

Procedure for upgrading software in VoiceWorksPlus

There are two software files that make up VoiceWorksPlus' operating system:

1. The firmware (also known as AVR software). You can check the current version against the new one by pressing the power button while holding the Bypass and Store buttons.
2. The main DSP code. You will see the current DSP version each time you power up the unit.

The firmware version does not always need to be updated when the DSP code is upgraded. Consult the readme file that comes with any new software package from TC-Helicon to determine whether the firmware needs to be upgraded also.

Preparation:

You will need a device capable of loading a system exclusive file (.syx) and transmitting it through a midi interface and cable to your VoiceWorksPlus. This is most commonly done with a computer running a program such as MIDIOx on the PC or SysEx on the Mac. Both programs are available for free on the web. Your midi interface is where the physical connection is made between your computer and VoiceWorksPlus.

You should also back up any user presets and setup parameters you've changed. Consult the user manual on how to do this. If you are upgrading from a very early (beta) version of the DSP code, your presets may not be valid anymore.

To replace the *firmware* in your unit:

1. Connect a standard MIDI cable from your computer's MIDI interface to the MIDI In at the rear of VoiceWorksPlus.
2. Power up the unit.
3. Pull the plug out at the rear to remove power. Do not use the power switch for this.
4. Hold the MIC IN and -20dB switches at the right side of the front panel while plugging the power cable back in.
5. You should see "Waiting for SYX" in the display
6. Load the file that has AVR in the filename into your MIDI sysex application
7. Send the sysex data to VoiceWorksPlus. Numbers will increment in the VoiceWorksPlus' display.
8. When the transfer is complete, the screen will blank briefly and then continue on to the standard boot up sequence.

To replace the *DSP code* in your unit.

1. Connect a standard MIDI cable from your computer's MIDI interface to the MIDI In at the rear of VoiceWorksPlus.
2. Power up the unit with the power switch while holding the Bypass and Store buttons. You will see "VW Plus Firmware Vx.xx"

3. Turn the Data Wheel to the right to locate the “Downld DSP Code?” prompt.
4. Press the Data Wheel. The display will say “Receiving SYSEX” If you saw an error, press the Data Wheel again twice.
5. Load the system exclusive file containing the new DSP code into your MIDI sysex application.
6. Send the sysex data to VoiceWorksPlus from your application. This will take several minutes. The VoiceWorksPlus display will show numbers incrementing.
7. When completed, the display will show “Downloaded Successfully!”
8. Cycle the power now by pressing the power button twice.

To complete the upgrade procedure, it's wise to initialize the Setup parameters.

1. Press the Setup button
2. Turn the Data Wheel to the last menu Function <Push> / Restore Setup
3. Push the Data Wheel. You will briefly see the display say “Setup Data Cleared” before the unit returns to the Setup menu prompt.
4. Press the Setup button to exit.

Now you can restore your user presets and Setup values if desired.

MIDIOx operation notes (apologies to Mac users who will have to learn the interface for the SysEx program).

When you first open the MIDIOx program, you'll need to click the View menu and release on the Sysex... item. This will bring up the Sysex View and Scratchpad window. Click the Command menu and release on the Load File... item. From here you can load your new DSP or firmware file in preparation to send to VoiceWorksPlus.

Sometimes a MIDI sysex application needs to have it's buffer sizes adjusted. The following graphic shows the settings in MIDIOx that have proven to work.

