

SECTION 12: UPGRADING THE OPERATIONAL FIRMWARE

How to Upgrade Your Firmware

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Your laser system is capable of having its operational firmware upgraded. The firmware is the command software in your laser system that controls how your laser system operates. A firmware upgrade reprograms your laser system to take advantage of new capabilities or enhancements to the system. To accomplish the reprogramming, you just print a special file to your laser system. The process is explained below.

Upgrading your laser is a two-step process:

1. Download the new firmware to your computer and unzip it.
2. Transfer the new firmware from your computer to your laser.

Installing New Firmware onto Your Computer

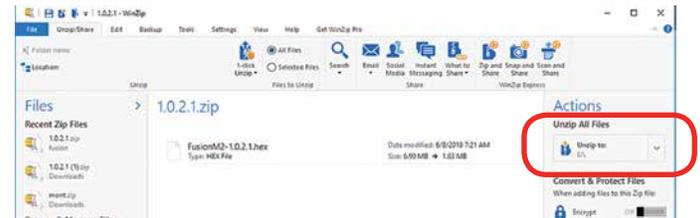
Start by checking your current firmware version by powering on the laser. The current version is displayed on the LCD panel, and will read Version 1_0_X_X.

Downloading: From the Epilog web site download the new firmware under **Support + Service > Driver and Firmware Downloads** and save the zip file.



You can also join our Driver Notification mailing list on the download page to be automatically notified when new versions of firmware or the driver become available).

When you download the firmware it comes as a compressed file in the following format: 1.0.X.X.zip. The X's designate the actual version of the firmware. Once downloaded, unzip the file by double-clicking the file. It will open your unzip program.



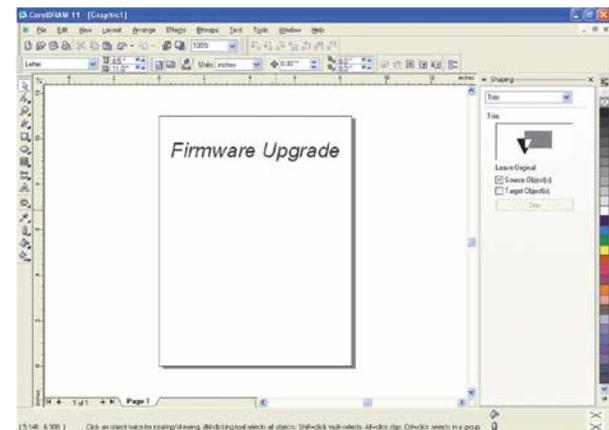
Find the Unzip To or Extract To selection, and unzip the file to your computer. You will need to pay attention to the folder it is extracted to:



Important! Keep track of the folder where you saved the extracted .hex file. You will need to access this file again in the next step.

Transferring New Firmware from Your Computer to Your Laser

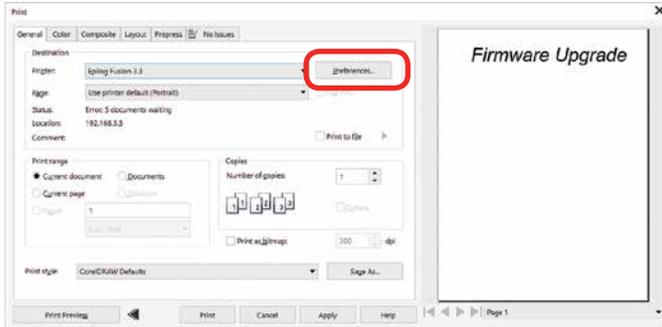
Create a simple drawing in your graphics package. For this example, we've typed in the text **Firmware Upgrade**.



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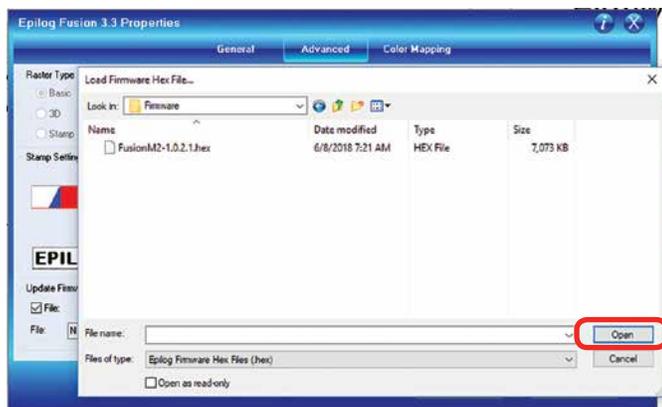
The next step is to **Print**, select your laser in the printer drop-down box and click **Preferences (or Properties)**.



Go to the **Advanced** tab, check the **Update Firmware** box and then click on the **Load** key.



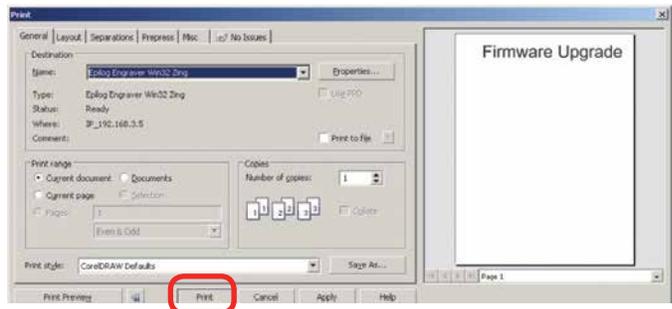
Go to the folder that contains the extracted file, select the **.hex** file and click on **Open**:



The **.hex** will show in the Update Firmware File box. Click **OK**.



Click **Print**.



At this point, the **.hex** file will begin transferring to your laser. The laser knows that it is being upgraded and the graphic that you created will not print, nor will it show up as a Job. Instead, the cursor keys will light up. When the upgrade is complete, the display will read **Reboot!**



The programming process takes a few minutes to complete. **Do not disturb the laser during the upgrade process!**

After you have rebooted your laser, the process is complete and you will see the new version number of firmware on your LCD as the laser powers up.

Depending on the type of upgrade you may be requested to reboot more than once. Close your design page and you are ready for your next job!