



A20-MINI

Compact Transmitter

User Guide

Table of Contents

| | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| 3 | Welcome to the A20-MINI | 20 | Managing User Groups |
| 4 | Panel Views | 20 | Create a New User Group |
| 6 | Power | 20 | Open an existing User Group |
| 7 | Introduction to SD-Remote | 20 | Edit the User Group |
| 8 | SD-Remote Overview | 20 | Add a User |
| 10 | Device List | 20 | Remove a User |
| 10 | Pairing an A20-MINI with SD-Remote | 20 | Add a Group |
| 10 | Adding an A20-MINI to the TX List | 20 | Remove a Group |
| 11 | TX View | 21 | Save User Groups as ALUG files |
| 11 | TX List | 21 | Send User Group to TX/RX |
| 12 | Controlling an A20-MINI from SD-Remote | 21 | Updating A20-MINI Firmware |
| 12 | Turning A20-MINI On from SD-Remote | 22 | XL-PowerStation |
| 12 | Naming the A20-MINI | 22 | Charging Batteries with the XL-PowerStation |
| 13 | Setting Frequency | 22 | Bottom Panel |
| 13 | Setting RF Power | 22 | 1/4"-20 Mounting Point |
| 13 | Tuning A20-MINI and the Audio Ltd A10-RX | 22 | Powering the XL-PowerStation |
| 13 | Adjusting Audio of the A20-MINI Signal | 23 | Distributing Timecode to |
| | from the A10-RX | | A20-MINI Transmitters |
| 13 | Recording WAV Files on A20-MINI | 23 | Transferring A20-MINI |
| 13 | Recording with A20-MINI | 23 | Files via XL-PowerStation |
| | Purchased in the U.S.A. | | Updating A20-MINI |
| 13 | Jamming Timecode on A20-MINI | 23 | Firmware via XL-PowerStation |
| 14 | Files View | 23 | XL-PowerStation Specifications |
| 14 | File Info View | 24 | A20-MINI Specifications |
| 14 | Delete a File | 25 | Legal Notices |
| 15 | Settings View | 25 | FCC Conformity |
| 15 | Privacy/Encryption | 26 | FCC Interference Statement |
| 15 | Stealth Mode | 26 | Industry Canada Conformity |
| 15 | Auto Power On When Removed from the | 26 | WEEE Statement |
| | XL-PowerStation | | Battery Advisory |
| 15 | Auto Power with Lav Mic Connection | 26 | A20-MINI User Guide Revision List |
| 15 | Formatting the Internal SSD | | |
| 15 | Location | | |
| 15 | Save User Settings | | |
| 15 | Load Settings | | |
| 16 | Regulatory | | |
| 16 | Update Firmware | | |
| 16 | DTMF Tones Mode | | |
| 16 | SD-Remote Version | | |
| 16 | A20-MINI Version | | |
| 16 | A20-MINI Serial Number | | |
| 17 | User Groups | | |
| 17 | Naming the User Group | | |
| 17 | Activate the User Group | | |
| 17 | New User Group | | |
| 17 | Save User Group | | |
| 17 | Open User Group | | |
| 17 | Share User Group | | |
| 17 | Adding and Naming User Group Frequencies | | |
| 18 | File Transfer to a Computer | | |
| 19 | Mic2Wav II | | |
| 19 | Installing Mic2Wav II | | |
| 19 | Importing A20-MINI | | |
| | WAV Files into Mic2Wav II | | |
| 19 | Removing WAV files from the Source Window | | |
| 19 | Selecting Files to Process | | |
| 19 | Naming of Processed WAV Files | | |
| 20 | Creating Shorter WAV Files Based on | | |
| | Timecode Range | | |
| 20 | Selecting Bit Depth of Processed WAV Files | | |
| 20 | Conforming A20-MINI WAV Files to | | |
| | CSV Sound Reports | | |
| 20 | Adding Pre- and Post-Roll | | |
| 20 | Combining to Poly | | |

Welcome to the A20-MINI

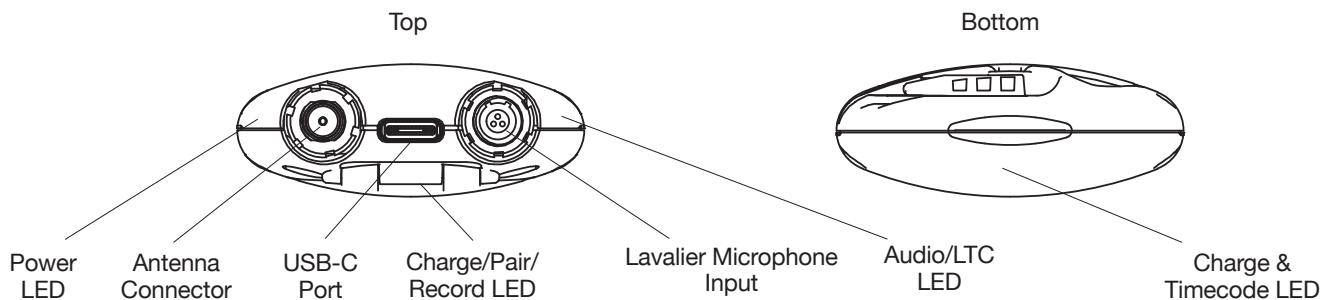
The Sound Devices A20-MINI wireless microphone transmitter builds upon the heritage and technology of the phenomenal-sounding Audio Ltd A10-TX transmitter. The A20-MINI offers the following features:

- **470 MHz to 694 MHz UHF tuning range** simplifies purchasing and makes operation far more flexible than before. RF power can be selected between 2, 10, 20, and 40 mW.
- **Powers from AAA batteries (3) or Sony NP-BX1** rechargeable Li-Ion battery. The choice is yours, and no additional adapters or expensive proprietary batteries needed.
- **IP67 waterproofing.** The A20-MINI is built for the most extreme environments with its extensive gasketing and solid construction.
- **Zero-gain-control architecture.** Due to the extreme dynamic range of the proprietary Sound Devices codec, no gain setting is needed at the transmitter. System gain is adjusted at the receiver, and worrying about the gain setting at the transmitter is a thing of the past.
- **Built-in Li-Ion battery charger.** When using the rechargeable Sony NP-BX1 battery, simply plug the A20-MINI's USB-C port and automatically charge the battery. The A20-MINI senses when AAA batteries are in the A20-MINI and disables the charger.
- **Built-in Bluetooth 5.2 LE** allows for simple Android/iOS control of parameters. The A20-MINI's built-in 2.4G antenna ensures excellent range. A20-MINI can be powered on and off entirely via Bluetooth for extended battery life.
- **Removable external UHF antenna w/ SMA connector.** An external antenna allows for the most efficient operation and greatest range.
- **Optional XL-PowerStation** allows for easy battery charging, file transfer, and timecode jamming of up to 8 A20-MINIs at a time.
- **Built-in 32-bit float audio recorder.** 32-bit float recording means never having to worry about setting the transmitter gain, and never worrying about clipping audio. Audio gain of the file can be adjusted up or down in post.

Simultaneous Record and Transmit mode is not available on A20-MINI units sold in the United States of America.

- **Built-in 64 GB SSD.** No need to worry about SD card management - audio recording is always available with the ample-sized drive. Simply offload files via the high-speed USB port to a computer.
- **Rock-solid timecode with supercapacitor back-up.** The A20-MINI's internal timecode generator can be jammed to get 0.2ppm ultra-accurate timecode for perfectly synchronized recordings. The supercapacitor back-up allows for battery changes without having to rejam timecode.
- **Small, smooth, concealable, and comfortable to wear.**
- **Included accessories:**
 - **Antenna set** (1 straight 470-548 MHz, 1 straight 548-638 MHz, 1 straight uncut, 3 antenna caps).

Panel Views



Power LED

Indicates the state of battery life.

- Green = Good
- Yellow = Marginal
- Red = Low
- Blue = Service mode for loading firmware

Antenna Connector

SMA connector. Attach antenna with a length specific to the frequency in use. Using the wrong length of antenna reduces RF range.

USB-C Port

Multifunction port used for:

- Charging internal Sony NP-BX1 rechargeable battery (not included)
- Timecode input and output
- Transferring files to and from a computer
- Updating firmware

Connect Linear Timecode (LTC) devices to the A20-MINI USB-C port using the optional Sound Devices XL-TCU-LEMO or XL-TCU-BNC cables. Upon connecting LTC, the transmitter automatically jams timecode values and sets the frame rate to the incoming source. Successful jam is indicated by the Audio/LTC LED flashing blue on the 00 frame. The Sound Devices XL-TCU-LEMO provides access to the A20-MINI timecode output if you want to verify correct LTC jam.

Charge/Pairing/Record LED

Indicates charging, Bluetooth pairing, and recording.

- Solid Yellow = Charging
- Solid Green = Charging complete
- Off = No charging
- Rapid Flashing Blue = Bluetooth Pairing mode or setting changed via DTMF tones.
- Solid Red = Recording
- Flashing Red = Recording stopped due to full media or recording error.

Lavalier Microphone Input

3-Pin LEMO connector for connecting a lavalier microphone. Can be set to power transmitter on and off via lav mic connection and disconnection.

Audio/LTC LED

Audio/LTC LED indicates audio activity and timecode status.

- Green (variable intensity) = Audio activity from lavalier microphone
- Red = Microphone clipping
- Flashing Blue = Timecode 00 frame (only when unit is off or when jamming timecode)
- Solid Blue = Microphone is muted

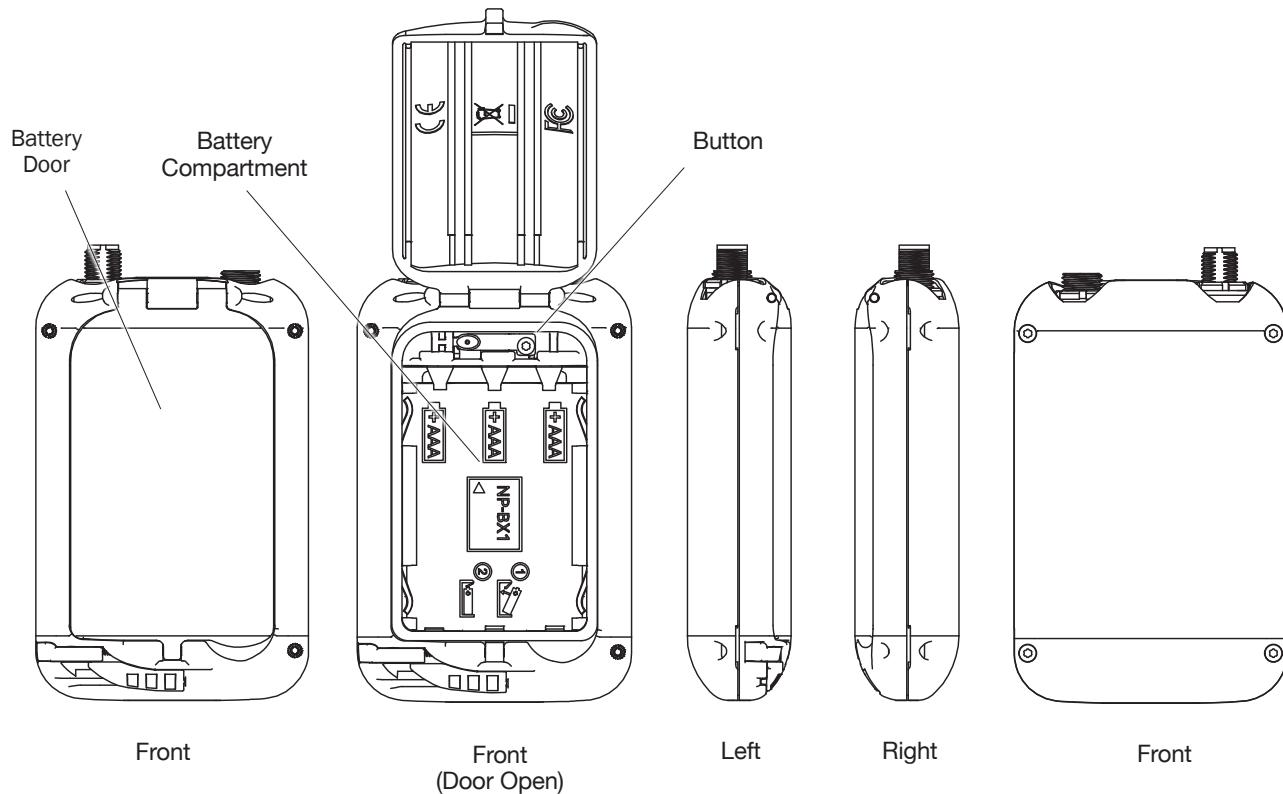
Note: Due to the extremely high dynamic range of the microphone input, under normal use the audio LED should never light up red. If it does, this is an indicator that the microphone itself (not the mic preamp) is clipping and the audio level should be attenuated acoustically by moving the mic capsule or using a lower sensitivity microphone.

Charge & Timecode LED

Positioned on the bottom of the A20-MINI to make it easily visible when slotted into the optional XL-PowerStation. LED indicates charging status, timecode sync, Bluetooth pairing, and recording status.

- Solid Yellow = Charging
- Solid Green = Charging complete
- Off = Not charging
- Flashing Blue = Timecode 00 frame (only when unit is off or when jamming timecode)
- Rapid Flashing Blue = Bluetooth Pairing mode
- Solid Red = Recording
- Flashing Red = Recording stopped due to full media or recording error

Panel Views



Battery Door

Access to the battery compartment and button.

Battery Compartment

Accepts either 3x AAA Lithium batteries, or one rechargeable Sony NP-BX1 Li-Ion battery. Sound Devices recommends using Energizer Ultimate AAA batteries for best performance. Alkaline and NiMH are not recommended because of compromised run times.

Button

This button is used to power the A20-MINI on or off and enter Bluetooth Pairing mode.

- Power On = Press and release button.
- Power Off = Press and hold button for 1 second.
- Pairing Mode = While A20-MINI is off, press and hold button for 5 seconds. The Pairing LED on the bottom and top panel flashes blue rapidly while in Pairing mode.

Power

The A20-MINI powers via 3x AAA Energizer Ultimate or one Sony NP-BX1 Li-Ion battery.

Powering from AAA or Sony NP-BX1 Li-Ion

To power the A20-MINI using AAA batteries or Sony NP-BX1 Li-Ion:

1. Open the A20-MINI battery door.
2. Insert three AAA batteries or one Sony NP-BX1 Li-Ion into the battery compartment taking care to place the batteries in the correct polar orientation.
3. Press and release the button to power the A20-MINI on.
4. Close the A20-MINI battery door.
5. To power the A20-MINI off, press and hold the button for one second. The Power LED flashes rapidly while the A20-MINI powers off. The Power LED is off when the unit is off.

USB-C

USB-C can be used to charge Sony NP-BX1 batteries inserted in the A20-MINI. Sony NP-BX1 battery charging only occurs if the USB-C host port provides at least 1.5 A. The A20-MINI does not charge AAA batteries.

To charge the Sony NP-BX1 from USB-C:

1. Open the battery door and insert a Sony NP-BX1 into the battery compartment.
2. Connect a USB-C host providing at least 1.5 A to the A20-MINI USB-C port.
3. The Charge/Pair/Rec LED glows solid yellow while the battery is charging. The Charge LED turns solid green when charging is complete.

XL-PowerStation

The XL-PowerStation is an optional accessory for the A20-MINI. An A20-MINI using a Sony NP-BX1 battery can be inserted into a charging bay of the XL-PowerStation to charge the battery. See XL-PowerStation for more details.

Auto Power On and Off with XL-PowerStation

The A20-MINI automatically powers off when inserted into a charging bay of the XL-PowerStation. To save time from having to manually power on the A20-MINI, use the Power On When Removed from the XL-PowerStation feature. When on, removing an A20-MINI from the XL-PowerStation immediately powers the transmitter on. This feature can be turned on or off in the SD-Remote application. See SD-Remote for more details.

Auto Power with Lav Mic Connection

The A20-MINI optionally auto-detects the lav mic connection and powers on and off accordingly. When Auto Power with Lav Mic Connection is on, connecting a lavalier microphone to the A20-MINI automatically powers the transmitter on. Removing the LEMO connection automatically powers the A20-MINI off. This feature can be turned on or off in the SD-Remote application. See SD-Remote for more details.

Expected Battery Life

The table below shows expected battery rundown times for Sony NP-BX1 Li-Ion and three Energizer Ultimate AAA batteries based on RF Power setting and whether the A20-MINI is recording.

| RF Power & Re-cord | Sony NP-BX1 | 3x AAA (Energizer Ultimate) |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| RF Power Off | --:-- | --:-- |
| 2 mW | --:-- | --:-- |
| 10 mW | --:-- | --:-- |
| 20 mW | --:-- | --:-- |
| 40 mW | --:-- | --:-- |
| RF Off, Recording | --:-- | --:-- |
| 2 mW, Recording | --:-- | --:-- |
| 10 mW, Recording | --:-- | --:-- |
| 20 mW, Recording | --:-- | --:-- |
| 40 mW, Recording | --:-- | --:-- |

Introduction to SD-Remote

SD-Remote is a mobile device application for Android/iOS phones and tablets designed to pair with the A20-MINI. To keep the size, weight, and power consumption of the A20-MINI to a minimum, all settings of parameters and functions are performed using the SD-Remote mobile device application.

A mobile device connects via Bluetooth LE to the A20-MINI. SD-Remote offers control and display of all A20-MINI parameters. This includes the following:

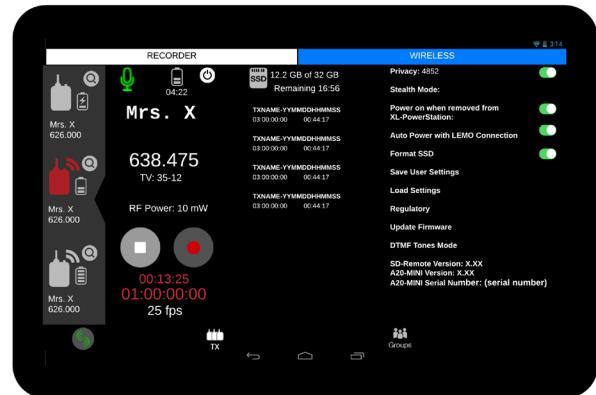
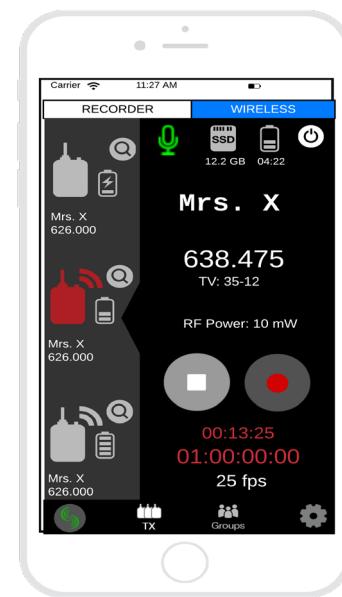
1. Power on and off the A20-MINI
2. Monitor battery status
3. Frequency and RF setup
4. Monitor audio signal presence
5. Microphone mute
6. Transport controls (Record, Stop)
7. Timecode display
8. SSD formatting and monitoring of remaining space
9. System settings (stealth mode, charging options, User Groups and more)
10. Firmware updating
11. Control of select A20-MINI settings using DTMF tones.

This guide describes the “Wireless” tab and functionality of SD-Remote. The Recorder tab is described in the Sound Devices 8-Series guides.

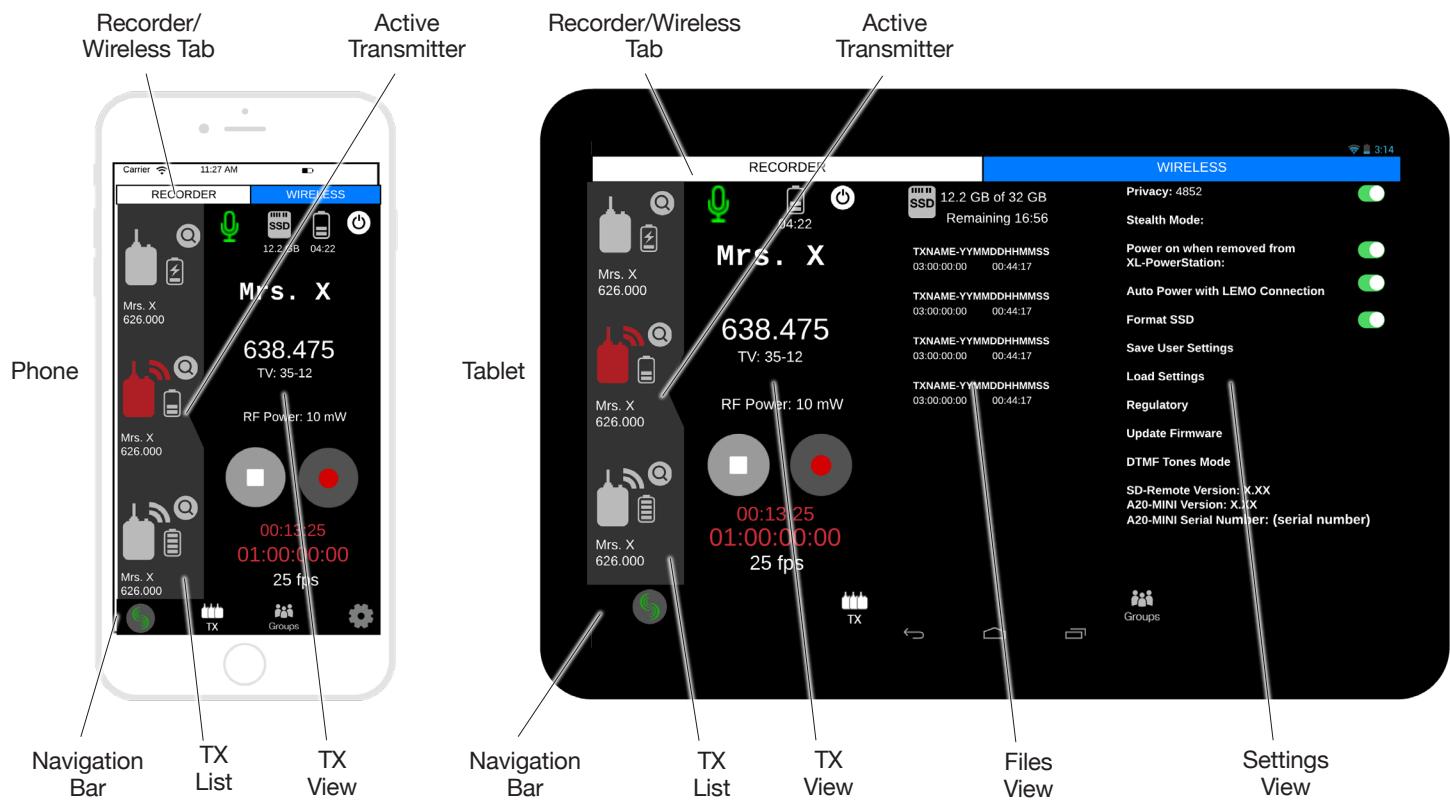
Download and install the SD-Remote app from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store.

SD-Remote has the following minimum operating requirements: Android tablets and phones running Android 8+, or iPad and iOS devices running iOS 13+.

The mobile device’s location is used to determine available features and TV channel mapping of the A20-MINI. The mobile device’s system date and time are used in the metadata of recorded files and when using time-of-day timecode.



SD-Remote Overview



Recorder and Wireless Tabs

Active tab is highlighted in blue. The Wireless tab is shown as the active tab in the example image and is described in this guide.

TX List

Scroll to see all available transmitters in the TX List. Touch a transmitter to select it to be the active transmitter for the TX View. Transmitters are added and removed from the TX List from the Device List. See TX List for more details.

Active Transmitter

The triangular indent in the TX List indicates the active transmitter shown in the TX View.

TX View

Displays the active transmitter's audio activity, battery life, and timecode values. Allows control of transmitter's power, RF set-up, record and stop. See TX View for more details.

Files View (Tablet)

The A20-MINI Files View displays remaining time and space left on the internal SSD. Displays a scrollable list of recorded files. Touch a file name for more options. Files View is available on the phone by touching the SSD icon in the TX View. See File View for more details.

Settings View (Tablet)

Allows control of various A20-MINI settings. Displays the version number of SD-Remote and the firmware version and serial number of the active A20-MINI. Settings View is available on a phone by touching the Settings (gear) icon in the Navigation Bar. See Settings View for more details.

Navigation Bar

Icons on the navigation bar indicate the various views of the SD-Remote Wireless Tab. Touch an icon to display the corresponding view.

| Icon | Description |
|--|--|
|  | Device List The Device List is where you pair A20-MINI over Bluetooth to SD-Remote. See Device List for more details. |
|  TX | TX View Displays the active transmitter's audio activity, battery life, and timecode values. Allows control of transmitter's power, RF setup, record and stop. See TX View for more details. |
|  Groups | User Groups The User Groups View is where you can name frequencies with intuitive names and limit the frequencies available. See User Groups for more details. |
|  | Settings View (Phone) Allows control of various A20-MINI settings. Displays the version number of SD-Remote and the firmware version and serial number of the active A20-MINI. Settings View is available on a phone by touching the Settings (gear) icon in the Navigation Bar. The Settings View is visible in the TX View on tablets and does not have a Navigation Bar icon. See Settings View for more details. |

Device List

Pair A20-MINI over Bluetooth to SD-Remote on the Device List. The Device List displays all transmitters within range that are in Pairing mode and any A20-MINI that has been previously paired to the mobile device.

| Icon | Status |
|---|--------------------------|
|  | No devices connected. |
|  | Establishing connection. |
|  | Active connection. |

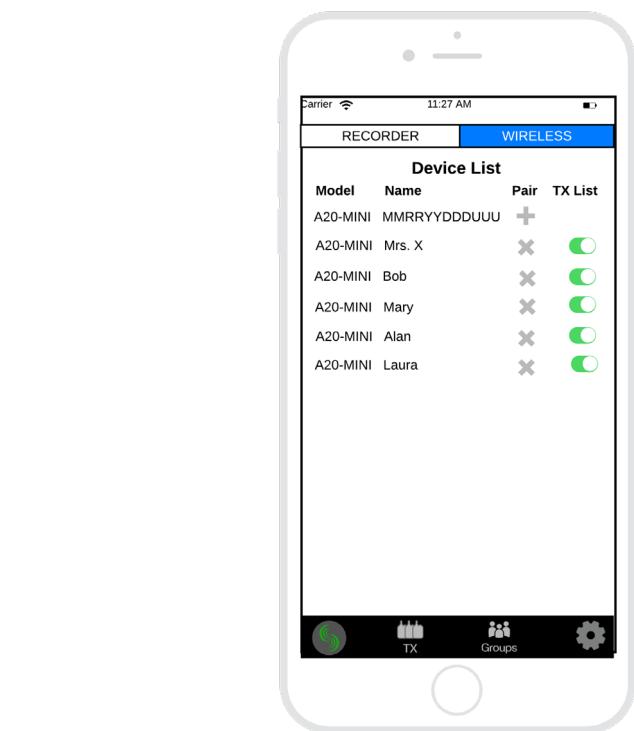
Pairing an A20-MINI with SD-Remote

With the A20-MINI off, open the battery door then press and hold the multi-function button for five seconds. The Bluetooth LED flashes blue rapidly while in Pairing mode.

From the SD-Remote Device List, touch the + button to pair an A20-MINI to the mobile device. To remove an A20-MINI from the Device List, touch the X button. Once removed, you will need to repeat the pairing process again to re-add the transmitter to the Device List.

Adding A20-MINIs to the TX View - TX List

From the SD-Remote - Wireless - Device List, add or remove a transmitter to the TX List using the TX List button.



TX View

The TX View contains the TX List and a view of the active transmitter's audio activity, battery life, and timecode values, and allows control of transmitter's power, RF setup, record and stop. Touch the TX icon in the Navigation Bar to display the TX View.

TX List

The TX List is displayed on the left-hand side of the TX View. This scrollable list displays all transmitters added to the TX List and a high-level view of a transmitter's status. This includes the transmitter's name, set frequency, and the status of battery level/charging, power, record, and RF transmission.

| Icon | Description |
|---------------------------|--|
| | A20-MINI Status Indicator The A20-MINI is powered off. |
| | A20-MINI Status Indicator The A20-MINI is not recording or transmitting. |
| | A20-MINI Status Indicator The A20-MINI is transmitting but not recording. |
| | A20-MINI Status Indicator The A20-MINI is recording but not transmitting. |
| | A20-MINI Status Indicator The A20-MINI is transmitting and recording. |
| | Battery Level Indicator Displays the level of the battery from no bars (no battery) to four bars (full charge). |
| | Battery Charge Indicator Displays the charging status of the battery. |
| | Charging Error Indicator Displays when the battery is not able to charge. Possible causes for charging errors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> USB is connected but AAA batteries are inserted. USB is connected but no battery is present. USB is connected but is not providing 1.5 A or more. |
| | Identify Unit Touch the Identify Unit icon to put the A20-MINI into identify mode. The LEDs on the A20-MINI flash for 30 seconds making it easy to locate the A20-MINI you want to control. |
| A20-MINI Name | Displays the name of the A20-MINI. |
| A20-MINI Frequency | Displays the set frequency of the A20-MINI. |



Active A20-MINI in the TX View

The active A20-MINI in the TX View is indicated by the indent on the right-hand side of the TX List. Touch any transmitter in the TX List to make it the active transmitter.



Audio Signal Presence/Mic Mute

The Mic icon varies in intensity when audio signal is present. Touch the Mic icon to mute the microphone. To prevent accidental muting, a confirmation dialog popup appears asking to confirm the change. When muted, no audio is present in the recordings or transmitted.



Transmitter Power

Touch the Power icon to turn the A20-MINI on or off. The icon will be gray when the transmitter is off and white when the transmitter is on.



Record

Touch the Record icon to start a recording on the A20-MINI. The icon is red while recording.



Stop

Touch the Stop icon to stop a recording on the A20-MINI. The icon is yellow while recording is stopped.



Files View

On a phone, touch the SSD icon to see the A20-MINI Files View. See Files View for more information.



License Required

Some frequencies may require a license to operate on in your area. The LIC icon appears if the set frequency requires a license for your location.

Controlling A20-MINI from SD-Remote

While in the TX View, touch the A20-MINI from the TX List you wish to control or view in more depth. The selected transmitter is displayed to the immediate right of the TX List.

From the TX View you can control parameters of the A20-MINI and get a detailed view of audio signal presence, timecode, and more.

Naming the A20-MINI

While in the TX View, touch the name field and use the pop up QWERTY keyboard to rename the transmitter. You are allowed up to twelve alpha-numeric characters. The transmitter's name is the serial number of the unit by default. Names are tied to User Group frequency when using User Groups. See User Groups for more detail.



Setting Frequency

The A20-MINI transmits on frequencies ranging from 470 MHz–694 MHz. The frequencies available are determined by your geographic location. See <https://www.sounddevices.com> for further information regarding the available frequencies and TV channel mapping in your area.

Pre-selected frequencies are available based on TV channels and sub channels. Three sets of frequencies are available based on either 6, 7, or 8 MHz channel bandwidth. The channel bandwidth is based on the geographic region where the unit is operating.

- 6 MHz per TV channel:
North America, South Korea, Philippines, China, Taiwan, Japan
- 7 MHz per TV channel:
Australia and New Zealand
- 8 MHz per TV channel:
UK and Western Europe , Greenland, Asia, Africa

Touch the frequency display to change the frequency manually with numeric values in 25 kHz increments or touch the TV channel to select from available TV channels and sub-channels. When User Groups are active, the method of selecting frequency changes. See User Groups for more details.

Setting RF Power

RF power is the strength of the transmitting signal. The A20-MINI offers the following RF power settings.

- Off - A20-MINI is on but is not transmitting.
- 2 mW
- 10 mW
- 20 mW
- 40 mW

RF power settings are based on your location as some legal restrictions may apply. Touch “RF Power” and select from the drop-down list.

Tuning A20-MINI and the Audio Ltd A10-RX

Signal transmitted by the A20-MINI transmitters are received by the Audio Ltd A10-RX. Enter the frequency of the transmitter you wish to receive on the A10-RX either by manually tuning the number or using the TV channel and sub channel. Be sure to properly set the A10-RX to the proper TV channel map for your area when using the TV channel method. See [Frequency Tables](#) for more information.

The A20-MINI uses a very advanced codec and RF transmission scheme such that the audio gain, low-cut, and limiter are adjusted at the receiver instead of transmitter.

Adjusting Audio of the A20-MINI Signal from the A10-RX

From the A10-RX, press the channel’s arrow button twice to view the status of the tuned A20-MINI. Press the middle button to enter the menu. From the menu select to adjust gain, limiter, or low cut of the incoming A20-MINI transmitted signal. Gain is adjustable from 0 to 40 dB. Limiter can be turned on or off. Low cut can be set to Off, 40 Hz, 60 Hz, 80 Hz, 100 Hz, or 200 Hz. See the A10-RX User Guide for more details.

Recording WAV Files

The A20-MINI records 32-bit float RF64 WAV files at 48 kHz sampling rates. Recording of audio files is automatically done in 32-bit float so that setting gain too high or low is never a problem. Learn more about 32-bit float at:
<https://www.sounddevices.com/category/support/tech-notes/>

Recordings are started and stopped using the record and stop buttons in the TX View.

The file name format is TX Name-YYMMDDHHMMSS.WAV. For example, the TX name has been changed to “Barney” and a recording is created on June 10, 2021 at 9:30 in the morning, the resulting file is named Barney-210610093000.WAV. All files are recorded at root of the internal SSD (no folders).

Recording with A20-MINI Purchased in the U.S.A.

Simultaneous Record and Transmit mode is not available on A20-MINI units sold in the United States of America.

Record features of A20-MINI transmitters purchased in the U.S.A. are only available when RF Power is set to Off.

Jamming Timecode

The A20-MINI jams timecode from an external LTC source via USB. The timecode value and frame rate are taken from incoming LTC source. If timecode has not been jammed, the A20-MINI stamps files using the time of day, derived from the mobile device running SD-Remote.

Timecode values are held for up to four hours after power down, and for one hour after the battery has been removed. This allows for time to swap batteries without having to re-jam timecode.

To jam timecode, connect a valid LTC source using one of the optional accessories Sound Devices XL-TCU-LEMO or XL-TCU-BNC to the USB-C port. Timecode is automatically jammed once a valid LTC source is connected.

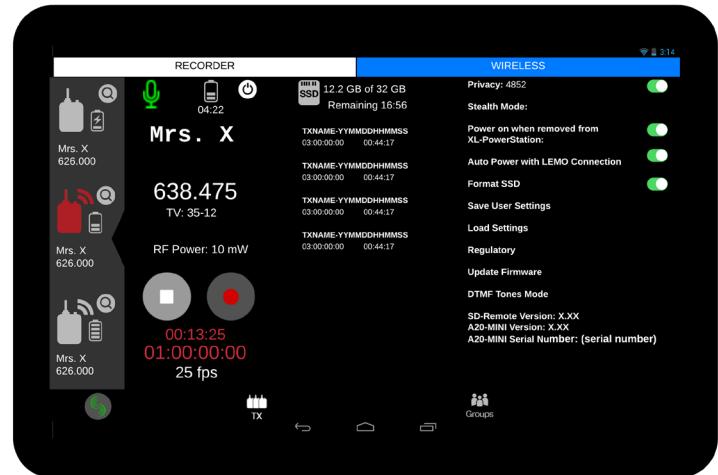
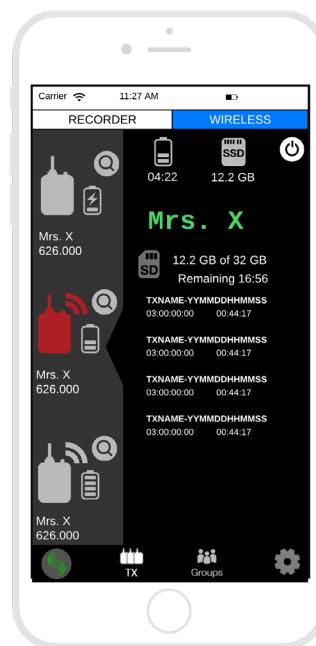
After a successful timecode jam, the Audio/LTC LED flashes blue on the 00 frame crossing. Timecode is output from the USB-C using the Sound Devices XL-TCU-LEMO so that you can verify the A20-MINI timecode is in sync with the LTC source.

The A20-MINI can also jam timecode while connected to the optional XL-PowerStation via USB-C. See XL-PowerStation for more details.

Files View

The A20-MINI Files View is displayed in the center of the TX View on a tablet and is accessed by touching the SSD icon on a phone. Remaining space, remaining record time, and a list of recorded files on the SSD are displayed. Touch a file to view more information about the file.

| Icon | Description |
|---|---|
|  | <p>File Info View The File Info View displays the filename, creation time and date, start timecode stamp, duration of recording, file size, and provides the option to delete the file.</p> |
|  | <p>Delete a File From the File Info View delete a file by touching the Trash icon and confirming the dialog popup.</p> |



Settings View

The Settings View is displayed on the far right-hand side of the tablet view. On a phone touch the Settings (gear) icon in the Navigation Bar to display the Settings View.

The Settings View allows control of less often changed parameters of the A20-MINI. It displays the version and serial number of the active A20-MINI and the SD-Remote version number.

Privacy/Encryption

When Privacy is on, the A20-MINI automatically generates and displays a four digit code. When on, audio is encrypted and the four digit code needs to be set on receiver to get audio.

Stealth Mode

When you need the A20-MINI to be discreet turn on Stealth mode. In Stealth mode, all A20-MINI LEDs are turned off.

Auto Power On When Removed from the XL-PowerStation

The A20-MINI automatically powers off when inserted into a charging bay of the XL-PowerStation. To save time from having to manually power on the A20-MINI, use the Power On When Removed from the XL-PowerStation feature. When on, removing the A20-MINI from the XL-PowerStation powers the transmitter on. This feature can be turned on or off. See XL-PowerStation for more details.

Auto Power with Lav Mic Connection

The A20-MINI optionally auto-detects the presence of the lavalier microphone connection and powers on and off accordingly. When Auto Power with Lav Mic Connection is on, connecting a lavalier microphone to the A20-MINI automatically powers on the transmitter. Removing the lavalier mic connection automatically powers the A20-MINI off. This feature can be turned on or off.

Formatting the Internal SSD

Formatting the A20-MINI SSD deletes all recorded files. It is good practice to backup files by copying them to a computer then formatting the SSD periodically.

In the event you need to run a low-level format from a computer, you still need to format the SSD by the A20-MINI before recording files.

Location

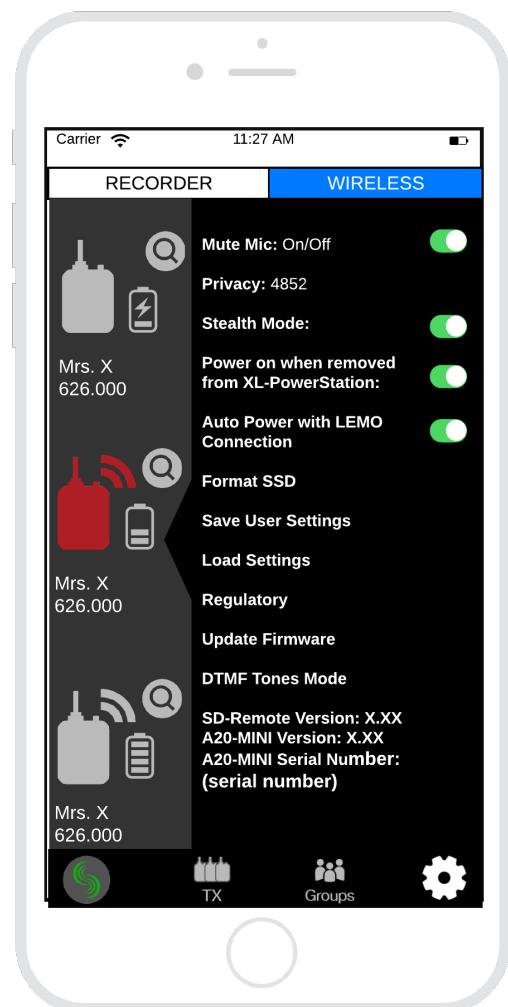
Location is automatically set if GPS or Location Services are available on the mobile device. Use this menu to manually set your location when these services are unavailable.

Save User Settings

Saves the current settings of the active A20-MINI to the internal SSD or flash. Settings files can be loaded at a later time or transferred to another A20-MINI via a computer.

Load Settings

Loads factory default settings or user setup files stored on the active A20-MINI's internal SSD or flash.



Regulatory

Displays compliance documentation for local government requirements.

Update Firmware

Searches the Sound Devices website for the latest firmware PRG and loads the new firmware on the A20-MINI.

DTMF Tones Mode

DTMF Tones mode is useful in the very unlikely event that Bluetooth cannot connect and you still need to change parameters of the A20-MINI. Using DTMF tones you can turn the transmitter on or off, change the frequency, start or stop recordings, and mute or unmute the microphone.

Touch the frequency display to change the frequency manually with numeric values or touch the TV channel to select from available TV channels and sub-channels. Touch anyone of the radio buttons to play the DTMF tone out of the mobile device's speakers. Adjust the volume using the fader.

Position the mobile device close to the lav mic attached to the A20-MINI. The A20-MINI changes settings based on the DTMF tone playing. The A20-MINI Pairing LED flashes blue for 5 seconds when a setting has been changed via a DTMF tone.

Deselect all radio buttons to stop DTMF tones from playing. Be aware of your volume levels and your relation to other transmitters to avoid accidental setting changes. Touch any of the Navigation Bar icons to exit DTMF mode.

SD-Remote Version

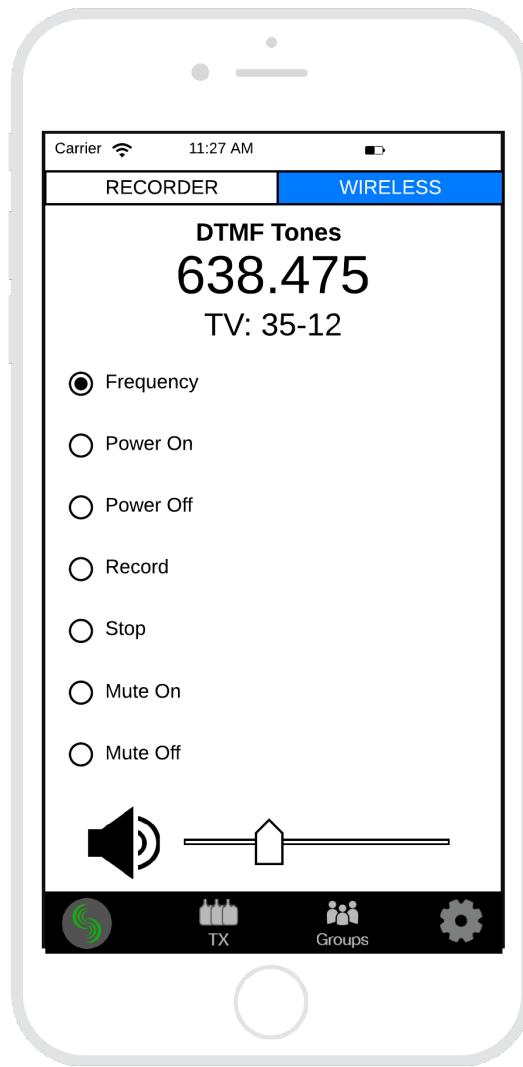
Displays the current version of SD-Remote.

A20-MINI Version

Displays the current firmware version of A20-MINI.

A20-MINI Serial Number

Displays the A20-MINI serial number.



User Groups

The User Groups feature allows for easy, intuitive naming of specific frequencies for each A20-MINI or Audio Ltd A10-TX transmitters used on set, and grouped together for faster tuning. The operator of an A10-RX receiver may then easily switch between transmitters by choosing alphanumeric names, such as "Jack" and "Diane", instead of having to remember and manually tune to different, specific numerical frequencies.

For instance, a producer or director may want to monitor several different actors' wireless transmitters. Rather than having to keep a list of all of their frequencies, each transmitter may be pre-assigned a frequency and given an actor's name. Then only those pre-assigned frequencies that have been named will be available as possible options for tuning.

User Groups are created in the SD-Remote - Wireless Tab - User Groups View. User Groups can also be created using the Mic2Wav II Windows and Mac OS application. [See Mic2Wav II for more details.](#)

Naming the User Group

Touch the name field to rename the current User Group.

Activate the User Group

When Activate User Group is on, the User Group is applied to all A20-MINI transmitters within Bluetooth range that appear in the TX List. This limits the frequencies available to only those defined by the User Group and lists them by their friendly name.

Unlike the A20-MINI, the Audio Ltd A10-TX and A10-RX do not automatically update when Activate User Groups is on. ALUG files need to be manually loaded on these devices. See the Audio Ltd A10-TX and A10-RX guides for details.

New

Creates a new User Group clearing existing entries.

Save

Saves the current User Group as an ALUG file to the mobile device. Saved ALUG files can be recalled later, transferred to an A10-TX microSD card, or loaded onto an A10-RX via Mic2Wav 2.

Open

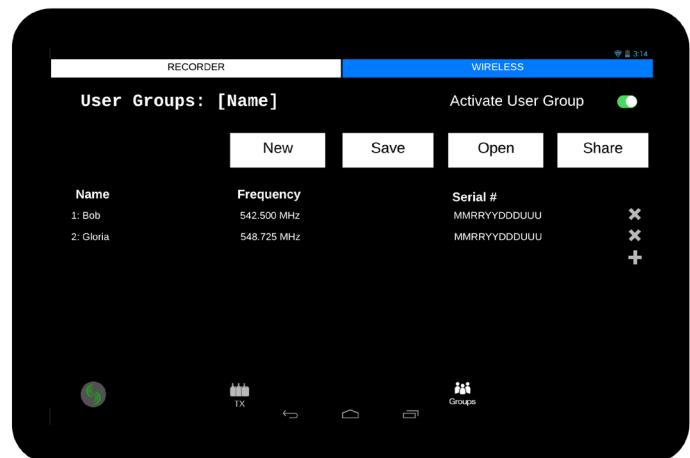
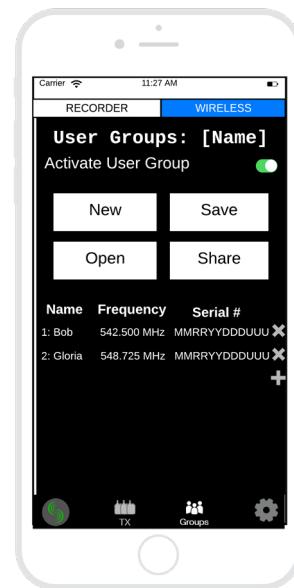
Opens stored ALUG files on the mobile device and loads them in SD-Remote.

Share

Shares the active User Group as an ALUG file via email or third party file sharing applications.

Adding and Naming User Group Frequencies

- Touch + to add an entry to the User Group.
- Touch X to delete an entry from the User Group.
- Touch the name field to edit the frequency's name.
- Touch the frequency field to assign a frequency.
- Touch the serial number field to enter a specific A20-MINI or A10-TX serial number. This auto-deploys the frequency to the A20-MINI or A10-TX without having to change the frequency selection on each transmitter.



File Transfer to a Computer

The A20-MINI connects via USB-C to a computer as a mass storage device. Copy WAV and User Setup files from the A20-MINI to the computer. Copy PRG and User Setup files from the computer to the A20-MINI.

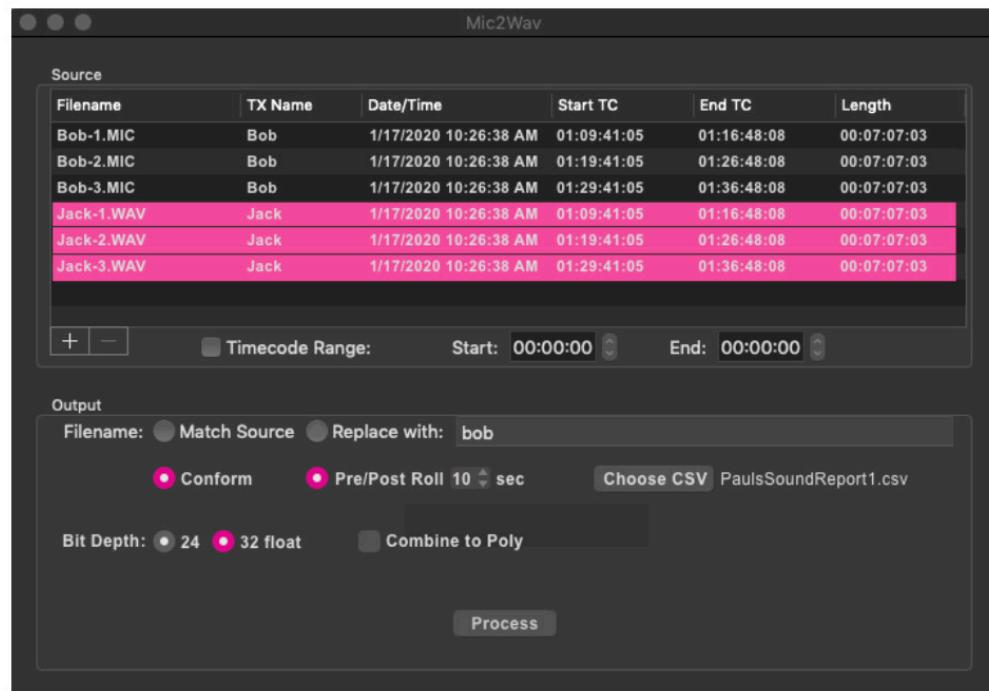
Files copied to the A20-MINI should be copied without folders to the root of the A20-MINI's SSD. When file transfer is complete, eject the drive from the operating system and disconnect USB.

Up to eight A20-MINI transmitters can be connected to a computer for file transfer using the optional XL-PowerStation. See XL-PowerStation for more details.

Mic2Wav II

Sound Devices Mic2Wav II is a companion application for Mac and Windows. This application can be used to conform the 32-bit float WAV files recorded by the A20-MINI transmitters to a CSV Sound Report, combine monophonic files from multiple A20-MINI transmitters into a single polyphonic file, update A20-MINI firmware, create and manage User Groups, and more.

Mic2Wav II is also a companion application for the Audio Ltd A10-TX and A10-RX. For details specific to those products, please refer to the respective user guide.



Installing Mic2Wav II

Download the Mic2Wav II Installer for Mac or Windows from <https://www.sounddevices.com>. Open the installer and install the application by following the on-screen instructions.

Minimum operating requirements:

- macOS 10.11+, 64-bit
- Windows 7+, 64-bit

Importing A20-MINI WAV Files into Mic2Wav II

Mic2WAV II will import monophonic WAV files recorded by the A20-MINI or MIC files recorded by the Audio Ltd A10-TX. There are three methods for importing files into Mic2Wav II.

1. Drag-and-drop WAV files into the Source window.
2. Navigate File > Add and select WAV file(s) for import.
3. On the bottom left of the Source window, click + on Mac or Add on Windows, then select file(s) for import.

The Source window displays the following information for all imported files.

- Filename
- Transmitter name
- Date and time of file creation
- Start timecode
- End timecode
- Length of recording

Removing WAV files from the Source Window

There are two methods for removing WAV files from the Source window.

1. Highlight the WAV file(s) to be removed from the Source window, then click - on Mac or Remove on Windows.
2. Highlight the WAV file(s) to be removed from the Source window, then navigate File > Remove.

Selecting Files to Process

Highlight the file(s) you want to process from the Source window. Multiple files can be selected using keyboard modifiers, Apple and Shift on Mac, Ctrl and Shift on Windows. If no files are selected, processing is applied to all files in the Source window.

Naming of Processed WAV Files

Processed WAV files will be named according to the Filename selection.

- **Match Source** uses the source file's name in the processed WAV file.
- **Replace with** allows the processed file to be named based on the custom entry.
- **Conform to CSV** uses the take information from a CSV Sound Report to determine the processed file names. See Conforming A20-MINI WAV Files to CSV sound reports.

Creating Shorter WAV Files Based on Timecode Range

When a shorter WAV file is needed than the original recording, you can use the Timecode Range feature to create a shorter WAV file. The length and content of the processed file is based on the entered timecode start and stop times.

1. Highlight the source file(s) from the Source window.
2. Select the Timecode Range check box.
3. Enter valid timecode start and end times. The values must fall within the range of the source file.
4. Select Process.

Selecting Bit Depth of Processed WAV Files

The A20-MINI records 32-bit float WAV files. To keep the WAV files in 32-bit float, select 32 Float. If you want to convert the 32-bit WAV files to 24-bit integer, select 24. 24-bit files that contain audio that exceeds 0 dBFS will be normalized to -0.1 dBFS to avoid clipping.

Conforming A20-MINI WAV Files to CSV Sound Reports

CSV sound report files generated by Sound Devices recorders can be used to extract only relevant audio from the A20-MINI WAV or A10-TX MIC files. Audio is extracted and a new WAV file is created based on the timecode in/out values of takes listed within the CSV.

The processed WAV file names and embedded metadata are changed to match the filenames and metadata of the corresponding takes in the CSV sound report.

- **Adding Pre- and Post-Roll** to conformed files can benefit post production with access to audio just prior to and following head and tail slates. To add pre- and post-roll to conformed WAV files, select the Pre/Post Roll check box and enter a value from 0 to 10 seconds in 1 second steps.
- **Combining to Poly** creates a single polyphonic WAV file containing audio tracks from each relevant transmitter for takes of the CSV sound report. Select the Combine to Poly check box to create a polyphonic file for each take, leave unchecked for monophonic files for each transmitter.

Managing User Groups

User Groups are fully described in the SD-Remote User Groups section. Mic2Wav II allows the creation and editing of User Groups, importing User Group (ALUG) files, and sending ALUG files to A20-MINI transmitters and Audio Ltd A10-RX receivers connected to the computer via USB or the XL-PowerStation. See the Audio Ltd A10-TX and A10-RX User Guides for more information regarding User Group setup of these products.

- **Create a New User Group** by navigating on a Mac to User Groups > New and on Windows to Files > User Groups > Create a new file.

Enter the name of the User Group. Names should be limited to 12 alphanumeric characters without spaces. Underscores and dashes are permitted but no other special characters can be used. Red text indicates the entry is invalid.

Select the band you want to use. This will restrict frequencies to the selected band. Note the A20-MINI frequency range covers all available bands, the Audio Ltd A10-TX frequency range is limited by model (A-D). Click OK to create the User Group.

- **Open an existing User Group** by navigating on a Mac to User Groups > Open and on Windows to Files > User Groups > Open an existing file. Search the Browser or Finder for the ALUG file you want to Open. Then click OK.
- **Edit the User Group.** Click in U1 (User 1) name field to name the User. Names should be limited to 12 alphanumeric characters without spaces. Underscores and dashes are permitted but no other special characters can be used. Red text indicates the entry is invalid.

Click the U1 Frequency to assign the user a frequency. Frequency should be entered in XXX.XXX format and fall within the range of the User Group band. Red text indicates an invalid entry.

Click the U1 TX Serial Number field to enter the serial number of the A20-MINI or A10-TX you want automatically assigned to this user upon loading the User Group. This field is optional.

- **Add a User** by clicking the + icon. Up to 32 users can be entered for a single User Group.
- **Remove a User** by clicking the - icon.
- **Add a Group** by clicking Add Group. Up to 8 User Groups can be saved within a single ALUG file.
- **Remove a Group** by clicking Remove Group. This removes the currently displayed Group. Remove Group is not available and if there is only one group.

- **Save User Groups as ALUG files** by navigating on a Mac to User Groups > Save As and on Windows to File > Save As. Enter the ALUG file name and select where the file should be saved. Click Save.

When editing an ALUG that has already been saved, select Save to overwrite the existing file or Save As to save the ALUG as a new file.

- **Send User Group to TX/RX** by clicking the Send to TX/RX. This sends the current ALUG file to any A20-MINI and A10-RX connected to the computer via USB or XL-PowerStation.

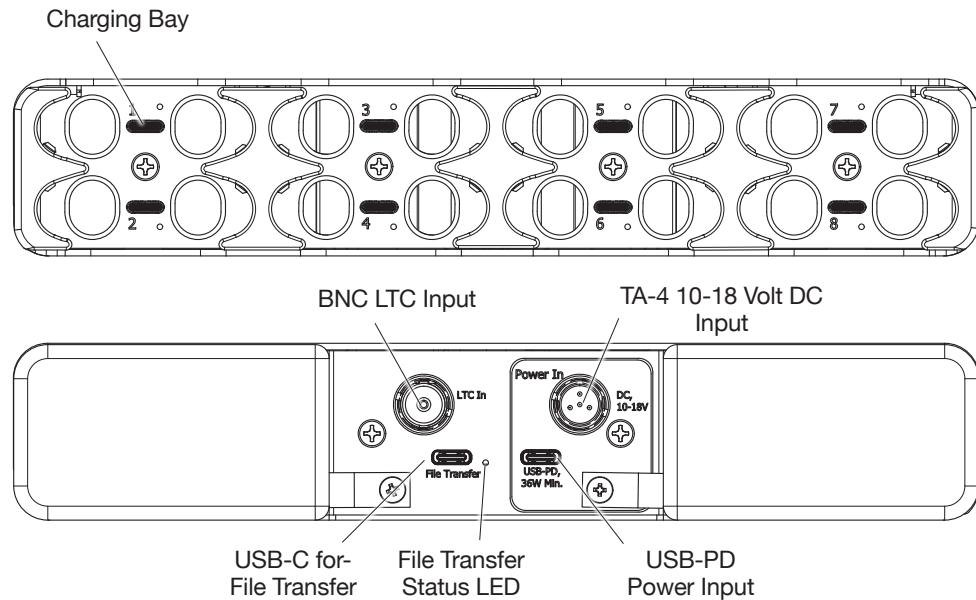
Updating A20-MINI Firmware

Register your A20-MINI at <https://www.sounddevices.com> to stay informed of firmware updates. To update your A20-MINI firmware via Mic2Wav II follow these steps:

1. Download the latest A20-MINI firmware from <https://www.sounddevices.com>.
2. On Windows, navigate Files > Update A20-MINI. On Mac, navigate Mic2Wav II > Update A20-MINI.
3. In the displayed window, search for the A20-MINI PRG file you just downloaded.
4. Click Open.
5. Mic2Wav II displays a list of all A20-MINI connected directly via USB-C or connected via the XL-PowerStation. A20-MINI transmitters are listed by serial number and current firmware version.
6. Select all A20-MINI transmitters to have firmware updated. Note any A20-MINI running firmware older than the selected PRG is automatically selected.
7. Click Update. Progress bars are displayed during the firmware update process and you will receive a notification popup when the firmware updates are complete.

XL-PowerStation

The XL-PowerStation is an optional accessory for the A20-MINI offering battery charging, timecode jamming, and USB file transfer to and from a computer for up to eight A20-MINI transmitters.



Charging Batteries with the XL-PowerStation

Enabled charging bays are indicated by LEDs within each charging bay. If the TA-4 or USB-PD with proper rating is used, all eight charging bay LEDs illuminate. If a USB-PD adapter is used which does not supply enough power, then only three of the charging bay LEDs will illuminate.

The XL-PowerStation charges Sony NP-BX1 battery within an A20-MINI. AAA battery charging is not supported. Inserting A20-MINIs with AAA batteries into the charging bay will not damage anything, but the unit will simply not charge.

Insert the A20-MINI into an enabled charging bay of the XL-PowerStation. The A20-MINI slides into a charging bay with the antenna-side first, the antenna may be left attached. Sound Devices recommends disconnecting lavalier microphones before inserting the A20-MINI into the charging bay.

Charging status is indicated by the SD-Remote application and the A20-MINI bottom panel Charge LED.

- Solid Yellow = Charging
- Solid Green = Charging complete
- Off = Not charging

A20-MINI transmitters are automatically powered off when inserted into a charging bay. The A20-MINI automatically powers on when removed from the charging bay if 'Power On When Removed from XL-PowerStation' is enabled.

Bottom Panel 1/4"-20 Mounting Point (not pictured)

The XL-PowerStation offers a 1/4"-20 mounting point on the bottom panel for securely attaching to a rack shelf.

Powering the XL-PowerStation

The XL-PowerStation is powered via 12 VDC TA-4 connector or USB-PD power supply. If not powering via the TA-4, use the supplied 36 W USB-PD power supply. If wanting to use a different USB-PD power supply, make sure it is rated at 36 W or higher in order to charge all eight A20-MINIs at a time.

Distributing Timecode to A20-MINI Transmitters

The XL-PowerStation is equipped with a Timecode input via BNC. Connecting a valid LTC timecode source to the XL-PowerStation jams the frame rate and timecode value to all inserted A20-MINI transmitters. The A20-MINI bottom panel Timecode LED flashes blue on the 00 frame following a successful jam.

Transferring A20-MINI Files via XL-PowerStation

The File Transfer USB-C connector is used to connect all A20-MINI transmitters slotted into the XL-PowerStation to a computer as mass storage devices. The XL-PowerStation USB-C for file transfer is SuperSpeed USB (5 Gb/s) such that the transferring of all eight A20-MINIs simultaneously is as fast as possible.

The File Transfer LED lights red if USB-C File Transfer is plugged in without a power adapter connected. The File Transfer LED lights green when USB-C File Transfer and either TA-4 or USB-PD are plugged in.

See File Transfer to a Computer for more information.

Updating A20-MINI Firmware via XL-PowerStation

Using Mic2Wav II in combination with the XL-PowerStation, Firmware can be updated on up to eight A20-MINI transmitters.

See [Mic2Wav II](#) for more information.

XL-PowerStation Specifications

Specifications are subject to change without prior notice. For the latest information available on all Sound Devices products, visit our website: www.sounddevices.com.

Power

- USB-C: PD (Power Delivery), 36 W or higher, or
- TA-4: 10 - 18 VDC, 36 W or higher

LTC Input

- Input impedance: 5 k
- Signal level: 0.3 - 5 Vp-p

USB-C

- USB 3.0 SuperSpeed hub internal

A20-MINI Specifications

Specifications are subject to change without prior notice.
For the latest information available on all Sound Devices products, visit our website: www.sounddevices.com.

Frequency Range

- 470 to 694 MHz
- Transmitters are tunable in 25 kHz steps
- Available frequencies are dependent on region

RF Output Power

- Off, 2 mW, 10 mW, 20 mW, 40 mW, selectable

Modulation Mode

- Sound Devices proprietary digital RF modulation

Digital Audio Codec

- Sound Devices proprietary, high-performance digital encoding algorithm

Privacy (Encrypted Audio Over RF)

- On or Off, selectable
- Auto-generated 4-pin code
- Sound Devices proprietary encryption

Antennas

- UHF RF: SMA locking connector, removable
- Backlink: 2.4 GHz Built-in

Audio Frequency Response

- 20 Hz - 20 kHz

Audio Input Type

- Lavalier Microphone via 3-pin LEMO

Bias Power

- 5 V

Input Impedance

- 6.8 k ohms

Input Clipping Level

- +6 dBu (minimum gain)

Dynamic range

- 130 dB min (A-weighted)

Menu and Controls

- Multi-function button protected inside battery compartment
- SD-Remote, mobile device application of iOS, iPad, and Android

Remote Control

- SD-Remote Android, iOS, and iPad app via Bluetooth 5.2 LE

Recording Media

- Internal 64 GB SSD
- 10% over-provisioned for optimum performance

Recording File Format

- 32 Bit Float, 48 kHz, Monophonic
- Broadcast WAV (<4 GB), RF64 WAV (>4 GB)

Simultaneous Record and Transmit mode is not available on A20-MINI units sold in the United States of America.

Timecode Input

- USB-C connector: 20k ohm impedance, 0.3 V - 3.0 V p-p (-17 dBu - +3 dBu)

Timecode Clock

- 0.2 ppm accuracy
- Holds accurate clock for 4 hours while powered down with batteries inserted, holds for 1 hour without batteries via internal supercap
- Auto Jams timecode from LTC source via USB-C connector, or from optional XL-PowerStation

Timecode Frame Rates

- 23.98, 24, 25, 29.97 DF, 29.97 ND, 30 DF, 30 ND

USB-C

- Mass Storage (USB-C): USB 2.0 high speed for file transfer of internal SSD
- Battery charge port for inserted Sony NP-BX1
- Timecode input and output

Powering

- 3x AAA Batteries (Energizer Ultimate recommended), or Sony NP-BX1 Rechargeable Li-Ion
- Built-in Li-Ion charger via USB-C (1.5A or more needed)
- Sony NP-BX1 is rechargeable via optional XL-PowerStation.

Environmental

- Waterproof IP67
- Operating: -20° C to 60° C, 0 to 90% relative humidity (non-condensing)
- Storage: -40° C to 85° C

Dimensions (H x W x D)

- 74.1 mm x 47.8 mm x 16.5 mm
- 2.92 in x 1.88 in x 0.65 in

Weight

- 47 g (without batteries)
- 1.664 oz (without batteries)

Legal Notices

Product specifications and features are subject to change without prior notification. Read and fully understand this manual before operation.

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FCC Conformity

This device complies with part 74 and part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and
- (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

A20-MINI frequency ranges supplied for use in USA:

- 470 to 608 MHz
- 653 to 657 MHz

Warning! Any modifications or changes made to this device, unless explicitly approved by Sound Devices may invalidate the authorization of this device. Operation of an unauthorized device is prohibited under Section 302 of the Communications act of 1934, as amended, and Subpart 1 of Part 2 of Chapter 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

FCC & ISED User Statement

This device complies with FCC and ISED RF exposure limits for general population / uncontrolled environments.

Cet appareil est conforme à la norme FCC et ISED les limites d'exposition pour la population générale / l'exposition incontrôlée.

FCC Interference Statement

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation.

If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help

Industry Canada Conformity

This device operates on a no-interference, no-protection basis. Should the user seek to obtain protection from other radio services operating in the same TV bands, a radio licence is required. For further details, consult Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada's Client Procedures Circular CPC-2-1-28, Voluntary Licensing of Licence-Exempt Wireless Microphones in the TV Bands.

This Device complies with Industry Canada License-exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: 1) this device may not cause interference, and 2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

Cet appareil est conforme avec Industrie Canada, exempts de licence standard RSS (s). Son fonctionnement est soumis aux deux conditions suivantes: 1) ce dispositif ne peut pas causer d'interférences, et 2) ce dispositif doit accepter toute interférence, y compris les interférences qui peuvent causer un mauvais fonctionnement de l'appareil.

**WEEE Statement**

If you wish to discard a Sound Devices product in Europe, contact Sound Devices (England) for further information.

Battery Advisory

Incorrect use of batteries poses a danger of explosion. Replace only with the same or equivalent type. Properly recycle batteries. Do not crush, disassemble, incinerate, dispose in a fire or expose batteries to high temperatures.

A20-MINI User Guide Revision List

This document is distributed by Sound Devices, LLC in online electronic (PDF) format only. Published in the USA.

| Date | Description |
|--------|------------------------|
| 5/1/21 | v1.00, initial release |



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