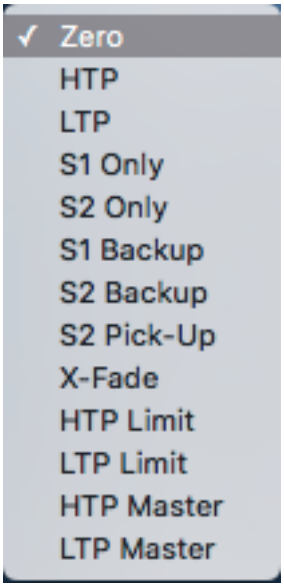
Document information

What's new in 4.2.0 ?

The 4.2.0 firmware for the Ethernet-DMX range comes with lots of new functionalities, such as:

1. New merging policies



4.2.0 firmware brings a new bunch of merging policies, to provide you with more flexibility and control for your DMX soft-patch.

S2 Pick-up

S2 Pick-up is meant to fix a well-known issue: when a connector is set with LTP merging policy, and one of the merged controller is switched on, this controller will send zero value at DMX level. This will result in a blackout on the final output.

To avoid this, set the specific channels you wish to control with S2 pick-up policy. When S1 is online, S1 will get control. For S2 to take over, you will need to bring the value of these specific channels to the same value sent by S1, to pick-up control.

Example: A house light controller and a console are both connected to the network, and an Ethernet-DMX converter is used to merge these streams, and to convert their respective protocols to DMX. In the morning, the cleaning team set the house light to 75%. At 2:00pm, the lighting operator switches on the console. In a normal LTP environment, and because the console sends out zero values, the house lights would be turned off.

With S2 pick-up policy set on these channels, and once the console has started, the operator simply select the house light channels, and raise the value up to 75%. Once he has reached the value of 75%, he can now take control of the house light channels.

X-Fade

With the previous firmware versions, you had the ability to switch between two sources thanks to the trigger channel. However, the switching was “snappy”, which means the connectors switches from one source to another in a straight manner, with no fade.

With X-fade, user can now cross-fade between source 1 and source 2 with a trigger channel, in a smooth manner. Simply set the desired channels with X-Fade policy, and affect a DMX trigger channel to these output channels.
When the trigger channel is set to zero, Source 1 is in full control. When the trigger value is 255, Source 2 in full control. All values in between is a fade between S1 and S2.

X-fade is ideal to fade between a console and a media server, a house light controller and a console, a BlackTraX system and a console.

HTP Limit

HTP limit uses the trigger channel value to limit the output of HTP merged channels.
This can be useful to set a limit on the output of some specific channels.

LTP Limit

LTP limit uses the trigger channel value to limit the output of LTP merged channels.
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HTP Master

HTP master uses the trigger channel value as a grand master to limit the output of HTP merged channels.

This can come in handy to create a sub-master for some specific HTP channels.

LTP Master

LTP master uses the trigger channel value as a grand master to limit the output of LTP merged channels.

This can come in handy to create a sub-master for some specific LTP channels.

2. Use sACN as a trigger universe

You can now use sACN protocol (ANSI E1.31) to trigger the Ethernet-DMX converter's policies. In the global setting, select sACN as you trigger protocol.

3. RTTrPL

RTTrPL stands for Real Time Tracking Protocol for Light, and is used to take control of lighting fixtures from motion controller such as BlackTraX. The Ethernet-DMX converter now supports this protocol, and with the help of the X-Fade policy, you can fade between the motion control of the BlackTraX controller and your favorite console, seamlessly.

4. Identify a converter

You can now identify a converter by clicking on the Luminex logo located on the status page. The power LED of the converter will blink, to identify the unit.

5. Lock output in case of no merging

When a connector is set as a normal output, and when several sources are streaming the same universe set on this outlet, the converter will bind the first discovered universe to this connector. If this bound source disappears from the network, the following timeout will apply before a secondary source can connect to the outlet, depending on the protocol you're currently using:

ArtNet: 5 seconds
sACN: 3 seconds

6. LTP trigger

Up to 4 sources can now control the trigger channel, merged in LTP mode.

7. LumiNet V3 compliance

The 4.2.0 firmware is now compliant with LumiNet V3 version, and thus with LumiNet Monitor 2.6.1 version.

8. Offline Editor compliance

The Offline Editor is an application that allows you to create profiles for your Ethernet-DMX converter, without being physically connected to the device.

The 4.2.0 profiles are now compliant with this software, you can thus import profiles created on the Offline Editor into a converter running 4.2.0 firmware.

9. Sync outputs

The 4.2.0 firmware now offers synced mode for the output. If the source sends out ArtNet Sync packet, the converter will output its corresponding universe packets once it will receive the sync packet. This provides synced output for the same universe amongst the network.
If the source is not able to stream ArtNet Sync packets, the converter will follow the frame rate of the source, for the corresponding universe.

10. ArtNet IV ArtAddress

The 4.2.0 firmware now complies with the ArtAddress packet included in the latest revision of the ArtNet protocol. From the ArtNet protocol itself, you can now remotely select which protocol to use on the selected connector (ArtNet or sACN).