AVoption & AVoption|XL

This Read Me documents compatibility details and known issues for using AVoption and AVoption|XL with Pro Tools 5.1.3 TDM systems (Macintosh).

Compatibility

Video Captured to the Pro Tools Timeline with either AVoption or AVoption|XL May Be Incompatible with Earlier Versions of Pro Tools

Video captured with Pro Tools 5.1U or later (including Pro Tools 5.1.3) will not play correctly in Pro Tools 5.1.1 or earlier. The exception is video captured with Pro Tools 5.2, which will play fine in all Pro Tools releases with a lower version number.

Video Media Captured with AVoption|XL Cannot Be Used on Avid Meridien Systems

Video media captured in Pro Tools with Avoption|XL and used in a sequence on any Avid Meridien workstation (such as Symphony or Media Composer v7-10.5) results in "Wrong Media" slugs when attempting to mix down the video.

Known Issues

The following sections document known issues you may encounter in using AVoption and AVoption|XL, along with workarounds if they exist.

No Error Message with Unsupported Storage Configurations

If you are running sessions with very high data rates from unsupported storage configurations (such as drives and SCSI cards), Pro Tools may drop frames of video playback without generating an error message.

Losing Video Sync Points

If you set a sync point for a video clip in the timeline, then move that clip, the sync point disappears from the timeline. There is no workaround at the time of this writing.

Locking Video Regions

If you lock a video region in the timeline, when you reopen the session the video region will no longer be locked.

Error when Aborting a Capture

In some instances, aborting a video capture may result in a dialog stating that the resulting file is not an OMF file.

This is not a serious error. Deletion of the video file is the normal behavior and normally this error message should not occur. Simply dismiss the error message and continue. You may need to manually delete any audio files that were recorded during the same record pass.

Pro Tools Doesn't Always Loop Play

At some time code locations, Pro Tools will not let you loop play because it says you are not on frame boundaries; even though the cursors were set with frame locations in the Transport window, and by definition, these should be frame boundaries. The workaround is to use the cursor to make your selection, rather than manually entering time code locations.

Movie Playback During Shuttle is Choppy

This is the expected behavior. Shuttle mode is accomplished using single frame play.

Error Message Posted when Trying to Record Video to the Video Track

This problem occurs when the Edit window is set to continuous scroll or stationary play head is enabled. When a record is initiated, an erroneous "Pro Tools could not lock to external time code" message is returned. The workaround is to disable continuous scroll or stationary play head.

Dragging Video Clips May Cause Pro Tools to Crash

We have seen this only occur on occasion when the video track is dragged and the end of the video track goes beyond the maximum session length (approximately 13 hours).

Mixed Video Clips

Pro Tools does not support playback of different "families" of video clips in the same session: If you attempt to import a sequence that contains video clips from 2 or more of these families—Single-field, Dual-field, Uncompressed, or Multi-cam—Pro Tools may crash.

Addendum to the AVoption & AVoption|XL Guide

The following documents additions to the *AVoption & AVoption|XL Guide*.

Video Record Disk Allocation

Previously, recording any amount of video in Pro Tools allocated all the available disk space, making it impossible for other stations to record to the same workspace. With Pro Tools 5.1.3, Video Record disk allocation now behaves in a similar manner to audio allocation:

◆ If "Limit to x minutes" is checked in the Operations pane of the Preferences settings and the user starts to do an open-ended video recording, Pro Tools allocates only as much disk space as will be needed for the specified time.

◆ If the user selects a time range for recording, Pro Tools allocates only as much disk space as will be needed for the specified time.

◆ Since video data may be compressed, Pro Tool's makes worst case assumptions about the space required to record a given time duration of video, based on our experience with both ABVB and Meridien hardware.