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› Ferrofisch A32-Dante 32x32 AD/DA Converter Instruction Manual

## Ferrofisch A32-Dante

# Ferrofisch A32-Dante 32x32 AD/DA Converter Instruction Manual

Your comprehensive guide to setup, operation, and maintenance.

## INTRODUCTION

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The Ferrofisch A32-Dante is a versatile 32x32 AD/DA converter designed for professional audio environments. It integrates seamlessly into Dante networks and offers extensive connectivity options including MADI and ADAT. This device functions as a central hub, routing all analog, MADI, and ADAT interfaces into the Dante network via its integrated routing matrix. Its design emphasizes operational reliability, featuring redundant Dante and MADI processes, and support for a second power supply for uninterrupted operation. Four TFT screens provide clear monitoring of all channels and system status.



Figure 1: Front view of the Ferrofisch A32-Dante converter.

## SETUP

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Follow these steps to set up your Ferrofisch A32-Dante converter:

1. **Unboxing and Inspection:** Carefully remove the A32-Dante from its packaging. Inspect the unit for any signs of damage during transit. Ensure all included accessories, such as the power cable, are present.
2. **Power Connection:** Connect the provided power cable to the A32-Dante's power input. For critical applications, connect a second redundant power supply to the dedicated input.
3. **Rack Mounting (Optional):** The A32-Dante is designed for standard 19-inch rack mounting. Secure the unit using appropriate rack screws.
4. **Audio Connections:**
  - **Analog:** Connect your analog audio sources and destinations to the 32 analog inputs and 32 analog outputs using appropriate cables.
  - **MADI:** Connect MADI devices using optical or coaxial MADI cables to the designated MADI

ports.

- **ADAT:** Connect ADAT compatible devices using optical ADAT cables.

5. **Dante Network Connection:** Connect the A32-Dante to your Dante network using standard Ethernet (Cat5e or Cat6) cables. For redundancy, connect both primary and secondary Dante ports to your network switches.
6. **Initial Power On:** Once all connections are secure, power on the A32-Dante. The four TFT screens will illuminate, displaying the boot sequence and current status.



Figure 2: Rear panel showing various audio and network connections.

## OPERATING THE A32-DANTE

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The A32-Dante offers extensive control and routing capabilities. Familiarize yourself with the front panel controls and the integrated routing matrix.

### Front Panel Controls and TFT Screens

The four TFT screens provide real-time status information for all 64 digital channels. Use the navigation buttons adjacent to the screens to access menus and adjust settings. Key information displayed includes input/output levels, clock status, and network activity.



Figure 3: Front panel with TFT screens displaying operational status.

### Routing Matrix

The A32-Dante features an internal routing matrix that allows you to freely route any of the 192x192 analog and digital channels. This matrix is accessible via the front panel controls or through dedicated control software (if available from Ferrofish). This flexibility enables complex signal flow configurations for various studio and live sound applications.

## Dante Network Integration

Once connected to a Dante network, the A32-Dante will appear as a device in the Dante Controller software. Use Dante Controller to establish audio routes between the A32-Dante and other Dante-enabled devices on your network. Ensure proper clock synchronization for stable audio transmission.

## Redundancy Features

The A32-Dante incorporates redundancy for both Dante and MADI connections, as well as power. In the event of a primary connection or power supply failure, the system automatically switches to the secondary, ensuring continuous operation. Monitor the TFT screens for status indicators related to redundancy.

# MAINTENANCE

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Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Ferrofish A32-Dante.

- **Cleaning:** Regularly clean the exterior of the unit with a soft, dry cloth. Avoid using abrasive cleaners or solvents. Ensure ventilation openings are free from dust and debris.
- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check the official Ferrofish website for firmware updates. Firmware updates can provide new features, performance enhancements, and bug fixes. Follow the instructions provided by Ferrofish carefully when performing updates.
- **Environmental Conditions:** Operate the A32-Dante in a stable environment, avoiding extreme temperatures, humidity, and direct sunlight. Ensure adequate airflow around the unit.
- **Cable Management:** Maintain tidy cable connections to prevent accidental disconnections or damage to ports.

# TROUBLESHOOTING

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This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your A32-Dante.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No audio output/input	Incorrect routing in A32-Dante or Dante Controller; incorrect clock synchronization; faulty cables.	Verify routing settings on the A32-Dante and in Dante Controller. Ensure all devices are synchronized to a common clock source. Check all audio cables for proper connection and integrity.
Dante device not visible in network	Network configuration issue; incorrect IP settings; faulty Ethernet cable; firewall blocking.	Ensure the A32-Dante is connected to the correct network switch. Check network settings (IP address, subnet mask) on the A32-Dante and your computer. Try a different Ethernet cable. Temporarily disable firewalls for testing.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Intermittent audio dropouts	Network congestion; clocking issues; cable problems.	Optimize your network for Dante traffic (e.g., QoS settings). Verify stable clock synchronization. Replace suspect cables.
TFT screens are blank or unresponsive	Power issue; internal fault.	Check power connections. Power cycle the unit. If the problem persists, contact Ferrofisch support.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Analog Channels	32 Inputs, 32 Outputs
Digital Channels	Up to 64 Dante channels, MADI, ADAT
Connectivity	Dante, MADI (Optical/Coaxial), ADAT, Analog I/O
Routing Matrix	192x192 channels
Display	4 TFT Screens
Redundancy	Dante, MADI, Power Supply
Item Weight	16.12 pounds (7.31 kg)
Product Dimensions	24.8 x 14.96 x 3.9 inches (62.99 x 38.00 x 9.91 cm)
Model Number	A32-Dante

## WARRANTY INFORMATION

Ferrofisch products are covered by a manufacturer's warranty. The specific terms and duration of the warranty may vary by region and product. Please retain your proof of purchase. For detailed warranty information, including coverage and how to make a claim, please refer to the official Ferrofisch website or contact your authorized dealer.

*Note: This manual does not constitute a warranty statement. Always refer to the official warranty documentation provided with your product or available on the manufacturer's website.*

## SUPPORT

Should you require technical assistance, have questions about your A32-Dante, or need to report an issue, please utilize the following resources:

- **Ferrofisch Website:** Visit the official Ferrofisch website for product documentation, FAQs, firmware

downloads, and support contact information. [www.ferrofish.com](http://www.ferrofish.com)

- **Authorized Dealer:** Contact the authorized Ferrofish dealer from whom you purchased the product. They can often provide initial support and guidance.
- **Online Resources:** Community forums and online knowledge bases related to Dante and professional audio equipment may also offer helpful information.

When contacting support, please have your product model (A32-Dante) and serial number readily available.