

ESION Studio

(Media Composer Extension)

Install Guide

(Windows and Mac)

an Acclaim Audio product

Version: 2602

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Introduction

Thank you for choosing **Acclaim Audio**. This guide will help you install and activate your new **ESION Studio** software.

Note: *Throughout this document the terms* ***Panel*** *and* ***Extension*** *are interchangeable. Versions of Media Composer prior to 25.12 refer to the* ***Extension*** *as* ***Panel****. Starting with release 25.12, Avid changed the terminology to* ***Extension****.*

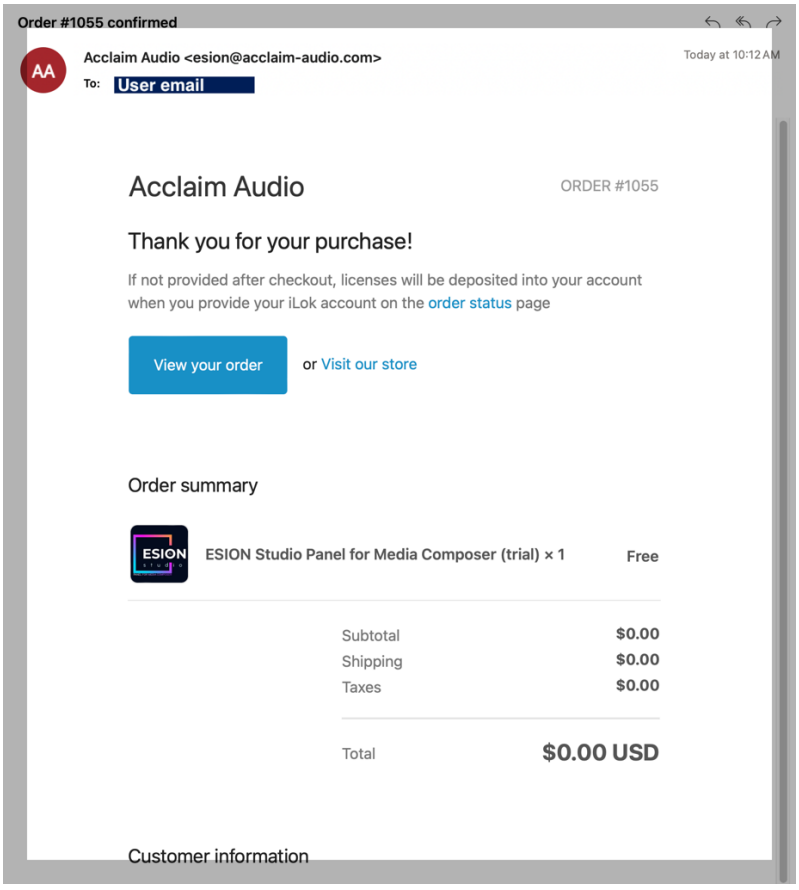
There are two ways to purchase the ESION Studio Extension. Both methods are described below.

- Acclaim Audio store
- 3rd Party store

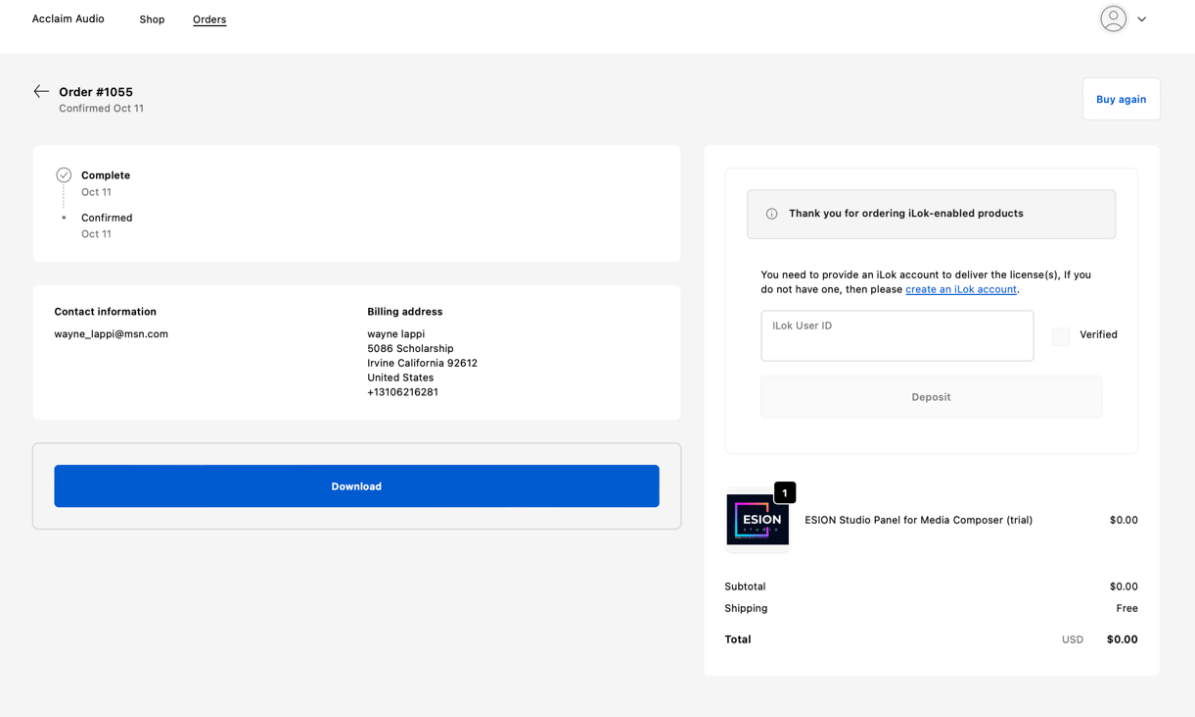
Purchased directly from Acclaim Audio store:

After completing your purchase of **ESION Studio Extension**, you will receive two confirmation emails.

The first email provides an overview of your order.

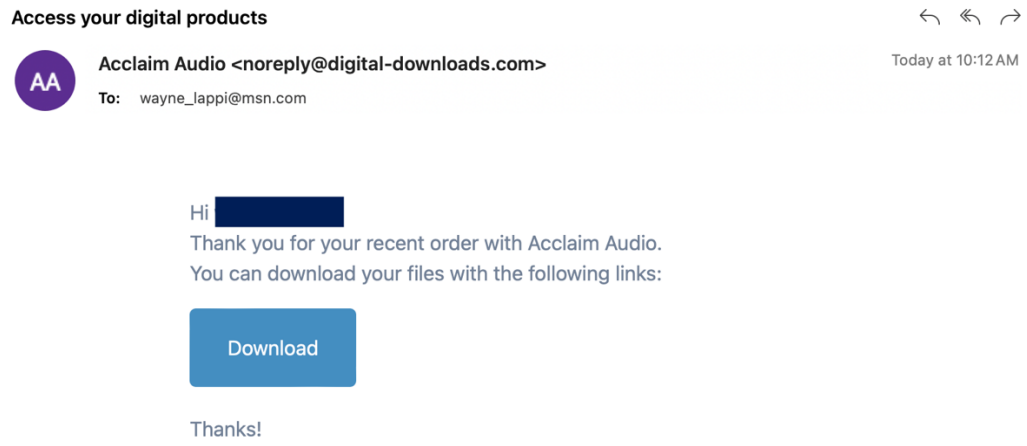


Click the “View the order” button. This will display another page where you can enter your iLOK account id. Once you do, it will be verified, and a deposit button will appear. This will deposit your license into your account – Without this ESION will not start.



The View order page also provides a button to download the ESION installer.

The second email provides the Download link where you can download ESION.



Note: *If the email is not found in your inbox, check your* ***Junk/Spam*** *folder and ensure that email from* ***esion@acclaim-audio.com*** *and* ***digital-downloads.com*** *is allowed.*

For information about installation, troubleshooting, specifications, company contact information, and Acclaim Audio support news, see www.acclaim-audio.com/support

Purchased from a 3rd party store:

After completing your purchase of ESION Studio Extension you should receive an email from the store. The email should contain a link to our website where you can download the installer and it should also contain the iLOK activation code. The activation code is used to activate your license. Once you complete your install, the background server will start and the prompts will appear to enter the activation code.

Product overview

ESION Studio is a suite of AI-powered audio tools designed specifically for post-production dialogue and speech recordings. The adaptive AI engine is optimized for highly variable audio signals encountered in professional workflows, reducing editing time while delivering superior sound quality in situations where traditional dynamic processors fall short.

ESION Studio Extension consolidates the full range of ESION products—including **Leveler**, **Restore**, and **Editor**—into a single, streamlined user interface.

- **Media Composer Integration:**
  The **ESION Media Composer Extension** installs directly within Media Composer, enabling seamless workflow integration.
  - Users can set **In/Out points** within their project.
  - Audio clips can be dragged from the **Bin** into the Extension.
  - ESION processing options can be selected, and processing can be initiated with a single command.
  - After processing, clips can be replaced or placed onto any desired track.

This integration improves efficiency, reduces cost, and enhances final audio quality.

Proven Results:
ESION has been deployed on numerous Emmy-nominated and Emmy-winning productions, including projects for **NBC, ESPN, WWE,** and **Prime Video's Thursday Night Football**. With ESION, users achieve results comparable to professional audio engineers—at a fraction of the time and expense.

System Requirements (Windows and Mac)

Before installing **ESION Studio Extension**, make sure your computer meets the following requirements:

Hardware

- **Processor**
  - Intel i7 processor or higher (Mac or Windows)
  - Apple Silicon (Mac)
- **Memory (RAM):** At least 1 GB
- **Disk Space:** At least 3 GB of free space

Operating System

- macOS Sonoma (version 14), or later
- Windows 11

Supporting Software

- Avid Media Composer (version 24.02 or later)
- For best results version 25.06 or later recommended

Internet Connection

- Available for:
  - Installation download
  - License activation
  - Transcription service access

Licensing

- An active iLok account

ESION Studio Extension (Windows and Mac)

⚠️ Before You Begin

- You **do not need an iLok account to install** the software.
- However, an iLok account **is required to use** ESION Studio Extension.
  - You must have an **ESION Studio license deposited into your iLok account** to activate the software (ESION Server).
  - **iLok accounts are free to create.**

💻 Choosing the Installer

1. Download and open the installer that matches your system:
   - **Windows 11:** `ESIONStudioMC_Extension_Installer_Win.zip`
   - **Apple Silicon (Mac):** `ESIONStudioMC_Extension_Installer_SiliconMac.dmg`
   - **Intel processor (Mac):** `ESIONStudioMC_Extension_Installer_IntelMac.dmg`
2. Refer to the steps below under ESION Studio Extension – Installation steps

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💾 Storage Note

- If this is the **first ESION product you install**, it will require just over **3 GB of disk space**.
- Any **additional ESION products** will reuse shared libraries**,** so they will require **significantly less space**.

⚙️ Windows Installation

🪟 Windows Installation Package Contents

When running the Windows installer, the following components will be installed:

1. `ESION_Studio_Extension_InstallerGuide_2501.pdf` – Installation guide
2. `ESION_Studio_Extension_UserGuide_2501.pdf` – User guide
3. `Readme1st.pdf` – Additional notes
4. `ESIONserver.exe` – Local server
5. `ESIONstudioServerPref.exe` – Preference settings utility
6. `ESION Extension` – Media Composer Extension
7. `ESION.xml` – Custom export settings for ESION Extension

🧹 Pre-Installation Cleanup (Windows Only)

Before installing, make sure no previous ESION services are running:

1. **Stop Media Composer (if running)**
2. **Stop the ESION server (if running):**
   - Open **Task Manager**
   - Locate `ESIONserver.exe`
   - If found, **right-click** it and choose **End Task**
3. **Uninstall any previous ESION server versions:**
   - Open **Control Extension → Programs and Features**
   - Uninstall **all versions of "ESIONserver"**

📥 Install the ESION Studio Extension

1. **Run the installer:**

   The Windows installer is delivered as a Zip file within your Downloads folder, named:

   ESION_Studio_Extension_Installer.zip

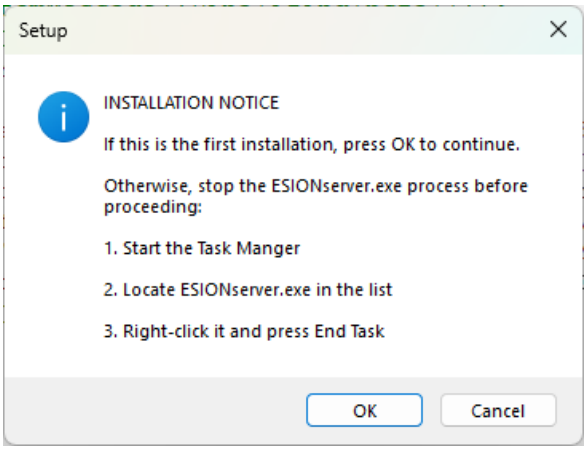
2. Right click and select "Extract All". This will create a folder named:

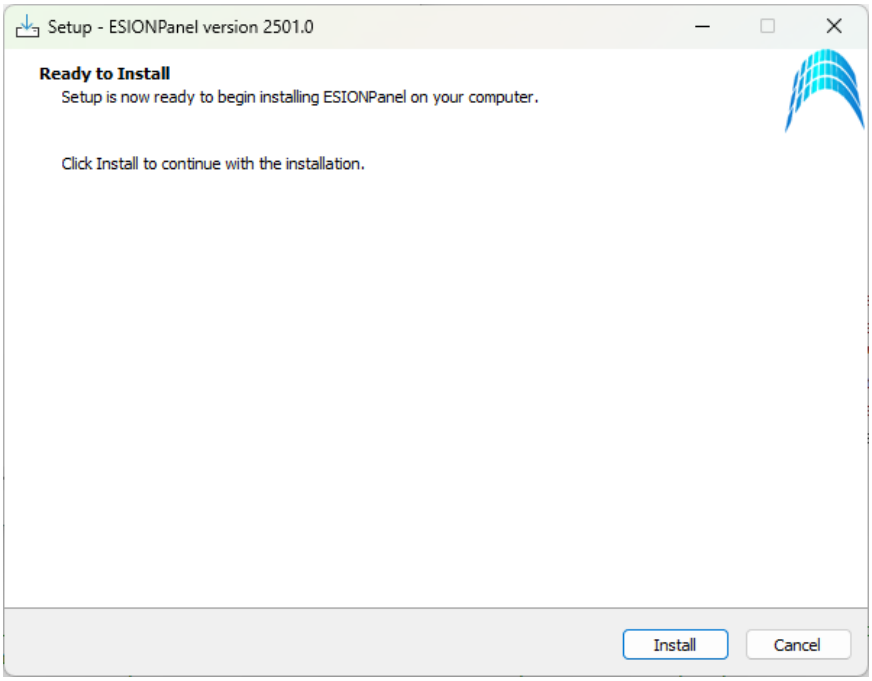
   ESIONStudioExtension_Installer_Win

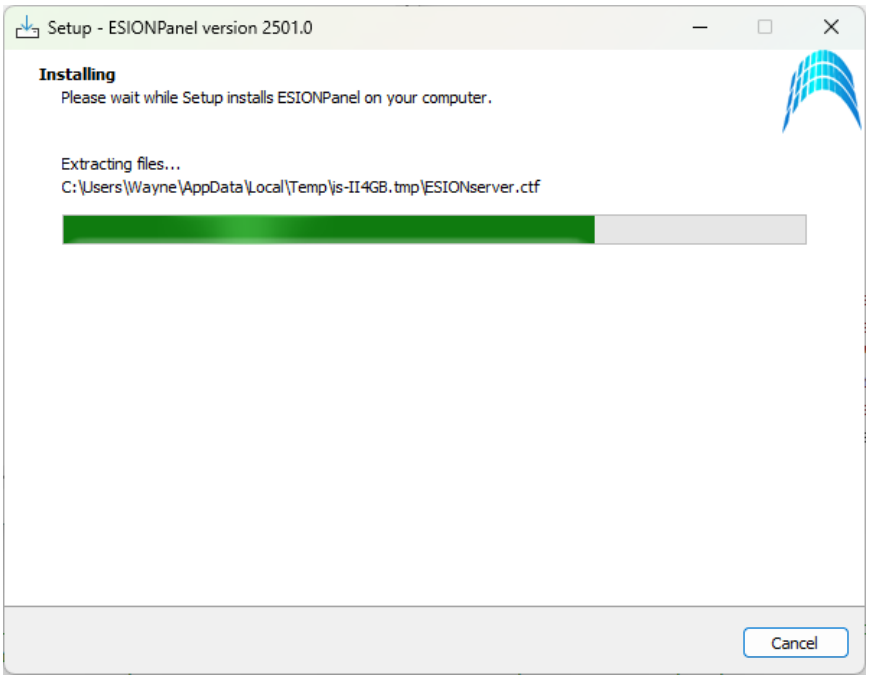
   - Open the extracted folder

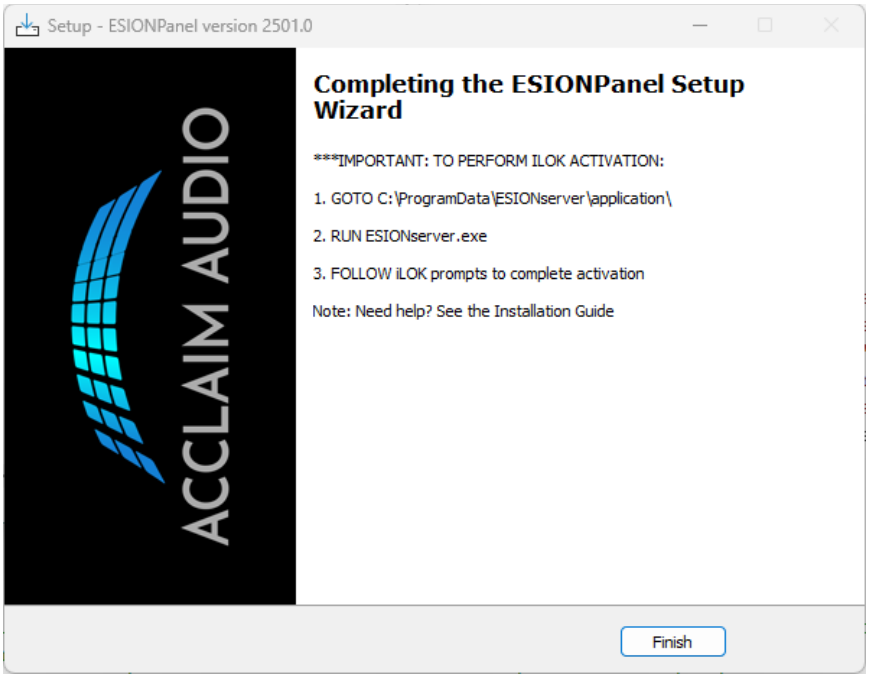
- Open `ESIONStudioExtension_Installer_Win.exe` from your **Extracted** folder

3. **Follow the on-screen prompts** to complete the installation









Note: The installer downloads a processing library and may require up to 10 minutes, depending upon internet download speed. While this download is in process do not close the installer.

1) Once the installer finishes, Open File Explorer (This step is only required if your company is NOT using a License server)
    a. Navigate to C:\ProgramData\ESIONserver\application
    b. Run ESIONserver.exe
    c. Follow the prompts and apply iLOK activation code (separate email)
       For detailed iLOK instructions, refer to iLOK section within this guide
    d. The server is now Authorized and Licensed

2) Reboot (without a reboot Media Composer may not see the new ESION Extension)

3) Proceed to the Post Install Steps for setting up Media Composer to interact with ESION Studio Extension

   Note: If the Post Install steps are not complete, the ESION Extension can produce unpredictable results when using Get Seq and/or Drag/Drop.

A few items of note:

- The User Guide will discuss how to use the ESION Extension
- ESION utilizes a few 3rd party libraries. Do not delete these libraries otherwise ESION will stop processing. The primary library is located at:
  C:\Program Files\MATLAB\MATLAB Runtime

Mac Installation

Mac Installation Package Contents

When running the Mac installer, the following components will be installed:

1. ESION_Studio_Extension_InstallerGuide_2501.pdf - Installation guide
2. ESION_Studio_Extension_UserGuide_2501.pdf - User guide
3. Readme.pdf - Additional notes
4. ESIONserver.app – Local server
5. ESIONstudioServerPref.app - Preference settings utility
6. ESIONActivation.ap – Apply the Activation code
7. ESIONserver_Installer.app – Performs the server installation
8. ESIONserver_Launcher – Used to launch/start the server
9. ESIONserver_Setup.app – Completes the server setup
10. ESIONserver_STOP.app – Used to stop the server
11. ESION Extension – Media Composer Panel/Extension
12. ESION.xml - Custom export settings for ESION Extension

Install the ESION Studio Extension

The installer is delivered as a .dmg file. Once you open the .dmg, both the Intel and Silicon Mac installers contain the Install Guide, User Guide, Readme and **ESIONserver_Installer.pkg**.

Open the .pkg file and the installer will guide you through the installation process.

Note: If you are using a new MAC you may see the installer pop-up a notice that Rosetta is required to continue. Perform the download/install of Rosetta.
The mac installer requires Rosetta, not ESION.

If this is the first ESION product installed, the total install size will be just over 3GB. All subsequent ESION products will utilize shared libraries and, as such, require substantially less space.

Below are the steps required to install the ESION Studio Extension for Media Composer:

1) Open the .dmg Installer
2) Open the ESIONstudioExtension_Installer-signed.pkg
    a. Follow the installation prompts
    b. ***Important:*** Do not install ESION to any custom location other than the /Applications folder. This can introduce unintended side effects.

3) Navigate to **/Applications/ESIONServer/** and expand the **SupportFiles** folder
    a. Open the **ESIONserver_Setup.app** and follow the setup prompts. This app completes the local server setup. *Note: This setup may run for up to 10 minutes*.
    b. At the end of the ESION Server Setup, a prompt will appear asking if an iLOK activation code needs to be applied. If so, the ESION Server will be started and the prompts will appear to enter the Activation code. *Note: This is a one-time activity.*
    c. Follow the prompts and apply the iLOK activation code (contained in your purchase confirmation email).
    For detailed iLOK instructions, refer to iLOK section within this guide
    d. The server is now Authorized and Licensed
4) Reboot (this is necessary or Media Composer may not see the ESION Studio Extension)
5) **IMPORTANT**: Proceed to the Post Install steps for setting up Media Composer to interact with ESION Studio. If the Post Install steps are not performed, ESION will not function correctly.

Note: The ESION Server setup downloads a processing library and may require up to 10 minutes, depending upon internet download speed. While this download is in process do not close the Setup app.

Note: If the Post Install steps are not complete, the ESION Extension can produce unpredictable results when using Get Seq and/or Drag/Drop.

A few items of note:

- The User Guide will discuss how to use the ESION Extension
- ESION utilizes a few 3rd party libraries. **Do not delete** these libraries otherwise ESION will stop processing. The primary library is located at:
  C:\Program Files\MATLAB\MATLAB Runtime (Windows)
  /Applications/MATLAB/MATLAB_Runtime (Mac)

Post Install Steps (Windows and Mac)

Before ESION Studio Extension features can be fully exposed and utilized, a few configuration items need to be performed within Media Composer. Due to Media Composer built in limitations these Post Install steps must be performed manually.

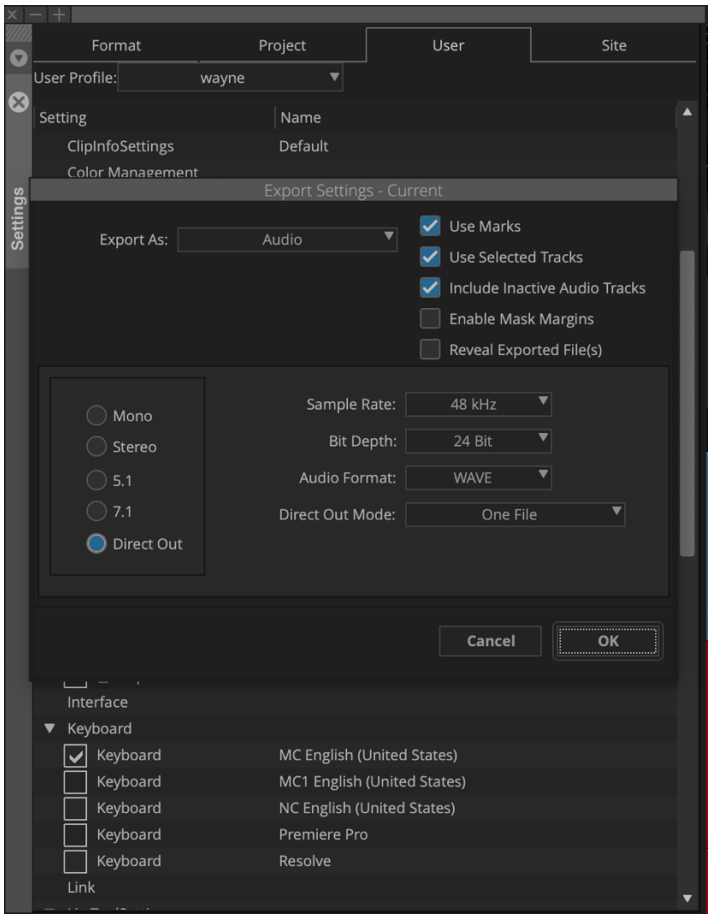
There are two methods for setup for ESION Studio. You can choose the method that best fits your workflow. Method 1 is the bare minimum and quickest to setup.

Method 1: Update existing settings files to be compatible with ESION.

ESION works best if settings are setup a certain way. These are set by clicking on File, then Settings, then the User tab.

Double click whichever Export option is checked to open Export Settings dialogue

1. Check “Use Marks”, “Use Selected Tracks” and “Include Inactive Audio Tracks”
2. Under “Export As” dropdown, select Audio
3. Check “Direct Out”
4. Set Sample Rate to 48kHz
5. Set Bit Depth to 25 Bit
6. Set Audio Format to “WAVE”
7. Set Direct Out Mode to “One File”



Method 2: Setup Media Composer to use the installed Settings files.

➡ Establish the correct **Export Settings** using ESION.xml

The ESION.xml file allows Media Composer to honor the In/Out points on the Timeline when performing Drag/Drop or Get Sequence functionality.

Perform the following steps:

1) Start Media Composer

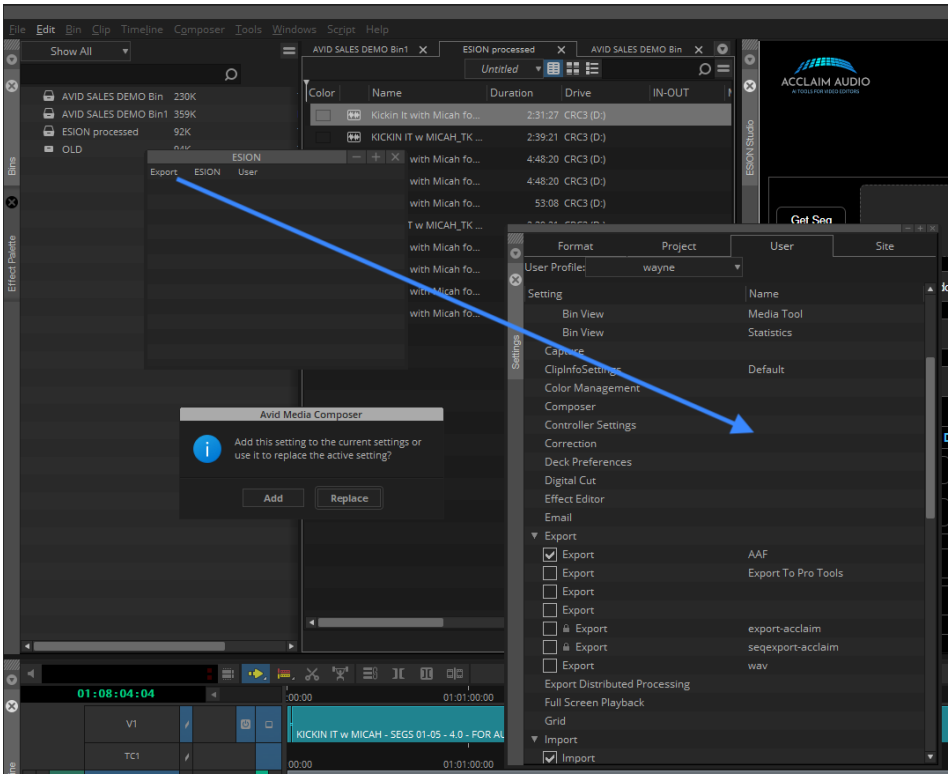
2) Go to File, select “Settings”

3) Click the “User” tab (do not close Settings)

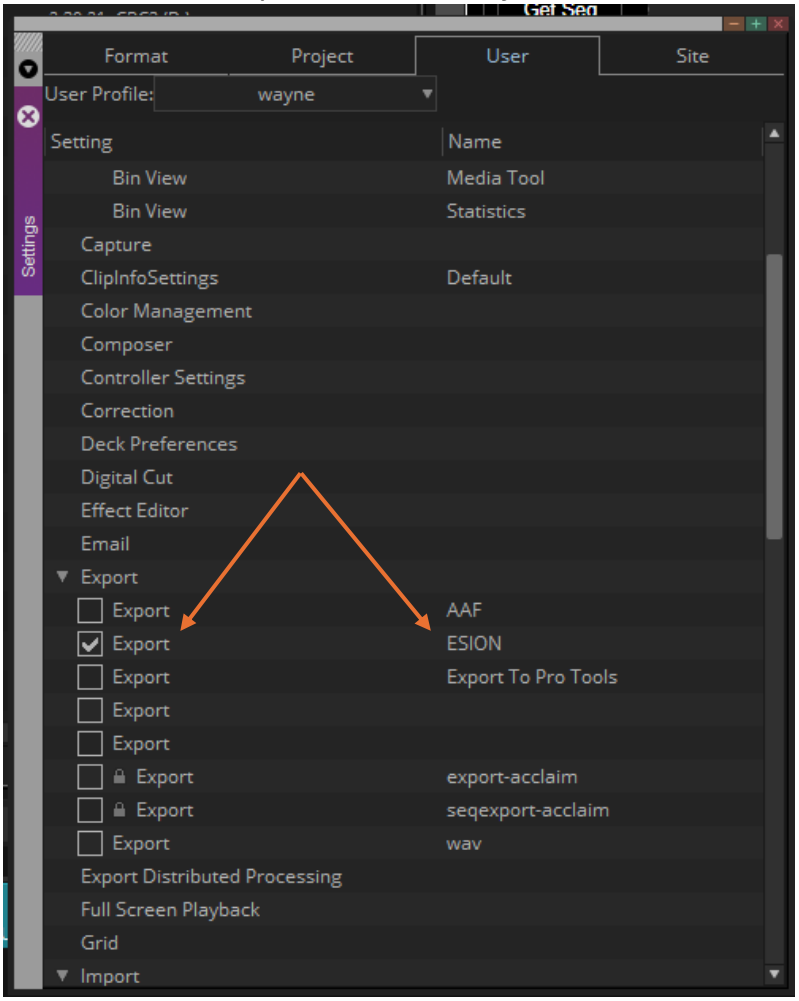
4) Go to File, select “Open Setting File”

5) Select ESION.xml, press Open

6) Within the ESION window
   a. Drag “Export ESION User” to anywhere on the User tab
   b. Select Add button



7) Check the new “Export ESION” entry



8) Close ESION Export and Settings windows

➡ Setup **"Find Bin"** to support Drag/Drop with In/Out markers

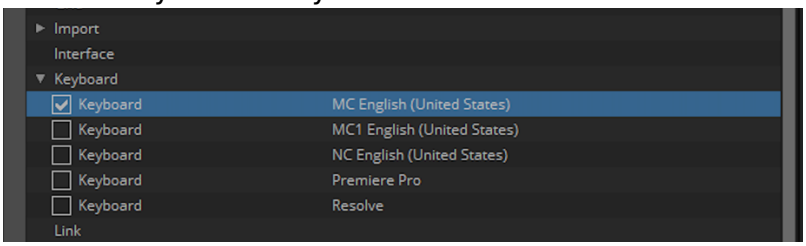
To simplify the operation of Drag/Drop, you need an easy method of locating the Bin and Sequence for the Active Tracks.

We recommend assigning a "quick key" to the Find Bin option to ensure the correct sequence is located for the Drag/Drop.

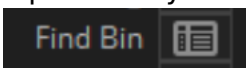
1) Go to File, select "Settings"

2) Click the "User" tab

3) Find the Keyboard entry that is checked and double click it



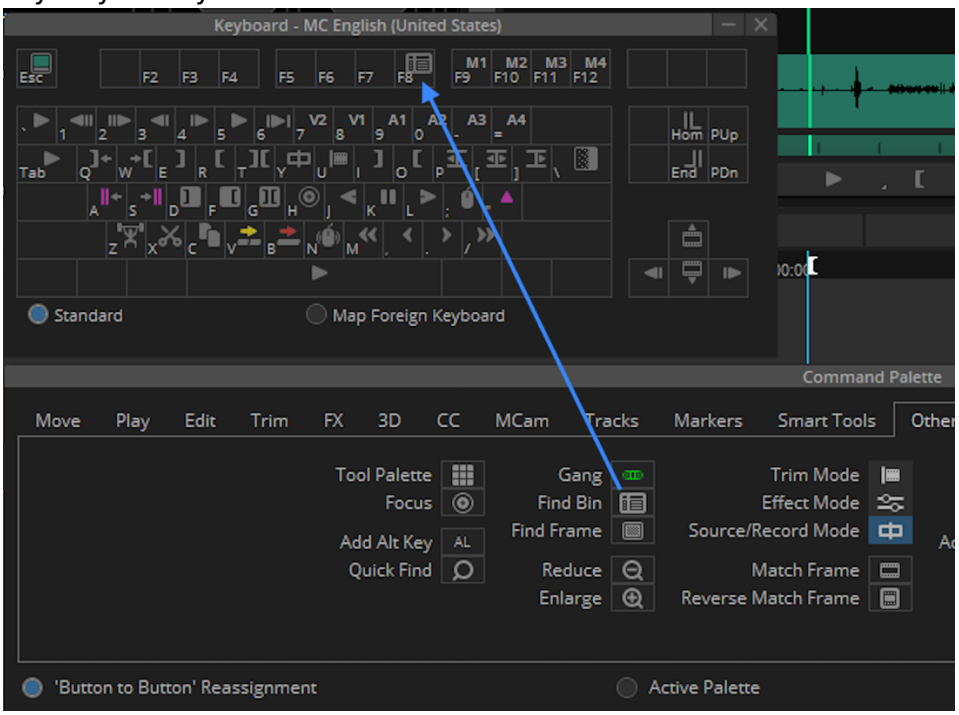
4) A picture of your keyboard will appear, search for the Find Bin icon



5) If it is assigned to a Quick Key already, you are done. Otherwise, assign it to an open keyboard key (we use F8, but any open key can be assigned). *Note: If you don't have an free/open key to utilize then drag the Find Bin icon up to the Source Monitor to ensure it is easy to find*.

6) Go to Tools, select Command Palette, click on Other tab.

7) Locate the Find Bin and icon (typically the 2nd column), drag this icon to any open key on your keyboard.



8) This key is now assigned to Find Bin.

9) Close Keyboard, Command Palette and Settings.

The ESION Extension within Media Composer is now ready for use.

iLOK (Windows and Mac)

ESION software requires an iLok account to authorize your software. Although, a physical iLok dongle is not required, you will need to activate your license to a location. A location can be your computer (most common) or an iLOK USB dongle. If you don't already have an iLok account, you'll need to create a free iLok account and install the iLok License Manager app. **Each ESION Studio Extension software is authorized for one activation.**

We recommend viewing this short 2 minute video on how to create an iLOK account.
https://youtu.be/TvCWu_050Xk?si=Requrdgd-3NTM8xC

iLOK Account creation:

If you already have an iLOK account, you can skip the iLOK account creation and proceed to the Redeem Activation Code section in the User Guide.

If you don't have an iLOK account:

1. visit www.ilok.com and click **Create Free Account** to create an Account ID and password.

2. Download the latest version of iLOK license manager on your computer.

3. Store the ID and password to allow future login to the iLOK License Manager account.

Congratulations, you have successfully created your iLOK account!

There are three methods to redeem (apply) an Activation Code to authorize ESION studio.

1. From within the Confirmation email (after purchase – most common)
2. From within ESION Studio if purchased thru Shopify
3. From within the iLOK license manager app (not purchased thru Shopify)

For further information regarding iLOK technology please visit:
https://www.ilok.com/#!ilok-intro
https://www.ilok.com/#!registration
https://www.ilok.com/#!license-manager
https://help.ilok.com/videos.html