



## **FFADO update**

<http://www.ffado.org>

Linux.conf.au multimedia and music miniconf 2012

Jonathan Woithe

# 1 **Talk outline**

- The FFADO project
- Recent developments
- Work in progress
- Future plans
- Helping FFADO
- Acknowledgements

## 2 The FFADO project

- FFADO: Free Firewire<sup>®</sup> Audio Drivers for Linux.
- Currently accessed as a JACK backend.
- Plans in place to change this (more later)

### **3 Recent developments**

- Refinements of existing drivers (widening hardware support)
- Newer drivers (RME fireface) gaining additional features

## 4 Work in progress

- Version 2.1 is still in the works (adds support for more devices)
- Bugfixes to existing drivers
- MOTU drivers: continuing to extend support to “mark 3” devices
- RME driver: rounding off rough edges for FF400
- RME driver: soon to start verifying for FF800

## 5 Future plans

### 5.1 General

- Complete RME driver including mixer interface
- More complete support of all Echo devices
- Support for devices built on the DICE platform

## 5.2 Kernel-mode streaming interface

- Progress not as fast as we'd like
- Clemens Ladisch has proof-of-concept snd-dice ALSA driver
  - Playback only at this point
  - Supports limited hardware
  - Source: [firewire-kernel-streaming branch at git://git.alsa-project.org/alsa-kprivate](https://git.alsa-project.org/alsa-kprivate)
- Audio data streamed from kernel via ALSA PCM interface
- Control remains in userspace
- Decouples FFADO from jackd
- Removes many timing-related complications

## 6 Helping FFADO

- Purchase devices from FFADO-friendly vendors and tell them their support of FFADO/Linux is why you're purchasing their interface
- Avoid devices from hostile vendors and tell them why you're not buying their devices
- Download beta releases or subversion snapshots and test them
- Donate/lend devices to FFADO developers



## 7 Acknowledgements

- All the other FFADO developers
- Clemens Ladisch for the snd-dice example driver
- Everyone who submit patches, give suggestions and work on documentation
- Companies actively supporting FFADO: Echo, ESI, Focusrite, Mackie, Teratec (now Mursion), and RME
- Our users, for continued testing, bug reports and patience
- The trademarks of companies referred to throughout this presentation are acknowledged
- FireWire and the FireWire symbol are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. The FireWire logo is a trademark of Apple Inc.

## 8 Links

- FFADO project: <http://www.ffado.org>
- JACK: <http://www.jackaudio.org>

Contacting me:

- [jwoithe@just42.net](mailto:jwoithe@just42.net)