

NoiseMeters LiveNoise

INSTALLATION AND USER MANUAL

For software version 1.0.0

LiveNoise — Introduction

The *LiveNoise* software connects to a Cirrus CR800 series or CR260 series Sound Level Meter and displays the sound level in real-time.



Direct or Network Connection

The connection between the computer and the sound level meter can be either direct (RS232 cable) or over a Network. For greater flexibility and longer distances the network option is the best, offering either a wired or wireless solution. If a network is already available on the premises then no extra cabling should be necessary as long as a wireless router or hub is close to the sound level meter.

Warnings and Alarms

LiveNoise can indicate when preset levels have been exceeded. The *Warning* level is used to indicate to the user that the level is getting high. When the noise exceeds the *Alarm* level for the preset period of time, the alarm is indicated on-screen until the user clicks the *Clear Alarms* button. Alarms can be stored to a data file and loaded into a spreadsheet or word processor.

Software Installation

Insert the LiveNoise CD and follow the on-screen instructions.



*If the installation does not start automatically then run the **setup.exe** application on the CD.*

System Setup — Direct Serial Connection

The LiveNoise software can connect to the sound level meter using the computer's RS232 (COM) port.

Typical RS232 Connection

Connect the sound level meter to the computer's COM port using the cable supplied — the 9-way female connector goes to the computer's port.

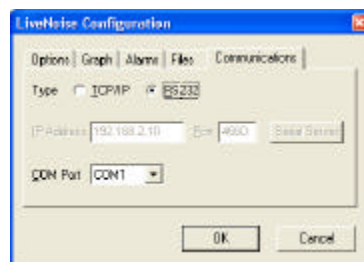
The sound level meter can be powered by batteries or by an optional power supply unit.



Configure the Software

Select the *Tools | Preferences* menu option and click on the *Communications* tab.

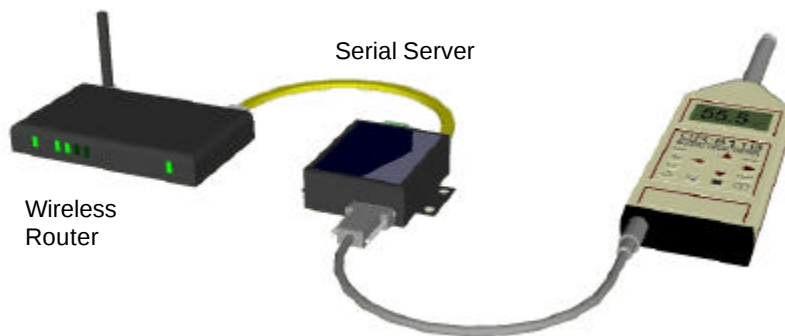
Select the *RS232* option and the COM port that the meter is connected to.



System Setup — Network Connection

The LiveNoise software can connect to the sound level meter over an Ethernet or Wireless network.

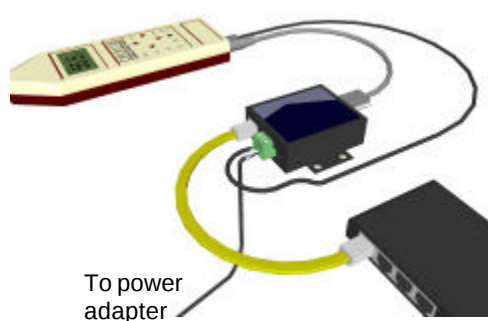
Connecting Up — Typical Wireless Network with Router



Connect the Sound Level Meter to the *SE5001 Serial Server* using the RS232 cable. Connect the *Serial Server* to your Wireless Router (or other access hub) using the network cable.

Then connect the power from the adapter to the *Serial Server* (green connector) and from there to the Sound Level Meter.

Plug the adapter in and switch the Sound Level Meter on.



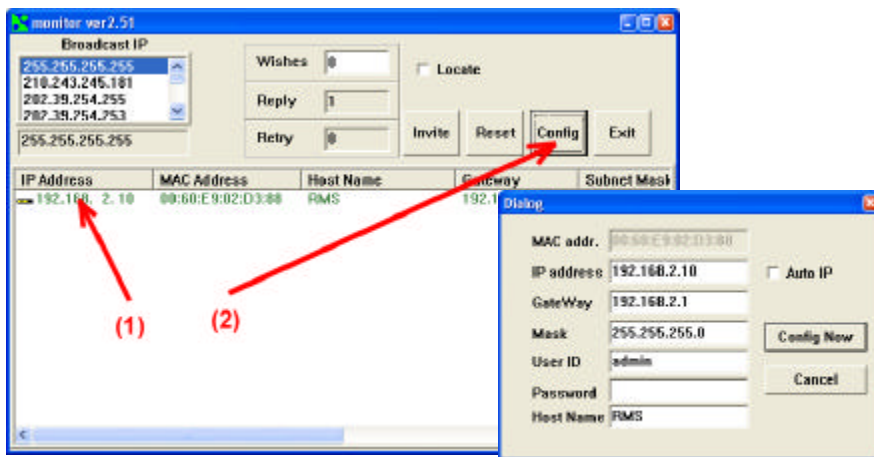
The RUN light should flash and the LAN light should be on, indicating that the *Serial Server* is connected to the network.

Configure the Software — Network Connection

Select the *Tools | Preferences* menu option and click on the *Communications* tab.

Select the *TCP/IP* option then click the *Serial Server* button to configure the settings for the *SE5001 Serial Server* settings.

The *Monitor* software should detect the *Serial Server* on your network. Click on the IP address **(1)** and then on the *Config* button **(2)**.

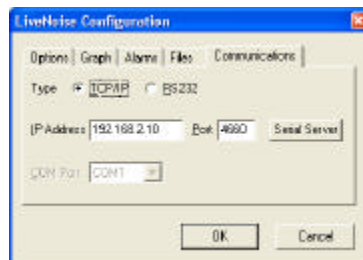


Select an *IP Address*, *Gateway* and *Subnet Mask* to suit your network. If unsure, contact your network supervisor. If these are not correct for your particular network then the LiveNoise software will not connect to the sound level meter.

Press the *Config Now* button to set the new configuration then close the *Monitor* program.

Back in the LiveNoise program, enter the same IP address. In this example the *Serial Server* is configured to 192.168.2.10.

The port number should usually be left at 4660.



LiveNoise Options

Select the *Tools | Preferences* menu option or click the  button.

Options

Automatically Connect at Startup instructs the program to connect to the sound level meter as soon as it starts up.

Keep LiveNoise Window On Top keeps the LiveNoise program on top of other programs so that you can see the sound levels at all times.

Graph

X Axis Period sets the time period you can see on the graph.

Y Axis — Follow meter's range sets the graph's Y axis to show the same range that the meter is set to.

Y Axis — Automatic. The graph's Y axis will auto-scale.

Auto-Range the Sound Level Meter. If the noise goes outside the instrument's range then it instruct the meter to adjust its range accordingly.

Alarms

Enable Alarms. Use this to switch the alarm option on or off.

Warn. When the noise reaches this sound level the software will show a visible warning.

Alarm. When the noise reaches this level for at least the number of seconds chosen then an "Alarm" is generated. The alarm is indicated on-screen and optionally saved to a file.

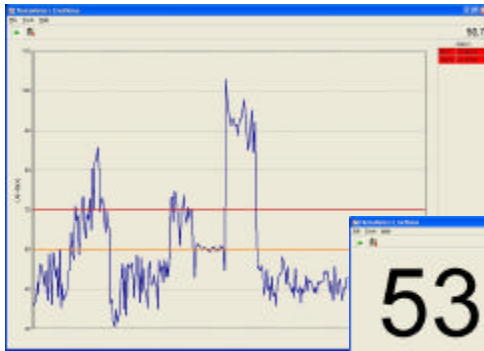
Files

Path. This is the location that the Alarms file will be saved to.

Save Alarms to File. If selected, alarms will be save to a text file.

Connecting to the Sound Level Meter

To connect LiveNoise to the sound level meter, select the *Tools | Connect to Meter* menu option, or click the green run button.



Once connected, the software will show a graph of the sound levels, along with the warning and alarm levels (if the alarms option is enabled).

Click on the sound level button (top-right) to switch the display to a large number.

Connection Problems

If the software cannot connect to the meter it will report one of the following errors:

Could not open RS232 port COMx. Check that you have set the correct COM port for the software to connect to the sound level meter. This error occurs if the software cannot find the selected COM port on the computer.

Could not find the remote TCP/IP server. The software could not find the SE5001 Serial Server on the network. Check that the server is configured to an IP address and subnet mask that suit the network. Check also that the LiveNoise software has the same IP address set.

Connection opened but the sound level meter is not responding. The software has managed to open the RS 232 port, or connect through to the Serial Server on a network, but the meter does not respond. Check that the meter has power, is switched on and is correctly connected to the computer or to the Serial Server, depending on your configuration.

Warnings and Alarms

The LiveNoise software has a *Warning* level and an *Alarm* level that can be configured to suit your application.

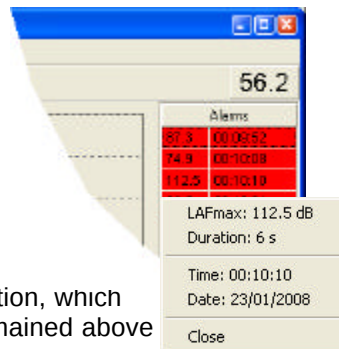
The software indicates the warning level on the graph. When the warning level is exceeded the digital level reading changes colour and the status bar shows the message "WARNING LEVEL". No other action is taken on a warning and nothing additional is stored.

When the level exceeds the alarm level the digital level reading changes colour and the status bar shows the message "HIGH LEVEL". If the level stays above the warning level for the preset time (see *LiveNoise Options*) then an *Alarm* is generated.

Alarms

Alarms are indicated on the right-hand side of the LiveNoise display, showing the start time (the time at which the level first crossed the threshold) and the maximum sound level (LAFmax).

Click on any of the alarms to get more information, including the date and the alarm duration, which indicates the amount of time that the level remained above the threshold.



Alarms Saved to File

If LiveNoise is configured to save alarms to file (see *LiveNoise Options* section) then a Comma Separate Variable (CSV) file is created for each day that the software runs. By default, these files will be created in *My Documents / LiveNoise*, although this can be changed if necessary.

The file names are of the format: *ALM-yyyy-mm-dd.CSV*, where *yyyy* is the year, *mm* is the month and *dd* is the day.

These files can be loaded straight into a text editor as well as directly into most spreadsheets and word processors.

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