

Kyma / Pacamara + Metric Halo LIO-8

Setup Summary & Troubleshooting Reference

System Overview

This document summarises the correct configuration for running Symbolic Sound's Kyma software with a Pacamara unit, routing audio through a Metric Halo LIO-8 mkIV interface, with applications such as Cycling '74 Max and Native Instruments Kontakt on the host Mac.

Hardware & Connections Required

- Symbolic Sound Pacamara (audio processing unit)
- Metric Halo LIO-8 mkIV (class-compliant USB audio interface)
- Two USB-C to Ethernet adapters — must be gigabit-rated (5 Gbps recommended)
- Two CAT5e or CAT6 Ethernet cables
- One USB-A to USB-C cable (Pacamara USB-A port to LIO-8 USB-C port)
- Host Mac with Kyma and MIO Console 3D installed

Cable Connections (establish before powering on)

1. Pacamara Ethernet port → USB-C Ethernet Adapter 1 → Mac
2. Metric Halo LIO-8 Ethernet port → USB-C Ethernet Adapter 2 → Mac
3. Pacamara USB-A port → USB-C port on Metric Halo LIO-8
4. Metric Halo LIO-8 USB-C → Mac (for MIO Console and DAW audio)

macOS Network Configuration

The Pacamara requires a manually configured static IP address on its dedicated Ethernet adapter. The Metric Halo uses its own MHLINK protocol and may show a red indicator in macOS Network settings — this is normal. MIO Console is the definitive indicator of LIO-8 connectivity.

Pacamara Ethernet Adapter (System Settings → Network → Details → TCP/IP):

- Configure IPv4: Manually

- IP Address: 192.168.1.1
- Subnet Mask: 255.255.255.0 (auto-filled by macOS)
- Router: leave blank
- Pacamara unit IP: 192.168.1.2 (verify on Pacamara front panel)

The Metric Halo Ethernet adapter does not require manual IP configuration. Verify connectivity by opening MIO Console — if the LIO-8 shows online, the connection is working.

Correct Startup Order

- Step 1:** Ensure all cables are connected as described above
- Step 2:** Power on the Metric Halo LIO-8 — wait for full boot
- Step 3:** Power on the Pacamara — wait for main menu on front panel display
- Step 4:** Launch Kyma on Mac — it will connect to the Pacamara via Ethernet
- Step 5:** In Kyma: DSP menu → Status → select LIO-8 for Audio Input and Output
- Step 6:** Open MIO Console to verify LIO-8 is online and configure routing

Root Causes Identified During Troubleshooting

- A defective USB-C Ethernet adapter caused intermittent and confusing network failures — always test adapters individually if connectivity issues arise
- The Pacamara requires a manually configured static IP; DHCP will not work
- The LIO-8 must be connected to the Pacamara's USB-A port for Kyma to use it as its audio interface
- Startup order is critical — incorrect order prevents Kyma from establishing its connection
- WiFi should be disabled on the Mac when launching Kyma to avoid network interface conflicts

Audio Routing Architecture

Once configured, audio flows as follows:

- Kyma (Pacamara) → LIO-8 via USB-A/USB-C → available in MIO Console mixer
- Max / Kontakt → Mac → LIO-8 via Ethernet (MHLINK) → MIO Console mixer
- MIO Console routes all audio sources to physical outputs or back to Mac as needed

Notes on Metric Halo LIO-8 mkIV Compatibility

- The LIO-8 mkIV is USB class-compliant — no driver installation required
- It connects to the Mac via Ethernet using Metric Halo's MHLINK protocol
- It has ADAT optical and S/PDIF I/O for additional digital routing options
- A red indicator in macOS Network settings for the LIO-8 is normal and expected
- MIO Console 3D is required for routing and mixer configuration

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