RME ARC-USB

RME ARC-USB Remote Control Instruction Manual

Model: ARC-USB

INTRODUCTION

The RME ARC-USB is a wired remote control designed to provide direct access to frequently used actions and commands within TotalMix FX. This device is an essential tool for studio applications, offering flexible configuration to streamline workflow and enhance the usability of your RME audio interface.

It operates as a USB 1.1 (UAC1) MIDI remote control, ensuring native compatibility with Windows and Mac OS X. TotalMix FX automatically detects and communicates with the ARC-USB without interfering with other remote controls. Therefore, it is not necessary to manually switch the ARC-USB on or off within TotalMix FX; it will function immediately. The ARC-USB is compatible with all RME audio interfaces supported by TotalMix FX, including models released as far back as 2001. For UFX+ and UFX II interfaces, the ARC-USB can connect directly via their internal USB 1.1 host, enabling stand-alone operation. This bus-powered device consumes minimal current.

KEY FEATURES

- **Indispensable Tool:** Designed for daily studio applications, providing quick access to essential functions.
- **Broad Compatibility:** Natively compatible with Windows and Mac OS X operating systems.
- **TotalMix FX Integration:** Seamlessly communicates with TotalMix FX via USB, supporting all detected RME audio interfaces.
- **Direct Connection:** Can be connected directly to RME UFX+ and UFX II interfaces for stand-alone mode.
- **Bus Powered:** Operates efficiently with low power consumption.

SETUP GUIDE

1. Connecting the ARC-USB

The RME ARC-USB is a plug-and-play device. Follow these steps to connect it to your system:

1. **USB Connection:** Connect the ARC-USB to an available USB port on your computer using the provided USB cable.
2. **Direct Connection (UFX+ / UFX II only):** If you are using an RME UFX+ or UFX II audio interface, you can connect the ARC-USB directly to the dedicated USB 1.1 host port on the interface. This allows for stand-alone operation

without a computer.

3. **Power:** The ARC-USB is bus-powered and does not require an external power supply.

2. Driver Installation (Automatic)

The ARC-USB is natively compatible with Windows and Mac OS X. Upon connection, your operating system should automatically detect the device and install the necessary drivers. No manual driver installation is typically required.

3. TotalMix FX Detection

Once connected, TotalMix FX will automatically detect the ARC-USB and establish communication. You do not need to manually enable or disable the remote control within TotalMix FX; it will function immediately.

Figure 1: RME ARC-USB Remote Control. This image shows the device from an angled perspective, highlighting its main controls and compact design.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The ARC-USB provides intuitive control over various TotalMix FX functions. Below are the primary controls and their typical uses:

Main Volume Knob

The large rotary knob in the center of the ARC-USB is primarily used for controlling the main output volume. It can also be assigned to control other parameters within TotalMix FX.

- **Rotation:** Adjusts the selected volume or parameter.
- **Press:** Typically used to select or confirm a function, or to switch between different control modes (e.g., main output, headphone output).

Function Buttons (SNAP 1-8)

The eight "SNAP" buttons (SNAP 1 to SNAP 8) are user-assignable presets. These buttons allow you to instantly recall specific TotalMix FX snapshots, which can include complex routing, effects, and level settings. This is highly beneficial for quickly switching between different monitoring setups or mixes.

- **Press:** Recalls the assigned TotalMix FX snapshot.
- **Configuration:** Snapshots are configured within the TotalMix FX software.

Dedicated Control Buttons

- **MONO:** Toggles the main output to mono, useful for checking mono compatibility of your mix.
- **VOL PH 1** / **VOL PH 2:** Dedicated volume controls for Headphone Outputs 1 and 2. Pressing these buttons typically selects the corresponding headphone output for adjustment via the main volume knob.
- **EXT INP:** Activates or deactivates an external input, allowing you to quickly monitor external sources.
- **TALKBACK:** Activates the talkback microphone, allowing communication with performers in a separate booth or room.
- **SPEAKER B:** Switches between main speakers (Speaker A) and an alternative speaker pair (Speaker B), useful for A/B monitoring.
- **DIM:** Reduces the main output volume by a preset amount, allowing for temporary level drops without losing your main volume setting.

Figure 2: RME ARC-USB Remote Control. This image provides a clear top-down view of the device, showing the layout of all buttons and the main rotary knob.

Video Demonstration: RME ARC USB - Compact Studio Remote

Your browser does not support the video tag.

This video provides a demonstration of the RME ARC-USB, showcasing its features and functionality as a compact studio remote. It highlights how the device integrates with RME audio interfaces and TotalMix FX for efficient workflow.

MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your RME ARC-USB, follow these simple maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the device. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents, as these can damage the finish.
- **Dust Protection:** Keep the device in a clean, dust-free environment. When not in use, consider covering it to prevent dust accumulation.
- **Cable Management:** Ensure USB cables are not excessively bent or strained to prevent damage to the connectors.
- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check the RME website for any available firmware updates for your ARC-USB and associated audio interface. Follow the instructions provided by RME carefully during updates.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your RME ARC-USB, refer to the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **Device Not Detected:**

  - Ensure the USB cable is securely connected to both the ARC-USB and your computer/interface.
  - Try connecting the ARC-USB to a different USB port.
  - Restart your computer and/or RME audio interface.
  - Verify that TotalMix FX is running and updated to the latest version.

- **Buttons/Knob Unresponsive:**

  - Check if the device is properly detected by TotalMix FX.
  - Ensure no debris is obstructing the buttons or the rotary encoder.
  - Restart TotalMix FX and your computer.

- **Incorrect Functionality:**

  - Review your TotalMix FX settings and ensure the ARC-USB controls are mapped as desired.
  - Consult the TotalMix FX manual for detailed configuration options.

SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	ARC-USB
Brand	RME
Connectivity Technology	USB 1.1 (UAC1)
Compatible Devices	Personal Computer (with RME audio interface and TotalMix FX), RME UFX+ / UFX II (stand-alone)
Supported Software	TotalMix FX (Windows, Mac OS X)
Operating System	Windows, Mac OS X
Material Type	Stainless Steel
Item Weight	1.37 pounds
Product Dimensions	12 x 4 x 6 inches
Color	Multicoloured (referring to button colors)

WARRANTY INFORMATION

RME products typically come with a **5-year manufacturer's warranty** upon product registration. Please register your product on the official RME website to ensure full warranty coverage and access to support.
For detailed warranty terms and conditions, please visit the RME website or contact RME customer support.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

For further assistance, driver downloads, and product registration, please refer to the official RME resources:

- **Product Registration & Support:** www.rme-audio.com/support.html
- **Driver Downloads:** www.rme-audio.com/downloads.html
- **Distributors Network:** www.rme-audio.com/distributors-en.html