GRIGG AUDIO

HQPLAYER BRIDGE

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Bridge Server 4.40.4 · English edition

Windows installation · HQPlayer connection · HTTP/HTTPS Certificates · Browser Bridge

Grigg Audio Solutions | October 28, 2026

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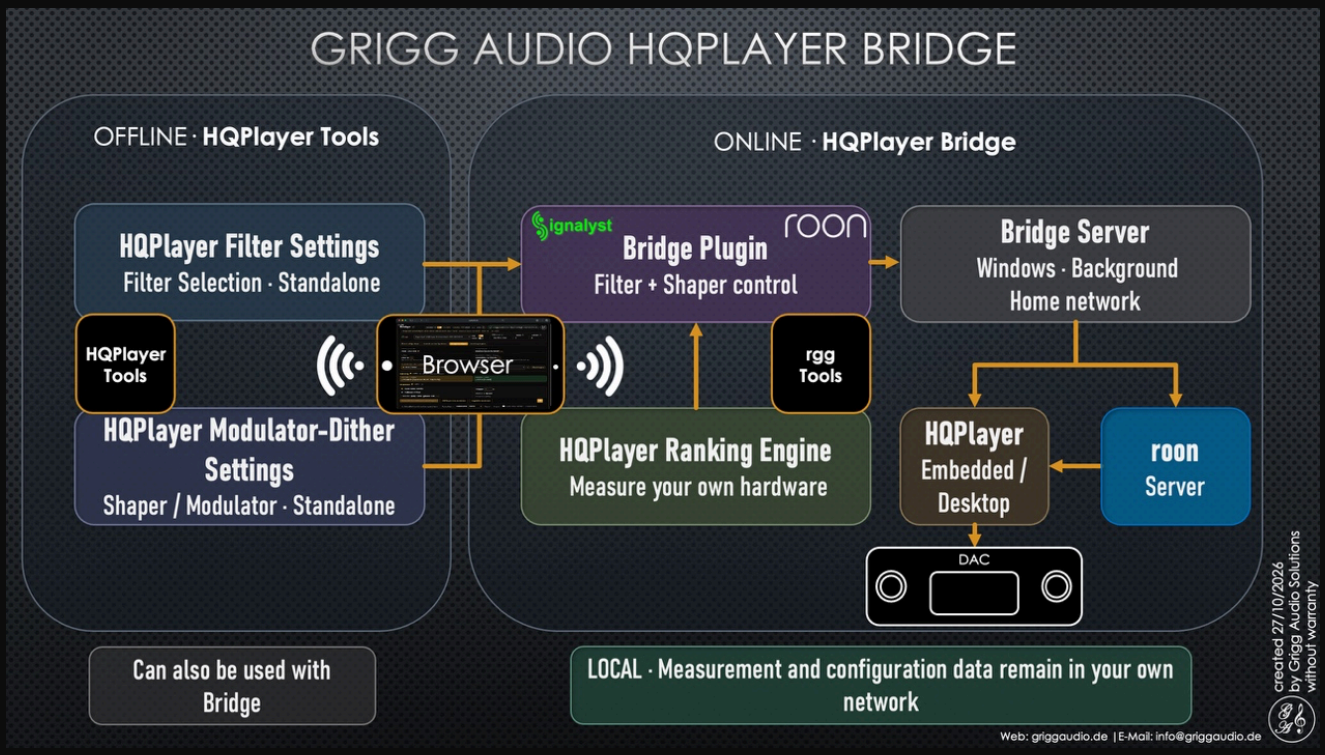
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01 INTRODUCTION

This guide explains how to install the Grigg Audio HQPlayer Bridge Server and set up the browser-based Grigg Audio HQPlayer Bridge.

The initial installation requires a few steps. Afterward, the Bridge Server normally starts automatically with Windows.

The Bridge Plugin is updated using the provided update procedure. The Bridge has been tested with HQPlayer version 6; earlier versions may not work correctly.



OPTIONAL SHA-256 VERIFICATION

A SHA-256 checksum is provided with the installer. You can use it to verify that the downloaded file has not been modified.

Step 1: Extract the ZIP archive and calculate the SHA-256 hash of the installer.

Windows PowerShell: Get-FileHash -Algorithm SHA256 "GriggAudio-HQPlayer-Bridge-Setup-4.40.4.exe"

macOS Terminal: shasum -a 256 GriggAudio-HQPlayer-Bridge-Setup-4.40.4.exe

Step 2: Compare the calculated hash with the published checksum for exactly the same file. Both values must match completely. If a ZIP checksum is provided, verify the ZIP archive instead.

Note: A matching SHA-256 checksum confirms file integrity against the published reference value; it does not independently verify the origin of the file.

DOWNLOADS AND VERSION CHECK

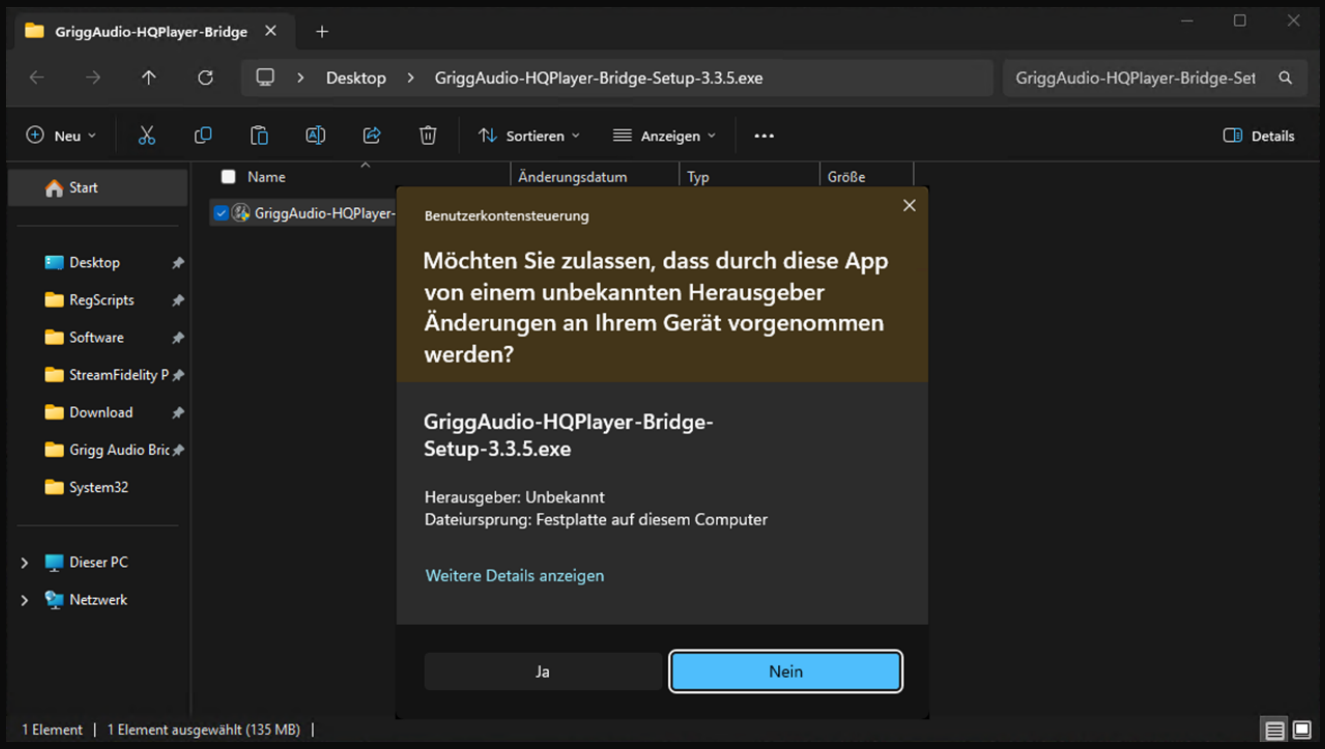
New versions are available under Downloads at rggtools.de. The Bridge Plugin checks whether the installed Bridge Server meets its minimum required version and warns you if the server is outdated.

02 INSTALL THE BRIDGE SERVER

The Bridge Server requires a Windows system that can reach HQPlayer on the local network. Installation has been tested on Windows Server 2016 and Windows 11 Pro.

Recommendation: Turn on the DAC and start HQPlayer before the Bridge Server. This is not mandatory: if HQPlayer is initially unavailable, automatic startup recovery can establish the connection later.

Download the installer ZIP file. Extract the Setup EXE to a short path, such as the desktop, and double-click it. Confirm any Windows security prompts.

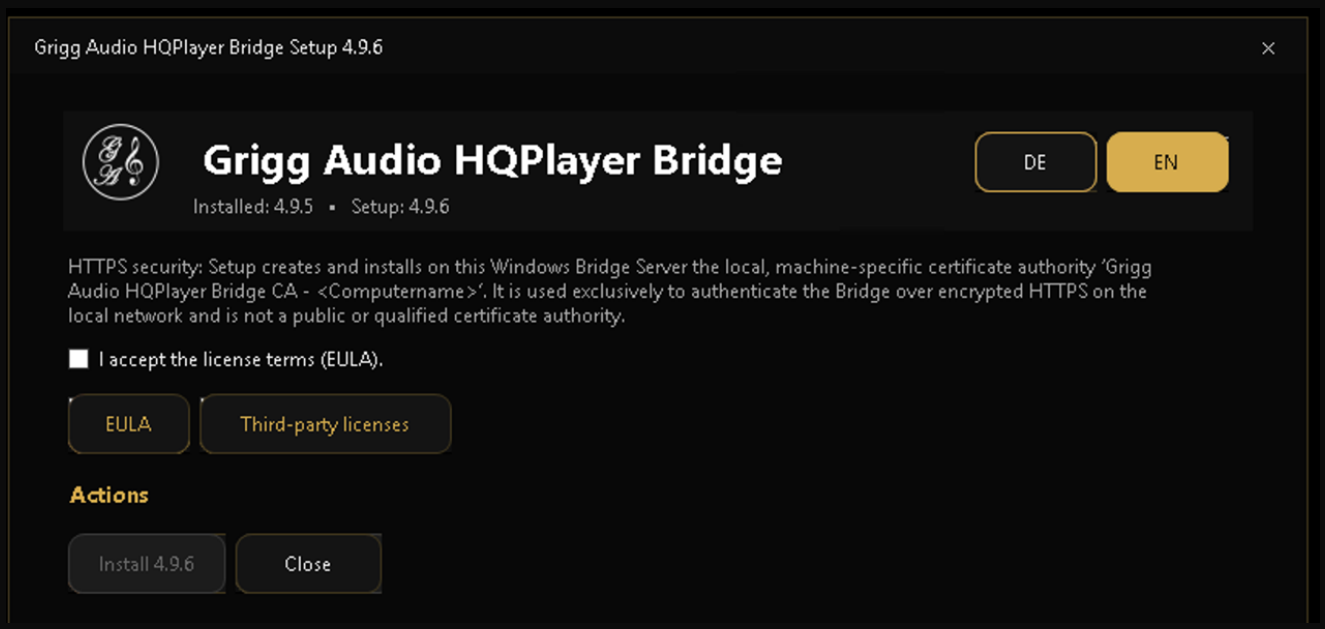


LICENSE AND UPDATE

Read the license terms and select “I accept the license agreement (EULA)” if you agree.

When upgrading, we recommend keeping existing data. Otherwise, certificates and favorites may be lost and need to be configured again.

Before major version upgrades, back up your existing configuration and ranking data.

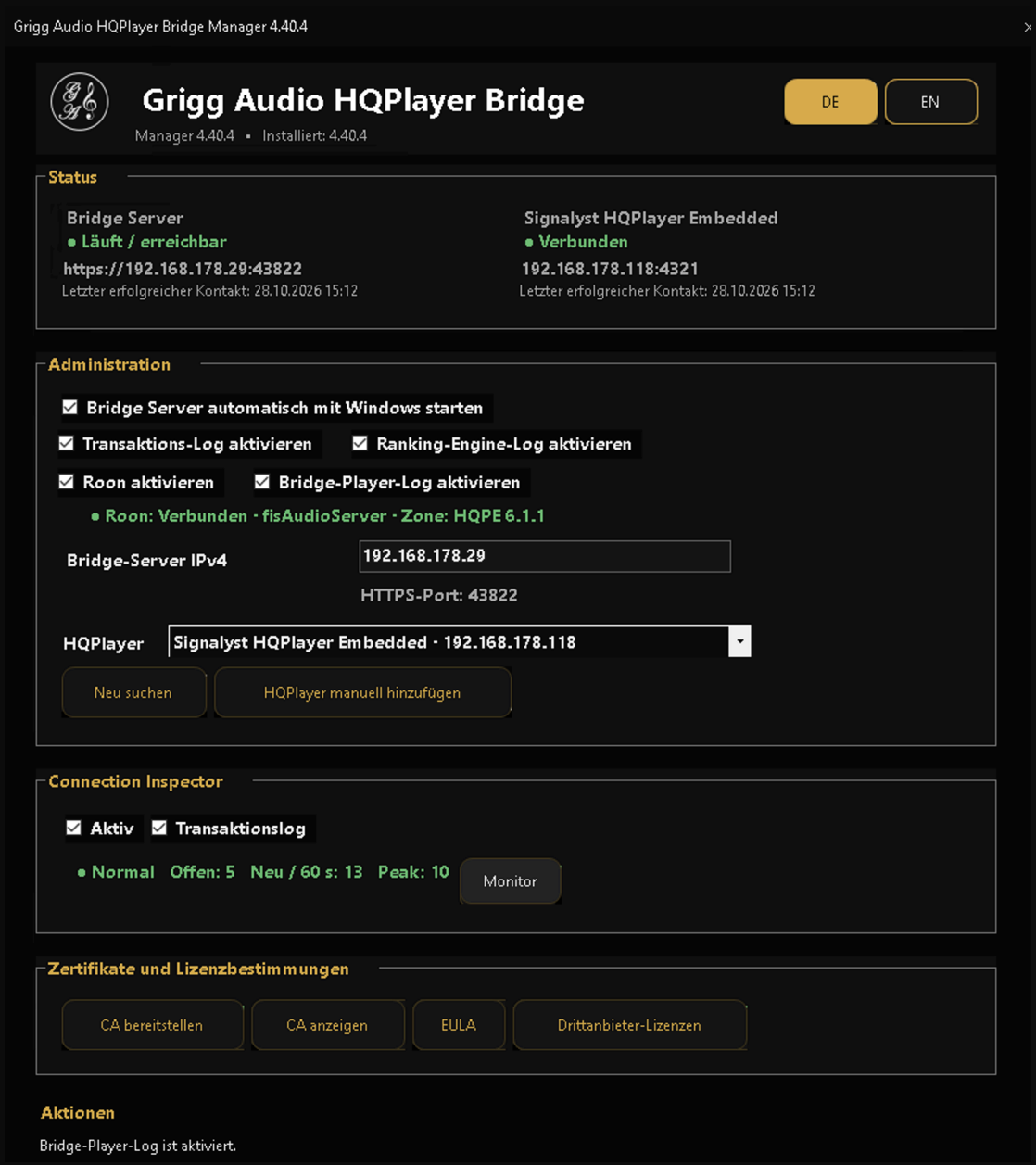


BRIDGE SERVER MANAGER

The Bridge Server Manager opens automatically after installation.

Enable the logs you need at the beginning so diagnostic information is available if an issue occurs. By default, the server starts automatically as a Windows service.

Optionally, the Bridge can be integrated as an extension in Roon.

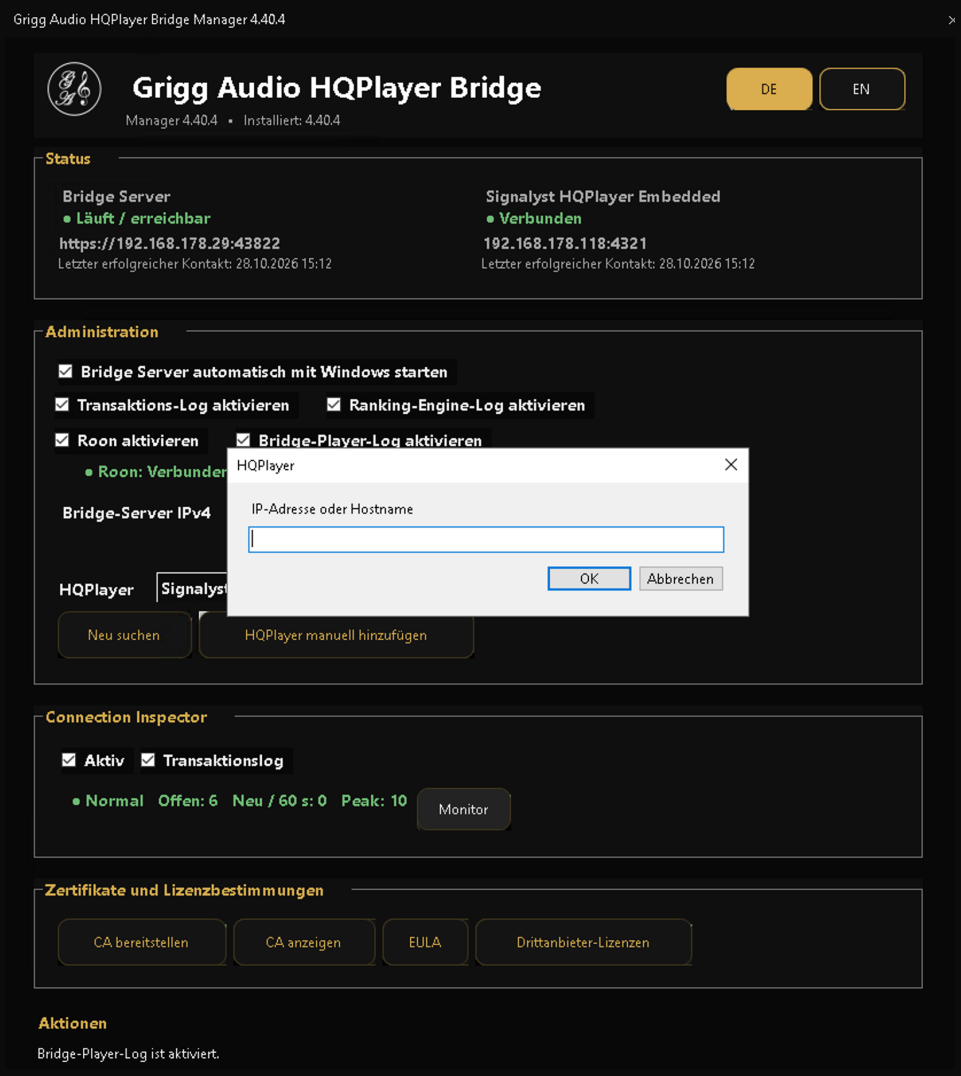


CONNECT TO HQPLAYER

The Bridge Server tries to discover an existing HQPlayer on the local network. If automatic discovery fails, enter its IP address using “Add HQPlayer manually”, then select “Search again”.

If HQPlayer was initially switched off, the server can detect it later. Following a delayed successful GetInfo confirmation, the Bridge Server may automatically restart once to repeat the normal initialization sequence.

Some functions are temporarily unavailable during this process. Wait until the server reports that HQPlayer is ready.



03 RECOMMENDED STARTUP ORDER

For the smoothest startup, we recommend: 1. Power on the DAC → 2. Start HQPlayer → 3. Optionally start Roon → 4. Start the Bridge Server → 5. Open the Bridge Plugin in your browser.

Automatic recovery: This order is a recommendation, not a technical requirement. If the Bridge Server starts before HQPlayer, it repeatedly requests engine information. When HQPlayer becomes available later, the Bridge Server can announce and perform one controlled recovery restart.

After restarting, the engine, runtime state, and persisted Q2 snapshot are checked. Transactions remain restricted until initialization is complete.

If the automatic restart does not achieve full readiness, you can still restart the Bridge Server manually.

04 HTTP OR HTTPS

The Bridge Plugin is loaded from an HTTPS-protected WordPress website. Communication between the browser and Bridge Server then takes place on the local network.

HTTP: Unencrypted connection; no local CA certificate needs to be installed on the client. Browser support may be restricted.

HTTPS: Encrypted connection using a dedicated local Certificate Authority (CA). HTTPS is the default setting in the plugin.

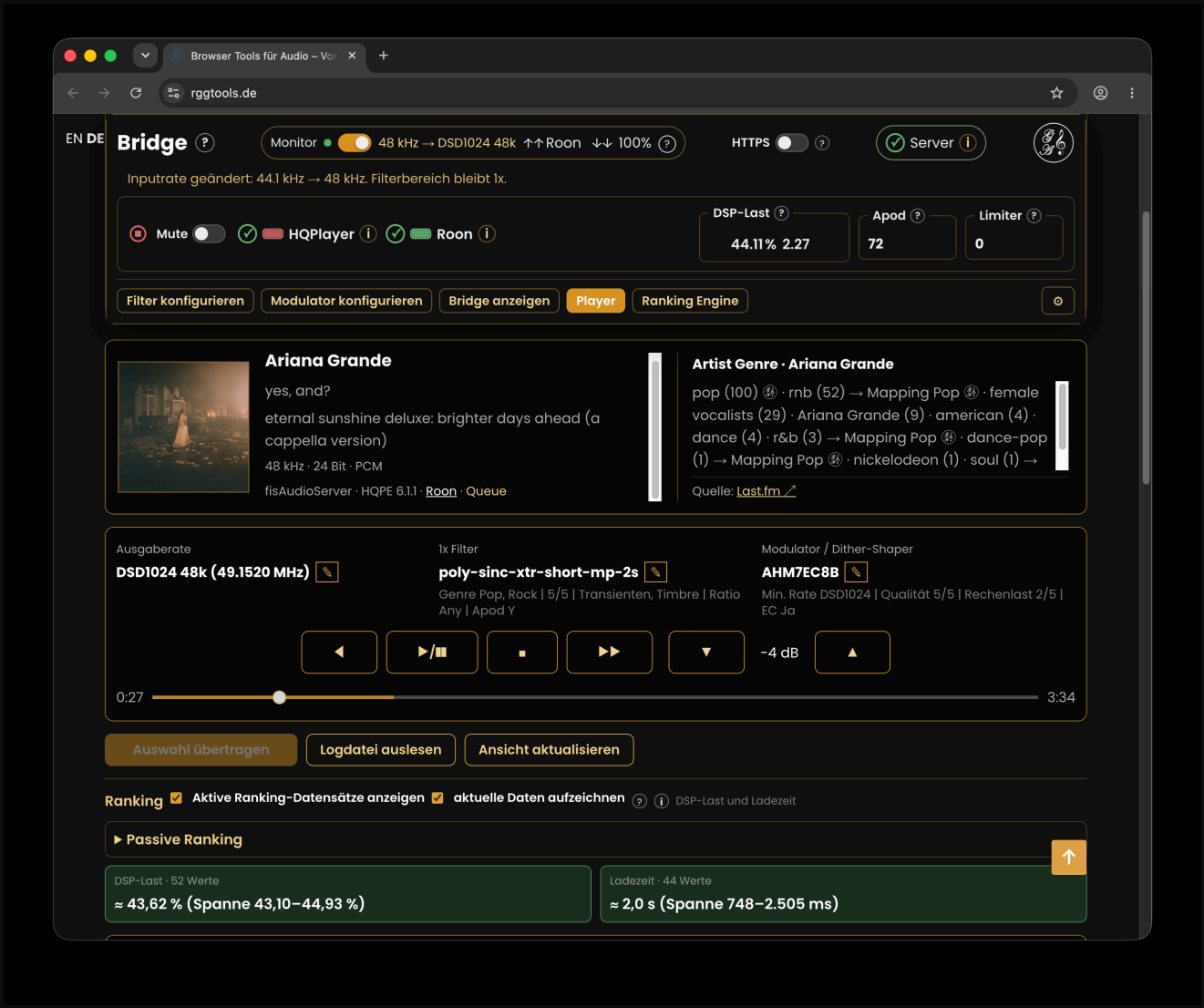
If the browser and Bridge Server run on the same computer, the existing setup does not require an additional certificate installation.

SET UP AN HTTP CONNECTION

If the Bridge is loaded from an HTTPS website but the local Bridge Server is accessed over HTTP, browsers may block the request as mixed content.

In tested configurations, Chrome and Opera work over HTTP without additional settings. Microsoft Edge may require permission for insecure content. On macOS, the browser may also need permission to access the local network.

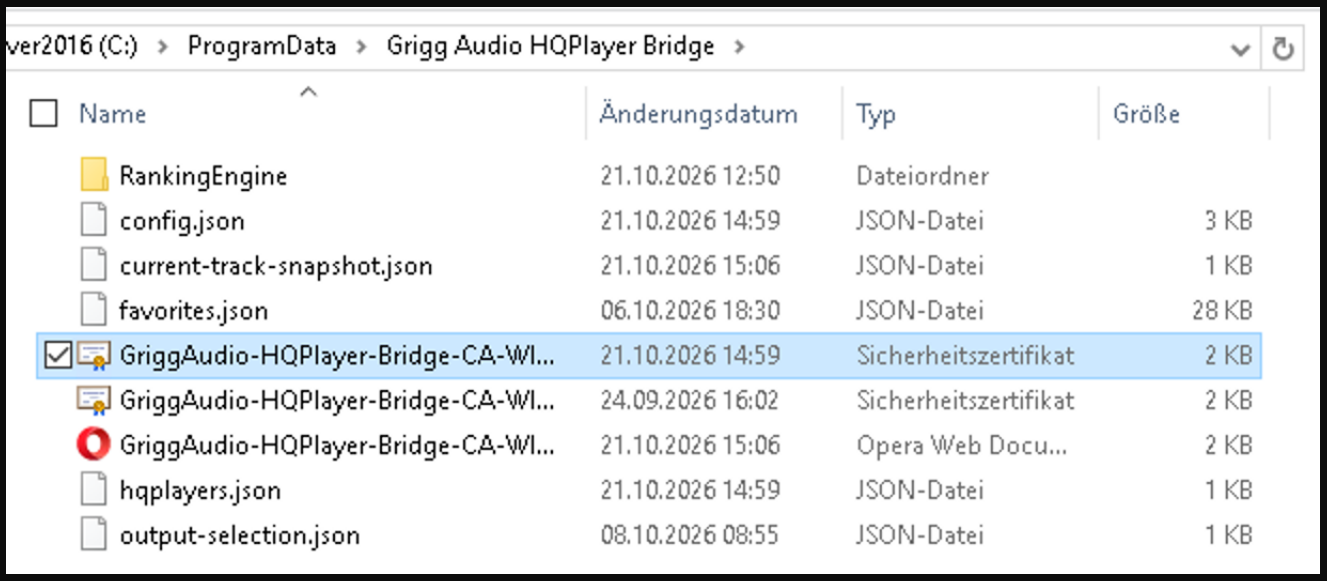
To use HTTP, switch off HTTPS in the Bridge Plugin.



SET UP AN HTTPS CONNECTION

For a secure HTTPS connection, install the local Bridge CA certificate on the client device and mark it as trusted.

In the Bridge Server Manager, select “Provide CA”. Windows Explorer opens the storage location and highlights the CA file. Copy the certificate to the desired client.



05 INSTALL THE CA CERTIFICATE

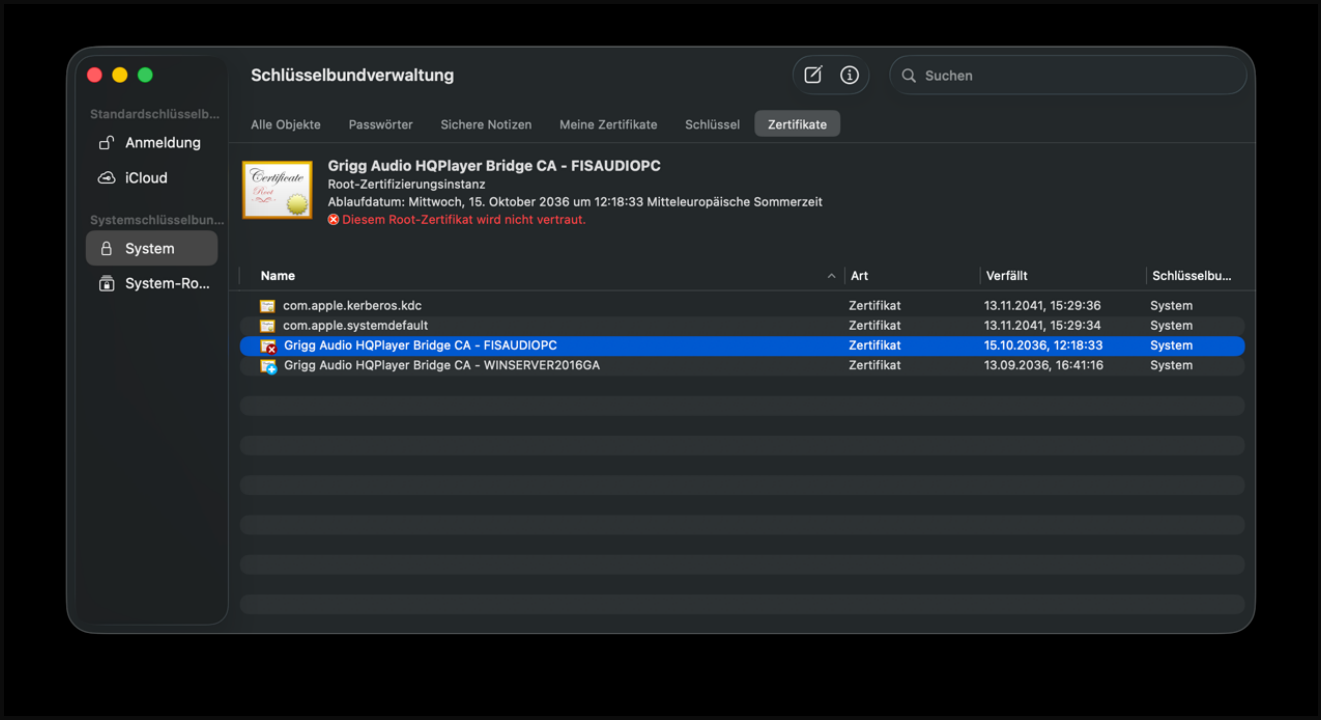
The local CA certificate can be reused after server updates as long as existing server data is preserved. A new CA certificate is required when installing on another computer or without transferring existing data.

On macOS, double-click the certificate file to open it in Keychain Access. Confirm the required security prompts.



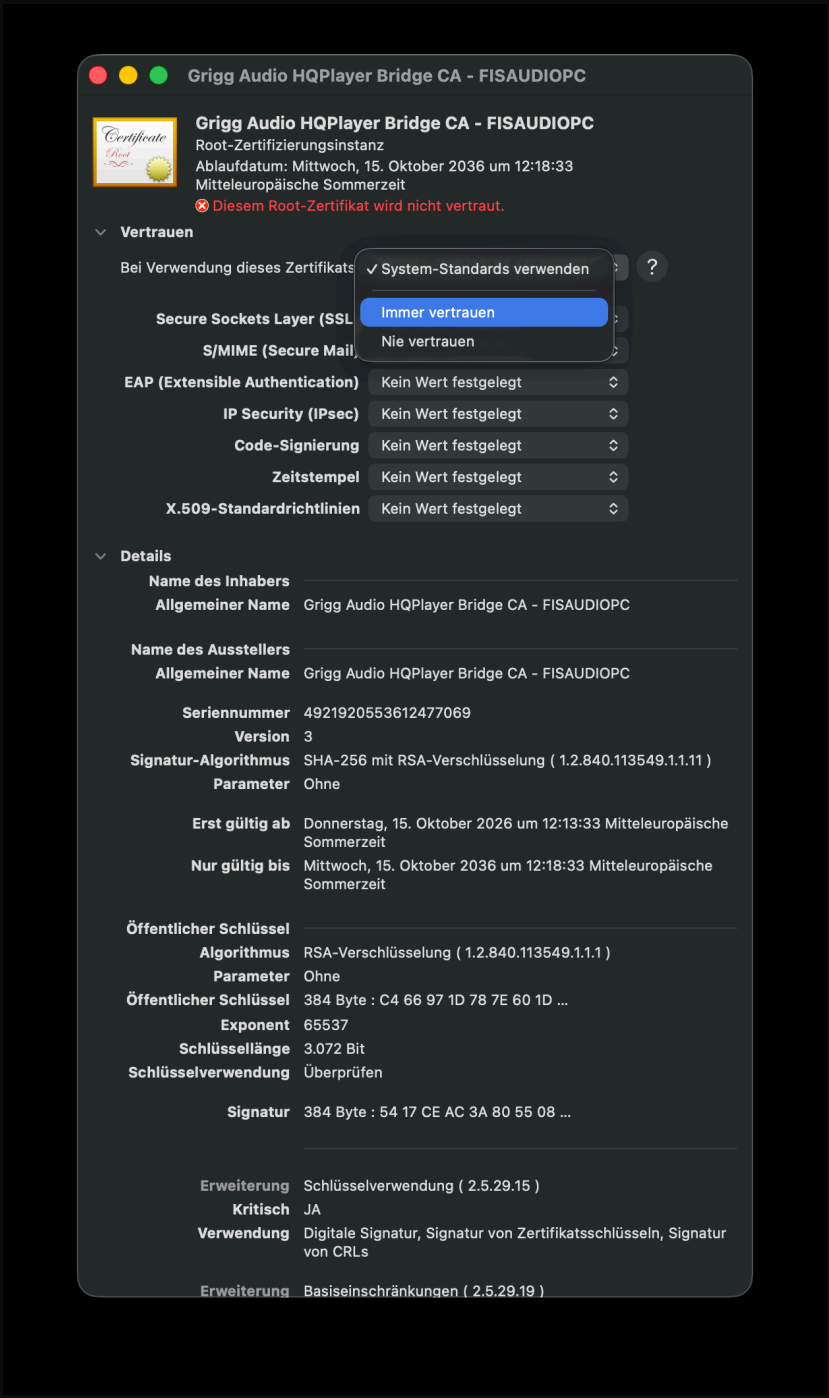
CONFIGURE TRUST

After import, the certificate is initially shown as untrusted. Double-click the imported Bridge CA certificate.



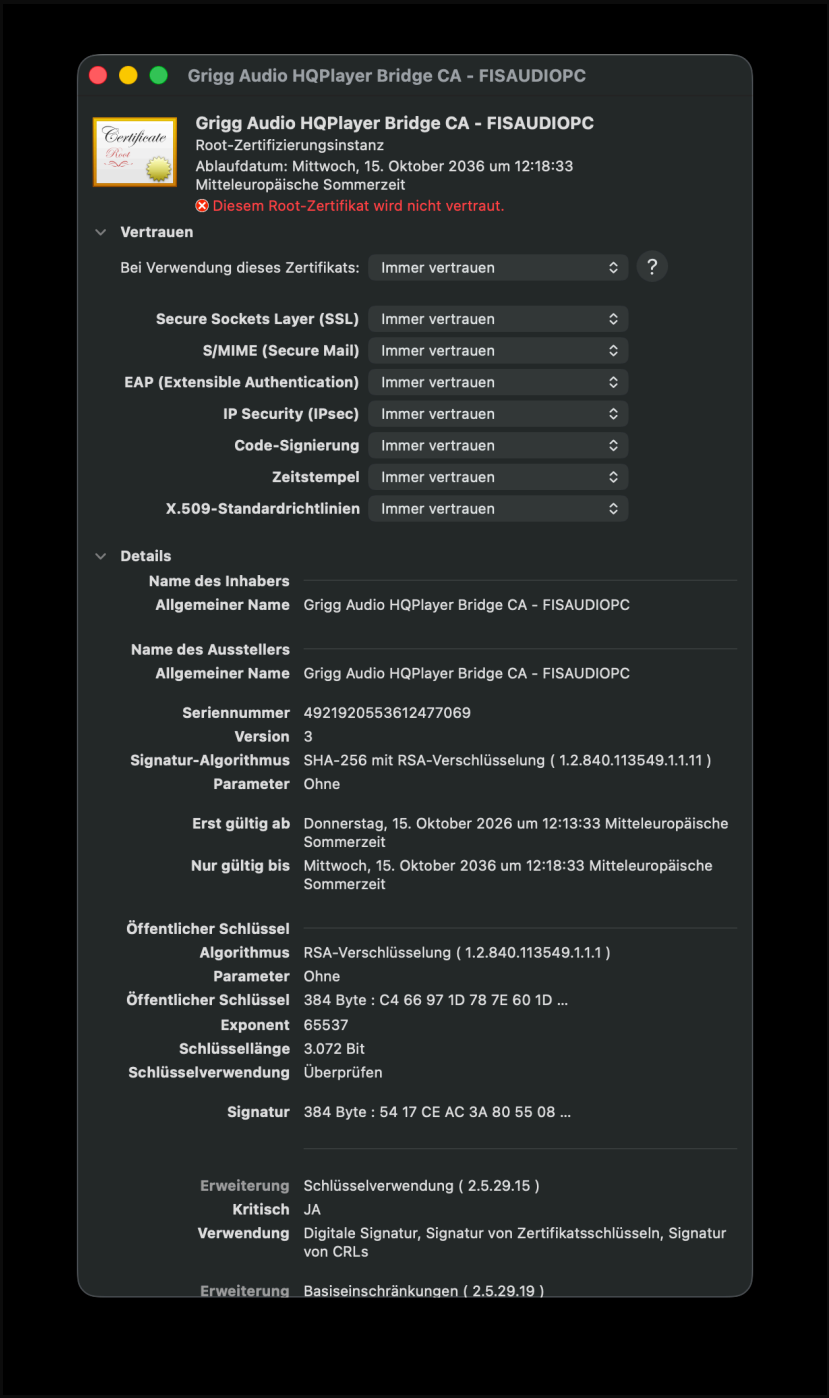
TRUST THE CERTIFICATE

Open the certificate’s “Trust” settings and choose “Always Trust” for the intended entries. Confirm the change using your macOS login credentials.



VERIFY THE CERTIFICATE

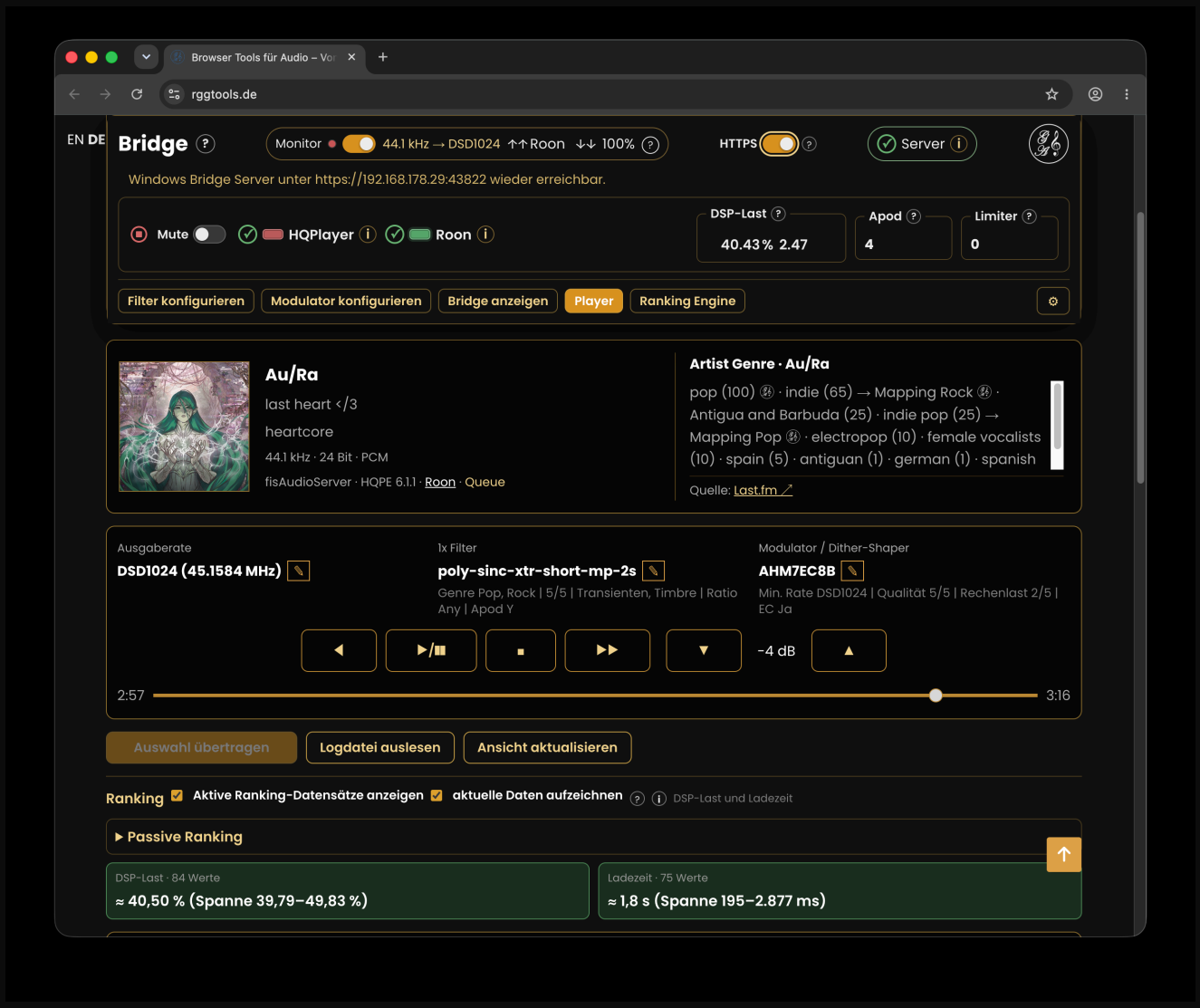
After confirmation, the red warning indicator disappears. If macOS still uses outdated trust information, restarting the client device may help.



06 OPEN THE BROWSER BRIDGE

Open the Bridge at rggtools.de. Use the HTTPS switch in the header to choose the transport: HTTPS on = encrypted; HTTPS off = unencrypted.

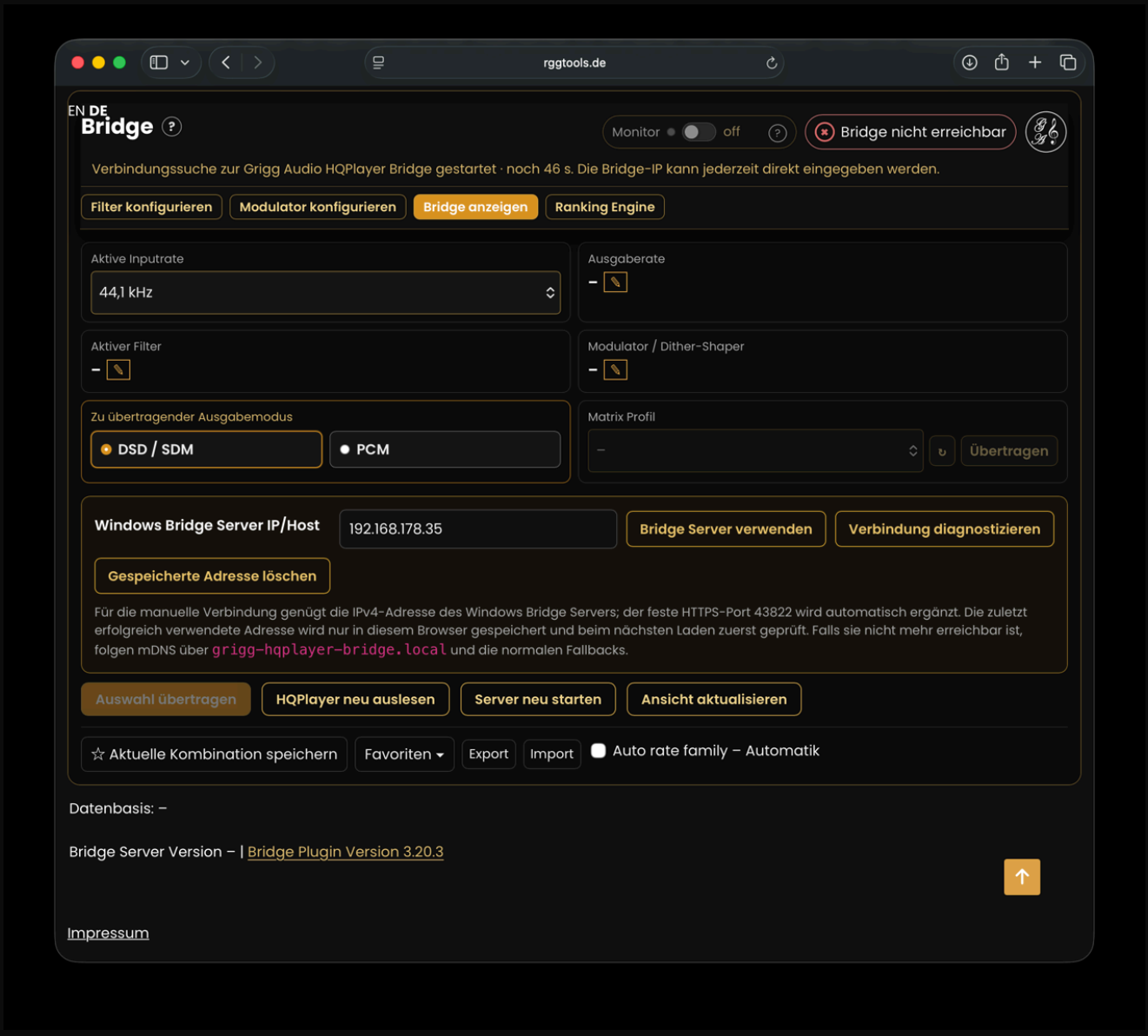
The recommended startup order and automatic recovery are described in the “Connect to HQPlayer” section.



CONNECT THE BRIDGE TO THE SERVER

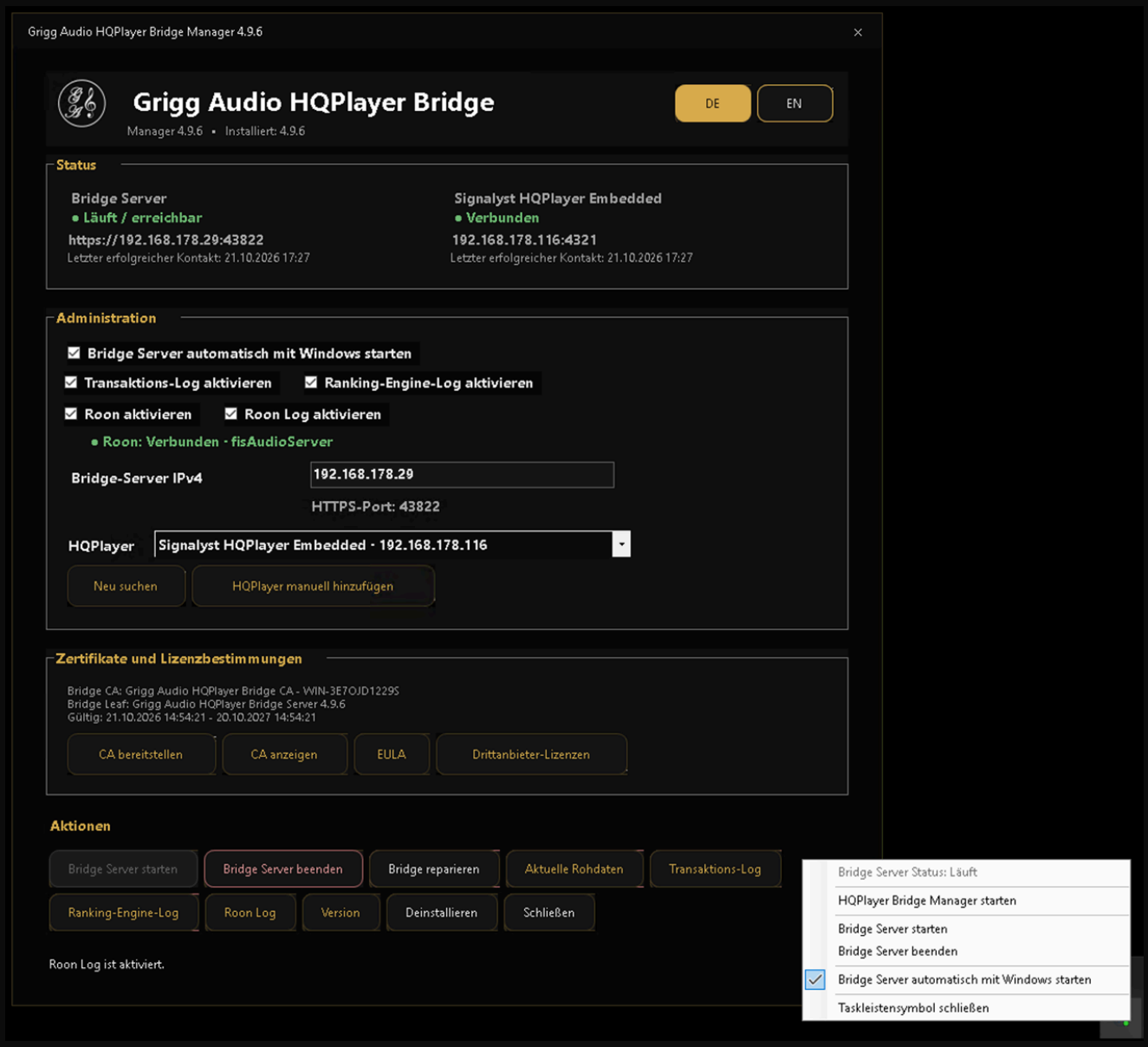
On startup, the Bridge tries to discover the server automatically. If this fails, enter the Bridge Server IP address manually and confirm with “Use Bridge Server”.

If some displays are incomplete, “Refresh view” can reinitialize the browser interface. A manual server restart is another option if server initialization does not complete.



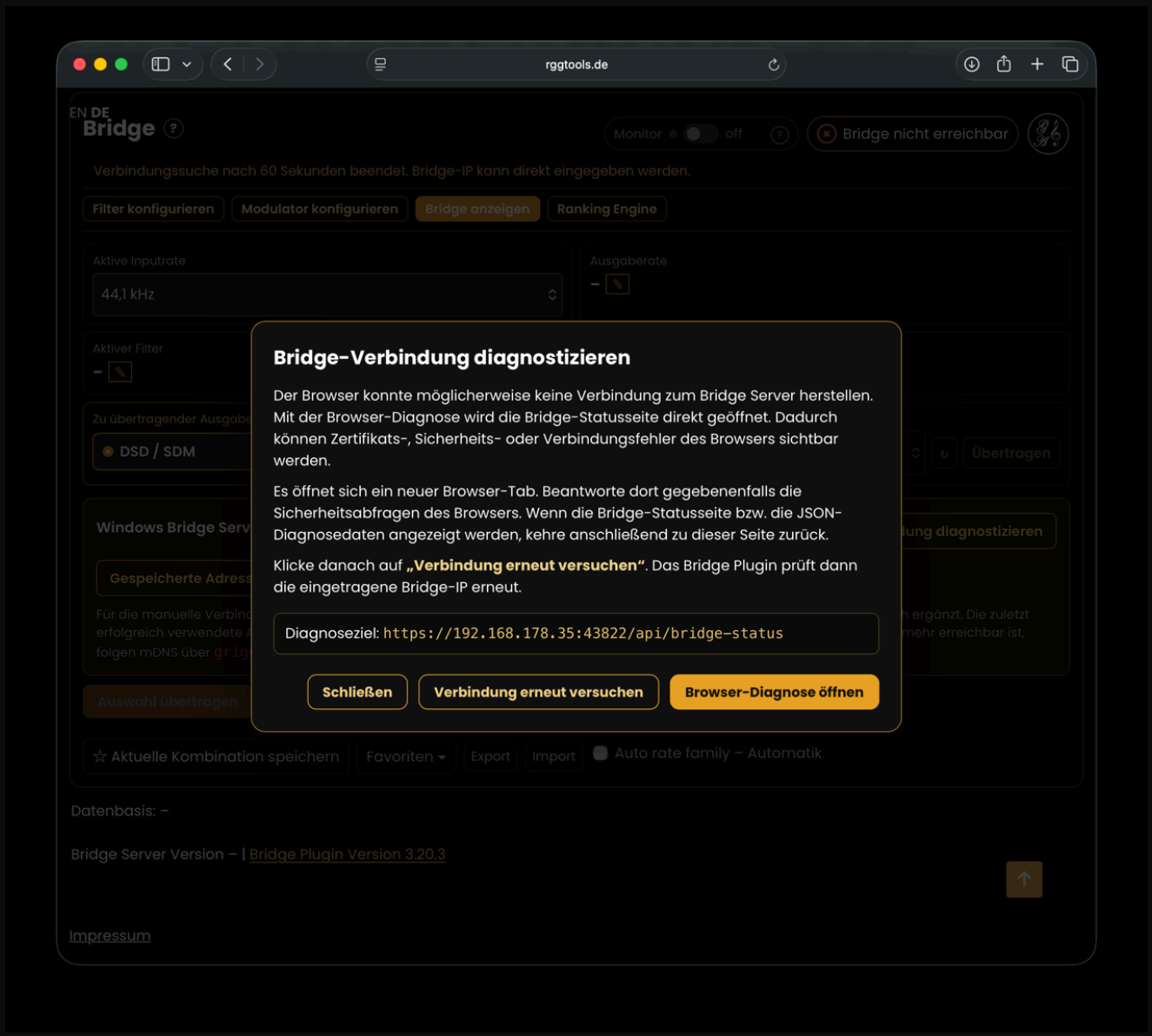
FIND THE SERVER ADDRESS

The Bridge Server IP address is displayed in the Bridge Server Manager. Open the Manager from the Windows system tray icon.



07 DIAGNOSE CONNECTIONS

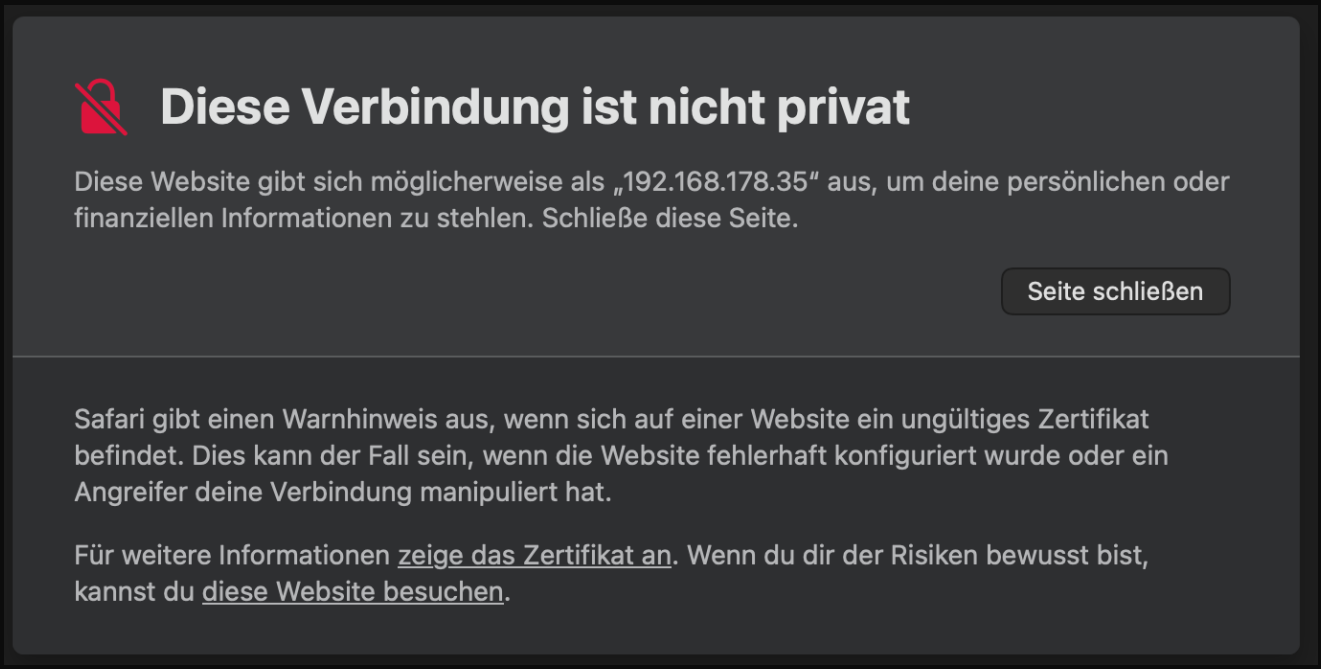
If a connection cannot be established, open “Diagnose connection”. The Bridge displays a dialog with the available checks and connection steps.



BROWSER DIAGNOSTICS

A simple request is sent to the local Bridge Server in a new browser window. If a certificate warning appears, you can choose “Show details” and then “Visit this website”, provided you have verified that it is your own local server.

If Bridge Server data is displayed afterward, the connection has been established. Select “Retry connection” in the original window.



UNDERSTANDING STATUS MESSAGES

“HQPlayer unavailable” — The server is waiting for a successful engine query.

“HQPlayer connection established” — The engine responds; further initialization steps may still be pending.

“Bridge Server will restart in 3 seconds” — The one-time automatic recovery restart is being prepared.

“HQPlayer initialization in progress” — The server checks runtime state and capability data.

“HQPlayer initialization completed successfully” — The required readiness checks have completed.

“HQPlayer ready – Q2 snapshot complete” — Stored HQPlayer capabilities are available.

The display is updated through the existing status and monitor interface. If the display remains outdated, use “Refresh view”.

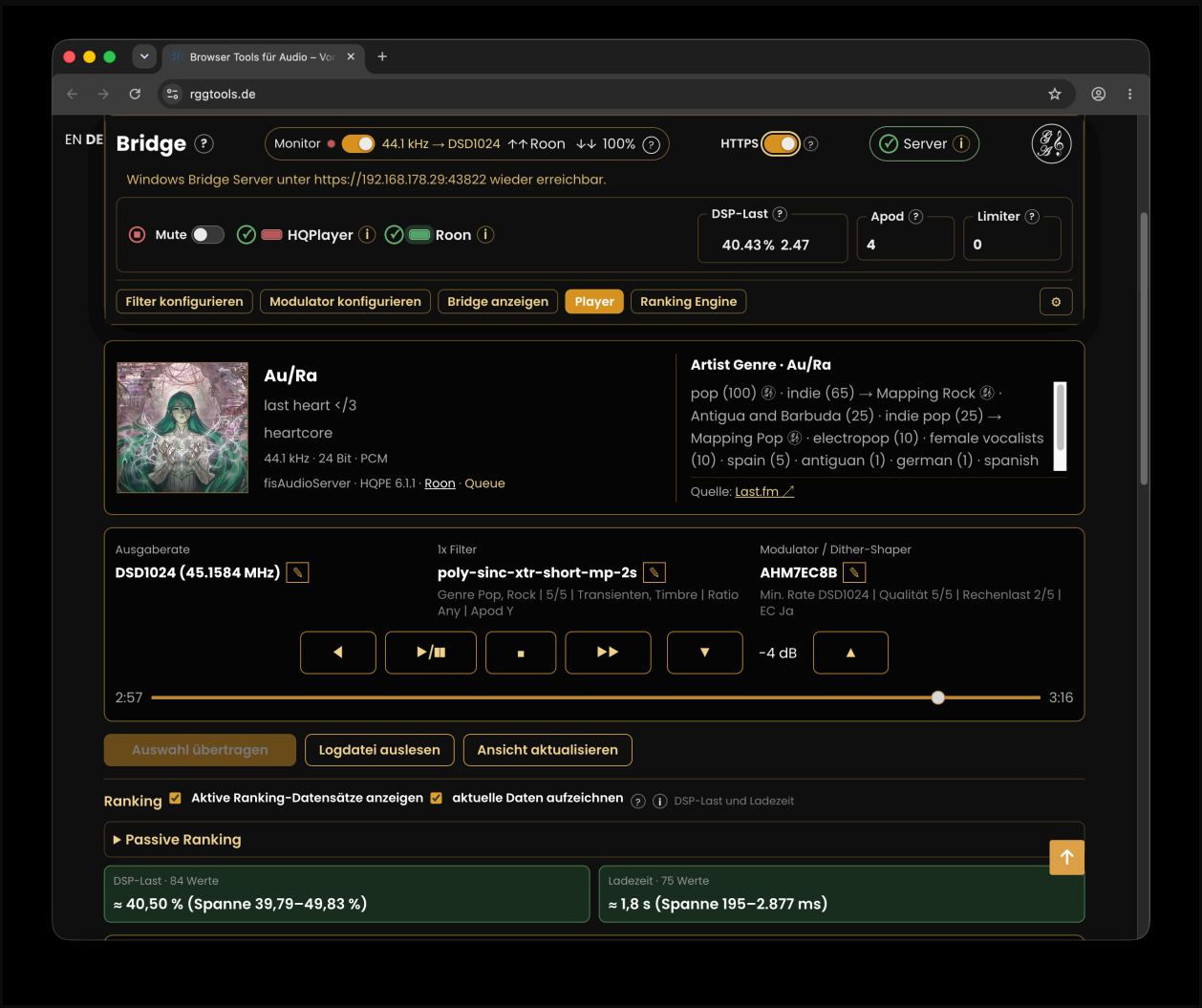
08 TROUBLESHOOTING TIPS

Once connected, a green server icon indicates that the Bridge can be reached.

A filter change may take longer depending on filter complexity. Recording your own ranking data helps identify suitable settings.

When the base sample-rate family changes, a filter requiring an integer ratio may temporarily become unsuitable. The Auto Rate Family Inspector and Filter Inspector help select appropriate settings.

If recovery fails, HQPlayer can be restarted. The Bridge Plugin does not write a permanent base configuration to HQPlayer.



09 CONTACT AND LINKS

The software is provided free of charge. Individual support is not guaranteed. Questions and feedback: info@griggaudio.de.

Grigg Audio Solutions · Ronny Gabriel Grigg

Browser Tools for Audio: rggtools.de

Grigg Audio Solutions: griggaudio.de

HQPlayer: signalyst.com

Roon: roon.com

Windows help: support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows