

Background on Studio Connections Initiative



"Studio Connections" Development Alliance

Steinberg and Yamaha Corporation continue a long standing relationship by announcing a new strategic alliance to develop integrated solutions for all levels of the music and media production market. The goal of the Studio Connections project is to enable the strengths of both hardware and software to be seamlessly combined to produce powerful, flexible and highly efficient audio production systems.

First implementation stage of the Studio Connections open standard is the integration and support of Yamaha's Studio Manager and Total Recall for compatible hardware devices. Future implementation stages will include audio integration and parameter automation. Studio Connections is designed to be an open standard. Other manufacturers already expressed their interest in the format. A preliminary software development kit is currently available from Steinberg and Yamaha.

Questions	Answers
What is Studio Connections?	STUDIO CONNECTIONS is the name of an initiative that is lead by Steinberg and Yamaha. The initiative intends to create industry standards for totally integrated system environments using software and hardware products.
What I can do with Recall solution	You can save and recall all settings of your hardware products and software products by opening one integrated file in a DAW such as Cubase or Nuendo. Also you will have instant and organized access to hardware editors.
What is the plan after Recall?	STUDIO CONNECTIONS Initiative has already started the planning and technical investigation of the next solution.
What is the difference between OPT and VST	OPT is an interface technology between host applications and hardware editors and transmits mainly communication data like MIDI. VST is an audio/communication protocol between host applications and audio effect Plugins /virtual instruments software, and transmits/ receives both audio and communication data.
How does this differ from OPT from Yamaha, which also aims to integrate software and hardware?	In the Recall solution, some functions of OPT have been adopted to create OPT2. Also, a guideline of user interface design has been defined to ensure compatibility of user interface by DAW applications. And very importantly, the Recall solution is fully cross-platform, supporting Mac OS X as well as Windows 2000/XP.
How does mLAN fit into this system?	mLAN technology is utilized alongside Recall as a separate, but complimentary technology. For example, MIDI command communications will be handled via mLAN with products like 01X. Also audio interfacing/networking is an important part of the studio system, although again, it is a separate technology.
What markets does Studio Connections target?	Wide range of Music/Audio production market as well as the post-production market.
What is the relationship between Yamaha and Steinberg?	Steinberg and Yamaha have a very close cooperative relationship. But neither company has an equity investment in the other.
When will Recall be released?	The second half of 2004 – time with the release of Cubase SX3
Which Yamaha products will be supported as Recall?	At the beginning of the Recall solution products like DM2000v2, 02R96v2, DM1000, 01V96, 01X, Motif ES and SPX2000 are supported. Several products will follow.
What Operating Systems are supported?	Windows 2000, XP, Mac OSX
Are firmware updates required to support Recall?	In some cases, firmware updates for hardware products may be required. We do not intend to charge for firmware updates specifically to support the Recall functions. However, customers will need to own the latest current version of firmware for some products. For example, DM2000/02R96 owners will need to have V2 firmware in order to receive any free updates related to Recall.
When will the SDK opened?	After completion and verification of the system solution, and completion of documentation work, the STUDIO CONNECTIONS initiative will make the technical information available to the industry. Targeting to release this information before the end of this year.