

# Using Premiere's Export to Tape Option for HDV Projects

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## Objective:

- \* Transfer an edited HDV project from Adobe Premiere to mini-DV tape

## Benefits:

- \* Lossless, reliable, and economical archive of edited project
- \* Allow for the use of the camcorder as a portable playback device for the edited project

## Assumptions:

- \* Adobe Premiere CS3.2.0 running on Windows Vista 32
- \* Canon HV30 camcorder (plugged into AC power)
- \* Firewire connection (HV30 to PC)
- \* HDV Project
- \* Playback to Sony 46" LCD TV via HDMI port on the camcorder

## Setup Tips:

- A. Make sure that there is a timecode on the recording tape in the camcorder (stripe the tape ahead of time).
- B. Make sure the Project Settings in the editing software match the settings in the camcorder (e.g. both set to HDV).
- C. Perform a test using a very small portion of the project.
- D. If the File>Export>Export to Tape option is grayed out, double check A. and B.
- E. In Premiere's Edit>Preferences>Device Control, I have set the device to Canon and have accepted the default of 'Standard'. I accepted the default values of 2 seconds for Preroll and 0 for timecode offset.

## Workflow:

1. Power up Windows-based computer
2. Power up Canon HV30 and set to Play
3. Connect Firewire cable between the two, listen for connection acknowledgement tones on computer.
4. Open the Premiere editing software and load the project to be dubbed to tape.
5. In Premiere, set the Work Area Bar to cover the portion of the project to be dubbed. Allow extra footage (e.g. black video or color bars so no critical video is missed due to slow commencement of recording). My experiments with adjusting the Preroll option in Edit>Preferences>Device Control did not help with the approx 2 second delay in the camcorder's initiation of recording.
6. Prepare the camcorder to receive the incoming video:
  - Press FUNC. button. Then use joystick control to press SET, toggle to EXECUTE, press SET. (The LCD camcorder's LCD screen will show a record pause symbol (dot with double bar), in green, in the upper right corner.
  - Note: this status will time out in a few minutes...be alert and reset it, as needed, for success in step 7.
7. In Premiere, initiate the transfer to tape:
  - Select File>Export>Export to Tape...

A dialog box will appear entitled “Export to HDV“...it will show status and the timecode on the camcorder’s tape.

Press Render and Record

A message will appear, “Transcoding to HDV...”.

A progress bar will appear for the transcoding – watch this carefully and be ready for the next step.

When the transcoding is approx 50% complete, the Premiere software will begin the recording transfer to the camcorder and will display a message to that effect.

>>>>> ***Immediately***, press the Start/Stop button below the LCD screen...this will direct the camcorder to begin recording. The LCD screen may go black but watch the LCD screen for these indicators:

red dot that confirm recording,

advancing timecode, and

source material from Premiere playing back on the LCD screen.

8. When the recording is complete, the camcorder will stop. Premiere will display the Status and Current Timecode on the tape. Press Done.

9. Check the footage on the HV30 to confirm a successful dubbing of the Premiere footage that was contained within the Work Area Bar on the timeline.

#### **Notes:**

1. It would be nice if the Premiere software properly handled the device control for the camcorder, especially the step outlined in Workflow Step 7 that involves the manual initiation of recording on the camcorder. But it was not reliable in my testing.

2. Workflow Step 6 warns about the camcorder’s tendency to time out of the record pause mode after a few minutes. Keep an eye on it and reset it. It must be active when you ***“Immediately, press the Start/Stop button below the LCD screen on the camcorder”***. For a long project, that could be many minutes after the “Transcoding to HDV” process begins.

#### **Reference:**

Adobe Premiere Pro CS3 –User Guide p. 510

Canon HV30 Camcorder – Instruction Manual p. 73