop down

menus to make operating PADapult fast and easy. We believe that the future of radio lies in better serving listeners in as many different ways as possible. PADapult lets you leverage your investment in digital radio, the internet and RDS to provide even more ways to interact with, and serve your audience...and that's a positive message!

## News from ENCO UK



ENCO welcomes Grant Francis (left) and Marc Phillips (right) to the ENCO UK team. With increasing worldwide demand for DAD systems, ENCO's UK office is growing to meet European support and sales needs. Grant has a background in presenting and audio production and as such has a good knowledge of ENCO's range of broadcast solutions both as a user and engineer and joins our team as Client Liaison Manager. Marc, with 12 years experience in commercial radio and media, has taken on the role of Head of Sales & Marketing (UK) to spread the word about ENCO's range of Digital Audio Delivery (DAD) systems for radio and TV.

## Omnia users now get the "right" sound automatically with CAP

Getting the right on-air sound quality has been a challenge, compromise and art-form for years. Omnia audio processors provide program directors a great deal of flexibility to achieve desired sound quality. However, radio is constantly dealing with processed audio that can vary greatly based on style, age, compression or genre. Even with powerful audio processors like Omnia, the processor settings are often, at best, a compromise to produce a good average result given all the variables. With DAD's Content Adaptive Processing option, CAP, variations can now be accounted for in an automated fashion, producing a more

consistent listening experience. CAP enables program directors to automatically adjust their Omnia audio processor settings to match program needs. Audio processing characteristics can be grouped in DAD's library so that when a particular class of music, voice track, commercial or other classification appears in the on-air play list, pre-sets are made in real-time to Omnia processor settings. CAP allows program directors to match their audio processing automatically, without manual intervention, ensuring the consistent desired sound for their programming. CAP eliminates compromises to audio quality introduced

by accepting a single audio processor setting across an entire broadcast of varied content. The processor can even be automatically returned to the appropriate state when automation is not running during voice sessions or other manual operations. For more information on CAP contact ENCO Sales.

## Visit us at NAB 2006 ! Booth N-617

Email [sales@enco.com](mailto:sales@enco.com) for free Exhibit Passes

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