

SoundPix®

Pictures with sound say more



SOUNDPIX Plus 2.0

User's Guide

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Chapter 1

Introduction

SoundPix, Inc. is headquartered in the Reno/Tahoe area of Northern Nevada. Organized in March of 2000 to develop unique and compelling technologies. These technologies enhance JPEG digital still images with sound for consumers, businesses, web developers, independent software vendors, digital imaging equipment manufacturers, and other industry participants.

SoundPix Plus is the full featured Windows application that brings a wealth of audio annotation capabilities to your desktop.

With a SoundPix digitally enhanced image, users of digital images can create, store, transmit, e-mail, or post sound-enhanced digital still images with ease. There are no additional "wav" file attachments to corrupt or lose.

SoundPix desktop application products include **SoundPix Plus** and the **SoundPix Plug-in**. For photo portal sites and any business wishing to provide sound pictures on the web, SoundPix offers **SoundPix Web**. Embedded products include **SoundPix OEM developer's kit** and **SoundPix ISV developer's kit**.

Show off your creativity and share SoundPix images in the Customer Gallery! Simply e-mail gallery@soundix.com and attach your SoundPix image. Our editorial staff will review your pictures and post them to our web site!

Chapter 2

Installation

Minimum Accessory Requirements:

- Internal or external speakers - to hear sound.
- External microphone - to record sound. If you do not have a microphone, refer to Appendix E for recommendations.

To install your new copy of SoundPix Plus, follow these steps:

1. Insert the CD into your computer's CD drive.
 2. The installation process will begin automatically.
 3. If you have a previous version of SoundPix Plus, you will be asked if you would like to upgrade. Answer, yes.
 4. Follow the installation wizard instructions.
 5. Register your new copy of SoundPix Plus 2.0.
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Chapter 3

Creating a SoundPix Image

To create a SoundPix image, follow the three steps listed in the bottom left hand corner of the application's main screen:



- 1. Load the image file:** Click the **Load Image** button in the lower left corner of the main application window, or select **File>Open**. Once the image has been loaded, it will appear in the center of the SoundPix application window.
 - 2. Add audio:** Click the **Record Audio** button or select **Sound>Record** to record live audio (i.e., with a microphone) directly in SoundPix. If you have an existing sound file, click the **Load Audio** button or **Sound>Open** and choose the file you wish to include. You can load Wave (.WAV), .AU or MP3 audio files. Once sound has been added, press the **Play** button in the main window.
 - 3. Save your SoundPix image:** Click the **Save** button or select **File>Save** and a new JPEG file is created. SoundPix images retain the same .JPG file extension, and can be opened by any application that handles JPEG files. If you view the new image using SoundPix Plus or the SoundPix Plug-in in Microsoft's Internet Explorer you will hear your audio with the image.
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Additional Features and Options

File Menu

Save - Saves the loaded image and audio as a SoundPix JPEG file. No matter what type of image is initially loaded, the SoundPix file will be stored as a compressed .JPG file when saved with audio.

Save As - Allows you to specify a different file name from the original file save the SoundPix JPEG file. If the original file was not a .JPG file, both Save and Save As will request a new file name for storage.

E-mail Picture - This command will take your image with sound, attach it in an e-mail, and open your e-mail application to send the message. You may personalize the message just like any e-mail. In order to inform the recipient that the picture has sound and how to hear it – the e-mail message contains instructions, and a link that informs them how to download the SoundPix browser plug-in.

Previous Files - The File Menu will present a list of the last eight files image files that were loaded. Clicking on any file in this list will automatically open that file.

Add Listening Instructions - You can add a text message to the bottom of a picture explaining that the image has sound and how the person viewing the image can hear that sound. If the person viewing the image does not have SoundPix installed, they will see the text. Toggling the menu will add/remove the listening instructions.

Tips:

- Opening SoundPix images, editing them, and then saving them in certain third-party applications will remove the sound from the image. You may wish to test the application in which you will be editing with a sample sound to see if it correctly retains the encoded audio with your JPEG image. For this reason, edit or enhance your image first using the third party application and add audio using SoundPix when you are done.
- If you plan on printing your photos, we recommend you save a high quality copy of your picture for that purpose. SoundPix Plus compresses the final sound-picture for easier sharing over e-mail and the web which may cause loss of image quality needed for printing. When you add sound to your picture, save it as a separate file.



Chapter 4

Creating a Slide Show

SoundPix Plus 2.0 gives you the ability to create fun, sound-enhanced slide shows. Your slide shows can have different sound tracks for each slide, or you can have the audio play over multiple slides.

For example, you can use the Slide show capability to create collections of your favorite photos...like creating an album. You can then add your own narrative to each slide...describing each moment to always keep your memories fresh! You can load an MP3 soundtrack or record a longer narrative to play over all or some of the slides in your show.

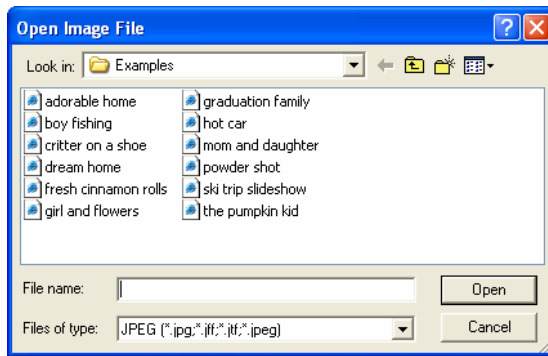
However you create your exciting slide show, SoundPix Plus saves that show in a single JPEG file. All the photos and sounds are stored in that one file.

Tip:

When saving your slide show, save it to a separate file (give it a new name) from any of the images that comprise the show. You probably do not want to replace one of your photos with the entire show!

To create a slide show:

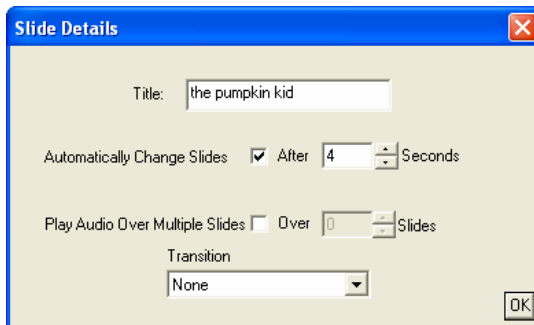
1. Start SoundPix Plus.
2. Click the **Slide Show View** button.
3. This will take you to the Slide Show View window. In the Slide Show window click on the empty square titled “Add a Picture!” or, select **File>Open**. Browse for the images you would like to add into the slide show. These can be existing SoundPix images or other JPEG images you may have. You can select multiple images in a folder by holding down the shift key and clicking (to select a range) or, by holding the control key and clicking (to select single images that are not immediately adjacent).



4. Once you have added images to the new slide show, you can add sound using the buttons at the bottom of the application window.
 5. Click the **Load Audio** button to add audio that has already been recorded, or the **Record** button to record live audio from within the slide show view.
 6. Save your new slide show and click the **preview** button to review it. If you would like to preview your new slide show in a browser, select **Slide Show>Preview in Browser**.
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In Slide Show View, there are additional options available to manipulate the images in your show:

- To add images, click the **Add** button or select **File>Add**.
- To remove images, select the images you would like to delete, and click the **Remove** button or select **File>Remove**.
- To change the order in which pictures appear in the slide show, click and drag them from their old location to their new location.
- To view a single slide, double click on the slide or single click on the slide and click the **Single View** button. To switch back to Slide Show view, click the **Slide Show View** button.
- To change slide titles, display durations, transitions, and multiple-slide audio settings; choose a slide (or multiple slides) to edit all of their settings (except title) at the same time, and click the **Details** button or select **Image>Slide Details**.



Chapter 5

Editing Picture(s)

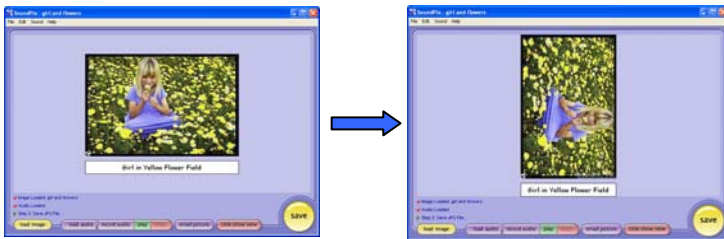
Edit Menu

Undo - will reverse the action of the last image edit function performed. Only one level of Undo is available. The file is restored to how it looked before the last edit command (cut, rotate, flip, etc.) was performed.

Copy - places a copy of the current image in the Windows Clipboard for later use. The image can be moved from the clipboard into any application that supports a Paste command.

Paste As New Image - Any image that exists on the Clipboard will be loaded into the application as the new image. Any existing image is discarded.

Select All - This selects the entire image. If followed by the **Copy** command, the image will be placed in the Clipboard.



Rotate 90 CW - This command allows you to rotate the image so that a picture taken "sideways" will appear normal. The rotation is 90 degrees clockwise. If the picture is upside down or needs to be rotated left (Counter-Clockwise) repeat the command until the desired effect is achieved.

Flip - The image will be swapped top-to-bottom, with the first row of pixels becoming the last. This is not the same as rotating the image 180 degrees as there is no translation of left and right in the image.



Caption - In addition to sound and pictures, SoundPix also allows you to write a text caption that will be displayed under your image. Enter the text in the edit box, then press OK. Pressing Cancel will abort the text entry without saving the text to the file. When completed, the text will appear under the image in the main window.

Hyperlink - SoundPix has the exclusive feature of being able to create Internet Hyperlinks in your image. You may enter the text that you want displayed in the Link Text box. This text will appear in the lower left corner of the image. You may then enter the complete Internet URL address in the Link URL text box. When a user clicks on the displayed text message, the SoundPix application will open the user's browser and point it to the URL link specified. Press OK to view the link on the image, press Cancel to exit the hyperlink procedure without saving.

Crop - When the Crop command is selected, the cursor changes to resemble a cross-hair. Click on one corner of the area you wish to keep, and drag the cursor to the other corner. When you release the cursor, the selected area will be expanded as the total image, and all other parts of the image are discarded. You may use the Undo command to revert back to the original image if you wish to change the area selected. Please note that only one level of Undo is supported.



Mirror - The left and right sides of the image are reversed such that the left edge becomes the right.

Resize - This command is useful for reducing the storage size of the image. Resize will ask for a new image size in pixels. The image will be resampled to the desired size. It is not useful for increasing the image size as it will not increase the resolution of the image.

Add SoundPix Icon - Adds a small graphic to the lower left corner of the photo so other people who view the picture will know it has sound. Click the menu once to add the graphic, again to remove it.

Chapter 6

Editing Sound(s)

SoundPix supports several advanced options available through menu commands.



Compression: Compression saves space and memory, making larger SoundPix images easier to e-mail or post on web sites. To turn on audio compression, select **Sound>Effects** and choose **Compressed Audio** under **Audio Compression Settings**.

Auto Play: The SoundPix image will automatically play the encoded audio when opened without requiring a viewer to click on the image to hear the sound. To enable **Auto Play**, select **Sound>Effects**, and check the box next to **Auto Play** under the Effects heading.

Looping: Looping makes the sound play a number of times, or continuously, without additional user interaction. To enable looping, select **Sound>Effects**, check the box next to **Loop** under the Effects heading, then choose the number of times you would like the sound to play from the drop down box.

Appendix A

- Troubleshooting Guide -

<p>Nothing happens when I press the play button.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Make sure you have loaded audio into your picture – look at the details of the picture (at the bottom left of your screen) – it should say audio is loaded.- Check the volume level on your computer- If you have external speakers check that they are turned on and the volume is turned up- Check your internal sound settings and make sure they are turned on and the volume is up
<p>Nothing happens when I press the record button.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- If you have an external microphone, make sure that it is turned on and has batteries (if required)- Check the microphone settings in your computer

Additional information and tips are available in the Help Menu of SoundPix Plus. Select **Help>Help** on the menu bar to access.

Technical Support:

support@soundpix.com
775-201-0292 Voice and Fax

Appendix B

- Glossary -

JPEG (pronounced "jay-peg" and standing for "Joint Photographic Experts Group," the original name of the committee that wrote the standard) is a standardized image compression mechanism designed for compressing either full-color or gray-scale images.

JPEG is *the* standard image compression method/format used for creating, displaying, storing, manipulating and transmitting photographic quality images over the Internet and private networks. It is the dominant file format used to create and store digital still images in virtually all digital capture devices.

SoundPix Plug-in enables the Windows Internet Explorer browser to play-back the audio that has been encoded into the image by SoundPix Plus or SoundPix Sampler. The SoundPix Plug-in is included with SoundPix Plus. For those that do not yet own SoundPix Plus, a free download of the plug-in can be obtained at www.soundpix.com

SoundPix are JPEG formatted images with sound embedded directly within the JPEG code, ensuring 1) compatibility with all JPEG readers and playback tools (e.g., browsers, e-mail programs, graphic applications, etc.); 2) simplicity in creation; and 3) reliability in playback, storage and transmission across the Internet and private networks.

Appendix C

- Frequently Asked Questions -

Q: I loaded my SoundPix image into an editing program to change it, and the sound disappeared. What happened?

A: Not all editing programs currently support application data (including sound) within the JPEG image. Rather than remembering the data in the image (as specified in the JPEG standard), some applications discard everything but the image when you alter and then save the image. Repeat the process of putting the sound with your altered image. In the future, this can be avoided by either altering the image first before adding your sound, or by using compatible image editing programs such as those available from ArcSoft. Also, it is always a good idea to keep a copy of the original.

Q: My camera says it supports EXIF format. Does this work with SoundPix?

A: Yes. EXIF is a standard for embedding camera-specific information about how the image was captured, such as f-stop and shutter timing. A JPEG can hold both SoundPix audio information and EXIF camera information at the same time. When loading an EXIF image into SoundPix Plus, the EXIF information will be retained. Be careful, however, as most other image applications will discard the EXIF data if you process the image. If you are fortunate enough to have one of the few cameras that supports EXIF audio storage, SoundPix can read the EXIF audio and convert it to the more robust SoundPix format.

Q: Why should I register my SoundPix Plus application?

A: The SoundPix family of applications, compatible devices, and tools are growing rapidly. Registration allows us to keep you informed about these new developments and protect your investment. We never send unsolicited e-mails, but newsletters, technical support, and help are available only to registered users.

Appendix D

- SoundPix Products -

SoundPix products give users the tools to embed audio directly into industry standard JPEG images at any step along the way: at image capture, while editing images, or while publishing images in a server-based environment.

SoundPix desktop application products include **SoundPix Plus** and the **SoundPix Plug-in**. For photo portal sites and any business wishing to provide sound pictures on the web, SoundPix offers **SoundPix Web**. Embedded products include **SoundPix OEM developer's kit** and **SoundPix ISV developer's kit**.

SoundPix Plus - The SoundPix Plus is the full featured Windows application that brings a wealth of audio annotation capabilities to your desktop.

SoundPix Plug-in - The free SoundPix Browser (Windows Internet Explorer) Plug-in lets you hear sound-enhanced images with a click of a button! Download it at www.soundpix.com.

SoundPix Web - Do you communicate using digital pictures...run an auction site, convey real estate listing information, use images in project management collaboration? SoundPix Web gives you the power to communicate more effectively with digital images.

SoundPix OEM and ISV Developers' kits - Using the SoundPix Developers' kits, OEM and ISV partners can license and embed SoundPix technology into digital cameras, chip sets, Palm OS and WinCE devices, web sites, and digital imaging software applications.

Appendix E

- Microphone Recommendations -

For everyday recording at an affordable price, check out the omni directional computer microphone from Radio Shack. Part No. 33-3026



Want to add higher quality audio to your pictures? Then the ATR35S condenser microphone from Audio-Technica could be for you! Available from Circuit City and other electronics retailers.



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Notes

For more information regarding SoundPix products visit
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