

TranzPort/VS-2480 Bridge - Beta 1

October 5, 2005

This document provides an overview of the TranzPort/VS-2480 Bridge program for Windows. The purpose of the program is to provide wireless remote control for the Roland VS-2480's transport, location, and track-arming functions via the Frontier Design Group TranzPort wireless DAW controller.

Installation

The Bridge is an applet that runs under Windows XP (may also work w/ Win2k). It provides bidirectional translation between TranzPort and the Roland VS-2480 via a Windows MIDI port which is hooked up to the MIDI IN and OUT jacks of the VS-2480.

Procedure:

1. Install the TranzPort drivers according to its documentation. When correctly installed, you should see a) the TranzPort icon in the Windows system tray, b) illuminated LINK lights on the TranzPort and TranzPort USB Interface. See the TranzPort User's Guide for driver installation, Remote/USB Interface "Binding", and general troubleshooting information.
2. At this point, pressing buttons on the TranzPort remote should cause TranzPort's Windows System Tray icon to flash. Do not proceed until you are sure that TranzPort is working correctly.
3. Connect two MIDI cables between the VS-2480 and the MIDI In and Out ports on the host computer.
4. Copy the Bridge applet (TranzPort_VS-2480.exe) to your computer's hard drive, and double-click to start the program. Note that if the Bridge can't find the TranzPort MIDI ports (it checks for them automatically), you will get an error message and the program will terminate.
5. Select the VS-2480 MIDI In and Out ports in the drop-down boxes. (The settings will be saved in the Windows Registry, so you should only have to do this the first time you run the program.)
6. You're done. Enjoy a delicious beverage, you've earned it! (And/or...read on!)

Features

1. Transport controls:
 - a. STOP, PLAY, and RECORD work in the expected way. Note that RECORD is a one-button operation, rather than requiring RECORD+PLAY (this might change...).
 - b. REWIND and FAST-FORWARD are momentary buttons that move the current time in a reverse or forward direction for as long as they are held

- down. MIDI time code from the VS-2480 updates the display continuously while the operation is in progress.
- c. To return to location 00:00:00:00, hold down SHIFT and momentarily press the REWIND button.
 - d. The jog/data wheel can be used to move about the VS-2480 timeline. To move by seconds, simply turn the wheel. To move by frames, press and hold SHIFT while turning the wheel.
2. Footswitch and punch-in:
- a. The ¼” footswitch input on the TranzPort remote connects to an optional normally-open footswitch. The footswitch toggles between RECORD and STOP.
 - b. The PUNCH button is used to toggle the VS-2480's AutoPunch mode on and off. Note that you must set valid Punch In and Punch Out points before AutoPunch will work correctly.
 - c. To set a Punch In point, hold down PUNCH and press the IN button.
 - d. To set a Punch Out point, hold down PUNCH and press the OUT button.
3. Looping:
- a. To use the Loop function of the VS-2480, you must have valid Loop In and Loop Out points set.
 - b. To set the Loop In point, locate the timeline to the time you want to use, then hold down LOOP and press the IN button.
 - c. To set the Loop Out point, locate the timeline to the time you want to use, then hold down LOOP and press the OUT button.
 - d. Pressing the LOOP button by itself toggles the VS-2480's Loop function on and off.
4. Track Arming:
- a. Use the “Track <” and “Track >” buttons to select an VS-2480 track (1-24).
 - b. To switch between “Inputs” and “Tracks”, press Shift + “Track <” and Shift + “Track >”.
 - c. Press the REC button (not the RECORD transport key...) to change a track's status. Pressing REC repeatedly cycles through modes OFF, RECORD, and PLAY. The status of the current track is shown on the TranzPort's LCD, and if the mode is RECORD, the TranzPort's red REC LED will light. (Note: this applies to VS-2480 tracks, not to inputs.)
5. Locate Points:
- a. TranzPort maintains a set of locate points within the applet. You can set and recall up to 10 locate points.
 - b. Press the PREV or NEXT button to select a specific locate point and view its associated timecode location in line 2 of the TranzPort LCD. (If the display shows “--:--:--:--” it means that the locate point has not been set.)
 - c. To copy the current VS-2480 timecode location into a locate point, select that locate point as described above, and then press SHIFT+ADD.
 - d. To make the VS-2480 move to a locate point, select the locate point into the LCD display and press ADD.
 - e. To clear all locate points, press SHIFT+NEXT.

6. Miscellaneous Controls:
 - a. UNDO toggles between the two main screens: time/markers and track selection. (Note that pressing certain buttons on TranzPort automatically forces the TranzPort to one or the other of these modes.)
 - b. MUTE toggles an Input or Track's MUTE status.
 - c. SOLO toggles an Input or Track's SOLO status.

Additional notes

1. The BATTERY and BACKLIGHT buttons and their associated functions (checking battery level, binding remote and USB interface, setting sleep time, contrast, backlight level, etc) work as described in the TranzPort User's Guide.
2. Right-clicking the TranzPort icon in the Windows System Tray allows you to set the active TranzPort protocol. This is not necessary with the TranzPort VS-2480 Bridge applet, which automatically switches TranzPort to Native Mode.