

# TENTACLE TRACK E Timecode Audio Recorder User Manual

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## TENTACLE TRACK E Timecode Audio Recorder

### Product Information

- **Product Name:** TRACK E Timecode Recorder
- **Operating Manual Version:** 1.7
- **Firmware Version:** 2.2.0
- **Date:** 29.08.2023

### Getting Started

The TRACK E Timecode Recorder is a device that allows you to Record audio with a synchronized timecode. To begin using the device, Follow the instructions below.

### Setup App for iOS & Android

The Tentacle Setup App is available for iOS and Android devices. This app allows you to synchronize, monitor, set, and change the basic parameters of your TRACK E device. You can download the Setup App from the official Tentacle Sync website: [www.tentaclesync.com/apps](http://www.tentaclesync.com/apps)

**Note:** Wireless audio monitoring on Android is only supported on Android 10 (API Level 29) and higher.

### Timecode Synchronization

To synchronize the timecode of your TRACK E and SYNC E devices, use the Setup App and follow these steps:

1. Enable Bluetooth on your mobile device.
2. Switch on your TRACK E device by pulling down the user switch on the side.
3. Add a new device in the Tentacle Setup App by tapping on “+ Add Device” and selecting the desired device from the available list.
4. To synchronize the devices, tap on the SYNC button at the bottom of the screen.
5. In the pop-up window, select the desired frame rate and timecode value.
6. Press START to initiate the synchronization process.
7. Wait for the devices to synchronize, and the app will display “Sync Done” when complete.

### Recording

The TRACK E Timecode Recorder offers multiple recording options. Follow the instructions below to perform different types of recordings.

## Multiple Track Recording

To record multiple tracks simultaneously, follow these steps:

1. Ensure that your TRACK E device is powered on and synchronized with other devices.
2. Connect the required microphones or audio sources to the corresponding inputs on the TRACK E.
3. Use the Setup App or device switches to configure the recording settings as desired.
4. Press the record button to start recording on all tracks simultaneously.
5. Monitor the recording status and adjust settings as needed through the Setup App.
6. Press the stop button to finish the recording.

## Single Track Recording

To record on a single track, follow these steps:

1. Ensure that your TRACK E device is powered on and synchronized with other devices.
2. Select the desired track for recording using the Setup App or device switches.
3. Connect the microphone or audio source to the corresponding input for the selected track.
4. Configure any additional settings through the Setup App as needed.
5. Press the record button to start recording on the selected track.
6. Monitor the recording status and adjust settings through the Setup App if required.
7. Press the stop button to finish the recording on the selected track.

## Independent Recording via User Switch

The TRACK E device allows for the independent recording of each track using the user switch. To perform independent recording, Follow these steps:

1. Ensure that your TRACK E device is powered on and synchronized with other devices.
2. Select the desired track for independent recording using the Setup App or device switches.
3. Connect the microphone or audio source to the corresponding input for the selected track.
4. Toggle the user switch to the "ON" position for the selected track.
5. Configure any additional settings through the Setup App as needed.
6. Press the record button to start recording on the selected track.
7. Monitor the recording status and adjust settings through the Setup App if required.
8. Press the stop button to finish the recording on the selected track.

For more detailed information regarding other features, such as device warnings, sleep mode, app settings, and technical specifications, please refer to the complete user manual.

## QUICK START GUIDE

### GETTING STARTED SETUP APP FOR IOS & ANDROID

The Tentacle Setup App for mobile devices allows you to synchronize, monitor, setup and change basic parameters of your Tentacle device. This includes settings such as timecode, frame rate, device name & icon, output volume, battery status, user bits and more. You can download the Setup App here:

[www.tentaclesync.com/apps](http://www.tentaclesync.com/apps)

Please note:

Wireless audio monitoring on Android is only supported on Android 10 (API Level 29) and higher.

Enable Bluetooth on your mobile device

The Setup App will need to communicate with your TRACK E devices via Bluetooth. Make sure Bluetooth is activated on your mobile device. You must grant the app the necessary permissions as well. The Android version also asks for a 'location permission'. This is only needed to receive Bluetooth data from your TRACK E. The app does not use or store your current location data in anyway.

Switch on your TRACK E

Before starting the app it is recommended to switch on your TRACK E devices. Pull down the user switch on the side to turn on your TRACK E. The device will indicate powering ON with a blue animation of the level LED. Once it's powered up, the status LED will be pulsating in white for 'standby'.

During operation, the TRACK E constantly transmits status and recording information via Bluetooth.

Add a new device

If you open the Tentacle Setup App for the first time, the device list will be empty. You can add new TRACK E audio recorders and SYNC E timecode generators by tapping on

+ Add Device

. This will show a list of available Tentacle devices nearby. Select the one, you would like to add to the list and tap on it. Hold your Tentacle device close to your phone to finish the procedure. This ensures that only you have access to your Tentacles and not someone else nearby. Once a Tentacle is added to the list, it will appear automatically in the device list, next time the app is opened.

TIMECODE SYNCHRONIZATION

With your Setup App, you can easily synchronize all of your TRACK E and SYNC E devices with one button click. At the bottom of your screen you'll find the SYNC button.

Tap on

SYNC

and a small window will pop up

Click on the frame rate and select the desired frame rate from the dropdown menu

Time of Day is predefined as a starting timecode. For custom timecode tap on the timecode and choose your desired value.

Press

START

and all Tentacles will synchronize one after another within a few seconds

Once your Tentacle devices are synchronized, the app displays

Sync Done

.

TIMECODE JAM-SYNC

The microphone input can be used to jam-sync your TRACK E with timecode from any external timecode source via cable. Once your TRACK E is turned on, you can jam-sync it as long as there is no other action done (e.g. wireless sync via app or start a recording).

Here are the suitable adapter cables in our online store:

5-pin LEMO to Tentacle:

| [LEMO 5-Pin to Tentacle timecode cable](#)

BNC cable 90°:

| [Tentacle to 90° BNC timecode cable](#)

RECORDING

To start a recording with your TRACK E timecode audio recorder, you can start and stop it via Setup App or directly at each TRACK E device. With the Setup App all of your TRACK E devices can be started at once or each TRACK E individually in case you are not working with all of your devices at the same time.

MULTIPLE TRACK RECORDING

At the screen you'll find two buttons for RECORD and STOP. These buttons start and stop the recording of all your TRACK E devices in your list.

SINGLE TRACK RECORDING

Next to each TRACK E status information in the monitoring list is a REC button as well, which starts and stops the

recording just for this single TRACK E.

#### INDEPENDENT RECORDING VIA USER SWITCH

If you are unable to use the app or don't want to, you are still able to operate your TRACK E devices directly and independently of a mobile device.

##### START:

Pull up user switch, status LED lights up red during recordings

##### STOP:

Pull up user switch again

Once your devices have been added to the list, you can check the most important status information of each unit at a glance. You will be able to monitor the level meter, recording file format, recording time, frame rate, timecode, battery status, Bluetooth range, device icon and name.

If a TRACK E is out of Bluetooth range for more than 10 seconds, the status and timecode of it will be maintained.

If the app hasn't received any updates for more than 10 minutes, the message will be

Last seen x minutes ago

Depending on the physical distance of a Tentacle device to your mobile device, the status information in the list will be highlighted. The closer the TRACK E gets to your mobile device the more saturated the color will be.

Remove a TRACK E from the device list

You can remove a Tentacle. TRACK E from the list by swiping to the left (iOS) or long pressing (more than 2 sec.) on the Tentacle (Android).

#### DEVICE WARNINGS

Devices have to be synchronized:

This warning message is displayed, when inaccuracies of more than half a frame occur between all devices in Green Mode. Sometimes this warning can pop up for a few seconds, when starting the app from background. In most cases the app just needs some time to check the information of each Tentacle device. However, if the warning message persists for more than 10 seconds you should consider re-syncing your Tentacles.

#### SLEEP MODE

In sleep mode, your TRACK E is saving battery and can be remotely woken up. Send all your TRACK E to sleep by swiping up the bottom sheet and pressing the SLEEP button. Wake up the devices by pressing the WAKE button. You can wake them individually by pressing on the TRACK E in the device list. You have to re-sync your devices after wakeup. Also note that connecting a sleeping TRACK E to USB power it off.

Please note:

Sleep mode is supported by Firmware version 2.2.0 or newer

#### APP SETTINGS

##### DEVICE VIEW (SETUP APP)

Pressing briefly on a TRACK E status information in the monitoring screen, will start a connection to this device and allows you to do the device's settings.

An active Bluetooth® connection will be indicated by a blue status LED. The TRACK E menu is divided into three categories:

Recording / Playback / Settings

##### RECORDING

##### PLAYBACK

In this section of the menu, you can listen to your recorded files. Connect your headphones to the 3.5mm headphone out of the TRACK E or use the audio monitoring feature via smartphone ( see "Audio monitoring"

). Make sure to set your headphone volume accordingly

#### SETTINGS

##### USER SWITCH ON/OFF

The TRACK E has a multipurpose user switch on the right side

The Start / Stop Recording action for the user switch is predefined, but can be assigned differently in the settings section of the menu (see user switch assignment)

#### TRACK E MICROPHONE

The TRACK E set includes a versatile lavalier microphone (omnidirectional characteristic) with windjammer and clip. Of course, Tentacle TRACK E is compatible with all common lavalier, electret shotgun and dynamic microphones. An adapter to 3.5 mm mini jack with a standard Sennheiser wiring may be necessary.

#### MICROPHONE INPUT

The TRACK E has a 3.5mm mini jack microphone input with screw lock. 5V plug-in power is activated, for dynamic microphones the plug-in power can be deactivated in the Tentacle Setup App. This input can also be used to jam-sync your TRACK E from any external timecode source via cable (see timecode jam sync)

#### MICROPHONE ADAPTERS

To connect an even wider range of lavalier microphones to TRACK E, you may need an adapter, you may need an adapter with a standard Sennheiser wiring. The adapters and a variety of accessories are available at your local dealer at

[shop.tentaclesync.com](http://shop.tentaclesync.com)

#### HEADPHONE OUTPUT

To monitor while recording\* please connect headphones with a 3.5mm mini jack connector to the headphone out of the TRACK E device. For a playback of your already recorded files, you also need to open the Setup App playback section in the device's menu. You can adjust the headphone level for each device in the app.

\*Please note:

US version has the headphone output deactivated during recording! The output signal of the headphone out is not a looped signal. It is processed!

#### MICRO SD CARD

The 16GB microSD card (not included in the TRACK E – Basic Box) is located on the left side of the TRACK E. Just pull out the cover and push the card in to remove it. This card can record up to 30 hours in 24-bit recording format and 23 hours in 32-bit Float recording format. Formatting the microSD card is easily done in the Setup App via Bluetooth. You'll find it in the settings section of the menu.

\*Please note:

When using different microSD cards, make sure you use one that is qualified. Recommended are SanDisk/Western Digital 8/16/32GB or similar class 10 SDHC up to 32GB. We recommend to leave the microSD card inside the TRACK E and use the device as a hard drive (see USB-C port and card reader)

#### RECHARGEABLE BATTERY

The TRACK E has a built-in, rechargeable and replaceable Lithium-Polymer battery. Charging is possible via USB-C. The charging status will be shown by the charging LED right next to the USB-C port. The internal battery can be charged from any USB power source.

The charging time is max. 2 hours if the battery is completely empty. Fully charged, TRACK Es can run for up to 10 hours. When the battery is at less than 10%, Tentacle indicates this by flashing the level LED yellow several times. The device continues to run in this state, until it switches itself off at 3% of battery status. If the battery is completely empty, the TRACK E can no longer be switched on before it has been recharged.

The battery is easily replaceable, once the performance is decreasing after 2-4 years depending on the use. A battery replacement kit can be obtained from Tentacle Sync.

In this case please contact [support@tentaclesync.com](mailto:support@tentaclesync.com)

Please note:

The charging process of the battery is stopped as soon as temperatures below 0° or above +40° are reached in order to preserve the battery's lifetime. This will be indicated by a red charging LED.

#### USB-C PORT AND CARD READER

The USB-C port at the bottom of the TRACK E can be used for charging and as a card reader as well.

As a card reader the USB-C port is used for fast data transmission. This way, there is no need to remove the

microSD card from the TRACK E. You can transmit your files directly from the Tentacle TRACK E to your computer. Connect your switched off TRACK E to your computer via the included USB-C cable. You have to push the cable all the way into the TRACK E until it makes a 'click' sound and the status LED indicates the connection by a short flash.

A hard drive icon will appear on your desktop. You can drag and drop your files directly from the TRACK E onto your computer.

To remove the TRACK E, please eject it correctly from your computer.

#### FIRMWARE UPDATE

You will find the newest firmware version for your TRACK E here:

[Tentacle Downloads](#)

Before you start:

Before performing the update, please back up your microSD card in case it contains important files.

Make sure your TRACK E has sufficient battery. If your updating computer is a laptop, make sure it has sufficient battery too or is connected to mains

The Tentacle Sync Studio software (macOS) or the Tentacle Setup software (macOS/Windows) should not be running at the same time as the Firmware Update App. The Tentacle can only be detected by one

Tentacle software at a time

Update procedure:

Download the firmware updater app, install it and open it

Connect your TRACK E via USB cable to the computer and switch it on

Wait for the updater app to connect to your TRACK E

If an update is needed, start the update by pressing the „Start Firmware Update“ button

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#### TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Recording

Control & Sync

Version: Headphone output is deactivated during recording

WARRANTY AND SAFETY REGULATIONS

INTENDED USE

The device is designed to record audio signals via a suitable external microphone (lavalier microphone). It must not be connected to other devices. The device is not waterproof and should be protected against rain. For safety and certification reasons (CE) you are not permitted to convert and/or modify the device. The device can be damaged if you use it for purposes other than those mentioned above. Moreover, improper use can cause hazards, such as short circuits, fire, electric shock, etc. Read through the manual carefully and keep it for later reference. Give the device to other people only together with the manual.

#### SAFETY NOTICE

A guarantee that the device will function perfectly and operate safely can only be given if the generally standard safety precautions and device-specific safety notices on this sheet are observed. The device is intended for professional use. The rechargeable battery integrated in the device must never be charged in an ambient temperature below 0 °C and above 40 °C! Perfect functionality and safe operation can only be guaranteed for temperatures between -20 °C and +60 °C. The device is not a toy. Keep it away from children and animals. Protect the device from extreme temperatures, heavy jolts, moisture, combustible gases, vapors and solvents. The safety of the user can be compromised by the device if, for example, damage to it is visible, it doesn't work anymore as specified, it was stored for a longer period of time in unsuitable conditions, or it becomes unusually hot during operation. When in doubt, the device must principally be sent in to the manufacturer for repairs or maintenance.

#### DISPOSAL / WEEE NOTIFICATION

This product must not be disposed of together with your other household waste. It is your responsibility to dispose of this device at a special disposal station (recycling yard), at a technical retail center or at the manufacturer.

#### FCC DECLARATION

This device contains FCC ID: SH6MDBT50Q

This device has been tested and found to comply with part 15B of the FCC rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.

Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver.

Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.

Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

Modification to this product will void the user's authority to operate this equipment. This device complies with part 15 of the FCC rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions. (1) This device may not cause harmful interference. (2) This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

#### INDUSTRY CANADA DECLARATION

This device contains IC: 8017A-MDBT50Q

This device complies with Industry Canada license-exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

This digital device complies with the Canadian regulatory standard CAN ICES-003.

#### DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

Tentacle Sync GmbH, Wilhelm-Mauser-Str. 55b, 50827 Cologne, Germany declares herewith that the following product:

Tentacle TRACK E timecode audio recorder

complies with the provisions of the directives named as follows, including changes in them that apply at the time of the declaration.

This is evident from the CE mark on the product.

EN 55032:2012/AC:2013

EN 55024:2010

EN 300 328 V2.1.1 (2016-11)

Draft EN 301 489-1 V2.2.0 (2017-03)

Draft EN 301 489-17 V3.2.0 (2017-03)

EN 62479:2010

EN 62368-1:2014 + AC:2015

Cologne, 05.10.20  
Ulrich Esser, CEO  
Charging input  
1x USB-C connector  
Input voltage/current  
5 V/DC, 500mA  
Integrated rechargeable battery  
Lithium polymer battery  
Charging time  
approx. 2 h with completely empty battery  
Ambient conditions  
-20 °C to +60 °C, non-condensing  
Dimensions (B x H x T)  
47mm x 68mm x 19mm  
Weight  
57 g  
TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND INFORMATION  
support@tentaclesync.com  
tentaclesync.com/download  
TENTACLE SYNC GmbH  
Wilhelm-Mauser-Str. 55b, 59827 Cologne, Germany  
Tel.: +49 221 677 832 032

#### WARRANTY POLICY

The manufacturer Tentacle Sync GmbH grants a warranty of 24 months on the device, provided that the device was purchased from an authorised dealer. The calculation of the warranty period begins on the date of the invoice. The territorial scope of protection under this warranty is worldwide.

The warranty refers to the absence of defects in the device, including functionality, material or production defects. The accessories enclosed with the device are not covered by this warranty policy.

Should a defect occur during the warranty period, Tentacle Sync GmbH will provide one of the following services at its discretion under this warranty:

free repair of the device or

free replacement of the device with an equivalent item

In the event of a warranty claim, please contact:

Tentacle Sync GmbH, Wilhelm-Mauser-Str. 55b, 50827 Cologne, Germany

\*Claims under this warranty are excluded in the event of damage to the device caused by normal wear and tear

improper handling (please observe the safety data sheet)

failure to observe safety precautions

repair attempts undertaken by the owner

the warranty also does not apply to second-hand devices or demonstration devices.

A prerequisite for claiming warranty service is that Tentacle Sync GmbH is allowed to examine the warranty case (e.g. by sending in the device). Care must be taken to avoid damage to the device during transport by packing it securely. To claim for warranty service, a copy of the invoice must be enclosed with the device shipment so that Tentacle Sync GmbH can check whether the warranty is still valid. Without a copy of the invoice, Tentacle Sync GmbH may refuse to provide warranty service.

This manufacturer's warranty does not affect your statutory rights under the purchase agreement entered into with Tentacle Sync GmbH or the dealer. Any existing statutory warranty rights against the respective seller shall remain unaffected by this warranty. The manufacturer's warranty therefore does not violate your legal rights, but extends your legal position.

This warranty only covers the device itself. So-called consequential damages are not covered by this warrant

#### Documents / Resources





[TENTACLE TRACK E Timecode Audio Recorder](#) [pdf] User Manual  
TRACK E Timecode Audio Recorder, TRACK E, Timecode Audio Recorder, Audio Recorder, Recorder

## References

- [Tentacle Sync Shop](#)
- [Apps | tentacle sync](#)
- [Tentacle Sync Shop](#)
- [LEMO 5-Pin to Tentacle timecode cable | Tentacle Sync Shop](#)
- [Tentacle to 90° BNC timecode cable | Tentacle Sync Shop](#)
- [Apps | tentacle sync](#)