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## FAQ

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### Questions about Mansell Labs

QUESTION: **What other classic machines are you planning on upgrading?**

ANSWER: Visit the [www.mansell-labs.com](http://www.mansell-labs.com) website every now and then to see what announcements are being made.

## Questions about Vailixi 3.50

### General

**QUESTION: What is this Vailixi 3.50 upgrade for the MPC3000 all about?**

ANSWER: The Vailixi 3.50 upgrade is a third party, after market product designed to improve many operative aspects of an MPC3000. Refer to the [Products](#) page for more information.

**QUESTION: Why is this Vailixi 3.50 upgrade for the MPC3000 not available as a floppy downloadable and bootable version?**

ANSWER: The floppy boot process is a compromise at many levels. Booting the MPC3000 via floppy reduces available sequencer memory, messes with memory mapping and slows down the boot process. We aim to release a product that is free of such burdens. Accordingly the Vailixi 3.50 upgrade is available only as a set of user installable ROM CHIPS.

### Installation

**QUESTION: How do I install the Vailixi 3.5 upgrade? Is the installation a difficult process?**

ANSWER: The upgrade process involves opening your MPC3000, removing two press-fit EPROM chips from their sockets and then installing the upgraded components that we supply. Fitting instructions are supplied via email to aid in the installation process. Although we consider the installation process to be relatively simple; we understand that some users will still find the process a challenge. Of course we are available via email to assist should an installation difficulty occur. We're also understanding of possible mistakes that can be made during the install process.

**QUESTION: I received my OS 3.50 upgrade, installed it and my front panel is not working.**

ANSWER: The front panel communication cable has been dislodged. Read the supplied installation manual again. Follow all the instructions.

**QUESTION: The Vailixi 3.50 upgrade arrived but appears to be broken.**

ANSWER: Contact Mansell-Labs for support in this regard.

### Upgrade and Sales Policies

**QUESTION: I purchased the previous OS 3.16 upgrade from Mansell-Labs. Am I entitled to a discount for this 3.50 upgrade version?**

ANSWER: Yes. As a paid up and registered user you most certainly are. Check your email for information concerning your exclusive discount upgrade offer.

**QUESTION: I have been using the previous OS 3.16 upgrade from Mansell-Labs via a boot floppy for some time. Am I entitled to a discount for this 3.50 upgrade version?**

ANSWER: No.

**QUESTION: I am selling my MPC3000. Can the Vailixi 3.50 registration be transferred to another user?**

ANSWER: [Contact](#) us for more information.

**QUESTION: I purchased a machine with the Vailixi 3.50 upgrade already installed. Am I entitled to support? Am I entitled to discounts on future upgrades?**

ANSWER: [Contact](#) us for more information.

**QUESTION: I paid a certain technician to illegally modify the Mansell-Labs OS 3.16 floppy boot version so that custom information would be displayed instead of MAIN SCREEN sequence banners. Can I get these modifications performed to Vailixi 3.50?**

ANSWER: Have the job done properly. Purchase the "Star-Title" options. Refer to the [Products](#) page.

## File Compatibility and Partitioning

**QUESTION: What are Hybrid Partitions?**

ANSWER: Hybrid Partitions are cross-platform MPC3000<>COMPUTER readable/writeable partitions. Hybrid Partitions can be accessed by most computer operating systems and also a Vailixi 3.50 upgraded MPC3000. On most quality operating systems the Hybrid Partitions will all be accessible. See other notes in this FAQ for limitations associated with Hybrid Partitions.

**QUESTION: Why can't as many Hybrid Partitions be created on my storage device when compared with the old style, standard and non computer accessible MPC3000 partition scheme?**

ANSWER: Hybrid Partitions are required to start and end at certain disk geometry location boundaries. These requirements are for reasons related to maintaining legacy, and cross platform mounting compatibility with various computer operating systems. An unavoidable byproduct of these requirements is that "inter-partition gaps" must be present between each disk partition. This reduces the overall space available for partition structure creation. You can thank M\$ for imposing such rules. Note; the limitations in this regard are far outweighed by the user advantages that Hybrid Partitions offer.

**QUESTION: I have formatted a removable hard disk drive with the new Hybrid Partition option. When using this disk with my M\$ WIN-NT, WIN2K, WIN-XP computer I can only access the first partition. Why is this happening?**

ANSWER: M\$ operating systems from WIN-NT and higher do not support mounting of more than the first disk partition on a removable media device. Fixed disks are not limited by M\$ design decisions in this regard so use one of those instead if you need to access all of the Hybrid Partitions.

**QUESTION: I have formatted a fixed hard disk drive with the new Hybrid Partition option. When using this disk with my M\$ WIN-NT, WIN2K, WIN-XP computer not all the partitions are showing up. Why is this happening?**

ANSWER: M\$ operating systems limit the amount of drive allocation letters to 26. Mount any of the non drive letter allocated partitions within DISK MANAGEMENT as a folder path to get around this design limitation.

**QUESTION: My MPC3000 uses OS 3.16 or earlier (includes OS 3.11). Can my existing projects created within my MPC3000's earlier OS be loaded into a Vailixi 3.50 equipped MPC3000?**

ANSWER: Yes.

**QUESTION: If I save my work onto disk from within an MPC3000 equipped with Vailixi 3.50 can all files saved be loaded and used on MPC3000's installed with OS versions less than and including OS 3.16 (includes OS 3.11)?**

ANSWER #1: If the files created within a Vailixi 3.50 upgraded MPC3000 are saved onto disks formatted using the "standard MODE0 option" within Vailixi 3.50 then YES.

ANSWER #2: If the files created within a Vailixi 3.50 upgraded MPC3000 are saved onto disks formatted by an MPC3000 installed with an OS version less than and including 3.16 (includes 3.11) then YES.

ANSWER #3: If the files created within a Vailixi 3.50 upgraded MPC3000 are saved onto disks formatted by an MPC60 equipped with Roger Linn Design's 3.10E OS and MARION SYSTEM SCSI board then YES.

**QUESTION: Are the new Hybrid Partitions accessible on a MPC3000's without Vailixi 3.50 installed?**

ANSWER: No. Hybrid Partitions are accessible by Vailixi 3.50 equipped MPC3000's and various computer operating systems.

**QUESTION: I am creating a sample library on my PC, MacOS, Linux, NextStep, MacOSX, DOS computer. How many characters should the file names be?**

ANSWER: Use 8 characters for the file name. Note that this is the old style 8.3 or DOS filename convention rule. This means using 8 characters for the file name and 3 for its extension (for example 12345678.123, KICKDRUM.SND, SNAREHIT1.SND, BIGOLKIK.SND).

**QUESTION: I have created file names on my MPC3000 that are longer than 8 characters in length. Why does a computer not display anything past 8 characters of the filename?**

ANSWER: The MPC3000 long file names are not compatible with the old style 8.3 or DOS filename convention rules. Stick to the old style 8.3 or DOS filename convention rules if you intend to move files between your MPC3000 and a computer.

**QUESTION: Why do MPC3000 computer based file conversion programs truncate file names to 8 characters?**

ANSWER: To maintain compatibility with the old style 8.3 or DOS style naming conventions. This ensures seamless moving of files between computer and MPC3000.

## Questions about older pre-Vailixi releases

**QUESTION: Is the Mansell-Labs OS 3.16 still available for download as a free to boot on floppy version?**

ANSWER: See our [Support](#) page. You'll find it there.

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