*** Important Information ***

Pro Tools Control Surfaces and TranzPort

When using the TranzPort with Pro Tools there are a few important considerations if other control surfaces are also to be used in the same system.

General Rules

Pro Tools treats multiple MIDI control surfaces, such as the TranzPort, HUI, Digi-002, etc., as consecutive, or serial, devices. This means that if you have more than one device configured in the "MIDI Controller" setup panel, the first will control tracks 1 – 8, the second controls tracks 9-16, etc. If you move one controller by a track or bank, all controllers will move with it. Because no controller can be moved below track 1, only the first controller will ever be able to access tracks 1 – 8. However, controllers can be moved beyond the upper-most track so that the first controller *can* access the last tracks.

Ethernet control surfaces, such as the ProControl, Control/24, etc., follow similar rules except that an Ethernet controller can be configured in parallel with a MIDI controller. Because they use a different type of connection, Pro Tools treats them as completely independent devices. Therefore you could have a ProControl and a TranzPort both working on the same system, each with full track access.

Specific Controllers

The **Command/8**, designed by digidesign is a MIDI controller that uses a USB connection to interface to your computer. As stated in the setup procedures of its installation manual, the Command/8 is *not* compatible with *any* other third party MIDI controller. This is unfortunate and means that a TranzPort can not be used simultaneously with the Command/8, even as serial devices. They can, however, be used one at a time. By assigning only one at a time in your "MIDI Controllers" setup panel you can switch between them according to your project needs. Pro Tools does allow you to switch controllers without closing your project which reduces the hassle somewhat.

The **Digi-002**, by digidesign, is also a MIDI control surface. However for some reason, if you have a digi-002 in your system, Pro Tools does not display it in the MIDI Controllers list. This creates a bit of confusion when adding a second controller like the TranzPort because you are forced to enter it into the first position. Even though the TranzPort appears in the list as the first and only MIDI controller, it is in fact the second. As a result you will not be able to access the first 8 tracks with the TranzPort as per the rules above.

There are a couple workarounds to this dilemma though that may be suitable.

1. The first option is to add 8 "dummy" tracks at the beginning of the project. If you use MIDI or Aux tracks to do this it shouldn't add any significant load on your overall CPU usage. This will allow either controller to access any of your actual project tracks.
2. The second option is to temporarily disable the Digi-002's control surface when you want to use the TranzPort, or other control surface. To do this you simply need to remove the file digi002.dll from the c/Program Files/Common Files/Digidesign/DAE/Controllers folder. Dragging this file to the desktop before starting Pro Tools will allow the TranzPort to appear as the only controller, and it can be easily replaced when you want to reactivate the Digi-002 controller functions. This will have no affect on the audio functionality of the Digi-002.
 (Note: this is not applicable to the rackmount Digi-002R which is not a control surface).

Generally speaking, digidesign's Ethernet based controllers can be used in parallel with the TranzPort without any of these issues. You may find that if you make changes with an Ethernet controller while the TranzPort is in its sleep mode, that it does not immediately recognize the new settings.