



FIRMWARE RELEASE NOTES

ITEMS WITH THE PREFIX "FC" PERTAIN TO FOOT CONTROL FUNCTIONS OF THE FM3

VERSION 2.0

DECEMBER 08, 2020

Features and Fixes

- Fixed USB audio issues that were affecting some customers.
- Updated Amp block, now in sync with Axe-Fx III v14 (282 models including new "Archean").
- Updated Chorus and Compressor blocks, now in sync with Axe-Fx III v14.
- "Swap Scenes" is now available on the Tools page of the Layout menu.
- Reduced the overall latency of all analog I/O.
- FC Pedals can now be selected for global Input/Output Volumes (in Setup:MIDI/Remote:Other).
- Output "Volume Increment" functions now work as specified.
- FC: The first FC will now display the tuner when the FM3 is in the Tuner menu.
- Display brightness is now applied correctly on power up.
- Fixed incorrect default scene on Patch recall from FM3-Edit.
- Fixed an occasional crash caused by an "illegal" modifier.
- Fixed crashes related to importing Axe-Fx III presets via FM3-Edit.
- Fixed Bypass button issue in hardware GUI and FM3-Edit.
- Fixed bugs reported during public beta.

RELEASE NOTES HISTORY

VERSION 1.06, SEP 09, 2020

- Fixed Pitch block Mix overriding custom settings.
- Fixed Pitch block Custom Scale number not displaying correctly.
- Fixes and improvements related to USB audio artifacts and buffering.
- Third party MIDI "STATUS DUMP" command will now return the correct data.
- Fixed some Presets freezing on startup.
- Corrected default Negative Feedback for Deluxe Verb models.
- Fixed PC Mapping not always loading designated scene.
- MIDI Looper CC commands will now function properly after a power cycle.
- Fix Contour parameter not working in Drive block for Shred Distortion type.
- Align Plex block with Axe-Fx III.
- Input 1 Source setting will no longer affect Input 2.
- Improved modifier performance for external controllers (Wah "zippering").
- Improved performance of modifiers attached to Amp and Delay blocks.
- FC: FC-6 and FM3 will now wrap Views correctly within Layout 9 (the "Master Layout Menu").
- Scene Revert will now take effect for scene changes via MIDI CC messages.
- Removed "Diffusion" parameters from the Delay blocks due to CPU constraints.

VERSION 1.05, JUL 01, 2020

- Minor Amp block optimizations.
- Improved how Amp block and Delay block values are synchronized with FM3-Edit.
- Fixed Pitch block mix overriding custom settings.
- Eliminated scenes/presets "blip" while FM3-Edit is open (requires FM3-Edit 1.01.05 rc2).
- Improved fan control relies on actual CPU temperature vs. ambient temperature.
- Preset 000 will no longer occasionally be blank on startup.
- Default Scene will now be loaded correctly on preset change.
- MIDI clock synchronization with DAWs should now result in a consistent tempo.
- Fixed stability issues when 5-pin MIDI communications are active.
- MIDI/Remote channel changes should now operate as expected using CC messages.
- FC: Prevent stand-in switch from switching the view when Hold Function Mode is SWITCH UP.
- Additional improvements related to stability and performance.

VERSION 1.04, JUN 05, 2020

FM3 Firmware 1.04 requires FM3-Edit version 1.01.04 or newer.

- CPU Performance improvements across all presets.
- Added new amp types: Matchbox D-30 EF86, FAS Express, Triple Crest 2, Triple Crest 3, PVH 6160+ Crunch Bright, PVH 6160+ Clean Bright.
- Block Updates (Find details in the Fractal Audio Systems Block Guide):
- Gate: Improved Downward Expander; Tremolo: Added Optical type; PEQ: Added Slope controls; Plex Delay: Added Stack/Hold, Reverb: Added Dispersion.
- Improved power tube modeling yields smoother overdrive especially for semi-clean and edge-of-distortion tones.
- Improved FM3-Edit preset switching time when certain blocks are present.
- Improved USB audio performance and stability, reduced recording latency.
- Clarified polarity options under I/O: Pedal: Switch Settings.
- Improved how the position of pedals is detected after startup.
- Fixed "banner messages" on the Tools page of the layout menu.
- Parameter values now update when changed via a modifier.

- FM3-Edit now honors the global setting for "Default Scene".
- Fixed "Astable" LFO type.
- Fixed audio drop in Shred Distortion type.
- Fixed MIDI clock sync issues.
- Scratchpads now properly initialize on boot.
- Added "OUTPUT 2" as an option for "USB 3,4 Record Source".
- LEDs and Display will no longer flicker when FM3 is powered off with USB connected.
- Fixed Copy/Paste Block and Channel errors for the Amp and Delay blocks.
- Added ECONOMY mode to the Reverb (from Axe-Fx III v12.08). Pre-existing presets will default to this new setting, which produces excellent results at considerably reduced CPU.
- FC: LED rings for Looper functions will now be OFF if the Looper is not in the preset.
- FC: "LOOPER BLOCK NOT FOUND IN THIS PRESET" message now shown when appropriate.
- FC: The "Advanced" switch page is no longer blank after the FC banner has been displayed.
- FC: The Tuner now exits in all cases after using "Reveal Hold".
- FC: Loading Factory Default Layouts now correctly initializes Layout Link Views.
- FC: Fixed stand in switches sometimes not responding to the first press.
- FC: Fixed the Tuner display when activated from an FM3 footswitch.
- FC: Stand in switches now honor the Hold Function Mode "SWITCH UP" setting.

VERSION 1.03, APR 07, 2020

- Fixed an issue that was causing instability in some cases.

VERSION 1.02, MAR 31, 2020

- Added support for FM3-Edit Scene Manager.
- Fix interaction of Global Scales with the FM3-Edit.
- USB "DI" recording levels corrected.
- Looper "Undo" now works as it does on the Axe-Fx III.
- Preset storing is now faster.
- Knob D on the HOME screen now changes the "FC View" within the current layout of the FM3.
- When Tuner is assigned as a hold function, you can now exit the Tuner with a single tap.
- The following blocks have been updated with changes from their counterparts on the Axe-Fx-III: Chorus, Compressor, Drive, Enhancer, Filter, Flanger, Formant, Gate, Graphic EQ, Input, Send, Return, Looper, Megatap, Phaser. The features and CPU usage of these blocks may have changed, and any presets that contain them should be checked.
- Output2 Global EQ feature added to SETUP: Global Settings.
- When using the "Output 2 Copy" feature (in SETUP: I/O) the options "INPUT 1" and "OUTPUT 1" now produce increased level at Out 2 to better match the level at Out 1 without.
- FC: Stand-in switches now help prevent false triggering if no switch is plugged in.
- FC: Display now shows looper "Record 2nd Press" function (OVERDUB, PLAY, or STOP).
- FC: Tap tempo now works across all Views.
- FC: "View" functions are now available when creating per-preset switches.
- FC: Tap tempo now works when using a stand-in switch.
- FC: "View Inc" and "View Dec" mini-LCD now works when "Destination #" is selected.
- FC: The MLM and certain View functions now work as intended on a connected FC-6.
- FC: The main LCD will now display the correct first preset in the bank if the Global Setting for "Display Offset" is set to '1.'

VERSION 1.01, FEB 13, 2020

- Small changes to some amp types.

VERSION 1.0, FEB 11, 2020

- This is the first public release. See the FM3 Owner's Manual for details.