

Read Me

Video Satellite

This Read Me documents important information and known issues for using Media Composer Video Satellite with Pro Tools 8.0. When available, workarounds are provided.

Compatibility

For the latest compatibility information, visit the Digidesign website (<http://www.digidesign.com/compatibility>).

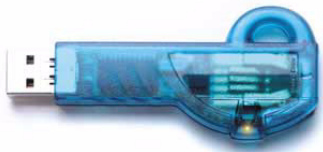
Installation and Operation

For software installation and operating instructions, refer to the electronic PDF *Video Satellite Guide* that came with your software. For additional information about Pro Tools, refer to the *Pro Tools Reference Guide*.

 *The Video Satellite option comes with its own pre-authorized iLok.*

Copy Protection

Many Digidesign plug-ins and software options are authorized using the iLok USB Smart Key (iLok), manufactured by PACE Anti-Piracy, Inc.



iLok USB Smart Key

The iLok is similar to a dongle, but unlike a dongle, it is designed to securely authorize multiple software applications from a variety of software developers. This key can hold over 100 licenses for all of your iLok-enabled software. Once an iLok is authorized for a given piece of software, you can use the iLok to authorize that software on any computer.

See the *iLok Usage Guide* for details, or visit the iLok website (www.iLok.com).

Known Issues

This section documents known issues you may encounter in using Video Satellite, along with workarounds if they exist.

Linking Video Satellite and Satellite Link (Item #109199)

When trying to link to a the Media Composer system in a Satellite Link configuration with Video Satellite configuration, you cannot link from any Pro Tools Satellite system. You will need to link from the Media Composer or the Pro Tools|HD administrator system.

Video Satellite Doesn't Support Loop Playback when Selection is Less than One Second (Item #93743)

When looping playback with Video Satellite, if the selection is less than one second, playback may stop after a few loops or Media Composer may post a “Pro Tools cannot currently play” dialog. The workaround is to make a selection that is 1 second or longer.

Pro Tools and Media Composer Video Satellite Quit Unexpectedly when Disconnecting an Additional Pro Tools System During Playback (Item #110601 and UDevC00115566)

When multiple Pro Tools|HD systems are connected via Satellite Link in conjunction with a Video Satellite, always stop playback before disconnecting any of the systems.

Video Satellite Playback Restarts Out of Sync After Certain Pro Tools Operations that Cause Pro Tools to Automatically Stop and Restart (Item #109649 and UDevC00115028)

Video Satellite playback restarts out of sync after performing an action in Pro Tools which automatically stops and restarts playback (such as inserting a plug-in, adding a track, or adjusting the length of a selection while playback is in progress). Stop and restart playback to correct this problem, or perform such actions while playback is stopped to avoid this problem altogether.

Delay in Starting Playback in Media Composer Video Satellite System Running on Vista 64 (Item #UDevC00116726)

There is a 3–5 second playback delay on the first playback attempt after connecting Pro Tools and Media Composer on a Vista 64 Media Composer Video Satellite system. This issue only occurs on the first playback attempt after linking.

“Pro Tools Cannot Currently Play” Error (Item #UDevC00116083)

In a Video Satellite configuration, when the system is sitting idle, Media Composer may post the dialog, “Pro Tools cannot currently play, is online with Machine Control, or is in Transport = Remote Mode. Please resolve the issue with the Pro Tools system and try again.” To avoid this problem, link the Video Satellite from the Pro Tools Administrator system rather than from Media Composer.

Audio Energy Plot Disappears in Media Composer when Video Satellite Playback is Stopped (Item #UDevC00115392)

If the Audio Energy Plot disappears in Media Composer when Video Satellite playback is stopped, minimize Media Composer to force a redraw.

An Exception Error Occurs when Launching Media Composer (Item #UDevC00115632)

An exception error occurs when launching Media Composer or enabling Video Satellite mode in Media Composer if there is no valid network card in the system, or if the network card is disabled. If this happens, quit Media Composer and enable or install a valid network card. Video Satellite requires a network connection. If you are not using Video Satellite, disable Video Satellite mode in Media Composer's Video Satellite setting.

Regions on Satellite Track Don't Move when Changing the Session Start Time in Pro Tools (Item #105387)

When changing session start time in Pro Tools, regions on a satellite track do not move when “Maintain Time Code” is selected, or when undoing a previous session start time change. You will need to move the regions on the Satellite track manually.

Media Composer Doesn't Launch with an AVOption|V10 Connected (Item #108450)

AVOption|V10 is not supported with Media Composer.

Importing a QuickTime Movie Containing Audio and Video of Different Lengths Causes Sync Issues (Item # 98307)

When you use Media Composer to import a QuickTime movie that contains audio and video of different lengths, audio and video may be out of sync or Media Composer may display an error message.

As a workaround, re-export the audio and video separately from QuickTime Pro or another application, making sure to use the DV codec for video and WAV for audio. Then import the audio and video files into Media Composer separately.

23.976 or 24 fps Sequence Start Time Ending In Digits Other than “:00” Causes Time Code Offset

Media Composer uses NTSC or PAL time code when setting the sequence start time regardless of the format selected by the user for display. When you are working on a video satellite project at 23.976 or 24 fps, a Media Composer sequence with a start time that ends in a value other than :00 causes an offset between Pro Tools and Media Composer at the session start. For example, the start time 45:02:10:15 (ending in :15) would cause an offset, but the start time 45:02:10:00 (ending in :00) would not.

As a workaround, always set your Media Composer sequence start time to a time code value ending in 00.

Cueing from Media Composer in a 720p Project Causes 1-Frame Offset (Item # 98460)

In 720p projects, Media Composer counts at 50 or 60 (59.94) progressive fps—depending on the project type—while Pro Tools counts at 25 or 29.97 frames per second. When you cue a sequence from the video satellite in a 720p project, the Pro Tools edit cursor can be offset by as much as one frame.

As a workaround, cue and play back from Pro Tools when working with a 720p project in a video satellite system. This ensures that the two applications are always in sync. It is not possible to cue to odd 50 or 60 frame boundaries (for example, frame 47) from Pro Tools.

29.97 Digital Cut Output Format in 23.976 and 24p Projects Causes Media Composer to Play Faster Than Pro Tools (Item # UDevC00082004)

When you are working with a 23.976 or 24p project in a video satellite, setting the Digital Cut Output Format to 29.97 causes Media Composer to play 25% faster than Pro Tools. This setting is intended for video-only transfers.

As a workaround, unlink Media Composer from Pro Tools during the digital cut. Note that appropriate Output Format setting for broadcast masters is 23.976.

 See the *Video Satellite Guide* for detailed information.

Playing a Complex HD sequence with SD Down-Convert Enabled Causes Synchronization Error (Item # UDevC00091109)

If you down-convert a complex HD sequence in real-time while playing back a video satellite sequence in DNA mode, Media Composer may abort play and post the following message: “Synchronization error. Aborting play.”

As a workaround, do one of the following:

- Switch the project back to HD format and use 1394 mode to play back.
- Create a video mixdown of the sequence.
- Transcode the media to SD before playing back.

 See the *Video Satellite Guide* for detailed information.

Audio and Video May Drift Out of Sync In Satellite Mode in Certain Conditions (Items # UDevC00090064, UDevC00090078, UDevC00088666, UDevC00089437, UDevC00087542)

When operating in Satellite mode, audio and video output from Media Composer may drift out of sync by as much as one frame in any of the following conditions:

- When monitoring video in 1394 mode via full screen playback. This is due to the difference between the monitor's refresh rate and the video reference rate.
- When the Edit Play Rate of the video differs from the frame rate of the video reference signal. (For example, this occurs with a 24p NTSC project with 23.976 Edit Play Rate and NTSC reference signal.)
- When looping a selection that is not aligned to video frame boundaries in Pro Tools. As a workaround, make your selection in Pro Tools using Grid mode with the Grid value set to 1-frame increments—especially when it is necessary to loop several times without stopping.

Media Composer Export Including Copied or Consolidated Media to a Location Other than the Pro Tools Session Folder Prevents Pro Tools from Automatically Locating Media Files (Item # UDevC00056745)

When you export an AAF or OMF sequence from a video satellite using the Copy All Media or Consolidate Media option, make sure to save media files to the root level of the Pro Tools session folder. This ensures automatic relinking of media when you import the AAF or OMF sequence into Pro Tools. Also, if you export a sequence from the video satellite with the audio storage mounted on the satellite system, save the AAF or OMF to the root level of the Pro Tools session folder, and choose Folder, then choose Use Same Folder as AAF/OMF file when exporting the sequence.

If the Avid MediaFiles or OMFI MediaFiles folder is located somewhere other than the root folder of the destination Pro Tools session, Pro Tools cannot automatically relink to the media. If you did not export the sequence to the Pro Tools session folder as described above, you can do either of the following as a workaround:

- Re-export the AAF or OMF sequence from the video satellite as described above.
- or –
- Use Pro Tools to manually search for the media by Name and Unique ID.