Baselight CONFORM

Conform and workflow for Baselight systems

FilmLight

Increased throughput for your Baselight system with this Mac OS X software-only productivity solution.

With the increasing complexity involved in conforming and reconforming projects - with multiple versions of VFX and different cameras - we recognise that our customers need to perform these tasks on a low-cost, general purpose workstation. Baselight CONFORM is a scalable software solution for just this scenario. The application runs on Mac OS X and is available to all customers with a current annual support package for Baselight.

Preparing for the grade

Baselight CONFORM allows Baselight scenes to be set up and conformed while the main system is busy generating revenue. The application goes further than this, though.

In today's productions, with multiple cameras using different formats, colour space and decode settings, preparing a scene to be graded efficiently can require a number of technical decisions to be made up front. This application allows that process to occur efficiently away from the eyes of clients in the revenue-generating grading suite.

Full scene editing capability

Helping the colourist to be effective goes beyond simply providing a project that is ready to start grading. As a production progresses, new VFX shots and cuts from the editor have to be incorporated on a regular basis.

With Baselight CONFORM, Baselight scenes can be amended with revised material dropped in, and keyframes and grades adjusted as needed. New edits can be conformed and grades can be multi-pasted to prepare for the next session. You can even perform typical Baselight ASSIST roles, such as rotoscoping and tracking.

Specifications

»   Supported on Mac OS X 10.11*, 10.10 and 10.9

Minimum specification

»   MacBook Pro, Mac Pro or iMac
»   1GB GPU memory
»   8GB RAM
»   1GbE connection to Linux Baselight system

Recommended specification

»   Mac Pro 6,1
»   2GB GPU memory
»   16GB RAM
»   External high-performance disk system for local playback
»   Single/Dual 10GbE connection to Linux Baselight system

* Must be running OS X 10.11 to retain Kompressor functionality.

Grade from the raw source

Some DI workflows have evolved a pragmatic process where the cut is rendered flat, using basic software, into a sequence of DPX files. Although this keeps the distraction of handling the editorial side of a production away from the colourist, the increasing demand for RAW camera workflows makes it less desirable. Baselight CONFORM addresses this issue by making it viable for every conform assistant to be sitting at a Baselight system - with full access to Baselight's unrivalled colour space management and support for all professional formats.

Key Features

- » Software-only solution that creates Baselight scenes in the common jobs database, shared immediately to all Baselight/ASSIST/CONFORM stations
- » Uses core Baselight technology on Mac OS X platform
- » Import CMX3600, AAF, FilmLight EDLs, Autodesk DLEDLs, or FCP XML
- » Filter media on template, file type and/or metadata
- » Reconform from revised EDL maintaining grade events and keyframes
- » Detect cuts in long-form content
- » Adjust keyframes for all controls
- » View offline and conform timelines of any resolution side-by-side or with split screen wipe
- » Perform simple compositing including green screen keys and/or external mattes

- » Set up renders to queue on Baselight/ASSIST stations
- » Reframe/reformat with dynamic pan and scan
- » Perform complex colour space transforms with Truelight Colour Spaces
- » Access local storage of other Baselight systems, or FLUX Store, in a networked cloud
- » Conform and prepare media on remote systems with optimised streaming access to high-resolution images
- » Manage image data across network via FLUX browser
- » Organise complex projects in Job Manager: create folder hierarchy for jobs, filter items, rename/delete scenes
- » Browse source media easily in the Sequence Browser, view sequence details and play back sequences

Dedicated conform workstation

Baselight CONFORM is a near-complete version of the Baselight software running on OS X. It supports control via a standard three-button mouse and keyboard and uses standard Mac monitoring - all to enable you to prepare scenes for full Baselight systems with professional monitoring and dedicated control panels.

You can even set up rendering tasks and send them to the queue on a full Baselight system.

While the full system is incredibly powerful and configurable, mounting removable drives can require technical knowledge, connectivity or filesystem support that isn't available under the Linux-Based FilmLightOS operating system. As Baselight CONFORM runs on a Mac, however, it can also act as an easy-to-use gateway to present attached storage to the Baselight Cloud.

Scalability

Baselight CONFORM is available for a low subscription price on top of the normal Baselight support contract. This means that conform departments that handle complicated projects can have as many assistants as they need, all in discussion with VFX and edit houses, all with access to Baselight CONFORM and all helping to bring the project together without impacting the main suite.

Easily deployable

As the processing requirement of the conform role is normally low, the software-only OS X application allows even older Mac workstations or iMacs to be used in this role.

Baselight CONFORM integrates the Baselight cloud image server technology on OS X for high-performance image streaming from a full Baselight or FLUX Store system over 1GbE, or with real-time playback of high-resolution images if 10GbE network fabric is available.

Upgrade to Baselight CONFORM

We're making it easier to access the existing Kompressor codec and network bridging functionality by rolling it into the Baselight CONFORM 4.4 release. This means that Baselight Kompressor will be discontinued as of this release, and all Kompressor systems currently under support will receive a Baselight CONFORM 4.4 licence. The licence does not need to be deployed on the original Apple Xserve or Mac Pro Kompressor product - it can be utilised on any appropriate Mac platform (see *Specifications*). Note, however, if the original IO Kompressor functionality needs to be retained the 10GbE interface(s) are still necessary and you must be running OS X version 10.11.

Baselight CONFORM is also a replacement for Baselight PORTABLE, for which 4.4m1 was the final release. Whilst Baselight PORTABLE 4.4m1 will, of course, continue to run, any customers who wish to move to Baselight CONFORM can request a CONFORM licence.

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