Before Installation

OnTheAir Live is a playout application that is bundled with OnTheAir Node from Softron Media Services. It operates in tandem with OnTheAir Node and communicates with the playout server either locally or through your network. Among its features, OnTheAir Live offers A/B Roll playback capabilities. Before using OnTheAir Live you must first configure OnTheAir Node correctly and confirm that all video equipment and related hardware is ready for use. Install the latest drivers for your PCI card or cards from the manufacturer's website. Double check that all cables and hardware are installed correctly. Verify the settings of your card using the Preference pane or control application included with the hardware. Finally, check for   Mac software updates to ensure that you have the latest available Apple OS software.

Installation

1. Download the software from http://www.softron.tv to get the latest version of OnTheAirLive.
2. Perform the installation as instructed and place the OnTheAir Live Application in the Applications folder. Copy the Live application to any computer in your network where playout control is needed.
3. Open OnTheAir Live.

(Note: OnTheAir Live requires that OnTheAir Node be configured correctly to operate. You can download the Node Setup Guide at : http://www.softron.tv)

Once you open the OnTheAir Live application you will see two windows open automatically: The Media Browser and a Playlist.

The Media Browser will display all of the clips available for the selected node and the playlist will be an empty playlist. It is helpful to first look at your preferences to familiarize yourself with some key options.

Preferences

To access the Applications Preferences click on OnTheAir Live on the menu bar and scroll down to Preferences.

The Preferences window consists of three categories: General, Media Folders and Static IP.

General

In this section, you select the Node Servers that will be used. If you use A/B roll mode. you can select which Node Servers you will use for A/B Roll mode from the drop down list of options.

Below the Node settings are a series of check boxes: Chain by default, Loop by default, Cue by default, and AB roll. Depending on your workflow requirements, check off or on the options that best apply. These options will dictate the default behavior of every clip that is selected. The AB Roll function will <u>only</u> operate when at least two Nodes are available to OnTheAir Live.

Media Folders

The Media Folders section is used to set up the file paths for those instances where the media folders are located in a different IP network and require a specified file path. If the media folders are located on your LAN you will not need to use this feature. If you are connecting to the Node Server via Static IP addresses

you will have to contact your Network Administrator for correct access and file paths. To add a path simply press on the +, enter the desired Node, its Media Folder and the respective local path. The respective local path can be entered manually or found by pressing the choose button and locating the correct path.

Static IP

To connect the static IP address and to access the Node Server you must enter the static IP address and port number by checking the + button. It is best to contact the system administrator to know the correct setting.

Reset Media Database

Directly under the preferences under the OnTheAir Live menu is an an option called "Reset Media Database". Choosing this option will provide you the most current database of your clips and files for each specific node. This operation will also remove off line clips from your media browser and may take a few seconds to complete.

New From Node

By Choosing file> New From Node, the active playlist in the Node Servers Database will open. This playlist may be currently playing or idle.

Media Browser Window

The "Media Browser Window" opens automatically when OnTheAir Video starts.   It can also be opened using **Command-B.** This window has a drop down menu on the top left hand side that provides a list of available Node servers. The "**"Media Browser Window"**" is a list of clips catalogued on the servers designated Media Folders. The browser window also has several columns that can be sorted and viewed in hierarchical order by name, finder label, duration, date modified and clip info. Simply click on the name of the column to sort the clips according to your needs.
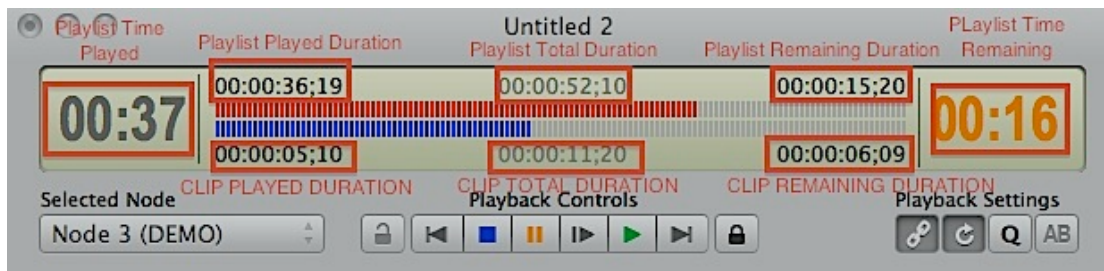
The media browser also allows the user to determine the status of an individual clip. If there is a problem with a clip the media browser will automatically gray-out the clip. To get more information about a clip or to learn why it cannot be played, move and hold your cursor over the clip . A message will appear providing details about the clip. If you press control and left click on your mouse you have the following options: Reveal In Finder, Create Off-Line Clip and Delete Off Line Clip. (Note: Please refer to the users manual for a full description and clarification of these options.)

On the top right hand side of the Media Folder a thumbnail of the selected clip is displayed.

Playlist Window

The "Playlist Window" is the key to operating OnTheAir Live. The application has two distinct playback modes: one is standard playback using a single Node server and the other is A/B Roll Playback using two Node servers simultaneously.
The playlist window contains a number of controls, playlist settings and playlist information. The various time indicators highlighted are accompanied with node selection, locking and unlocking controls, standard playback controls and the Playlist Playback Settings: Chain, Loop, Cue and AB Roll Mode.

Locking and Unlocking the Playlist
OnTheAir Node can only be controlled by one user at a time to gain access to the Node you must first unlock the node in the playlist and enter the password if a password is required.

Playback Verification
To verify clip playback follow these easy steps:
1. Select the Node you wish to use from your media browser.
2. Drag and drop a clip from your media browser into the playlist and select the matching Node in the playlist window on the top left hand side.
3. Put the playlist in loop mode by clicking on the loop symbol on the top right.
4. Press the play button or the space bar, your video should now be outputting.

Clip Inspector

By selecting a clip in your playlist and pressing **Command-I** on your keyboard, you invoke the clip inspector. The Clip Inspector can also be found under Window>Clip Inspector in your menu bar. The Clip Inspector allows you to change a clip's attributes, change its in and out points, resize the video, and it also provides you with detailed information about the selected clip.

Clips Attributes
The Clips Attributes define certain aspects of your clips' playout behavior. Using additional plug-ins and hardware connected to your system,   you can also control switches and GPI devices. Because of ongoing development of Live and Node you should periodically check our website for new versions and features added to the Clip Attributes section.

Built-In Attributes
"Built-In Attributes" allows you to adjust volume, set the clip end behavior, set the overlay logo and reverse the field order. Change attributes by selecting the corresponding checkbox and then selecting the desired preference.

(Note: setting an individual clip attribute will override the default presets in your preference settings for the specific clip but not all the clips on a playlist.)

In/Out Points
This tab allows you to preview the selected clip and set or clear in and out points.

Resize
Use this window to resize, reposition and change a specific clip from its default setting.

Info
This tab provides important information and specs of the clip.

(Note: By resizing or adjusting the in/out points of a clip in a playlist you are not modifying or changing the original media.)

A/B Roll Mode

OnTheAir Live in A/B Roll playback mode is for use in a dual channel configuration where it is essential to control, playback and cue two clips simultaneously. Useful in many broadcasting workflows, AB roll in conjunction with a video mixer allows optimal output control during live broadcasts.

Node Configuration for A/B Roll

To correctly configure a node for A/B roll you must first identify which two Nodes you will use. Each node will have its own media database. AB Roll will function with two Nodes that do not share the same clips but the optimal implementation of AB Roll mode would require that both Nodes share files in a Database to be used specifically for AB Roll. Please refer to the Node server Set-Up Guide for more information.

Once you have two Nodes configured with a shared file structure, you create a new playlist by pressing **command-n**. Press the AB Roll Icon on the top left hand side of the playlist.

Select a node for Channel A and a node for Channel B on the top of the playlist on the left and on the right.

In your Media Browser window select clips from the database shared by the two Nodes and drag and drop them into your playilst. The clips should appear on alternate A and B channels. Press the space bar to cue the two top clips. Press the space bar again and the first clip will play cueing to the next clip on channel A. Press the spacebar again and the process will repeat, this time for channel B. Continue to familiarize yourself with the AB roll function by playing the clips and viewing your monitors.

(Helpful Tip: To connect two consecutive clips to the same channel select the desired clip and open the clip inspector **command-I**. Under "Built In" Check "Clip End Behavior" and select "Chain".)

We hope this user set up guide is helpful and if there are any questions, feedback, or concerns feel free to contact us.

(Note: There are more features and capabilities not covered in this Quick Setup. For more manuals, updates, information, video tutorials and help desk support visit: http://www.softron.tv).