



DATA SHEET

CatDV Product Family



Designed for both standalone and networked operation, CatDV is a cost effective and highly scalable media asset database and video logging tool. With advanced metadata extraction, automatic scene detection and a powerful yet intuitive user interface, CatDV is the ideal application to bring order to the mass of media files we all have to deal with on a day to day basis.

Media asset management

Import any type of media file into CatDV to catalog it and build up a searchable database of all your clips. Whether the file is HD, SD, DV, MPEG, HDV, or any other format, CatDV will extract metadata in the file (such as the video format, audio sample rate or copyright annotations) and store that in its database, together with thumbnail images and any log notes or other annotations that you enter.

Couple this rich set of metadata with the low-resolution proxy videos that CatDV automatically creates and retrieving those key shots you know you have somewhere becomes possible at last. You can be sure its the shot you want, even if the original media file is offline on a removable FireWire drive or archived to tape.

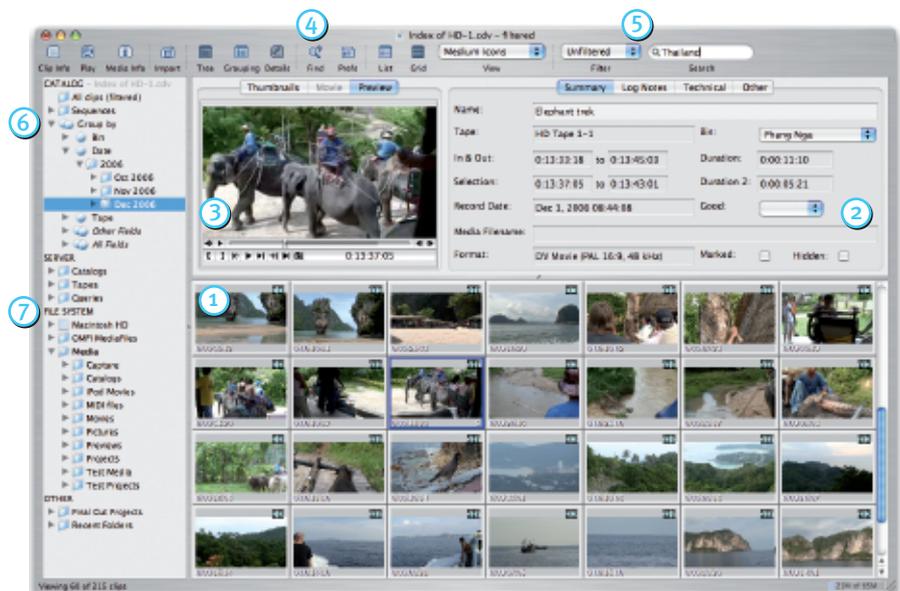
CatDV is flexible about what constitutes an asset. It works just at happily down to the level of individual scenes and shots on a tape or at file level, and with stills or audio clips or other supporting files as well as video media.

User interface

The CatDV desktop application has a flexible and easy to use graphical user interface that lets you see all your media and view its metadata at a glance.

Key features:

- 1 The main window lists all the clips in a catalog as thumbnails or as a table with configurable columns
- 2 Enter log notes and view technical metadata fields for the selected clip
- 3 Play media and mark selections
- 4 Configure the view using toolbar buttons
- 5 Quickly filter the clips
- 6 Group related clips by various fields
- 7 Quickly browse the file system or central clip database

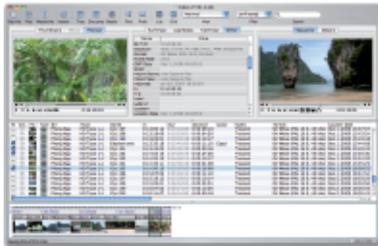


Capture, analyse and

Scalable architecture

If you work on your own (or are away on location with just your laptop and want to make a start on logging the day's rushes) you can use CatDV as a standalone application, saving catalogs locally to a flat file. Or use CatDV with the CatDV Server software, built on top of an industrial strength MySQL or Oracle relational database, to share your media and log notes with others in your organisation and enable powerful concurrent searches.

CatDV is entirely software-based, so works with your existing infrastructure without tying you into hardware from a single vendor. It will work with media files stored anywhere, whether locally on your hard drive, on a removable FireWire drive, on your regular file server or on a dedicated SAN, providing a consistent and intuitive user interface to locate and manage your assets wherever they are stored.



Drag and drop sequence editing.

Watch Folders

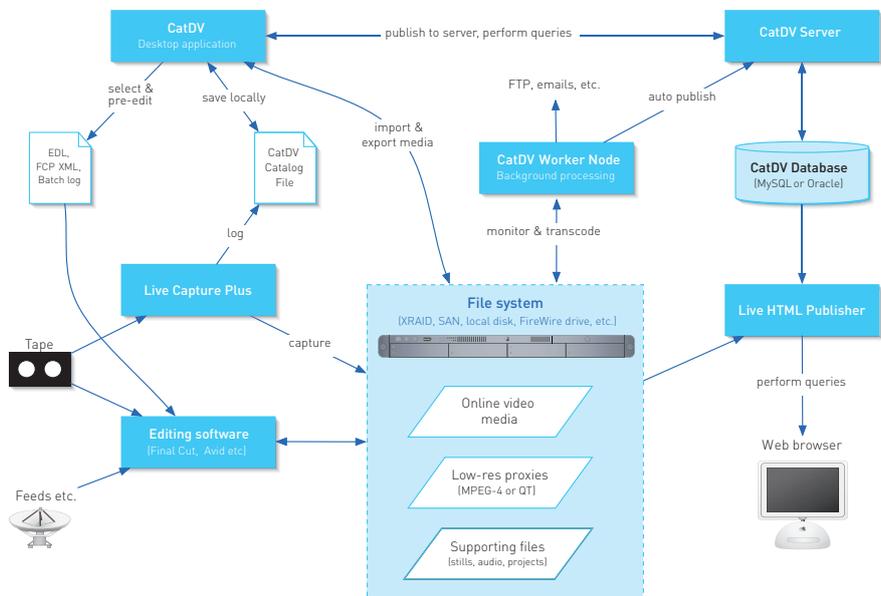
Simplify your workflow by automatically triggering actions when a new file appears in specified watch folders or is dragged onto the worker icon:

- Based on the acclaimed CatDV engine to analyse and process media files, CatDV Worker Nodes perform preprogrammed tasks in the background.
- Supported actions include automatically compressing files, performing scene detection, publishing to the server, moving or renaming the file, or sending an email notification.
- Conditional actions can be triggered by properties such as file type, media format or audio sample rate.

Typical uses for the CatDV Worker include automatic generation of low res proxies for offline HD editing, copying assets to a web-server to generate an online media library, and moving finished assets and proxies for playout and approval.



Advanced search dialog.



Logging

Any media asset database can only perform as well as the quality of the data within it, so CatDV has many features to simplify the logging process. As much information as possible is extracted automatically, including technical information such as the video or audio codec details or date of recording, and automatic scene detection is used to determine the start and end of each shot. The Verbatim Logger lets you enter timecode markers and annotate a clip while it's playing, to transcribe an interview for example. As well as standard fields you can configure an unlimited number of user-defined fields to match your own project conventions, and these can be specified to allow free format text or take values from a drop down pick list. It is also very easy to perform bulk edits on a number of clips in one operation.

Searching

With the CatDV Server and its underlying relational database you can perform complex queries against all the clips and metadata stored in the repository – anything from a simple keyword search to advanced features such as logical operators, regular expressions, and date range searches. You can broaden a search, by appending search results to an existing result set or requesting clips similar to those already returned, or narrow it by performing client-side filtering or sorting of the current result set. Each returned clip is displayed complete with log notes, thumbnails, and links to proxy or full quality versions of the original media as appropriate, so you can quickly determine whether a potential match is the right clip or not.

retrieve digital media

Browsing

CatDV has a powerful and intuitive graphical user interface that lets you view clips and their associated metadata in many different ways – as thumbnails, a spreadsheet-like view with customisable columns, or as a film strip. With just a click of a button you can organise and browse data by any clip attribute – for example by date, by file path, by file format, by tape, or by project. The new tree navigator lets you quickly browse clips in the current result set, files on the file system or records on the server with a simple and consistent interface.

Exporting

Once you have selected the clips you are interested in you can arrange them in a sequence with simple drag and drop editing and play back the sequence, using either the original media or low resolution proxies, as appropriate. Producers can pre-edit a program with all the power of 3-point editing but without having to learn the intricacies of a complex editing package, then export the results as a self-contained movie (using any of QuickTime's many exporters and codecs), or send it to the editing software as an EDL or batch list, or as an XML file. Exported movies can even contain burnt in timecode or subtitles, or perhaps a copyright notice. You can also print catalogs, export them to another spreadsheet or database application, and much more.

Capturing

With the separate Live Capture Plus application you can capture and log DV material using your computer's built-in FireWire interface. Featuring advanced capture technology, Live Capture Plus will automatically retry a capture if dropped frames or tape errors are detected to ensure frame perfect captures every time.

You can leave an entire tape to be captured unattended, capturing as a raw DV stream, MPEG-4 movie, or using any QuickTime codec. Compression takes place in the background while the tape continues to play. You can also enter log notes or mark clips while capture progresses.

IEEE 1394/FireWire gives you a low-cost, ubiquitous interface that you will almost certainly have available wherever you are - ideal for when you have to log in the field with nothing more than your regular laptop and an external FireWire converter or a camera that will down-convert to DV.

Web interface

With the optional Live HTML Publisher you can extend access to the CatDV database to anyone with a web browser. Users can browse the database or perform simple queries, displaying results with thumbnails and links to low resolution web versions of the media if desired. As with other members of the CatDV product family, Live HTML Publisher is based on open and extensible standards and is designed around a 'toolkit' approach, allowing anyone with basic web development skills to customise the appearance of pages or integrate it into an existing web site.

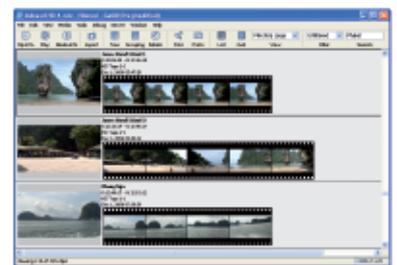
System requirements

For CatDV, Live Capture Plus and the Worker Node:

- Macintosh (PowerPC or Intel) running Mac OS X 10.3 or later, or Windows PC running Windows XP or later
- Minimum 512 MB of memory
- QuickTime 7 or later
- Java 1.4.2 or later
- Built-in FireWire interface (required for Live Capture Plus only)

For the CatDV Server:

- Macintosh running Mac OS X 10.3 or later or Windows PC running Windows XP or later. Also compatible with most server workstations running Unix or Linux.
- Minimum 1024 MB of memory
- Java J2SE (or J2EE) 1.4.2 or later
- MySQL 5.0 or later database software
- Apache Tomcat 4.1 (or later) web application server (required for Live HTML Publisher only)



Film strip view shows the entire contents of a video clip at a glance.

Cross platform

If you have Final Cut Pro edit suites and producers using Windows-based office PCs you will appreciate the fact that CatDV is fully cross platform. Select your clips and pre-edit a rough cut sequence on the PC with a simple drag and drop timeline editor, then send it over to the Mac as an EDL or XML file for finishing. Or log at home on your Mac then bring your catalog over to your Windows Avid system.



With the Enterprise edition of the CatDV Server you can define users and groups to control access to the CatDV database.

With its scalable and modular architecture the CatDV product family has an offering that's right for every user:

CatDV Standard Edition

complete entry level cataloguing and logging solution for consumers

CatDV Professional Edition

standalone version of the application for independent video professionals

CatDV Workgroup Edition

basic networked operation designed for small departments or production companies with around 2 to 5 users

CatDV Enterprise Edition

enhanced networked operation ideal for larger production companies or broadcasters with 6+ users

CatDV Browse Only Client

extend access to everyone in your organisation with a low cost, read only viewer version

CatDV Worker Node

optional component to support watch folders and automated workflow actions

Live HTML Publisher

optional server module to allow read only access to the CatDV database from any web browser

Live Capture Plus

standalone DV capture and logging utility that can be used on its own or in conjunction with CatDV.



29 Waterloo Place, Leamington Spa,
CV32 5LA, United Kingdom

Tel. +44 7050 372230

www.squarebox.co.uk
sales@squarebox.co.uk

CatDV editions – feature comparison

Product feature	Standard	Professional	Workgroup	Enterprise	Browse Only
Import and analyse any QuickTime-supported media files (incl. DV, MOV, MPEG4, AVI, Flash, WAV, AIFF, JPEG, TIFF, BMP, GIF, PSD) ¹	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Import and analyse Windows Media files (WMV, WMA, ASF) ²	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Import clips and sequences from OMFI files ³	-	✓	✓	✓	-
Import and export tab-separated text, simple batch lists, and CMX edit decision lists	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓†
Import and export Final Cut Pro XML files and FCP batch logs	-	✓	✓	✓	✓†
Import and export Avid ALE batch logs	-	✓	✓	✓	✓†
Import other 'unknown' files to capture basic details of files such as Word documents, spreadsheets, project files etc.	-	✓	✓	✓	-
Extract and display technical metadata (file format, codec, frame size, duration, data rate, dropped frames, etc.)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓†
Extract and display user metadata (timecode, Exif and ID3 tags, QuickTime annotations, Windows Media properties, etc.)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓†
Enter log notes, mark clips as good, create subclips, merge clips, create or delete thumbnails	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Unlimited user-defined logging fields	-	✓	✓	✓	-
Configurable thumbnail or list views, with flexible grouping, sorting, searching and filtering capabilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Advanced search and filter dialog, including regular expressions and ability to save named filters	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
Play media for the clip (if available online), either windowed or full screen	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jog-shuttle control of playback using standard JKL keys	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
Timecode calculator	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Media file management (delete, move, copy), drag and drop import and export	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Perform automatic scene detection using DV info	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Perform automatic scene detection using visual analysis (with configurable sensitivity)	-	✓	✓	✓	-
Verbatim Logger to transcribe dialog or manually log clips from a video or audio file while it plays	-	✓	✓	✓	-
Scan DV tapes to create clip records for each scene ⁴	✓*	✓*	✓*	✓*	-
Print catalogs or selected clips, export HTML thumbnail indexes, export to system clipboard, export still images	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Generate and manage preview movies (low resolution proxies that are automatically substituted based on tape and timecode if the original media is offline)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓†
Customise codec and quality settings for preview movies	-	✓	✓	✓	-
Batch export movies using any QuickTime-supported codec or exporter (incl. QT MOV, MPEG-4, H264, DV Stream, iPod Movie, AVI etc.)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Add timecode tracks to exported movies.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Add date & time of recording (for DV-based video)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Add arbitrary text or subtitles to exported movies	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
Create, edit, play, and export sequences for simple cuts only editing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Timezone and camera clock adjustment to display either location or GMT times and permit synchronisation of shots from different cameras	-	✓	✓	✓	-
Save catalogs locally as standalone files (providing a cached copy of all the metadata and log notes, even if the media files are offline)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Save catalogs to a central SQL database, permitting advanced queries, and concurrent access and updates by multiple users	-	-	✓	✓	-
Perform complex queries against multiple catalogs simultaneously, displaying a consolidated result set of matching clips	-	-	✓	✓	✓
Compatible with MySQL relational database	-	-	✓	✓	✓
Compatible with Oracle relational database	-	-	-	✓*	✓*
Server Control Panel to configure and display status of the database and CatDV Server	-	-	✓	✓	✓
Control and log access to CatDV metadata with configurable users, groups and permissions	-	-	-	✓	✓
Tape library management screen	-	-	-	✓	✓†
Barcode scanner to read tape barcode labels and perform shelf inventories	-	-	-	✓*	✓*
Watch folders to automatically import, convert and publish files that appear in specified drop boxes ⁵	-	-	✓*	✓*	✓*

*Optional feature, may require purchase of additional components. † Only export and display features are supported, no ingest or publishing to the server. 1 Not all variants of Flash or AVI are supported, depending on your version of QuickTime. 2 Plus media playback and thumbnail creation with Flip4Mac under Mac OS X. 3 Plus media playback and thumbnail creation for DV25 and Motion JPEG OMFI files only. 4 Requires Live Capture Plus for Mac OS X or Windows. 5 Requires CatDV Worker Node. Specifications subject to change. Errors and omissions excepted.