



MIDI Bridge - dLive

Quick reference — controls & first-run setup

A menu bar app keeping a permanent two-way link between your DAW and the dLive: it creates the “dLive Bridge” virtual MIDI ports and shuttles everything to the console over the network (MIDI over TCP).

Menu bar disc

Click	Show / hide the control panel.
Right-click	Show MIDI Monitor, Reload MIDI Monitor, or Quit (Quit is also in the panel footer).
Disc colour	Grey outline = stopped · Red = no connection · Amber, breathing = connecting · Green = connected · Cyan flash = MIDI flowing · Amber ! = error (click the status tile to open the log).

First-run setup

Console IP / Port	The MixRack’s address. Port defaults to 51325 (dLive MIDI over TCP).
Base MIDI Channel	Must match Utility → Control → MIDI on the console.
Your DAW	Restart your DAW after the bridge’s first start so “dLive Bridge” appears in its MIDI output list.

Options

Auto-reconnect	On: after a drop the bridge retries hard for 30 s, then every 30 s. Off: it stays red until you click Restart Bridge.
Verbose logging	Writes every MIDI message with raw bytes to the log. Debugging only — the log grows quickly.
Start at login	Launches the bridge with the Mac (default on).
Option key (held)	Reveals “Edit config file...” for advanced settings.

MIDI monitor

Panel peek	The last 5 MIDI events, live, under MIDI ACTIVITY.
Show MIDI Monitor...	The full stream: filter by direction, type or source, search, pause, click a row for raw bytes. Open it from the panel, or by right-clicking the menu bar disc.
Finding the window again	While the monitor is open the app appears in the Dock and in Cmd-Tab, and the window is listed in the Window menu. It follows you to whichever desktop Space you are on, and keeps its log when you reopen it.
Source labels	Every row is tagged with where it came from — your DAW, the console’s surface, the bridge’s own housekeeping, or a connected app by name (e.g. “Pilot Tone Trigger”). Use the source menu to watch one at a time.
Actions	Outgoing Control Changes on the base channel are shown as probable console Actions. Which Action a CC triggers is bound on the console, so the bridge flags the intent, not the name.
Simple / Advanced view	The monitor hides low-level protocol scaffolding by default; switch to Advanced to see everything on the wire — fader pings, heartbeat probes, NRPN address messages — for deep debugging.
The two dots	“bridge” = link to the bridge app; “console” = the bridge’s link to the desk — only the second means you reach the console.



Sharing the console

One link, many apps	Other software can reach the desk through the bridge instead of opening its own connection to the console. Talk Light Trigger, Pilot Tone Trigger and Console Control do this automatically when pointed at the “dLive Bridge” port, and Bitfocus Companion can connect to the bridge too.
Why it helps	One link to the console instead of several, and each app’s traffic is labelled by name in the monitor, so you can see exactly what sent what.
dLive Bridge Return	Console activity is passed back to your DAW on this second port. The bridge’s own background housekeeping is not, so it no longer clutters what your DAW receives.

Running it

Start / Stop / Restart	Controls the bridge process. After changing a connection setting, click Restart Bridge to apply it.
Status tile	Mirrors the menu bar disc, plus host, last activity and msg/s.

Important — if the bridge sits at “Connecting...” while the desk is reachable, another controller may be holding the console’s MIDI-over-TCP port. Quit the A&H MIDI Driver (or other control software) and click Restart Bridge.

Bitfocus Companion

Loopback only, port 8770, nothing to set up on this side — add MIDI Bridge in the dylanmaudio Companion module.

What it controls	Start, stop and restart the bridge, and Auto-reconnect — as Companion buttons, with the menu bar disc’s state, MIDI activity, message rate and any error shown back on them. Every dLive function (faders, mutes, scenes...) still goes through the bridge’s console connection, as under “Sharing the console”.
Allow Companion control	On by default. Off refuses every Companion press; Companion can still show why.
Lock show-critical controls	Off by default. On refuses stopping and restarting the bridge from Companion — starting it and Auto-reconnect are never locked.
Auto-reconnect	A change from Companion is saved at once and applies the next time the bridge starts, exactly like the checkbox in the panel.

Log files

Where they live	All in <code>~/Library/Logs/dylanmaudio/MIDI Bridge/</code> , the folder every dylanmaudio app logs to — in Finder, hold Option, open the Go menu and choose Library, then Logs. Or skip the folder: Export log in the panel footer drops a copy on your Desktop.
dlive-bridge.log	What the bridge is doing: connections, reconnects, errors. This is the one “Open Log” shows you, and the one to send if something goes wrong.
dlive-midi.jsonl	Every MIDI message, one line each, for detailed diagnosis. Off by default — turn on midi_log in the config file (hold Option in the panel to reveal “Edit config file...”). It grows quickly.
Managing it	The MIDI Monitor’s footer shows its size, with Save a copy and Clear log file beside it — no need to go looking for the file. A saved copy lands in the same folder, stamped with the date and time.
Rotation	The MIDI log renames itself to .jsonl.1 at 100 MB and starts fresh, and any previous .jsonl.1 is discarded at that point. Save a copy first if you need to keep a capture.



What's new in v1.1.9

- Tidier popover: the Bitfocus Companion settings and the on-screen hints now sit behind disclosures, closed by default (a green dot on the Companion header shows when Companion is connected); the trademark notice at the bottom has gone — it's in the Quick Reference and the licence. Companion can now also bring the app's window forward.
- New: other software can now share MIDI Bridge's connection to the console instead of opening its own — built for Bitfocus Companion and the other dylanmaudio apps. Connected software gets a live picture of the console, kept up to date from what the console itself broadcasts, and can recall scenes, fire Actions, and set faders, mutes, names, colours and aux, FX and matrix send levels, including timed fader moves. Companion can also start, stop and restart the bridge itself and show its status, and two new switches in the app turn that off or lock the show-critical controls.
- Fixed: fader moves made on the console now reach MIDI Bridge in full. The console sends most of each fader message in a compact form the bridge had been throwing away, so the MIDI Monitor, connected software and the "dLive Bridge Return" port could see that a fader had moved, but never where it moved to. Your DAW now receives the whole move through the Return port.
- New installer: MIDI Bridge now installs into a "dylanmaudio" folder inside Applications, alongside the other dylanmaudio apps. The download is an installer you double-click, and it moves your existing copy for you.
- The MIDI Monitor now shows which program each message came from, with a colour for each and a filter to show one at a time. It keeps its log when you reopen it, shows recent activity when you open it mid-show, follows you to the desktop Space you are on, and appears in the Dock and Cmd-Tab while it is open. You can also save or clear the MIDI log from inside it.
- New: every session writes a log, and an Export log button saves a copy to your Desktop — so if something goes wrong at a show, there is something to send. The footer also links to the Quick Reference guide and lets you send feedback from inside the app.