
Midicommand community

Posted by Alex Hasten - 2012/05/21 04:15

Is there any midicommand community left?

I have written some midicommand firmware similar to the schwarzonator, that i wanted to share. Are still ppl using the midicommand, who would be interested?

Is manuel ill or something? He doesn't answers to emails, the forum for the midicommand is down. It's a pity, the midicommand has a very good potential in my opinion.

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by jdn - 2012/05/21 04:33

I'm interested. :)

I was actually thinking about writing some MiniCommand firmwares myself too.

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Alex Hasten - 2012/05/21 05:56

is there still any platform for uploading the firmware, so that other could download them?

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Alex Hasten - 2012/05/21 06:01

btw: unfortunately, the MIDI-CTRL Framework only works under windows xp + macos. windows 7 isn't supported yet. i tried to make it work for windows 7, but i couldn't figure out how to compile the sources. if somebody knows more, i would appreciate some additional information.

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Rusty - 2012/05/21 06:53

Alex Hasten wrote:

Is there any midicommand community left?

I believe it is basically dead/non existent. There is some users here, like Tyrone who is awesome, but all in all, seems to be pretty much a ghost town.

Alex Hasten wrote:

I have written some midicommand firmware similar to the schwarzonator, that i wanted to share. Are still ppl using the midicommand, who would be interested?

I would. You could uploaded them here in the 'Files' / Sandbox section?

Alex Hasten wrote:

Is manuel ill or something? He doesn't answers to emails, the forum for the midicommand is down. It's a pity, the midicommand has a very good potential in my opinion.

Not sure if ill or anything. I got a response to a query months ago. I think, but don't know, that the project is probably just dead as far as R&W are concerned.

jdn wrote:

I'm interested. :)

I was actually thinking about writing some MiniCommand firmwares myself too.

I've been trying... but it is hard. There is little/poor/disorganised documentation and zero support from R&W. So it is frustrating to say the least.

I would be prepared to put in some effort for a collaborative learning / documentation / wiki / knowledgebase if others would be as well.

Alex Hasten wrote:

is there still any platform for uploading the firmware, so that others could download them?

Nothing dedicated. Upload them here?

Maybe someone could setup a small forum, or one of the Mods could dedicate an area for it here?

Alex Hasten wrote:

btw: unfortunately, the MIDI-CTRL Framework only works under windows xp + macos. windows 7 isn't supported yet. i tried to make it work for windows 7, but i couldn't figure out how to compile the sources. if somebody knows more, i would appreciate some additional information.

It works ok for me on Windows 7? (I think?) I can run it, write firmwares, compile etc. But I do transfer to a Mac for actually uploading to the MiniCommand.

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Tyrone - 2012/05/21 09:35

^^ +1 - cheers Rusty... :-)

Hi Alex,

I'd be very keen to check out your firmware! I uploaded my Octatrack live firmware to the files section of this forum a while back, in the absence of the official R&W forums (RIP) this seemed like the best place for it...

The last time I managed to speak to Manuel on email was probably back at the start of the year about a bug in the MNM Live firmware ("WRONG CHECK" message displays when the MC tries to parse the MNM kit). He built a new version of the MIDI-CTRL framework - 0018. I have used this to recompile & flash the MNM Live firmware but haven't investigated it much further. It seemed like some things were refactored, and some of my old firmwares didn't compile straight away - I didn't feel like embarking on a mission to update all my old code... anyway the link is here if anyone is interested - OSX only though

<https://github.com/downloads/wesen/mididuino/MidiCtrl-0018.dmg.gz>

I think Rusty has summed it up well. It would be good to try and keep some sort of MC dev community going here if we can... I have a few more firmwares at home that I have been meaning to upload, if others have stuff to share...

Re: doco / wiki - a good idea, this is also one of my biggest gripes of the framework in its current state... so much stuff is poorly or not documented at all... in an ideal world maybe it would be best if the Midi-Ctrl wiki / doxygen was a bit more open or allowed users to "fill in the blanks"? it would be good to keep as much as possible in one location. but probably slim to no chance of this happening until manuel comes out of hibernation? at very least if there are a few threads here that people can search on then that would be a start..

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by papertiger - 2012/05/21 11:16

Manuel is ok. The silence is due to an extended hiatus away from the Midicommand project. The project is not dead - hibernation is probably a good word. For now, just assume you're on your own for a good while.

M

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by papertiger - 2012/05/21 11:21

Rusty wrote:

Maybe someone could setup a small forum, or one of the Mods could dedicate an area for it here?

You're better off starting something up outside of elektron-users. We were not adding any new functionality until the launch of Elektronauts, but given recent events, it's uncertain when even that will happen.

M

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by dubathonic - 2012/05/21 23:10

I still use my MC regularly, but I don't code at all and I don't know how many users (other than you guys) know enough to develop firmwares. I stick with a few that I find useful and though I've imagined one I'd **really** like, I have done little more than conceive of it.

The last time I talked to Manuel was around New Year's, and he said he might have been a bit optimistic about how many users would be into learning/writing code.

FWIW, there seems to be enough demand for used MCs around here that many people at least want to try them out. So speaking as a non-elected representative for the code-ignorant MC users: We are humbly grateful for any and all efforts you guys make. :)

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by RodmanSan - 2012/05/22 02:56

I finally found the best monster firmware suiting me....and keep using my MC more and more...

Would love to share some more info etc. about this controller.

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Alex Hasten - 2012/05/22 03:21

unfortunately i get an error when uploading the firmware

Error uploading - Directory problem. Cannot move file.

nevertheless, the firmware can be downloaded under:

<http://www.alexhasten.de/tuneupv015.zip>

The firmware contains two pages, which can be switched with button 1. On the first page the transpose mechanism and the chord mechanism can be enabled or disabled, as well as the current key can be selected. On the second page different settings for the chord mechanism can be selected. One midi cable has to be connected with the 1th midi in port and another midi cable has to be connected to the midi out port. When chord mode is activated just play around with some single notes and see what chords are played. I will make some better version of the firmware the next days showing the current played chord.

the midi channel cc1 selects the type of chord played.

there are some minor bugs that only one note is allowed to be played by the user at any time and that you cannot play notes overlapping, the next firmware will allow you to play notes overlapping, but the first limitation will still remains.

i think i will make some different "use"-mode where cc1 select the root octave and the pitch of the notes played select the key and the chord type: c1: major c, c2: minor c, c3: major c7 etc.

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by machinea - 2012/05/22 08:07

Me too I'm rather in the same boat. I bought the MC thinking I would use it with my MD but sold that to get an octatrack so am very keen to participate in whatever anyone else is doing for the monomachine and octatrack.. though I'm def no coder by any means.

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Tyrone - 2012/05/22 10:39

Alex Hasten wrote:

nevertheless, the firmware can be downloaded under:

<http://www.alexhasten.de/tuneupv015.zip>

Awesome - looking forward to checking this out, thanks for sharing this :-)

I'll try and get around to uploading some more of my old firmware experiments this weekend, they might be of interest to someone out there.. that is if the site will let me upload

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Rusty - 2012/05/26 14:17

So... whats the plan?

Shall we look into setting up some kind of Wiki or something?

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by maass - 2012/05/26 17:07

I have a unused Domain, should i make a little Minicommand-Users Forum with a Files section out of it?

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Tyrone - 2012/05/26 17:18

Hey Rusty,

I'm keen to help out with content where i can but haven't got time to set up / admin a wiki...

I also would be wary of "reinventing the wheel", i think Manuel has made a good start with the Ruin Wesen redmine wiki, if you're really keen to get something going then maybe try to speak to him to see what his long term plans for the project are?

I did notice that the R&W site seems to be down at the moment, i hope this isn't the end for the minicommand, i sent manuel an email but not heard back from him yet..

in other news i've almost got my MNM Mono/Poly firmware up and running, will post it up when i get a chance :)

in other not so great news i think i might have broken a bone in my left wrist.. typing is fr1gging painful... :(

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Rusty - 2012/05/27 19:01

dubathonic wrote:

I still use my MC regularly, but I don't code at all and I don't know how many users (other than you guys) know enough to develop firmwares. I stick with a few that I find useful and though I've imagined one I'd *really* like, I have done little more than conceive of it.

Well... I'm no expert coder or anything, but like you, I've imagined one that I want, and thats what I'm trying to do :)

dubathonic wrote:

The last time I talked to Manuel was around New Year's, and he said he might have been a bit optimistic about how many users would be into learning/writing code.

I think it's not just how many user would be into learning/writing the code, I think part of it is the high cost of entry, knowledge wise, to be able to do so. Certainly imho, the existing doco/exmaples are a bit of a mess, so can feel a bit lost in the woods at times...

maass wrote:

I have a unused Domain, should i make a little Minicommand-Users Forum with a Files section out of it?

If you are up for it... but see below comments?

Tyrone wrote:

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Likewise. But I think group collabartion, more interested, the more knowledge can spread kind of thing.

Tyrone wrote:

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I did notice that the R&W site seems to be down at the moment, i hope this isn't the end for the minicommand, i sent manuel an email but not heard back from him yet..

Full agree on the "reinventing the wheel" comment, would be good to see/hear Manuels comments on the future of the MiniCommand and the redmine wiki etc. I'll flick him an email, and see if a response is forthcoming, but it hasn't previously, and based on what PaperTiger said, probably won't be.

I think (as we've discussed before) the hardest part is probably the high barrier to entry, certainly it has been for me, where not quite knowing where to start, how exactly to do things etc. (Frustrating thing for me is I can code exactly what I want to do, from a logical perspective in other languages, but struggling to translate that to the MiniCommand framework.

Tyrone wrote:

in other news i've almost got my MNM Mono/Poly firmware up and running, will post it up when i get a chance :)

That would be excellent. Always interested in what other peeps are doing.

I'm still stuck on getting it to recognise Program Change messages :blush:

Tyrone wrote:

in other not so great news i think i might have broken a bone in my left wrist.. typing is fr1gging painful... :(

Ah shit dude, that sucks. Hope you get better soon :)

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Tyrone - 2012/05/28 13:20

Rusty wrote:

dubathonic wrote:

I l've imagined one I'd *really* like, I have done little more than conceive of it.

Well... I'm no expert coder or anything, but like you, I've imagined one that I want, and thats what I'm trying to do :)

I was thinking of starting a Minicommand firmware ideas / request thread here in the "Other Gear" section... no guarantees that ideas will always be realised into actual firmwares as it would effectively be a "charity" based system, but if ppl have firmware ideas but not the tech skills to code it then this might increase the chance of something happening..

Rusty wrote:

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yeah I noticed yesterday that my MNM was no longer responding to program changes being sent from my OT. I've changed my config around and midi out from the OT is now going through the minicommand before getting to the MNM. I suspect that the minicommand might be filtering all of the program changes, even though i have merge settings to "All". or i might have just messed up my MNM config... but i doubt it... might need to investigate this further, it might be related to your issue...

I also have a version of my MNM mono/poly firmware ready to post, i'll try and get it up on the net when i can (the firewalls at work suck!)

=====

Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Rusty - 2012/05/28 14:25

Tyrone wrote:

Rusty wrote:

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Aw, shucks. Thats really nice/awesome of you.

I'd be happy to pitch in once skill sets got better.

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I'm going to try and have another look at it (mine) this week as well. See if I can figure anything out this time. Annoying as it compiles ok/no errors, jsut doesn't seem to work as wanted.

=====

Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Tyrone - 2012/05/28 15:52

Rusty wrote:

Tyrone wrote:

Rusty wrote:

dubathonic wrote:

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Rusty wrote:

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are you able to pass/echo a program change message through your minicommand to your target device? i suspect that it's probably just something that is still an undocumented "TODO" in the framework, i came across a few of those while figuring out the mono/poly firmware, like the notehandler object... it exists but all of the methods are empty...

=====

Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Tyrone - 2012/05/28 16:15

Tyrone wrote:

The last time I managed to speak to Manuel on email was probably back at the start of the year about a bug in the MNM Live firmware ("WRONG CHECK" message displays when the MC tries to parse the MNM kit). He built a new version of the MIDI-CTRL framework - 0018. I have used this to recompile & flash the MNM Live firmware but haven't investigated

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<https://github.com/downloads/wesen/mididuino/MidiCtrl-0018.dmg.gz>

BTW - just a word of warning... I encountered a few freaky bugs (encoder values jumping around) while trying to write my latest firmware using the above version of midi control ... so i'm gonna go back on my previous post and "unrecommend" it for use. i ended up tracking down the actual MNM kit bug fix and applying that directly to my midi-ctrl 0017 installation which worked better. I'll post details of the exact fix later...

Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Rusty - 2012/05/28 16:32

Tyrone wrote:

haha, just to set the expectation, I was in no way volunteering to take everyone's ideas and magically turn them into minicommand firmwares... :) it was more about setting something up where people could put ideas up, which might provide inspiration for developers, etc..

:laugh: I know that, but nice to offer your skills. As above, I'm up for helping when/where I can.

Tyrone wrote:

Rusty wrote:

I'm going to try and have another look at it (mine) this week as well. See if I can figure anything out this time. Annoying as it compiles ok/no errors, jsut doesn't seem to work as wanted.

are you able to pass/echo a program change message through your minicommand to your target device? i suspect that it's probably just something that is still an undocumented "TODO" in the framework, i came across a few of those while figuring out the mono/poly firmware, like the notehandler object... it exists but all of the methods are empty...

Good question... I'll test it tonight.

Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Tyrone - 2012/06/04 16:34

Minicommand ideas / request thread started here

Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Grinch - 2012/06/04 23:41

Really excited that there is still some life in the minicommand community. I just after a few months of not having it got my mini command back. Figures once I get it back that the forums and most of the documentation for the mc is gone due to manuel absence.

Im def willing to test new firmwares for both the MD(non-UW) and MnM, in addition if i can find some documentation I would def. be willing to work on some new firmwares. I haven't tried to code with mdi-ctrl yet but Im wiling to learn.

Hopefully tomorrow ill be able to check out some of the firmwares uploaded here.

Re:Midicommand community

Posted by LIVESEQ - 2012/06/06 21:07

This is great news.

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by LIVESEQ - 2012/06/12 07:33

Hi all.

I've been studying the code on <http://ruinwesen.com/support-files/doxygen/index.html>

Its very well organised and easy to follow. I think I'm getting more of an idea about how to achieve my ideas.

I can see how certain things have been done

I am starting to see how modifications could achieve what I want to do but I'm not totally sure.

My basic C++ knowledge is helping but its far from complete.

I'm quite pleased that my idea is relatively simple at the moment :laugh:

It seems to me that most sketches are simple and draw on the more complex classes. So creating classes is really where it's at right?

It would be great if someone could clarify any difference between uploading a sketch versus uploading a new class. If I can get that clear then writing a sketch to utilise my custom class would be the easy bit.

It wouldn't surprise me at this point if I was on the wrong path.

Anyone else working on code? It would be cool to have someone to bounce ideas off.

Joe

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by Tyrone - 2012/06/12 18:06

Hi joe, i dont think there is any real difference. A sketch is just a type of class. I think the key drivers are the complexity of the thing you're trying to create, how re-usable you want the end result to be. There is probably also a performance consideration, but this hasn't really bothered me much in the past. Some firmwares I've written are just a small sketch, others utilise their own custom classes etc etc. But generally I keep all my code separated from the framework code. as my c++ skills are also quite basic I tend to copy the design patterns of manuel's published firmwares, and then hack at it from there until it does what I had in mind :-)) but looking at manuels top level sketches they are all very simple and the bulk of the code is hidden under the hood in separate files. I keep my code files seperated to a certain degree but generally try to follow the same basic class structures and concepts so that I can create my own monster sketches. Hope this helps?

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Re:Midicommand community

Posted by LIVESEQ - 2012/06/12 22:58

Thanks yes that helps a lot. The structure is a lot clearer now. I wonder how long it will take me to create this thing.

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