

Introduction

AirPixel-Mini-II is a Wifi ArtNet/sACN(E1.31) to WS281x/SK6812/UCS pixel driver interface. It is capable of receiving up to 4 DMX universes, with up to 512 channels per universe. The data is then converted into continuous pixel data streams that will appear at the output. There is a three screw terminal connection for Ground, DataOut, and Power (5-24V). The device sends 4 universes consecutively on its data output. Network connection can be made by utilising a special Join-A-Network mode. Device IP, ArtNet/sACN, Pixel Test and settings are adjustable directly from a second browser interface once the Wireless Network Connection has been made. Connection status is shown with a bi-coloured LED. Product Firmware updates can be sent over-the-air, or via SDCard

Specifications

Browser Configuration Server and UDP Client mode
Four Universe ArtNet II & III and sACN E1.31 decoding Pixel data in NZR Format
Radio Module : Wireless standard 802.11 b/g/n, Frequency range 2.4-2.5 GHz
Power input : 5-24V Powered, reverse power protected
Dual tie-wrap/strap mounting slots

Parts Supplied

AirPixel Mini II Interface 1 x 3dBi Jointed/Swivel Antenna 1 x 3 way plug-in screw terminal block

Status LEDs

Network Select : Slow single flash RED=APMode, not connected – Slow double flash RED=APMode, connected
Network Connect : Medium single flash RED=ClientMode, not connected – Solid BLUE=ClientMode, connected
Data Streaming : BLUE OFF=streaming/data being received that matches universe selection group
Unsuccessful network Connection : Equal On/Off slow flashing RED (after 60 seconds of failed attempts)

Access-Point Connection

On first power-up (when the AirPixel has not been set up before), it will appear as an Access Point. If you check your list of wireless network connections you will find the device in the list as 'Airpixel xxyy' (where xxyy are the last two octets of the device mac). The AirPixels status LED will be slowly flashing RED. On your PC, select the device from the list of wireless network connections and enter 'smartshow' for the password. Once connected the AirPixels LED will do a repeating slow double flash.

[Laptop/PC] <--- direct wifi connection >--- [AirPixel in APMode : 192.168.4.1]

'Join A Network' Configuration Page

To access the 'Join A Network' configuration page, type into the URL bar '192.168.4.1' and press return, the configuration interface should appear as follows:

Network SSID & Password Settings

Network SSID: Enter the name (SSID) of the wireless router for the network you wish to join

Network PASS: Enter the password (PASS) for the above network.

[Save SSID & Password] The above SSID and Password will be saved so that next time the device reboots, the connection will be made automatically (unless the Network/Pass cannot be verified)

[Connect to Network] *READ DEVICE SETTINGS BELOW BEFORE PRESSING CONNECT* This will allow the device to connect to the Network as specified above, the device will close down its Access-Point ('Join-A-Network') connection and restart as a network client/node. While the device is making the network connection the LED will show a medium RED flash. When the device's LED changes to a solid BLUE it confirms the connection to your chosen wireless Network.

Device Settings & IP Configuration

Device IP Address: It is possible to set the IP Address of the AirPixel to almost any value. Many ArtNet devices will use standard IP addresses of 10.x.x.x or 2.x.x.x, only values of 0-254 can be used, 255 is not allowed.

Note : If you change this IP address, the new IP address will be the one that will allow you access to this configuration page next time you reboot. Also take care to only change to an IP address that you actually have access to.

Device SubNetMask: Normally this should be left at 255.255.255.0, which will cover most applications.

[Save Device Settings] Saving the configuration will write the Device IP and SubNetMask values to the AirPixels internal memory, so on next power-up the new settings will be used.

Resuming Network Connection

Once the device has connected to your chosen Network (Solid BLUE LED), then you should disconnect your Laptop/PC from the AirPixels AP-Mode (it might automatically do this anyway), and then manually connect your Laptop/PC back to your existing Network (Same SSID as above)

[Laptop/PC] <--- wifi >--- [ROUTER] <--- wifi >--- [AirPixel in ClientMode : 192.168.1.200]

Note : If the device's LED stays flashing medium speed RED then you have not been able to connect to your desired network (you may have entered the SSID & PASS incorrectly). If you cycle the power to the device you will start in AP mode once again, the device will do this until a confirmed network connection has been made.

Browser Configuration Mode

To access the browser configuration page, type into the URL bar the Network IP Address (this will be default value '192.168.1.200' unless you have changed it from within the 'Join-a-Network' page) and press return. *Note : Access to the Browser Configuration page is only available when ArtNet data is NOT streaming to the device over the network, therefore access can only be granted when the Devices LED is SOLID BLUE.* The configuration interface should appear as follows:

Network

Connection: The page should announce the currently connected network name as 'Connected to..'. Pressing **[Delete]** will remove the details of the currently connected network from the device, this may be required if you want to move from one wireless router to another. The next time you power up the device it will go into Access-Point mode again which will allow a new SSID & PASS to be entered (see Join-A-Network)

IP Address: The required Device IP. *Note if you change this you also need to change the URL IP to access the device again*

SubNetMask: Normally this should be left at 255.255.255.0, which will cover most applications.

MAC Address: This is not adjustable and is a unique number created when the device was manufactured.

[Save] New IP configuration will not take place until the AirPixel has its power cycled (or by pressing [Reboot]). Saving the configuration will write the Device IP and SubNetMask values to the AirPixels internal memory. On the next power-up the new settings will be used.

DMX Protocol Set-Up

Protocol: Select either ArtNet or sACN (E1.31) to match the DMX Data Protocol coming from the host application

Starting Universe: These values can be configured to match the requirements of your system. There are a total of 32,768 universes for ArtNet III, and 32,999 for sACN

ArtNet: Net: Range 0-127 **SubNet:** Range 0-15 **Universe:** Range 0-15 – **sACN Universe:** Range 1-32999

[SAVE]: New settings will take immediate effect after they are saved.

Universe Sizes

If your application is unable to set the size of the Universe, then the universe size can be entered into the boxes, one for each of the four universes.

Pixel Test

Connected Pixel colours can be tested by pressing buttons for either RGB or RGBW, clear ALL using OFF.

Pixel Type

WS/SK refers to WS281x and SK6812 style pixels, UCS refers to UCS2903 style pixels

Reboot

Pressing [Reboot] will restart the AirPixel Device

Recovery Mode : Resetting Network Connection

If you have previously connected to a network (wireless router) and you want to delete the network connection so you can join a different network, you can do this in one of three ways:

A. Follow the instructions in the Browser configuration Mode, by accessing the page and press the connection [DELETE] button, this will instantly remove the current network SSID and Password, and the device will reboot automatically in AP mode waiting for you to connect to it directly and Join-a-Network

B. If your AirPixel-Mini-II has an SDCard slot, then you can put blank file on the SDCard called "RESETNOW" (no extension), then place the card in the slot and apply power to the device, then remove the SDCard

C. If the previous router doesn't exist anymore (it has been removed, the device has been moved to another location, or perhaps the router has died) then you won't be able to access the Browser Configuration Mode (above), instead you will have to use the special RECOVERY MODE. Once the Recovery Mode procedure is complete, the device will have removed its previous SSID and Password and will reboot in AP mode.

Here are the steps :

1. Without the original wireless router switched on (or visible on networks), power up the AirPixel
2. The LED will be flashing a medium speed single RED (searching for network)
3. Allow 60 seconds to elapse (fail to connect), the LED will now be flashing RED with Equal on and off times
5. Disconnect the power to the AirPixel
6. Repeat the steps from 1 to 5 TEN TIMES
7. Once the TENTH unsuccessful connection elapses over 60-seconds the device will reset

If at any time during the 10 power-up cycles the device happens to find the old wireless connection, this whole procedure will be ignored and the device will reconnect to the existing network as usual.

Product Connections

The 3 terminal screw connector has the following connections:

Power (5-24V) - Data Out - Ground

Lets Animate !

Open your LED animation application, Jinx is recommended and can be downloaded free of charge from <http://www.live-leds.de/>

1. Configure Jinx to use your AirPixel device, by selecting it as an 'ArtNet' device type from the 'SetUp>OutputDevices' menu
2. Universes/Devices can be added manually (see below) or automatically using 'SCAN' (only available for ArtNet). If a scan is done and 1 universe will be automatically added, you may need to edit the entry with the specific requirement of your set-up.
3. Ensure the Broadcast check box is **not checked**
4. Enter the IP number of your AirPixel interface (as you have set in the AirPixel config page)
5. Select the number of data channels required for this universe, and set Net, SubNet and Starting Universe (as you have set in the AirPixel config page)
6. Click OK to save changes
7. Design your matrix size and shape within 'SetUp>MatrixOptions'
8. Patch your matrix to the AirPixels universe within 'SetUp>OutputPatch'. Be careful to select the correct colour order for your LEDs, WS2812 are GRB, and NOT RGB, starting at channel zero.
9. 'SetUp>StartOutput' to start the show.
10. If you have configured and patched everything correctly the AirPixels BLUE LED will extinguish.
11. Ensure your WS2812 LED strip/matrix is connected to the JST outputs, following the correct connections.
12. Select the effect you want to see from the Channel Effects and have fun !

ArtNet/sACN Unicast, Multicast & Broadcast mode

It is recommended that Unicast mode is used when sending ArtNet/sACN data to AirPixel. Broadcast mode should be avoided.

ArtNet Device Discovery & DHCP

There is limited ability to discover IP addressing and device Information using ArtNetPoll, IP Scan is available on most software. If unavailable, addressing can be done manually as described above. There is no DHCP function as IP addressing is Static, utilising client port 6454 for ArtNet and 5568 for sACN.

Dimensions

Length : 55mm (plus antenna and connector) – Width 25mm – Height 25mm

Software Compatibility

AirPixel works with all free and commercial Art-Net/sACN compatible software. For free software, Jinx! is highly recommended, visit <http://www.live-leds.de/> for more information.

Firmware Updates

Firmware updates can be applied via the WebBrowser configuration interface, or via the SDCard interface. More information is available on request, as with the availability of the update

Technical Support

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