

*Pixie2D Pixie4D Pixie4DMX
Pixie8D Pixie16D*

Cosmic Color Pixie

User Manual
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V1.06

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This manual reflects features available in Pixies with firmware version 1.06 or greater.

Introduction

The Light-O-Rama (LOR) Cosmic Color Pixies are low cost, high density RGB pixel controllers. They are available in 2, 4, 8 and 16 string versions. The maximum number of pixels on a string is 200. They support a variety of RGB pixel controller ICs.

Unlike most multi-string pixel controllers, the Pixies do not require Ethernet. The Pixies run on a LOR network in either normal or enhanced mode at speeds up to and including 1Mbit/sec. An enhanced network is required to properly utilize these controllers. Enhanced mode allows for a much higher pixel change rate than a normal network. Pixies may also be used with Ethernet E1.31 or Art-Net by connecting them to a PixieLink adapter, providing an upgrade path as your show grows.

When used with 50-pixel strings, the Pixies can emulate the older Cosmic Color Ribbon (CCR) or Cosmic Color Bulb/Pixel (CCB/CCP) controllers. This means, for example, that a Pixie16D can look like 16 CCRs or 16 50-pixel CCB/CCP strings. The Pixie controllers support LOR effects as well as the macro and color effects extensions provided by the first generation CCR/CCB/CCP controllers.

The Windows Showtime software is used to design and build *Sequences* (controller commands that may be choreographed to audio/music.) These user created sequences and/or pre-programmed musical sequences available from LOR and other companies are then arranged into *Shows*. These shows are played by your PC or one of the LOR Show Directors.

Hardware Utility Version

The version of the Hardware Utility appears in the title bar to the right of “Light-O-Rama Hardware.” If the version number is less than 4.4.0, you will not be able to configure the Pixie controller. The latest version of the Showtime software from this location: www.lightorama.com ► Support ► Download Software. This is a full ShowTime Software download that includes the latest Hardware Utility.

Firmware Version

The initial firmware version was 1.01, unfortunately, controllers with this version have a bad bootloader. This means firmware upgrades are not possible. These boards must be returned to the factory to upgrade the bootloader. Version 1.02 is exactly the same as version 1.01 but has a working bootloader. This document reflects Pixie firmware version 1.06. The firmware version is determined by using the Refresh button in the Hardware Utility.

Pixel Type (RGB IC)

Each pixel on a ribbon or string has a digital RGB driver. These may be separate ICs, or they may be integrated with the RGB LEDs. These are called RGB ICs. See the *Pixel Type* section for a list of supported RGB ICs.

Pixel Strings

Pixel strings/ribbons compatible with these controllers are available from Light-O-Rama and other vendors. Strings can be 5vdc or 12vdc. All

strings on the controller must use the same RGB IC. Generally, 5vdc strings are usually limited to 50 pixels because of voltage drop due to the current draw. 12vdc pixel strings are good for 100 pixels. Low power 12vdc pixels are good to 150 per string.

Important Considerations

When powered by 5vdc, the Pixie controllers cannot supply the voltage (9vdc) required by most LOR accessories.

LOR effects (fading, twinkling, shimmer) done by the controller require a lot of memory. The Pixie16D can perform these effects on the first 50 pixels of each string, the Pixie8D on 100, and the Pixie2D and Pixie4D on 200. If you are running the network in Enhanced mode, these effects will be done by the Show Director or PC, so the memory limitation does not apply, and LOR effects are available on 200 pixel strings for all controllers.

We recommend leaving the top-most jumper off when configuring the RJ45 network jack wiring for LOR network mode. This disables accessory power to the network jacks. There have been problems with incorrectly user-made cables which swap wires and short out the accessory power supplies. This becomes a problem with multiple controllers as significant current may be available.

First vs. Second Generation Boards

First generation Pixies do not have Unit ID DIP switches and do not have reverse power protection circuitry. Reverse power protection only protects the controller; it does not protect the pixel strings.

For WS2811 (800KHz) and WS2801 pixels, the output networks on the pixel ports of first-generation boards allow up to 40' between the controller and the first pixel. This is increased to 80' for second generation boards. You may need to run heavier wire (18 gauge) to prevent voltage drop on the power leads to the first pixel, especially for 5v pixels. Voltage drop usually manifests itself as pixels appearing pink when white at full power is chosen.

Network Protocols and Speeds

There are three network protocols currently in use: LOR Normal, LOR Enhanced, and PixieLink.

LOR normal is the protocol that has been used by LOR controllers from year 0. It is the only way to access the CCR/CCB/CCP compatibility mode resolution, color effects and macros channels.

LOR Enhanced protocol is a newer compressed data protocol designed specifically for high density pixel displays. It is pretty much required for even a moderately active display.

PixieLink protocol is used between a PixieLink E1.31/Art-Net adapter and Pixies. The PixieLink adapter allows Pixies and other LOR G3 controllers to be used with a standard Ethernet E1.31 source.

The Pixie controllers understand all protocols and automatically detect network speeds from 19.2Kbits per second up to 17Mbps. All delivered Pixies have at least 5Mbps comm chips and will always work with PixieLink at 4.25Mbps. They will usually work with PixieLink at 8.5Mbps. The 8-pin socketed chip near the RJ45 jack may need to be upgraded to a 10Mbps chip to use the 17Mbps PixieLink speed.

In general, users don't have to concern themselves with the network **protocol** unless they are running old devices. Some older devices will not understand Enhanced Protocol. Users will have to concern themselves with network **speeds**. At this time, only the PixCon and the Pixie controllers can handle 1Mbps Enhanced LOR, and only Pixies understand PixieLink protocol (4.25, 8.5, and 17Mbps).

The type of network (normal/enhanced) is selected in the Sequence Editor by clicking Edit ► Preferences ► Network Preferences.

Using the PixieLink adapter requires configuration of each pixel string as a DMX universe. When the pixel strings are defined in the Sequence Editor, each one will have to be assigned a DMX universe number. These DMX universes will be assigned to Ethernet address(es) in Network Preferences under the DMX tab.

Pixie4DMX (iDMX1000 replacement)

The Pixie4DMX is a version of the Pixie4D which understands LOR network commands and converts those commands into four DMX512 RS485 universes instead of driving four pixel strings. It can be used to drive DMX512 pixel strings or as a replacement for the iDMX1000.

For a general discussion of DMX512 and experimenting with devices on DMX512 networks, see the iDMX1000 manual available at www.lightorama.com ► Support ► Documentation.

Pixie4DMX Comparison to iDMX1000

Advantages over the iDMX1000:

- Works with LOR enhanced networks in addition to regular LOR networks
- Can run on 500K, 1M, & PixieLink networks
- Allows all channels to perform LOR lighting effects simultaneously
- Supports all Pixie configuration options

Disadvantages relative to iDMX1000

- DMX512 universes support 510 channels instead of 512
- Does not support the multiple unit ID mode of the iDMX1000 (legacy mode)
- Does not have pass-through XLR3 connections, so it must be at the end of the DMX512 network
- Does not have a polarity reversal switch

Pixie4DMX Configuration

The out-of-the box configuration of the Pixie4DMX allows you to set the unit ID and use it as a replacement for the iDMX1000. Actually, it can replace 4 iDMX1000s because the Pixie4DMX will take 4 consecutive unit IDs starting at the assigned unit ID. Each of these unit IDs is equivalent to an iDMX1000.

The Hardware Utility can be used to configure it like any other Pixie controller. To operate as a replacement iDMX1000s, the number of pixels/string should be set to 170, the "Color order" should be set to RGB, the Resolution should be set to 50, and the RGB IC to "DMX".

The number of pixels per string sets the number of dimmers (channels) on the DMX networks. Each pixel is three dimmers. You should not set the

number of pixels to less than 40 (120 channels or dimmers) because some older DMX fixtures may have problems with the short DMX messages. The maximum number of pixels is 170 (510 dimmers).

In the Sequence Editor, you can use the “Insert device” feature to insert an iDMX1000 for one or more of the 4 DMX universes created by a Pixie4DMX. This will create a iDMX1000 with the number of channels (dimmers) you specify. You can combine some of these channels into RGB pixels if that is appropriate for the DMX fixtures on your network(s). When you manipulate a pixel or channel with Sequence Editor, SuperStar or Pixel Editor commands, these commands will be converted to intensities and output on the DMX universes.

Pixie4DMX High Speed USB adapter

The Pixie4DMX includes a USB interface so that it can be directly connected to a PC. The USB interface is exactly the same as a LOR USB adapter. It runs up to 1Mbps and you can daisy chain other LOR controllers on this network by using the Pixie4DMX’s RJ45 LOR network connectors.

Pixie4DMX on Regular LOR Networks

Some DMX fixtures require that you send certain intensity values to dimmers to control operation of the fixture. See the *LOR intensities to DMX Intensities* table for the mapping of LOR 0-100% intensities to DMX 0-255 intensities.

Hardware Configuration

Assigning a Unit ID

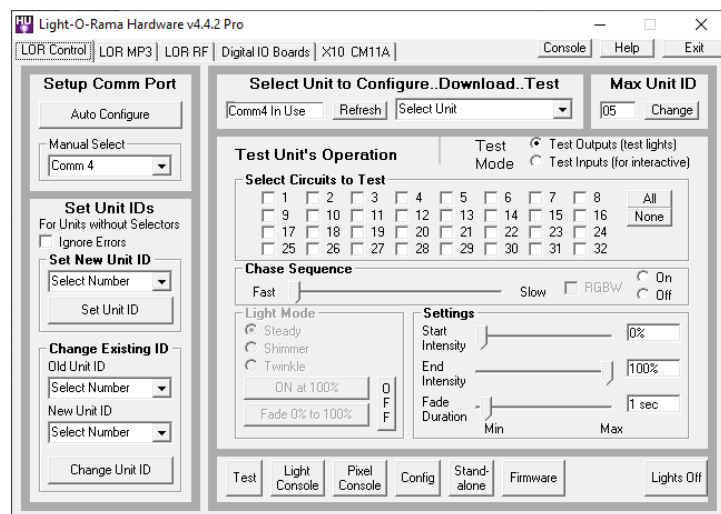
Second generation Pixies have a DIP switch with 8 positions. This is used to set the unit ID. If all DIP switches are set to ‘off’, then the unit ID as set by the Hardware Utility will be used (see below). Refer to the *LOR Unit ID DIP Switch Table* for the mapping of your desired LOR address to DIP switch settings.

First generation Pixies do not have unit ID switches, so the Unit ID must be assigned with the Hardware Utility as follows:

If you have not installed the Light O Rama Windows Showtime Software, do it now. The controller must be powered by a 5-12vdc power supply (Pixie4DMX requires 12vdc). You can use one of LOR’s USB RS485 adapters or you can plug a Pixie4DMX directly into a USB port. See the *Connecting the Pixie to a PC* section for more information.

Power up the controller. The Status LED will blink about twice/second. This means that the controller has booted and is waiting for the PC to talk to it.

Start the Hardware Utility – click **start ► Light-O-Rama ► Light-O-Rama Control Panel**. There will be a light bulb with a red halo on the right side of the task bar at the bottom of the screen. Right-click the light bulb and select *Hardware Utility* from the menu. Make sure the *LOR Control* tab is selected. You will this window:



Click the *Auto Configure* button in the *Setup Comm Port* section. The Hardware Utility will search for the COM port that your USB RS485 adapter (or Pixie4DMX) is plugged into and select it.

When assigning a unit ID, only one controller should be plugged into the USB RS485 adapter on the PC.

If you have a second-generation Pixie, the DIP switches must be set to 0 for the Unit ID to be set.

Steps to set/change unit ID:

1. In the *Change Existing ID* section, use the *Old Unit ID* drop-down menu to select *Any Unit*, then click *OK* in the warning box for changing all unit IDs, there should only be one unit attached.
2. Use the *New Unit ID* drop down menu to select the Unit ID you want.
3. Click the *Change Unit ID* button to set your Pixie controller's base unit ID. You will see a *Unit ID Changed* box – click *OK*.

Setting the Configuration

Your Pixie controller may have come with jumper(s) installed on JP5. These jumpers force a configuration that supports the type, color order and number of pixels you purchased with the Pixie controller. These jumpers will supersede those parameters settable by the Hardware Utility. Jumper 1 is nearest the JP5 labelled end.

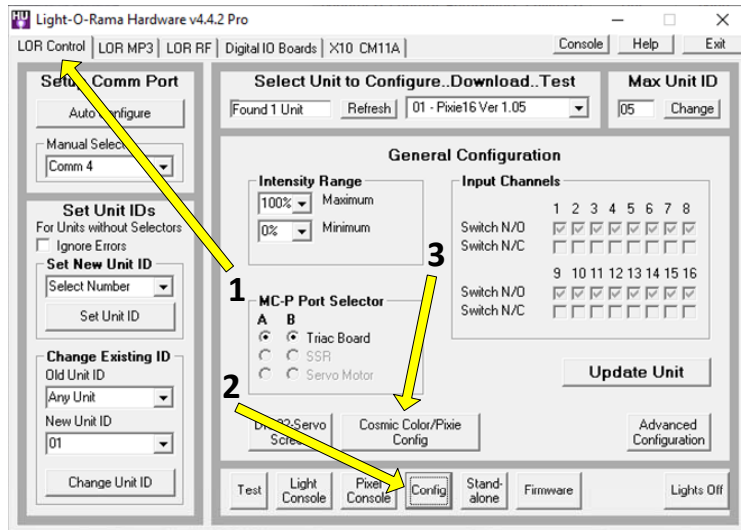
Jumper	What it does
J1	WS28118, BRG, 50 pixels
J2	WS2801, RGB, 50 pixels
J3	WS28118, RGB, 100 pixels

The Hardware Utility is used to set the power-up configuration of the controller. Of the parameters configured below, only the Logical Resolution/Flip-status can be changed on-the-fly in sequences, and only in CCR compatibility mode. All other parameters are set by and can only be changed by the Hardware Utility.

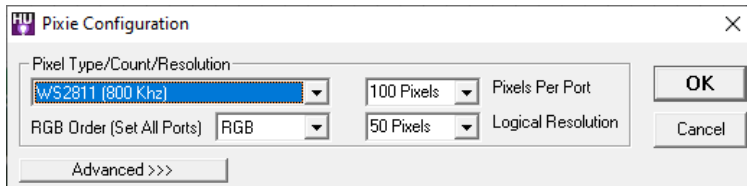
Click the *Refresh* button to find your controller. The controller must appear in the drop-down menu to the right of the *Refresh* button to continue.

The Cosmic Color Pixie controllers are configured via a pop-up window reachable from the *LOR Control* tab. First, click the *LOR Control* tab, then click the *Config* button at the bottom of the window you will see the following window:

Pixie

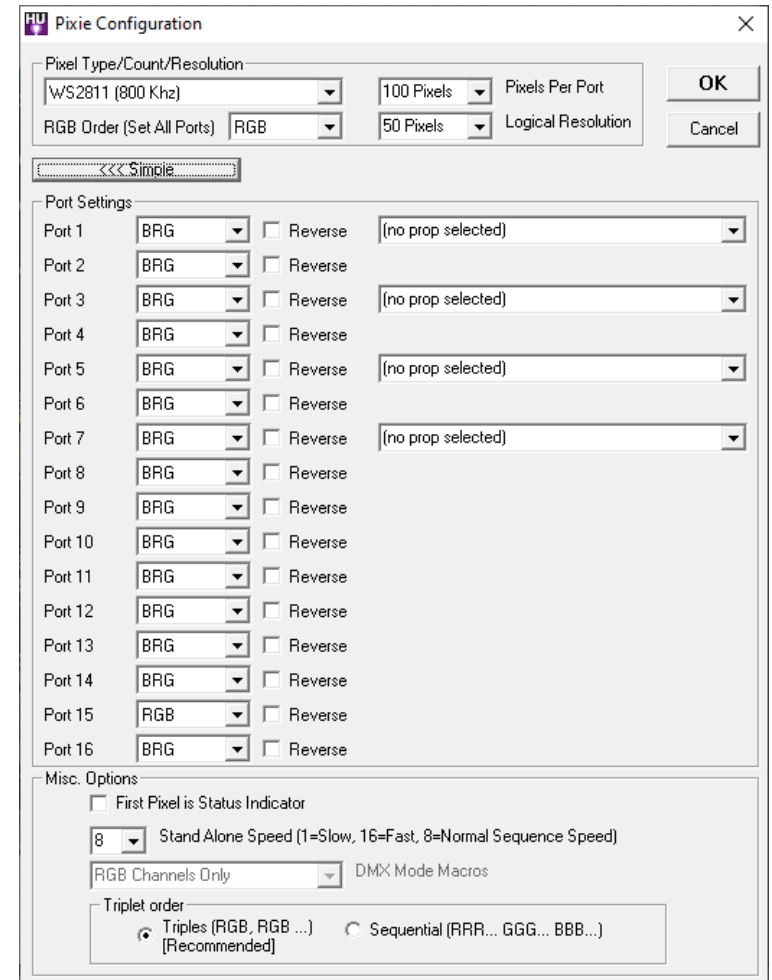


Click the *Cosmic Color/Pixie Config* button and the following window will appear. Use this simplified setup window to select the startup configuration. Remember to click the *OK* button to update the controller.



If you need to set advanced parameters, click the *Advanced* button to extend the setup window:

Pixie



Pixel Type (RGB Integrated Circuit)

This field selects the type of pixel control integrated circuit. The currently supported pixel drivers are:

1. WS2811 400KHz (UCS1903)
2. WS2811 800KHz (UCS1903)
3. WS2801
4. SM16716
5. LPD6803 (LPD1101, D705A)
6. TMI1803
7. TMI1804
8. TMI1809
9. DMX (Used by Pixie4DMX)*
10. 943
11. 943-2**
12. GS8208 800KHz (WS2813)
13. APA102 (SK9822)

There are also some “(Reserved IC x), ...” slots. These are so additional RGB ICs can be added without requiring a software release.

* This type outputs intensity data in DMX512 format. Only the Pixie4DMX has RS485 outputs which will create DMX512 universes that can be connected to DMX512 fixtures. Other Pixies will accept this output type, but will still output 5v logic levels, not RS485.

** If an RGB IC type is followed by “-n” it means that ‘n’ adjacent pixels will be combined by the controller. E.g. if the ribbons have 100 pixels, the controller is configured for 50 pixels and the RGB IC is 943-2, then 2 adjacent pixels on the ribbon will react for each of the 50 configured pixels. It reduces the number of pixels the ribbons appear to be by a factor of 2.

RGB (Color) Order

Selects the order in which the red, green, and blue intensities are sent to the RGB ICs. If you do not know the color order of your pixels, choose RGB. Then press the test button. The test pattern always starts with red, then green, and finally blue. The actual order of colors you see is what you need to set the color order to.

Pixels per Port

This sets the number of physical pixels on a port. Range is 1 to 200.

Logical Resolution

If the number of Pixels Per Port is not 50, then the only resolutions possible are 1 (pixel strings react as one big pixel), and full resolution – the pixels per port (logical resolution should be set to 50).

Otherwise, old CCR compatibility mode is possible, and the following applies:

Logical resolution is the number of pixels that a bulb string appears as in the Sequence Editor. This must be set to 50 if you intend to use the Resolution, Macro & Color Effect channels (old CCR/CCB/CCP compatibility). You can always change the logical resolution on the fly using the Resolution channel.

A bulb string has 50 physical pixels (bulbs,) but to make programming less tedious, it can be set to a lower logical resolution. This means that adjacent physical pixels (bulbs) will be merged. E.g. If the string is set to a logical resolution of 5 pixels, then 10 adjacent bulbs will respond as one – the string will appear to be 5 segments.

Note: The resolution, color effect and macro channels are only active for strings with 50 pixels in LOR network mode.

Reverse Strings

The first pixel is the one nearest the controller. Checking the “Reverse” box reverses this making the pixel furthest from the controller the first pixel.

First Pixel is Status Indicator

If this box is checked, the status LED will be mirrored in white on string one’s pixel nearest the controller. This occurs for 60 seconds after power up. This checkbox exists to save the effort of having to open up the controller box up; you can just unplug and plug in the controller to check its status.

Stand Alone Speed

This selects the speed at which an internal stand-alone sequence is run. 8 runs the sequence with 1 second of sequence commands equaling one actual second. Use this option to fine tune the speed of the stand-alone sequence.

DMX512 Input to Pixie2D & Pixie4D only

Set Pixie2 to 50 or 100 pixels/string. Set Pixie4 to 50 pixels/string. There is only one DMX mode:

DMX addresses	Pixie2	Pixie4
1-150 1 st string	50 pixels	50 pixels
151-300 2 nd string	50 Pixels	50 pixels
151-450 2 nd string	100 pixels	n/a
301-450 3 rd string	n/a	50 pixels

The RJ45 jacks on the Pixie2D have jumpers to allow for LOR or DMX (E1.27-2) network wiring. If the DMX device driving the Pixie controller has an XLR 3-pin connector, you will need the LOR *RJ-45 to XLR 3-pin Male* connector. It is available from the Web Store on the accessories page:

www.lightorama.com/ ► LOR Store ► Accessories ► RJ-45 to XLR 3-pin Male (this adapter converts to LOR network wiring, not DMX E1.27-2 wiring).

Triplet Order

This is the order in which the pixel channels appear in the Sequence Editor. The number of channels depends upon the configured pixels per port when not in CCR compatibility mode, and the resolution when in compatibility mode.

Triples means the channels will appear as R (channel 1) G (channel 2), B (channel 3) for the first pixel (the pixel nearest the controller,) then R (4), G (5), B (6) for the next pixel, etc.

Sequential means that all the Rs (channel 1, 2, 3, ...) will come first, then all the Gs and finally all the Bs. Sequential channel mode is only available on normal LOR networks, it does not work with Enhanced or PixieLink networks.

Props

These dropdowns are used to select one of the LOR props (singing trees). A prop is two adjacent 100-pixel strings. The controller understands the arrangement of the pixels so that the user does not have to individually program the pixels to manipulate the prop. This allows for sequences to be written

that will work with any of the singing trees. Selecting a 'prop' reduces the number of pixels to the first 8 pixels on the first pixel string of the prop. Here is the pixel assignment:

Pixel 1 – Outline of the tree
 Pixel 2 – Tree topper
 Pixel 3 – Eyes closed
 Pixel 4 – Eyes open
 Pixel 5 – Mouth closed
 Pixel 6 – Mouth half open
 Pixel 7 – Mouth full open
 Pixel 8 – Mouth 'oh'

Software Control

The Pixies appears in a LOR Network at the unit ID set by the DIP switches or Hardware Utility plus 1, 3, 7 or 15 additional sequential unit IDs. The first unit ID corresponds to the first string, the second unit ID corresponds to the second pixel string, ...

A pixel string is configured in the Sequence Editor as up to 200 pixels.

If you configure the Pixie for 50 physical pixels, each string appears as 160 channels. The first 150 channels are the R, G, and B channels for the 50 physical pixels. These channels can be combined into Sequence Editor RGB channels cutting the 150 to 50. The next 10 channels are the resolution, macro, and color effect channels. These are for compatibility mode with the old CCR/CCB/CCP.

Old CCR/CCB/CCP Compatibility

Resolution, Macro & Color Channels

Because of the large number of controllable elements, the Pixie supports some legacy concepts designed to simplify programming the strings.

Channel 151 – Current logical resolution
 Channel 152 – Macro mode
 Channel 153 – Macro submode
 Channel 154 – Macro effect control
 Channel 155 – Color effect mode
 Channel 156 – Color speed
 Channel 157 – Color intensity
 Channels 158-160 – Reserved

Logical Resolution

Logical resolution works completely with 50 pixel strings. For strings other than 50 pixels, only full resolution, and resolution 1 are supported. A resolution of '1' means the string will only be one pixel – i.e. it will act like a dump RGB string.

This channel allows the logical resolution of a pixel string to be changed on the fly. The logical resolution is the number of pixels the string appears as in the Sequence Editor.

In compatibility mode, a pixel string has a physical resolution of 1 to 50 pixels. This means the string can appear as up to 150 regular channels or 50 RGB channels. If the strings are configured to have 50 physical pixels and the resolution channel is set to one of the following intensities, adjacent bulbs may be combined to reduce the channel count:

1, 2, 5, 10, 16, 17, 25 & 50

Adding 50 to the resolution 'flips' the pixels. E.g. if the configured resolution is normal orientation 50, this means that the pixel string appears as 50 separate pixels and the pixel nearest the controller is pixel 1. If the resolution channel is set to 100 (50 + 50) then the pixel string will appear as 50 separate pixels, but pixel 1 will be the furthest pixel from the controller. Values other than the supported resolutions or the supported resolutions plus 50 will select the resolution configured with the Hardware Utility.

When the resolution channel is set to intensity '1,' a single RGB channel (or 3 normal channels) will set the color/intensity of an entire bulb string. When set to '5,' five RGB channels (or 15 normal channels) will set the color/intensity of the 5 equal segments of a string.

Note that resolutions 16 & 17 do not divide evenly into 50 pixels. In the case of 16, the logical pixels at the ends of a string have one more physical pixel than the center logical pixels. In the case of 17, the center logical pixel has one fewer physical pixels than all the others.

In Triples mode channel numbering, only as many RGB triples as are necessary to address the current resolution are used. I.e. the first five sets of RGB channels if the logical resolution is set to 5.

In Sequential mode, the number of channels used causes the points where the G and B channels start to move. I.e. for string 1, the first G channel will be 51 if the logical resolution is 50. The first G channel

will be 6 if the logical resolution is 5. This was done for legacy support and DMX.

Color Effects

This feature is only available when the controller is configured for 50 physical pixels/string.

There are two ways to manipulate the colors and/or intensities of the pixels. The most familiar way is to set or fade/twinkle/shimmer the RGB channels. This permits great control but can be tedious. The second way is to use a Color Effect. When using a color effect, the RGB channels should be off.

See the *Cosmic Color Pixel Manual* available here: www.lightorama.com ► Documentation ► Cosmic Color Pixel Manual

Macros

This feature is only available when the controller is configured for 50 physical pixels/string.

Macros are effects that can be placed 'on top' of the RGB channels or a Color Effect. Macros can be thought of as masks that expose the underlying RGB pixels in interesting ways.

Macro effects always run at the full 50 physical pixel resolution of the string regardless of the current logical resolution setting. Logical resolution only affects the RGB or Color Effect channels.

See the *Cosmic Color Pixel Manual* for a more detailed discussion of this legacy emulation mode.

<http://www.lightorama.com> ► Support ► Documentation ► Cosmic Color Pixel Manual

Hardware Description

The pictures in this section are not to relative scale. Each picture is printed at the maximum size the manual page will allow.

The Pixie2D is only available in a weatherproof plastic box with a universal power supply. The box and wires are available in black, green, or white.

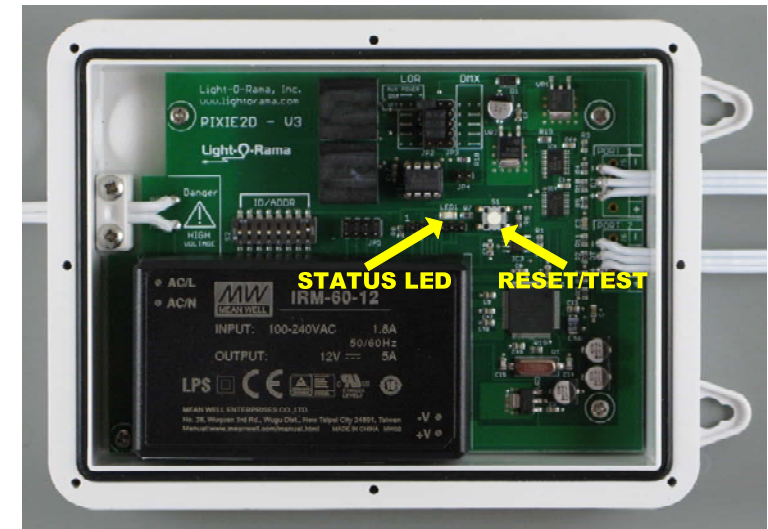
The Pixie4DMX is only available in a non-weatherproof plastic box.

The other Pixies are available as boards or in weatherproof boxes with a power supply.

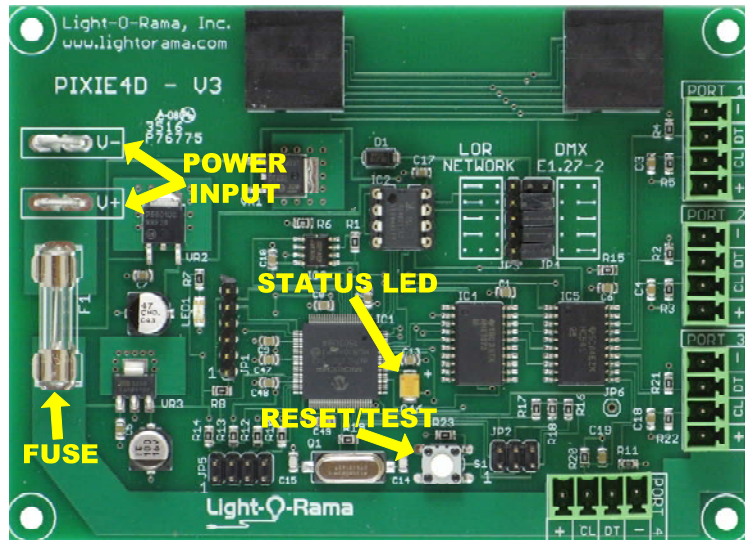
The labelling of the on-board jumpers (JP2-JP5) is not consistent across Pixies. Be sure to consult the following pictures and descriptions for your board.

The second-generation Pixie boards have protection from reverse polarity power connection. This only protects the board logic, not the connected pixel strings. Connect the board power before attaching pixel strings. If the status LED flashes, then the power is correctly connected, and you can connect you pixel strings.

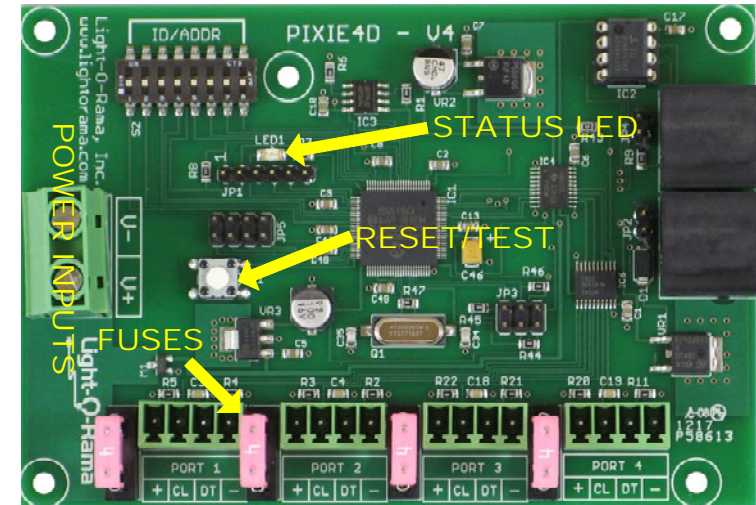
Pixie2D (White plastic box, 12 VDC)



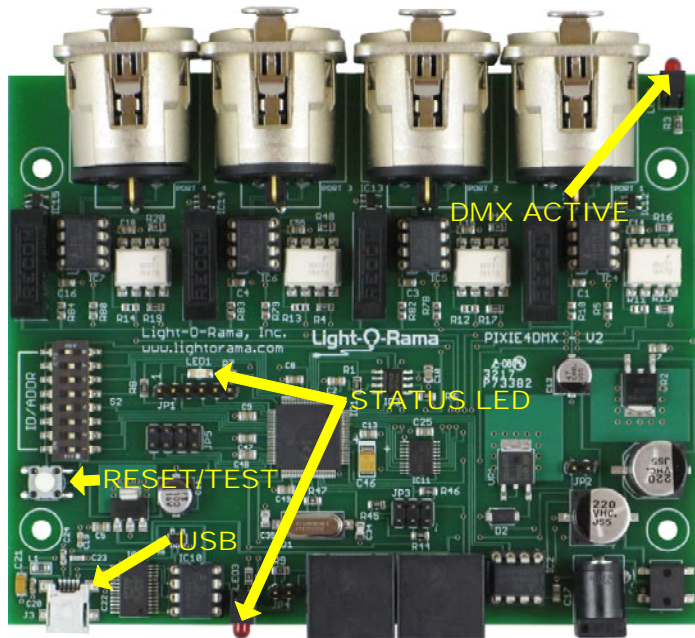
- JP2/JP3 jumpers select the network wiring on the RJ45 jacks (LOR or DMX). LOR network without accessory power enabled shown.
- JP4 install jumper to connect 120Ω termination resistor.
- JP5 is used to select some factory configurations and must be empty to allow Hardware Utility setting of RGB IC, pixels/string, and color order.
- DIP switches 1-8 select unit ID/DMX address unless they are all off; in which case the Hardware Utility is used to make the selection.
- The power supply is current limited, so no fuse on the pixel strings is required
- There is an AC power fuse in the AC plug.

Pixie4D (first generation)

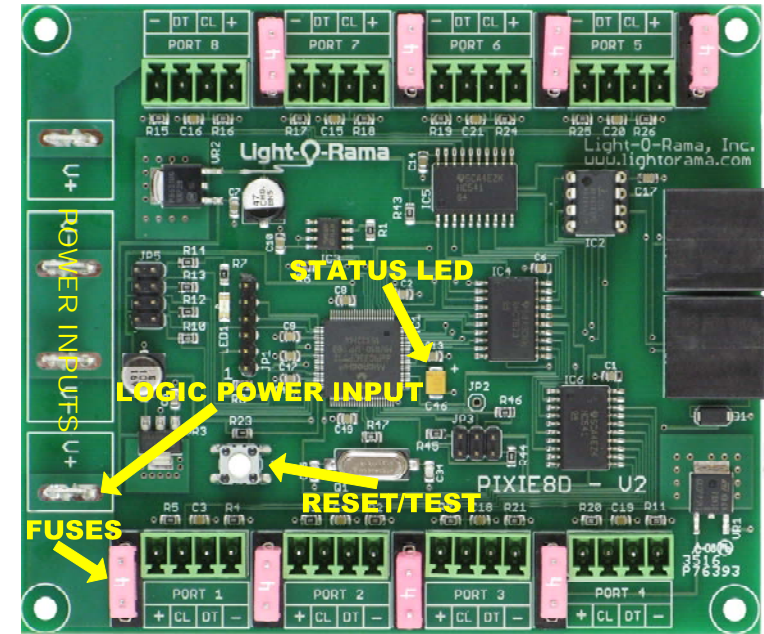
- JP2 is used to connect inputs (interactive show triggers) to the controller.
- JP3/JP4 jumpers select the network wiring on the RJ45 jacks (LOR or DMX). DMX network shown. It is recommended that you leave the top-most jumper off in LOR network mode. This will disable accessory power to the network jacks.
- JP5 is used to select some factory configurations and must be empty to allow Hardware Utility setting of RGB IC, pixels/string, and color order.
- The fuse limits current for all four strings.

Pixie4D (second generation)

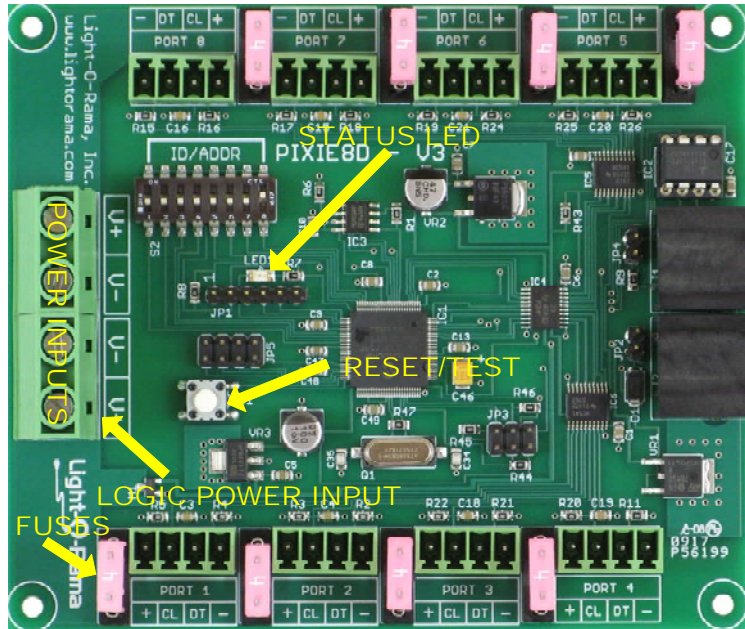
- JP2 install jumper to connect accessory power to RJ45 jacks.
- JP3 is used to connect inputs (interactive show triggers) to the controller.
- JP4 install jumper to connect 120Ω termination resistor.
- JP5 is used to select some factory configurations and must be empty to allow proper operation of the Pixie4DMX and to allow the Hardware Utility setting of pixels/string and color order.
- The fuses limit current for individual strings.

Pixie4DMX Isolated with XLR3 Jacks

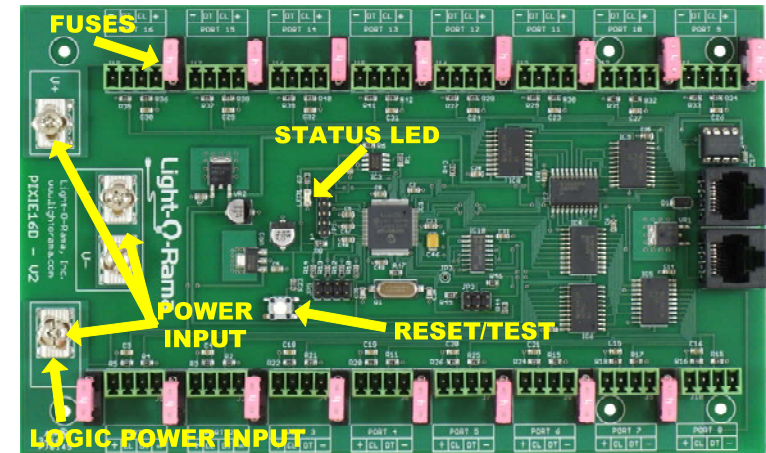
- JP3 is used to connect inputs (interactive show triggers) to the controller.
- JP4 jumper in place inserts a 120Ω termination resistor.
- JP5 is used to select some factory configurations and must be empty to allow proper operation of the Pixie4DMX and to allow the Hardware Utility setting of pixels/string and color order.
- The DMX512 universes on the XLR3 jacks are electrically isolated from the LOR network and from each other.

Pixie8D (first generation)

- JP3 is used to connect inputs (interactive show triggers) to the controller.
- JP5 is used to select some factory configurations and must be empty to allow the Hardware Utility setting of pixels/string and color order.
- The fuses limit current for individual strings.
- Power must be connected to the “Logic Power Input” side of the controller for operation.

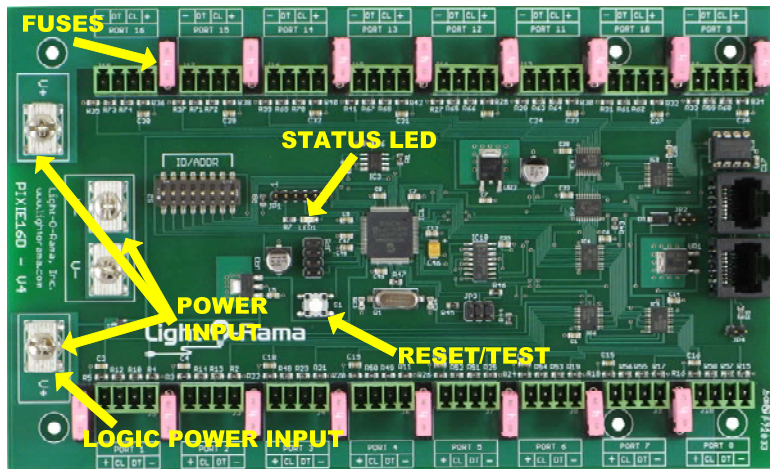
Pixie8D (second generation)

- JP2 install jumper to connect accessory power to RJ45 jacks.
- JP3 is used to connect inputs (interactive show triggers) to the controller.
- JP4 install jumper to connect 120Ω termination resistor.
- JP5 is used to select some factory configurations and must be empty to allow proper operation of the Pixie4DMX and to allow the Hardware Utility setting of pixels/string and color order.
- The fuses limit current for individual strings.
- Power must be connected to the “Logic Power Input” side of the controller for operation.

Pixie16D (first generation)

- JP3 is used to connect inputs (interactive show triggers) to the controller.
- JP5 is used to select some factory the Hardware Utility setting of RGB IC, pixels/string and color order.
- The fuses limit current for individual strings.
- Power must be connected to the “Logic Power Input” side of the controller for operation.

Pixie16D (second generation)



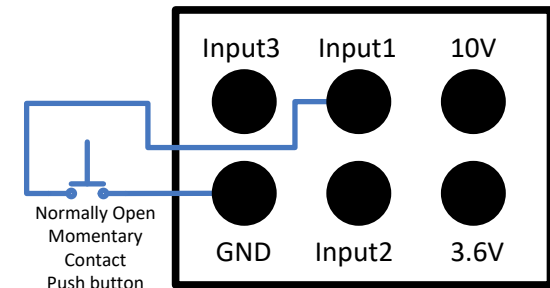
- JP2 install jumper to connect accessory power to RJ45 jacks.
- JP3 is used to connect inputs (interactive show triggers) to the controller.
- JP4 install jumper to connect 120Ω termination resistor.
- JP5 is used to select some factory the Hardware Utility setting of RGB IC, pixels/string and color order.
- The fuses limit current for individual strings.
- Power must be connected to the “Logic Power Input” side of the controller for operation.

Status LED

- Blinks twice per second if the controller has booted correctly but is not connected to an active network
- Solid on if the controller sees a network director – either a PC or Show Director
- Blinks one long on and a short off repeatedly if in the bootloader. This means that the firmware is not loaded or corrupted. See the *Updating the Pixie Firmware* section to load firmware
- Flashing rapidly indicates resetting because you are holding the reset button during power up or while the controller is up and running.

Input Header (JP2 or JP3)

The Input Header is used to provide interactive triggers for shows or to start a stand-alone sequence. It has 10vdc @ 300ma available for devices like motion detectors that might be used as triggers. The following diagram shows the connections on the header:



A 6-pin socket with a 2' cable is available from LOR to simplify connections to the header.

Inputs 1 & 3 are for normally open switches. Input 2 is for a normally closed switch (security devices like motion sensors should use this input.)

Fuses

See the *Hardware Description* section pictures.

Jumpers (JP5)

These jumpers are used to force a configuration for the RGB IC, color order and pixels/string. If your board has a jumper, you can transfer the settings of this jumper into the configuration EEPROM by changing any parameter on the configuration page or by changing the unit ID. Once you have done this, you can remove the jumper and the Hardware Utility will be able to change any parameter.

See the section *Setting the Configuration* for a description of what the JP5 jumpers do.

Power Input(s)

These connectors are used to power the Pixies and the attached pixel strings/ribbons. The Pixie8 and the Pixie16 have two banks; one bank's power connector is used to supply logic power. This power input must be powered for the Pixie to work. The Pixies work with 5vdc or 12vdc pixels.

Reset/Test Button

Press and hold this button when powering up the controller to reset it. When the status LED flashes quickly, the reset is complete. Release the button

and the controller will reboot. Resetting the controller at power up clears any standalone sequence and tests the stand alone EEPROM. A rapid flash indicates that everything is good; otherwise an error code will be flashed.

Press this button momentarily after the controller has booted to run a simple test pattern on the pixel strings. The test will run until you momentarily press the button again or five minutes go by. The test pattern runs red, then green, and then blue down all pixel strings and repeats.

Press and hold this button after the controller has booted until the status LED flashes rapidly to clear the standalone sequence. Release the button when the status LED flashes rapidly.

The controller disconnects from the network during reset or when the test pattern is running.

String Connectors



The string connector plugs used on the Pixie4D, Pixie8D and Pixie16D allow ribbons or pixel strings to be easily connected to the controller. Simply pull the plug out of the controller and use its screw terminals to attach the string. Use the legend on the controller to determine where ground, clock, data

and power for the string go. The clock and data lines are always 5vdc logic levels. For three wire strings, connect the control wire to the data connection on the controller.

Network Jacks

Two RJ45 jacks used to daisy chain this controller into a LOR network. The Pixie2D and Pixie4D will also work in DMX512 Networks. The Pixie2 has jumpers to select DMX (E1.27-2) wiring or LOR network wiring.

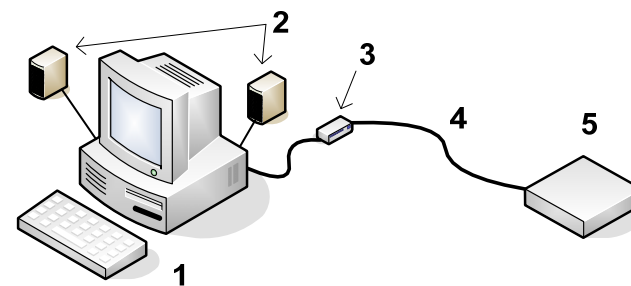
Connecting the Controller to a PC

You will need the following to connect your controller to a PC:

- Showtime Windows Software
- USB RS485 Adapter (or use the Pixie4DMX's built-in USB adapter)
- CAT5e LAN cable
- Your controller
- Windows Vista or 7, 8 or 10 PC.

The first three items are available in the LOR SPK-ST Generic Starter Package. www.lightorama.com ► *LOR Store* ► *Components*. You will have to choose an RS485 adapter type. Choose the USB485 if you have no intention of going wireless from your PC to the controller. If wireless is desired, get the USB485B.

The following diagram shows how the pieces fit together:



1. Your PC running the Showtime Windows Software
2. Your PC speakers to play the music
3. RS485 Adapter to convert short distance USB to long distance RS485
4. CAT5e LAN cable
5. Pixie controller

If your USB adapter has more than one jack, you can use either.

You can use either jack on the Pixie controller.

Connecting to a Show Director

You will need the following to connect your controller to a Show Director:

- LOR1602MP3 Show-in-a-Box controller (has an internal DC-MP3 Show Director), mDM-MP3 Show Director or DC-MP3 Show Director
- CAT5e LAN cable
- Your Pixie controller
- Possibly a 9 to 10 vdc power supply for the mDM-MP3 or DC-MP3 Show Directors. Required if the Pixie is being used at 5vdc.

You can use either of the larger jacks on the show director and either jack on the Pixie controller..

Connecting to another Controller

You can go from either large jack on one controller to either jack on the Pixie controller.

Updating the Pixie Firmware

You must have:

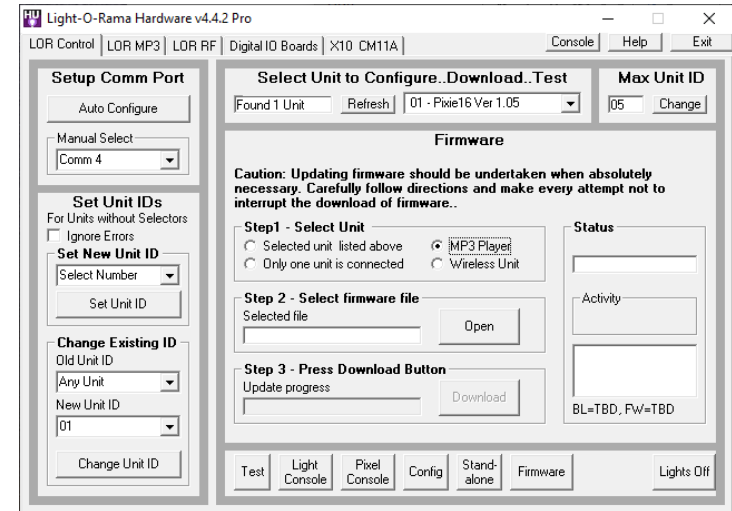
- Hardware Utility version 4.3.16 or later, see the section *Hardware Utility Version*
- The Pixie powered and connected to the PC via an RS485 adapter– Do not use wireless

Get the latest firmware. www.lightorama.com ► *Support* ► *Firmware* section. Click the **Firmware** button for the correct firmware (Pixie2D, Pixie4D, Pixie4DMX, Pixie8D or Pixie16D) and save the firmware file on your PC. Note where on your PC you have saved the firmware file.

Start the LightORama Control Panel if it is not running by clicking **start** ► **Light-O-Rama** ► **Light-O-Rama Control Panel**. The Light-O-Rama light bulb icon will appear in the system tray on the lower right of your screen.

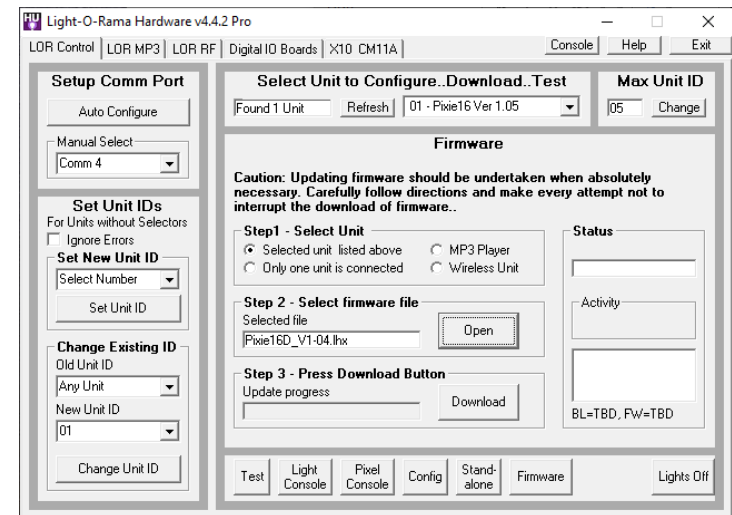
Start the **Hardware Utility** by right-clicking the Light-O-Rama Control Panel light bulb and selecting **Hardware Utility** from the menu. You can click the **Refresh** button to search for connected controllers and select the one you want to update.

Click the **Firmware** button in the **LOR Control** tab and you will see this window:



In **Step 1 – Select Unit**, Choose *Selected unit listed above* or *Only one unit is connected* as appropriate.

In **Step 2 – Select firmware file**, click the **Open** button. Use the *Open* file box to select the firmware file. This is the .lhx file you saved. Click the **Open** button. The window will look like this:



In **Step 3 – Press Download Button**, click the **Download** button – the firmware download will start automatically.

The *Update progress* bar will fill from left to right. When the new firmware is loaded, the *Status* will change to “Successful” and the Pixie controller will reboot.

Setting the DMX512 Start Address

The DMX starting address is selected using the DIP switches. DMX512 input mode is only possible with the Pixie2D & Pixie4D. Refer to the *DMX Start Address DIP Switch Table* section, or use the following computation:

The start address is selected by turning on DIP switches so the total adds up to the address you want. The maximum DMX start address is 255.

Switch 1 has a value of 128. Switch 2 has a value of 64. Switch 3=32, Switch 4=16, Switch 5=8, Switch 6=4. Switch 7=2, Switch 8=1.

For a DMX start address of 129, switches 1-8 would be set to 1000 0001 where 1 represents ON and 0 represents off.

LOR Unit ID DIP Switch Table

LOR ID	Switches 1-8		LOR ID	Switches 1-8		LOR ID	Switches 1-8	
01	0000	0001	29	0010	1001	51	0101	0001
02	0000	0010	2A	0010	1010	52	0101	0010
03	0000	0011	2B	0010	1011	53	0101	0011
04	0000	0100	2C	0010	1100	54	0101	0100
05	0000	0101	2D	0010	1101	55	0101	0101
06	0000	0110	2E	0010	1110	56	0101	0110
07	0000	0111	2F	0010	1111	57	0101	0111
08	0000	1000	30	0011	0000	58	0101	1000
09	0000	1001	31	0011	0001	59	0101	1001
0A	0000	1010	32	0011	0010	5A	0101	1010
0B	0000	1011	33	0011	0011	5B	0101	1011
0C	0000	1100	34	0011	0100	5C	0101	1100
0D	0000	1101	35	0011	0101	5D	0101	1101
0E	0000	1110	36	0011	0110	5E	0101	1110
0F	0000	1111	37	0011	0111	5F	0101	1111
10	0001	0000	38	0011	1000	60	0110	0000
11	0001	0001	39	0011	1001	61	0110	0001
12	0001	0010	3A	0011	1010	62	0110	0010
13	0001	0011	3B	0011	1011	63	0110	0011
14	0001	0100	3C	0011	1100	64	0110	0100
15	0001	0101	3D	0011	1101	65	0110	0101
16	0001	0110	3E	0011	1110	66	0110	0110
17	0001	0111	3F	0011	1111	67	0110	0111
18	0001	1000	40	0100	0000	68	0110	1000
19	0001	1001	41	0100	0001	69	0110	1001
1A	0001	1010	42	0100	0010	6A	0110	1010
1B	0001	1011	43	0100	0011	6B	0110	1011
1C	0001	1100	44	0100	0100	6C	0110	1100
1D	0001	1101	45	0100	0101	6D	0110	1101
1E	0001	1110	46	0100	0110	6E	0110	1110
1F	0001	1111	47	0100	0111	6F	0110	1111
20	0010	0000	48	0100	1000	70	0111	0000
21	0010	0001	49	0100	1001	71	0111	0001
22	0010	0010	4A	0100	1010	72	0111	0010
23	0010	0011	4B	0100	1011	73	0111	0011
24	0010	0100	4C	0100	1100	74	0111	0100
25	0010	0101	4D	0100	1101	75	0111	0101
26	0010	0110	4E	0100	1110	76	0111	0110
27	0010	0111	4F	0100	1111	77	0111	0111
28	0010	1000	50	0101	0000	78	0111	1000

LOR Unit ID DIP Switch Table cont'd

LOR ID	Switches 1-8		LOR ID	Switches 1-8		LOR ID	Switches 1-8	
79	0111	1001	A1	1010	0001	C9	1100	1001
7A	0111	1010	A2	1010	0010	CA	1100	1010
7B	0111	1011	A3	1010	0011	CB	1100	1011
7C	0111	1100	A4	1010	0100	CC	1100	1100
7D	0111	1101	A5	1010	0101	CD	1100	1101
7E	0111	1110	A6	1010	0110	CE	1100	1110
7F	0111	1111	A7	1010	0111	CF	1100	1111
80	1000	0000	A8	1010	1000	D0	1101	0000
81	1000	0001	A9	1010	1001	D1	1101	0001
82	1000	0010	AA	1010	1010	D2	1101	0010
83	1000	0011	AB	1010	1011	D3	1101	0011
84	1000	0100	AC	1010	1100	D4	1101	0100
85	1000	0101	AD	1010	1101	D5	1101	0101
86	1000	0110	AE	1010	1110	D6	1101	0110
87	1000	0111	AF	1010	1111	D7	1101	0111
88	1000	1000	B0	1011	0000	D8	1101	1000
89	1000	1001	B1	1011	0001	D9	1101	1001
8A	1000	1010	B2	1011	0010	DA	1101	1010
8B	1000	1011	B3	1011	0011	DB	1101	1011
8C	1000	1100	B4	1011	0100	DC	1101	1100
8D	1000	1101	B5	1011	0101	DD	1101	1101
8E	1000	1110	B6	1011	0110	DE	1101	1110
8F	1000	1111	B7	1011	0111	DF	1101	1111
90	1001	0000	B8	1011	1000	E0	1110	0000
91	1001	0001	B9	1011	1001	E1	1110	0001
92	1001	0010	BA	1011	1010	E2	1110	0010
93	1001	0011	BB	1011	1011	E3	1110	0011
94	1001	0100	BC	1011	1100	E4	1110	0100
95	1001	0101	BD	1011	1101	E5	1110	0101
96	1001	0110	BE	1011	1110	E6	1110	0110
97	1001	0111	BF	1011	1111	E7	1110	0111
98	1001	1000	C0	1100	0000	E8	1110	1000
99	1001	1001	C1	1100	0001	E9	1110	1001
9A	1001	1010	C2	1100	0010	EA	1110	1010
9B	1001	1011	C3	1100	0011	EB	1110	1011
9C	1001	1100	C4	1100	0100	EC	1110	1100
9D	1001	1101	C5	1100	0101	ED	1110	1101
9E	1001	1110	C6	1100	0110	EE	1110	1110
9F	1001	1111	C7	1100	0111	EF	1110	1111
A0	1010	0000	C8	1100	1000	F0	1111	0000

DMX Start Address DIP Switch Table

Start	Switches 1-8		Start	Switches 1-8		Start	Switches 1-8	
1	0000	0001	41	0010	1001	81	0101	0001
2	0000	0010	42	0010	1010	82	0101	0010
3	0000	0011	43	0010	1011	83	0101	0011
4	0000	0100	44	0010	1100	84	0101	0100
5	0000	0101	45	0010	1101	85	0101	0101
6	0000	0110	46	0010	1110	86	0101	0110
7	0000	0111	47	0010	1111	87	0101	0111
8	0000	1000	48	0011	0000	88	0101	1000
9	0000	1001	49	0011	0001	89	0101	1001
10	0000	1010	50	0011	0010	90	0101	1010
11	0000	1011	51	0011	0011	91	0101	1011
12	0000	1100	52	0011	0100	92	0101	1100
13	0000	1101	53	0011	0101	93	0101	1101
14	0000	1110	54	0011	0110	94	0101	1110
15	0000	1111	55	0011	0111	95	0101	1111
16	0001	0000	56	0011	1000	96	0110	0000
17	0001	0001	57	0011	1001	97	0110	0001
18	0001	0010	58	0011	1010	98	0110	0010
19	0001	0011	59	0011	1011	99	0110	0011
20	0001	0100	60	0011	1100	100	0110	0100
21	0001	0101	61	0011	1101	101	0110	0101
22	0001	0110	62	0011	1110	102	0110	0110
23	0001	0111	63	0011	1111	103	0110	0111
24	0001	1000	64	0100	0000	104	0110	1000
25	0001	1001	65	0100	0001	105	0110	1001
26	0001	1010	66	0100	0010	106	0110	1010
27	0001	1011	67	0100	0011	107	0110	1011
28	0001	1100	68	0100	0100	108	0110	1100
29	0001	1101	69	0100	0101	109	0110	1101
30	0001	1110	70	0100	0110	110	0110	1110
31	0001	1111	71	0100	0111	111	0110	1111
32	0010	0000	72	0100	1000	112	0111	0000
33	0010	0001	73	0100	1001	113	0111	0001
34	0010	0010	74	0100	1010	114	0111	0010
35	0010	0011	75	0100	1011	115	0111	0011
36	0010	0100	76	0100	1100	116	0111	0100
37	0010	0101	77	0100	1101	117	0111	0101
38	0010	0110	78	0100	1110	118	0111	0110
39	0010	0111	79	0100	1111	119	0111	0111
40	0010	1000	80	0101	0000	120	0111	1000

DMX Start Address DIP Switch Table cont'd

Start	Switches 1-8		Start	Switches 1-8		Start	Switches 1-8	
121	0111	1001	161	1010	0001	201	1100	1001
122	0111	1010	162	1010	0010	202	1100	1010
123	0111	1011	163	1010	0011	203	1100	1011
124	0111	1100	164	1010	0100	204	1100	1100
125	0111	1101	165	1010	0101	205	1100	1101
126	0111	1110	166	1010	0110	206	1100	1110
127	0111	1111	167	1010	0111	207	1100	1111
128	1000	0000	168	1010	1000	208	1101	0000
129	1000	0001	169	1010	1001	209	1101	0001
130	1000	0010	170	1010	1010	210	1101	0010
131	1000	0011	171	1010	1011	211	1101	0011
132	1000	0100	172	1010	1100	212	1101	0100
133	1000	0101	173	1010	1101	213	1101	0101
134	1000	0110	174	1010	1110	214	1101	0110
135	1000	0111	175	1010	1111	215	1101	0111
136	1000	1000	176	1011	0000	216	1101	1000
137	1000	1001	177	1011	0001	217	1101	1001
138	1000	1010	178	1011	0010	218	1101	1010
139	1000	1011	179	1011	0011	219	1101	1011
140	1000	1100	180	1011	0100	220	1101	1100
141	1000	1101	181	1011	0101	221	1101	1101
142	1000	1110	182	1011	0110	222	1101	1110
143	1000	1111	183	1011	0111	223	1101	1111
144	1001	0000	184	1011	1000	224	1110	0000
145	1001	0001	185	1011	1001	225	1110	0001
146	1001	0010	186	1011	1010	226	1110	0010
147	1001	0011	187	1011	1011	227	1110	0011
148	1001	0100	188	1011	1100	228	1110	0100
149	1001	0101	189	1011	1101	229	1110	0101
150	1001	0110	190	1011	1110	230	1110	0110
151	1001	0111	191	1011	1111	231	1110	0111
152	1001	1000	192	1100	0000	232	1110	1000
153	1001	1001	193	1100	0001	233	1110	1001
154	1001	1010	194	1100	0010	234	1110	1010
155	1001	1011	195	1100	0011	235	1110	1011
156	1001	1100	196	1100	0100	236	1110	1100
157	1001	1101	197	1100	0101	237	1110	1101
158	1001	1110	198	1100	0110	238	1110	1110
159	1001	1111	199	1100	0111	239	1110	1111
160	1010	0000	200	1100	1000	240	1111	0000

DMX Start Address DIP Switch Table cont'd

Start	Switches 1-8		Start	Switches 1-8		Start	Switches 1-8	
241	0000	0001	246	0010	1001	251	0101	0001
242	0000	0010	247	0010	1010	252	0101	0010
243	0000	0011	248	0010	1011	253	0101	0011
244	0000	0100	249	0010	1100	254	0101	0100
245	0000	0101	250	0010	1101	255	0101	0101

LOR %intensity to DMX Intensities

LOR	DMX	LOR	DMX	LOR	DMX
0	0	34	86	68	173
1	2	35	89	69	175
2	5	36	91	70	178
3	7	37	94	71	181
4	10	38	96	72	183
5	12	39	99	73	186
6	15	40	102	74	188
7	17	41	104	75	191
8	20	42	107	76	193
9	22	43	109	77	196
10	25	44	112	78	198
11	28	45	114	79	201
12	30	46	117	80	204
13	33	47	119	81	206
14	35	48	122	82	209
15	38	49	124	83	211
16	40	50	127	84	214
17	43	51	130	85	216
18	45	52	132	86	219
19	48	53	135	87	221
20	51	54	137	88	224
21	53	55	140	89	226
22	56	56	142	90	229
23	58	57	145	91	232
24	61	58	147	92	234
25	63	59	150	93	237
26	66	60	153	94	239
27	68	61	155	95	242
28	71	62	158	96	244
29	73	63	160	97	247
30	76	64	163	98	249
31	79	65	165	99	252
32	81	66	168	100	255
33	84	67	170		

Specifications

	Pixie2D	Pixie4D	Pixie8D	Pixie16D
Strings	2	4	8	16
Pixels per string	200	200	200	200
LOR Effects Pixels	200	200	100	50
Strings per bank	n/a	n/a	4	8
Amps/bank	n/a	n/a	16	32
Total Amps	10	16	32	64
Voltage DC	5-12*	5-12	5-12	5-12
Max LOR Net Speed	1Mbps	1Mbps	1Mbps	1Mbps
Operating Temp	-30° F to 140° F	-30° F to 140° F	-30° F to 140° F	-30° F to 140° F
Dimensions	6½"L x 4⅞"W x 1⅞"H*	4⅝"L x 3⅜" W x 1"H	4½"L x 3⅞"W x 1"H	7⅞"L x 4¾" W x 1"H

* The Pixie2 is currently only sold with a 12vdc power supply in a weatherproof plastic box.

Circuit boards available for Pixie4, Pixie8 & Pixie16.

Pixie16 available in plastic box with power supply.

Pixie4DMX:

- Outputs four DMX universes (XLR3 jacks)
- Max pixels/universe is 170 (510 dimmers)
- LOR network speed to 1Mbps
- Operating temperature -30° F to 140° F
- Power barrel input 9 to 15vdc @ 800ma or greater

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