



PURPOSE

This document provides an overview of the operation, maintenance, and safety guidelines for the IMAX Laser systems, including the IMAX COLA (Commercial Laser) and IMAX XT.

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OVERVIEW

- IMAX Laser systems contain:
 - Two chiller units (COLA ONLY)
 - One laser projector
 - A control console
 - Multiple screen shakers (located behind the screen)
- The IMAX is controlled by a Screen Management System (SMS) on the control console. The SMS remains running at all times, even after shutting down the system and/or logging out of the SMS console.
- The IMAX Laser projector is certified as a Class 4 laser product. Class 4 laser products are considered hazardous and must be used safely to avoid exposure.
- If any part of the IMAX Laser system acts unexpectedly, contact IMAX immediately at **669-243-4292**.

IMAX COLA



IMAX XT





SAFETY



CAUTION – USE OF CONTROLS OR ADJUSTMENTS, OR PERFORMANCE OF PROCEDURES OTHER THAN THOSE CONTAINED IN THE OPERATION, MAINTENANCE OR ANY OTHER MANUAL PROVIDED WITH THIS MACHINE MAY RESULT IN HAZARDOUS RADIATION EXPOSURE.

- **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** shall attempts be made to:
 - Operate the IMAX Laser projector with the interlocked portions of the housing removed.
 - Defeat any of the interlocks incorporated in this laser product unless performed by IMAX technical services.
- Hazard warning labels provide an indication of the laser hazards. Operators must be trained on these hazards and the proper use prior to operating the system.
- Never open any system doors when the white laser warning lights are flashing or on (located at the top and sides of each projector) indicating the laser light is active.
- Ensure the booth door is always closed and locked when system is on.
- Do not clean the port window without the IMAX Laser projector being locked out.



In Case of Fire or Emergency

1. **Press** the red laser OFF button on the rear of the projector (COLA ONLY).
2. Follow the internal emergency response procedures¹.



PREPARING TO POWER UP (COLA ONLY)

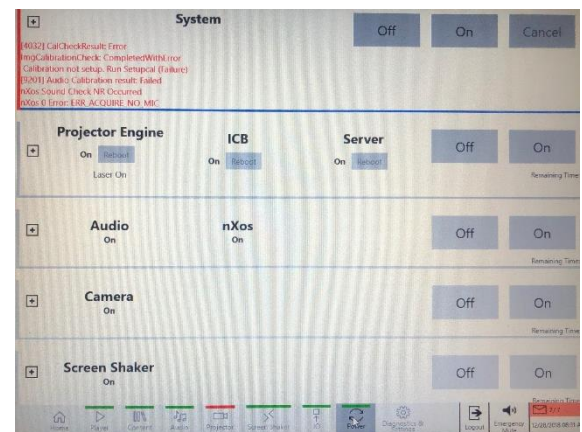
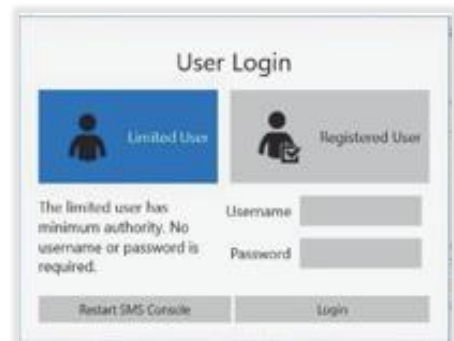
Follow the steps below to power up the IMAX COLA. The power-up sequence must be completed two hours prior to the first show start of the day.

1. **Turn on** the theatre exhaust system.
2. **Turn on** the two chillers (if they have been turned off), one at a time.
 - a. **Turn** the red power switch at the rear of each unit clockwise. Clicking sounds are normal during power-up and last for approximately 30 seconds.
 - b. A white light should turn on, indicating a successful power up.
3. **Confirm** that the red laser off button at the rear of the projector is out. If it is in, **turn** the button slightly clockwise to reset. **Notify** IMAX if a button is not able to reset.
4. **Locate** the safety key.
 - a. **Plug** the key into the slot (located beside the red button).
 - b. **Turn** the key to the right “ON” position.



POWERING UP / CALIBRATION

1. On the SMS console, **press** the ‘Login’ button in the bottom navigator bar.
2. **Press** the ‘Registered User’ box.
 - a. Enter the Username and Password.
 - b. **Press** ‘Login.’
3. **Navigate** to the Power screen.
4. **Select** ‘On’ under the ‘System’ heading.
5. **Turn off** the auditorium lights while the system calibrates.
6. After the calibration finishes, **turn on** the lights.
7. **Verify** that the SMS is in schedule mode.





INGESTING CONTENT

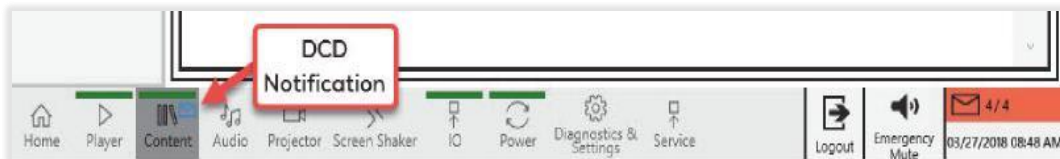
Follow the steps below to ingest content into an IMAX Laser system.

Note: It's not recommended to ingest content while playing a show. Ingest at the SMS console is not currently supported.

1. If using an external drive, **connect** it to the ingest port on the ICMP at the rear (COLA) or right side (XT) of the projector.
2. **Navigate** to the Content screen.
3. **Select** 'Ingest Content.'
 - In the Scan Storage screen,
 - i. **Select** the 'Ingest Location' from the drop-down menu.
 - ii. **Press** 'Scan.'
 - If using the DCD library server,
 - i. **Select** the DCD screen.
 - ii. **Press** 'Scan.'



When the DCD library server scans for new content, it displays a blue envelope in the Content section of the status bar when there is new content available to ingest.



4. **Select** the content to be ingested and **press** 'Ingest.'
5. **Navigate** to the Ingest Monitor screen to view the progress of the ingest activity.

Note: When ingesting using the USB port, the system may be powered down. The system will continue the ingest after turning the lasers off and will shut down the remainder of the system automatically after all content is ingested.

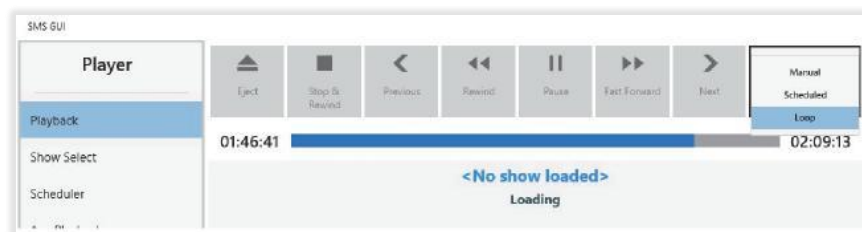


PLAYING A SHOW

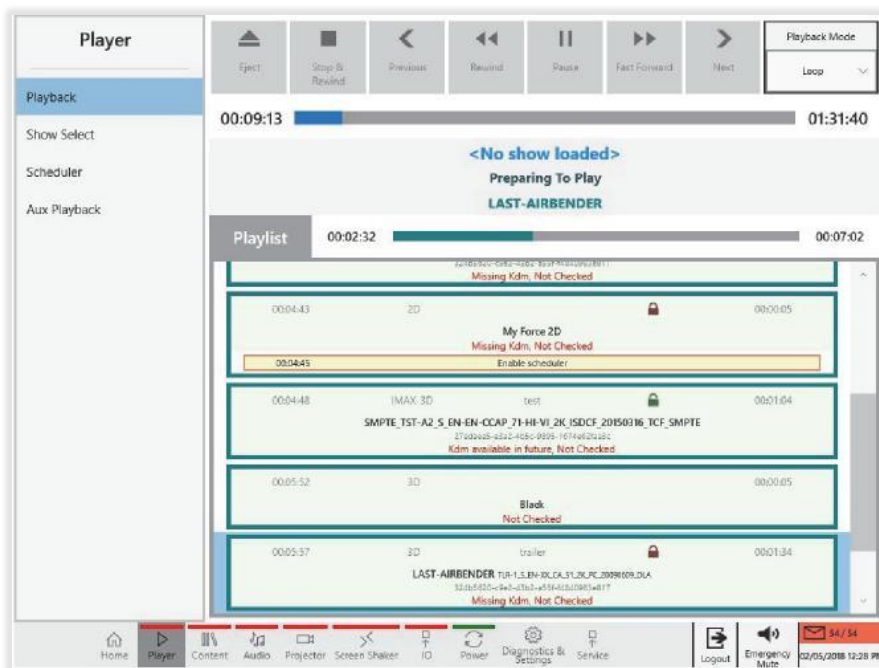
Follow the steps below to play content from an IMAX Laser system.

Manual Playback

1. Ensure the IMAX is powered up.
2. **Access** the Player from one of the following options.
 - From the bottom navigation bar, **press** the 'Player' button.
 - From the Home screen, **press** the 'Player' box.
3. Check that the playback mode is set to **Manual**.



4. **Press** 'Show Select.' The SPLs are listed alphabetically.
5. Use the Search bar or Sort Order features to quickly **locate** the SPL for playback. Any errors are displayed in red.
6. **Select** the SPL for playing. After selecting an SPL, the elements corresponding to this SPL are loaded, such as trailers, automation, etc. Various security validations of the SPL will take place. When these are complete, the Play button is enabled.





7. **Press** 'Play' to begin the Show. SMS will play the elements in sequence. The current element will be highlighted in blue. The show will stop automatically at the end.
8. If it is the last show of the day, **press** 'Eject.'
9. **Log out** whenever leaving the console to prevent an unauthorized user from accessing the system.

Scheduler Playback

1. **Set** the playback mode to 'Scheduled.' The manual playback buttons will be disabled, and any loaded show will be ejected from playback.
2. **Navigate** to the Player > Scheduler screen to view the scheduled shows of the day or week. Note that items in red have an error that is preventing playback.
3. **Press** 'Add' to create a new recurring schedule.

If you encounter an error during playback when using the scheduler, complete the following:

1. **Reboot** the server by first ejecting the show.
2. **Navigate** to the Power screen.
3. **Press** the 'Reboot' server button.
4. If this doesn't resolve the issue, **contact** IMAX.

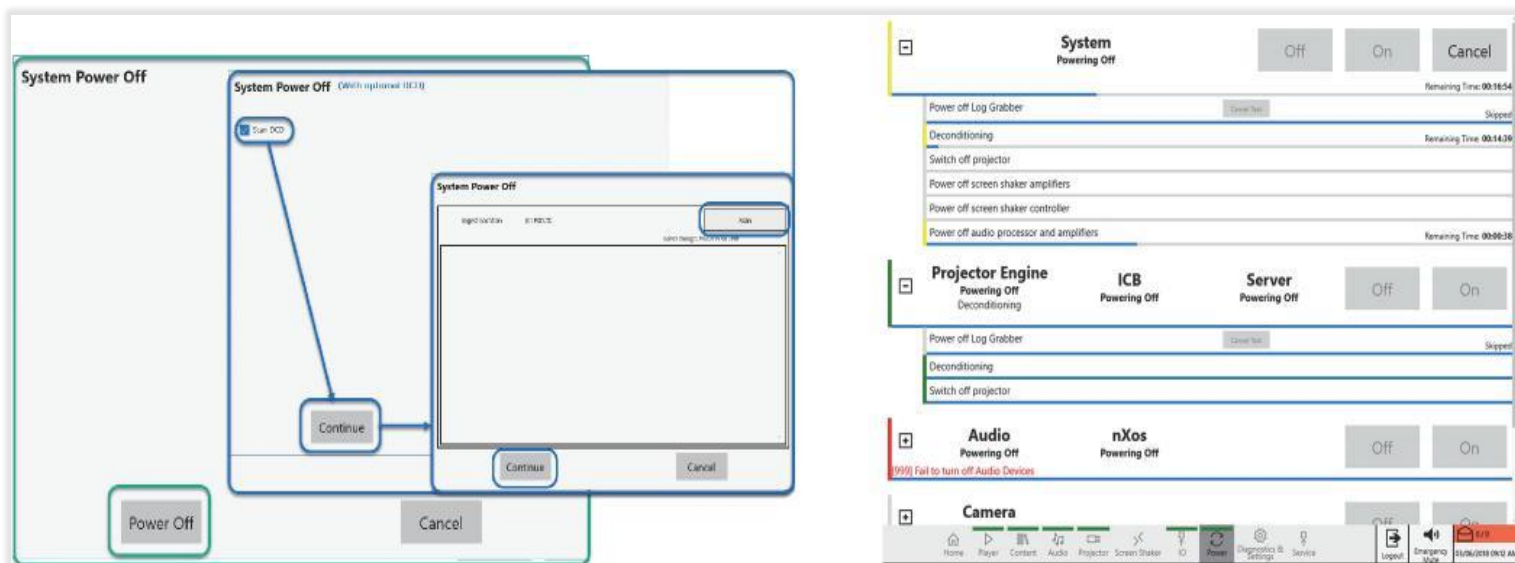


POWERING OFF

Follow the steps below to power off an IMAX Laser system.

COLA Note: DO NOT turn off the two chiller units. The chillers remain on overnight unless IMAX advises otherwise.

1. **Log in** to SMS (if not already logged in).
2. In the bottom Navigation bar, **press** 'Power.'
3. **Press** 'System Off.' A new window will open.
 - If a DCD is installed, there is an option to scan for new content prior to powering off.
 - a. **Select/deselect** the box.
 - b. **Press** 'Continue.'
 - c. **Press** 'Scan.'
 - d. **Select** the content to ingest.
 - e. **Press** 'Continue.' SMS will automatically ingest the content and complete the power down cycle.
 - If a DCD is not installed, **press** 'Power Off.' The power down cycle takes approximately 10 minutes. Do not attempt to power off the individual components.



When the progress bar is completed, all components will be off and the status in the bottom navigation bar will be grey. If there is any error, the status will be red with a specific message about the failure.

4. **COLA ONLY** - Turn the safety key to the left, OFF position, and **store** it in a secure place.



IMPORTANT! The key engages the lasers and must be removed when the system is not in operation. It is important that only approved operators have access to operate the system.



EMPTYING CONDENSATION TANK (COLA ONLY)

Follow the steps below to empty the condensation tank on the IMAX COLA.

Note: Some IMAX COLA do not have a condensation tank and may have a drain line to the floor. Condensation collection levels can vary from climate to climate.

1. **Locate** the condensation tank. The tank is located on the outside of the projector near the front or on the side.



2. **Disconnect** the quick release on tank.
3. **Take** the tank to a sink, unscrew the top fitting, empty as needed.
4. **Re-connect** the top fitting (with hose) to tank.
5. **Re-connect** the quick release fitting back to the projector.



TROUBLESHOOTING

Follow the steps below to troubleshoot issues with an IMAX Laser system.

Missing Subtitles

Use these steps when the IMAX Laser system has a show play without expected subtitles. As this process will interrupt playback, an associate must run a test showing of any subtitled feature prior to public showings.

Note: This process will interrupt playback for 6-10 minutes.

1. If subtitles do not appear on the screen, **reset** the IMS.
2. **Stop** and **eject** the show.
3. **Navigate** to the SMS Power menu.
4. From the IE Server Power section, **press** 'Power down' (shown below).



5. **Wait** 3-5 minutes while the power down sequence completes.
6. **Press** the 'Power Up' button when it becomes available. The IE and Server icons on the SMS status bar will change to green when the start-up process is complete.
7. **Test** subtitled content to verify that subtitles are now visible.
8. If the issue persists, **create** a ticket in DSSP.

ⁱ [Emergency Preparedness Guide](#)