MacCaption **MC** and CaptionMaker **CM**

Video Captioning for
any Mac/PC Digital Workflow

Avid AAF Export for HD Closed Captioning with CaptionMaker™

Contents

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Introduction

In CaptionMaker, you can easily export closed captioning to AVID AAF HD video or import captions from the video. The workflows are presented in this note.

AVID Export HD Closed Captioning Workflow

Follow the steps in the sections presented below to export or import captions to/from AVID AAF HD video.

Preparing Captions

The following workflow explains how to prepare captions for exporting. If you already have a timed transcript or caption file (.CAP, .SCC, etc), you can skip to the next section.

1. To use as a reference for your captioning, export a movie from your Avid sequence. This can be a QuickTime Reference if you are using CaptionMaker on the Avid system. If your captioner is remote, you can export a small low-res movie (proxy), for example QuickTime H.264 320x240 500kbps. You only need a low quality reference to be able to judge the caption timing and placement.

2. Import this movie file or proxy video into CaptionMaker by dragging and dropping it into the video window on the upper left side. A Video Properties dialog box will appear. Make sure the following options are checked:

   – Enable video file playback from disk

   – Play video file during Auto-sync/Auto-preview

   – Use QuickTime (only if the file is a QuickTime, i.e. .mov/.mp4)

   – Temporarily set TC reader to video playback

Figure 1. Video Playback Dialog Selections
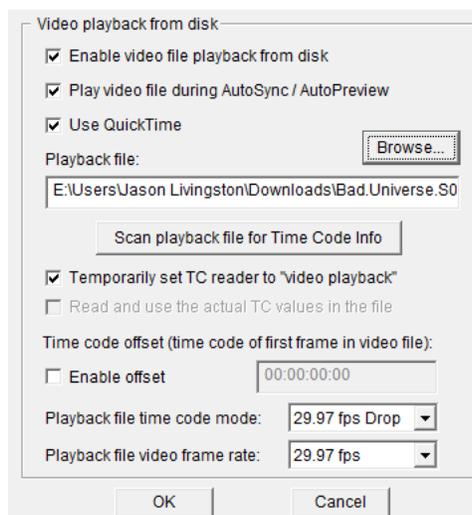
3. Proceed to transcribe, format and time stamp your closed captions. Please see the manual or video tutorials on our website for more information about these steps.

Exporting to AAF

1. Once captions are ready for export, go to File > Export. Select the TV Caption Files group, and then select Avid Captions Only AAF.

Figure 2. Export File Selections
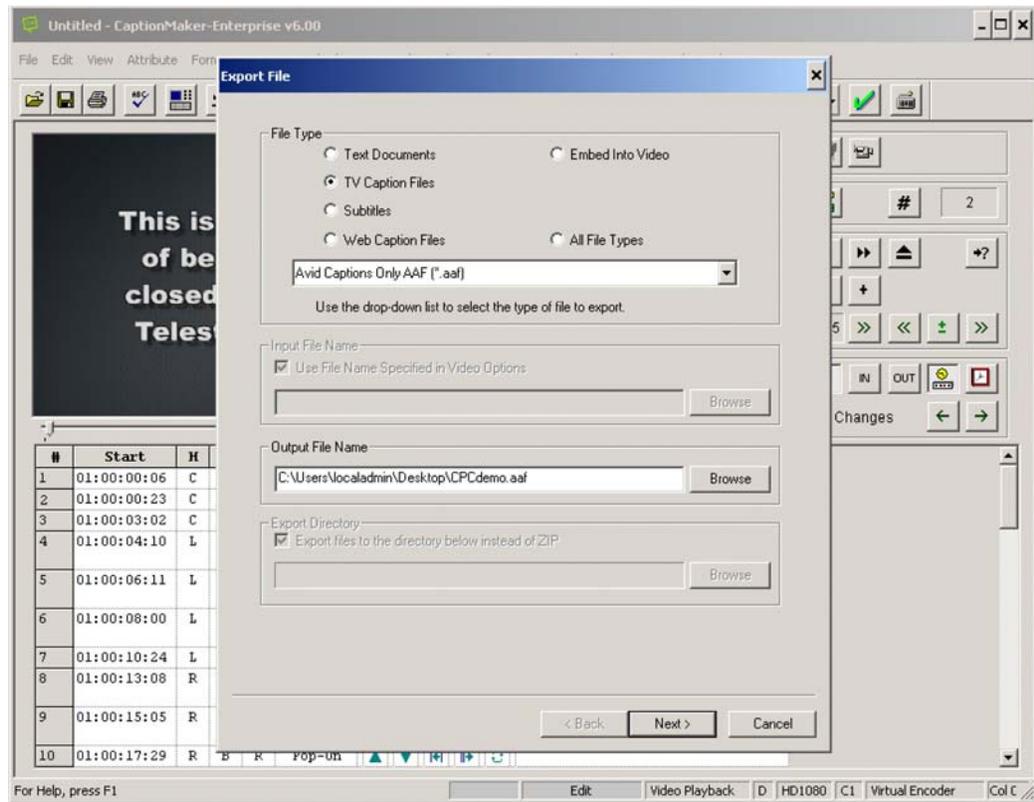
2. Under Output File Name, enter or browse to a location and enter the name to save the new file, and then click Next.

3. In the options screen, confirm the following:

If your captions start at 00:00:00:00, you probably want the MCC/AAF Export Options Start Time Code box to contain 00:00:00:00 as well. In the example below, the captions are not zero-based (the first caption time is 01:00:00:00) so hour 1 is the AAF starting time.

If your captions start with a sequence time code like 01:00:00:00, you want the Start Time Code box to have the same start time as your Avid sequence. This might be

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01:00:00:00, or if you have bars/tone/slate on your sequence, it might be 00:58:30:00 or similar.

The Frame Rate selector should match your Avid sequence (typically 29.97fps for 1080i video, or 59.94fps for 720p).

Under AAF Export options, select Interlaced or Progressive Segmented Frame if you are working with an "i" format (such as 1080i) or a Psf format (such as 1080Psf 23.98). Or select Progressive if you're working with a true "p" format (such as 720p).

Click Finish to complete the AAF export.

Figure 3. Export AAF File Selections
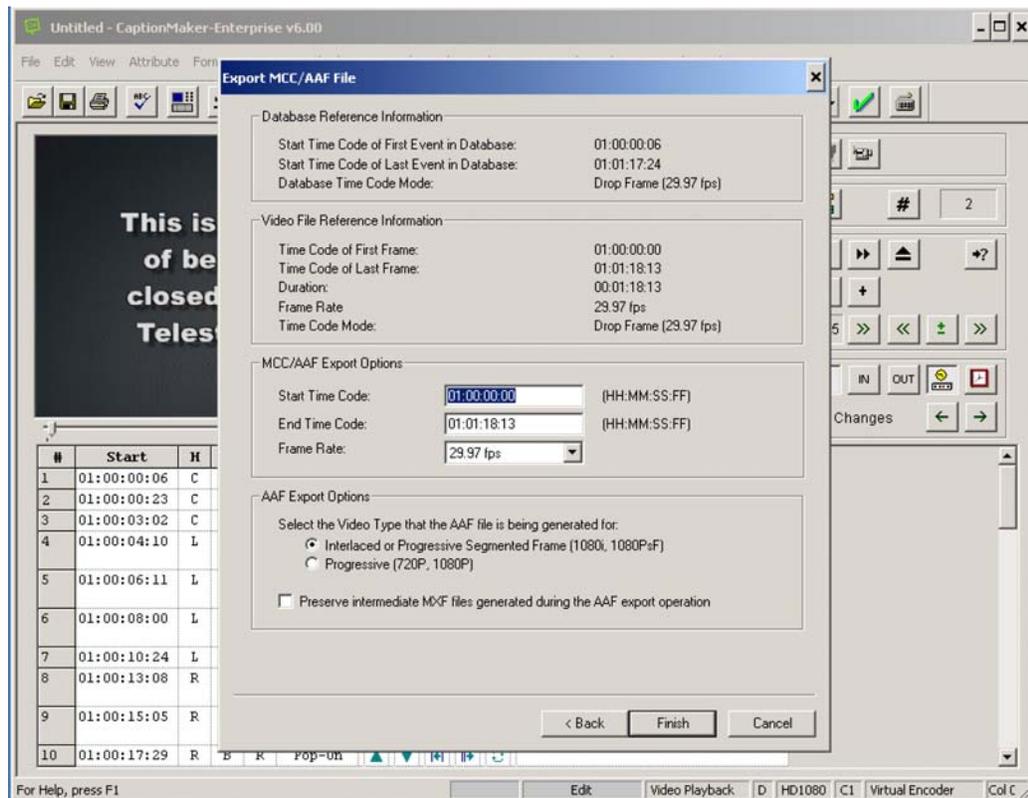
Importing AAF File into Media Composer

1. Open up your Media Composer project bin. Go to File > Import and import the AAF file created in the previous section.

2. Place this bin item onto your sequence (it will automatically be placed on the D1 data track).

Figure 4. Entering Bin Item into the Sequence
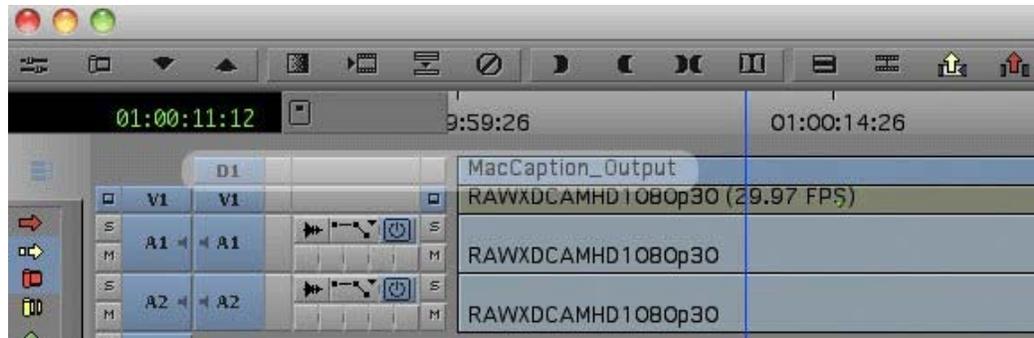
3. If you are using Mojo DX/Nitris DX hardware to play out by HD-SDI, and you have a HD-SDI monitor that displays closed captions, you should be able to play the sequence and the captions will appear on the monitor. Make sure your hardware output format matches your sequence format (i.e. if your sequence is 1080i, do not output 720p or vice versa, as the captions only work when the formats match.)

4. If you will be recording to a Sony deck (HDCAM, XDCAM, etc.) by HD-SDI, make sure the deck is enabled to record VANC Line 9. See our website for more information: http://cpcweb.com/hdtv/xdcam.htm#Sony_HD_Deck_Settings

5. If your final export is for Sony XDCAM disc (not via HD-SDI), go to Output > Export to Device > XDCAM, and export the file as you normally would to XDCAM. This file will contain the D-track CC information.

For More Information

For more information about CaptionMaker and MacCaption, please contact:

Jason Livingston,
jasonl@telestream.net

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