

Cognisys StackShot 3X Reflash Instructions

So what is “Reflash” anyways? This is the process of erasing StackShot 3X’s software and loading in a new version. Should you reprogram your controller? Not always – If it is doing everything you want there is no advantage of loading new firmware. If, however, there is a new feature that you want – then by all means upgrade!

Is there risk? Think of updating the firmware as a brain transplant for your controller. Yes, there is risk, but we’ve worked hard to minimize that risk. That being said, refrain from removing power or the USB connection while it is in the middle of reprogramming. If you are in bootloader mode but haven’t started reflashing the controller, you can turn it off by removing the power (it will ignore the power button, so you will have to pull power).

Before starting be sure to un-install any previous version of our Reflash product before continuing.

The Reflash program requires Oracle’s Java. If this is not present on the PC that you are using you will be taken to Oracle’s web-site. If you are using a Mac, you will have to explicitly download Java from here if it is not already present on your computer:

<http://java.com/en/download/index.jsp>

Cognisys equipment uses an FTDI chip-set for USB. The drivers should automatically be downloaded for windows users, but if not you can download the drivers from here:

<http://www.ftdichip.com/Drivers/CDM/CDM%20v2.12.12%20WHQL%20Certified.exe>

Mac users have an integrated driver provided by Apple and should not need to download the driver.

PC users:

Download the reflash installer from here:

<http://www.cognisys-inc.com/downloads/reflash/java/ReflashSetup.msi>

Run the installer and follow the installation instructions. The application will be installed on your start menu under a “Cognisys” folder.

Mac users:

Download the reflash package from here:

<http://www.cognisys-inc.com/downloads/reflash/ReflashInstaller.dmg>

Run the package installer and follow the installation instructions. The application will be on your Launchpad.

If the firmware package (zip file) you downloaded includes a “gs2011xxxxx.bin” file (where “xxxx” can vary), you should first update the firmware on your Wifi module. If not, please skip to the “Updating StackShot 3X Firmware” section below.

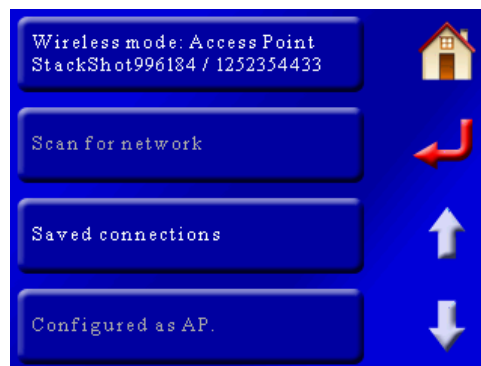
Updating Wifi Firmware:

To update the Wifi firmware, your StackShot 3X must be set up as an access point. To do this, press the “Settings” button:



Use the up and down arrows to navigate to “Wireless Config”. Press the “Wireless Config” button.

Once there, make sure your controller is set up as an access point:



If the first line doesn't say “Access Point”, press it once to change it to access point.

Now, using your computer's Wifi settings, connect up to StackShot. Once connected, use your browser (Firefox has issues, so use an alternative) to go to this address:

<http://192.168.1.1/otafu.html>

You should see a prompt to select the file. Click the “Browse” button, and choose the “gs2011xxxxx.bin” file that is part of the zip file you downloaded containing the firmware. Then press the “Upload” button.

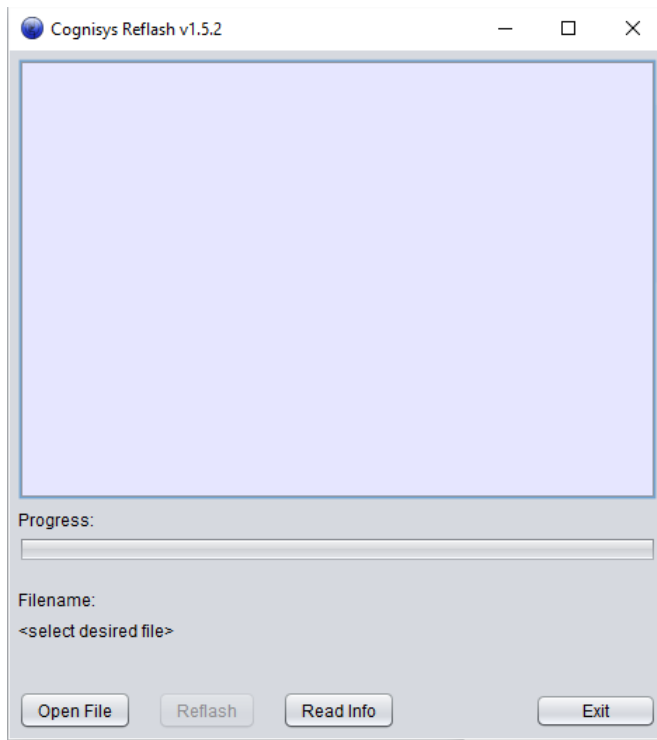
Once complete, you will see “Firmware Upgrade upload Success:”. You can now power off your StackShot controller.

Updating StackShot 3X Firmware:

Run the “Reflash” program installed under Start->Cognisys->Reflash, or just “Reflash” on a Mac.

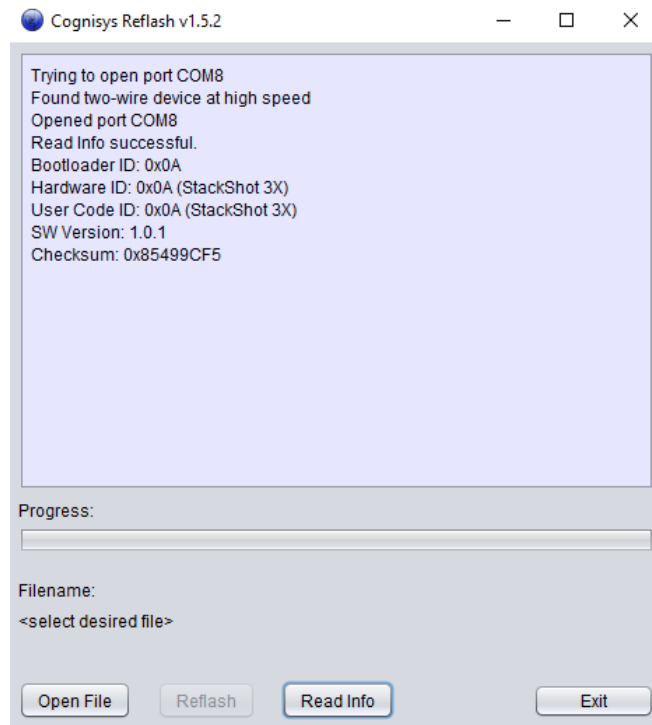
Your StackShot 3X must be in bootloader mode in order to reflash it.

1. Plug in USB to your computer and StackShot 3X (mini-USB, not micro-USB).
2. Plug in power to the controller.
3. Press and hold the power button until you see “Cognisys Bootloader” on the screen (approximately 15 seconds).
4. Run the reflash program.
5. You should now see the following or similar:



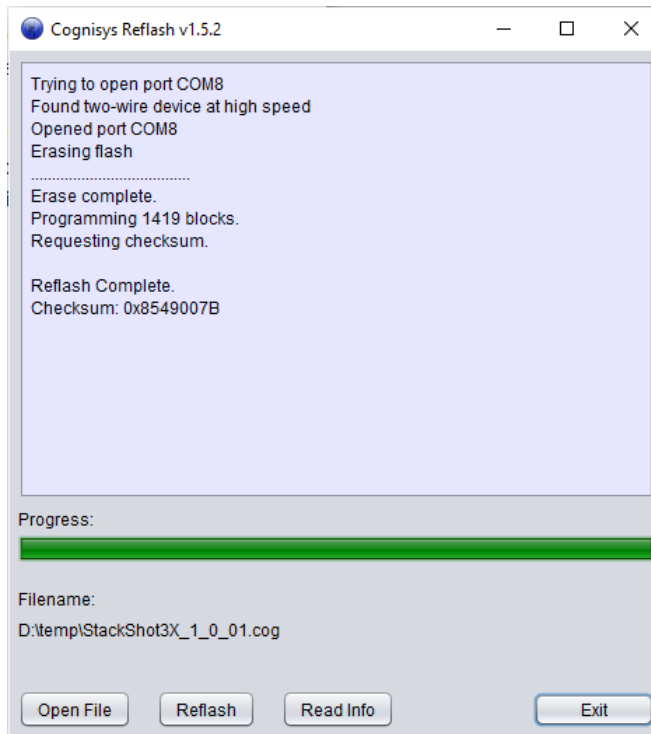
6. Click the “Read Info” button. If the program responds with “could not open a comm port or target not bootstrapped”, be sure that the controller is plugged into the computer. Also be sure the cable is connected to your StackShot and that the display indicates it is in bootloader mode.

At this point you should see text similar to the following:



7. Click the “Open File” button and select the new firmware. The firmware will end in a “COG” extension. If the file was read properly, the “Reflash” button will become active.
8. Click the “Reflash” button to begin the reprogramming process. This will take quite some time (approximately 2 – 3 minutes, even longer on Mac’s). Do not interrupt the process. If an error appears (which can happen on slower computers) press the Reflash button again (making sure the controller is still in bootloader mode).

9. At the end of the reprogramming, you will see text similar to the following:



You can verify the software version when you first turn on the controller. At the bottom of the “Cognisys” splash screen you will briefly see the software version and date at the bottom.

If you have any issues with the reprogramming process or installing the reflash software, please contact us at support@cognisys-inc.com.