

Absentia DX 2.0 Introduction

ABDX 2.0 includes a free **AAX AudioSuite Plug-in** that connects with the standalone application.

Last year (2017) we informally announced an upgrade policy, it is \$20 USD per year. *People who do not want upgrades will receive the latest version up to one year after their initial license purchase or last upgrade.* This policy helps us to further develop ABDX's labor-saving algorithms. We welcome your "bad" audio files so please send them to us at software@todd-ao.com.

Message from the Development Team

Our goal is to help make your work results better and get you home to your family and friends sooner. We believe that ABDX's productivity and performance improvements with production dialog pay for itself quickly. Most importantly, we're thankful to be helping out the sound community which we are a part of.

Testimonial by Larry Benjamin, Re-Recording Mixer (Better Call Saul, Legion, Ozark)

"I encountered a quiet exterior scene on Better Call Saul and the audio was contaminated with loud, buzzy, sodium vapor street lights. The steady sound was more than just a typical hum which contains root power frequencies and the associated harmonics such as 60 Hz, 120 Hz, 240 Hz, 480 Hz and 960 Hz. There were many high frequency harmonics that made up the pervasive buzz intruding on the dialog. The traditional techniques of notch filtering and noise reduction plug-ins caused either comb filtering or unacceptable degradation to the dialog. ABDX (Absentia DX) seamlessly and quickly eliminated all of the offending lighting buzz without harming the dialog. The producers were in utter disbelief that this could be accomplished with little to no damage to the intimate dialog scene between two key characters. I've used the plug-in on other challenging power induced noise with great results. There are settings for how aggressive the plug-in works from light to strong. It can be used to batch process dailies without harming the source audio or it can be used as a plug-in within Pro Tools to spot process problematic clips. I use a variety of tools in my noise reduction toolbox and ABDX is without a doubt the best at eliminating hum and buzz!"

System Requirements

Apple OS X 10.7.3 or higher.

Windows 10, 8, 7, Vista, and Server (64 bits OS).

Pro Tools 12, 2018, or higher.

How to Install

1. Download the Absentia DX application installer from our [website](#).

Win

2. Double-click "Absentia_DX_Installer.msi" and follow the Setup Wizard.
3. Open the Absentia DX application and the AAX plug-in will be added to Pro Tools Plug-ins folder.

Mac

2. Double-click "Absentia_DX_Installer.dmg" to mount it.
3. Drag "Absentia DX" icon into your computer's Applications folder.
4. Open "Absentia DX" from your computer's Applications folder.
7. Once the standalone application opens, the AAX plug-in will be added to Pro Tools Plug-ins folder.

Mac & Win. Start the Absentia DX standalone application and enter your License Key to activate the software, it will look something like this: XX99-XXXX-XXX9-XXX9-9XX9-9XX9-99XX

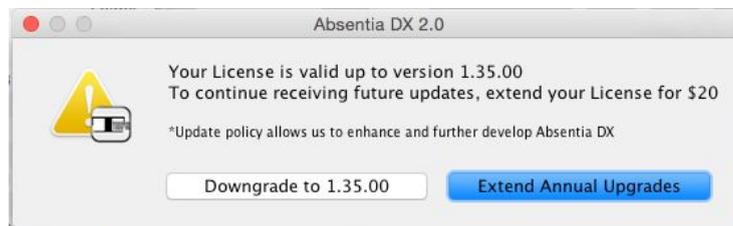
Helpful notes:

- *When updating, your authorization stays active, so there is no need to enter your key again.*
- *If you want to move the software to another machine, you will need to deactivate it first by selecting the Settings/Deactivate License menu item. After that you can activate Absentia on a new machine.*

Annual Upgrade Policy

The initial license purchase of Absentia DX provides an authorization code for the standalone application and its connecting plug-in and upgrades for one year. Upgrades include improved algorithms and new algorithms. As mentioned in the Introduction, last year (2017) we informally announced an upgrade policy, it is \$20 USD per year. *People who do not want upgrades will receive the latest version up to one year after their initial license purchase or last upgrade. That “latest version” will work indefinitely if the OS is not updated.*

Customers requiring an Upgrade will see a message like this. In this example the Customer can Downgrade to their last version or Update to the current version.



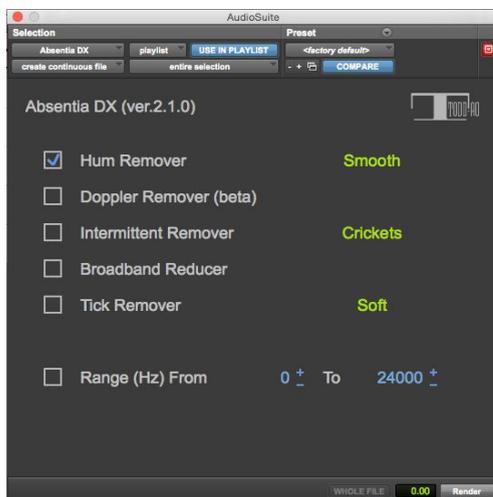
Note: All Customers who purchased an Absentia DX license after July 1st, 2017 will receive the 2.0 Upgrade.

How to use the Absentia DX Plug-In

The **ABDX Plug-in** connects to the standalone application. The *Render* button sends the selected audio clip to the standalone application, processes it there, and sends it back to the plug-in for rendering. All these steps are seamlessly done after you click the *Render* button. For that reason both the **plug-in & the standalone application** need to be open.

*Note: **Open the Absentia DX standalone application first, and then open the plug-In in Pro Tools.** Leave the standalone application open in the background until you are done with the plug-in. This will not affect Pro Tools' memory or speed performance.*

Due to ABDX's learning architecture, the **plug-in** only works in **AudioSuite**.

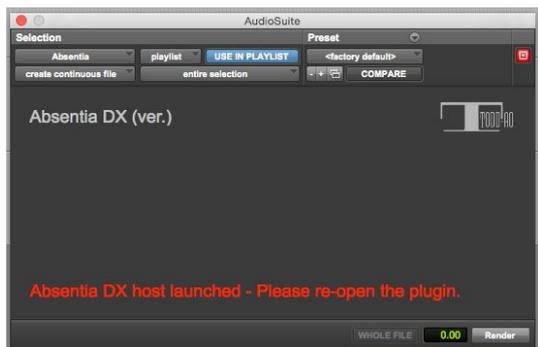


Select one region, several in a track, or even several tracks or channels of the same audio clip. The Absentia DX plug-in will render them all at the same time.

Then select the process you want to apply in the **plug-in window** and then click the **Render** button.

Note: Rendering audio adopts plug-in settings only. Standalone application selections are ignored.

Please note Pro Tools will automatically launch the standalone application if it is not open when launching the plug-in (Mac OS only).



If the plug-in is launched and the standalone application is closed, the plug-in will open it. Close and re-open the plug-in to properly connect it with the standalone application.

WORKFLOW

There are different methods of using the ABDX plug-in.; You may choose to use it while editing dialogue, during pre-dubs, or in the mix stage. Many factors such as turnover schedule or computer speed will determine which workflow is best for you.

We recommend making a first pass with the Absentia DX standalone application, batch processing all the sound rolls with Hum Remover (Smooth) and Tick Remover, *although this step is optional*.

Later, use the Pro Tools plug-in for deeper processing while cutting dialogue or mixing. Select a damaged clip (or clips), choose which Absentia tool you would like to use from the plug-in window, and then click the *Render* button.



If you want to process several clips in a track or even keep fades or edits after processing, change plug-in setting to “create individual files” and “clip by clip,” in the same way as other AAX plug-ins.

PROCESSING SPEED

Speed is directly affected by the amount of clips and clip lengths. Typically, short clips will be processed quickly. Long clips or entire sound rolls require extensive processing times. It is best to process these with the standalone application so you can keep working in Pro Tools while Absentia cleans your files.

To further reduce processing time, open the Pro Tools Preferences window and click the Processing tab.

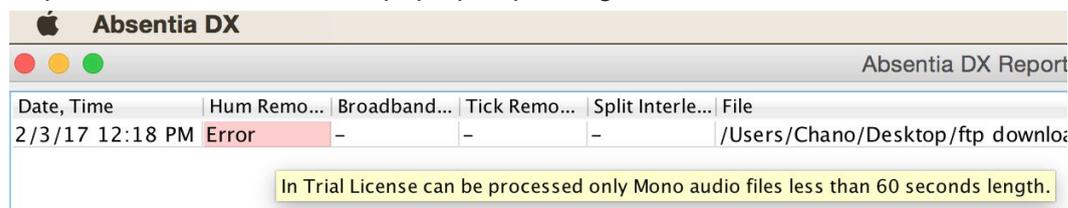


Click “Length” instead of “Whole File” and set the handles you need. This saves time by processing a section instead of the entire file.

FAQ

- I am running the trial version and when I try to process a file I get an error on the pop up report

The trial version has a limitation and only works with mono files, up to 60 seconds long. Also note that if you step over the error a text will pop up explaining the error cause



- Can I process MP3 or AIFF files?

Yes, ABDX can process many sound files as WAV, AIFF, MP3, FLAC, or WMA.

- Can I process 96 KHz wav files or higher?

Yes, there is no limit for the sample rate or the bit depth of a sound file.

- Can I batch process a heavy folder, like 60GB?

Yes, our standard benchmark is 40 Gb in 6 hours on a 3.5 GHz i7 with an SSD drive, processing Hum Remover + Tick Remover

- What happen when the source file is a multi-channel polywav (1 file but many channels)? Does it apply the same processing to all the tracks within, or does it analyse differently for each track?

When dropping a poly-wav Absentia will analyze and process each channel separately.

- I run Update Check and get the pop-up "Connection refused (Connection refused)"

- I manually download the update and when I run Absentia program starts & automatically quits.

This is a problem with your ISP (internet service provider) or internet device. Download the latest update from our [website](#). After that you need to do an offline Deactivation of your license (go offline & then Settings/Deactivate License). Run the downloaded installer and do an offline activation and the application will work now. At last, go online.

- Firewall issues

Please note Absentia application and the associated Java process should be allowed in your firewall. This applies to both Mac and Windows.

Credits

Rob Nokes	
Evgeny Globa	Designer & Programmer
Luciano Del Zoppo	Testing and Analysis, Manual
Augustine Pereira	E-Commerce
Lori Steele	Administrative
Paul Virostek	Manual

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