

Avid S6 Operating & Troubleshooting Notes – PVC 230 & 261i

Monitoring

PVC 230

- Main: Pro Tools
- Stereo 1: Mac Computer
- Surround: Blu-Ray Player

PVC 261

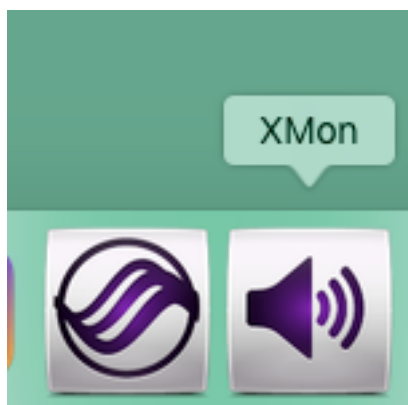
- Main: Pro Tools
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General Operation

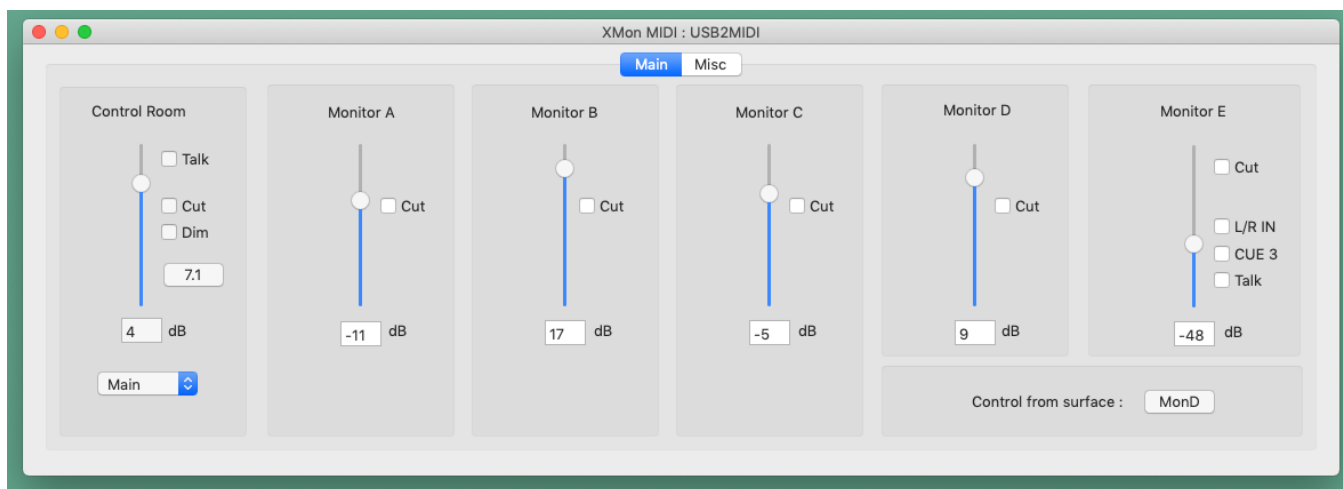
When you come into either PVC 261 or 230 after it's been idle for a while, it's likely that the computer will be asleep and the S6 will be in its idle position. You will see this screen on the S6.



To wake up the system, wake up or turn on the computer. There are two important pieces of software that control the linkage of the S6 console with the computer. **WSControl** and **XMon** (as seen below in the Dock).



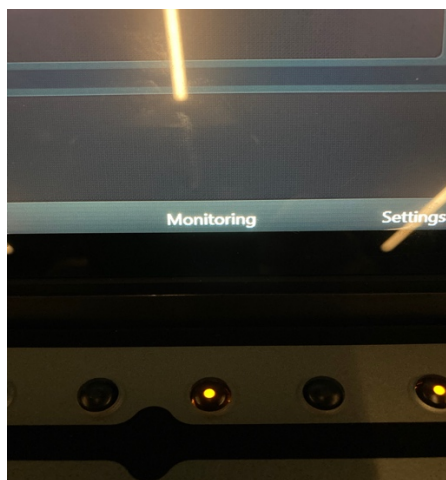
WSControl runs the network connection between the computer and the S6 and **XMon** is the monitoring interface between the computer and the S6. When you startup or wakeup the computer, the **XMon** software should either wake up or auto start. Once **XMon** starts up, you should see this screen.



While **XMon** is waking up or starting up, the **WSControl** icon can be seen in the top menu bar of the computer. If the computer is starting up from shutdown it may take a minute or two for **WSControl** to start up. The icon will spin while it tries to connect with the S6. Once it stops spinning, if you click on the icon in the menu bar, you should see the below window showing the S6 as the Focused System.



At this point you should be ready to go. Click on the **XMon** window on the computer to make **XMon** the active software. Then select the Monitor page on the S6 by pressing the **Monitoring** button on the S6.



You can touch the button on the touch screen to select the **Monitoring** page or press the button lit up below. You should see the **Monitoring** page active with the available output channels and the chosen source lit up in blue as below.

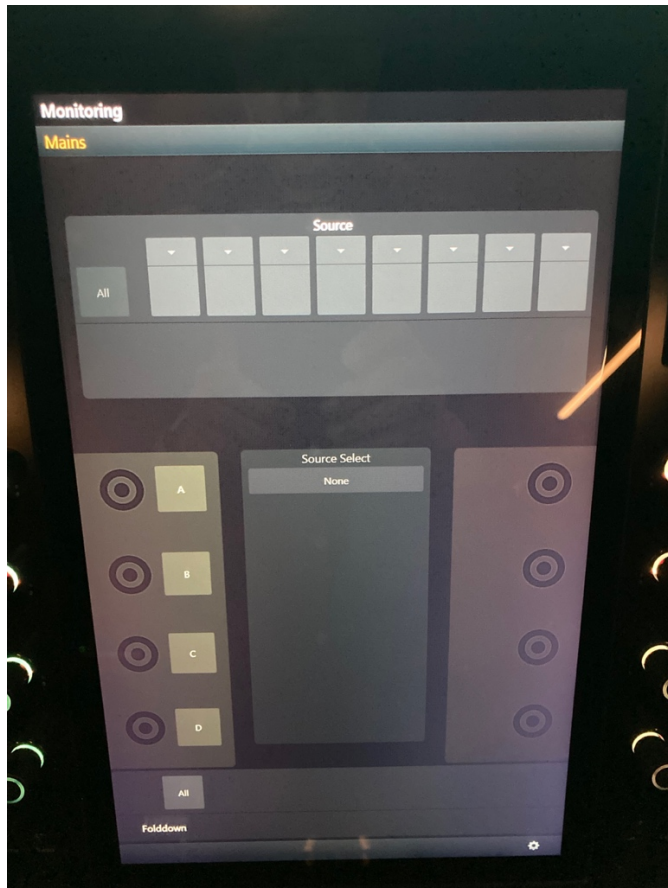


At this point you should be ready to work. Select your desired source and adjust the **Main Volume** to your liking. Zero should be the calibrated 85db monitoring level. If you're mixing, it's recommended that you use this level as your reference. You can always leave the volume set at zero and then press the **Dim** button to bring the volume down if needed. The **Dim** level can also be set on the **Monitoring** Screen.



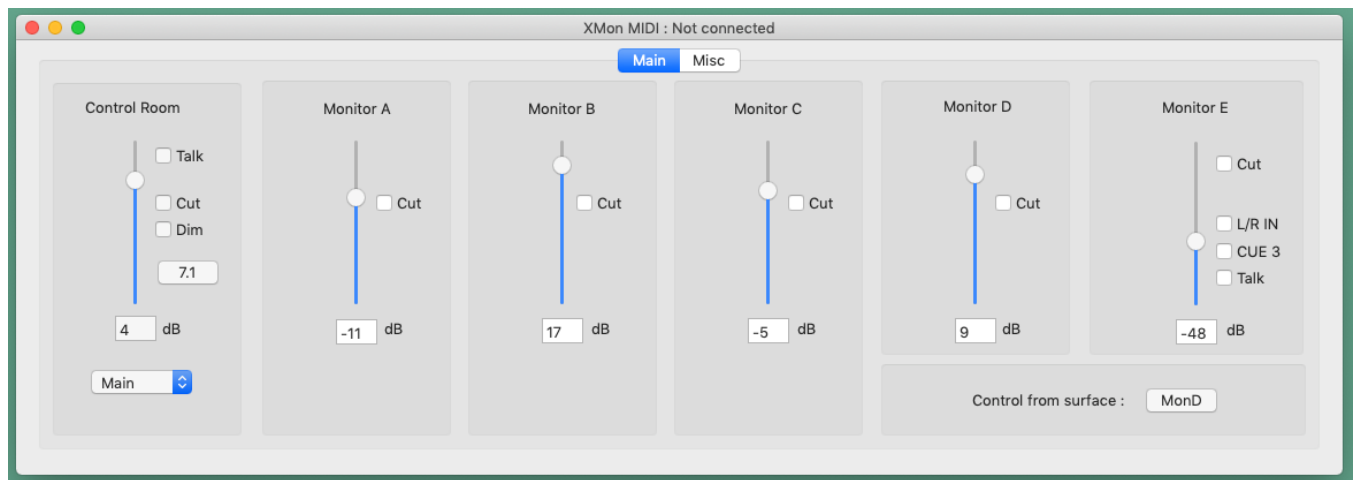
General Troubleshooting

There are several common problems that can come up. Once you've gone through the startup procedures listed above, it's possible that the **Monitoring** screen on the S6 does not activate. Instead of a screen showing available outputs and the selected source lit up in blue you might see a blank Monitoring screen, as below.

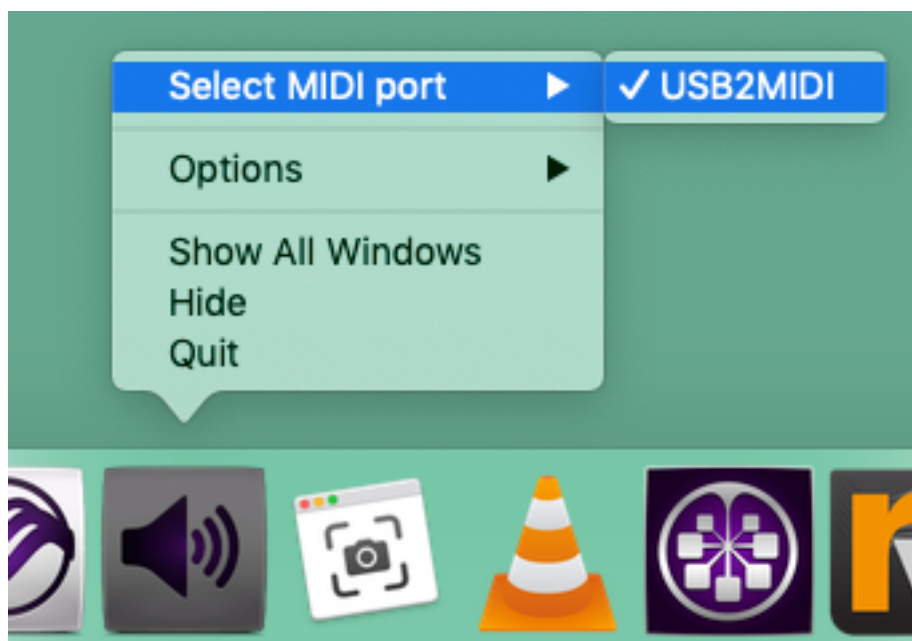


You can see there are no output channels listed at the bottom and all the **Source** buttons are blank. The easiest fix for this is that the **XMon** software needs to be “attentioned” on the computer. Go to the computer and click on the **XMon** window to make it the attentioned software on the Mac. It may take a moment for the **Monitoring** window to wake back up and reconnect so don't panic if it doesn't wake up immediately. Sometimes this can happen even while you're working on the system. Simply select **XMon** as the attentioned software and the problem should correct itself.

If that does not activate the **Monitoring** window, check to make sure that **XMon** is connected to its MIDI channel. At the top of the **XMon** window it should say **XMon MIDI : USB2MIDI**. However, sometimes the MIDI becomes disconnected, and the screen will look like this.



If this happens, the first thing you can try is to simply re-connect the MIDI channel. To do this, go to the **XMon** icon in the Dock. Right click on the **XMon** icon. You should be able to select the MIDI port. (There is only one choice, so there will be no confusion here.)

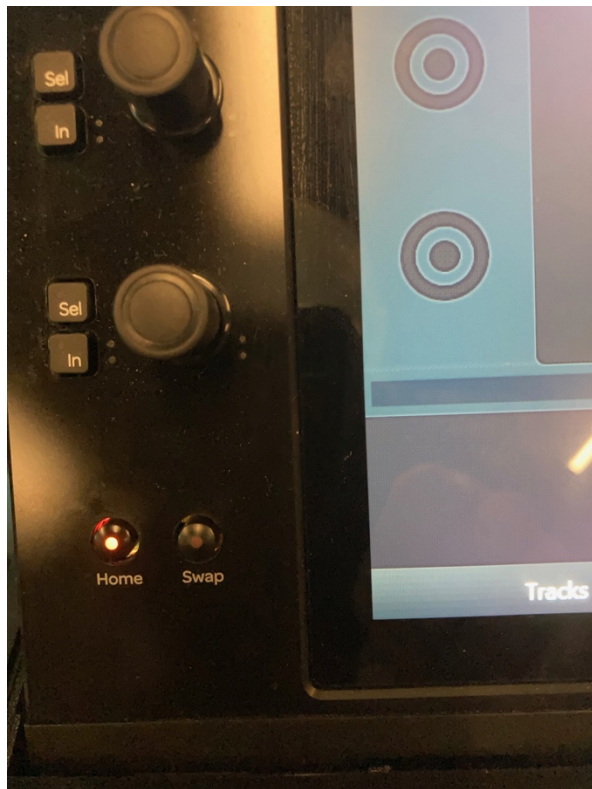


If the **Monitoring** window still does not reconnect, quit the **XMon** application and then re-launch it. It should launch with the MIDI connected correctly. Remember...it will generally take a few moments for changes to be reflected on the S6.

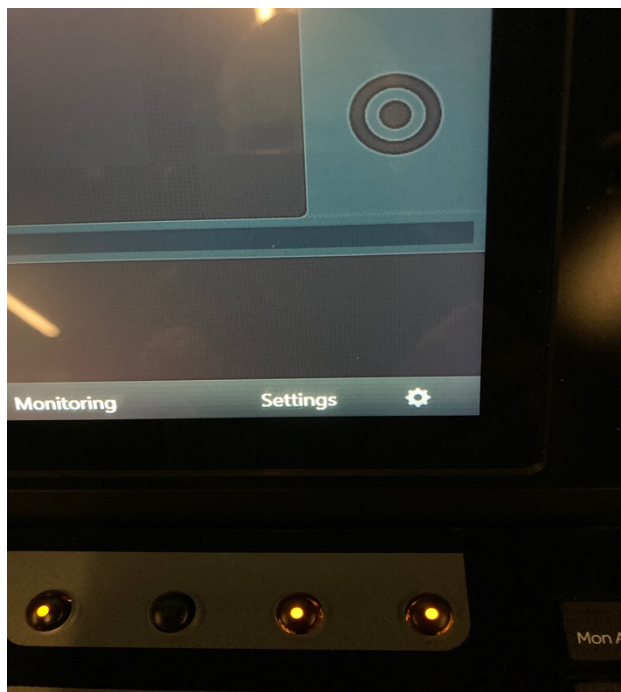
Another issue that can arise is that **WSControl** might not connect with the S6. You may see a small error icon on the **WSControl** icon in the top menu bar, or if not and you click on the **WSControl** icon, Focused System will show **Not Connected**.



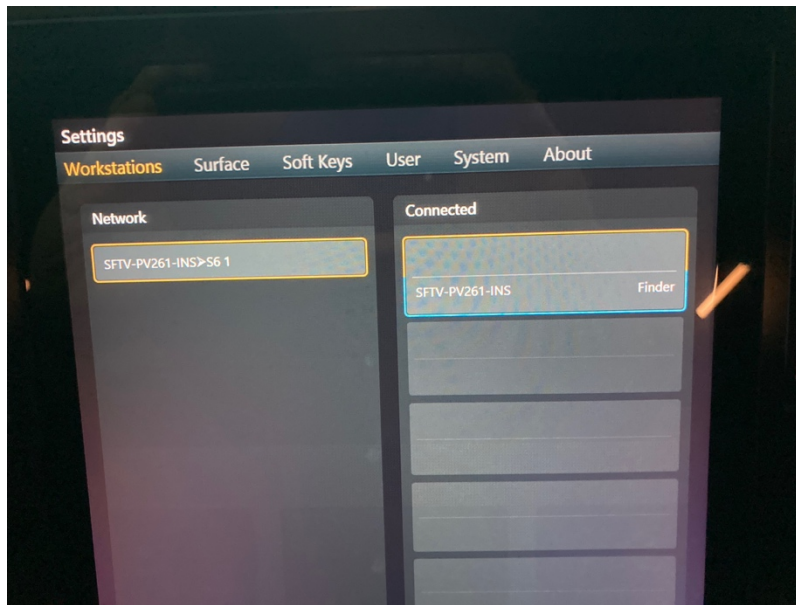
When this happens, the first thing to check is that the Workstation is properly connected on the S6 **Workstation** window. To go to the **Workstation** window, you will need to go into the **Settings**. To get to the **Settings** page, first navigate to the **Home** page by pressing the Home button on the left side of the Master display screen.



At the bottom of the **Home** screen you'll see the buttons for **Tracks**, **Monitoring**, and **Settings**.



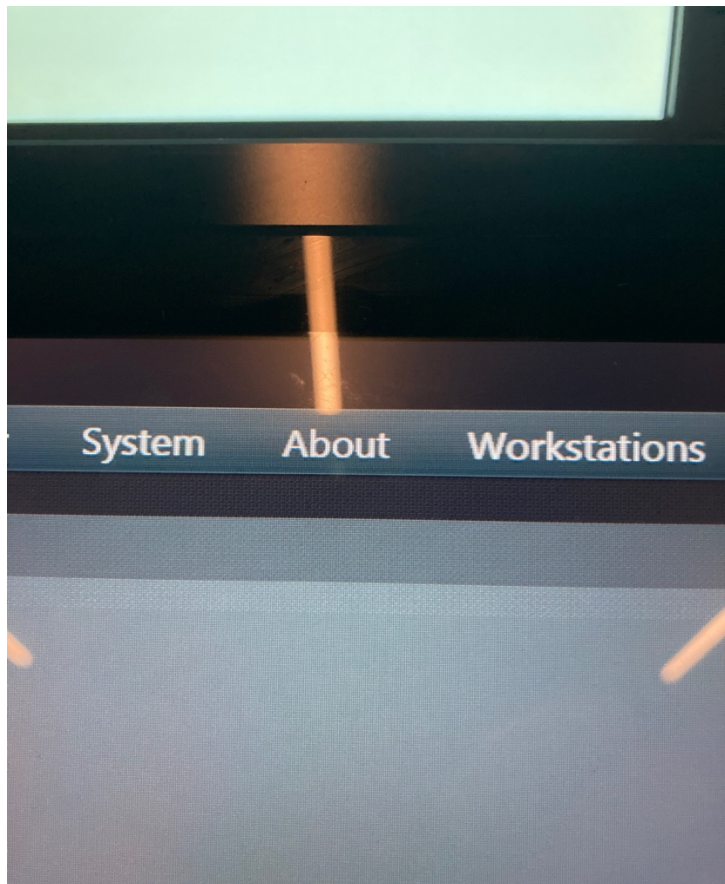
At the top of the **Settings** page there will be a tab for **Workstations**.



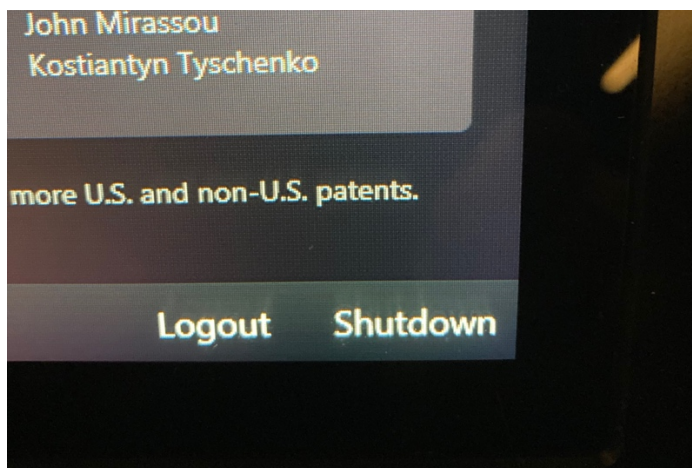
On the **Workstation** page, on the left you'll see which computers are on the network. On the right you'll see which computers are connected to the S6. If the **WSControl** software shows **No Connection**, there may be no computer connected on the right. In that case, just touch the computer on the left side of the touch screen and drag it over to the top slot of the Connected column to make the connection.

It's also possible that the connection is corrupted in some way and shows up in red. If the computer shows up in the **Connected** column, but it's lit up red, touch it and drag it out of the **Connected** column into the blank area in the **Network** column to break the connection. Then try to re-connect the computer.

If none of these options work, the next step is to try a re-start of the S6 and the computer. Go ahead and shut down the computer. To shut down the S6, go again to the **Settings** page if you're not on it already. Go to the **About** tab.



At the bottom of the **About** page, you'll see options to **Logout** or **Shutdown**. NEVER Log out. JUST DON'T DO IT! Press the **Shutdown** button on the touch screen or press the lit up button below **Shutdown**.



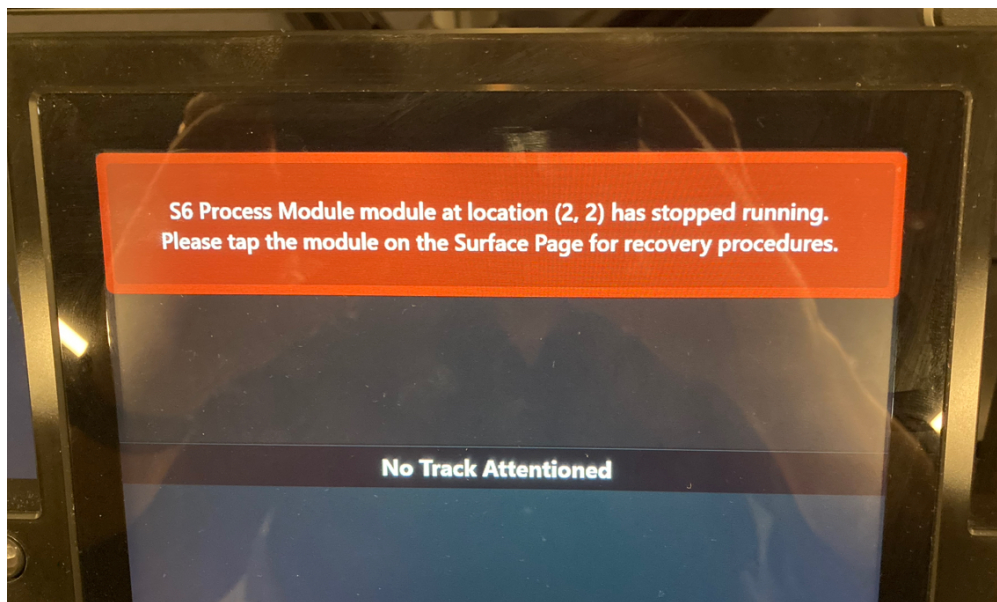
Once the computer and the S6 have been shut down for about 10 seconds or more, begin the re-start process by first powering up the S6. The power button is located behind the Master view display, next to the XLR input.



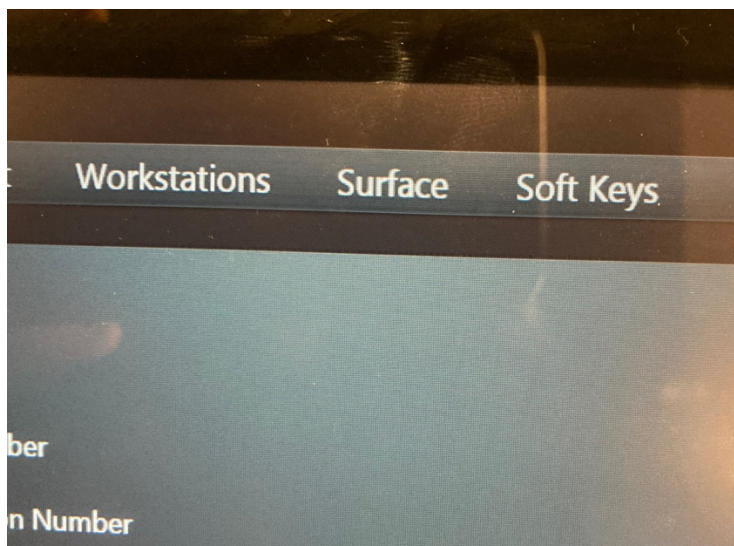
Press the Power button and let the S6 fully start up before turning on the computer. Turn on the computer, log in and let all the relevant software go through their startup cycles.

If you've completed all these steps and **WSControl** still will not connect with the S6, contact the Senior Audio Engineer or Senior Post-Production tech staff.

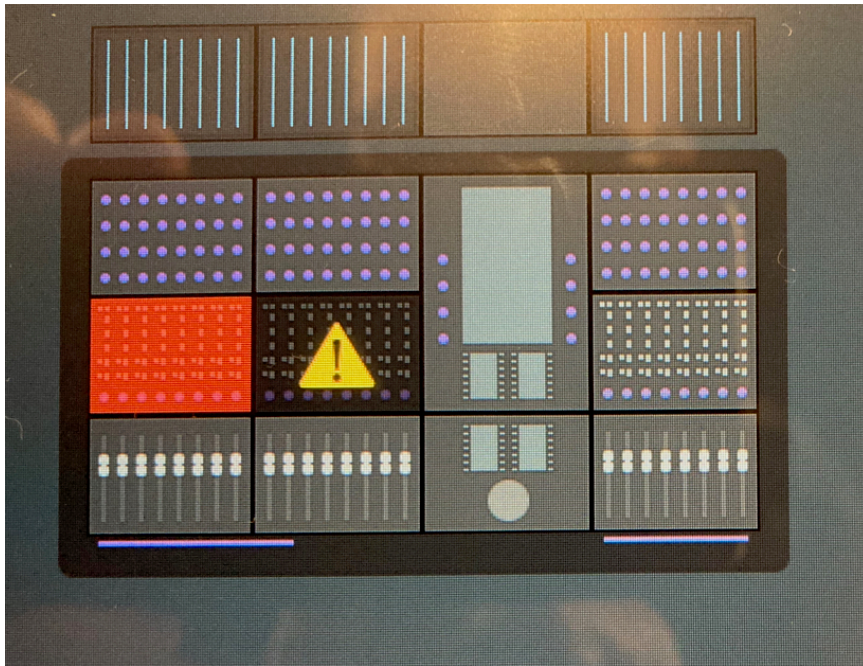
There is one other issue that has come up a couple times on the S6 in PVC 261. There has been an issue with the 2nd Process Module where it will occasionally stop running. You'll see this error message.



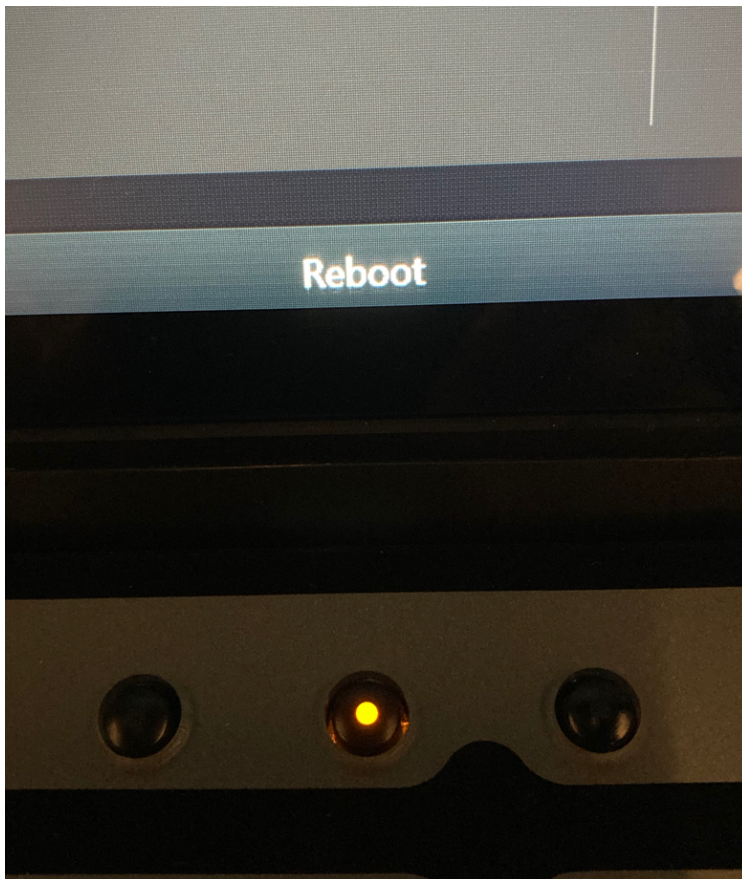
To fix this, go to the **Settings** page and select the **Surface** tab.



On the **Surface** window you'll see an overview of the whole S6 console. The 2nd Process module will be marked with a notification sign...a yellow triangle with an exclamation mark.



Tap on that module to select it. Then look at the bottom of the **Surface** window and press the **Reboot** button.



It will take a few moments to reboot, but that should clear this error.

These are the common issues that you may run into on the Avid S6 consoles in PVC 261 and 230. If the steps listed here don't fix one of these problems or if you run into an issue not listed here, contact:

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Senior Audio Engineer
310-568-6662