



Avid Configuration Guidelines
Apple Mac Pro Ivy Bridge 6-Core, 8-core or 12-core CPU Workstation



1.) Apple MAC PRO - Avid Qualified System Specification:

MAC PRO / AVID Qualified Operating System:

Mac OS 10.9.1
Mac OS 10.10.1

MAC PRO Hardware Configuration

Supported CPU

Single Intel® 6-Core Xeon® E5 Processor @ 3.5GHz 12MB cache / 1866MHz memory
Single Intel® 8-Core Xeon® E5 Processor @ 3.0GHz 25MB cache / 1866MHz memory
Single Intel® 12-Core Xeon® E5 Processor @ 2.7GHz 30MB cache / 1866MHz memory

Supported Video Card

Dual AMD FirePro D500 or D700 graphics with 3GB or 6 GB GDDR5 VRAM

System Storage – 256 or 512 or 1 TB PCIe based flash storage

Standard AVID memory configuration:

16GB (4 x 4GB) DDR3 1866 ECC memory OR
32GB (4 x 8GB) DDR3 1866 ECC memory OR
64GB (4 x 16GB) DDR3 1866 ECC memory

Memory configuration constraints

- The 12 GB memory option is NOT supported as it only uses 3 DIMM slots that results in poor performance

2.) Qualified Operating Systems, Avid Client Editing Applications, Hardware and Shared-Storage support for the APPLE MAC PRO:

- **Media Composer / Symphony 6.5.4.2, 7.0.3.1, 8.x**
- **Supported: With Mac OS X 10.9.1 and above**
- **Note: Audio input workaround required for MC 6.5.4.1 and 7.03. Apple thunderbolt monitor with microphone input or Avid MBox will work. Avid Mojo DX or OpenIO device will NOT work. Issue fixed with MC 6.5.4.2 and 7.0.3.1**

3.) Qualified Hardware and shared storage supported:

	Qualified / Supported	
Mojo DX	Yes	Requires Avid Thunderbolt adapter
Nitris DX	10 bit, RGB and S3D NOT supported (HW codecs must be disabled for playback)	Requires Avid Thunderbolt adapter
3 rd Party Qualified Hardware	See release notes and Avid website for information regarding supported 3 rd party hardware (vendor qualified)	Requires thunderbolt adapter or Expansion Chassis

Unity ISIS 1Gb Ethernet Client	ISIS 5000 / 7000 V4.6.1	On-board Gb Ethernet
Unity ISIS Hi-res (10 Gbit) client Myricom 10G-PCIE-8B-S	ISIS 5000 / 7000 V4.6.1	Requires Thunderbolt Expansion chassis
Atto R680	SAS storage option	Requires Thunderbolt Expansion chassis
LSI 9200-8e SAS controller	SAS storage option	Requires Thunderbolt Expansion chassis

There are no PCIe slots in this Mac Pro. PCIe adapters will require thunderbolt expansion chassis. Avid has qualified

- Magma ExpressBox 1T & 3T thunderbolt expansion
- Sonnet Echo Express SE II thunderbolt expansion
- Sonnet Echo Express III-D Desktop Thunderbolt 2 Expansion Chassis
- Sonnet Echo Express III-R Rack mount Thunderbolt 2 Expansion Chassis
- Sonnet xMac Pro Server

A.) Qualified Graphics Driver:

Apple qualifies and releases graphics drivers for all graphics options. Use the driver that ships with each MAC OS.

B.) AMD FirePro GPU monitor connectivity:

The AMD FirePro graphics supports 3 4K displays or 6 thunderbolt displays. There is also an HDMI output for connection to HDMI monitor. Media Composer has only been qualified with 2 displays.

C.) O.S. setting recommendations for optimum performance with Avid Editing applications:

- Some hardware devices will not recover from a computer SLEEP mode. The Avid MC app will remind the user to disable sleep in the Energy Saver preferences menu. Also, uncheck the box to put hard disks to sleep.
- Disable Wi-Fi and blue tooth if not in use
- Disable FileVault protection on internal disk (file encryption)

D.) Intel NIC Port(s) for ISIS 5000 / 7000 connectivity:

To set the Network MTU for high speed (10 Gb) access:

Open system preferences
 Select Network icon
 Select "Advanced"
 Click on the "Hardware" tab
 Change "configure" to Manually
 Change MTU to "Standard (1500) – DO NOT USE JUMBO (9000)
 Click on "OK" to apply the setting

Revision Update

Revision	Date	Name	Update
A	Feb 28 th , 2014	Dave Pimm	Initial release of the MAC PRO configuration guide
B	Mar 4 th , 2014	Dave Pimm	Remove Newscutter reference.
C	March 6 th , 2014	Jon Gryckiewicz	Clarified statement about Nitris DX support (not supported)
D	Oct 30 th , 2014	Dave Pimm	Nitris DX for 8 bit only
E	Jan 13 th , 2104	Joe Conforti	Added 3 additional qualified Sonnet Thunderbolt-to-PCIE expansion chassis. Updated supported Yosemite OSX to 10.10.1