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nanoFlash / Flash XDR FileConverter

Version 1.3

XDCAM 422/EX Quicktime (MOV) to MXF Converter

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26-Oct-2009

The FileConverter tool converts XDCAM 4:2:2 or XDCAM EX Quicktime files to equivalent MXF files. The original files are left intact.

The Quicktime files can be either from a Flash XDR / nanoFlash or can be a file exported out of Final Cut Pro. The Flash XDR / nanoFlash can produce XDCAM EX files (with the 35 Mbit setting in High Definition recording) and XDCAM 422 files (with the 50 Mbit or above bit rate setting in HD recording).

Standard Definition file conversion is *not* supported.

XDCAM HD 4:2:0 file conversion is *not* supported (this is 35 Mbit reduced raster 1440x1080).

Audio needs to be uncompressed, 16 or 24 bit, 48 Khz, 0 or 2 channel.

The generated MXF files are Flash XDR / nanoFlash compatible - see below for details on playing such files out of the recorders.

The FileConverter tool also can make non-fragmented copies of originally recorded files onto a CompactFlash card for playing out of the recorders.

The FileConverter tool has the current limitation of only accepting files less than 30 Gbytes in size. Files greater than 4 Gbytes will be broken up in approximate 4 Gbyte file increments.

To use: choose up to 4 source folders / CF volumes which contain XDCAM 4:2:2 or XDCAM EX Quicktime (MOV) files. If the chosen folder/volume contains a }CLP{ folder, as is the case with CF cards from the Flash XDR, the }CLP{ folder will be used as the source folder. Individual MOV files may also be selected as the source.

You then optionally can choose destination folders to place your converted MXF files. If no destination folder(s) are chosen, the converted MXF files will be placed in the source folder.

Then all Quicktime files within the source folder(s) will be converted 1 by 1 to MXF.

The original Quicktime files are left intact. The new MXF files will have the same name with the .MXF extension.

Note that you can use 4 stackable Lexar Firewire 800 readers, connect them together at the same time to the Mac over Firewire, insert 4 CF cards, choose the 4 CF volumes as source folders, and then all the files in the 4 cards will be converted. On the Mac, the CF volumes are typically located as:
Macintosh HD/Volumes/NO NAME, NO NAME 1, NO NAME 2, etc.

If the source is a CF volume and you write the new MXF files back out to the same CF volume, make sure there is sufficient space on the card.

This software only converts XDCAM 4:2:2 or XDCAM EX MOV to MXF, and it only works on a Mac, Intel or Power PC.

To use the Non-Fragmented Copy: select source folders / files as above, choose CF Volume(s) for the destination folders. No file conversion takes place in this case, this is just a simple copy.

It is a useful tool for copying originally recorded video files to a CompactFlash card for playing from the recorder. It is an alternative to using the copy from a computer, which will sometimes fragment the files onto the CF card and not allow the Flash XDR / nanoFlash to play them properly.

Playing Copied Files from a Flash XDR/nanoFlash:The Details

> Format a qualified CF card on the Flash XDR / nanoFlash

> Insert card to USB / Firewire Reader attached to Mac

> For originally recorded files: on a Mac copy the files using this utility's non-fragmented copy to the CF card (the }CLP{ folder). These can be Quicktime, MXF, MPG, or M2V files in their originally recorded form. (On a PC, files can be copied from Explorer, as Explorer doesn't appear to fragment files on the card.)

> For files exported from Final Cut Pro or other Quicktime compatible software (.MOV in the XDCAM EX or XDCAM 422 profile only, files must be less than 30 Gbytes each) : use this utility's conversion tool to make a Flash XDR / nanoFlash compatible copy of the files, selecting the CF card volume as the destination folder.

> Place the CF card back into the recorder, and press the play button. Do not press the record button in this case; record will overwrite any copied files on the card. Alternatively, set the System->Record Trigger to None, which will prevent accidental records. Use the right / left arrow keys to skip between files.

> ** Note that all files played out of the XDR / nanoFlash on a CF card(s) must be the same video format / file format / bit rate.

> Also note that you will need recent firmware on your Flash XDR / nanoFlash.

For questions, please contact support@convergent-design.com