



User Manual

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1 Welcome to prepare

All relevant data for a start show file are contained in a drawing, whether by yourself or by the technical service provider. So why enter everything twice?!

You can set-up your desk in a couple of minutes to start working!

It's about integrating the coordinates of lamp systems and playing timing presets live into the GMA2 console. The ideal starting point is a Vectorworks file (you can also copy & paste the data from another CAD software) including all information such as patch, xyz coordinates (position & rotation), function and position. But it also works if you e.g., only have coordinates. You can also download an existing layout from the GMA2 software to build timing presets from. You can also work in it with just one Excel table. It's good to have this program running at all time during programming, cause sometimes you have a new Idea for a delay preset, FX Phase or Gradient preset. But you don't need this program during your Show. All Data is in your Desk!

1 Welcome to prepare

Features of the software:

Patch your desk with one click

Create layouts or load them from GMA2, including all sub-fixtures / instances

Groups in logical horizontal or vertical order

Gradient (course between two selective presets)

Timing presets, including all sub-fixtures / instances (in 8 possibilities per defined center point)

Marcos and Groups create via Excel table

FTP server, for uploading / downloading files (shows, macros, profiles, etc.)

2 Default Settings

Install the prepare App into you application folder

It is best to use the program in the GMA2 network > enter the Desk IP in the software (create network environment in advance in your system settings)

TelNet must be switched on in the GMA2 to be able to use all functions.

No RDM fixture types assigned! > After loading from desk, you can swap lamp types with RDM fixtures again.

Setup window (menu window) must be closed during patch upload in the GMA2.

All measurements are in "Meter" / Vectorworks must be set in "Meter" as well.

Syntax to import .xml files into GMA2:

Import "filename" at (e.g.Group/Image/Preset) Start ID

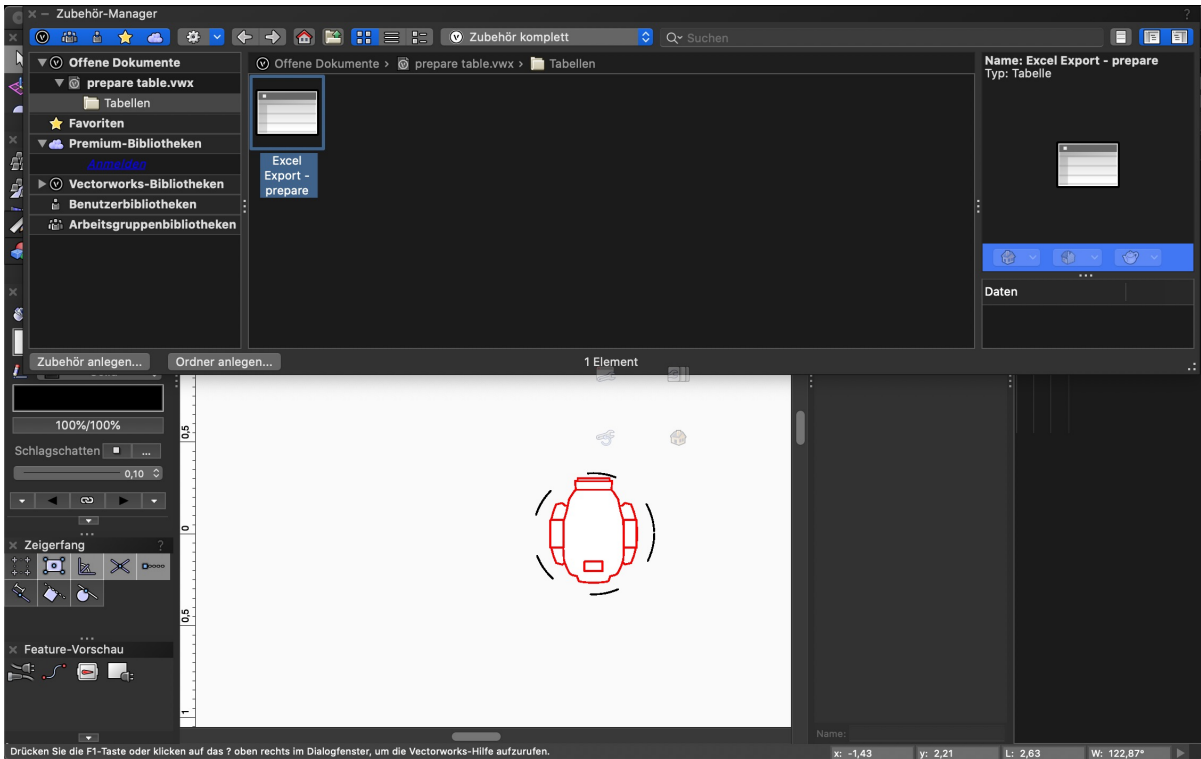
3 Supported OS

macOS Catalina
macOS Big Sur
macOS Monterey
Win10



4 Software Activation

- Enter you're email and Serial number and you're ready to go.
- Internet connection is required



5 Import excel table

- Import our “Excel Export” by right click > import
- All necessary Data fill up automatically.
- Export this table as Format: Tab (Tab-delimited Text) (.txt) / German: tabstopgetrennter Text (.txt)
- File format: Comma separated values (*.csv) / German: Komma getrennte-Dateien (*.cvs)

Excel Export - prepare @ 100%

Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Einfügen Format Objektliste Hilfe

#1

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	Fixture ID	DMX Univers	DMX Address	Fixture Name	x	y	z	xRot	yRot	zRot	Short Name	Function	Position
2	1	1	1	1 Light Instr Martin MAC Viper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Def	1
2.1	#1	1	1	1 Light Instr Martin MAC Viper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Def	1

5.1 Excel Export table

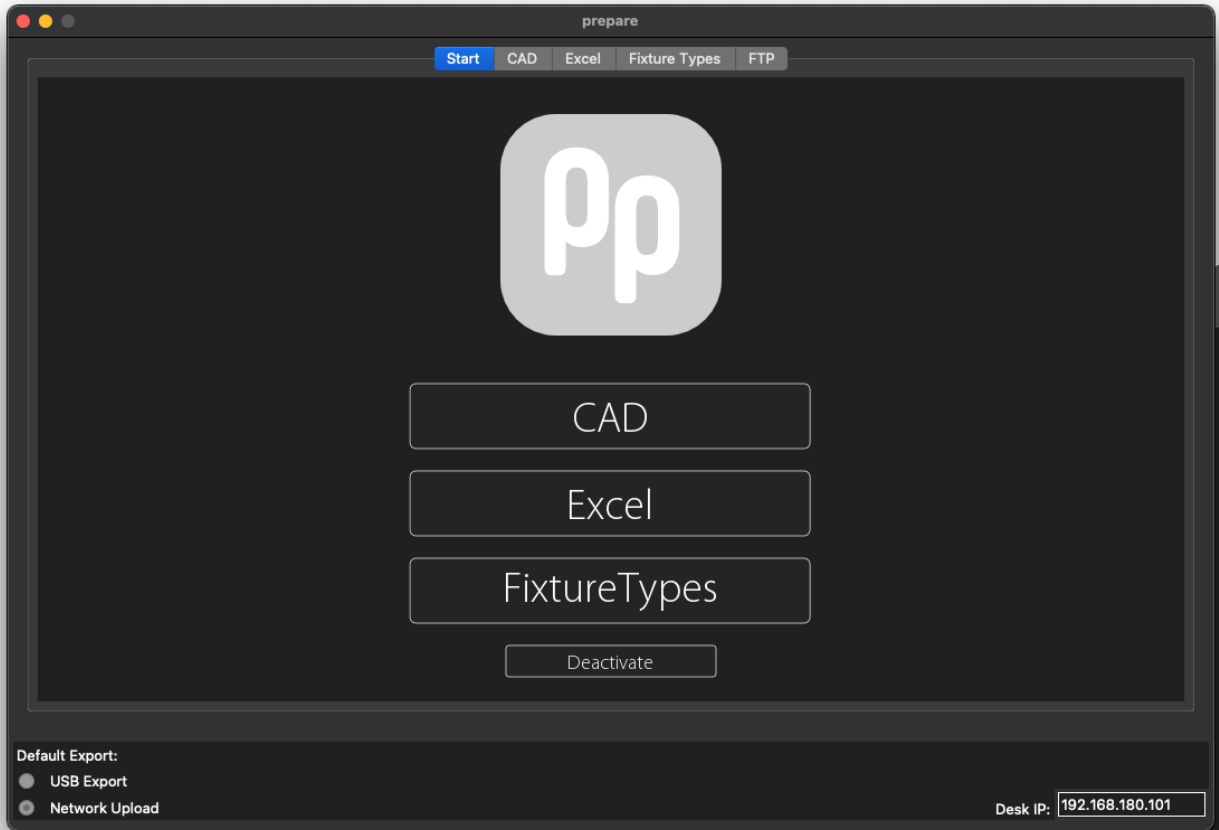
The following features are included in the table:

- Fixture ID
- DMX Univers
- DMX Address
- Fixture Name
- x coordinate
- y coordinate
- z coordinate
- x rotation
- y rotation
- z rotation
- Short name
- Function
- Position

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
	Fixture ID	DMX Univers	DMX Address	Fixture Name	x	y	z	xRot	yRot	zRot	Short Name	Function	Position		
1	1	1	1		1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		
2	#1	1	1	Light Instr Martin MAC Viper Wash DX	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Wash 1	Left	Stage	
3	#2	1	25	Light Instr Martin MAC Viper Wash DX	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	Wash 2	Right	Stage	
4															
5															
6															
7															
8															
9															
10															
11															
12															
13															

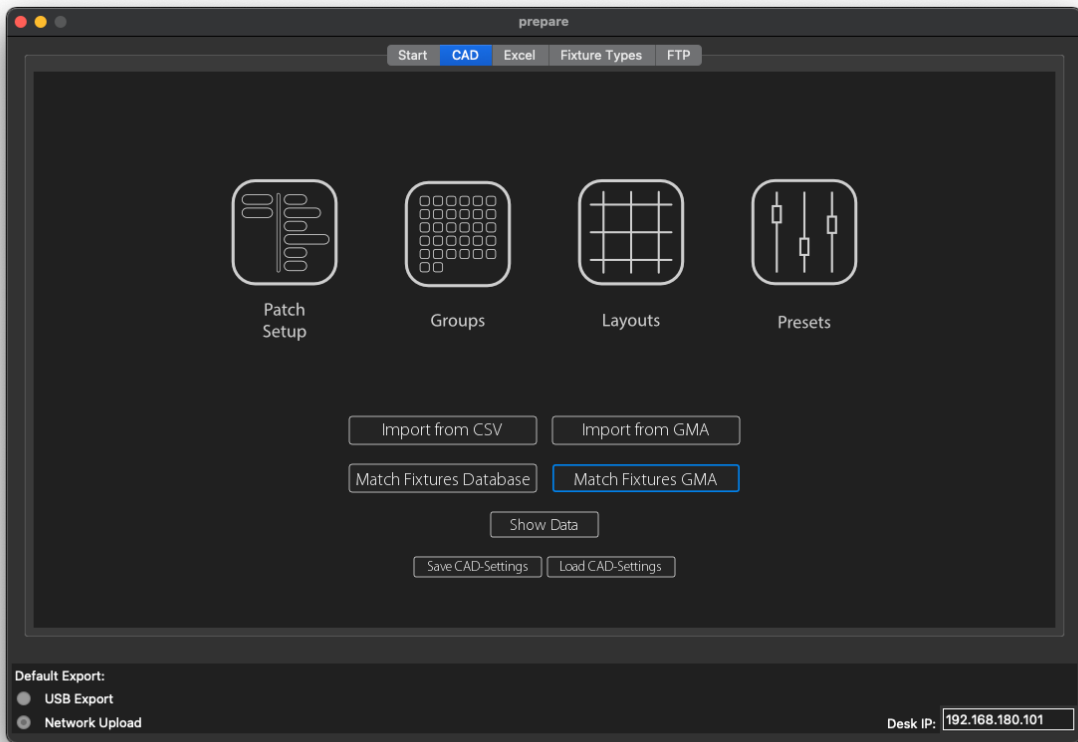
5.2 Datasheet table from Excel

If you don't use Vectorworks and fill out the Excel Export table in Excel, save under Tab (Tab-delimited Text) (.txt) / German: tabstopgetrennter Text (.txt) and change suffix manually in .csv instead of .txt



6 Start Tab

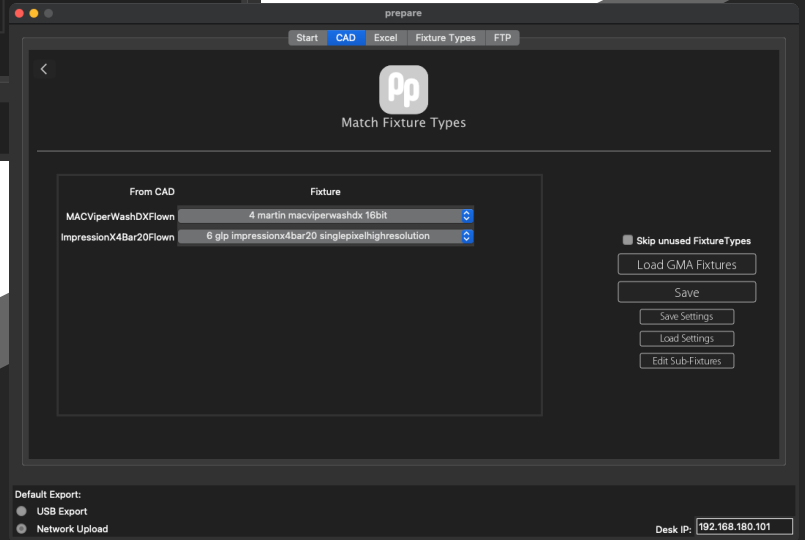
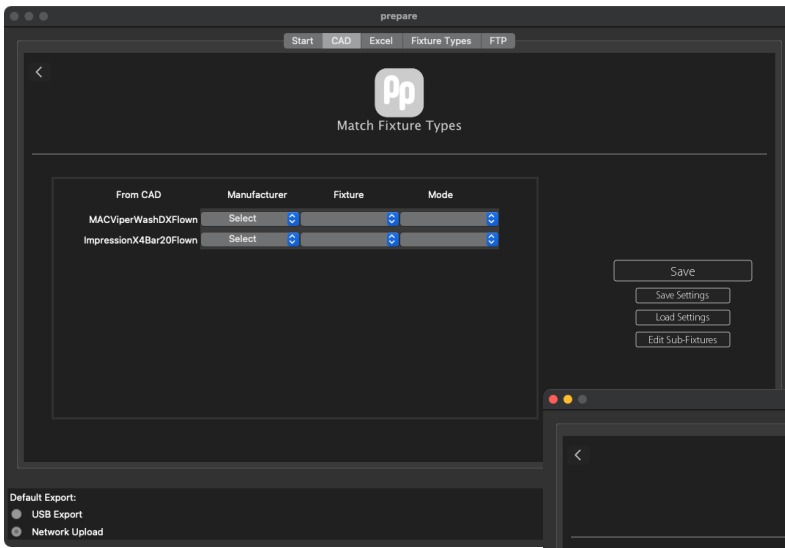
- Choose which Tab you want to enter.
- Deactivate > Deactivate your License on this Computer.
(You need to be online)
- Default Export > Choose USB Export or Network
- Desk IP > Insert exact Desk IP



7 CAD Tab

7.1 Import .csv or Layout

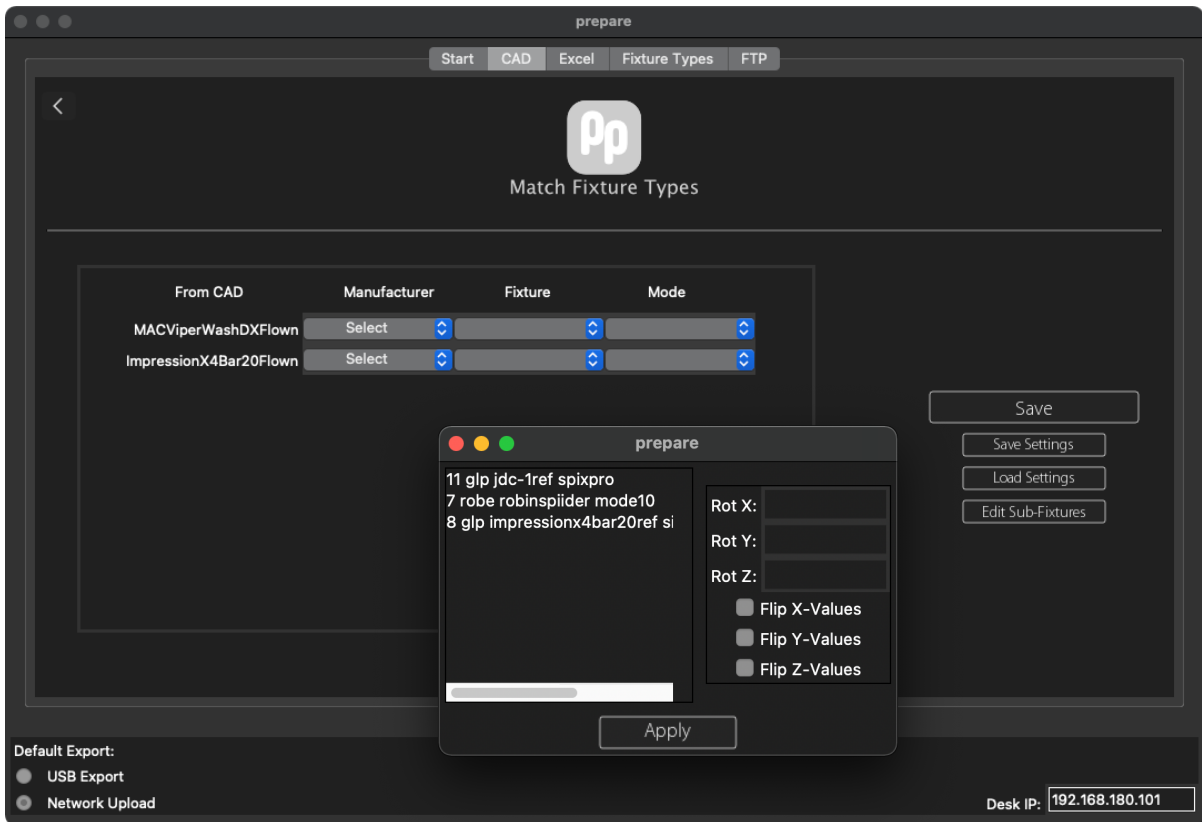
- After Import the .csv or a GMA2 Layout, you can Match Fixtures on 2 different ways.
- You can save and load all Data of CAD Tab.
- Prepare saves the last state when closing the application.



7 CAD Tab

7.2 Match Fixture Type

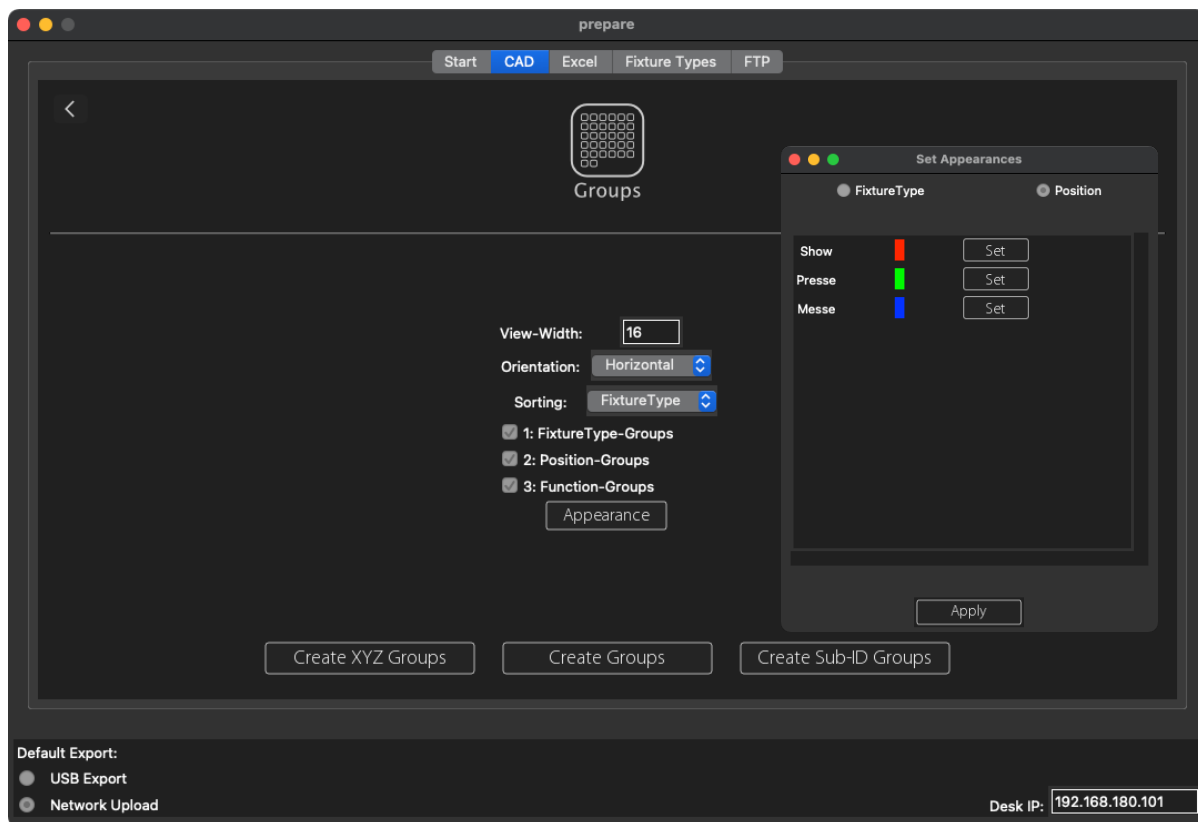
- Match Fixture Database, allows you to match Fixtures which already imported in internal Database (some are already included by default).
- With Match Fixture GMA you Load Fixtures from GMA. These should already be selected in GMA.



7 CAD Tab

7.3 Edit Sub-Fixtures

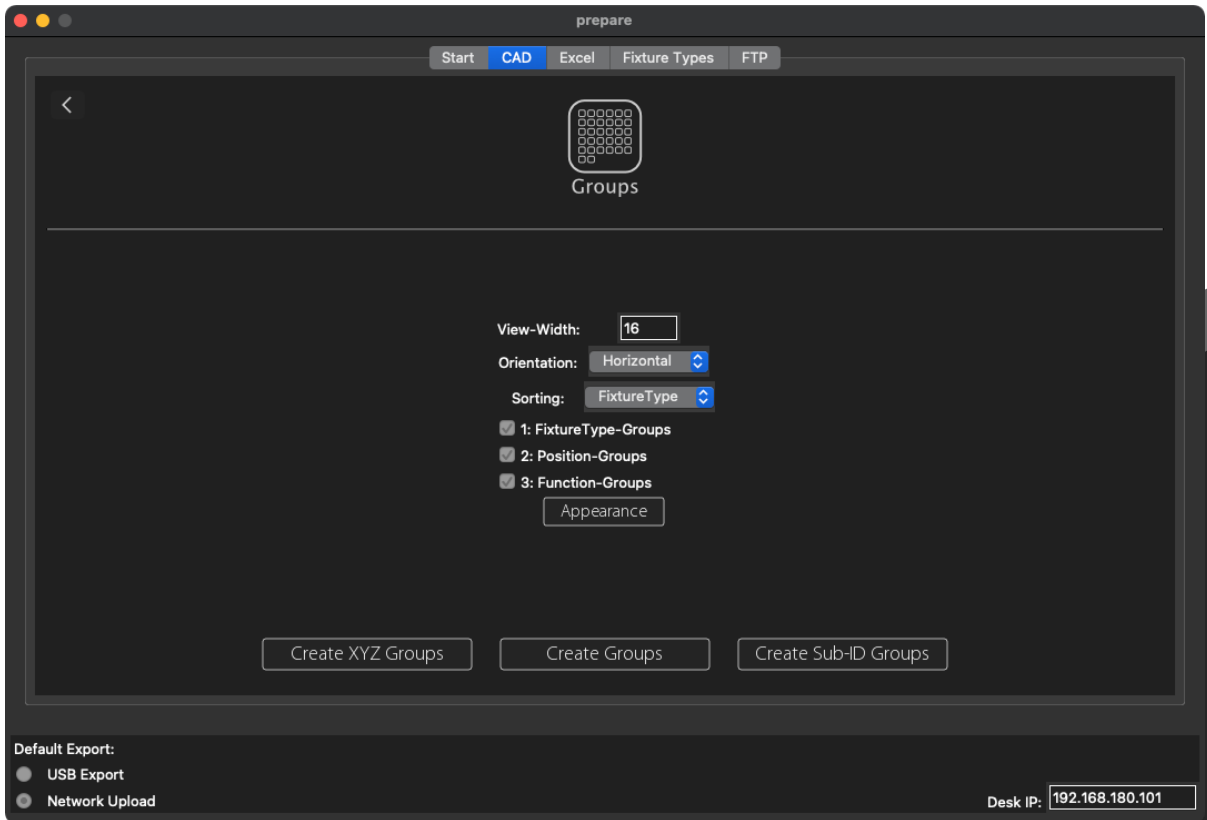
- After clicking on Save you are ready to go back to Main Menu by hitting the arrow topleft side.
- You can Save Settings as .ppft for later reloading.
- On Button Edit Sub-Fixtures a Pop-up comes up. Here you can adapt all Sub-Instances from the Fixtures.



7 CAD Tab

7.4 Groups

- View-Width: Enter your horizontal MA2 Group Window width
- Orientation: Horizontal or Vertical
- Sorting: determinate the sorting by Fixture Type or Position
- Click Checkbox for creating Groups of Fixture Types / Positions / Functions
- Appearance: Set Appearances Colors sorted by Fixture Type and/or Position



7 CAD Tab

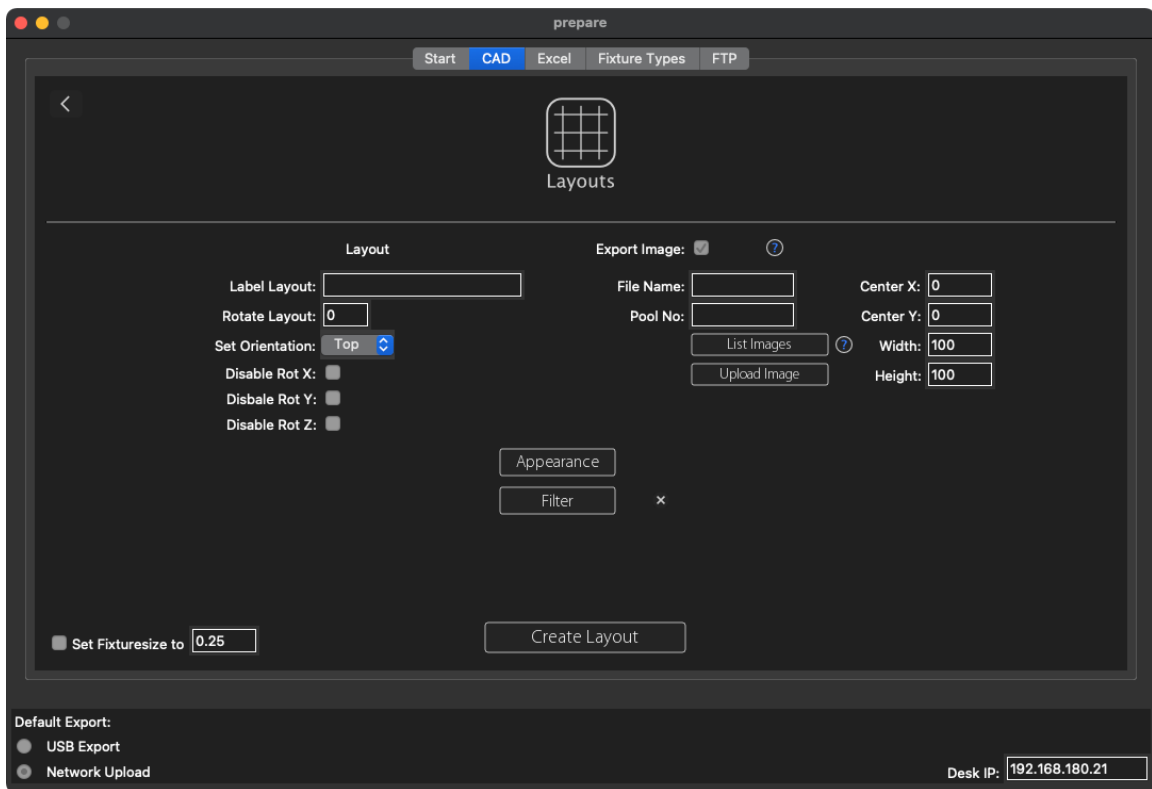
7.4 Groups

- Create XYZ Groups:

Creates 12 groups in all variants of all Fixture Types in all axes.

- Top X+ / X- Top Y+ / Y-
- Front X+ / X- Front Y+ / Y-
- Side X+ / X- Side Y+ / Y-

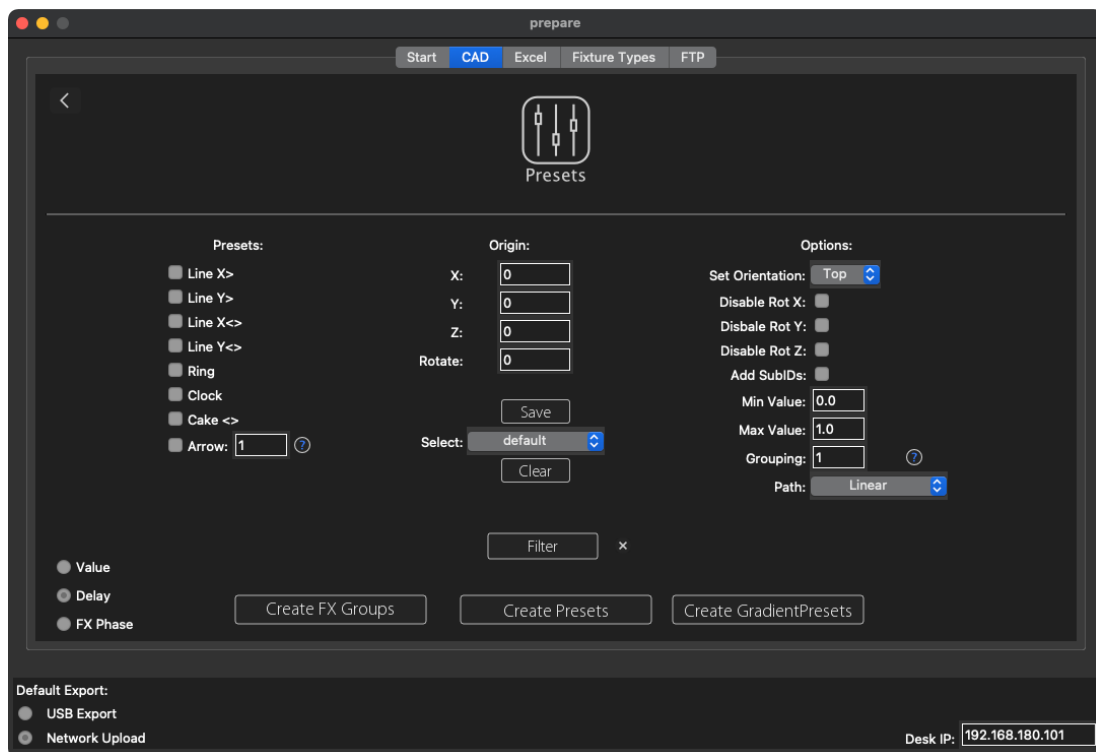
- Create Sub-ID Groups: Building Groups for each Module of each Fixture Type



7 CAD Tab

7.5 Layouts

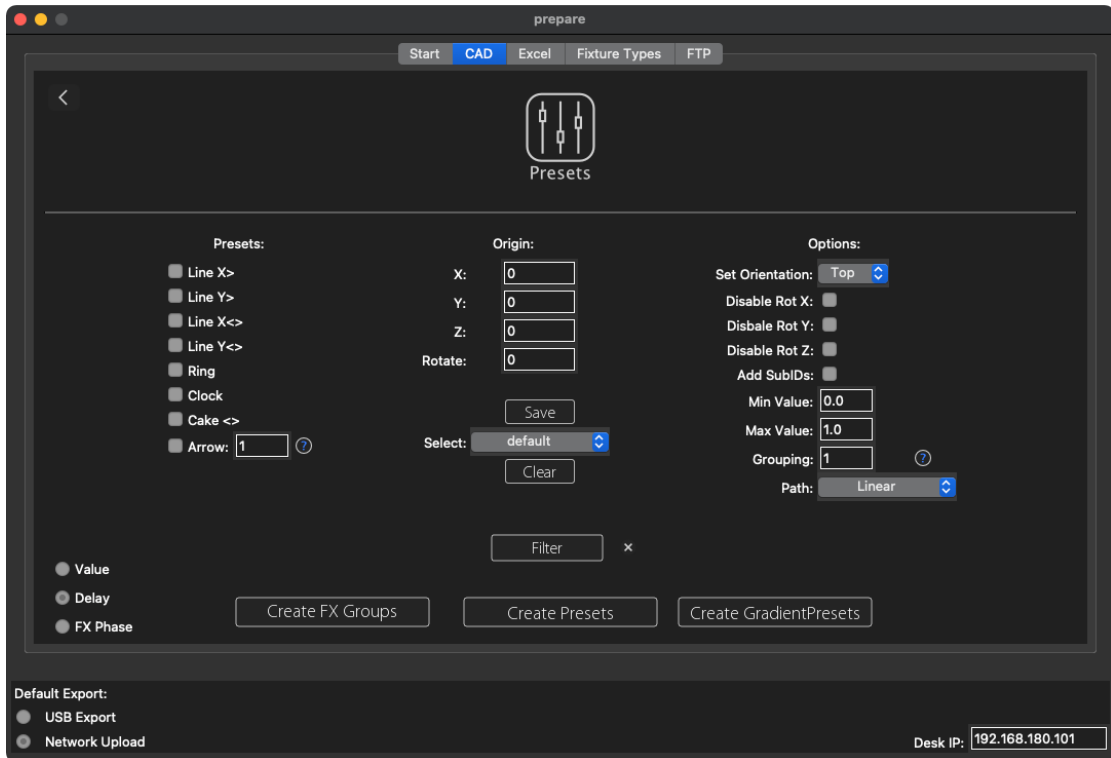
- In this window you can create Layouts from 3 different angles: Top, Side and Front. Just label it, set Rotation if needed, set Orientation and if you want disable rotation. In some cases it makes sense to disable the orientation, e.g. Subfixtures etc.
- You can set Filters of Fixture Types, Positions or choose a existing Group from your Desk.
- On the right side you can put an Image, under your Layout for a better overview. Click List Image to show all Images in your desk or click Upload Image to upload an image from computer.
- On bottom left you can set the Fixture to a fixed size.
- Appearance: you can choose Colors for your Layouts such as in Group Window.



7 CAD Tab

7.6 Presets

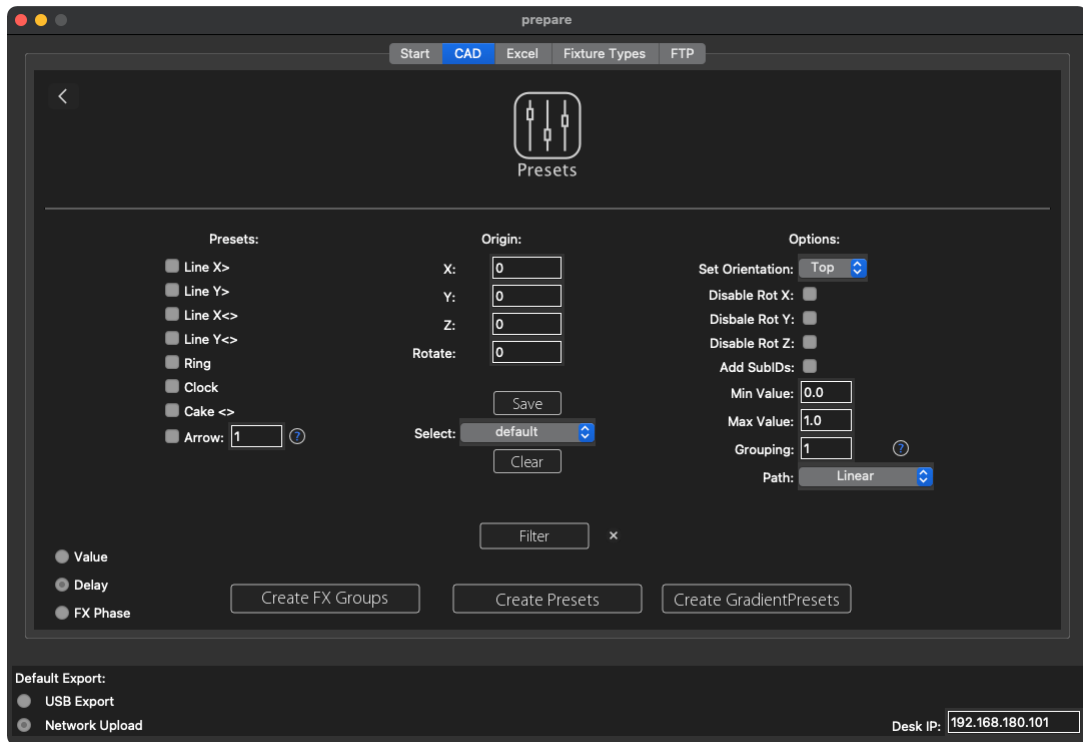
- Presets:
- Choose so many preset forms you want to create.
- Line X> left to right
- Line Y> bottom to top
- Line X<> symmetrical center to sides
- Line Y<> symmetrical center to top & bottom
- Ring from center round outwards
- Clock clockwise open
- Cake<> symmetrical cake open
- Arrow from left to right/ Number defined the angle



7 CAD Tab

7.6 Presets

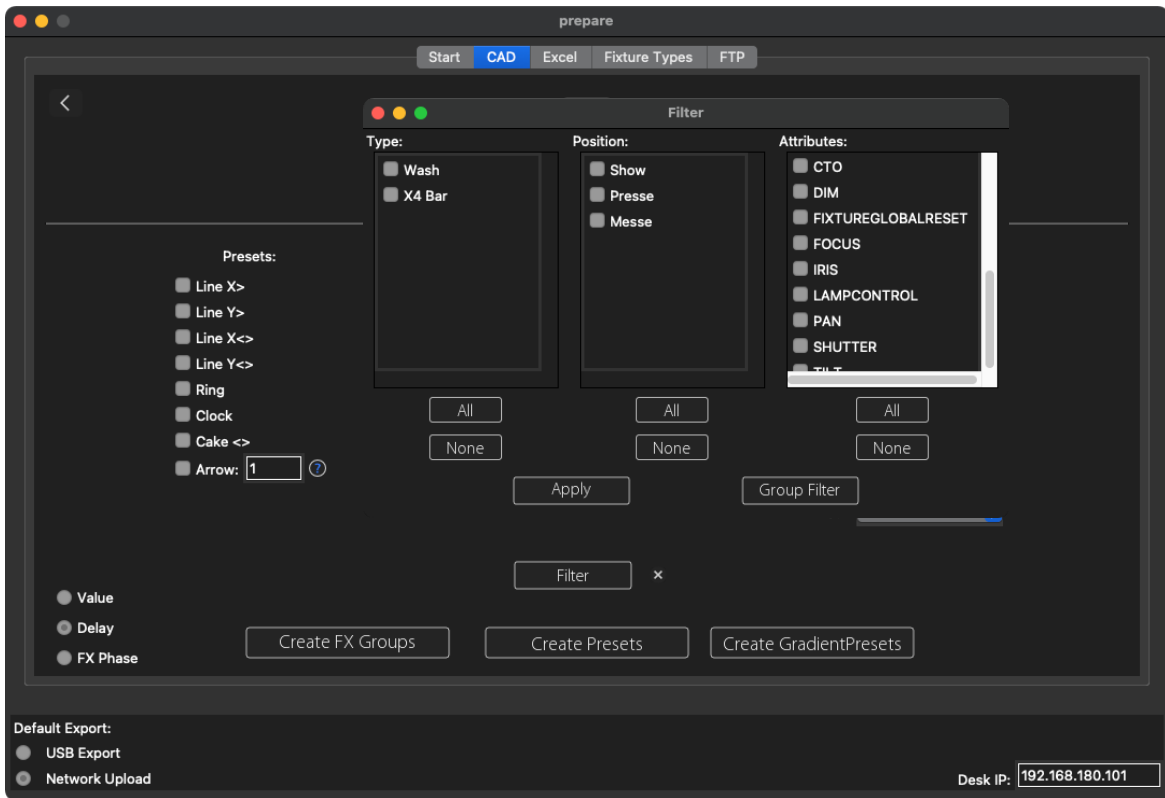
- Origin:
- Set origin defaults. To create different origins you can adapt these parameter, e.g. to create all kinds of presets 5 meters to the left just type at x: -5
- For reuse these parameters you can save and load them.



7 CAD Tab

7.6 Presets

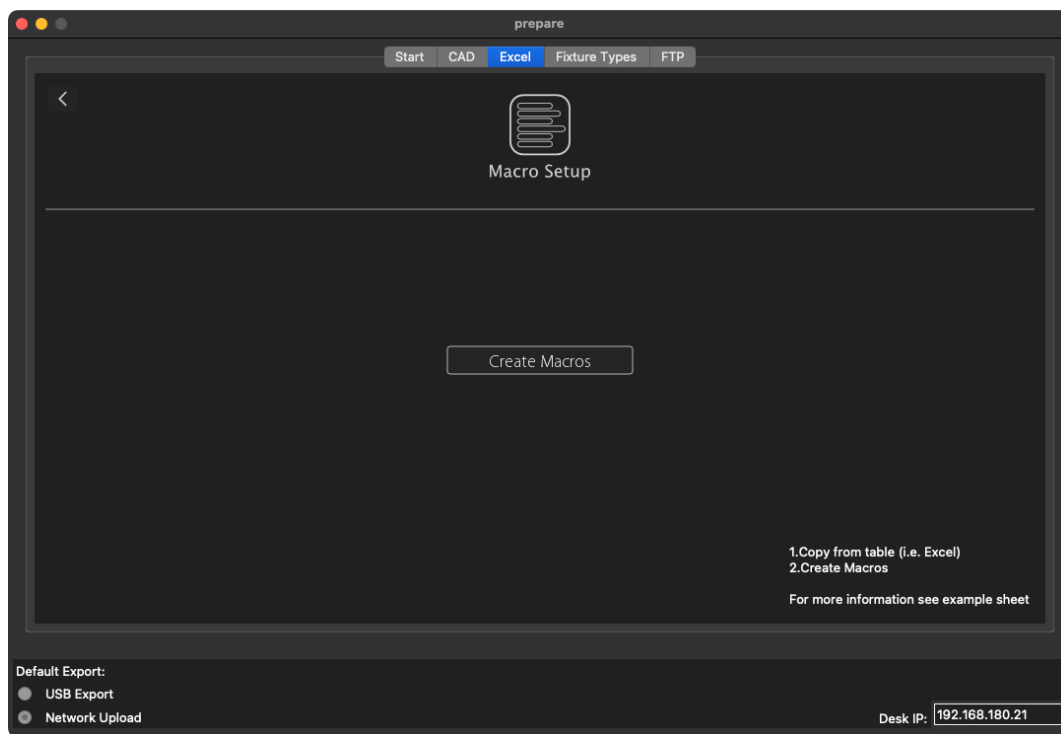
- Options:
- On right side you can choose which angle you need, disable rotation and Add SubIDs. With click on the checkmark the software calculate also all Sub Fixtures in each Fixture.
- Min/Max Value is for timing (in seconds), you can also change this easily later in the desk.
- If you create Values, it stands for 0-100% and at FX Phase from 0-360°. Grouping regards grouping for the presets. At Path you can choose a Ramp low/normal/high.



7 CAD Tab

7.7 Presets

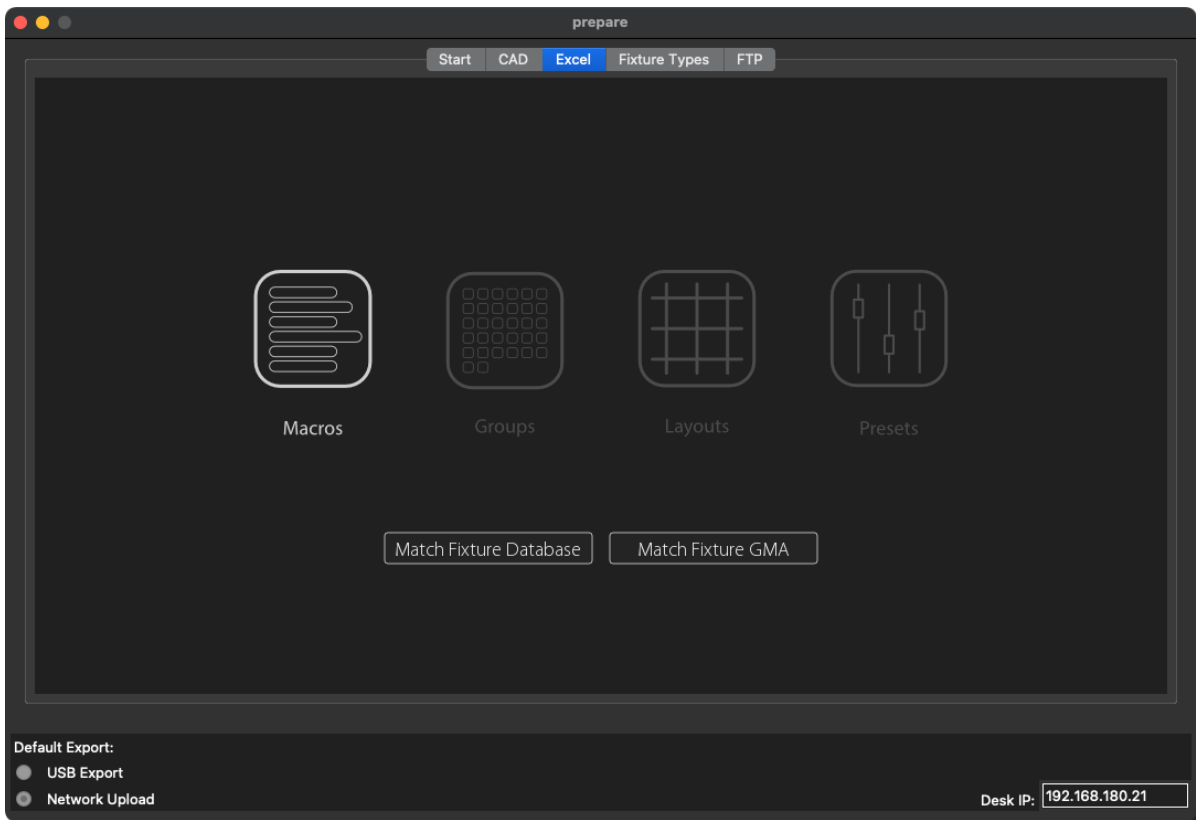
- At Filters you can choose in these Tap also an Attribute. If you need delay Presets, it's better if you take all (don't set any Filter), if you want to have FX Phases it's necessary that you set Filters.
- Like before you can also take a group of Fixtures which you created in your showfile.
- Create FX Groups creates Groups instead of presets.
- At Gradient Presets you can select from 2 presets from your desk (must be selective presets) and create a new Gradient one.
- E.g. red to white in Line X > is on left side red and will go to white on right side.



8 Excel Tab

8.1 Macros

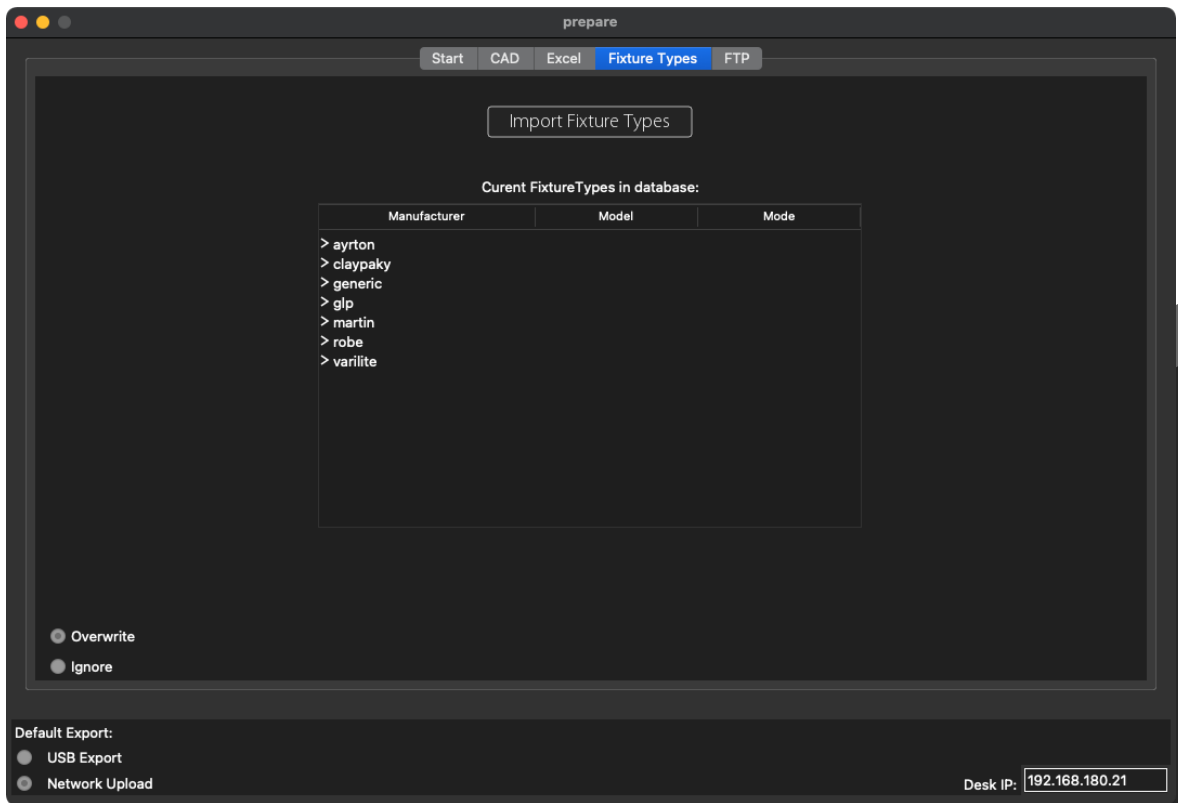
- With our supplied Excel Sheet you can write down Macros. Just mark and copy one and press Create Macro in prepare, then enter a pool number and you got this Macro on demand.



8 Excel Tab

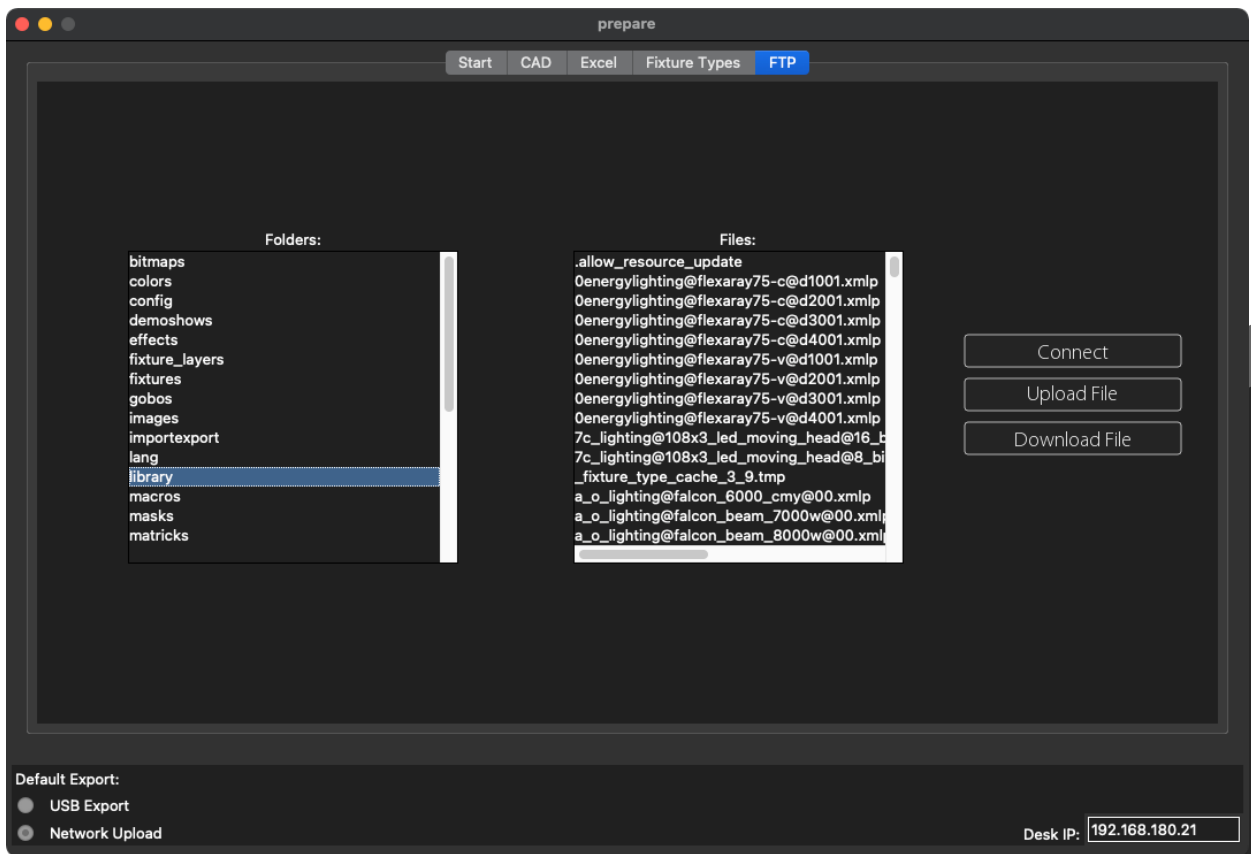
8.2 Groups, Layouts and Presets

- With our supplied Excel Sheet you can copy (e.g. Groups) and press Match Fixture Types.
- Thereafter you can create Groups, Layouts and Presets from Excel Table by copying one of these into your clipboard and press create (Group/Layout/Presets)



9 Fixture Types

- In this pool you can upload your personal Fixture Types. A little stock of common Fixtures are in by default. These is the pool if you do Match Fixture Types Database.



10 FTP

- It's a FTP Server as you know it. Loading files e.g. Showfiles, Images, Profiles etc. up and down.

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