PerfectWave Bridge

The PS Audio PerfectWave Network Bridge is a card that fits into the back of the PerfectWave DAC (PWD) and enables the PWD to play music streamed over the home network. The Bridge card is the connecting link (or bridge) between music stored on a computer, external drive or the Internet, transferred over the home network and played on the PWD.

Overview

In any digital audio system there are four central requirements:

1. A place – storage – for the digital audio data (computer, NAS)
2. A network to stream the media between the source and the player (based on a router)
3. A player (this is the PWD)
4. A controller (typically an Apple iDevice like the iPod, iPad, or iPhone running PS Audio’s tagNplay app available from the iTunes app store)

In the PS PerfectWave system, the piece of equipment that ties all four of the above-required components together is the home network router. Here is what a typical system looks like.
Quick Guide to Network Playback via the PerfectWave Network Bridge

1. Building the Network
   You’ll need a network for all the data to communicate back and forth. This is the central nervous system of the Bridge. The network is used to transfer data from storage to the Bridge and out to the Internet to get track information such as Album art. If you plan on using an iDevice (iPhone, iTouch, iPad) to control the system you’ll need a wireless router. If you don’t want to use the iDevice, this can be a hard-wired Ethernet router. But in either case, get the network up and running.

   Make sure the router is connected to the Internet, if you want to have the iDevice or PWD front panel display the ‘Album Art.’

2. Preparing the iDevice controller
   If you use an iDevice as a controller, make sure the iDevice can talk to the wireless router described in STEP 1. There may be a password the router wants before it can let the iDevice talk to the router. Make sure this is in the iDevice so whenever the iDevice gets into range of the router it ‘talks’ to the router.

   Once the router password is set into the iDevice you don’t have to enter the password every time you start your music session, but you do have to set it up for the first time. You may have to manually go to the ‘settings’ button on the iDevice to tell it to select the router that has the Bridge and your server on it. If you have been using another wireless network you may need to go into the settings on your iDevice and tell it to forget the old network. The next thing you want to do is load ‘tagNplay’ into the iDevice. Purchase this through the iTunes store or PS Audio.

3. Setting up the Server
   Transfer your music to a UPnP server. This can be a dedicated DLNA/UPnP server such as those found in many Network Attached Storage (NAS) devices, UPnP Router with attached USB Hard Drive, or your computer that running UPnP Server Software. Such Server Software includes Twonky, James River Media Center, or any other program that emulates a DLNA server.

   No matter what type of UPnP Server you use, you will need to turn on the DLNA/UPnP sharing and point the software to the folders where you will store your music. Make sure to connect this UPnP server to the same router described in STEP 1. Although the connection can be wireless or hardwired, it is highly recommended to use a hardwired connection whenever possible.

   If you use the iDevice, power up the Server, router, and iDevice then launch tagNplay (available on the iTunes app store). At the bottom of the screen on your iDevice you’ll see a series of tabs (‘music,’ ‘radio,’ ‘queue,’ ‘library,’ and ‘player’) Touch ‘library.’ If all is working right, you'll see the name of the Server that’s storing your music. Flip through the list until that device is highlighted, then press ‘Done.’ tagNplay should then lock onto this server.

   At the bottom of the screen, select the ‘music’ tab. All your music should now be seen by tagNplay. Go through the menus, say pick ‘albums’ and then a desired album you want to hear, then a track.

   Everything up to this point can be accomplished before you install the Bridge so you can become familiar
with launching tagNplay and getting into the music library. If you choose to play any music files they will stream and playback via your iDevice.

4. Installing the Bridge
Now that we have built the foundation for your high resolution Audio Network FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS included with the Bridge to install it properly. An instructional video is also available at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mKLq8aFHekk.

Prior to touching the Bridge please be sure the grounding wrist strap is connected to the center prong of the power connector on the rear of the PerfectWave DAC (PWD) and worn around the wrist.

Install the Bridge and SD card per the instructions and then makes sure the PWD loads the new firmware and boots fully.

Once the system is booted up, connect a hardwire Ethernet cable from the Bridge’s Ethernet connector directly to the router from step 1.

5. Playing Tracks
IF YOU HAVE iDEVICE/tagNplay: go to the main screen and select the ‘player’ tab. You should see “PWD DAC xxxxxx” as one of the ‘player’ options. Select it, and press ‘done.’ Go to your music menu, select and album, then a track. The pop-up screen will ask you what you want to do. Select “Play now.” The music should start to play. Adjust volume level on the Bridge (after a reboot it will default to level ‘25’ so you may have raise the volume, either with the remote, the front panel display, or using the volume slider on tagNplay on the ‘playing now’ screen.

You should be hearing music at this point.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE AN iDEVICE; You may still use the Bridge to playback, but you will need to use the built in controller of your UPnP Server software. Please see the documentation for your Server software for setup and control information. As mentioned above, make sure the volume on the Bridge (front panel of the PWD or using the remote) is set to the proper level.

Hints: If the music server does not immediately show up in tagNPlay, try going back and forth between Library and Player until it “wakes up”. Also, note that how the music library displays and is organized in tagNPlay is determined by the server software and will vary depending on what software (including the built-in software on a NAS) is used.
Additional Resources

A complete user manual for the PerfectWave DAC, PerfectWave Bridge, and Primer on Network Audio can be found online by visiting psaudio.com

Telephone Support: If you need help, call us at 866-406-8946

Online Support: Please visit psaudio.com/help

Email Support: service@psaudio.com