



NEWS RELEASE

NEW PORTABLE UNLEASHES HD 2K 4K PRODUCTION

Ground-breaking portable field recorder delivers fast workflow too

London, Sept 7th, 2007 -- Codex Digital (11.238), specialist in high-resolution media recording systems, is launching a lightweight, high-resolution portable field recorder that will unleash revolutionary potential for HD, 2K and 4K broadcast television and motion picture production.

With cutting-edge design, and packed with today's most advanced technology, the new Codex Portable is the first lightweight disk recorder to record any high-end digital camera – from HD to 4K, at cinema quality – and to seamlessly deliver the material to any post-production workflow.

As a rugged, self-contained unit, no larger than a toaster, it can be used for 'run and gun' broadcast production, and be easily carried anywhere – around a set, up a mountain or into a field. However, the Codex Portable also creates new opportunities for multi-camera production.

Using visually-lossless compression, it has the unique ability to record from two 4:4:4 cameras simultaneously – either independently for A and B camera shoots, or locked together for 3D stereoscopic projects. It is the first to record from four 4:2:2 cameras simultaneously, and even allows the synchronisation of multiple recorders. With this feature, six synchronised Codex Portables can act as a 24-track video, 48-track audio-recorder – enough to record an entire concert, sporting event, or TV drama at higher-than-broadcast quality.

Cinematographer Geoff Boyle, who was given an early preview of the Codex Portable, commented, "Occasionally a product comes along that is just so right, that you don't know what to say about it except... 'Yes'. But the Codex Portable isn't just a recorder, it is part of a well-thought-out system that eases workflow from the camera to post-production."

Paul Bamborough, co-founder of Codex Digital, said, "*Our new portable is designed for all productions – broadcast TV and digital cinema – where the highest quality and portability are essential. But its versatility goes way beyond production. It will deliver what you shoot into post production with unprecedented speed and ease. The Codex Portable is a comprehensive package, designed to deal with anything that future digital cinematography might hold.*"

Workflow:

The Codex Portable is packed with technical capabilities that take production workflow to new levels. Via its multiple high-speed networking interfaces, it will deliver the seamless transfer of shots to all post-production workflows. Direct outputs include H.264 (MP4) over a secure Wi-Fi link, allowing unique remote wireless monitoring and immediate transfer into editing systems.

After recording, the Codex Portable's DiskPacks can be plugged directly into a matching Codex Transfer Station, which copies and backs-up the material (much faster than real-time), and then delivers it, plus the associated metadata, across local or worldwide networks.

In conjunction with the Transfer Station, the Codex Portable can deliver shots in all industry-standard formats, including DPX, MXF, QuickTime, AVI, JPEG, BMP, and BWF (WAV) files. It can even provide native-mode files that editing-systems can use with no importing at all.

The result is a clean, fast workflow in which a production can move seamlessly between shooting on-set or on location through to post-production, with no intermediate steps or delays.

Technical Capabilities & Recording:

The Codex Portable is the first portable disk-recorder to handle all formats up to 4K at cinema-quality, and the first to handle both video and data-mode cameras.

Flexible I/O configurations mean it can record from virtually every digital camera available today – including all HD cameras in video mode, plus data-mode from cameras such as the ARRI D-20™ and DALSA's Origin®. It can also record Red Digital Cinema's RED ONE™ camera in 4K data-mode, when this becomes available.

Recording is made to hot-swappable, shock-mounted RAID DiskPacks that can hold up to three hours of continuous recording at the system's highest quality – the first portable recorder (disk or tape) to offer such capability and capacity.

The compression method used is JPEG2000, a wavelet-based system that forms the basis of the DCI standard for cinema delivery. The compression is visually indistinguishable from the original and is comparable to the highest-quality mode of HDCAM-SR tape.

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Construction and Usage:

Constructed from carbon fibre and with rubber-sealed connections, the Codex Portable is weather-resistant, and weighs only 9 lb / 4 Kg. It is powered from any standard camera battery and can be carried on an operator's shoulder, or secured to camera equipment such as dollies and cranes. The Codex Portable is always ready-to-record, and near-silent operation lets it get close to the action.

When used in the field the Codex Portable delivers immediate full-frame playback and review of footage on a daylight-readable touchscreen. A unique feature is a secure wireless system, which enables instant shot logging, or remote-control of the system, from any networked computer or PDA. The Codex Portable even features a special "Mutter Track" microphone input, which allows the user to add comments during a take for shot-logging and notes.

The Codex Portable complements the original, award-winning Codex HD, 2K, 4K media production system, which has already redefined tapeless digital cinematography and is now being used on major studio productions in the US and Europe.

Pricing & Availability:

The Codex Portable is priced at £22,500 (GBP), €33,000 Euros, \$44,500 (USD). Codex Digital expects to ship the first production-ready units at the end of 2007.

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About Codex Digital:

Codex Digital is headquartered in Soho, London, from where it designs and manufactures high-end digital equipment for motion picture and broadcast production. Products include: an award-winning high-resolution media recorder, which captures moving images from the new generation of digital motion picture cameras, at up to 4K uncompressed resolution; plus a range of high-performance media management stations to manage the entire workflow of a digital production from set to post production. With the introduction of the Codex Portable, the company is setting a whole new standard for digital cinematography.

Editor's Note:

The product names and registered trademarks noted in this news release, DALSA Origin®, RED ONE™ and ARRI D-20™, are each the property of their respective owners.

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CODEX PORTABLE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Video input:

Two HD-SDI dual-link inputs – can record two 4:4:4 cameras simultaneously, independently (A&B camera shoots) or locked (ideal for 3D acquisition).

In 4:2:2 mode, the Codex Portable can record four simultaneous cameras.

All frame-rates to 30fps (4:4:4) or 60 fps (4:2:2).

Monitoring:

Onboard LCD panel

Dual-link HD-SDI output

Standard-Definition SDI output

Wireless network/MP4 remote monitoring

Audio:

8 channels AES/EBU audio 48/96 KHz in/out

HD-SDI embedded audio

Control:

LTC /VANC timecode

GPIO control

RS422 control

Data:

Infiniband 10Gbps port

1 Gbps Ethernet

10Gbps Ethernet optical port (option)

Power:

Runs off all standard camera batteries 10-28V

Compression:

JPEG2000 at rates between 4:1 and 16:1 depending on application.

Storage:

Removable DiskPacks, RAID3, 450-800 GB. Flash-memory packs 128-512 GB.

Recording time: up to 3 hrs at highest quality.