



Show File Handling

The Show File

The show file contains all the information that is related to the show including:

- Patch
- Fixture profiles
- Cues
- Timings
- 3D information
- Users and user profiles



Important:

Save the old show before loading or renaming a new one, to keep changes.

A show file software version can only be moved forward. A show saved on a USB stick that was programmed in a previous version can be loaded in a newer version. If the show is then re-saved on the stick in this new version, it cannot be taken back to the old software. If this is important, then it is needed to load the show and save it with a new name. Then the old version is not saved as the new version and it can still be accessed by an older version.



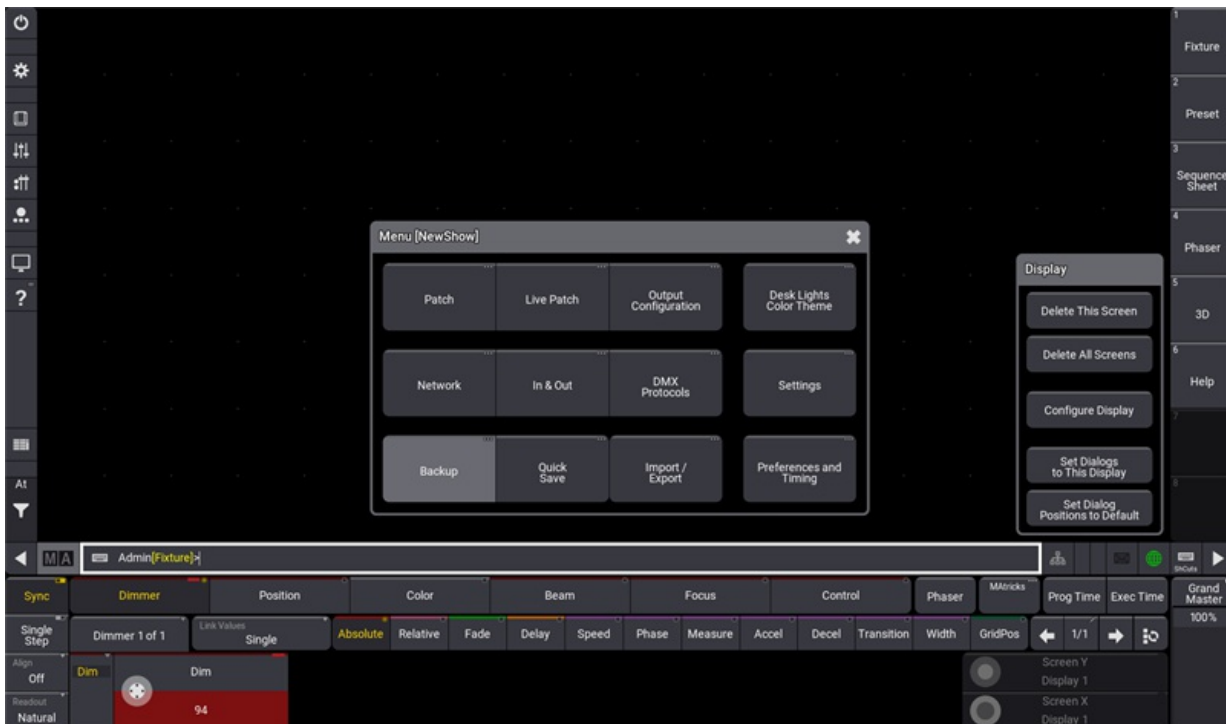
Hint:

To learn more about the folder structure of shows, demo shows, and backups read the topics **File Management** and **Folder Structure**.

All the management of the show files is handled in the Backup menu.

- To access the Backup menu, press **Menu**.
- Tap **Backup**.

The Backup menu is open.



Backup menu

Or use the **Menu command** to call the Backup Menu.



Important:

A loaded show file is limited to use 10 GB of memory.



Important:

The size of all media pools in total, is limited to a maximum of 200 MB.



Important:

The show file name is limited to a maximum of 31 characters.



Important:

The show file name must not contain the following characters: \ " \$ * ? ^ | / : < > `

To learn more about where to see the current occupation of memory, read the **System Information** topic.



Load a Show File

To load a show file:

1. Open the Backup menu and tap **Load**.
2. Select a show file and tap **Load**.

To load a show by the command line, use the **LoadShow keyword**.

Backups and Demo Shows

To load a backup file or the demo show file:

1. Open the Backup Menu and tap **Load**.
2. Tap **Shows** to toggle between **Shows**, **Backups**, and **Demo Shows**.

Here it is possible to load a previously saved backup or a demo show. It is not possible to save or create a new show file in the backup or demo show folder.

It is possible to store 10 backup files from the same show file. A backup is automatically generated when saving a show file.

A backup file contains:

- Showfile Name
- Backup
- Date and Time in UTC format

The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for the 'Backup' menu. At the top, there are tabs for 'Backups' and 'Internal'. Below the tabs is a search bar with a 'Back' button and a 'Clear' button. The main area displays a table of backup files. The table has four columns: 'Date', 'Name', 'Description', and 'Size'. There are three rows of data, each representing a backup file. The 'Free Space: 80% (372GB)' is indicated in the top right corner.

Date	Name	Description	Size
12.09.2022 15:30	Demoshow_grandMA3.backup_2022.09.12_15.30.06UTC.show		377.0 kB
09.09.2022 09:42	Demoshow_grandMA3.backup_2022.09.09_09.42.05UTC.show		370.1 kB
09.09.2022 09:41	Demoshow_grandMA3.backup_2022.09.09_09.41.43UTC.show		370.1 kB

Backup Files

Select the Drive

The show files are stored on the internal drive or a USB stick. The internal drive is Drive 1 and the USB stick is Drive 2. If more than one USB stick is connected the order of the connection selects the drive number. That means that the latest connected drive has the highest number.



Hint:

The order of connecting the USB drives to the console / onPC station determines the order of the drive numbers.

In the upper right corner of the Backup menu, it is possible to select the drive you are working on.

To select the drive:

1. Tap **Internal** and it toggles between the different drives connected or shows saved in older software versions.
2. Tap and swipe right on the drive and a pop-up opens with the different opportunities.

The drive can also be selected by the command line.



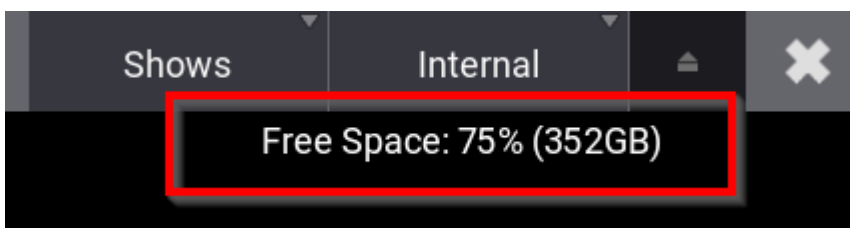
```
User nameFixture]> Select Drive 2
```



Hint:

Saving a show on a USB stick automatically saves the show on the internal drive as well.

The backup menu displays the free disk space of the selected drive in the upper right corner of the menu:



Showing free disk space in percent and gigabyte

Quick Save

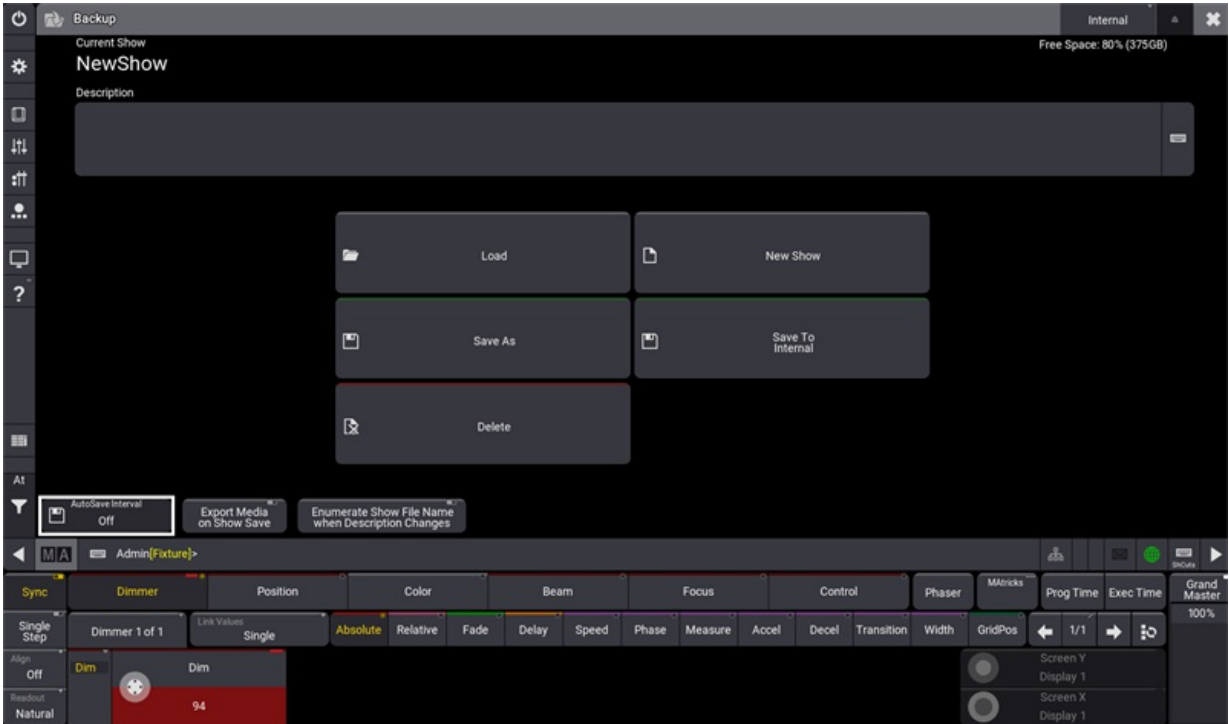
To save the show file quickly:

- Press **Menu** and tap **Quick Save**.
- Pressing quickly 2 x **Menu** also makes a Quick Save.



Auto Save

To save the show automatically in regular intervals, activate the Auto Save function. Tap **Backup** and **AutoSave Interval**.



Auto Save Interval

Select the desired Auto Save interval.



Select Auto Save

Save Show As

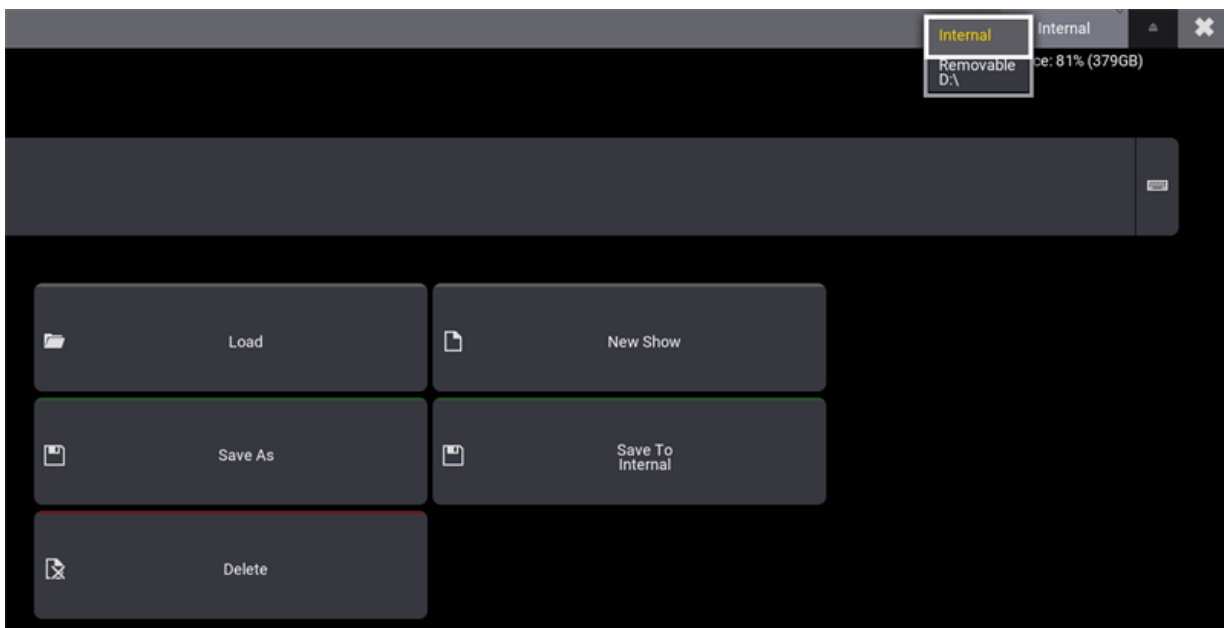
To save a show with another name, open the Backup Menu and tap **Save As**. Write the new name of the show file in the Name field. Tap **Save as...** and confirm pop-up window with **Ok**. The show file is saved by its new name.

To save a show by the command line, use the **SaveShow keyword**.

Save To Internal

To select and change the internal/external drive to save a show file on:

1. Tap **Internal** in the top right corner in the Backup Menu.
2. The name of **Save To Internal** button will automatically adjust to the name of the drive.
3. Tap **Save To <Name of Drive>** to save the show on the selected drive.

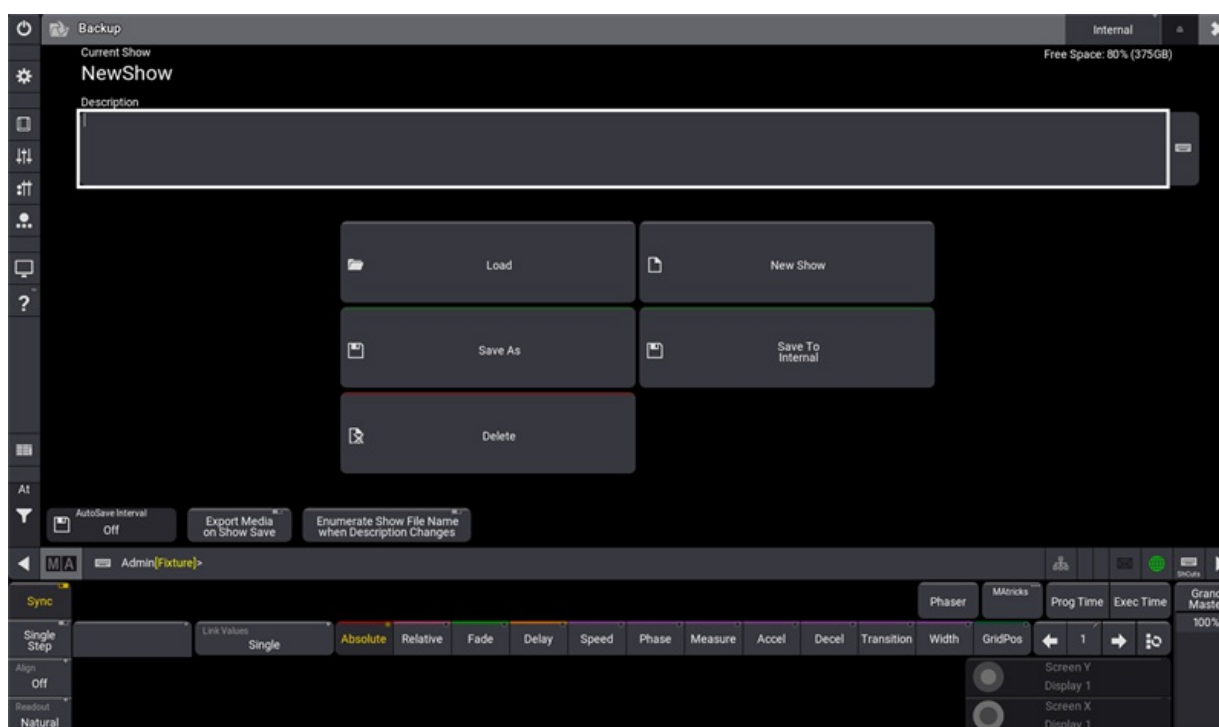


Save a show on an internal selected drive

Add a Description

To add a description to the show file at the top of the backup menu, an area allows you to enter and read the description of the loaded show file. Modifying or entering a description will only be applied to the show file when saving it afterwards.

To add another line, press **Enter**.



Show file name with description line



Show File History

To have a look at the show file history:

1. Tap **Load** in the backup menu. Enable **Show History** in the bottom left corner.
2. The history of the selected show file is displayed at the bottom of the backup menu.

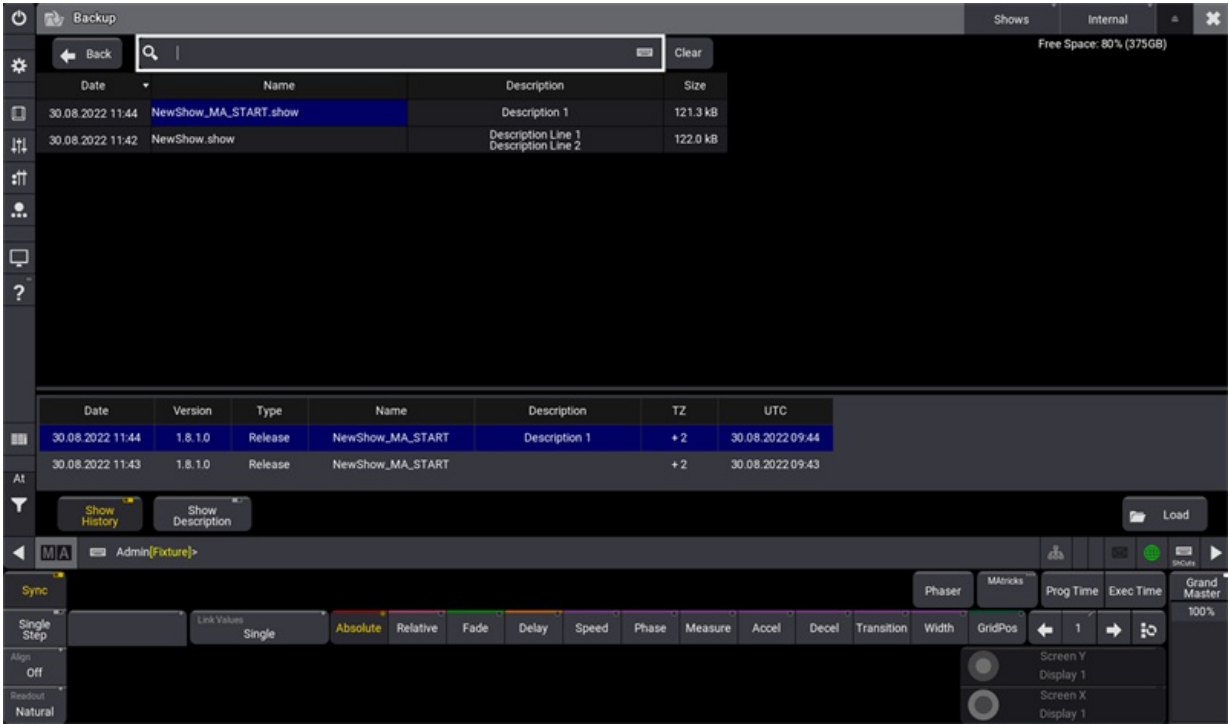
When loading the show file, the history gives information regarding:

- Dates, time and timezone
- Used software version
- Software type
- Name

A new entry within the history will be entered, when the show file will be saved again and one of these criteria has changed:

- Version
- Type
- Name
- Time zone
- Description

The newest entry is on top of the history list.



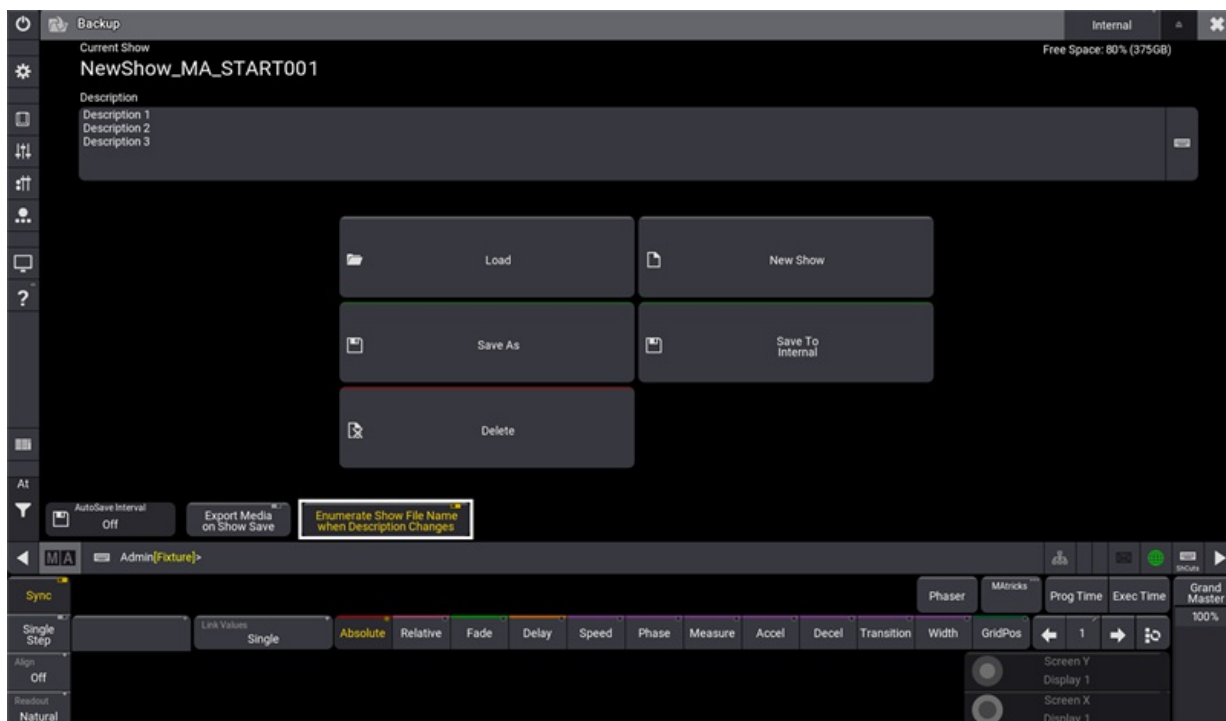
Show file name with description and time stamp

Add Automatic Numbering

It is possible to add 3-digit numbers to the show file name.

In order to separate the show file name from the number, the user can add a hyphen (-) or an underscore (_) or any other character to separate the name from the numbers at the end of the show file name.

The option **Enumerate Show File Name when Description Changes** in the **Backup Menu** provides an automatic increase of a 3-digit number, added to the end of the show file name if the description is changed when saving the show.



Show File name with automatic numbering

If the original show file name is too long to add the number, the command line will return an error. In this case, the former show file name will be used again.

Enumerating a show file can also be called with the `/Enumerate` option.

For more information see [**/Enumerate option keyword**](#).

New Show

- To create a new empty show file, open the Backup Menu and tap **New Show**.
A popup window appears. A automated file name is created like New Show-date-time.
- Leave or rename the file name for the new show in the Name field. When the name is correct, tap **Enter**.
- Create New Show popup window appears, tap **New Show**.

To create a new show by the command line, use the **LoadShow keyword**.



Hint:

It is possible to use local letters in the filename, like æ, ö, and ä.

Delete a Show File

Open the Backup Menu and tap **Delete**. Tap the show file to delete. Tap **Delete** in the bottom right corner and the show file is deleted.

Load a Show File During Startup

It is possible to specify a show file or a plugin that shall be loaded upon starting the onPC application.

To do so, add the SHOW or RUNPLUGIN parameter to the shortcut that launches the onPC application:

- "C:\Program Files\MALightingTechnology\gma3_x.x.x\bin\app_system.exe" HOSTTYPE=onPC
SHOW="startshow.show"
- "C:\Program Files\MALightingTechnology\gma3_x.x.x\bin\app_system.exe" HOSTTYPE=onPC
RUNPLUGIN="startplugin.xml"-x
 - x represents the number of the LUA component inside the plugin, that shall be started, e.g., 1
 - It is not recommend to specify a path for the plugin although the plugin may be put into a subfolder.



Hint:

Replace "x.x.x" with the grandMA3 onPC version number.

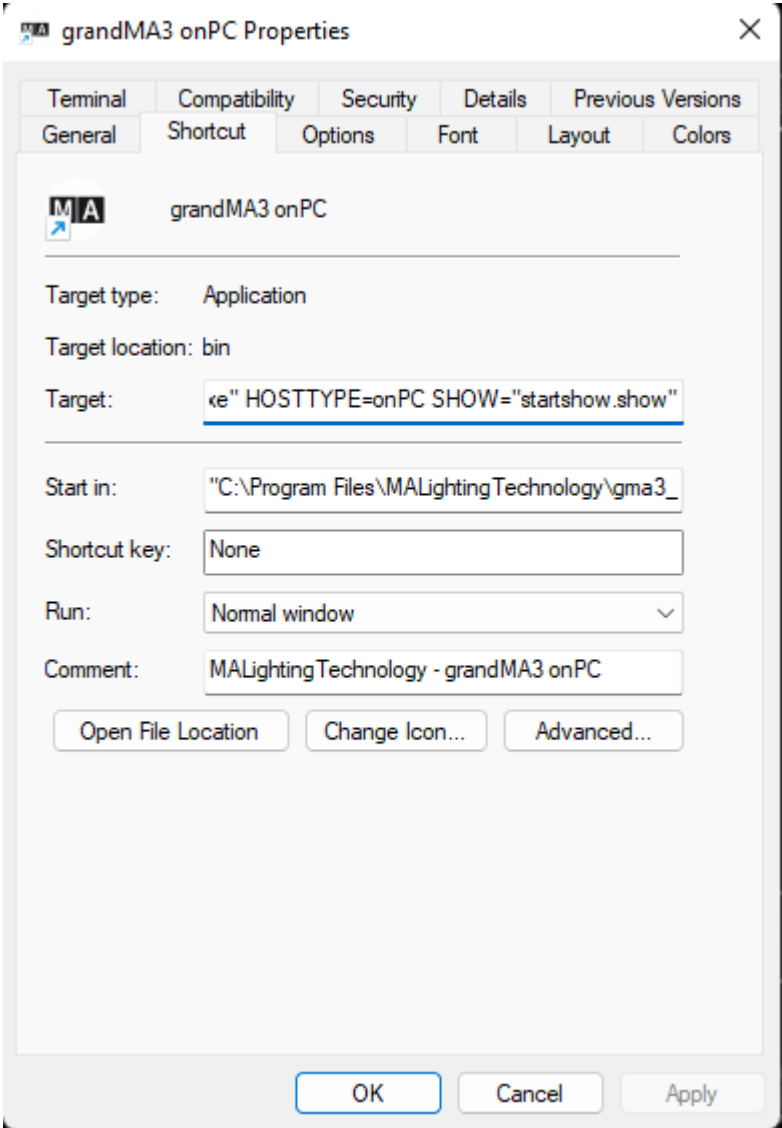
In addition, the optional parameters NOLOAD and CLEANSTART are also available when starting onPC.

- NOLOAD will not load the last show file but start with an empty show. Other device related configurations are kept.
- CLEANSTART will reset device related configuration back to default and come up with an empty show file.



Hint:

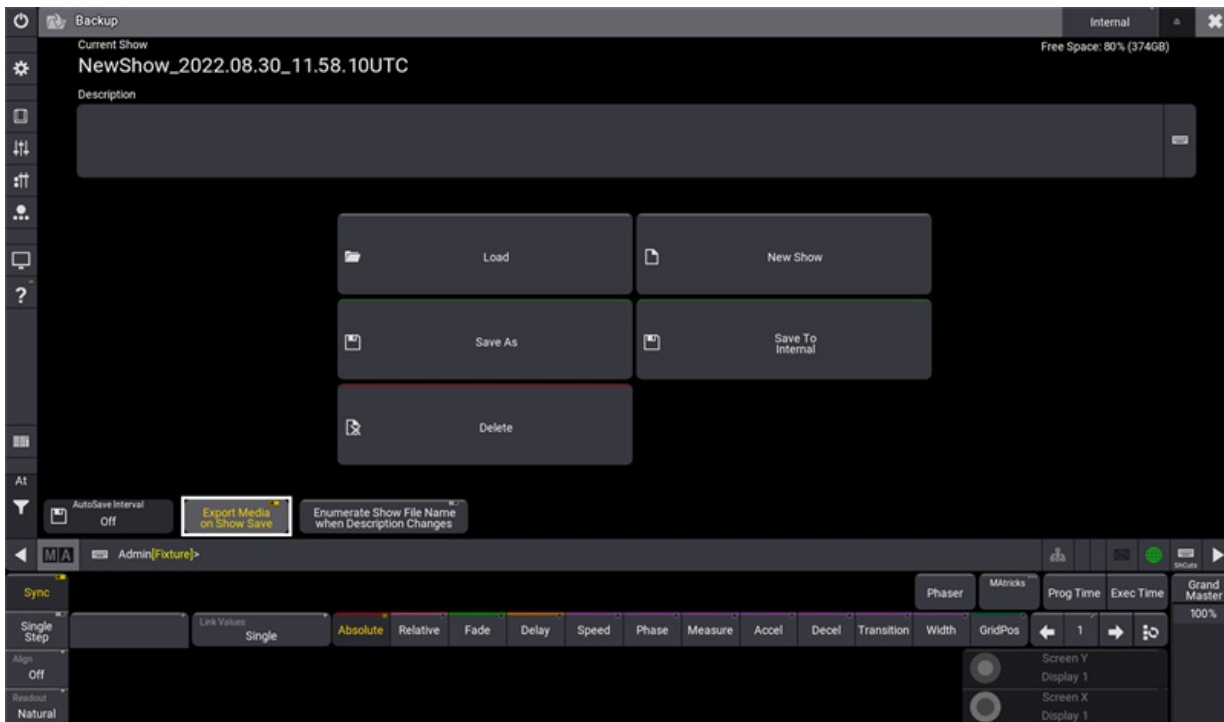
Do not use spaces in a show file name when loading a show during the startup process.



Windows 11 properties are shown as an example for the load show process.

Export Media on Show Save

In order to save media files (e.g. images, videos, etc.) to the **gma3_library folder**, activate the Export Media on Show Save function. Tap **Backup** and **Export Media on Show Save**.



A show file with Export Media on Show Save