

# THE FM192

*Full Modification of ProTools 192 I/O  
By Black Lion Audio  
& Requisite Audio Engineering*

## OPERATOR'S MANUAL

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## INTRODUCTION

### THANK YOU

Thank you for using the FM192 and thereby making it a part of your art. The FM192, introduced in 2009, is a thorough reworking of the original ProTools 192 I/O by Digidesign.

Inspiration for the FM192 came from years of conversations with prominent Artist, Engineers and Producers. They revealed that most everyone was happy with the software, convenience, noise floor and reliability of the system. However, there were rumblings of a downside. Comments such as “flat” or “lack of dimension” were expressed. A sense that the sound had a characteristic “fingerprint.” It also seemed these artifacts became more pronounced as the number and density of tracks increased.

To counteract the situation, outboard converters and third party I/O products became a growing industry, within the industry. These solutions were expensive and involved additional rack space, more cables and another owner’s manual to read and understand. To us, a reworking of the original 192 seemed to be a better path to affordability, convenience, simplicity and most importantly... superior audio performance.

For over a year, work on the project was carried out by Requisite Audio Engineering before coming to the conclusion that upgrades in power supply and analog components alone was not going to get us to where we wanted to go. We needed to get to the digital DNA of the system in order to effect the kind of improvements that would open up the sound and image quality.

It was at this point we discovered the work of Black Lion Audio. Having many successful years working in this arena, Black Lion Audio seemed the logical “go-to” company, but would they be interested in such a project? Well... they weren’t. At least not right away. Naturally, they had already put some thought into such a project and decided they had plenty to do without taking it on. However, it was reasoned, with both companies working together, time, energy and cost could be shared, making such a large scale project more manageable.

Because of Black Lions’ brilliant take on the project, the FM192 has found a home with top Producers and Mix Engineers as well as receiving a glowing review in Mix Magazine.

We believe you will find the FM192 to be equal to, or even surpass, the performance of the most critically acclaimed converters and HD systems available today, regardless of their cost.

Thank you again, and please enjoy!

Danny “Sage” McKinney (Founder/President)  
Requisite Audio Engineering

Matt Newport (Founder/President)  
Black Lion Audio

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## RECEIVING YOUR FM192

### UNPACKING and INSPECTION:

Your shipment has been carefully inspected, checked and packaged at our company before being turned over to the carrier.

We fully expect your FM192 to arrive in your hands without having been harmed. However, at the point at which you do receive the product, it becomes your property. Therefore it is important that you carefully inspect the carton and it's contents for any sign of physical damage which could have occurred in transit. Record and report any damages to the transportation company within 24-hours of the original shipment.

Here's what to do if the shipment has been damaged:

Leave the product, its packing materials and box "as is." Notify the carrier's local office and request an immediate inspection of the shipment.

After said inspection has been made and you have received written notification thereof, please contact our shop at 773.549.1885 for a return authorization number.

We will repair or replace any damaged merchandise as necessary.

Remember, it is your responsibility to follow the above procedures. Otherwise, the carrier will not honor your damage claim. If you have any questions regarding this notice or the shipment itself, please notify us immediately.

Thank you,

Black Lion Audio  
773.549.1885

Requisite Audio Engineering  
818.437.0779

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## GENERAL NOTES

### WARNING:

DO NOT OPEN THE CABINET - RISK OF SEVERE ELECTRICAL SHOCK

### THIS SHIPMENT SHOULD INCLUDE:

- Model FM192
- FM192 Operator's Manual (this book)

### SERVICING:

The user should not attempt to service this unit beyond that described in this manual. Refer all servicing to:

BLACK LION AUDIO  
1800 W. Cuyler, Suite 2E  
Chicago, IL 60613

- telephone: 773.549.1885 - Monday-Friday, 9:30AM-5:30PM CST
- email: [info@blacklionaudio.com](mailto:info@blacklionaudio.com)

### ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

This and all electronic equipment require adequate ventilation and a dry environment for safe operation and long component life. If proper ventilation from behind and to the sides of the unit is provided, the FM192 will require 2 rack spaces for mounting, assuming reasonable ventilation.

Do not allow the FM192 unit to become overheated.

Also, while circuitry susceptible to hum pick-up is sufficiently shielded from moderate electromagnetic fields, installation should be planned to avoid mounting the system adjacent to power transformers, motors, etc.

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## FRONT PANEL

### REFER TO...

Just as promised... there is no new user manual to read. All set-up and operation is identical to the Digidesign 192 I/O. Please refer to the original 192 I/O Owner's Manual.

## REAR PANEL

### REFER TO...

See above.

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## WARRANTY

For a period of 2 years, beginning on the date your modified unit is delivered, Black Lion Audio / Requisite Audio Engineering (BLA / RAE) will, free of charge, repair this product should you experience a modification-related failure within that timeframe. Immediately contact us and we will gladly correct the issue.

This limited warranty is subject to the following limitations:

- If your unit exhibits a modification-related failure within 30 days of delivery, we will cover ground-shipping and correct the issue at no charge, provided we are notified within the initial 30-day time frame.
- If your unit exhibits a modification-related failure *after* 30 days of delivery, please contact us to arrange an RMA (before sending the unit). Please note, we will not be held responsible for any shipping costs.
- If the issue reported turns out *not* to be modification-related, we reserve the right to charge an assessment / diagnostic fee for our work. (This includes, but is not limited to: power supply / harness failures, PCI-related clicks and pops, and other issues related to the manufacturer's design).
- If your unit does exhibit a failure *not* related to the Black Lion Audio modification, we can often repair these issues for you in-house, or if not, we can refer your unit to an ARC (Authorized Repair Center).
- Units that are discovered to have been opened or tampered with will not be covered by this warranty. We strongly discourage opening the chassis due to the risk of electrical shock!
- Defects that are, in the sole judgement of BLA / RAE, the result of accident, misuse, abuse, neglect, mishandling, misapplication, faulty installation, unauthorized repair, modification, or act of God will not be covered by this warranty.
- In the absence of receipt of original purchase, this warranty is valid for 2 years from date of modification as determined from the units serial number and the records of BLA / RAE.
- There are no expressed warranties except as listed above.
- BLA / RAE SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR PROPERTY DAMAGE OR ANY OTHER INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGE WHATSOEVER WHICH MAY RESULT FROM THE FAILURE OF THIS PRODUCT OR ARISING OUT OF THE BREACH OF THIS WARRANTY. Any and all warranties of merchantability and fitness implied by law are limited to the duration of the expressed warranty.

If a problem develops with this product DO NOT OPEN THE UNIT or attempt repairing it yourself. Opening this unit invalidates your warranty and will expose you to risk of electrical shock!

REFER ALL REPAIR TO BLA / RAE. Do not return the unit without authorization and instructions from us. Units must be shipped PRE-PAID both directions. BLA / RAE cannot be responsible for damage due to shipping or improper packaging. Save the original packaging.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.