

Vocus - The Voice Operated Focus Tool

1. Requirements

Vocus requires Microsoft Windows 98se or higher,
A sound card compatible with Microsoft SAPI5 (probably 99% of sound cards),
A microphone of some kind
A 250mhz+ CPU with 128 mb of ram is suggested, 64mb should work.
Optional Network Interface Card, if DMX over Ethernet is to be used.

2. Introduction.

Vocus is a tool designed to maximize your programming time by speeding up the focusing process. Using your voice, you can control DMX compatible equipment with simple commands. Coupled with a radio-microphone you could be anywhere - up a ladder, on the bridge, in the bar, without having to walk all the way back to the console, and without having to hire another roadie to sit there and change channels for you. Not only that, but Vocus could output DMX into other consoles with a DMX input, allowing them to be voice controlled!

3. Getting Started

*** First use the Microphone Wizard to setup up your microphone.**

Click 'Microphone Wizard' in the 'System Options' section and follow the prompts.
Vocus can work with various types of microphone, even a simple FM microphone and a cheap FM radio can be used! A clip-on lapel style mic should be used for complete hands-free operation.

*** Training Vocus is an important but simple process** consisting of reading some text to the computer to help it recognize your voice. Click on the 'Speech Training' button in the 'System Options' section. The recognition quality is determined by the amount of training you complete. **TRAINING IS VITAL!** Even just one short training session may show a vast improvement in recognition.

*** Now it's time to select your DMX output** configuration in the 'System Options' section. the available options are:

> '**Enttec Open DMX USB**' - the Enttec Open DMX USB widget.
This requires the FTDI drivers for the widget to be installed.

> '**ESP-Net**' - Enttec DMX ethernet open protocol.
Transmission occurs on Universe 0

> '**Art-Net**' - Artistic License DMX ethernet open protocol.
Transmission occurs on Universe 0

> '**LightFactory**' - LightFactory(tm) Software interface
This requires LightFactory to be on the same machine as Vocus, and it's 'Telnet Interface' to be enabled. (Note: the commands, 'not', and 'and' are not currently supported)

> '**LightJockey**' - Martin LightJockey(tm) 2.6+ DMX input emulator interface
Send DMX directly into LightJockey, this option is only available if LightJockey is running, and on the same machine as Vocus.

* **By Now you should have your microphone working**, and have completed some training - it's time to Vocus!

An unregistered installation of Vocus will only give you one dmx channel, which will be picked at random between channel 1 and channel 12 at startup. The channel number will be displayed at the top of the Vocus window.

Registering will enable you to use all available DMX channels.

Say '**dmx on**', this makes Vocus listen to your commands.

Suppose we want to focus a lamp connected to a dmx dimmer on channel 1, we would say '**channel one**' to select that channel and '**at full**' to set it to 100%.

Perhaps we want a range of channels at 50%, maybe channels 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. To save time, say '**channel one**' to select the first channel, say '**thru five**' to select all channels between 1 and 5, then say '**at half**' to set them to 50%.

The "**Auto @ Full**" option makes Vocus automatically solo the selected channel at full intensity, while clearing all other channels. Eg. saying 'channel one' brings up channel 1 at 100%, say 'channel two' clears channel 1 and brings up channel 2 at 100%. This is the default mode of operation.

Sample Commands

Command	Function
"dmx on"	start listening & sending DMX
"channel twelve"	select channel 12
"channel five hundred and twelve"	select channel 512
"thru twenty four"	select from channel through to 24
"and twelve"	add channel twelve
"not twelve"	exclude channel twelve
"at full", "at half", "at zero"	set levels to 100%, 50% or 0%
"at forty two"	set levels to 42%
"fade to twenty"	fade levels to 20%
"master fifty"	set grand master level to 50%
"dmx clear"	clear all levels
"dmx off"	stop listening, wait for "dmx on"

You can clear all channels back to 0% with the '**dmx clear**' command.

You can use the 'master fifty' command to set the grand master to 50%, but only if the 'Master Enabled' box is ticked.

The '**dmx off**' command will make Vocus not respond to any commands until '**dmx on**' is recognized again.

4. Legal Disclaimer.

Declared no responsibility for damages caused by using this software. Use it at your own risk. I am not liable for any cost incurred from using Vocus, or and devices connected with it. There is no guarantee that the software will be suitable or work with your specific application, voice, computer hardware or DMX equipment. Vocus is copyright under international software copyright law.

Vocus is proudly Australian made software, designed by an experienced lighting rigger and operator.

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