

Huddersfield University

Developing a fully integrated video workflow

Huddersfield University's Media and Fine Art departments recently upgraded a suite of iMacs to be used by its creative students. They wanted to complement this with a trio of high-spec Mac Pros. They got in touch with us, so we sent in some of our experts to help spec up the perfect hardware for the hybrid HDV video workflow.

A hybrid workflow

Our broadcast consultants designed a system that would be fully compatible with the hybrid workflow of the university's Sony Z7e and S270e cameras. This included an HDV tape deck, an HDMI and Component HD Production monitor fed by the Blackmagic Intensity Pro, and Compact Flash card readers for the solid state media. These systems also required a decent amount of fast storage, so we went with a Jigsaw24 favourite - the Sonnet D800 configured with 8TB internal RAID 5.

Pre-installation testing...

All of this kit was built and tested with the three Mac Pro systems before being installed onsite. This was done during term time but, by performing the pre-install build and test, we made sure that our engineer was onsite for as short a time as possible – just one day.

...and post-installation training

We returned the following week and gave the media technicians a day of training on the entire workflow. This included the hybrid acquisition on their HDV cameras, the ingest options and relative settings within Final Cut Pro, and their editing workflow through the various suite components.

After we completed the project and provided the training, everyone at Huddersfield University was happy and the staff were confident in using the equipment. Students are now able to create high-quality content using industry-standard technology, which is great hands-on experience for those wanting to work in media after graduating.



In a nutshell...

Who are Huddersfield University?

Huddersfield University delivers courses to over 23,000 students each year, and helps them foster links with local employers and research bodies.

What did they need?

The university was moving from a tape to a hybrid video workflow, and wanted hardware to deal with ingesting the new media, plus three high-spec Mac Pros to act as ingest and editing stations.

How did Jigsaw24 help?

As well as sourcing Mac hardware, Sony HDV cameras, a tape deck, card reader, HD production monitor and fast RAID storage, we tested, configured and installed all the new equipment, then provided training for the university's technical staff.

What were the benefits?

- The university is now teaching media students a more modern workflow, which will ensure they have industry-applicable skills when they graduate.
- The upgraded hardware allows them to ingest, transcode and transfer files more quickly, meaning that less teaching time is wasted waiting for footage.

For more information about supporting tapeless workflows, get in touch with us on the details below.