

PANORAMA P1

PANORAMA P1



User Guide

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PANORAMA PHILOSOPHY

Thank you for buying our Panorama controller. Panorama is a very powerful controller that, combined with your DAW, will make you experience musical creativity in a new way.

What makes Panorama different is our intense attention to workflow and insistence that a controller should be as easy to use as integrated hardware systems. Our commitment to simplicity and efficiency makes Panorama highly transparent to use regardless of whether you operate it as a traditional MIDI controller, programming MIDI messages, or use our dedicated communication protocols to control supported software such as Reason by Propellerhead Software or Cubase by Steinberg.

And while controller hardware can never be as flexible as the software it controls, we provide a well thought-out set of controls and buttons in a logical layout that makes it easy to find exactly what you need. Our ultimate goal with Panorama is to make your experience in the studio and in live performance as intuitive and expressive as possible.

In addition, Panorama is field-updatable via USB. This means we can adapt it as software is updated or changed. Future versions of our firmware and drivers will be available to registered users. So remember to register your product!

We hope you will enjoy playing, using and being creative with Panorama as much as we have enjoyed creating it.

The Nektar Team

WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Please take a moment to check the items we supplied in the box, just to make sure it's all there. Here is what you should have found:

- Panorama Controller x 1
- Printed version of this User Guide x 1
- USB cable (standard) x 1

If any of the above was not included please let us know via email: stuffmissing@nektartech.com

WHAT'S ONLINE

Additional documentation, drivers, and support software are available online, which is also where you will find any future firmware updates. If you plan to operate Panorama with a computer, make sure to register Panorama to get access to the extra material. If you plan to use Panorama without a computer, we still recommend you register Panorama so you can be kept up to date with new firmware releases.

Here is the internet address to our product registration page:

<http://www.nektartech.com/registration>

Note: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.



WARNING: Dispose of product securely, avoiding exposure to food sources and ground water. Only use the product in accordance with the instructions.

Prop 65 Notice

The state of California wants you to know the following:

"WARNING: This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm."

Dispose of the product in an environmentally safe way to avoid exposure to drinking water or food sources. The product is safe in regular use but take precautions during service.

Panorama firmware, software and documentation are the property of Nektar Technology, Inc and subject to a License Agreement.

© 2012 Nektar Technology, Inc. All specifications subject to change without notice. Nektar is a trademark of Nektar Technology, Inc. Reason is a trademark of Propellerhead Software AB.

CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

If you want to keep Panorama pristine, you'll need to clean it occasionally. We recommend you use a moisture-free air duster or electronics spray to clear away any surface dust. Then use electronics dry cloth or the included lint-free cloth to polish the surface and remove any finger marks.

Note: Do not use any abrasive materials to clean the surface as this may leave scratch marks.

FACTORY RESET

Performing a complete factory reset will erase all presets and maps and return the unit to its default factory state. Make sure to back up your presets and maps first! For details on backup, make sure to register your product to gain access to our online documentation.

Here is how you perform a factory reset:

- Un-plug the USB cable that connects to Panorama
- Press and hold the Patch- and Patch+ buttons (N) and plug the USB cable in to power the unit.

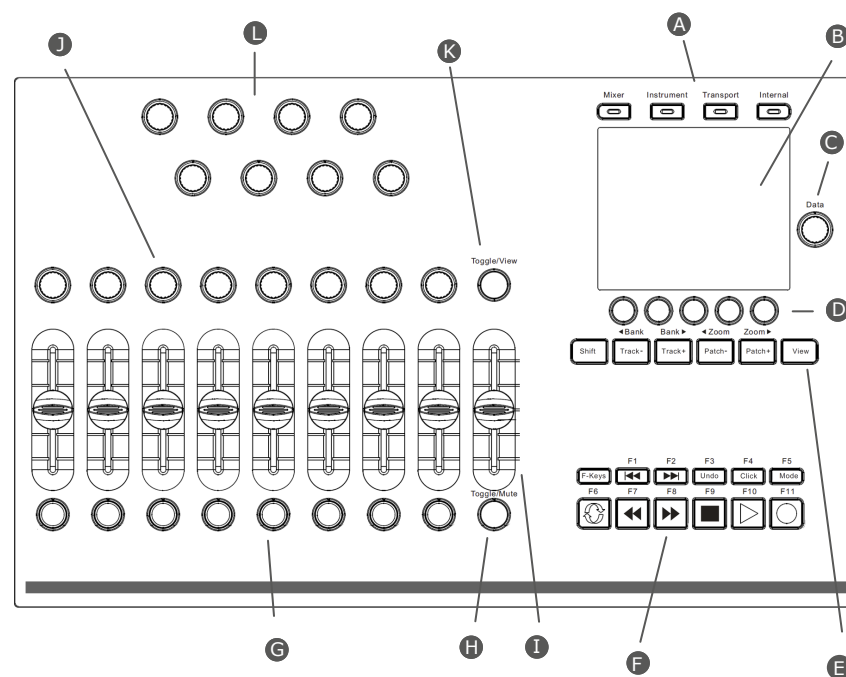
ABOUT

The About page tells you what firmware and hardware versions are currently in your unit. To activate, select Internal mode and press the two display buttons D1 and D2 simultaneously.

To exit, press D5.

PANORAMA OVERVIEW

Here is a brief overview of all the parts of Panorama to which we will refer in the guide. Before you jump in and start using Panorama, we recommend you get acquainted by identifying each called out part on your unit.



- A** Four Mode buttons. Used to switch between Mixer, Instrument, Transport and Internal modes but also double as each mode's "home" or "back" button.
- B** High-resolution TFT display
- C** Data encoder for changing values for parameters and navigation. Also used as an extra MIDI encoder in some menus.
- D** Five menu buttons. Their functions always correspond to the menu label at the bottom of the TFT display.
- E** 6 MIDI- and ASCII-assignable buttons. When used with our dedicated communication protocols they act as navigation buttons for selecting the DAW track, the patch on instruments, bank switch, etc.
- F** Eleven MIDI- and ASCII-assignable buttons, plus a **SHIFT** button (labeled F-Keys) which gives access to a total of 22 assignments. When used with our dedicated communication protocols the buttons are assigned automatically to 11 transport buttons, and the **F-KEYS** button gives access to 11 user-configurable MIDI or ASCII commands.
- G** Eight MIDI and ASCII-assignable LED buttons
- H** **TOGGLE/MUTE** button: Mutes MIDI output in Internal Mode. Toggles between assignments of all eight LED buttons when used with dedicated communication protocols.
- I** Nine MIDI-assignable 45mm faders
- J** Eight MIDI-assignable encoders
- K** **TOGGLE/VIEW** button: Used to view MIDI assignments in Internal mode. Toggles between assignments of all eight encoders when used with dedicated communication protocols.
- L** Eight MIDI-assignable encoders

Back:

Kensington lock

Foot switch jack. MIDI-assignable, but by default controls sustain (pedal optional). Polarity is automatically detected on power up.

USB Standard-B connector. Main USB port for power and data to and from your computer. The port powers the entire unit

REASON: REMOTE OVERRIDE

Transport mode does not use the faders, encoders or buttons to the left of the display, so they are conveniently available for you to assign any parameter you want using Reason's Edit Remote Override Mapping function. This is great if you want parameters for different devices accessible as one group of controls, at any time. And it's easy to set up, too:

1. Enter Transport mode
2. Right-click on the parameter on the Reason device you want to control
3. Select "Edit Remote Override Mapping"
4. In the popup menu, make sure "Learn from control surface input" is ticked
5. Move a control, such as encoder 1 (J1)
6. Click OK in the dialogue box.

The use of Remote Override Mapping does not affect the assignments in Panorama and can be different from song to song.

Note: We recommend that you don't use Remote Override Mapping in Mixer or Instrument mode.

CUBASE & REASON: TRANSPORT MODE

The transport buttons (F) are always available in all three Cubase or Reason modes so you can control the main transport functions at any time.



Activating Transport mode expands your navigational options considerably, with control over locators, tempo, click level, pre-count, song position and more. In addition, the real-time clock tells you the current playback position in your arrangement so you always know where you are.

The layout of the Transport home page is similar to that of Instrument mode, with the clock readout in large characters and the grid indicating the assignments of each of the controls in the encoder group (L). The Menu buttons (D1-5) offer eight essential Transport features on two pages. For example, on the first page the Clock button (D4) toggles the clock readout between real time and bars and beats.



If you are into loop-based recording, try the display buttons labeled Loop> and <Loop on the second page of the Transport menu. Pressing one of these buttons automatically moves your L/R location points by the number of bars between the two points, creating a new loop location with one button push.

POWER & SETUP

With Panorama unpacked and securely seated on a solid surface, it's now time to connect the unit and get going.

Connecting to a Computer

Panorama is USB bus-powered which means you can power it from a connected computer. Here is how:

- Plug in the USB cable (standard) to the USB jack on the back of Panorama and plug the other end into a USB port on your computer.

Note: You can power Panorama via a battery powered laptop but we recommend the use of your laptop's AC power supply during extended work sessions with Panorama.

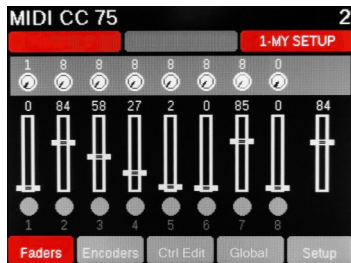
Your computer's operating system will install the USB class driver, which will show up as three sets of MIDI ports inside most MIDI applications. If you plan to use Panorama as a regular USB MIDI controller, you will need to select the inputs and outputs labeled PANORAMA P1 in your application. For now, you can ignore the other two sets of MIDI ports.

Foot Switch

You can also connect a foot switch to the foot switch socket on the back. The foot switch can be used to control record on/off, sustain or changing Panorama's Presets. Your foot switch polarity is automatically detected on power up. If a foot switch is plugged in after the unit has been switched on, you may experience it working in reverse. If that's the case, simply power cycle your unit.

INTERNAL MODE: GETTING AROUND

Panorama has four modes, which is like having four different control surfaces (A): Mixer, Instrument, Transport and Internal modes. The first three modes are available when you operate Panorama with our dedicated communication protocols, such as the one for Reason (see pages 17-25). But let's start with Internal mode, which is the default mode if you are using Panorama as a traditional USB MIDI controller. The LED button for Internal mode is illuminated when the unit is in this mode and the display will look similar to the illustration below:



Move the faders and their values will update in the display as they move. Where controls are assigned to send a standard MIDI Controller message, pressing the **TOGGLE/VIEW** button (K) will display the Controller number assignments. Pressing the **TOGGLE/MUTE** button (H) will mute the MIDI output of the faders, so you can position them where you want them. Press again to unmute.

The buttons under the display (D) are used to navigate and activate functions within a menu. In this case, pressing the Encoders button (D2) will display the encoders' status. Ctrl Edit (D3) takes you to the Control Edit menu where you can assign controls to buttons, faders and encoders. Global (D4) activates the Global menu where you can change MIDI channels, send program message changes, select encoder curves and change display color settings. Finally the Setup menu (D5) gives you access to Load and Save menus to and from any of Panorama's 20 Preset locations or 10 F-keys maps. Setup also contains access to the menus on the main display screen so you quickly can navigate to any menu from Save or Load.

CUBASE & REASON: INSTRUMENT MODE

Instrument mode controls the device assigned to the currently selected sequencer track. Changing tracks will therefore immediately update the assignments of all controls.

The Instrument home page is designed to provide the information and experience of a hardware workstation. The large character field shows the current patch name of the device, and the grid below that shows the parameters and values assigned to the encoder group (L). And if the current device has envelopes, the fader group will be assigned to Amp and Filter envelopes by default.



The first parameters you encounter are the ones we considered most useful, and they've been selected from different menus. But you can edit any of the device's parameters by pressing the Menu button (D5), which will activate the scroll menu. From here you can access every menu in the selected device.

Reason: To control devices in the Effects and Other Category, you will need to create a track for that device. This can be done by right-clicking on the device in the rack and selecting "Create track for (device name)".

CUBASE & REASON: MIXER MODE

In Mixer mode, the first eight faders (I) control eight mixer channels at a time, while the corresponding encoders (J) control the Pan position and the LED buttons (G) act as Channel Select buttons.

You can change the assignment of the encoders by pressing the **TOGGLE/VIEW** button (H) to step through Pan, Width and Sends 1-8.

By pressing the **TOGGLE/MUTE** button (H) to the right of the LED buttons, you also change their assigned function by stepping through Select, Mute and Solo.



The Encoder group (L) is assigned by default to control EQ for the currently selected channel. Using the LED buttons (G) as Select buttons, you can select a new mixer channel without changing your current sequencer track. This is useful, say, if you want to tweak the EQ on a kick drum track while still playing a bass sound from the keyboard.

To view the EQ parameters, press the display navigation button labeled EQ (D1), or select any of the other display buttons for other menus. The Menu button (D5) gives you quick access to all mixer menus, including the Master section.

Reason note: We recommend you only rename sequencer tracks and not mixer channels. By only naming sequencer tracks, mixer channels will display the same name as the track name. If you name mixer channels independently, you may experience inaccurate track information in the info bar.

INTERNAL: PRESETS, MAPS & BUTTONS

Panorama P1's memory structure has three parts.

- Presets: 20 locations in total that store the 9 Faders (I), 16 Encoders (J+L) and 8 LED buttons (G).
- F-Key Maps: 10 locations in total store the 11 F-keys buttons assignments.
- Navigation (E) and Transport (F) buttons assignments are not stored as part of a preset or map but assignments are retained over power cycling. This means you do not need to worry that your navigation or transport settings may change if you load a preset.

Loading Presets

To load a preset or map you simply select the Load menu in Setup. However you can also assign any button to load a specific preset or map, or assign it to load the previous or next map to the one currently loaded. The Patch — and Patch + buttons are assigned in this manner so pressing these buttons will allow you to scroll through the presets in your Panorama. If you want to assign these buttons in a different way, check the section about Control Edit on page 11.

Loading F-keys Maps

The transport buttons (F) double up as 11 F-keys accessible when you press the F-keys button. To activate the assignment, press the F-keys button followed by any of the Transport buttons labeled F1-F11. The F-keys are particularly useful for QWERTY macro's because they are the only buttons available in all 4 modes.

As mentioned you can load maps in the Load menu located in the Setup page, either with a preset or on it's own. You can also assign any assignable button to load maps, as you can with Presets.

However there is another quick way you can change the current F-keys map.

Press the F-keys button (F) brings the current F-keys assignments in to view and the info-bar tells you which map is currently loaded. To change the current F-keys map, move the data control while the F-keys button is pressed. The change is instant so make sure you have saved any F-keys assignments you want to keep before selecting a new map.

INTERNAL: GLOBAL SETTINGS

Enter the Global menu by pressing the display button labeled Global (D3) in Internal mode. Here you have access to the following parameter options:

Global Channel, Program & Bank LSB/MSB

Sets the global MIDI channel for Panorama. If controls have been assigned to send on the global MIDI channel, changing this channel will affect all those assignments.

Changing the value for Program or Bank LSB/MSB will send out a program or bank change message on the global MIDI channel.

Encoder Curve

Next select the menu Encoder Curve. This setting determines how quickly Panorama's encoders scroll through parameter values; the options are Slow, Standard and Fast. You may like Fast if you want to be able to go from 0-127 in less than 1 rotation. Standard allows you to do it in about 1 rotation and Slow requires more than one rotation. Select the curve you think might work best for you.

LCD Color

This setting changes the brightness of the gray colors in the display. If you find these colors are not clear from your viewing angle, changing this setting may help.

Display Pedal/Mod: On/Off

This determines if you will see data in the info-line when you use an Expression pedal or the modulation wheel. Off is default and means you will not see this data displayed.

CUBASE & REASON: GETTING AROUND

Info-Bar (Red/Gray/Red)

The display Info-Bar (Red/Gray/Red) provides the following important current status information for the mode home pages:

Sequencer Track Name / Mixer Channel Number / Device Name

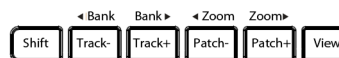


Deeper in the menu structure, the Info-Bar changes to:

Mixer mode: Sequencer Track Name / Mixer Channel Number / Current Menu

Instrument mode: Current Patch Name / Device Name / Current Menu

Changing Track, Patch and Mixer Bank



The navigation buttons allow you to make the following navigational changes:

Track -/+ : Changes the current sequencer track

Patch -/+ : Changes the patch (or preset) of the instrument device assigned to the current sequencer track

View: Changes the display view on your computer to show Mixer in Mixer mode, Rack in Instrument mode and Sequencer in Transport mode

Bank <> : Shifts the current selection of eight mixer channels in Mixer mode so the fader group assignments are changed, for example, from channels 1-8 to channels 9-16

Zoom <> : controls the magnification of sequencer tracks when the sequencer is in view.

REASON: GETTING AROUND

About Panorama's Reason Implementation

Panorama's dedicated communication protocol for Cubase & Reason is extremely comprehensive. And if you know your DAW, it's easy to understand how it all works...because you already know how your DAW works! In the following we'll give you a starting point for exploring Panorama, which may be all you need.

Modes and Navigation

By pressing the Mode navigation buttons (A) you change the assignments of Panorama's controls at the push of a button. It's like having four control surfaces in one:



Mixer — Assigns all controls to the DAW's mixer.

Instrument — Assigns controls to the device on your sequencer track. In most cases, this will be an instrument, but it's also how you control any of Reason's effects.

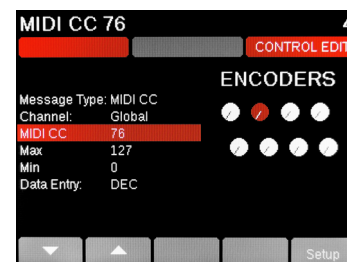
Transport — Controls functions in your DAW's transport menu including current song position and locator points.

Internal — Uses Panorama's internal MIDI controller functions so you can jump out of our dedicated protocol and use Panorama as a traditional MIDI controller.

Regardless of where you are in Panorama's menu structure, you can always press a mode button (A) to jump out of the current menu to a new mode. The last menu of a mode is remembered, so pressing the mode button once from any other mode will take you back to the remembered menu; pressing it twice will take you to the mode home page.

INTERNAL: ASSIGNING CONTROLS

Internal : Control Edit



Pressing Ctrl Edit (Control Edit) from the Internal mode home page will activate the Control Edit menu with the display looking similar to what is shown above. Moving or pressing any of the controls (faders, encoders, pads, buttons) while on this page will update the display to show their current settings. The default parameter selection is MIDI CC, so right away you can change the Controller number assignment for the most recently used control using the Data encoder (C). The change takes effect immediately, so you can check your receiving device or software to see that it responds correctly as you make changes.

Using the arrow display menu buttons (D1 or D2), select Message Type. Use the Data encoder (C) to review the options. Options vary depending on the type of control you have selected so for example you can't assign loading presets to an encoder, only a button.

We have included a very flexible set of options for each selection. In the above screen you have the ability to assign the selected fader to send a particular MIDI CC# within a definable range on any MIDI channel, and then assign completely different values to the faders on either side if you like.

Note: QWERTY or ASCII messages can be assigned to any of the assignable buttons, but only with the Panorama driver installed. You can download it from our website once you have registered your product here: www.nektartech.com/registration

DRIVER & DOWNLOAD

About the Panorama Driver

The Panorama driver is required to use our dedicated communication protocol DAW's such as Cubase and Reason. If the program you want to use is not already installed on your computer, we recommend you install the program first and our driver second.

If you don't own Reason, you can try a demo of the full version by visiting Propellerhead Software's website: <http://www.propellerheads.se/download/>

Once installed, you can run the program in demo mode and see for yourself how well Reason and Panorama interact.

Note: Panorama's dedicated communication protocol is compatible with Record 1.5, Reason 5, Reason 6, 6.5 and up. Older versions are not supported.

Downloading the Reason Driver

The Reason driver for Panorama can be downloaded from <http://www.nektartech.com/registration>. Follow the online instructions to register, download and install the Panorama driver and update the firmware of your unit.

REASON: SETUP

With Reason and the Panorama driver installed, connect the Panorama keyboard to your computer via USB and set its power switch to On. Wait until the OS has recognized Panorama, then follow these steps:

- Launch Reason
- Select the Preference menu in Reason and click on the Control Surfaces tab
- Click the button labeled "Auto-detect surfaces"

Once complete Reason should have found two control surfaces: Nektar Panorama and Nektar Panorama Mixer Mode.

Note: If you are installing Reason for the first time, Reason will request permission to search automatically for a Master Keyboard. If you do this, Reason will find only Nektar Panorama because our Mixer Mode control surface does not contain a keyboard. You must follow the steps above to ensure both control surfaces are found.

Reason and Panorama are now connected. You will see the following message on Panorama's display:

"To use Mixer Mode, please lock Panorama Mixer Control Surface to a Mixer device. Locking to the Master Section is most useful. You can also lock to any Mixer device in the rack and the ReGroove Mixer. Alternatively, select Instrument, Transport or Internal mode."

To lock to the Reason 6 mixer, navigate to the Options menu and select "Surface Locking...". For the Surface select "Nektar Panorama Mixer", and for "Lock to Device" select "Master Section".

If you are using Reason 5, you can lock Mixer mode to the 14:2 mixer and control it the same way as the larger mixer in Reason 6. The rest of this guide assumes you are using Reason 6.

That's it; you are now ready to experience Panorama communicating with the power of Reason.

Note: The "Lock Nektar Panorama Mixer Mode to this device" setting is stored with your song so you don't have to set this up every time if you save the setting you prefer in your default song.