

RDM Discovery

Application Note

Introduction

Remote Device Management (RDM) is a protocol built around DMX to provide various fixture management features.

Pharos Designer currently supports Discovery, Addressing and Mode Setting functions via DMX and Art-Net.

Discovery via DMX

Setup

To allow RDM Discovery over DMX, the fixture/s must be connected to one of the hard DMX ports on the controller (LPC, TPC+EXT).

You may use DMX splitters and buffers in the DMX line, however they must be RDM compatible to support transmission of RDM messages.

Process

Ensure that the project in Designer has been uploaded to the controller.

Open the Patch mode and select the controller that the fixture/s is/are connected to.

Select the DMX port that the fixture/s is/are connected to.

Press the Discover on Port [x] button.

This will open the Discovery dialog from where you can initiate a Discover, and once fixtures have been discovered, set their mode and address, and identify them.

Discovery via Art-Net

Setup

To allow RDM Discovery over Art-Net, the fixture/s must be connected to an Art-Net to DMX converter (node) via a DMX connection.

The Art-Net node used must support RDM data transfer (there are some available that don't support this part of the Art-net specification).

You may use DMX splitters and buffers in the DMX line between the node and the fixture/s, however they must be RDM compatible to support transmission of RDM messages.

Process

Ensure that the project in Designer has been uploaded to the controller.

Open the Patch mode and select the controller that the fixture/s is/are to be patched to

Select the Art-Net universe that the node is configured to use (you may need to add the Art-Net universe before it is available)

Press the Discover button.

This will open the Discovery dialog from where you can initiate a Discover, and once fixtures have been discovered, set their mode and address, and identify them.

Other eDMX protocols

Currently Designer does not support RDM discover via other protocols i.e. sACN, KiNet or Pathport.



Pathport

RDM capable fixtures can be discovered and configured over Pathport using the Pathport Manager software.

KiNet

Philips Color Kinetics fixtures connected to a KiNet power supply can be discovered and configured using the Quick Play Pro software.

sACN

sACN (E1.31) doesn't support RDM data transmissions, but a compatible standard called RDMnet (or Streaming-RDM) (E1.33) is being developed.