

Software release note

Simrad FX80 SW 2.2.0.1



Introduction

This document describes the software and other changes introduced with SW version **2.2.0.1**.

This software is the FX80 program that controls the menu system, features and presentations.

Changes with SW 2.2.0.1

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Documentation

All documentation related to the Simrad FX80 system can be downloaded from:

www.simrad.com/fx80

Licensing

The Simrad FX80 software is not licensed.

Video codecs

A video codec is required for playback. The *K-Lite* codec pack is included in the FX80 software installation.

Software changes

Operating system

As of this version of the FX80 user interface, Windows XP is no longer supported.

Prerequisites

FX80 now requires Microsoft .Net 4.0. .Net 4.0 redistributable file should either be in folder:

\\redist\dotNetFx40_Full_x86_x64.exe

or the Processing Unit should have an internet connection to install .Net directly at the time of installation.

Hardware Compatibility

This version of the FX80 is compatible with all previous hardware versions. This specifically relates to the *Zoom Router* in the Bridge Unit that has changed due to obsolescence.

Note that when changing from one version of hardware to another, the FX80 program must be restarted.

Status bar

Two additional fields have been added to the status bar. These are **SNR Down** and **SNR Up**.

Signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) indicates the noise level on the DSL line in relation to the level of desired signal. *Down* indicates the SNR for data coming from the hub, and *Up* indicates data from the deck to the hub. A lower SNR value indicates more noise and therefore a poorer connection.

NMEA setup

Baud rate selection for NMEA input has been removed from the setup page. This setting is redundant as the industry standard is 4800 baud.

In the unlikely event that this setting does need to be changed, the installer can set it on the web interface of the NMEA converter.

Serial line settings

When you select RS-232 or RS-485 in **System Setup**, the appropriate GPIO pins in the Lantronix X-Port device are set. There is no need to access the Lantronix web-interface to enable the appropriate protocol.

Power Management

The FX80 software keeps the display and presentations “alive” while it is running. This prevents the computer from going to “sleep” while monitoring/recording if there are long periods of inactivity.

Technical information

The Simrad FX80 system is by default provided with a Processor Unit computer. However, some customers prefer to purchase a computer locally. If you wish to do this, you must do all software installation and setup yourself.

Minimum computer requirements

If you purchase a computer locally, it is important to make sure that the chosen model meets the functional system requirements. The computer must fulfill the various interface requirements made by the system, and you may need to add extra Ethernet and serial adapters. Also, make sure that the computer design and construction allows for marine use and safe installation. A laptop computer may be used as long as it meets the functional requirements. The minimum requirements are:

- **Processor:** 2 GHz, Dual core
- **Memory:** 2 Gb

- **Free hard disk space:** 30 Gb
- **Graphic adapter:** See separate section.
- **Interfaces:** Serial line interfaces are required to accept data from external sensors such as a navigation system. The number of serial lines depend on the requested interface capabilities.
An Ethernet interface is required if the computer shall be connected to the ship's network.

About graphic adapters

The graphic adapter must support DirectX9.0c, and must be compatible with Direct3d and OpenGL.

A large number of commercial graphic adapters are available, and Simrad has not tested all of them. Even adapters that meet the minimum specifications may fail with the FX80 software. We welcome any feedback with comments or experiences with graphic adapters.

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