DRIVER PACKAGE - Emotiva C-Media USB Drivers for Windows 10 v1.01a

(current as of August 10, 2015)

THESE DRIVERS WORK WITH:
Emotiva XDA-2 (USB Input)
Emotiva XDA-2 Gen2 (USB Input)
Emotiva DC-1 (USB Input)
Emotiva XMC-1 (USB Stream Input)

THIS DRIVER PACKAGE INCLUDES DRIVERS FOR:
Windows 10

NOTE: When a driver is installed, Windows 10 associates it with a particular device. Therefore, even though the same drivers support all of the listed devices, you will have to install the driver separately for each device. Even if you have already installed the drivers for one device, they will not recognize another device until you reinstall them for THAT device. So, for example, if you have an XMC-1 and an XDA-2, install the drivers, connecting your XMC-1 when the Setup program asks you to connect your UAC2 device. Then, after that installation is complete, disconnect your XMC-1, and install the drivers again, this time connecting your XDA-2 when the Setup program asks you to connect your device.

NOTE: Because of the way Windows works, each device will typically be indentified differently:

XDA-2 -> Speakers (USB2.0 High-Speed True HD Audio)
XMC-1 -> SPDIF Out (XMC-1)
DC-1   -> Speakers (USB2.0 High-Speed True HD Audio)

NOTE: This package contains ONLY drivers for Windows 10. For Windows 8.0/8.1 and all other previous Windows versions, please use the latest Emotiva Unified Drivers (available separately from the product pages).

NOTE: If you upgraded your computer from Windows 7 or Windows 8, and had drivers for one or more of our products installed on that operating system, those drivers MAY continue to work with Windows 10. If this happens, feel free to use those drivers (there is no need to replace them if they work as expected).

NOTE: Your computer MAY download drivers for your XMC-1 directly from the Internet. If this happens, feel free to use those drivers (there is no need to replace them if they work as expected). Note, however, that those drivers may not behave exactly the same as the ones we provide.

NOTE: These drivers are NOT DIGITALLY SIGNED. If your computer has Driver Signature Enforcement enabled, it will have to be disabled to install these drivers. (Whether DSE is enabled on your computer by default will depend on how Windows 10 was installed, and whether you are using the 32 bit or 64 bit version of Windows 10.)

You may disable DSE before you begin the install, or you may go ahead without doing so. If you install the drivers with DSE enabled, the installation will fail, and you will get an error message - at which point you will have to disable DSE and repeat the install process (it only takes a few minutes).

Installing The Drivers

Installing the drivers is simple (but please read all the notes so you know what to expect):

1) UnZip the driver file into a folder using your favorite archiver program.

NOTE: You must extract the archive so that all of the files and folders inside the archive are extracted in their original form. This is the default for most archive programs, but with some you may have to select an option like "preserve directory structure" or "extract all sub-folders".

NOTE: You MAY install the drivers from a USB stick or shared network drive. However, you must EXTRACT the files and folders before installing the drivers (you cannot install them from INSIDE the ZIP archive).

2) Connect the XMC-1, XDA-2, or DC-1 to your computer.

NOTE: The driver installer routine checks that one of the devices that uses its drivers is connected to your computer before installing the drivers. Your Emotiva device must be connected to your computer and turned on in order to install the drivers. If the installer asks repeatedly, even though your Emotiva device is connected, you should try a different USB cable.

NOTE: The driver installation will also fail if you have an XMC-1 shipped before October 2014 which has NOT had the USB Stream Input firmware update installed. (If this happens, you should install the update, which is available from the XMC-1 product page.)

3) Run SETUP.EXE

NOTE: There are two copies of SETUP.EXE, one of them is in the main folder, and the other is inside the Win10 folder; you may run either version of Setup.exe.

4) Follow the on-screen prompts.

NOTE: We DO NOT recommend downloading or running any third party programs that promise to "get you the latest drivers". (Some of these programs may infect your computer with a virus, while others may simply not work as claimed. The drivers we're providing are the most current legitimate drivers for your Emotiva device.)

NOTE: The C-Media driver installer may pause for a minute or two at various points during the install process, and may prompt you to reboot your computer as part of the install process. We therefore suggest that you close any other programs you may have running before installing the drivers.

NOTE: If your computer already has drivers installed for other non-Emotiva audio devices that use the C-Media CM6631 or CM6631a interface chips, those drivers may work with our products, or they may produce unpredictable results. We cannot provide support for issues you have with drivers not provided by Emotiva.

NOTE: If you are updating a previous version of the drivers, or if you have CM6631 drivers from another DAC already installed on your computer, the driver installer may prompt you to "Remove" them, and then reboot your computer. Do so when prompted, and then, after the old drivers are removed and your computer is rebooted, run the driver installer again to install your new drivers.

NOTE: If your installed drivers ever become corrupted or damaged for any reason, simply use the driver installer to remove and reinstall them. (We do NOT recommend using the "Remove Programs or Drivers" option in Windows because it may not remove all traces of the driver.)

NOTE: In an ideal world, a computer used as an audio player would have a totally new copy of Windows installed on it, and no other software; this would ensure the fewest interactions, and the least processing delay, and so the best audio performance. (This isn't practical for most people, but the fewer other programs you have running, and the fewer other devices and drivers you use, the more likely you are to have good audio performance and avoid problems.) Likewise, there are whole websites dedicated just to the best way to optimize Windows for playing computer audio - and many others dedicated to choosing and configuring a player program.

NOTE: By default, Windows 10 will use Direct Sound mode (kernel streaming), which will re-sample any audio files you play to the default sample rate. If this happens, your player program will display the sample rate of the actual file, but your XMC-1 or your Emotiva DAC will display the sample rate of the audio it receives (the two will be different since Windows is re-sampling the audio); both are correct. If you don't want Windows to re-sample your files, you must choose a player program that supports WASAPI or some other "bit-perfect" mode, and select that mode in your player's configuration. Certain of the C-Media drivers will offer ASIO mode on some computers; whether this works well on your computer will depend on your player software (the setup options are rather complicated, and you'll have to ask your player software vendor for details about how to configure them for optimum performance).

NOTE ABOUT WASAPI: These drivers support both WASAPI Event and WASAPI Push modes. For best performance, be sure to select one of the WASAPI modes in your player program.

If you have difficulty installing our drivers, we're always here to help. Simply e-mail our support staff, or call in and tell our receptionist that you need help with installing your USB drivers, and you'll be connected to a real live expert who'll be glad to help you figure it all out.

Disabling Driver Signature Enforcement

IMPORTANT: There is a security feature called "driver signature enforcement" that is enabled by default on many 64 bit versions of Windows 10 (but not usually on 32 bit versions); this feature prevents drivers from being installed unless they contain a signature hash that is recognized by Windows. If this feature is enabled on your computer, the drivers will not install properly, and you will get an ambiguous error message. There is no simple way to determine if DSE is enabled on your computer; you may either simply disable it (which will cause no harm if it's already disabled), or you may wait and see if you get an error message after attempting the installation.

IF YOU RECEIVE AN ERROR MESSAGE AFTER INSTALLING THE DRIVERS STATING THAT "WINDOWS WAS UNABLE TO INSTALL DRIVERS" AND THAT "NO CHANGES WERE MADE", THEN THE DRIVERS WERE PROBABLY NOT INSTALLED BECAUSE DRIVER SIGNATURE ENFORCEMENT (DSE) IS ENABLED.

IF YOU RECIEVE THIS ERROR MESSAGE, THEN YOU <u>MUST</u> DISABLE DSE AND REINSTALL THE DRIVERS FOR YOUR DEVICE TO WORK.

PREFERRED METHOD OF DISABLING DRIVER SIGNATURE ENFORCEMENT

NOTE: One step in this procedure will require you to press a key on your keyboard. If you have a laptop or netbook computer, simply use the attached keyboard and, if you have a "convertible" computer, attach your keyboard before starting the procedure. If you have a "pure tablet", then you will be required to temporarily connect a USB keyboard.
(Most WiFi and Bluetooth keyboards won't work for this.)

1. Click on the *Windows* "start button" icon (or press the Windows button).
2. Click on *Settings*.
3. Click on *Update and Security*.
4. Click on *Recovery*.
5. Under *Advanced Startup*, click on *Restart Now*.
6. Your computer will reboot, and return to a screen that says *Choose an Option*.
7. Under *Choose an Option*, click on *Troubleshoot*.
8. Under T*roubleshoot*, click on *Advanced Options*.
9. Under *Advanced Options*, click on *Startup Settings*.
10. Under *Startup Settings*, click *Restart*.
11. Your computer will reboot, and return to a screen that says *Startup Settings*.
12. Press the "*7*" or "*F7*" key to select *Diable Driver Signature Enforcement*.
13. Your computer will reboot again, and DSE will be disabled.

NOTE: Once your computer reboots you will be able to install the drivers with no problems, and they will remain installed and continue to work after you reboot your computer.
(The current Windows literature disagrees on whether DSE will remain entirely disabled after the next reboot, or whether it will be re-enabled, but will allow the unsigned drivers to remain installed and in use. Therefore, if you have to reinstall the drivers, you might wish to repeat the procedure before doing so.)