Newsletter - Juni 2014



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The *Decoder Update Device - MXULFA* is known as a device for updating software on decoders as well as for loading sound projects. However, it was designed from the outset with a capability for a much larger scope of services, up to a small digital comand-station using a computer as a user interface.

From the new **MXULF SW-Version 0.70** (see <u>www.zimo.at</u>, Update – Decoder Update Device MXULF), you can see the increased number of applications actually available; here is a brief summary:

- Software Update and Sound Loading for all ZIMO Decoder
- CV-Programming and -Reading in Service Mode
- Driving control (= MXULF as Command Station)

- on the USB-Stick (MXULF operating standalone), or
- from your computer (connected via USB, using ZSP or ZIRC software)
- with controls and display on the MXULF, or
- from your computer (using *P.f.u.Sch* or TrainProgrammer software)
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- from your computer (using *P.f.u.Sch* or TrainProgrammer software)

For computer control via MXULF a real DCC driving control is possible (e.g. for N-scale, where the current limit of 2A allows for several locomotives to be driven at the same time), when the computer software (e.g. *PfuSch*) also provides for the DCC commands to be resent. The MXULF itself currently can only control one address at the same time (in a later MXULF SW version this restriction will be lifted).

The software *P.f.u.Sch.* can be obtained from AMW, Arnold Hübsch, Tel +43(699)12677335, <u>http://amw.huebsch.at</u> or from <u>WEBSHOP</u>.

NEW: MXULFA-PF with P.f.U.Sch.-License for half Price (eliminates the software unlocking procedure)

The software P.f.U.Sch. (Programmieren, Fahren und Schalten, in English – ADaPT – Advanced Driving and

Programming Tool) from E. Sperrer SW-Development has been used for a long time by many model railroaders for programming ZIMO and other manufacturers decoders, both with the help of ZIMO digital systems as well as on some other systems, and now can also use the MXULFA. *PfuSch* is based on an MS Access compatible database, to manage decoders, among other things, including the management of loco photos and the usage of decoder settings for existing locomotives on similar models. In addition *P.f.u.Sch* offers also screen control panels on the computer to test the newly-made settings or just for a simple running under digital control.

Note from Translator: P.f.u.Sch is available in English and is known as ADaPT, but the German PfuSch is used throughout this Newsletter.

For users, that use *P.f.u.Sch.* together with MXULF (and with no other foreign command stations), there are these advantages:

MXULFA-PF, a special version of the MXULFA that with the downloaded PfuSch (from July 2014) works without demo-limitations, i.e. that the otherwise chargeable activation of PfuSch to make it full function is not necessaary. The additional cost of MXULFA-PF against the "normal" MXULFA is 50% of the price of the normal license needed for the full function version of PfuSch.

PfuSch is also included on a USB stick with the MXULFA-PF, as a convenient alternative to downloading from the relevant websites - (<u>http://www.stp-software.at/</u> directly or from the ZIMO website), however the latest version is not guaranteed to be on the stick.

Neither the MXULFA or the copy of *PfuSch* have any restrictions as compared to the "normal" versions; that is, MXULFA-PF has only a special marker for permission (but there is nothing "left out" compared to the "normal" MXULFA) *PfuSch* IS the "normal" version. Therefore, both products can also be quite "normal" updated with the latest updates from the websites.

Price of the *MXULFA-PF*: 223.00 EUR (RRP), compared with the "normal" MXULFA: 193.00 EUR (RRP), so the surcharge for "-PF" is 30,00 EUR; when the normal price for *P.f.u.Sch* is 60,00 EUR.

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Final preparations for production - Testing the New Device

Before the new MX10 command station and MX32 controller can be manufactured in quantity and supplied to dealers, a number of test scenarios are run through and this being done right now.

An example of this is the experimental setup with multiple controllers (see picture), which tests how long the CAN bus cable can be between the devices without communication problems arising, and, where appropriate, how the situation with the terminating resistors can be improved.

As the experience with the "old" system shows (MX1 as command station), and still to be confirmed by the unfinished experiments with the new devices, there are likely to be no restrictions concerning the free design of junctions up to a total cable length of approximately 30 m (the sum of all 6-pin or 8pin CAN bus cable = controller cables); although the use of one or other termination resistor can increase this limit. In addition, the topology should be optimized towards the "line" (no loops or circuits, junctions and branches minimized).

However, the CAN bus in the new system is operating, if required, at higher bit rates, not only with 125 kbit / sec (as in the "old" system), but up to 1 Mbit / sec. If this is to be utilized (for example, to transfer images or audio files faster), and this goes via a cable length over a few meters, then stricter cabling guidelines must be adhered to.

Radio cabs will also be included in the tests. This is about the right response to radio interruptions, turning off when not in operation, the behaviour of weak battery, etc.



New Decoder for new Märklin Scale 1 Interface: MX699LS – Large Scale Sound Decoder with two 14-pin sockets Delivery is planned to start in the 3rd Quarter 2014

The new type is derived from the proven MX695, more precisely - the MX695LS version with pin headers - the same dimensions ($50 \times 40 \times 14$ mm) are used with the same assignment of the connector pins, except the 2 x12 pin connectors, are now supplemented by four more pins to give the 2 x 14 format

Two of these four extra pins relate to two Märklin train bus functions over which a range of facilities in the vehicles are controlled (especially light modules, or pantograph operation). The other two additional pins are less important (doubling of power connections).

The MX699LS is designed; for vehicles such as the LGB RhB ABe 8/12 Allegra, however, this was already sold at the beginning of the year 2014, and a temporary connection was created from the MX695LS, where two auxiliary lines represent the Marklin train bus (to connect to the decoder pins of the vehicle interface).

Of course, the new large scale sound decoder provide in full all ZIMO features, including plenty of power for motor and function facilities, 10 Watts of sound, connection options for servos, pulsed smoke generators, etc.



The "precursor" of the MX699LS: the modified MX695LS for LGB Allegra.

Devices (MX10, MX32)



Situation "Broadcast Stop" on the track-1 with touch fields for restarting (ON) or OFF via Power Switch on all cabs.



"Broadcast Stop" in the display of the MX10

New (and not so new) ZIMO Staff

The tasks grow and the "Head count" grows. On the right an overview is shown; below are the "New Acquisitions" (in addition to decoders in the March 2014 Catalogue)





Manfred Brückner





Yasmin Haug





Robert Müller

Since March 2014. Duties Documentation and website. Lift the ZIMO documents to a professional level

Martina Peter

Since June 2014. Currently in training and cooperation in production, provided for customer service, support internal systems and related areas.

Marjana Lazarevic

Since September 2013. Currently slightly busy alongside school. Working on PCB design.

Andreas Ruzovits

Since May 2014 Enhances the sales and distribution group for repairs, administration and office support.

Alexander Höberth

Since June 2014. Currently in training in the repair department. Should help to extend the competence of the repair department in the direction of development assistance.

















Tan Hung Huvnh

Stephan Lampert













Viktor Obrist-Walde

Michael Schwarzer







Kathrin Rirsch







Peter Ziegler



Since October 2013 three different sized apartments can be rented on the second floor. All guests with a minimum stay of 2 nights are welcome to book these apartments in various price ranges. ZIMO guests get a special discount and if you wish even the opportunity to visit the ZIMO production on the ground floor of the house.

Central location: 150 m from the Längenfeldgasse (U4 and U6) metro station, journey to the city centre 8 min, the Schönbrunn Palace, the Westbahnhof railway station and the shopping street Mariahilferstrasse 5 min each.

Features: flat screen TV, free Wi-Fi, bathroom with hairdryer, toilet, Kitchen or kitchenette, washing machine.

Three Apartments: Nr. 17 (37 m²) Double-bed and Sofa / 18 (40 m²) Double-bed and Sofa / 19 (22 m²) Single-bed and Sofa



Reservations: By telephone - Frau Beranek-Che +43 699 118 39 737, or via Email office@cityrooms.at



Sonja Simon



Richard Medina-Traxle







Oliver Wolmuth







Alexander Höberth

