
Richmond Sound Design Ltd.
Theatre Sound Design, Show Control & Virtual Sound System Software

SoundMan-Monitor Release Notes

Version 1.0.24
2014-05-19

- 1) Log files are now flagged to be compressed when they are created, even if the log directory is not compressed.
- 2) There is now a Find command that will let you search up and down in the current log text, looking for some string or another.

There are several ways to start or repeat a find:

Ctrl+F will start a find in the same direction as the last find done. The first time this finds from the top to the bottom of the log records.

Ctrl+F3 can be used in place of Ctrl+F.

Ctrl+Shift+F will start a new find in the opposite direction from the last find. If done as the first find command, it will find from the bottom (newest records) of the log to the top.

Ctrl+Shift+F3 can be used in place of Ctrl+Shift+F.

The F3 key will find the next item in the current find direction.

The Shift+F3 key will find the next item in the opposite of the current find direction. In other words, it will re-find an item previously found.

- 3) The dongle serial number is now logged in the header lines at the start of each log file.
- 4) The OS version is now logged in the header lines at the start of each log file.
- 5) The version number for each program making log records is now shown in any messages about that program. Previously only the log program itself showed a version number.
- 6) The names, program-id values, and the version numbers for all programs that have been making log records are now shown at the front of each log file when the log file rolls over.
- 7) When marking the directory for the log files as Compressed, there is no longer a momentary flash of a black DOS window on the screen.

- 8) Log files are now marked as Compressed when they are created, even if they are created in a directory that is not compressed.
- 9) Fixed a small logic error in log file saving.
- 10) Change the copyright in the About Box to 2014, as should have happened on the last revision.

Version 1.0.23
2014-02-13

1) Changed the copyright to 2014.

Version 1.0.22
2013-10-10

- 1) Change the identifying letter for ShowMan log messages to L from W. The W provided too much confusion with Warning messages.

- 2) Added code to capture windows debugging messages from the running processes on the system. This is disabled by default and must be enabled manually during a logging session. It will not remain set if SoundMan-Monitor is stopped and restarted. Since this will capture debug messages from all programs it is not necessarily useful, but can be under some very specific circumstances.

The captured debug messages will be identified as type 'D', similar to high-level debug messages already made by SM-S and some of the other SoundMan programs. The program identifier letter will be a question mark if the program is not one SM-M recognizes.

Version 1.0.21
2013-05-11

- 1) The Flush call to write log data to disk was not working correctly, the data was not being committed to disk. Found a missing flag in the log file creation and corrected it. Losing data on a power failure should now be less likely.
- 2) Added the machine serial number as one of the items printed at log file creation time, in case SM-A or SM-S are not running to print out the machine serial number.
- 3) SoundMan-Monitor could log a garbage record if the log message had a zero length.

Version 1.0.20
2013-03-07

- 1) Added several lines at the front of each log to try to identify the underlying hardware as closely as possible. This will hopefully help make it easier to track down disk images cloned from one system to another, and relate hardware problems to specific bits of hardware.
- 2) Updated the copyright to 2013.
- 3) The scrollbar was not set to the full text width because tab stops were taking more space than expected. This has been fixed.
- 4) When changing the size of the log window horizontally, the text could get out of sync if the scroll bar was all the way to the right. Now the window will repaint when needed to keep the text looking as it should.
- 5) Add log line identifier of "W" for ShowMan II log records.
- 6) Rewrote the timer that makes log timestamps to be more reliable in the shifting sands of various timers.

Version 1.0.19
2012-07-24

- 1) The logs were being saved to the wrong path in the last version, ending up in "My Documents" rather than "SoundMan Logs". The log file path is now correct.

Version 1.0.18
2011-12-31

- 1) Added "Dump" menu items to specifically take a dump of SoundMan-Assistant or SoundMan-Server. The existing "Dump Programs" command sends a request to all programs to dump themselves. If they are not responding they will not take the dump. The new commands do the dump in SoundMan-Monitor itself, so should always result in a dump.
- 2) Added code to specifically take a dump of a program that has not been responding for 20 to 30 seconds. This should catch the case where SM-S hangs for some unknown reason and does not respond to a dump request. If a dump does not happen automatically, the new Dump menu item will allow dumping SM-S manually.
- 3) The timestamp for log records could in some cases be off by several minutes from the correct value. This has been corrected.
- 4) Changed the copyright to include 2012.

Version 1.0.17
2011-09-08

- 1) Changed the log flush period back to 2.5 minutes for general release.

Version 1.0.16
2011-07-20

- 1) Changed the log flush period from 2.5 minutes to 10 seconds. This will not do for a release version, but during the debug period on the Dervish show this is appropriate due to all of the power losses.

Version 1.0.15
2011-07-15

- 1) The logging time can drift from the actual time under some conditions. This has been fixed.

Version 1.0.14
2011-07-11

- 1) The SoundMan-Monitor version number now appears in SM-M's own log records.
- 2) Soundman-Monitor now is set to below normal process priority to not interfere with time-critical events.
- 3) When SM-M outputs multiple log messages in a batch, it no longer updates the window until it has processed all of the messages in the batch. This results in less process time updating the window and less "jittering" when viewing the window over Remote Desktop.

Version 1.0.13
2011-04-18

- 1) The previous version was not correctly writing the log to disk periodically, and only wrote it out when the log was full.
- 2) It is now possible to select only certain lines or a range of lines from the log and copy them to the clipboard, perhaps to paste into a mail message. This can be done by a menu item in the Edit menu, or the traditional control-C once the lines are selected.

To make it easier to select lines or examine a section of log while logging, you can now pause scrolling temporarily. Previously you could pause scrolling by holding down the left mouse button in the window, and this still works. However, that isn't good enough if you want to select a range of lines from the text box. You can pause and resume scrolling either with a control-P combination or by using the item in the Edit menu. The menu item will be checked when scrolling is paused.

- 3) When changing the width of the log window the header now remains centered.
- 4) Fixed the code that was supposed to flush out the log file when Windows was shutting down.

Version 1.0.12
2011-03-19

- 1) Changed the year from 2 to 4 digits in the log records.
- 2) Changed the code to log to a disk file continuously, updating every few minutes. This should prevent the complete loss of the log info if the machine crashes or is powered down ungracefully.
- 3) There was a problem with the code that stopped scrolling while you had the left mouse button down. This has been fixed.
- 4) Only one instance of SM-M can now be open at once. Previously it could be started multiple times at once, resulting in general confusion.

Version 1.0.11
2011-02-28

- 1) The individual messages are now flagged with an S for SM-S messages and an A for SM-A messages. Messages generated by SM-M itself will be flagged with an M in those cases where it would not be confusing.
- 2) If SM-M was started while SM-S or SM-A are already running, the first batch of messages could have been logged with a confusing and incorrect task identification. This has been fixed.
- 3) If you hold down the left mouse button the window will stop scrolling. This makes it easier to examine log messages on a busy system.

Version 1.0.10
2011-01-30

- 1) The copyright in the About box has been updated to the current year.
- 2) Cleaned things up so that messages that are very close in time should end up in scrambled order much less often.
- 3) Updated file copyright to 2011.

Version 1.0.9
2010-06-21

- 1) "Memory" is now spelled correctly in the Dump menu.

Version 1.0.8
2010-04-19

- 1) Updated the copyright to 2010.
- 2) Added code to trim down the number of old log files to keep from flooding the disk in a system that runs unattended forever.

Version 1.0.7
2009-11-11

- 1) Some internally generated log messages were being incorrectly flagged as Warning rather than Information.
- 2) If a dump request (from the menu) was denied or failed, the error result was not being logged.

Version 1.0.6

- 1) The log directory will only be compressed if it is not already compressed.
- 2) The command to compress the log directory now is properly formatted if the log path contains spaces or other special characters, as it often will.
- 3) Changed some message numbers around that may have resulted in a crash when trying to save the log on a German-language version of Windows.
- 4) Fixed an undersized filename buffer on the stack that was causing a crash on file save.
- 5) Made the log save automatically at midnight local time, not midnight GMT time.
- 6) Fixed line endings in the log file to be `\r\n` rather than just `\n` to make Notepad happier.

Version 1.0.5

- 1) Log files are now stored by default in "My Documents\SoundMan Logs".
- 2) If a lot of messages needed to be added to the log window at once there is much less flashing and wiggling about than previously.
- 3) If a lot of messages were being added to the log window, Monitor would ignore a shutdown request until all messages had been added.
- 4) SoundMan-Monitor now has menus rather than buttons to do most actions.
- 5) System shutdown or user logoff is now detected, and Monitor will save the log automatically when this happens.
- 6) The log file is saved and cleared automatically shortly before midnight each day.
- 7) The log file is saved and the log cleared automatically when it gets to about 65,000 lines in the log file. This trimming will now happen even when a lot of lines are being added at once. Previously this would occur, but only during normal operation.
- 8) The log is automatically saved on exit now to the SoundMan Logs directory. Previously the user was asked to save the log, and in general people weren't saving the logs.
- 9) There is a menu item to take a simultaneous program dump of both Soundman-Assistant and Soundman-Server. Each program will create its own dump file, but they will be very close in time.
- 10) If the system shuts down due to a normal Windows request, the log will be saved just as the system shuts down.

Version 1.0.4
2009-09-17

- 1) The popup menu for the tray icon said "About SoundMan-Server" instead of "About SoundMan-Monitor".
- 2) The About menu in the popup menu on the tray icon failed to bring up the About box as it should have.

Version 1.0.3
2008-11-05

- 1) Fixed a problem where the program refused to exit and had to be killed with task manager.
- 2) If the window is minimized to the taskbar (rather than hidden in the tray) double-clicking the tray icon will now make the window visible. Previously double clicking in this case had no effect and was somewhat frustrating.

Version 1.0.2
2008-10-14

- 1) Improved the accuracy of the time function that produces the log timestamps.
- 2) When the Close item is selected in the system menu, or the big X in the upper right corner is clicked, the program will now minimize to the tray. The normal Minimize bar (near the big X) will minimize to the normal taskbar location.

To exit the program, use either the Exit item in the menu on the system tray icon, or use the new Exit menu item in the system menu. You can also use the Quit button in the main dialog, as before.

Version 1.0.1
2008-09-12

- 1) Messages were not being captured until the first time the log window was displayed. This is now fixed.
- 2) Log messages now have timestamps accurate to about a millisecond, rather than 10-15ms as previously.
- 3) There is now a date stamp on messages as well as a time stamp. This helps when a log covers several days.

Version 1.0.0
2008-08-25

- 1) This is the initial release of SoundMan-Monitor.

SoundMan-Monitor is a program that will monitor the activity of SM-Assistant and SoundMan-Server. It collects the log data from both programs and makes a single log interspersed by time.

It also notes if the UI is locked up on either program for any length of time and makes log messages of its own when this is detected.

The log can be saved to a file or copied to the clipboard.

- 2) Both SM-Assistant and SoundMan-Server will try to start SoundMan-Monitor when they start. SoundMan-Monitor assures that only one copy will be running at any time.
- 3) Both SM-Assistant and SoundMan-Server will clear their logs periodically as they accumulate many messages, since the permanent log should be maintained by SoundMan-Monitor.